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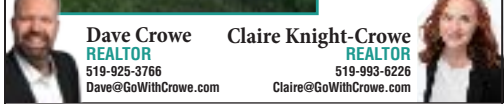
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PAULA BROWN PHOTO

READY TO SERVE YOU: Head Librarian Rose Dotten (left) and technical services librarian Jade Wyse (right) welcomed patrons back into the Shelburne Public Library on Tuesday (July 13) for the first time in almost a year and a half.

Shelburne Library welcomes patrons back inside

Written By **Paula Brown**
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Shelburne Public Library patrons can once again browse the shelves of the local library as they officially reopen for in-person access.

"To say that we're excited to be actually welcoming our patrons inside, is an understatement," said Rose Dotten, CEO and head librarian of the local library. "We are very close to our patrons. We see them, and we wave to them at curbside but we're very excited to welcome them in, it's quite a warm, fuzzy feeling to have them back."

The Shelburne Public Library opened their doors to the public on Tuesday (July 13), after almost a year and a half of strictly curbside pickup.

"We never liked to say we were closed, we've always felt we were open because we felt we met all the needs. We took phone orders, email orders, put [books] on hold, and filled them that very day," said Dotten.

Although they've reopened and COVID-19 restrictions have loosened indoor capacity, the library is putting a limit on time in the building. For now, users of the Shelburne Public Library will have a maximum of 30 minutes to browse the shelves and use the computers.

While the library is open for in-person access, programs will continue to be run virtually until the end of summer. Programs the library is hosting for children include a Lego challenge, story time, sleepy story time, a scavenger hunt, and cooking modules. Teens can participate in a book club, baking sessions, and board game making lessons. Adults, teens, and children can also all participate in the BeanStack reading challenge.

"Right now, we feel the virtual is safe, and we're doing so much to accommodate, in terms of craft bags and all the materials supplied free of charge," said Dotten.

The Shelburne Public Library is also currently partaking in the TD Summer Reading Program, which they received the award of best children's reading program in Canada in 2011 and 2016.

Dotten said they will look into starting in-person programming come September.

One new aspect the local library is enacting is the waiving of fines for late or overdue books.

"We know that fines can create barriers for vulnerable community members. It can prevent them from accessing services that support early literacy and lifelong learning support, which is in direct contradiction to our mandate of being the primary source of freely accessible, cultural, educational, and leisure resources," said Dotten.

Patrons will still be responsible for returning books and replacing missing or damaged books, she added.

"As far as the daily fines, if people are a few days late, for whatever reason, we will not be charging fines," Dotten explained.

The Shelburne Public Library will be implementing public health measure for in-person access including mandatory masks, physical distancing, and checking body temperature with technology donated for uses by KTH.

Dotten said that as long as there is demand for curbside pickup, they will continue to provide the service for library users.



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Progress being made on Shelburne Splash Pad initiative

Written By **Paula Brown**
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Shelburne Town Council received an updated report from the Shelburne Splash Pad committee on the progress of the initiative during their meeting on Monday (July 12).

Splash Pad committee members Sandra Gallagher and Shaila (Bella) Carter presented councillors with a report detailing their fundraising efforts thus far, noting that they have almost raised \$200,000.

The committee has a fundraising goal of \$300,000, which was originally scheduled to be raised by this year but Gallagher told councillors that timeline had been pushed to 2022, due to COVID-19.

Throughout the year the Splash Pad committee has done various events to raise donations including a car wash, pizza giveaway, and bottle drive. A number of local organiza-

tions have donated funds including Caravaggio I.D.A., Sunrise Diner, Flato, Trillium Ford, KTH, and the Shelburne Rotary. There have also been a number of private donations.

"We're getting very close to our final \$300,000 project and I am sure we'll have that raised by summer of 2022 without too much problems," said Gallagher. "We still need work to be done on raising funds, but we're getting there and we're doing well on it."

In early 2020, the committee met with Shelburne council regarding the location for the splash pad and Greenwood Park was decided. The Shelburne Rotary has entered a contract with Park N Play Design who will provide the splash pad equipment.

"When we originally started, we had some quote already in and Park and Play Design, their price came in very similar," said Gallagher. "We took the quotes from the last

splash pad committee that there was, they had passed everything over to us. They've been very supportive of the whole project, and we felt that was the company to go with."

Denyse Morrissey, chief administrative officer for the Town, advised council that they've already worked out how the project will be tendered and quoted for their side with Park N Play Design.

The Town's portion of the splash pad is being vetted through their purchasing process. Shelburne Rotary is donating the splash pad equipment that they purchase from Park N Play, which will be assigned to Shelburne.

Coun. Lindsay Wegener questioned if the committee is anticipating an increase in fees, with COVID-19 and the year delay.

"We went back to Park N Play a few months ago and got it quoted again because we anticipated that might happen," said

Gallaugher. "They've re-quoted it, we've had to adjust some equipment to make it still fall into our budget, but I'm confident that we're OK with that. We're probably gonna have to start putting money down and purchasing the equipment so it doesn't go up anymore."

The splash pad was budgeted at \$700,000 with the committee raising \$300,000 of it. The Town will be contributing \$400,000 and will cover the annual operating costs which will be around \$25,000.

The goal is to have to Shelburne Splash Pad completed by summer of fall 2022.



Government invest \$1.1 million in local infrastructure projects

Written By **PAULA BROWN**
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Dufferin County municipalities are receiving more than \$1.1 million in funding from the provincial and federal government to invest in local infrastructure.

The funding, which is through the COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP), was officially announced in a press release last Thursday (July 8). Local municipalities will see over \$900,000 invested from the federal government and over \$183,000 contributed by the province for a total of nine projects.

According to the press release, the funding will support the development of modern and accessible recreational spaces, the replacement of equipment in health and emergency facilities, increased options for active transportation, and the renovation of municipal buildings.

"Dufferin-Caledon municipalities continue to be supported through provincial and federal funding for projects that benefit all residents in our community," said Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones. "This investment in local municipalities and Dufferin County will help to upgrade and repair municipal buildings and outdoor spaces that we rely on."

Shelburne will be receiving \$109,187 in funding to make upgrades to Town Hall. A report to Shelburne Town Council on

Monday (July 12) from Carey Holmes, town treasurer, said the application was made to address the HVAC system and ventilation in relation to COVID-19 to provide a safe work environment for staff and the community.

A request for proposal has been issued for a replacement of the system's Chiller and quotes are being obtained for window repairs.

The Town of Orangeville will be receiving funding for two projects which includes \$79,500 for Town Hall upgrades and \$104,314 for the Parkinson Neighbourhood Trail Connectivity.

Upgrades to Town Hall include replacing the existing automatic entrance doors, construction of an accessible ramp at the Theatre Orangeville Broadway entrance, and the installation of glass shields at customer service, and ticket sales desks.

Funds being directed to the Parkinson Neighbourhood Trail Connectivity will be used for the installation of two boardwalks to the south side of the trail to connect to Veterans Way Trail, and an entrance connection to Veterans Way Trail to the west.

Melanchthon (\$92,000), Amaranth (\$100,000), and Mulmur (\$100,000) will be using the funds for municipal building improvements, while East Garafraxa (\$100,000), and Mono (\$100,000) will work on recreational upgrades.

The County of Dufferin (\$132,040) will be doing touchless upgrades.

Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph and Ontario move to Step 3, Friday

Written By **PAULA BROWN**
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph residents and businesses will be allowed to have larger indoor and outdoor gatherings starting Friday (July 16), as the province makes an early move into Step 3 of its Roadmap to Reopen.

