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PAULA BROWN PHOTO

CHRISTMAS MARKET: The Shelburne 164 Air Cadets hosted their one-day Christmas themed vendors market at the Shelburne Legion this past Saturday (Nov. 27). The fundraiser for the local cadets, which originally raised \$1,180 through vendors fees, raised an additional \$470 including a \$200 donation from the Dundalk Lioness Club. The event saw over 200 people attend to shop.

Eight per cent tax rate increase suggested by staff

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

Shelburne Town Council has taken the first step in the budget process for 2022.

During a special meeting on Monday (Nov. 26), Shelburne Town Council received a 2022 budget framework report from chief administrative officer, Denyse Morrissey, and director of financial services, Carey Holmes.

The framework budget for 2022, which council directed staff to use in developing the draft operating budget, suggested a tax levy increase of 13 per cent – an 8 per cent increase in the tax rate.

According to a slide provided by Holmes, the difference between the 2021 tax rate and the proposed 2022 tax rate (8 percent) would be an average annual increase of \$199 or \$16.58 monthly for taxpayers.

"We have outlined throughout the year, particularly going back even to 2020, that we have some challenging fiscal years ahead of us and this certainly is going to be one of them," said Morrissey.

Morrissey noted that staff recognized the 13 per cent tax levy increase would likely not be embraced by council, but was critical for transparency and accountability of the Town's financial pressures.

Service Delivery Review (SDR)

One of the primary contributors for the increase in the tax levy is to support new positions and staffing costs recommended in a Service Delivery Review (SDR) for the Town. According to the framework report

the draft 2022 operating budget includes an approx. \$452,672 or 5.09 per cent tax levy increase related to staffing.

To expand the Town's services, additional positions were recommended including a deputy clerk/committee coordinator, a planning coordinator, a junior municipal law enforcement officer, and an HR coordinator.

"The estimated cost with all of those positions is about \$275,000," said Morrissey.

The tax levy would also support a number of staffing positions within Operations, Parks, and General Services including additional labour, contracted gardener, three crossing guards, and summer student workers.

The draft 2022 operating budget also incorporates an estimated 1.12 percent tax levy increase or \$100,000 requested by the Arts and Culture Committee.

Policing

Another financial impact to the Town is the three year transition Shelburne Police Services (SPS) to OPP.

"That short-term increase will be offset in future years, but it does have an impact this year," said Morrissey.

Reserves

As part of the budget framework report to council, staff proposed where reserves will be sitting at the beginning of the year and where they will be sitting at the end of 2022.

The Town of Shelburne as of 2021 has grown their reserve balance to \$13 million, but is proposed to use \$5 million in the 2022 budget. Of the \$5 million used in the 2022 budget, \$4 million is for water and sewer.

"We've already committed two million for the sewage treatment plant for the initial engineering preparations, and we've also committed money toward the water storage tower. If we don't get the grant for well three arsenic, we will have to tap into more water reserves," said Holmes.

The budget framework has recommended the utilization of \$200,000 from the tax stabilization reserve. In 2020, the Town budgeted to use of \$118,500 from the tax stabilization reserve to lower the 2021 budget to an acceptable percentage for council, but did not need to use it.

Holmes cautioned council about becoming dependant on the tax stabilization reserve.

At the end of 2022 the reserve balance is estimate to be \$8.4 million.

"It sounds sort of troubling that we're dipping into reserve as much as we are and decreasing them as much as we are this year, but the thing I took comfort in is, when you look back to 2018 when this council began, we've grown those reserve balances considerably over the last three and a half years," said Mayor Wade Mills. "Assuming we adopt this budget as it is, without any changes, we're essentially going back to where this council started."

Next Step

Shelburne Town staff will be returning to council on Dec. 13 with a draft operating budget for 2022, which will contain further details and input from council. The public budget meeting will be presented on Jan. 10.

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Town reveals plaque honouring No. 2 Construction Battalion

Written By Paula Brown
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Town of Shelburne has unveiled a memorial plaque in honour of Canada's only black military unit.

Shelburne Mayor Wade Mills and Deputy Mayor Steve Anderson unveiled the plaque dedicated to the No. 2 Construction Battalion in the Reflection Garden at the Shelburne Community Garden, last Friday (Nov. 26).

