

# Thank You!

## Happy New Year and Welcome to 2021!

I want to thank our unsung heroes, including our extraordinary essential workers, doctors, nurses, hospital staff, community champions, small businesses, and organizations who stepped up to keep us all safe and continue to do so as we endure another lockdown. Thank you to the many small businesses and individuals who quietly came forward to provide support to those who needed an extra hand during an immensely difficult time.

Thank you to essential workers who worked and continue to work hard to ensure our grocery stores, pharmacies, gas stations, post offices, restaurants, convenience stores, and all other essential services have stayed open which allow us to remain comfortable at home.

I hope you and your loved ones found peace and joy during the holidays, despite it being a different Christmas due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the season reminded us of the many little things we're grateful for – family, friends, and our health. We're also especially grateful for the compassion, generosity, and kindness we've witnessed across Dufferin-Caledon over the last year, as our community came together to support each other during an immensely difficult and uncertain time.

It's the extraordinary actions of our unsung heroes and the incredible community spirit we've seen, and continue to see, which gives us renewed hope and optimism for the New Year.

I'm incredibly proud of how we've come together to support each other over the last year in Dufferin-Caledon. We've seen how strong and united our community is and exactly why it's the best place to live, work, and play. I know by continuing to support each other, 2021 will be a much better year for all of us and our great country.

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Orangeville Food Bank

On December 19th, Kyle assisted Vraj Canada with two food donation deliveries to Caledon Community Services' The Exchange, located in Bolton, and to the Orangeville Food Bank. Vraj Canada's efforts resulted in more than 3,000 pounds of food being donated to the food banks.



The Exchange – Bolton



Kyle visited Teen Ranch's "Christmas Winter Festival," which was a beautiful, interactive and COVID-friendly drive-thru event during December. It brought Christmas cheer and joy to families in the riding, while supporting the important work of the centre, as well as the Active Lives Day Program.

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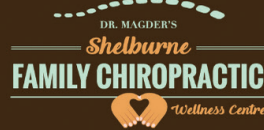
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**IT'S A BOY:** Headwaters Health Care Centre has welcomed the first baby born at the hospital in 2021. Tristan Derek Peter Edwards was born at Headwaters on Jan. 1 at 6:02 a.m. weighing a healthy eight pounds eight ounces. Tristan is the first baby for mother Simone Edwards (pictured left) and is the second grandchild for Sue (pictured right) and Derek Edwards.

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## Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine arrives at local health unit

Written By Paula Brown

Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health (WDGPH) has received their first shipment of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine.

A spokesperson from the local health unit said the first shipment of the vaccine arrived at around 9 a.m. on Tuesday (Jan. 5), and that Public Health would begin the regional vaccine program starting Jan. 7.

"This is tremendous news for our region," said Dr. Nicola Mercer, Medical Officer of Health and CEO of WDG Public Health. "I'm grateful for Pfizer's ongoing support in ensuring we could begin vaccinations as soon as possible."

The announcement from WDG Public Health comes days after the health unit said they would be cancelling and rescheduling 500 long-term care and retirement home staff vaccination appointments due to a de-

lay in the shipment of the Pfizer vaccine.

"This is obviously a disappointment," said Dr. Mercer in a press release from Monday (Jan. 4). "Public Health has been preparing to begin vaccinating our region against COVID-19 for months. While we can all recognize this is a complex logistical challenge, I share frustration of everyone in the region at this delay. I want to assure resident of Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph that Public Health remains ready to administer the vaccine as soon as it arrives."

WDG Public Health initially reported on Dec. 30 that they would be receiving their first batch of the COVID-19 vaccine on Jan. 4, and would be launching the full vaccination program on Jan. 5.

Dr. Mercer in the press release describes the shipment of the vaccine as a "major moment" for the region.

"Receiving our first shipment of COVID-19

vaccine marks the beginning of the final phase of this pandemic, as we move toward providing a vaccine for everyone who wants it," she said, also noting that it will take several months before the vaccine is available to everyone.

The vaccination program will start with staff members at long-term care and retirement homes and essential caregivers before moving to other high-risk healthcare providers.

Public Health says that vaccinations will be done at the WDGPH offices in Guelph due to transportation and storage requirements. However, other clinics will become available as more vaccines arrive in the region, according to Danny Williamson, WDG Public Health communications specialist.

Public Health is looking at enhancing their refrigeration capacity going forward.



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# 2020 THE YEAR IN REVIEW

### Attention Readers!

For our first edition of the Shelburne Free Press in 2021, we will be taking you through all of the highs and lows over the last 12 months. Our 2020 Year in Review will share some of the most significant stories impacting our readers from Jan. 9 to Dec. 23.

Now, without any further adieu, here's a look at the year that was!

### January

• Five Shelburne area residents are playing big roles in the upcoming production of Mamma Mia! opening this week at the Oran-

geville Opera House.

Produced by Orangeville Music Theatre (OMT), the juke-box musical and romantic comedy, presenting the popular music of ABBA, features Shelburne theatre buffs - both on stage and behind the scenes.

• Six months on from the unanimous vote that, seemingly, put the community's divisive policing issue to bed once and for all and Shelburne Council has this week voted in favour of reopening Pandora's box - officially requesting a new costing proposal from the OPP.

A special council meeting called for Mon-

day evening (Jan. 20) revealed the true extent of complications brought on by Orangeville Council's decision to shut down its own municipal police force in favour of entering into a contract with the OPP.

Shelburne CAO Denyse Morrissey estimated on Monday the Town would need to stump up approximately \$925,000 to plug the service gap that will be left behind once OPS is disbanded. This would be an annual expense, rather than a one-time cost, and would bring Shelburne's yearly police budget up to around \$3.8 million.

As a result of these new revelations, a motion was put forth by Coun. Shane Hall and seconded by Coun. Walter Benotto, to instruct staff to immediately request a new OPP costing.

• Shelburne council declares February to be Black History Month. Alethia O'Hara Stephenson gave a presentation to council pertaining to declaring February Black History Month in Shelburne.

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.

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.

• The Shelburne Free Press reports first story on coronavirus after 53-year old man travelling from Wuhan presented mild symptoms of coronavirus in Toronto.

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.

### February

• Retired Centre Dufferin District High School teacher Neil Orford, who now leads the heritage education organization Defining Moments Canada, shared two exciting announcements with the Free Press this week. First, Defining Moments Canada will part-

ner with the Ministry of Canadian Heritage over the next two years to lead the national digital commemoration celebrating the 100th anniversary of the discovery of insulin.

The digital project is called "Insulin2021." Neil Orford says, the project will honour "the four major milestones in the discovery of insulin - Canada's 'gift to the world' - commencing April 2020 and running through to December 2022."

Mr. Orford's second announcement involves the 2020 national commemorative project to share the stories of Canadians' contributions to the Liberation of Holland and Victory in Europe (VE Day). The federal government made the announcement in a press release last month.

Neil Orford told the Free Press that Defining Moments Canada "will be sharing nine incredible Canadian stories from the 'Road to Liberation' in 1944/45, where the contributions of Canadians to freeing the occupied Dutch and winning the Second World War are often neglected."

• Kinesiologist, nutritionist, and mental health ambassador Claire Knight of Melancthon, will make an 800 km solo hike across the Camino de Santiago trail this spring to raise funds and "hope" for mental health in Dufferin County.

Commencing April 17, the challenge, which means leaving family, friends and work behind, is expected to take Claire five weeks to complete.

Ms. Knight started her non-profit campaign "Claire's Hike 4 Hope" in 2019, with 100 percent of donations going back to Big Brothers, Big Sisters, and Community Mental Health in Wellington-Dufferin. She says the campaign was her response to "the high suicide rates within Wellington-Dufferin County," and "lack of support services for individuals and families."

• Canadian Hiphop artist Wes Williams, aka "Maestro Fresh Wes," will take part in a Black History Month panel discussion at the Museum of Dufferin on Feb. 23.