The Ontario government announced on Friday (July 8) that the province would be making the move to Step 3, five days ahead of schedule. Ontario was originally slated to move into the next step starting July 21.

"While this is welcome news for everyone who wants a return to normal, we will not slow down our efforts to fully vaccinate everyone who want to be and put this pandemic behind us once and for all," said Premier Doug Ford.

In order to move to Step 3, Ontario needed to have between 70 and 80 per cent of adults with one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine as well as 25 per cent having received a second dose.

According to a press release from the province, as of July 8 over 77 per cent of the population in Ontario ages 12 and over had received one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine and more than 50 per cent had received a second. There have been 16.6 million doses administered province wide.

"I didn't see any reason to hold us back given that so many Ontarians have come forward - over 200,000 a day are coming forward to get immunized," said Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health, on Friday.

Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health reported on Monday that half of all eligible residents had a second COVID-19 vaccine dose with just over 139,000 people considered fully vaccinated. Roughly 75 per cent of eligible Dufferin County residents have one dose.

Ontario will remain in Step 3 for at least 21 days, and until 80 per cent of Ontarians ages 12 and over have received a first dose and 75 per cent a second dose.

Moore said after meeting these thresholds the "vast majority of public health and workplace safety measures, including capacity limits for indoor and outdoor settings and limits for social gatherings, will be lifted."

Step 3 permits:

- Outdoor social gatherings and organized public events with up to 100 people with limited exceptions;
 - Indoor social gatherings and organized public event with up to 25 people;
 - Indoor religious services, rites or ceremonies, including wedding services and funeral services permitted with physical distancing
 - Indoor dining permitted with no limits on the number of patrons per table with physical distancing and other restriction still in effect
 - Essential and non-essential retail with capacity limited to the number of people that can maintain physical distancing of two metres
 - Personal care services, including those requiring the removal of a face covering, with capacity limited to the number of people that can maintain physical distancing
 - Indoor sports and recreational fitness facilities to open subject to a maximum of 50 per cent capacity of the indoor space. Capacity for indoor spectators is 50 per cent of usual seating capacity or 1,000 people. Outdoor spectators is 75 per cent of usual seating capacity of 15,000, whichever is less.
 - Indoor meeting and event spaces permitted to operate with physical distancing and other restriction and capacity limited to not exceed 50 per cent capacity or 1,000 people
 - Museums, galleries, historic sites, aquariums, zoos, landmarks, botanical gardens, science centres, casinos/bingo halls, amusement parks, fairs and rural exhibitions, festival, with capacity not exceeding 50 per cent indoors and 75 per cent outdoors.
 - Concert venues, cinemas, and theatres permitted to operate up to 50 per cent capacity indoors with maximum of 1,000 people and up to 75 per cent outdoors with maximum limit of 5,000 (un-seated) or 15,000 (seated).
 - Real estate open houses with capacity limited to the number people that can maintain physical distance
 - Indoor food and drink establishments where dance facilities are provided including nightclubs and restobars, permitted 25 per cent or up to 250 people.
- Ontario will remain in Step 3 of the reopening plan until the first week of August at minimum.

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COUNCIL 2021 DATES

July 26 - August 23 • Meetings commence at 6:30 pm.



FROM THE
 OFFICE OF THE
Mayor

July 12, 2021,

As I draft this letter, we currently have only three active cases of COVID-19 in all of Dufferin County and none of those are being reported as within the Town of Shelburne. This is absolutely fantastic news and is a true testament to the perseverance and resolve that has been demonstrated by our community throughout this pandemic.

The past 16 months have been trying and we have all had to make significant adjustments and sacrifices. Through it all, I have drawn encouragement and optimism from the community. Collectively, we have proven that no challenge is insurmountable when we all pull in the same direction and confront it together. As we finally begin to emerge from this ordeal and can clearly see the light at the end of the tunnel, I have to express how incredibly proud and thankful I am for the way our community has responded to this.

There have been many lessons that can be drawn from the COVID-19 pandemic. One such lesson is how important it is for communities to be resilient and prepared to confront future challenges. This is one of the reasons why your Council has made such a serious commitment to investing in infrastructure.

As you will have surely noticed, there has been a flurry of construction activity in town over the past number of weeks. As inconvenient as this has been, I am confident that the results will be more than worth it. The streetscape in our downtown core is receiving a much-needed facelift with new asphalt and new stonework along the boulevards. This work will not only improve the functionality and safety of our streets and sidewalks, but it will help to freshen up our main corridor. This attention to the downtown core will be further advanced with a refurbishment of Jack Downing Park later in the season which will be completed with funding assistance from local developers. Our infrastructure work does not end there, however.

We are also undertaking a number of significant projects to ensure that our water and wastewater systems are able to properly meet the current and future needs of our growing community. We are completing work on the town's water wells to maximize output and improve water quality and construction of second water storage tower in the south end of town will begin later this summer. Recently, Council also took the bold step of initiating the process to upgrade and expand our aging wastewater treatment plant. To date, we have committed \$2 million dollars to prepare the needed engineering and design work for this project which will then proceed over the next three years. Once completed, the plant will be equipped with new technology and much-needed additional capacity.

On the parks and recreation side, we are also making significant investments. We will be completing a new Parks and Recreation Master Plan for the Town of Shelburne this year which will provide a strategic framework to maximize the future development of our parks and recreational facilities. Apart from those future directions though, we are already making significant strides. Our new community garden is operational and looks great! We are installing a brand-new dedicated tennis/pickle ball court at KTH Park this year, and planning is underway for a dog park. We are also working with the local club to begin to provide the infrastructure needed for a cricket pitch. I am also happy to report that the Splash Pad Committee has made wonderful progress in their fundraising efforts and that project is on schedule!

On the commercial development front, we are also starting to see some real results with construction well underway on both the east and north ends of town. As recently released publicly, our community will begin to see some well-known brands coming town including McDonald's and Starbucks among other exciting retail options. These developments help fulfill Council's priority of achieving more balanced growth and they will certainly give our residents more employment and shopping choice right at home which is critical for our local economy.

Finally, I am happy to report that our relatively new transit arrangement with Grey County which provides bus service along the Highway 10 corridor is already being improved and expanded. Just recently, Council authorized weekend availability which will give our residents added convenience and service. As you can see there is plenty happening and lots of exciting progress all around us. None of this is possible without the support of the community and for that I remain grateful. As always, we welcome your feedback and contributions.

All the best and be well,
 Mayor Wade Mills



WATER RESTRICTIONS

The external use of water is permitted as per By-law 60-2020 under Section 8.1 for the months of June, July, and August. On even calendar dates at only those municipal addresses ending with numbers 0, 2, 4, 6, 8; On odd calendar dates at only those municipal addresses ending with numbers 1, 3, 5, 7, 9. For full details please visit shelburne.ca/bylaws/ or read the full article on shelburne.ca.

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Please be advised that outstanding dog license fees have been transferred to the resident's property tax account to be collected in the same manner as taxes in accordance with the Ontario Municipal Act, 2001, as amended. For further information please contact the Town of Shelburne at 519-925-2600 general line, or ext 255. In addition, you may submit a written inquiry to bylaw@shelburne.ca.

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Finding a place to live

A local fellow I know recently posted on a local Facebook page asking if anyone knew of an apartment for rent.

He needs a place to live and is being forced out of his current residence at the end of the month.