"It's a very significant day. We've said all along that Black history is Canadian history and these men that belong to the No. 2 Construction Battalion, like every other soldier sacrificed for us to have the freedoms that we have today, so what a great privilege to be able to honour these men and honour their history," said Deputy Mayor Anderson, who spearheaded the project with the support of Town Council.

The No. 2 Battalion, also known as the Black Battalion, was a non-combatant battalion formed in 1916 when many of the members at the outset of the First World War were turned away from joining the Canadian Expeditionary

Force because to the color of their skin.

More than 600 joined the battalion and were deployed overseas and to France, where they helped to construct and maintain roads, bridges, and railways to ensure needed lumber was transported to the Front.

"These men conducted themselves with honour and professionalism in the face of prejudice, hate, and unwillingness of other Canadians to serve shoulder to shoulder with them against a common enemy," reads a part of the plaque.

In March of 2021, the Government of Canada apologized for the treatment that members of the No. 2 Construction Battalion endured before, during, and after their service to Canada during the First World War.

"In Town of Shelburne we hold dear our soldiers and the sacrifices that they make, think about the Remembrance Day ceremony we had not too long ago and the turn out from the community," said Anderson. "This is significant because it shows that we are once again an inclusive and diverse community, and we celebrate the contributions of everybody."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

UNVEILING PLAQUE: Shelburne Deputy Mayor Steve Anderson and Mayor Wade Mills unveiled a plaque honouring the No. 2 Construction Battalion, in the Reflection Garden at the Shelburne Community Garden last Friday (Nov. 26).

Headwaters confirms unauthorized access in suspicious email activity

Written By Paula Brown
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Headwaters Health Care Centre (HHCC) has confirmed the cause of suspicious email activity that led to the shutdown of their internal systems, and the closure of the COVID-19 assessment centre.

On Friday (Nov. 26) the local hospital released an updated notice on their website noting their system had been subjected to "unauthorized access" resulting in a number of spam emails.

"We are working with cybersecurity experts who will help us safely restore our IT services and investigate what happened and whether any sensitive data was exposed," said the hospital.

The hospital's information technology

system noticed suspicious email activity the day previous (Nov. 25), with a number of spam emails sent from the CEO Kim Delahunt's email account to hundreds of contacts, primarily staff members of the hospital. As a result of the security breach, the hospital shut down their internal system as well as access to the internet and key external partners.

"As an organization we take cybersecurity very seriously and have numerous

measures in place to protect our data," wrote the hospital in a Nov. 25 notice. "Thankfully, our team noticed unusual activity quickly and [acted] immediately."

The suspicious email, repeatedly sent from Delahunt's email address on Nov. 25 was from Lorenz ransomware, stating all the hospital's files across its entire system has been encrypted, which includes private medical data.

The email continues, "We will publish all the contents of your company on our site includes all your confidential medical history, employers information, documentation, catalogs, reports, configs, mail, database's, invoice's, signature's etc."

The email says to prevent the publishing of this data, visit its website and follow its instructions which entails downloading a TOR browser and paying money to recover the files.

Lorenz is a new variant of Sz40 ransomware, which is designed to encrypt data and demand ransom for decryption. This means Lorenz renders affected files inaccessible and then asks for payment to regain access.

"We are working with cybersecurity experts who will help us safely restore our IT services and investigate what happened and whether any sensitive data was exposed."

-Headwaters Hospital

Meanwhile, the shutdown of Headwaters Health Care Centre's systems isn't impacting patient care, as the local hospital said they have 'robust processes' in place.

Scheduled surgeries or procedures have not been impacted at the time of print as well, and the emergency department remains open 24/7.

With the COVID-19 assessment centre temporarily closed, alternative testing locations in Peel Region and in Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph have been given to residents.

At the time of print, there is no timeline for when the hospital expects to have their systems back up and running.

"This process will take some time. We are committed to being transparent and will notify individuals if we learn that personal information has been exposed," said Headwaters.



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Senior's Santa Christmas Stockings Program returns

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

A Dufferin County based organization is working to bring some Christmas magic to local seniors this holiday season.