According to legendary artists such as Toronto's Drake, Wes Williams is "considered to be the godfather of Canadian Hiphop."

Continued on Page 3



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# 2020 THE YEAR IN REVIEW

## February cont'd

With the recent County proclamation of February as Black History Month, the Museum of Dufferin (MoD) is joining in the celebration of Black achievement. Warden, Darren White says he was "honoured to make the declaration of Black History Month" which was unanimously supported by County Council earlier in January.

According to his press, Wes Williams' 1989 classic rap single, 'Let Your Backbone Slide' was the first to reach gold status in Canada, and his debut album, 'Symphony In Effect', was the first to receive gold and platinum status in Canada.

As "the first Canadian MC to reach Billboard top singles charts, and the first to ever receive Much Music Awards for best Rap Video and People's Choice," Maestro Fresh Wes has inspired generations of musical artists who followed him.

Wes Williams is also an actor and star member of CBC's hit comedy 'Mr. D.' He has appeared in many U.S. films, including co-starring in 'Redemption' with Jamie Foxx.

- CDDHS Sr./Jr. basketball teams win District 4 championship

The Centre Dufferin District High School Royals senior boys basketball team have earned the right to compete at the regional level at CWOSSA after claiming the District 4 senior basketball championship on their home court on Monday, February 24. The Royals are undefeated for the season and finished in first place in the District standings.

## March

- Shelburne Mayor Wade Mills has announced the Town is closing all municipal facilities until further notice in response to the COVID-19 global pandemic.

Shelburne Town Hall, the Shelburne Police Station, Shelburne Fire Hall, local library and Centre Dufferin Recreation Centre will be closed for at least the next two weeks as the municipality attempts to slow the spread of the novel coronavirus in our community.

Mayor Mills met with Shelburne Police Chief Kent Moore and Shelburne Fire Chief Brad Lemaich on Monday afternoon (March 16) to discuss various measures municipal leaders could, potentially, implement to maintain the safety of local residents and ensure the continuity of essential municipal operations.

During that meeting, Mayor Mills recalls, Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health announced the Dufferin-Caledon region has its first confirmed case of COVID-19.

"While not entirely unexpected, the news is still unsettling and certainly reinforces the need to take strong and sensible action," Mayor Mills said. "In some respects, we are lucky that we can learn from the experiences of other countries who have already been impacted by COVID-19 on a large scale. One of the lessons we can take away is that the spread of this virus can be greatly slowed if governments at all levels act early, aggressively and intelligently."

Effective as of 4:30 p.m. on Monday (March 16), Shelburne Town Hall is completely closed to the public.

- The Town of Shelburne has declared a State of Emergency in response to the continued COVID-19 pandemic, however Mayor Wade Mills is keen to nip any immediate panic or worry local residents may feel in the bud.

"Let me be very clear, this is a legal declaration and does not mean that we face an immediate increased threat, nor does it mean that we face an impending loss of control of the situation," Mayor Mills said. "To the contrary, in fact, this declaration will allow us to get a tighter grip on the situation and will expand the weapons in our arsenal so that we can fight this threat more efficiently and effectively."

Shelburne is the latest municipality in the area to enact its emergency protocols. The Town of Caledon was the first to do so last Wednesday (March 18), with the Town of Mono and Town of Orangeville following suit.

- More than 1,000 individuals have visited the new drive-thru COVID-19 assessment clinic at Headwaters Health Care Centre since it was opened last Thursday (March 19).

## April

- A total of 14 staff members and 10 inpatients have tested positive for COVID-19 at Headwaters Health Care Centre as of Wednesday morning (April 8).

The hospital started posting daily statistics on its website this week, highlighting that an additional 38 staff members were self-isolating, having potentially come into contact with an individual testing positive for coronavirus. Of the 10 confirmed inpatient cases, four of those individuals are currently receiving treatment at the local hospital.

"We are doing everything we can to keep our staff and patients safe during this excep-

tional time," Headwaters hospital spokesperson Jennifer Hamilton informed the Citizen on Tuesday (April 7).

The number of COVID-19 cases locally, as is the case almost everywhere else around the world, has increased substantially over the past week. As of Wednesday morning, Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health has 113 confirmed cases, with 35 of those here in Dufferin County. Visits at our local COVID-19 Assessment Centre, situated at Headwaters hospital, are up again this week, with a total of 1,992 individuals processed and 774 tests administered as of press time.

Worldwide cases of coronavirus surpassed the 1.5 million mark on Wednesday afternoon. From that total, around 310,000 people have recovered from the virus, with 83,476 individuals dying. The United States is now recognized as the official epicentre of COVID-19, with 400,549 cases as of 11 a.m. on Wednesday. Spain, Italy, France and Germany round out the top five countries for total cases, with each recording more than 100,000 cases. Canada is now ranked 13th on that list, with 17,897 total cases as of end of day Tuesday.

Concerns have been escalating locally after two Shelburne retirement residences confirmed cases of COVID-19 this week. Dufferin Oaks was already on lockdown after two staff members tested positive for the virus last week. As of Wednesday, the County of Dufferin, who operates the facility, confirmed a third staff member had contracted coronavirus, with two residents also infected. It was also revealed on Tuesday that Shelburne Residence Retirement and Nursing Home had its first resident test positive for COVID-19.

- Shelburne Council participates in first virtual meeting

- Three elderly residents living in Shelburne retirement homes have died this week as the community comes to grips with two further outbreaks of COVID-19 in the area.

After an outbreak of the highly contagious virus was declared at Headwaters Health Care Centre in Orangeville on March 31, two retirement homes in Shelburne – Dufferin Oaks long-term care home and Shelburne Residence Retirement and Nursing Home have this week announced outbreaks of their own.

On Monday, it was revealed that two residents of Shelburne Residence had died after contracting COVID-19. This followed news that a Dufferin Oaks resident had passed away.

- Dufferin Oaks staff and residents are undergoing arduous COVID-19 testing at the county-run facility.

Brenda Wagner, the administrator at Dufferin Oaks in Shelburne, told Dufferin County Council last Thursday (April 16) that a proactive approach has been taken against the virus that's caused a worldwide pandemic.

Administration was informed March 30 that two Dufferin Oaks residents had been in contact with a COVID-19 positive health-care worker at hospital in Orangeville. The Dufferin Oaks residents had received care at Headwaters Health Care Centre.

Five staff members and four residents have tested positive for the novel coronavirus, said Wagner. As many as 105 residents have been tested and there are about 50 left to be tested. One resident has died of COVID-19, she said.

- As of April 6, schools across Ontario began 'distance learning' for students to continue learning within the walls of their own homes.

## May

- Top brass at Shelburne Residence Retirement and Nursing Home say staff at the facility are doing all they can to protect its residents and limit a deadly outbreak of the COVID-19 virus.

As of Tuesday afternoon, 55 residents and 23 staff members had tested positive for the virus, with 15 residents having died. Operated by Cambridge-based Southbridge Care Homes, the local facility houses approximately 60 residents.

While the provincial government has started to take steps to reopen the economy over the next few weeks, new cases of COVID-19 continue to come in. In the past week, there have been 10,449 new cases nationwide, with more than 2,000 of those here in Ontario. In total, Canada has 31,016 active COVID-19 cases, with a further 31,036 closed cases – 4,043 of those being deaths. There has been 18,310 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ontario.

- (May 14) Chuck Ferguson, Manager of Communications for Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health told the Free Press this week that his organization has been working closely with both of Shelburne's long term care residences "on a daily basis in terms of infection control and case management."

He reports, "Headwaters Health Care Cen-

tre has had 25 staff, including 18 nurses and other health care workers, as well as administration support, working full-time inside the residence for the past few weeks. They will remain in the home until this coming Sunday and are ensuring staff of the Shelburne Residence are trained and equipped to support the residents there."