In the posting he said he was hoping to find a bachelor apartment and can afford rent of between \$500 to \$600 per month.

I happen to know this guy has a regular job, however it is a minimum wage type job. Whether he has a second job to make money, I don't know. Either way money is obviously tight.

Realistically, his chance of finding a place to rent at that price is going to be almost impossible.

I ran into this fellow at a local convenience store and asked him how his search was going.

He told me it wasn't going very well, and had a serious concern he was going to end up homeless in the near future.

Rental prices are at an all-time high as demand has exceeded the current supply of places to live.

For years, it was the common thought, that you should be spending around 25 per cent of your income on housing whether you were paying rent or paying down a mortgage.

That was a reasonable figure that would allow you to live, have extra money to pay bills and afford insurance premiums, as well as allow you to put some in the bank for a rainy day.

Currently rent for a small one-bedroom apartment can be around \$1,500 per month or more.

That's \$18,000 per year. A person making minimum wage in Ontario, and working a full 40 hour week, can expect to take home \$29,640. That \$18,000 in rent is over 60 percent of an annual income.

Take off taxes, and travel expenses to get to that job, food, and other basic necessities like clothing, and life is going to be very difficult.

The real estate market has also become increasingly difficult.

I was speaking to an agent in a town in York Region, who lamented the fact that none of her children or children of her friends, who had now grown up and were hoping to buy a home,

could afford one in their own home town.

They have simply been priced out of the market.

If you follow the real estate market, you know that rising prices have made home ownership unrealistic for many people who will never be able to save up a \$100,000 down payment in a market that is over inflated. On top of that, the cost of maintaining a mortgage of several hundred thousand dollars will prove difficult. Add to the possibility of interest rates climbing, and a monthly payment could sky rocket.

With homes selling for ridiculous prices and bidding wars driving the price up, many people have been resigned to the fact that home ownership for them, will never happen.

It's not difficult to see why this is happening. Available housing is not keeping up with demand.

The federal government is poised to open the floodgates of immigration. Depending on our sources, they will be allowing up 600,000 immigrants into the country in a single year.

Guess where they will most likely be settling? Here's a hint - it won't be Nunavut, Newfoundland, or New Brunswick.

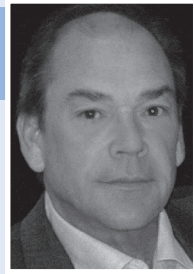
It may be time to re-think our current immigration policy and put on the brakes until our current situation gets under control.

If you think you're having trouble finding a place to live now, what's going to happen when half a million people land on our shores and need a place to live?

The Federal government needs to re-tool some ideas and start working on a plan that gets this country back on track with a livable income more in line with the cost of living - not help drive up the price of a home by forcing thousands of people to compete for limited living space.

I know some people say it's 'easy to blame immigrants' for some problems. However in this case, the numbers speak for themselves.

If we don't get this under control soon, a housing shortage will become a housing disaster and your children's hope of owning their own home will be a thing of the past.



BRIAN LOCKHART FROM THE SECOND ROW

Our Readers Write

Letter re: stricter stunt driving penalties

I read with interest Paula Brown's article about 'stricter penalties' for stunt driving (July 8, 2021)

While it accurately describes increases in license suspension and impoundment periods due to new legislation, there are other aspects of stunting that need to be examined.

First, the term 'stunt' refers to a number of reckless driving practices, the best known being stunt speeding. Until recently this was defined as speeding in excess of 50 kilometres per hour above the posted speed limit.

In other words, if one was caught speeding 130 kilometres per hour or more in a posted 80 kilometres per hour zone, the resulting charge would be stunt driving. This would result in a 7-day license suspension along with a 7 day impoundment.

The new penalty is a 30-day suspension and a 14 day impoundment. The other change is to treat stunt driving in areas post for less than 80 kilometres per hour differently with the threshold for a charge becoming in excess of 40 kilometres per hour.

The government's rationale for this is these are 'municipal' roads, totally ignoring the reality of 'municipal' roads all over Ontario posted at 80 kilometres per hour. Much of our County road system is posted at 80 kilometres per hour as are many Regional and local roads.

The government thereby created a double standard that begs several questions.

First, there is absolutely no evidence that

stunt speeding occurs more often on municipal roads where the speed limit is less than 80 kilometres per hour.

None and in fact the evidence is to the contrary. Almost every day OPP social media features horror stories about people caught stunt speeding on provincial highways where the limit is 100 kilometres per hour.

The Dufferin OPP laid 241 stunt speeding charges in 2019. Last year that number increased by 40% to 338. We are now well on our way to equal or exceed that number of charges this year.

And where are these charges being laid here in Dufferin? Probably 95% of them on County roads and Provincial highways where the limit is 80 kilometres per hour.

Second, the consequences of being charged for stunt speeding are huge. Licence suspension, vehicle impoundment not to mention what the insurance company will do to you upon conviction. The cost of all of this, not to mention what you will pay a lawyer or paralegal to represent you in court, is in the multiple thousands of dollars.

But how about the actual fine for stunt speeding? Wouldn't you think it would be increased, at least for repeat offenders?

It wasn't.

This fine remains at between \$2,000 and \$10,000 as does the number of demerit points and possible jail time. Moreover, the monetary and custodial penalties are at the discretion of

courts as they should be.

That fines for stunt speeding being untouched is consistent with the Province's refusal to increase many highway traffic fines including fines for speeding under 50 kilometres per hour.

Speeding fines have remained the same for as long as anyone can remember, going on now for 30 years. Demands for an increase are either met with silence or verbal log rolling from the Province to the effect that 'everything is under review'.

Sadly it does not end there. A double standard also applies to whether municipalities can apply the tool of Automatic Speed Enforcement (ASE) i.e. speed photo radar to their municipal roads where the speed limit is 80 kilometres per hour.

Police can't be everywhere; we can neither afford it or expect them to apprehend every speeder. The Province now allows municipal use of ASE but only in Community Safety or School Zones and where the posted limit is less than 80 kilometres per hour. Sound familiar?

Short of reducing 80 kilometres per hour zones to 79 kilometres per hour and declaring problem areas Community Safety Zones

which would make a mockery of the concept, an important tool at our disposal to identify and fine egregious speeders remains out of reach.