Senior's Santa Christmas Stockings Program have begun collecting donation items for their annual initiative that looks to give stockings stuffed with gifts to local seniors living in long-term care homes, retirement facilities or within the community.

Organizer of the annual fundraiser, Julie Evason said their goal is to make sure no senior in the community is forgotten by Santa during the holidays.

"Getting their stocking gives some that little something to look forward to," said Evason. "That's my goal, to bring a smile and give them a little bit of Christmas magic because this program has given that back to me."

While the Senior's Santa Christmas Stockings Program began in 2015, Evason joined the initiative four years ago, taking over as organizer. For her the initiative has a deep personal connection.

After losing both her parents and grandparents at a young age, Evason said Christmas no longer had meaning for her until she had her children. Working with seniors and in palliative care, she recalls seeing that same loss of meaning for Christmas as she did in her own life.

"Seeing the seniors without family really hit home for me so it became about giving seniors something to look forward to," said Evason. "I've seen what it does to our seniors, and how much joy it brings to some."

The annual initiative works by having local residents fill stockings with a variety of gifts and donating them. Those stockings are then

sorted through and distributed on Christmas Day (Dec. 25) to long-term care homes and retirement facilities including Dufferin Oaks, Shelburne Long Term Care Home & Retirement Community, Avalon, Bethsaida, and the Lord Dufferin Centre.

Evason said two locations this year, will be receiving monetary donations (gift cards) to purchase the stocking items themselves due to COVID-19 protocols.

The initiative also offers residents the opportunity to be a sponsor for a senior, where they buy items specific to the person for the stocking, and a Christmas dinner is provided to the senior. Senior's Santa Christmas Stockings Program is also hosting an online auction with funds going towards gift cards and remaining stocking fillers.

According to Evason, the initiative has 782 seniors in the community thus far, who will be receiving a stocking.

Specific items asked for in stuffing the stockings include toiletries such as soap, lotion, lip balm, brushes and toothpaste as well as beauty products such as nail polish. The initiative is also accepting other items such as slippers, sweets, and Christmas cards, but asks that metal nail clippers/files and alcohol not be included.

Senior's Santa Christmas Stockings Program has a number of donation location in Shelburne and Orangeville including Marg McCarthy Real Estate Services (98 Church Street), Orangeville Optometric Centre, Anytime Fitness, Highland DKI, and Lorie Hadcock Re/Max Real Estate Centre.

The initiative will be accepting donations until Dec. 15. Senior's Santa Christmas Stockings Program can be contacted by phone at 519-215-8485 or by email at senior-santastockings@gmail.com

Usage up at local food bank

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

The Shelburne Food Bank, Shepherd's Cupboard, is in the full swing of their holiday demand and staff are reporting a 35 per cent increase in usage in the last three months.

Ardith Dunlop, coordinator at the local food bank, in an email to the Free Press said Shepherd's Cupboard is seeing well over 100 families' access their services each month, continuing to be up from their average 70 to 80 families pre-COVID-19. Currently, Shepherd's Cupboard has over 200 families listed as using the food bank in the Shelburne, Mono, Melancthon and Amaranth area.

"It's just so many people on every single shift," said Dunlop. "It's concerning because we're clearly not addressing the problem. There's clearly some underlying issues there that need better addressing than what we provide."

Dunlop noted that in terms of demographics, the food bank is seeing more seniors and single person families in the communities access the program.

The increase in demand the local food bank is seeing isn't dissimilar to the demand being seen at food banks across the board.

Feed Ontario released a new report on Monday (Nov. 29), which found that a record number of 592,308 people have accessed food bank services between April 2020 and March 2021. According to the report there's been a 36 per cent increase in the proportion of senior citizens using food bank services.

While food insecurity is one of the main focuses of the food bank, Dunlop said residents have many reasons for utilizing the food bank including housing, financial, and job insecurities.

"All are experiencing food insecurities and that's where we can help," said Dunlop.

Another concern has been the rising prices for food at grocery stores. Stats Canada reported in October 2021 that inflation hit an 18-year high with the consumer index price (CPI) rising 4.7 per cent. Food prices from October 2020 compared to October 2021 rose 3.6 per cent, with meat rising 10 per cent.