An update released by the regional health unit on Wednesday (May 13) included the following statistics for Shelburne's long-term care facilities: Dufferin Oaks has had four residents and 6 staff members test positive for COVID-19, with two individuals passing away. Shelburne Residence Retirement & Nursing Home has been hit particularly hard, with 55 residents and 29 staff testing positive. The facility has recorded three deaths in the past week, bringing the total up to 18.

It is important to note that the retirement home section of the Shelburne Residence has had no cases of COVID-19.

- (May 28) Residents and staff at the Shelburne Long Term Care residence in Shelburne got a reprieve from the boredom of isolation and quarantine at the facility when a group of performers arrived to give a show and provide some entertainment.

Smiles Are Essential, a Brampton based group of performers, have been travelling around the region and performing at retirement homes to help lift the spirits of residents who have been unable to meet with family members due to the current COVID-19 pandemic.

Singers and dancers performed on the street facing the building while residents watched from inside the rooms facing the roadway.

The performance was arranged by the family of a resident who recently passed away from the COVID-19 virus at the senior facility.

- Shelburne Fire Chief Brad Lemaich resign, taking new role in Tillsonburg. Shelburne Fire Chief Brad Lemaich, began his firefighting career in 2003 in his hometown, Tillsonburg, Ontario. On June 8, he will be returning to the town where it all began as it's new fire chief.

Brad has been Shelburne and District Fire Department Chief, since 2015, when he came to Shelburne from his previous position as Fire Chief of the Municipality of Greenstone, some 280 Km north of Thunder Bay ON.

His last day in Shelburne, will be June 5, following which he will commence duties in Tillsonburg on June 8.

- Council convened Monday afternoon at a special council meeting, to discuss Town business and re-opening plans.

## June

- Many rural households across Dufferin-Caledon will soon be introduced to the 21st century, with Southwestern Integrated Fibre Technology (SWIFT) set to invest \$12.4 million in a broadband internet infrastructure expansion in the region.

Announced on Monday (June 1), the proposal will see \$7.2 million worth of work carried out in Dufferin County, with an additional \$5.2 million invested in Caledon. The project, which will improve access to faster, reliable internet services for hundreds of homes in the area, is being co-funded by the provincial and federal governments.

- Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health has issued an order requiring all persons to wear face masks while visiting local stores and businesses.

"The best available evidence indicates face coverings reduce the possibility of transmission of COVID-19," said Dr. Nicola Mercer, Medical Officer of Health for Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph. "By ensuring we can move to Phase 2 in the safest way possible, we are all making an investment in a safer community."

Made as Dufferin enters Phase 2 of reopening in the wake of COVID-19, the order was issued by Dr. Mercer at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday (June 10) and will come into effect at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, June 12.

- Monday night's Council meeting heard two proclamations from Mayor Wade Mills, one proclaiming June as Pride Month in Shelburne and the second, proclaiming June 21st as National Indigenous Peoples Day in the Town. Following these, the Mayor expressed his thoughts on an issue that would become almost the theme of this meeting, racism and the reactions to it. Mayor Mills said that the he personally felt that he could and should do more about confronting this issue, so recently amplified by the murder of George Floyd, a black man, by a police officer, in Minneapolis, Minnesota on May 25.

The mayor said that the "silence of friends, not the words of enemies, allows racism to flourish and exist."

- Over a hundred protestors marched through the streets of Shelburne on Sunday (June 14) as part of a Black Lives Matter protest – one of many that have swept the nation in a stance against racism.



**MARCHING FOR BLACK LIVES MATTER:** Over 100 local protestors participated in the Black Lives Matter march in Shelburne on Sunday (June 14). Many brought along homemade signs, showing their support for the movement, which has swept the globe over the past month. Pictured above left, a local family show off their personal signs, while above main, another local resident proudly displays a message of her own.

"What we have seen in towns and in cities across North America, and what we are witnessing right here today, I believe, is evidence of a major sea-change," said Shelburne Mayor Wade Mills, addressing the crowd outside Town Hall. "We've seen demonstrations in the past, but to me this really feels different this time and I think all of you know what I'm talking about."

The crowd of protestors started the peaceful demonstration at the Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex and made their way to Shelburne Town Hall. Organizers Shyanne Ricci and Hailey McLarty lead the march, carrying a sign that read "Shelburne Stands Together".

Ricci and McLarty both spoke to the crowd before the march, touching on their reasons for organizing the event.

"We started this to show that the Town of Shelburne, as a community, will acknowledge the racism and hateful acts taking place in the world, as well as showing full support for those affected by racism and promoting the need for change," said Ricci.

"Some of us might not be subjected to racism on a personal level, but that does not mean that it is not happening in our community and others every single day," said McLarty.

Some protestors carried signs written with messages such as "Black Lives Matter" and "Shelburne United", while others could be heard chanting "no justice, no peace, no racist police" and "hands up, don't shoot" as the crowd made its way down Owen Sound St.

Standing outside Town Hall the crowd followed a call and response chant of "no justice, no peace" and "black lives matter". Cars driving by also took the time to honk in support of the movement.

Mayor Wade Mills, Deputy Mayor Steve Anderson, and local pastor Jay Wagstaff spoke to gathered protestors. The speeches touched on the need for further action, the acknowledgment to be better and Shelburne's role in the movement for justice.

- Local businesses begin to re-open their doors with move to Phase 2

## July

- Shelburne Town Council held a special meeting on Tuesday (July 7) for a public information session from the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP). The meeting was an opportunity for Council and the community to ask their questions following the second OPP costing, presented back on June 22.

Similar to the first costing public information session that took place in April 2019, elected officials and community members raised question regarding response times, financial costs, and police presence for local youth in the schools.

The public information presentation was presented by OPP Sgt. Ken Kee and Staff Sgt. Nicol Randall.

- Amaranth Mayor Bob Currie has been removed from his position as chair of a County committee following comments he made about the LGBTQ community in June.

"There is simply no place in leadership at any level that includes hateful and divisive comments that serve only to hurt," said Dufferin County Warden Darren White in a statement to county council last week.

Currie was asked by Warden White to step down from his role as chair of the Infrastructure and Environmental Services Committee last Thursday (June 25).

- While Pride Month, alongside practically everything else, may have been overshadowed this year due to the pandemic, recent comments made by one Dufferin County politician made it "absolutely vital" for the third annual Celebrate Your Awesome, Pride event, to take stage this past weekend.



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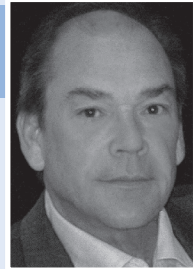
A brand new decade

Yes, it's a brand new year. I guess all those 1950's late night science fiction movies and the Twilight Zone TV show got it all wrong because I don't have a jetpack in my garage. There are also no glass domed cities, flying cars, laser beam guns, or robot butlers. The moon hasn't been colonized, and no one has had to launch themselves into deep space like the Space Family Robinson in 1997, to find a new planet to inhabit because the Earth is over populated. The concept of going to Mars and setting up shop is not feasible, even if Space X has made plans to go there - it's not a realistic project. In fact the entire space program has kind of stalled. Instead of zooming off to other planets, astronauts are only going as far as the International Space Station, and even that is becoming a questionable expense. This was all of course, science fiction - the key word being fiction. To gain a real perspective on the future I researched a paper published in 1950, by the leading scientists of the day who made their predictions for the year 2000 - some 50 years ahead of their time. Some of their scientific predictions were

wildly inaccurate while other came much closer to the mark. For some reason, they concluded a Third World War would have already happened and a World Federation of some sort would be created. Not sure why everyone has been predicting a third global war for decades, but it hasn't happened yet, and won't likely happen any time soon. The scientists were sure there would be an artificial planet built to orbit the earth that would shine as bright as the moon and act as a radar and transmitting beacon. They were sort of right on that one given satellites, but they aren't quite the size of the moon. As for travel they predicted you could move around the entire planet in a day. We're close to that - you can get from here to Australia in about 24 hours. They also figured the cruising speed for commercial airliners would be over 1000 mph. Nope, not even close to that. It was thought that atomic power to replace coal and lack of water powered resources, should be 'getting under way.' Well, they predicted atomic power, however the first reactors were created only four years after their prediction. Not sure how they didn't see that coming

sooner. There are several predictions regarding health care, although most of them haven't been achieved yet, like a cure for the common cold. However they did predict that polio would be eliminated before 2000. In 1950, television was still a new medium. The scientists predicted TV would become 3 dimensional with the characters appearing in your living room complete with the smells that come with a scene. We're not quite there yet. They also predicted that radio broadcasting will be totally eliminated because no one would 'tune into a program that cannot be seen.' I guess they didn't figure in the fact that keeping your eyes on the road while driving was important, although they did think flying cars would be common place. One thing they did envision was today's smart-phone or Iphone. "The telephone will be transformed from wire to radio and will be equipped with the visuality of television. Every pedestrian will have his own walking telephone." It is interesting to note, that two of the most powerful tools ever developed were not predicted at all - at least not in any research I can find.