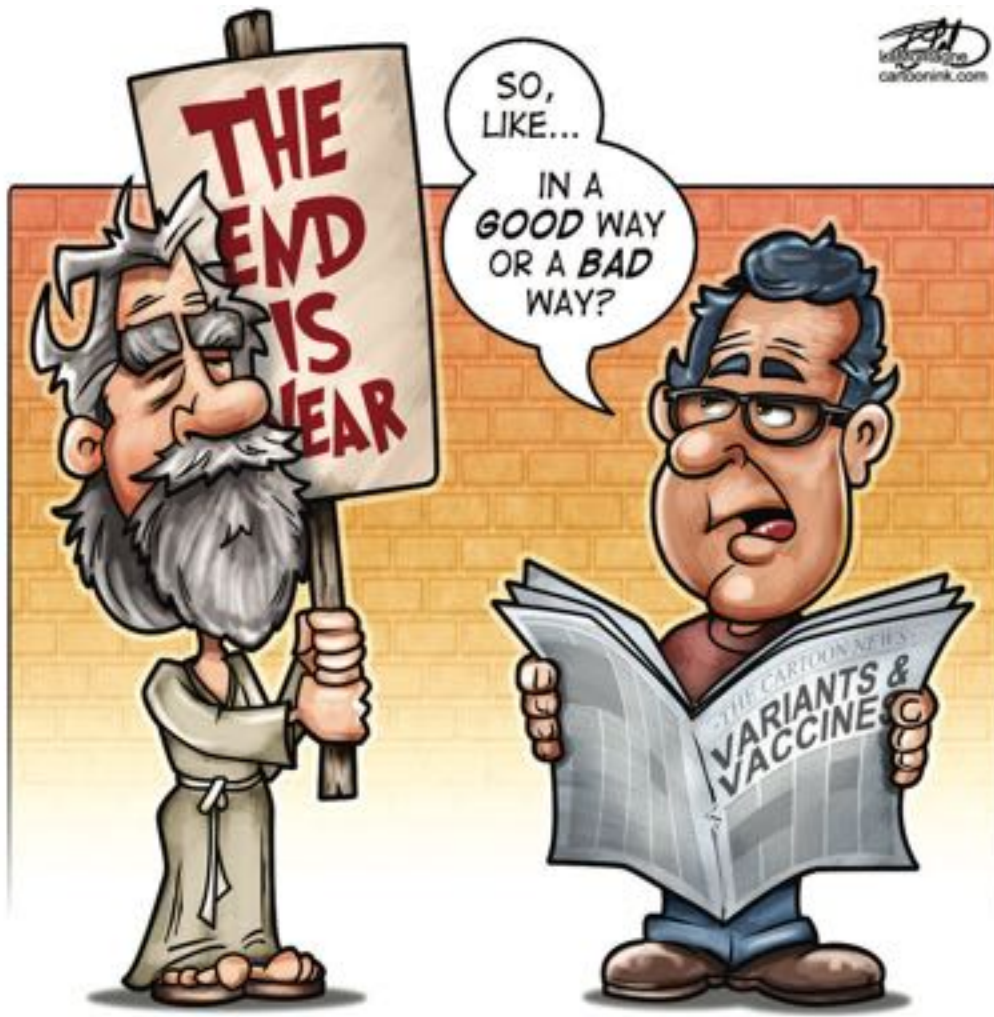
Could it be the Province doesn't want Automatic Speed Enforcement or tougher stunting rules to apply on Provincial Highways where the majority of stunt offences are occurring?

All the fanfare and ballyhoo about road safety and getting tough on stunt speeders means nothing once we realize fines aren't going up, a 40 kilometres per hour plus standard for stunting does not apply on rural municipal roads posted at 80 kilometres per hour and Automatic Speed Enforcement can't be realistically employed.

And I'm not even going to delve into complete collapse of Provincial Offence revenues that in no way come close to offsetting rising court and policing costs. That's for another day.

The Province needs to go back the drawing board and rethink what is a major road safety problem, especially in rural Ontario.

John Creelman Deputy Mayor of the Town of Mono Former Justice of the Peace



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Motorcycle collision closes County Road 17 in Melancthon

Members of the Dufferin Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), attended a serious injury motorcycle collision on July 10, 2021, just before 1:00 p.m. on County Road 17 between Sideroads 3 and 4 in Melancthon.

For unknown reasons, the motorcycle left the road and both riders were ejected. One rider sustained life threatening injuries and was transported to hospital by air ambulance. The other rider sustained non-life-threatening injuries.

The OPP Technical Traffic Collision Investigation (TTCI) unit attended the scene and is assisting with the investigation. Anyone who may have witnessed the collision is asked to contact the Dufferin OPP at 1-888-310-1122.

County Road 17 was closed for several hours for the investigation. Dufferin OPP would like to remind motorists to slow down and drive according to the road and weather conditions at all times. When riding a motorcycle, ensure that riders are wearing approved helmets and appropriate riding attire.

Dufferin OPP lay charges for drug trafficking following traffic stop

The Dufferin Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) charged two drivers with racing under the new stunt driving legislation, which came into force July 1, 2021. The traffic stop led to a drug trafficking investigation, which resulted in drug charges.



On July 2, 2021, a Dufferin OPP officer was conducting traffic enforcement on Airport Road in the Town of Mono when he observed two vehicles racing at the speed of 154km/h in an 80 km/h zone. Both vehicles were stopped for the offence and the traffic stop evolved into a drug trafficking investigation.

Janeil GORDON, 20 years old, from Hamilton was charged with:

- Trafficking in Schedule I substance - Cocaine

New stunt driving legislation was introduced last week which resulted in both vehicles being impounded for the extended period of 14 days. The drivers received racing charges and driver's licence suspensions.

These charges have not been proven in court. Dufferin OPP supports any legislation that makes our roads safer. Racing, stunt driving, speeding, following too closely, unsafe lane changes and road rage are all forms of aggressive driving that place drivers, passengers, cyclists and pedestrians at risk.

The officer seized a quantity of cocaine, drug paraphernalia, cash, and cell phones from the involved vehicles. As a result of the investigation, the following charges were laid.

The OPP targets speeders, racers/stunt drivers and other aggressive drivers through robust enforcement and public education. Aggressive driving is dangerous and is a leading causal factor in fatal motor vehicle

Owen SILVERTHORNE, 20 years old, from Hamilton was charged with:

- Trafficking in Schedule I substance - Cocaine
- Fail to Comply with Probation Order

collisions on OPP-patrolled roads. Street racing is one of the most dangerous, aggressive driving behaviours on our roads.

Members of the Dufferin OPP are committed to public safety, delivering proactive and innovative policing in partnership with our communities. Officers value your contribu-

tion to building safe communities. Report dangerous drivers by calling police. If you have information about suspected unlawful activity, please contact the OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or Crime Stoppers to remain anonymous at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or www.crimestoppersdm.com.



STINKY SITUATION: A sewage truck rolled over along County Road 17 at 5th Line in Melancthon last Thursday (July 8). The road was closed temporarily while the mess was cleaned.

Commercial vehicle-related fatalities on the rise

The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is reporting a significant increase in commercial motor vehicle (CMV)-related fatal collisions - a clear sign that many drivers are disregarding the additional risks these types of collisions carry.

From January 1 to June 30, 2021, the OPP responded to 32 fatal crashes that involved a CMV, compared to 23 such collisions at this time last year.

Heading into the second half of 2021, 2,956 CMV-involved crashes have occurred, up nine (9) per cent over 2020 and accounting for close to 13 per cent of the total number of collisions on OPP-patrolled roads this year.

Improper lane changes, following too closely, speeding and driver inattention on the part of CMV operators and drivers of other involved vehicles are leading factors in this year's large truck-related collisions.