"We're nobody's total source of food so the clients all mention it because they go to the grocery stores and they see it," said Dunlop. "They're getting less for the limited money that they have, which leads them to the food bank. They're also not getting as much for the coupon that we give them as they used to, and that's concerning because it's nutritious produce and fresh food."

At the time of print, Shepherd's Cupboard says they have adequate supply to deal with the demand with the numerous food drives and fundraisers held throughout the community. Dunlop notes though that concerns lie with the New Year, as donations sharply decrease in the winter and spring.

As a way to collect specifically needed items for the food bank, Shepherd's Cupboard has launched a 12 Days of Christmas Giving initiative, which sees a different item donated each day for 12 days.

"We get repeatedly asked 'what are your most needed items' because people want to know what we really need. We thought it was a great way for individuals and families to see what our most needed items are and to consider helping us out in a clear and simple way."

From day 1 to day 12 the needed items are as follows: box of cereal, peanut butter, canned fruit, pasta sauce, personal care item, canned pasta, canned vegetables, coffee, kids snacks, cookies, laundry or dish detergent, and pancake mix/syrup.

Donations for can be made to Shepherd's Cupboard up until Dec. 22; their last day of operation for 2021.

First Winterfest coming to Sweet Pea's Farm

Sweet Pea's Farm in Amaranth is holding their very first Winterfest.

Kicking off this Friday (Dec. 3) and happening every Friday to Sunday leading up until Dec. 19, as well as Dec. 20 to 23 and 28 to 30, the farm will feature wagon rides, a Christmas lit forest walk, Santa visits, a petting zoo, bonfires, tree slide, straw jump, kiddie zone, and a teeter totter.

"It's going to be similar to what we do for Pumpkinfest but with a Christmas twist," said Jeannie Paradis, event organizer and farm owner. "So all our activities are still available that we use during pumpkin fest."

Although, instead of doing the usual haunted forest for Pumpkinfest, there's a Christmas tree forest, specially decorated, noted Paradis.

Fireplace rentals are available as well.

There will also be a hot chocolate bar with food available and lots of photo opportunities for families.

"Kids will be able to get their pictures at a distance with Santa and the monster truck," said Paradis.

She told the Citizen she's hoping for a

solid turnout, similar to what they see for Pumpkinfest, which can get up to 600 people a day.

Going forward, Sweet Pea's Farm is also hoping to hold a similar festive event for Easter next year.

Since the usual mud bog events that used to be held at the farm can no longer be hosted due to COVID-19, as they'd see large numbers of people, Paradis said they're trying to expand in other ways, with the various festivals, while keeping everything safe.

Going forward, she said they plan to make Winterfest into an annual event.

Paradis said she'd encourage anyone looking to have some holiday fun this December to stop by.

"It's a place for kids to have fun, families to have fun. We definitely pride ourselves on the whole family enjoying themselves when they come to the farm. It's not meant just for kids, that's why our activities are geared to kids as well as adults," she noted.

To purchase tickets to the Winterfest, visit: sweetpeasfarm.ca where there's a link for purchase at \$10 each.

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What's your policy?

When I was a kid in elementary school, I had a neighbour who was a couple of years older than me.

He was in grade six, which of course made him one of the top dogs in the school.

At the time, a beer brand, Red Cap Ale, was having a major advertising push. Their brand was showing up in print ads and TV commercials all over the place with a spiffy jingle.

Guess what their log was? Yes, a very distinctive red cap.

My older and wiser neighbour had a Red Cap flag for some reason – I'm not sure where he got it. It was a full size flag with the company's Red Cap logo.

On April Fool's Day that year, he proudly took his beer flag to school first thing in the morning and asked the school janitor to run it up the flag pole.

The janitor, a very friendly fellow to all the students, complied and ran that flag up the pole right underneath the Maple Leaf.

We all got a good laugh out of this prank on a day when pranks could be expected. I'm sure more than a few passing motor-

ists got a chuckle out of seeing a well know beer brand being flown proudly over the local elementary school.

In 2021, that same prank would probably result in a Board of Education inquiry, a principal in big trouble, a janitor being fired, my friend being expelled, and councillors called into to speak to students who were traumatized by the site of a big red hat on a flag.