Digital technology never seemed to be on the radar - at least not in the sense we use it today. And there was no early references to a future kind of internet as we know it, other than a couple of very vague references to possible use of computers. No one ever seemed to think of a global information system connected to every home. In fact the common thinking at the time was that as computers became more powerful they would also become larger. See Professor Frink, on the Simpsons. The above predictions were made for the year 2000, which at the time was considered far into the future and a benchmark year because it marked the turn of the century. And here we are 21 years past that benchmark year. We haven't quite made it to the world of Stanley Kubrick's, 2001: A Space Odyssey, but you never know what still may come over the next few years. I still have a space reserved in the garage for my new jet pack when they finally are on sale for consumer use.



BRIAN LOCKHART FROM THE SECOND ROW

Not quite as bad as it seems

Blaming the victims is never a good look. As Britain finally leaves the European Union, 1,651 days after the Brexit referendum of 2016, we should try to remember that 48% of the turkeys didn't vote for Christmas. Brexit was not exactly a national act of self-harm; it was really an attack by the nostalgic and nationalist old on the young. 60% of British over-65s voted to leave the EU, but 61% of the under-35s voted to remain. Having had four years to think it over, most British now think it was a mistake - by a 48-39 majority, according to a YouGov poll in October. Too late. Boris Johnson is prime minister and he dares not anger the English ultra-nationalists on the right of his own Conservative party. After months of the amateur dramatics that accompany any Johnson decision, on Christmas Day the United Kingdom concluded a pathetically thin 'free trade' deal that reflects the real balance of power between the EU and the UK. Johnson will smear lipstick all over this pig of a deal and declare it a triumph. Those who

want to believe it will do so, and the only early evidence of the huge defeat that it really is will be some delays at the ports as customs officers learn their new jobs. The real bill will come in later and almost invisibly, in lost trade, investment and opportunities. The last official British government estimate was that fifteen years from now the British economy will be between 5% and 7% smaller than it would have been as an EU member (but still a bit bigger than it is now). That's not the raw material for a counter-revolution - and besides, any projection about the economic situation in 2035 is really pure guesstimate. One Covid more or less could make just as much difference as Brexit. All one can say is that the British economy will not "prosper mightily" outside the EU, as Johnson promised, but it won't collapse either. And then, in due course, the younger, pro-EU Brits will become the majority thanks to the magic of generational turnover. But until then, if Britain comes knocking at the EU's door asking to be allowed back in, Brus-

sels should say 'no.' What really happens on 31 December is that the European Union is finally freed to develop in the way that its other major members clearly want. The goal of 'ever closer union', anathema to English exceptionalists, is back on the agenda. There is ambivalence in every member country about the idea of creating a semi-federal European super-state, but in a world where democracy and the rule of law are under siege most people can see the need to strengthen the European Union. Last July the EU's leaders took a huge step in that direction: for the first time they agreed to borrow collectively on the financial markets. France and Germany were all for it, and Italy and Spain needed the money to finance a trillion-euro aid programme to help them through the coronavirus crisis. Those four countries now contain more than half the EU's population, and they outvoted the 'frugal four' (the Netherlands, Austria, Sweden and Denmark) that opposed taking on debt

to support 'feckless' Mediterranean members. If Britain had still been a member, it would have vetoed the measure because it infringed on the UK's sacred 'sovereignty'. French President Charles de Gaulle, who vetoed British membership applications twice in the 1960s, was right: England does not have a 'European vocation', and it should not be allowed in. The financial precedent that was set in July opens the door to a future EU that acts much more like a state. Even a common defence budget is now within reach - not something vital in military terms, but a European army would be a hugely important symbol of unity. The United States may be back soon, but the world could certainly use a second powerful advocate for democracy and the rule of law. Brexit may be giving us just that by freeing the EU to move on, and we should be grateful.



GWYNNE DYER OUR WORLD TODAY

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Orangeville-Brampton railway, presently owned by Orangeville, should not be converted into a trail ("Local rail line to cease operations," 23 December). It should

instead be expanded and upgraded. The rail line once extended from Collingwood through Orangeville to Toronto's Union Station, with stops along the route,

carrying passengers and freight in both directions. It could do so again, using single or multiple motorized cars as were once common for the smaller lines. It could carry commuters to key transport centres in the GTHA (Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area), while offering fast freight service to local industry, thereby considerably reducing car and truck traffic. A Highway 10 expansion and a Highway 410 extension might be avoided, along with frequent road surface maintenance. Cars and large trucks are major CO2 producers. Surprisingly, neither the federal nor the former Ontario Liberal government has spent a cent on upgrading local rail lines to alleviate their carbon concerns.

But the Trudeau government is blinkered, concentrating its benefits on those large cities whose citizens have leisure to contemplate how to control the free-thinking, independent farmers who still provide some of their food. Nothing outside Quebec and the GTHA is of any Liberal-NDP interest. The rail line should be upgraded to national standards of speed and safety. It is well known that a public service must be provided before the public will accept it. As in the movie "Field of Dreams," build it and they will come, but the federal government must take a financial interest. Charles Hooker East Garafraxa, Ontario L9W 7E4



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# 2020 THE YEAR IN REVIEW

## July cont'd

On Saturday (June 27), this year's Celebrate Your Awesome was held in a virtual format, bringing thousands of people together from across the community to, well, celebrate everything that makes them awesome.

The feedback to the event has been "amazing," says Ms. Post, one of the founders of the event. That particular point is important, she believes, considering the damage controversial comments made by Amaranth Mayor Bob Currie last week did to the local LGBTQ community.

As reported last week, Mr. Currie, when speaking out against raising the Pride flag at Amaranth Town Hall, went on something of a tirade against LGBTQ people, stating "if everybody was either lesbian or homosexual, this would be the last generation on earth, because two homosexuals cannot produce offspring, (and) two lesbians cannot produce offspring."

He would then question why he would want to support Pride, when, if everyone were either gay or lesbian, "this would be the last generation on earth."

Ms. Post was dismayed when she heard the comments.

"When comments like that are made publicly from a leader in our community, it really sets us back. We, as a committee with Celebrate Your Awesome, have really been focused on education, and making sure people understand what Pride is all about, and what inclusion means. When comments like that are made, it sets us back and pushes us back years," Ms. Post said.

With the third-annual Celebrate Your Awesome event now in the books, Ms. Post is looking forward to building on the momentum generated over the past three years to ensure the local LGBTQ community receives the support it needs.

"For us, pride, inclusion and diversity is top of mind. With this event, we want to make sure that, through Pride Month, there is a way for all of us to stick together as one community. Now, more than ever, we need to make sure our LGBTQ community knows they have our full support," said Ms. Post.

"With the recent comments that have been made, it's even more important to spread a positive message and let our community know they're safe, and that (Mr. Currie's) feelings aren't in the majority. They need to know they can still feel safe and welcome in their own home."