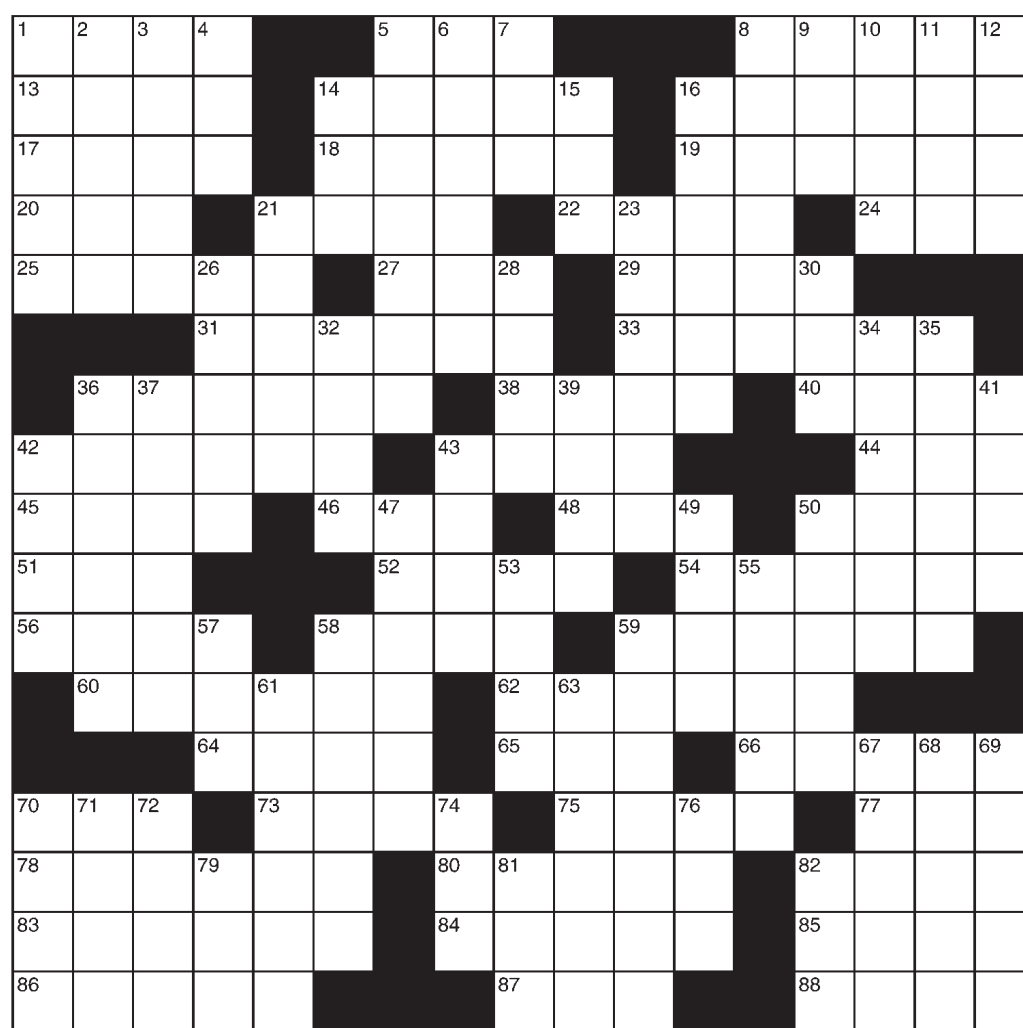
A CMV can weigh in excess of 60,000 kg and, travelling at speeds of 80 to 105 km/h, generates significant momentum and energy, increasing the risk of fatality when involved in a crash with other vehicles.

During the one-week Operation Safe Driver campaign, OPP officers will be highly visible conducting enforcement and education aimed at CMV operators and other drivers, exercising zero tolerance with any motorists observed engaging in risky driving in and around these large vehicles. CMV inspections will also be conducted in partnership with the Ministry of Transportation.

Operation Safe Driver is led by the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA) with enforcement and education initiatives conducted throughout North America. The goal of the campaign is to enhance CMV and non-commercial vehicle driver safety.

X CROSSWORD

PUZZLE 455



- 9. Metallic dirt
- 10. Tibetan priest
- 11. Culture medium
- 12. Payment to a landlord
- 14. Not sweet, as wine
- 15. Moistureless
- 16. Stately dance
- 21. Period in history
- 23. Electrical unit
- 26. Cabin
- 28. Or ____! (threat)
- 30. Clean-air advocate group: abbr.
- 32. Dog-pulled vehicle
- 34. Foreign
- 35. Manufacturer's payback
- 36. Prayer
- 37. Go backward
- 39. Diplomat's skill
- 41. Former Italian currency
- 42. Association
- 43. Actress Verdon
- 47. Stress, as a syllable
- 49. Cheerful tune
- 50. Baiting leader
- 53. Body part
- 55. Birds in a gaggle
- 57. Curvy shape
- 58. Eternally
- 59. Weakness
- 61. Knight's tunic
- 63. Antenna
- 67. Lacking reason
- 68. Long-poem division
- 69. Bestow
- 70. Alack's partner
- 71. Sleep
- 72. Allot
- 74. Paving goo
- 76. Baltic, e.g.
- 79. Willie Winkie's size
- 81. Imbibe
- 82. That fellow

ACROSS

- 1. Mischievous child
- 5. Strange
- 8. Type of bear
- 13. Played part
- 14. Hurry
- 16. Optical phenomenon
- 17. Of the ear
- 18. Moray fisherman
- 19. "The ____ Cometh"
- 20. Head
- 21. Light brown
- 22. Union soldier
- 24. Painting, e.g.
- 25. Like fresh lettuce
- 27. Have an ____ to grind
- 29. Slipper
- 31. Inn
- 33. Tiny frog
- 36. Seer
- 38. Don't strike!

DOWN

- 40. Figure-skating jump
- 42. Nativity scene
- 43. Equipment
- 44. "Shogun" wear
- 45. Thrash
- 46. Small crow
- 48. Animation unit
- 50. Night twinkler
- 51. Hire
- 52. Lincoln's coin
- 54. Kindle
- 56. Portend
- 58. Complexion problem
- 59. Shear
- 60. Snuggle
- 62. International syndicate
- 64. Cut wood
- 65. Green parrot
- 66. Bread piece
- 70. Furnish weapons to
- 73. Sheet of cotton

- 75. Move up
- 77. Indian bread
- 78. Extra time
- 80. Old womanish
- 82. Palm's location
- 83. Michaelmas daisies
- 84. Gaucho's tool
- 85. Against
- 86. Mount
- 87. Layer
- 88. Garfield's cry
- DOWN**
- 1. Wild horse
- 2. Helicopter part
- 3. Excuse
- 4. Private eye
- 5. Perform surgery
- 6. First-class
- 7. Barely passing grade
- 8. Predicament

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Weekend service now offered for Dundalk, Shelburne, Orangeville route

Written By Paula Brown
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Grey Transit Route (GTR) users will now be able to travel between Dundalk and Orangeville every day of the week with the launch of weekend service.

Grey County began offering weekend bus runs on the Hwy. 10 route, which goes between Dundalk, Shelburne and Orangeville, this past weekend (July 10). The expansion to include weekend bus service is part of a pilot project launched by the Town of Shelburne and will run until December. The pilot project is funded through a realignment of \$25,000 included in the 2021 budget for two bus shelters.

"Having the service to begin with was significant for the Town of Shelburne. Transit was near, if not at the top, of the list for residents who have been here a long period of time and certainly for those who are making Shelburne their home," said Shelburne Deputy Mayor Steve Anderson. "With the community growing as much as it has...to not have public transportation to navigate from point A to point B was not something that



FILE PHOTO

was tolerable."

First implemented in September of 2020, Anderson said the expansion of the public transportation service has to do with the demand from the public.

"We believe that the service level will continue to increase. Grey County officials came to town council, they had informed us several months ago that the route between Shelburne and Orangeville was the busiest route on their entire system," said Anderson. "Just imagine expanding that to weekend service to allow families and others to be able to use that. It's going to continue to

be successful, in my opinion."

Stephanie Stewart, manager of community transportation for GTR, confirmed to the Free Press that Hwy. 10 from Dundalk to Orangeville has been the services busiest route and said since launching 10 months ago the route has seen 829 riders.

"The five month pilot, I think is going to be very well used, and I believe that this is going to be a mainstay in the future," said Stewart.