Recently a high school kid in Bradford was suspended for three days after having the audacity to fly a flag from his vehicle – his OWN vehicle.

It is a black and white version of the Maple Leaf with a blue stripe through the middle. It represents law enforcement and an officer's daily walk between life and death.

The kid has several family members in law enforcement and he has flown that flag from his truck since June of this year as a show of support for those in policing.

For some reason, a single person at a football game who saw the flag made a complaint to the school.

The result of the single complaint was the principal telling the kid he had to remove the flag.

Since when does a high school principal's authority, or the school board for that matter, extend to telling people what they can, or cannot do with their own property?

The principal, should have used common sense, and filed that SINGLE complaint in the round file rather than cause problems for a kid who was minding his own business.

The result was the kid being suspended for three days for 'opposition to authority' after refusing to remove the flag.

When asked why this student couldn't fly a flag in support of law enforcement, they were told it was 'against school policy.'

When asked to see that school policy, the reply was the sound of crickets – because the 'policy' doesn't exist.

Anyone who has worked with any kind of 'policy' whether it is in a public institution, a private corporation, small business, or government agency, knows that 'policy' is only brought up if it benefits the institution that created it.

If a situation arises where something in that policy is detrimental to the institution, you can bet the policy will be buried pretty fast.

Fortunately, the offending student received a lot of support from both family and friends.

In fact, a lot of people bought the same flag, attached it to their vehicles and they held a parade in support of the kid.

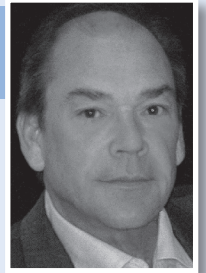
The question is, what kind of society have we become when a high school principal sees fit to mess up a kid's life based on a single complaint from a stranger, who the kid does not even know?

He wasn't flying a Japanese Rising Sun battle flag, and he wasn't flying a swastika - it was a flag in support of the people who patrol the streets and maintain the peace.

If anyone should be suspended, it is the idiot who complained about the flag. They, of course, won't come out publicly and explain why they were offended, because they would indeed look like an idiot.

Schools do fly different flags occasionally during the year. Maybe the next time I see a flag on the pole other than the Red and White, I'll call the school board and express offence – just to see what happens.

As for Red Cap Ale – is it still out there?



BRIAN LOCKHART
FROM THE SECOND ROW

Just tell us the truth

What are we to do when people in high positions of authority use demonstrably false facts and spread misinformation?

There's no real legal recourse when Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH) blatantly misleads the public about something that can easily be found by searching the Province's own data.

Last Thursday (Nov. 25), Dr. Kieran Moore said hospitalizations in the 5-11 age group are increasing and the best way to reduce these numbers is through immunization.

From Nov. 10 to Nov. 29 (as of press time) there have been 0 hospitalizations in the 5-11 group.

What he said is patently false.

When public officials, such as Kieran Moore, purposefully mislead Ontarians or are illiterate to their own department's statistics, it erodes trust.

With that eroded trust, can we really blame people for going against their advice?

It pushes parents to seek "alternative sources" of information with respect to COVID-19 when the government's own data paints a different picture than the one being portrayed by the CMOH.

Using incorrect facts to pressure parents to vaccinate their 5-11-year-olds, isn't ethical or fair.

The National Advisory Committee on Immunization's own recommendation for the 5-11 group being vaccinated for COVID-19 was discretionary, meaning the decision should be made considering individual benefits, risks, or local epidemiology.

Looking at the Government of Canada's COVID-19 epidemiology statistics, it shows 19 people age 0-19 have died of COVID-19. This is about a rate of about 1 in 300,000. They also account for just 1.4 per cent of ICU admissions and 2.1 per cent of hospitalizations. Again, this is 0-19, not just 5-11, so those numbers are even smaller.

Yet, Public Health officials pushing irrational fear onto the public is nothing new.

The example provided isn't the first-time employees of Public Health have misled Ontarians.

Toronto's Medical Officer of Health (MOH) tweeted out at 3:19 p.m. on March 29, 2021 that "Data shows" a worsening COVID-19 resurgence in Toronto including increasing hospital and ICU admissions among younger people. Just 1.5 hours later, she promptly deleted the tweet, before tweeting out the same thing, but changing the wording to say "we're hearing" instead of "data shows".