• Shelburne Town Council held a special meeting on Tuesday (July 7) for a public information session from the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP). The meeting was an opportunity for Council and the community to ask their questions following the second OPP costing, presented back on June 22.

Similar to the first costing public information session that took place in April 2019, elected officials and community members raised question regarding response times, financial costs, and police presence for local youth in the schools.

The public information presentation was presented by OPP Sgt. Ken Kee and Staff Sgt. Nicol Randall.

• Morningcall Farm, never expected that when one of their cows gave birth to a calf last month, that 11 days later a second one – a twin- would be born alive and healthy. "We never expected it, there were no signs, she [the cow] wasn't doing anything," said Glover in an interview at the Mulmur-based farm. She added, "It's quite an experience, because nobody have ever heard of this before, ever."

• Shelburne Town Council voted unanimously in favour of bringing OPP in to police the community during a special Council meeting on Wednesday evening (July 15).

The motion to accept the proposal from OPP was moved by Mayor Wade Mills. As a result, the Shelburne Police Service will be disbanded following 141-years of service in the community.

"Our ability to continue with a municipal police force is just no longer financially sustainable," said Mills.

He added, "If we lack the courage to make the difficult and responsible decision that is required now, then 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."

• In the initial proposal presented by OPP in January of 2019 it showed a cost projection of \$3.1 million in the first year of an initial three year transitional contract.

For the second and third year the cost would revert back to \$2.68 million.

After the three years the costs would be determined by data gathered by OPP over the course of the three year transitional contract.

In the fourth year, the contract would switch to the OPP billing model, taking base service and calls for service over the course of the three-year transitional contract to determine an annual cost for Shelburne.

It's expected that those costs could be as low as \$1.6 million by 2025.

A recent survey commissioned by the Shelburne Police association shows that the local force's officers would find the transition to the OPP to be "desirable."

In one of the questions, the survey asked Shelburne Police officers how they felt about transitioning to the provincial force and all of the respondents (100%) noted it would have a positive effect on job satisfaction, and provide additional opportunities for advancement and access to better training.

• Shelburne residents will now be able to get African Caribbean food with the opening of African Caribbean Grocery Store on July 9.

• 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 July 17.

• Dufferin County Council votes to acknowledge local Indigenous history at meetings.

• The Shelburne Legion, Branch 220, announced July 24 that they would not be opening to the public despite the region moving forward in Phase 3 and the indoor capacity increasing.

## August

• The plan released by the Ontario government will see elementary schools, kindergarten to Grade 8, reopen across the province and returning to the normal five days a week, five hours a day schedule.

Secondary schools in "non-designated" areas will return to school on a full schedule and attendance, while schools in "designated" areas will reopen with an adapted model; alternating attendance on different days and cohort classes of 15 students.

Upper Grand District School Board schools fall under the non-designated area and will return to school full-time while the Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board will have an adapted part-time attendance and cohorts of 15 students.

• All students in the Upper Grand District Board returning to in-class learning in September will be required to wear face masks.

Trustees voted to pass a motion making face masks mandatory for all students, now

including those from junior kindergarten to Grade 3, staff and visitors in an emergency meeting on Tuesday (Aug. 18).

• United Way Guelph Wellington Dufferin is providing \$120,000 in grants to help support four vital community services and programs during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Announced on August 4, the money will provide some much-needed assistance to the Orangeville Food Bank, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Dufferin, Shelburne's Shepherd's Cupboard Foodbank and Canadian Mental Health Association Peel Dufferin.

• Active Lives Day Program (ALDP) Dufferin, a local non-profit organization, has opened their second location with the launch of their Shelburne campus.

The program is for local adult residents with varying levels of developmental disabilities as well as neurological disorders.

ALDP Dufferin focuses on continued education for individuals attending the campuses, giving a post-secondary option or spot to grow life skills and job skills.

• Ralph Snyder is named Shelburne's new fire chief.

Continued on Page 6



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## PUZZLE 425

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- 6. Fodder storage place
- 7. Asked urgently
- 8. Australian marsupial
- 9. Foul up
- 10. Prized stone
- 11. Mountain feedback
- 12. Oversee
- 13. Coast
- 14. Scatter
- 20. Forest clearings
- 22. Chintzy
- 25. First Hebrew letter
- 28. Crucial inning
- 30. Easy chair
- 31. Thin oatmeal
- 33. Plunder
- 34. Type of type
- 35. Cosmos
- 36. Ocean cruiser
- 38. Not high
- 39. Mama's man
- 42. Four-wheeled carriage
- 43. Consecrate with oil
- 46. \_\_\_ and beyond
- 48. Skinny branch
- 51. Basketry material
- 53. Swedish moolah
- 56. Like Mother Hubbard, e.g.

### ACROSS

- 1. Breach
- 4. Speak imperfectly
- 8. Nail holder
- 11. Frittata fundamentals
- 15. Wood-chopping tool
- 16. Seed protector
- 17. Chalcocite or magnetite, e.g.
- 18. Faction
- 19. Schoolyard fixture
- 21. Furniture item
- 23. Plunged
- 24. Of protuberances
- 26. Swarm
- 27. Dusky cuckoo
- 29. Tag marking
- 32. Condensed moisture
- 33. Belittle
- 37. Pertaining to a time period

- 39. Church dish
- 40. Tuck's partner
- 41. Roof topper
- 44. Stop, matey!
- 45. Eat rapidly
- 47. Lack
- 49. Close friend
- 50. Lifted with effort
- 52. Defraud
- 54. \_\_\_ and forever
- 55. Exchange fee
- 57. Sunday speech
- 59. Spokes
- 61. Rich pastry
- 63. Night before
- 64. Short ape?
- 65. Passing grades
- 66. Hot-air balloon pilot
- 68. Glazed \_\_\_
- 71. Super!
- 73. Hack

- 74. Defendant's excuse
- 76. Hilton rival
- 79. Meadow bird
- 83. Desolate
- 86. Prom attendant
- 88. In the past
- 89. \_\_\_ media
- 90. Cathedral part
- 91. Function
- 92. One who predicts the future
- 93. Do sums
- 94. Jug
- 95. Small gull

### DOWN

- 1. Handled hook
- 2. Car part
- 3. Toll
- 4. Fold over
- 5. Mocking

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# 2020 THE YEAR IN REVIEW

## August cont'd

- The Ontario government has approved a multi-million dollar expansion to Hyland Heights Elementary School, which will see an increase in student spaces at the local institution.
- Shelburne Town Council approved a work plan to complete necessary additional monitoring to two wells in town that will cost \$113,285 plus tax.

## September

- An entire classroom at a Shelburne elementary school has been told to self-isolate following an assessment of a positive COVID-19 case by Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health (WDGPH).
- The Upper Grand District School (UGDSB) reported the positive case at Glenbrook Ele-

mentary in Shelburne on Friday (Sept. 25). Since the confirmed positive case of coronavirus, Public Health has directed the UGDSB to have the one class self-isolate.

- Grey County is launching a new bus route that will have two stops in Shelburne. Altogether the new bus service will have four routes, which will include Hwy. 10 from Owen Sound to Orangeville, Hwy. 26 between Owen Sound and Town of Blue Mountains, Hwy. 6 between Owen Sound and Warton and Grey Road 4 between Flesherton and Walkerton. GTR will have 10 passenger vehicles.

The Hwy. 10 route will run directly through Shelburne, with two stops that will be confirmed by Council.

- Movie Night is coming to Shelburne with the town preparing to host a drive-in theatre

on Saturday (Sept. 12) at Fiddle Park.

With the cancellation of many events in town as a result of COVID-19, including Canada Day celebrations, the Town of Shelburne and Party Cinemas partnered to bring a family friendly drive-in theatre for a night to the community

- A community garden is on its way to the Town of Shelburne, with the official breaking of the ground from construction starting last Thursday (Sept. 3).

- Problems within Amaranth Council continued last week, with Coun. Mark Tijssen suddenly announcing he was resigning during the township's most recent meeting last Wednesday (Sept. 2).