Speaking with the Free Press, Anderson recalled reading a social media post from an older man asking for a ride to and from Orangeville to attend a medical appointment and said the transit route and subsequent expansion now gives the community "freedom of mobility and dignity".

Stewart shared a similar sentiment.

"It creates the ability for people to have access to move, to travel freely, and to where they'd like to go. To me it creates freedom, that autonomy and allows all of our residents – Grey County, Dufferin County, Bruce Grey – to succeed regardless if they have vehicle of their own. This creates equal opportunities for everyone to thrive."

Grey County in 2020 received a grant of \$1.85 million under the Ontario Community Transportation Program, which funded the transit project. Recently, funding was extended into 2025 for weekday service with Grey County receiving an additional \$924,000 and the Township of Southgate, which funds the Shelburne route, an additional \$307,097.

GTR fares for Route 1 and 2 (Owen Sound to Orangeville) are \$5.00 for adults (18+), \$4.50 for seniors (55+) and students (6-17), and free for children five and under.

Face coverings are mandatory to ride GTR buses and all rides must be booked in advance to ensure capacity. Capacity has been limited to five people per bus.

Route schedules, maps, and fares can be found on the Grey Transit Route website, where tickets can also be purchased.

Two new stops will be added in Shelburne, which will be located at the intersection of Colonel Phillips Drive and Armstrong Road as well as on School Road and Simon Street.

The weekend service pilot project will run from July 10 until Dec. 12.

Dufferin County Council awards Bill Hill Scholarship to five local students

Written By PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Five local students were acknowledged and awarded the annual Bill Hill Scholarship by Dufferin County Council last Thursday (July 8).

"Investing in the future of Dufferin County was a consistent theme of the late Bill Hill in his work as an elected official and it is for that reason that council has named the

scholarship in his memory," said acting Warden for the meeting, John Creelman.

The scholarship program was first introduced by former Warden Bill Hill in 2012, and recognizes outstanding Dufferin County students who are pursuing post-secondary schooling and/or training. Hill, was a dedicated member of local politics serving on Shelburne, Melancthon and Dufferin County councils as well as the Upper Grand District School Board (UGDSB) before retir-



ing from politics in 2014. He passed away in 2018 after a brief battle with cancer.

Each year the Bill Hill award, a one-time \$2,500 scholarship, is given to five students studying in the areas of science and technology, business and social sciences, agriculture, arts, and skilled trades.

As part of the application process each student submits a 300-word essay which answers the questions of where they see themselves five to 10 years post school, how they feel their chosen field is important to the county, and how they could give back to the community.

Sarah Bannon, a graduate of Centre Dufferin District High School, was awarded under the agricultural category and will be studying food and agricultural business.

Isabella Laurin, who graduated from West

Side Secondary School, will be attending a second language teaching program and was the recipient under the fine arts and liberal arts category.

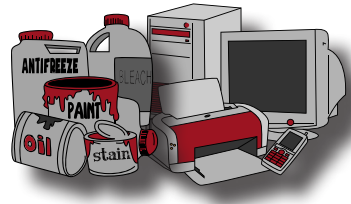
Orangeville District Secondary School graduate Taylor Murdock was the recipient under the business and social sciences category and will be attending a psychology specialist program.

Roshni Seeraj-Turingia was the recipient in the black, Indigenous, or person of colour category and now after graduating from West Side Secondary School will be studying mathematics.

Lily McGregor, a graduate of Orangeville District Secondary School, is entering a conservation biology program and received the scholarship through the science and technology category.

hazardous & electronic waste event THIS SATURDAY!

Date: Saturday, July 17, 2021
Time: 8am-3pm
Location: Orangeville Fairgrounds
247090 5th Sideroad, Mono



Residents will be required to unload their own items.

Hazardous waste	includes automotive containers, cleaning products, fluorescent lights, batteries, paints, pesticides, pharmaceuticals, syringes, and much more.
Electronic waste	includes audio equipment, cameras, computers, home entertainment equipment, phones, and household electronic items, including lamps, alarm clocks, microwaves, toasters, and small appliances.
Limitations	No waste from industrial, commercial, or institutional sources. No white goods, garbage, or recycling. No unidentified/unknown materials. No drums of materials.

Additional fall events coming soon. Dates & locations are to be determined.

Visit dufferincounty.ca/waste for updates and a full listing of acceptable materials and limitations. For Residents of Dufferin County, including Amaranth, East Garafraxa, Grand Valley, Melancthon, Mono, Mulmur, Orangeville and Shelburne.



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Virtual Butterfly Release fundraiser for Hospice Dufferin upcoming

Help release butterflies into Dufferin County, in memory of a loved one.

Hospice Dufferin will be hosting a virtual butterfly release, to help raise money for programs while providing those that grieve with an opportunity to remember a loved one.

Butterfly Release for Hospice Dufferin will be held Sunday August 29, as participants release their butterflies to celebrate the life of a loved one, at a location that is special to them.

Participants will purchase their butterflies before the deadline of July 18, and will pick them up at a designated time Thursday August 26, Friday August 27 and Saturday August 28 as outlined on the order form. All efforts will be made to ensure the pickup follows Covid guidelines.

Hospice Dufferin choose this fundraiser because butterflies are nature's way of reminding us that there is always hope. When the caterpillar is no more, the butterfly is born in ultimate freedom and beauty.

"Covid has made it difficult for families to properly grieve the loss of a loved one," Maureen Riedler Executive Director said. "With restrictions on funeral and celebra-

tion of life ceremonies, more families are struggling with grief than ever before. This event was designed to provide some comfort and to honour those we love."

Hospice Dufferin is responsible to raise 40 per cent of their operating budget through fundraisers such as The Butterfly Release. Funds raised go directly back to creating programs and services to help empower people living with life-limiting illness, their caregivers and the bereaved to live fully in the face of challenges.

For more information, please visit Hospice Dufferin's website www.hospicedufferin.com or contact Maureen Riedler at mriedler@hospicedufferin.com. To donate, click the link to Canada Helps on the Hospice Dufferin website.



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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.

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Dufferin-Caledon Greens announce federal candidate

The Dufferin-Caledon Green Party is pleased to announce that Jenni LeForestier of Belfountain will lead us into the next federal election as our official candidate.

Jenni Le Forestier is a passionate leader and campaigner for many causes including environmental sustainability and protection, social justice, respect for taxpayer dollars through strong fiscal management, and the creation of quality local employment through the new green economy.

Jenni is a mother and wife, a classical musician, and operates a music instruction business in the Village of Belfountain called Belfountain Cottage Music. She achieved

a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree from York University in Musical Performance and is a 3rd Degree Black Belt in Yoshinkan Aikido. An avid equestrian, skier, hiker, and nature enthusiast, she is a fierce defender of the local environment and believer in people powered change.

Jenni's sincere commitment to Green Values includes a fervent belief in open, honest, transparent, and bi-partisan government.

As a long-time community leader, Jenni has dedicated countless hours to local issue delegations, lobbying for the causes she believes in and originating new and important initiatives in environmental

and heritage protection.

Jenni Le Forestier is the ideal candidate to represent those who believe that the environment, the economy and social justice are all interdependent and that one cannot succeed without the other.

Change is one of the few things we as people can rely on and Jenni is the kind of change leader that the people of Dufferin-Caledon need as we find our way forward on an increasingly challenging planet.

To reach out to Jenni directly email jenni.leforestier@gpc.ca or visit www.dcgreens.ca to learn more about the Dufferin-Caledon Green Party.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Shelburne Public Library shares new books, news

The Shelburne Public Library has exciting news this week.