The reason for the change is because what she said wasn't true.

In fact, for ICU admissions and hospitalizations, there were zero for people age 19 and under at the time of her tweet. The average age of ICU admission had no material change for days after as well, remaining at 64.

Meanwhile, Ottawa's Medical Officer of Health (MOH) Dr. Vera Etches issued a dire warning saying the entire health-care system is on the verge of collapse if people don't take responsibility to slow the spread of COVID-19 last October.

In a city of 1 million people, there were 29 people in hospital at the time of her comments. Hospitalizations later peaked in April at 125, with the system never even coming close to being overrun.

How is spreading wide spread fear productive?

In fact, I think it's the very reason why some people hold such fringe beliefs with respect to the pandemic.

If Public Health really wants to increase trust with Ontarians, don't obfuscate the truth.

I hope that we see some honesty from the government with respect to the new Omicron variant of COVID-19.

Like any coronavirus, or virus in general, it's going to mutate. This doesn't mean we should spread mass panic and implement more restrictions, further destroying small to medium size businesses.



SAM ODROWSKI
FROM THE EDITOR'S CHAIR

SHELBURNE BIA AND ROYAL LEPAGE ARE PLEASED TO PROVIDE

Santa Visits and Photos



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Impaired driver stopped in Dufferin during morning hours

The Dufferin Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) charged a driver for impaired operation following a traffic complaint called in by a concerned citizen before noon.

On Tuesday, November 30, 2021, at approximately 11:51 a.m., a concerned citizen contacted police to report a possible impaired driver on Centennial Road in the Town of Orangeville. Officers located the vehicle, commenced a traffic stop and were led into an impaired driving investigation.

As a result, Kyra CASHA, 21-year-old, from

Caledon, has been charged with:

- Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus)

The accused is scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville in February 2022, to answer to the charge. Their driver's licence was suspended for 90 days and the vehicle impounded for a period of seven days. These charges have not been prove in court.

Thank you to the concerned citizen who called police. If you suspect an impaired driver, call 9-1-1.

Citizens often ask, why police conduct R.I.D.E. programs during daytime hours. Officers make impaired operation arrests at all hours of the day, seven days a week.

The Dufferin OPP reminds motorists to plan ahead when consuming alcohol or drugs. Use a designated driver, cab, ride-share, public transit or stay overnight. Any amount of alcohol or drugs can impact your ability to make sound judgements. In a split second you could ruin your future, injure or kill others, and tear a hole in the heart of everyone who loves you.



Driver flees from collision on foot that took place just outside of Orangeville

Officers from the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Caledon Detachment are investigating a multi vehicle collision that occurred on Highway 10, just southeast of Orangeville.

On Saturday, November 27, 2021 at approximately 5:15 p.m., officers responded to Highway 10 south of County Road 109 for the report of a head-on multi-vehicle collision.

Upon arriving officers were advised that the driver of one of the involved vehicles had fled the scene on foot.

Highway 10 between Highpoint Side Road and County Road 109 was closed for several hours for the collision investigation and search for the fleeing driver. Members of the OPP Canine and Central Region Emergency Response Units attended the scene to assist with the search.

There were no injuries to those involved in the collision who remained at scene.

Caledon OPP is requesting the public's assistance in identifying the driver who fled the scene on foot, following the collision.

The driver fled from a 2016 Silver 4-door BMW. The police investigation is ongoing.

Anyone who may have witnessed the collision, has dash-camera footage, or has information about who was driving the BMW is being asked to contact the OPP Caledon Detachment - (905) 584-2241 or 1-888-310-1122.

You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Peel Crime Stoppers at: 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or online at www.peelcrimestoppers.ca. When you contact Crime Stoppers you stay anonymous, you never have to testify, and you could receive a cash reward of up to \$2,000 upon an arrest.

Dufferin OPP officers raise nearly \$3,500 last month from Movember

Members of the Dufferin Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) participated in the annual Movember fundraising campaign.

The Dufferin team raised \$3,490 in support of men's health and suicide prevention.