With Amaranth Council prepared to enter closed sessions to discuss a workplace harassment report and the possible consequences regarding Amaranth Mayor Bob Currie, Coun. Tijssen walked out of the meeting, and announced his resignation from council.

Despite Tijssens' sudden announcement of resignation last Wednesday, Deputy Mayor Gerrits said that over the last two years Tijssen had mentioned various times that he had considered resigning.

The timing of his resignation, however, was surprising said Gerrits.

- Amaranth Council is down one councillor and one vote after Coun. Mark Tijssen made his resignation from municipal government official last week.

"The acting clerk of the Township of Amaranth has received written notification from Coun. Mark Tijssen of his resignation from Council," wrote Amaranth Township in a news release last Thursday (Sept. 17).

The news release from the Township went on to say, "Council and staff would like to thank Mr. Tijssen for his contributions to the Township of Amaranth and wish him well in the future endeavours."

- Shelburne Town Council votes to continue to hold their council, board, and committee meetings electronically for the remainder of 2020.

Staff have indicated municipal spending will increase by around six percent next year but this doesn't necessarily mean resident's tax bills will go up by the same amount.

Holmes said in the meeting that, in the recent years, provincial and County tax rates had dropped, offsetting the increase to the Town's portion of tax rates, but due to the financial constraints brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, she is not confident that will happen in 2021.

With budget discussions set to commence in a couple of weeks' time, Town staff has made several requests for increased funding in 2021. Most significant is the proposed addition of \$74,793 to the municipality's parks and recreation department, to cover, Holmes says, increased annual costs across the department.

- Shelburne staff are proposing a tax levy increase of up to 6 percent for local rate payers in 2021.

- A Shelburne man is facing multiple charges after an electronics exchange turned into a robbery at gunpoint last week.

Shelburne Police Service (SPS) responded to a 9-1-1 call shortly after 1 p.m. last Wednesday (Sept. 9) of a man robbed at gunpoint in the industrial areas of Main Street and County Road 124.

The victim of the robbery provided police with a description of the suspect and his vehicle.

SPS say that they located the suspect vehicle within three minutes of being dispatched to the call.

The suspect was arrested and a black handgun was seized.

"The handgun ended up being an airsoft gun. It was black in colour and looks like a real gun, even up close," said SPS Sgt. Paul Neumann.

"Not only did the victim believe it to be a real firearm, police also believed it to be real at the first moment it was seized from the suspect's car." An investigation of the incident revealed that the victim was selling some electronics and had pre-arranged to meet the suspect.

SPS recovered the stolen items and say that nobody was injured during the incident.

- With things remaining uncertain due to the lingering nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Shelburne Legion has decided to remain closed to the general public for the month..

- Shelburne residents will soon be able to use the ice rink at the local arena, following a decision from the board of management to have the ice put in for the season.

Approached by some of the local teams and programs that use the ice rink yearly, Chris Gerrits, Chair of the Centre Dufferin Recreations Complex Board of Management, says that the board subsequently made the decision to have the ice put in.

- Shelburne staff are proposing a tax levy increase of up to 6 percent for local rate payers in 2021.

## October

- A second outbreak of COVID-19 has been declared at Dufferin Oaks, a long-term care home in Shelburne. Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health (WDGPH), declared the outbreak at the long-term care home last Friday (Oct.16) after a staff member at the home tested positive for COVID-19. The positive case was found through routine testing done by staff members at Dufferin Oaks.

- Shelburne Town Council has approved the amount of funds that will be given out for the 2021 community grants.

During their council meeting on Monday (Oct. 4) council approved all eleven of the local groups that applied for the 2021 community grants.

Councillors through the approval of the grants provided a total of \$21,600 in cash as well as \$15,200 in-kind, which is a donation of service.

Groups that received a grant include the Dufferin County Canadian Black Association, Little Family's Haunt in the Park, Shelbrr Fest, Shepherd's Cupboard Food Bank, Children's Foundation of Guelph & Wellington Food & Friends Program, the Heritage Music Festival, G.E.T Outreachworks, Pickin' in the Park, Shelburne & District Agricultural Society, the Shelburne & District Horticultural Society, and Shelburne Community Welcome.

- The Upper Grand District School Board (UGDSB) is looking towards the community for input regarding police presence within local schools, and the community is now stressing for the inclusion of BIPOC voices and mental health programs.

The Upper Grand District School Board held a town hall and survey on Tuesday (Oct. 20). The town hall saw over 150 community members from across the UGDSB region partake in the online survey, anonymously sharing their thoughts on police presence in UGDSB schools.

- "She was gone," said Police Const. Cory Courtney recalling the incident where he administered naloxone for resuscitation.

Shelburne Police Service (SPS) PC Cory

Continued on Page 7

## Feral Cat Rescue Thrift Store

Feral Cat Rescue Thrift Store is located at 226 First Ave E in Shelburne, in the Foodland Plaza. All proceeds go directly towards helping our community cats get the care they need.

Any calls regarding items for sale or donations of items can be directed to 519-925-5805.

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JANUARY 2021

## CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION

Trees must be out by 7 a.m. on the Monday to ensure collection during the designated week.

Christmas trees in the Town of Orangeville will be collected during the week of **January 11th.**

Christmas trees in the urban areas of Grand Valley, Shelburne & the rural subdivisions will be collected during the week of **January 18th.**

Residents in **rural areas** must call 1.888.941.3345 ext. 1 a week in advance to be put on the list for collection the week of **January 18th.**

**Do not bag trees for collection and ensure that decorations and tree stands are removed. Trees that are buried in snow will not be collected.**

**Please note:** If you have any yard waste left over from the fall, you may put it out beside your tree for collection.

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# 2020 THE YEAR IN REVIEW

## October cont'd

Courtney, earlier this year, was working a night that he describes as "fairly quiet" when he responded to a call for a female not showing vital signs due to a suspected overdose.

With an ambulance close behind and with less personal protective equipment (PPE) to put on, PC Courtney administered naloxone and initiated CPR, successively helping resuscitate the women.

"Some signs of life were starting to come back, she was starting to make some noise and some color was starting to come back to her," said Courtney. "This narcan is just such a miracle drug. To be able to save somebody like that was just amazing. That stuff is just so incredible. I'm so happy we have it available to us."

Courtney has now received a Community Excellence Award from Shelburne Town Council for his life saving efforts that night

## November

Banners featuring veterans will soon be seen hoisted above the streets of Shelburne, as part of the annual Hometown Heroes Remembrance Day initiative.

In the lead up to Remembrance Day (Nov. 11) the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 220 will be flying the annual Hometown Heroes banners that feature the names, ranks, and photos of Canadian veterans.

As Remembrance Day draws nearer, you won't be seeing veterans and volunteers in Shelburne offering poppies in-person.

Shelburne Royal Canadian Legion Branch 220 has announced that they won't be doing their in-person poppy offerings in the lead up to Remembrance Day, instead donations will be gathered through drop boxes.

Dean Schroeder, chair of the Poppy Fund at the local Legion, told the Free Press that the decision to stop in-person poppy offerings for 2020 was made as a way to protect volunteers and community members.

Dufferin County will be receiving \$724,966 from the Ontario government as part of the Social Services Relief Fund (SSRF), announced Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones last Thursday (Oct. 29).

They didn't march from the local Legion, the colour party was limited to three, and no cadets stood guard around the cenotaph, but the Shelburne Legion continued with their Remembrance Day ceremony honouring veterans who fought and died in the line of duty, with a scaled back approach amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We are being honoured the way we should have been," said Lesa Peat, President of the local Legion about Wednesday's service.

The small group of 25 invited veterans, Legion members, and a few of the Town's officials gathered outside of Shelburne's Town Hall on Nov. 11 to take part in the scaled-down Remembrance Day ceremony.