The library has welcomed many of its patrons back into the library for in-library services. However, the library will still be offering curbside pickup and eResources are always available 24/7,

The Shelburne Public Library's objective is always to provide you with the service you need during these times.

Library staff are excited to open the doors again to welcome patrons back into the building. The library will still be maintaining COVID Safety protocols as follows:

- Staff and patrons will be required to wear masks at all times
- Capacity limits will be set to enable safe distancing
- A time limit of 30 minutes for browsing or 30 minutes for computer use will also be necessary

Despite the fact, that things seem to be heading toward a state of normalcy, the library will continue to maintain a high degree of caution to ensure the health and safety of both our staff and patrons. We are excited to see you and will do our utmost to welcome you back to a safe environment

Teen Scene

Did you check out the library's Teen vs. Tween competition video? We read over 4 times as many minutes on average as the Children's department last week! Keep up the great work. If you want to see the Children's Department, go down, register on Beanstack and start reading!

Upcoming events:
 July 20th: DIY Memory Game
 July 27th; Among Us Cookies
 August 3rd: DIY Board Game Mat
 August 10th: Chip Tasting

Children's Programming:
 The 2021 TD Summer Reading Program has officially started!

There is still time to sign up and participate for a chance to win prizes, and fill your summer with Library fun.

For ages 0-6 we will have: Live Indoor Scavenger Hunts, Story Time Crafts, Sleepy Story Times, and more.

For ages 7-12 there will be: Slime Club, Cooking Crew, Teen vs. Tween challenges, and more.

All summer we will be holding weekly LEGO challenges with prizes!

Watch the Shelburne Public Library's

social pages for the latest round of Scientists in School. We will be hosting three brand new workshops.

Contact the library @ 519-925-2168 or children@shelburnelibrary.ca if you have questions or would like to get involved in this summer's programs.

New Books:

You can browse all our books if you login to our catalogue! Go to www.shelburnelibrary.ca then click on Our Catalogue to look for new books or browse the entire collection.

Fiction:

- Our woman in Moscow by Beatriz Williams
- The one hundred years of Lenni and Margot by Marianne Cronin
- Lizzie & Dante by Mary Bly
- The librarian of Saint-Malo by Mario Escobar

- Lesson in red by Maria Hummel
- An unlikely spy by Rebecca Starford
- This Eden by Ed O'Loughlin
- The wedding night by Harriet Walker
- Send for me by Lauren Fox
- The road trip by Beth O'Leary
- The President's daughter by James Patterson and Bill Clinton
- Hannet by Maggie O'Farrell

Non fiction:

- We are what we eat by Alice Waters
- Welcome home by Najwa Zebian
- Pure flame by Michelle Orange
- Wasted by Byron Reese
- Open house by Jane Christmas
- Manage your menopause naturally by Maryon Stewart
- Talking to GOATs by Jim Gray
- Good grief by Catherine Mayer and Anne Mayer Bird

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CHRISTADELPHIANS
 THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

#215330
 10TH LINE
 AMARANTH
 JUST NORTH
 OF 25TH
 SIDEROAD,
 WEST SIDE

Be a pineapple. Stand tall, wear a crown, and be sweet on the inside. - Unknown

Pleasant words are a honeycomb: sweet to the soul and healing to the bones. - Proverbs 16:24

Please visit us at: www.shelburnechristadelphians.ca

Thousands of vaccine appointments available in July

It is now easier and faster to book or reschedule a vaccine appointment online. No pre-registration is required and no need to wait for a booking code!

Book or change your appointment today by visiting:

wdgpublichealth.inputhealth.com/ebooking

Other easy ways to get vaccinated:

- Come to a first dose or extra dose drop-in (wdgpublichealth.ca/drop-ins).
- Call 1-844-780-0202 from Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-8 p.m. to book an appointment.
- Book at a local participating pharmacy or with your healthcare provider.

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EXPECTATIONS:

- Have a positive attitude
- Willing to work hard and enjoy rewards in a team environment
- Willing to take chances and learn from your peers

DESIRED SKILLS & EXPERIENCE:

- Sales Driven
- Great Personal Skills
- Some Sales Skills Preferred but would be willing to train the right candidate
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- Organized with an Intermediate Knowledge of Microsoft Excel

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HHCC turns annual report into community co-designed project

Written By PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER



“One community, caring together.” This has been the vision for Headwaters Health Care Centre (HHCC) for the last three years, and most recently the local hospital exemplified it in a co-designed report.

Late last month, HHCC released their annual report, and from the interviews, to the graphic designs, and even printing, the publication was created entirely by volunteer community members.

“It’s impossible to tell the story of what has occurred over the past year, which is what you typically see in an annual report, without incorporating the voices of the people that we support,” said Carla Kostiak, communications specialist for Headwaters. “This report is truly a beautiful mosaic. Its different pieces brought in by different facets of our community, and to see it all together is like looking at a beautiful mosaic.”

Headwaters Health Care Centre each year releases a report, which updates the local community on the doings of the hospital, and is presented at their annual general meeting. The document usually includes information such as financial statements, and a message from the president and CEO, but since 2019 the hospital’s communication team has been working to bring about more community involvement.

“Instead of it being static, we started sharing patient stories, and they build on our values of kindness, teamwork, passion, and courage,” explained Kostiak. “Our patients, families, and caregivers are the heart and

soul of everything that we do, every decision we make, every process we develop – they are the center of it. In order to really hear their voices strongly, we need to make sure they’re represented in materials like this.”

Wade Neal is a volunteer patient family advisor with HHCC, and was part of team helping piece together the stories sent in by patients and their families. But, before becoming a volunteer with the hospital, he was first a patient. In 2018, after years of living with Polycystic Kidney Disease (PKD), a genetic disorder, Neal began dialysis treatments three times a week and in November of 2020 received a kidney from an anonymous donor.

“My experience [at Headwaters] was so good that I felt it was my obligation to give something back to the hospital,” said Neal.

During a patient advisory meeting, volunteers were asked to be a part of developing the hospital’s annual report, when the task of interviewing came up Neal said as a police officer with Peel OPP he thought it was the role for him.

With letters sent in from the community, Neal spent the time following up for details and helping expand the stories, which were then sent to the hospital’s communication team for editorial.

“The message that I’m trying to get out, or part of my motivation to join the clinic is to

raise the profile of the hospital,” said Neal.

Alongside the stories from patients, drawings of “little creatures” can be spotted throughout the report. They’re part of a concept created by Cara Ware, known as Little Heroes.

Ware, a local graphic designer, began volunteer design work for HHCC at the beginning of the pandemic, and said she jumped at the chance to work with them on the annual report.

“It wasn’t even something that I needed to think about. The whole team are so compassionate, they’re full of empathy for people and I have so much respect for the whole team, that when they asked me to do it, I just wanted to say [yes],” said Ware.

Creating the concept of ‘Little Heroes’, Ware recalls sketching initial designs for the report during the third wave of COVID-19, and not feeling emotionally “right” about the drawings, and instead began sketching out what would become the Little Heroes.

“When we refer to frontline health care workers as heroes there’s an element of reflection, you think ‘they’re so courageous and amazing’ and they are. When you’re still in the thick of it, seeing cases going up and down, you almost want to keep the frontline health care workers as they are; strong, compassionate human beings that they are, they don’t need a cape,” explained Ware. “These Little Heroes are meant to be these tiny, little innocent things that look up to the workers at Headwaters, because they just looked at them and thought ‘I wish I was like you’.”