Dufferin OPP officers entered into a competition with other Central Region detachments to support of the Movember fundraising event. During the month of November members grew some very interesting moustaches to demonstrate their support for men's health. Generous donations from our Dufferin County community raised \$3,490 toward this important cause.

This charity is changing the face of Men's Health by taking on the topics of Mental

Health and Suicide Prevention, Prostate Cancer and Testicular Cancer. We thank everyone who supported and donated to Team Dufferin.

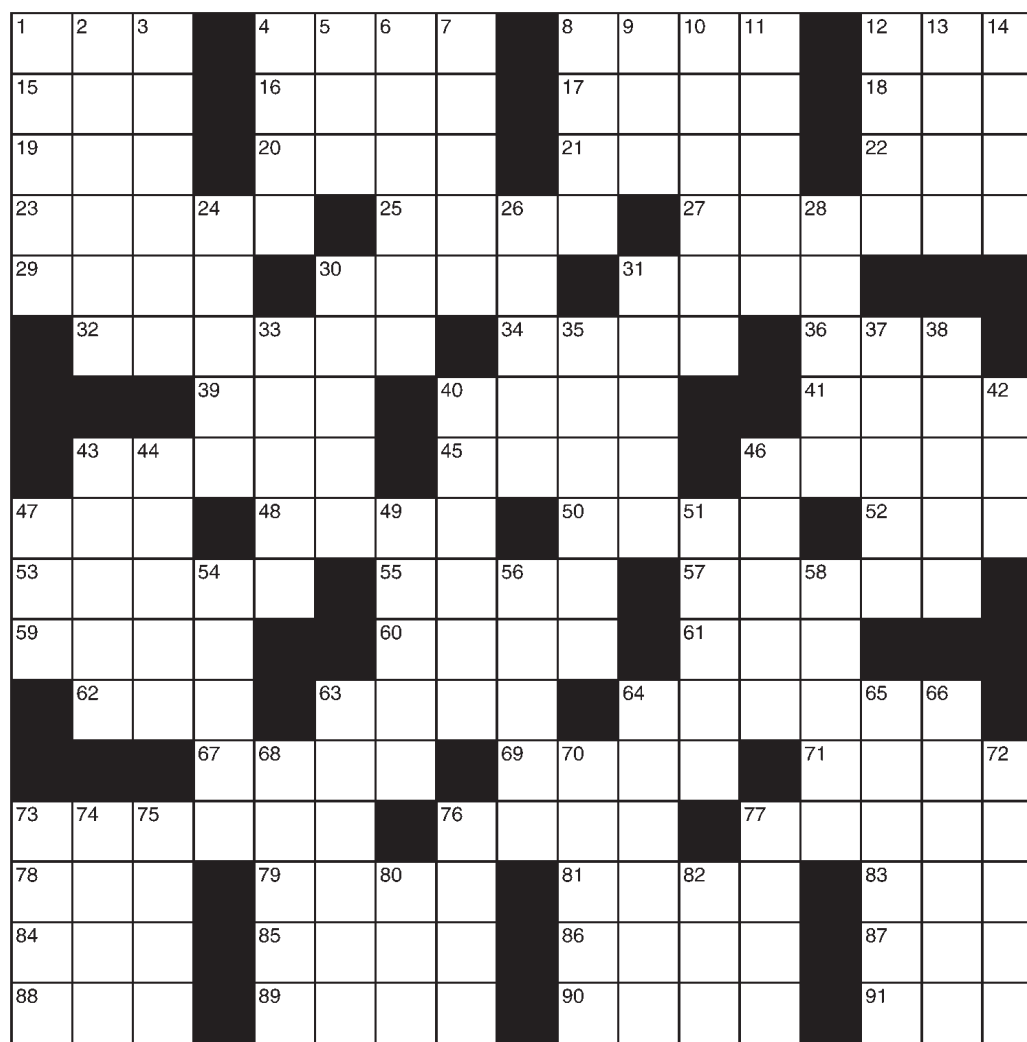
"Members of the Dufferin OPP are committed to public safety, delivering proactive and innovative policing in partnership with our communities," said the Dufferin OPP in a press release.