Despite the scaled-down ceremony due to the COVID-19 pandemic and its restrictions, local veteran Willis Potter, who served in the military from 1953 to 1956 called the ceremony "beautiful."

Shelburne Town Council are continuing with their discussions on a potential budget for 2021, with the presentation of the public portion of the 2021 draft budget during their most recent meeting on Monday (Nov. 9).

Carey Holmes, the Town's treasurer noted that the estimated amount to be raised by taxation this coming year is a shade over \$7.8 million, which is calculated by taking the total general operating expenses for 2021 of \$10.3 million and subtracting expected revenues of around \$2.5 million.

New data released from Statistics Canada indicates that the Town of Shelburne's overall crime rate for 2019 is down, despite an increase in the community's violent crimes severity index.

The Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics (CCJCSS), a division of Statistics Canada, released their annual Crime Severity Index (CSI) data on Oct. 29.

The Crime Severity Index (CSI) data, which was introduced in 2009 looks at an areas overall crime, violent crime, and non-violent crime.

According to Statistics Canada CSI is a, "measure of police-reported crime that reflects the relative seriousness of individual offences and tracks changes in crime severity."

The report noted that Shelburne's overall crime rate decreased more in 2019 than the national average, with the town's crime severity index dropping 4 percent compared to the 5 percent national average. Shelburne's crime severity index for 2019 was the lowest for all municipal police services in the province with the population between 5000 and 15,000.

Shelburne's local Legion has announced that through its annual Poppy Fund Campaign, they were able to raise \$16,500 for veterans in the community, making 2020 one of their best turnouts for donations.

The donations raised through the fund go directly to veterans within the community

and provide a number of services.

Despite the restrictions from COVID-19 the legion surpassed their total of \$14,000 raised in 2019.

A report investigating "unfounded" allegations of misconduct and bullying by Melancthon Mayor Darren White towards a council member has now left the Township of Melancthon with a bill for over \$2,200.

This complaint caused an unnecessary expenditure of taxpayers' money," wrote Guy Giorno, the Integrity Commissioner for the Township.

After months of work creating a platform fostering inclusion and equity, the Dufferin County Canadian Black Association (DCCBA) has official launched – the first of its kind within the County of Dufferin

Dufferin County Canadian Black Association was registered as an organization back in June by Shelburne resident, Alethia O'Hara Stephenson. O'Hara Stephenson said the organization forms a platform "where we can collectively have a voice for the black community."

## December

An outbreak of COVID-19 has been declared at Headwaters Health Care Centre by Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health (WDGPH). Headwaters Health Care Centre confirmed through a press release last Friday (Dec. 4), that four positive cases of the virus had been identified in the hospital's medical in-patient unit (F wing).

An announcement that Dufferin County will be officially moved into the "Red" zone of the COVID-19 framework came Dec. 11, following Dr. Mercer's recommendation. Dufferin County officially moved to the "Red" zone on Dec. 14.

Ontario will be entering another province-wide lockdown come Boxing Day, as numbers of COVID-19 cases continue to rise daily and the Province looks to prevent inundating hospitals and intensive care units (ICU) with sick patients, made by Ford during a press conference on Monday (Dec. 21).

The lockdown will remain in place until Jan. 23, 2021 for health units in southern Ontario.

Regions in northern Ontario, where numbers of COVID-19 are significantly lower, lockdown ends on Jan. 9, 2021.

The Shelburne Wolves Peewee AE team were robbed of what was most likely their final game last spring when the COVID-19 pandemic brought a sudden end to the season.

They were leading their final series 2-0 over the Strathroy Jr. Rockets team #2 when they got the word the series would not continue.

Confident of a win and a championship, the series cancellation was a bitter disappointment to the team who had worked hard all season.

To finalize the year, the OMHA declared the last teams standing to be co-champions.

Team coach, Jon Hare, said he considers his team the champions as they were on the right track to take the win, the series and the championship.

The Wolves had a 15-2-3 regular season record and followed up with a 4-1-1 record in playoffs. That's an outstanding record for a team that had only ten skaters and two goalies.

Three schools in Shelburne have now reported positive cases of COVID-19 as the number of cases in Dufferin County continue to rise

Family Transition Place (FTP), will be commemorating the victims of the Montreal Massacre and women who have lost their lives to femicide this year, through a virtual vigil on the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women (Dec. 6).

The National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women has

taken place annually on the anniversary of the 1989 Montreal Massacre for the last 29 years. The day honours the 14 women murdered and 14 women injured by lone gunman Marc Lepine, when he attacked an engineering school affiliated with the University of Montreal, which he said was a "fight against feminists."

Melancthon Mayor Darren White has been elected as the 144th Warden of Dufferin County – marking his fourth term as the Head of Council.

White was elected to the position, which he will hold for the 2020/2021 term.



Darren White pictured above. SUBMITTED PHOTO

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**Notice of Study Commencement**  
Town of Shelburne Water and Wastewater Master Servicing Plan

**THE STUDY**  
The Town of Shelburne is updating its 2003 Water and Wastewater Servicing Master Plan (WWSMP) to ensure that its current and future water and wastewater infrastructure needs are met. The resulting report will outline the Town's plan for providing safe, cost-effective, sustainable and reliable water and wastewater services.

**THE PROCESS**  
The WWSMP update will be conducted in accordance with the requirements of Phases 1 and 2 of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA), which is an approved process under the Environmental Assessment Act.

**PUBLIC CONSULTATION**  
Public input and comments are an important part of the MCEA process and comments are welcome at anytime. When the study is further advanced, the Town will hold at least one Public Information Centre (PIC) to present findings and receive comments. A notice will appear in this newspaper in advance of the PIC.

Upon completion of the MCEA, a Project File will be made available for public review and comment. Another notification will be published at that time, indicating where the report can be viewed.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**  
Further information may be obtained from the Town's engineer:

**Ian Callum, M.Sc., PMP**  
**S. Burnett & Associates Limited**  
210 Broadway, Unit 203  
Orangeville, ON L9W 5G4  
T: 519-941-2949  
F: 519-941-2036

**S. BURNETT & ASSOCIATES LIMITED**  
ENGINEERING & ENVIRONMENTAL

Information will be collected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Except for personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

This Notice was issued January 7, 2021 in the Shelburne Free Press.

# SHELBURNE CHURCH DIRECTORY

**ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH**  
312 Owen Sound St., Shelburne - 925-2251  
office@stpauls-shelburne.ca  
Sunday Service and Children's Ministry - 9:30 a.m.  
Priest: The Rev. Stephanie Pellow

**ABIDING PLACE FELLOWSHIP**  
www.abidingplace.ca • 519-925-3651  
SUNDAY SERVICE 10:00AM  
Mel-Lloyd Centre, Entrance "F" Door,  
167 Centre St. Shelburne  
Pastor: Rev. Gord Horsley

**CHRISTADELPHIANS**  
THOUGHT OF THE WEEK  
#215330  
10TH LINE AMARANTH JUST NORTH OF 25TH SIDEROAD, WEST SIDE  
He that has never known adversity is but half acquainted with others, or himself.  
- Charles Caleb Colton  
These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, BUT take courage; I have overcome the world.  
- John 16:33  
Please visit us at: www.shelburnechristadelphians.ca

**BETHEL BIBLE CHAPEL**  
419 Main Street East, Shelburne  
Sunday Services - 9:30am Lord's Supper  
10:45am Family Bible Hour, Sunday School  
Chapel 519-925-3910 or 519-278-0066  
www.bethelshelburne.com - All Welcome!!

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Youth Night  
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Women's Fellowship

**Pastor Gavin Sullivan**  
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## AUCTIONS



**ON-LINE ONLY AUCTION**  
**THE GAS, OIL, TOY SALE**  
**TO START 2021 OFF WITH A BANG!**

TIMED LOTS START CLOSING AT 5PM JAN 8TH. PREVIEW JAN 8TH, 10 TO 4 PM OR BY APPOINTMENT. PICKUP ON THE FOLLOWING DAY, CALL OR TEXT 519-938-7499 IF YOU NEED MORE INFO.