Ware added she hopes the drawings make people smile and connect.

When it came down to printing the annual report, Headwaters Health Care Centre turned to Orangeville resident Jeff Phillips.

At the beginning of the pandemic, Phillips’ company, PTNR Production located in Vaughn Ont., donated signage for outside the hospital, thanking frontline workers, as well as much needed directional signage. His company has also donated over 15,000 medical hoods and PPE to Credit Valley Hospital.

“It was a no brainer to help out, it was a tough year for everybody,” said Phillips.

He notes his connection to Headwaters goes beyond volunteering services – welcoming a baby three months ago at the local hospital.

“To me it’s very important to have a strong community hospital, and having a large group of volunteers shows the backing and support the hospital has. Volunteering the print for the annual report was small gesture I was happy to make,” said Phillips.

Being among the number of volunteers who helped co-design and distribute the report, Phillips said he hopes other community members are inspired to be a part of it next year.

“When you see people leaning in to do something like this, it might spark something in others so maybe come next year it can become even bigger,” he noted.

Having already grown in the level of community involvement since the hospital first introduced this style of annual report in 2020, Kostiak says HHCC will look to build on it for their 2022 report.

Dufferin youth win O’Botz competition for innovative ideas

Written By Sam Odrowski



Three local elementary school students won the Science Case Competition put on by O’Botz Orangeville, which is a multi-disciplinary robotics program offered in Dufferin County.

Ella Young, Alya Young, and Sarah Weingartner were the winners of the contest out of the many entries put forward by Dufferin participants. They were chosen for their in-depth and innovative ideas on how to help the Great Barrier Reef, which was the focus of the contest for grades 4, 6, and 7.

“They were encouraged to think of any solution they could, whether it be an anti-pollution program or a more technical solution, such as a robotics invention,” said Sanskriti Shindadkar of O’Botz Orangeville.

Ella Young’s idea for the great barrier reef, which won in the presentation category, was to strengthen the relationship between coral and algae through the use of limestone dust (Ca2) in the water to increase calcium ion concentrations.

“This would actually support the reaction that makes calcium carbonate, which is essential for strong coral skeletons,” noted Shindadkar.

“The reason her entry really stood out to us is because she actually wrote the

balanced chemical equation for this reaction, which is high school chemistry. So, she had an innovative idea, she explained it really well, and she went over the implications, which was really incredible.”

Alya Young’s submission, which won for the poster category, involved rescheduling boating times and relocating boating docks away from the Great Barrier reef. She also had some ideas involving changing anchor areas so the reef is less impacted.

“It was a lot of really, really good ideas with beautiful visuals in her poster. So that was really incredible. I was amazed by the creativity she showed,” said Shindadkar.

Sarah Weingartner won in the brochure category and was focused on carbon offsets for supporting the Great Barrier Reef. She went into depth about current efforts, implications and limitations when using carbon offsets to fight the issue.

“She also discussed some of the drawbacks in great detail, which was incredible

for any young scientist, not just a young scientist her age,” noted Shindadkar.

“It was quite incredible to see how she went into detail about what the government is doing as well, what corporations are doing, what regular people are doing – it was just really wonderful.”

The Science Case Competition, hosted by O’Botz, integrates the Ontario science curriculum, so participants are using what they learn in school to come up with creative ideas.

Parents and students across Dufferin County were encouraged to participate.

Registration for the Science Case Competition opened in early May and the submissions were due in mid-June.

Shindadkar noted that with the robotics program offered by O’Botz Orangeville, youth have the opportunity to build skills in STEAM, which is Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math.

“We encourage kids to build prototypes, experiments, which are applicable to real world science problems, technology, and engineering – robotics itself,” Shindadkar explained. “Art is used for the design component and math for all the calculations that we do.”

The program is also very effective in helping participants build problem solving skills, she added.

“For instance, when you’re building

a robotics device or circuit, if it doesn’t happen to work the first time, you need to go back, retrace your steps, figure out what went wrong, and then improve upon that,” said Shindadkar.

“It also builds resilience because you keep on trying and trying until we create something amazing and it works.”

Looking ahead, O’Botz Orangeville will be hosting another Science Case Competition in the fall.

As well, in August the organization is hosting a free robotics and science camps for kids in Dufferin County, which is great for eliminating barriers to STEAM education.

“We know that a lot of kids in our community haven’t had an opportunity to explore science, technology, engineering, art and math, outside of school or even in school due to the difficult online learning conditions, so we want to offer that experience,” Shindadkar noted.

“It’s just so important for kids in our community to not only get involved in STEM, or STEAM, but also gain the skills and experience which STEAM teaches – critical thinking, creative thinking, innovation – these are all essential in the future for whatever they decide to do.”

To learn more about O’Botz visit <https://www.obotz.ca/>

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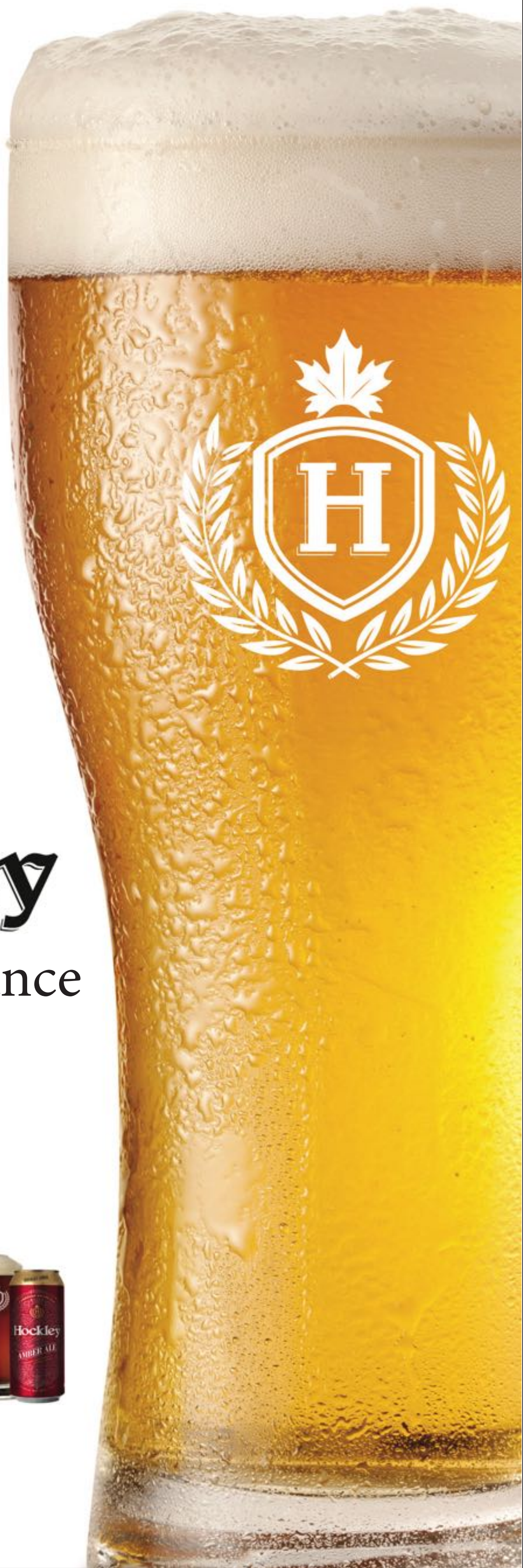
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