PREVIEW & PICKUP AT THE KIDD FAMILY AUCTION HOME OFFICE LOCATION, 438280 4TH LINE, MELANCTHON (NORTH OF SHELBURNE).

BID ON-LINE VIA WWW.KIDDFAMILYAUCTIONS.COM OR CALL WITH YOUR ABSENTEE BIDS, 519-938-7499 OR 519-938-1315.

This auction features collectibles from all the big gas & oil companies!! Gas & air pumps; lubsters; porcelain, tin wood & cardboard signs; oil bottles & cans; clocks & thermometers; display racks & crates; maps & ashtrays; licence plates; vintage automotive test tools; calendars; vintage publications and so much more.

Toys & pedal cars from Li'l Beaver, Buddy L, Marx, Tonka, Pez, Star Wars; etc. The list of lots will continue to grow as we get closer to the auction date.

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## BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY



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**Farm Accountant**

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Please email resumes to: antonina@masterwebinc.ca

## OBITUARIES

**NORMA EVELYN GALLAUGHER (NEE MCNABB)**

Passed away peacefully with family at her side at The Shelburne Long Term Care Nursing Home on December 28, 2020 in her 98th year. Beloved wife of the late Robert Harold (1985). Loving mother of Delmar (Dianne), Hugh (Beth), John (Debbie) and Ian (Irene). Loved Grandma of Jeff (Elizabeth), Marcia (James), Sem (Ericka), Lea, Jason (Sarah), Matthew (Jamie), Gina (David), Brandon (Jess), Chris (Megan) and Karen (Corey). Great Grandma to Emma, Eli, Keelan, Rauri, Maggie, Elliott, Robby, Greer, Grace, Arthur, Gabriel, and Levi. Predeceased by her great grandson Dominic (2019) and her loving brother Donald George McNabb (2007) and survived by her loving Sister in Law, Fran McNabb.

Norma lived a full and active life residing in her own home until April 2019. She remained active in the Mansfield community up until that time as an Elder and Treasurer of the Mansfield Presbyterian Church and life time member of the Women's Institute. Norma will be dearly missed by family and her many friends.

A private graveside service will be held at the Mansfield Cemetery on Saturday January 2, 2021. A celebration of life will take place at a later date. If so desired memorial donations to the Mansfield Presbyterian Church or a charity of your choice would be appreciated.

Arrangements entrusted to Drury Funeral Centre, Alliston. 705-435-3535

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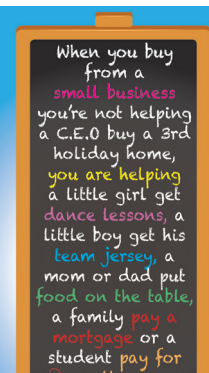
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**Shelburne Free Press**

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OBITUARIES

**MARY EVELYN SQUIRRELL**  
(FRASER BROWN)

MAY 25, 1923 - DECEMBER 24, 2020

Mary Evelyn Squirrel (nee Fraser Brown) passed away peacefully at Riverwood Senior Living in Alliston Ontario on Thursday December 24, 2020 in her 98th year. She was the beloved wife of the late Elwood Squirrel (1990) and mother to Glen (Penny), Bill (Janice) and Lois (David Metz). Mary was Grandmother to Mary Beth Squirrel (Rob Poppenberger), David Squirrel (Corey), Jon Squirrel (Jesse), Julianne Squirrel; Laura Goode (Chris) Colin Squirrel (Jen); Lindsey Metz and Jordan Metz. She was the Great Grandmother of Suzie and Jenny Squirrel in Calgary, Adilyn, Sawyer and Levi Squirrel, Ben and Cate Goode and Winter-Lee Squirrel. Mary spent almost her entire life farming on the 3rd line of Melancton north of Shelburne. We would like to thank the staff at Riverwood Senior Living for their kind and compassionate care for Mary. If desired, donations to Headwaters Health Care Centre or the charity of your choice would be appreciated. Cremation has taken place and a Graveside Service and Interment is planned for May 25, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. at the Shelburne Cemetery where Mary will be laid to rest with Elwood.



**REED, CHRIS**

Peacefully in the arms of his best friend and soulmate Celine at Princess Margaret Hospital on December 24, 2020 at the age of 40. Proud and loving dad of Cole, Callie, Camryn and Cooper.



Dear son of Carl (Bea) and the late Jane Reed. Brother of James (Amanda). He is dearly loved by his extended Bennington family and will be greatly missed by his nieces, nephews and large community of friends.

There will be a larger than life celebration for Reeder once we can gather together again safely.

In honour of his lifelong passion for sports and his local community, in lieu of flowers a donation to Canadian Tire Jump Start would be appreciated.

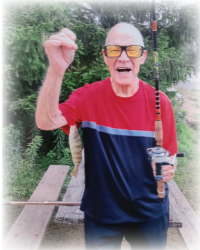
Online condolences and donations may be placed at [www.jackandthompsonfuneralhome.com](http://www.jackandthompsonfuneralhome.com)

**PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER!**

**FRANCIS JOSEPH DOYLE**

DECEMBER 27, 1926 TO DECEMBER 25, 2020

It is with great sadness we announce Dad's peaceful passing at Headwaters Health Care Centre in Orangeville, two days shy of his 94th birthday. Frank was born and raised in Toronto, attended St. Michael's high school and married Barbara Manley. The couple enjoyed many years of marriage until Barbara's passing in December 2005.



Frank will be forever missed by his children, Christine Fraser-Lee (John), Susan Law (John),

Frank (Irene), and Lori Kruger (Frank). Frank will be remembered by his grandchildren, Frankie (Lindsey), John Jr, Jennifer McNalty (Jamie), Christopher (Natasha), Laura Mathers (Bryan), Kelly Hipel (Jake), Michael and Elizabeth, and great grandchildren Hadley, Harlyn, Oliver, Eloise, Ava, Hailey, Max and Charlie.

Frank will be dearly missed and remembered by his special friend Dawn Rockett.

Frank had a special place in his heart for CN Railway where he worked for more than 30 years, as well as his second career running a dairy farm south of Dundalk, Ontario.

A mass with interment will take place when it is safe to do so.

Many thanks to Dr. Sarah Ward Orthopedic Surgeon St. Michael's Hospital, Dr. Ines Shezaed family physician, the staff at Bridgepoint Healthcare facility and the wonderful nurses at Headwaters Health Care Centre in Orangeville. Online condolences may be placed at [www.mcmillanandjackfuneralhome.com](http://www.mcmillanandjackfuneralhome.com)

**Don't wait to get tested for COVID-19**

If you develop symptoms, even if they are mild, book an appointment to be tested right away.

You can help slow the spread.

Visit [wdgpublichealth.ca](http://wdgpublichealth.ca) for assessment centre information.



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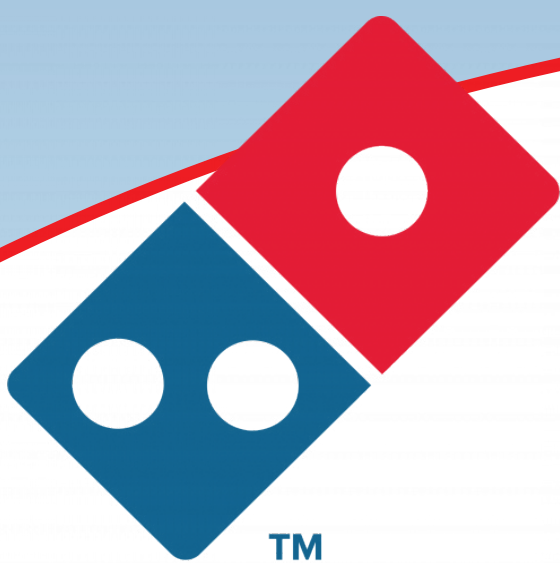
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