"Officers value your contribution to building safe communities. If you have information about suspected unlawful activity, please contact the OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or visit Crime Stoppers to remain anonymous at 1-800-822-8477 (TIPS) or www.crimestoppersdm.com."

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PUZZLE 472



DOWN

- Honker
- Influence
- Sarcastic composition
- Blow
- Cuckoo
- Gloomy
- Of the Vatican
- Exceptional
- Have being
- Cashew's relative
- Fortuneteller's card
- Repeat
- Require
- Wet, as morning grass
- Clara Barton, e.g.
- Find fault with
- Piece of wood
- Usefulness
- War hero Murphy
- Flush
- Soldier's lodging
- Electronic component
- More than prompt
- Bond
- Necklace of flowers
- Blunder
- Fashion
- Embrace
- Wind-creating device
- John Malkovich, e.g.
- Possessive adjective
- Remove pins from
- Prevent
- Christmas
- Drill
- On the beach
- Supply with oxygen
- Pantry
- Purple Heart, e.g.
- Bitterly pungent
- Call up
- Willing's partner
- Sneak a look
- Molding
- Encourage in crime
- Heal
- Vase
- Buck's companion

ACROSS

- Fuel
- Short breath
- Enthralled
- At the ___ of one's rope
- Chance ___ lifetime
- Wild ox of Sulawesi
- Geographical belt
- So-so grade
- Frequently, to Byron
- Not stiff
- Hitchcock's "___ Window"
- Cut down
- Fishing net
- Infant
- Nary a soul
- Hose shade
- Feeling fit
- Sedan, e.g.
- Intense fear
- Adjoin
- Helpful drink?
- Title for Gielgud
- Inside
- Irani coin
- Milestone
- Food shop
- Love greatly
- To and ___
- Persian title
- Indecent
- 551, to Romans
- Debate
- Surrender, as territory
- Comfortably informal
- Verb's counterpart
- Waste allowance
- Unclose, in verse
- Ribbed fabric
- Emily Dickinson, e.g.
- Of the stars
- Arab bigwig
- Let up on
- Gather in a crop
- Highest point
- St. Louis landmark
- Incense ingredient
- Appeal
- Defeat decisively
- Traveled by bus
- Excitement
- Protective shelter
- Pasture measure
- Strong metal
- Downing Street number
- ___ out (barely make)
- Gave temporarily
- Monopoly card
- Before

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Dufferin Community Foundation reaches \$1 million milestone

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

Dufferin Community Foundation has reached the \$1 million milestone following generous donations from two Dufferin County families.

The local charitable organization made the

announcement on Nov. 26 that their invest funds had exceeded \$1.25 million, meaning up to \$30,000 will be available for local charities in 2022 and rising to approximately \$50,000 a year beginning in 2023.

"We are grateful to these families for establishing funds for our community," said Gord Gallagher, president of Dufferin Community Foundation. "They care deeply about the well-being of residents in Dufferin County and know that their fund will help countless people now and for generations to come."

The donations from the two families were made through the Dufferin Community Foundation's Donor-Advised Fund Program. In each case, families set up a named fund to support the cause and charities they care about the most.

The two new funds the DCF is adding to their donor-advised funds are the Woodlot Endowment Fund and The Cedar Fund.

The Woodlot Endowment Fund, established courtesy of Julie, Steven, Cameron and James Wood of Mono, was created to support "physical, mental, and emotional well-being post-secondary school education and the arts."

"Our family has been active in the Dufferin Community since 1997, benefiting from, and contributing to local charities, not-for-profits and community initiatives," said Steven Wood. "We wanted to make a lasting commitment that would have an impact."

The Cedar Fund, established by a local family who wishes to remain anonymous, will have its contributions directed to poverty relief, as well as women's and children's health.

"We were raised in Dufferin County with a strong sense of the importance, and responsibility of giving generously to help people in need and to make our community stronger. We are excited by what the Foundation is building and honoured to be part of it," said the family.

Dufferin Community Foundation now has three donor-advised funds invested with the foundation. The Greenwood Family previously created a fund to focus on learning enrichment for children and youth, especially for families living in poverty.

Dufferin Community Foundation, was created three years ago as a way to provide more sustainable support for local charitable work. Described as a "forever fund" donations are invested into permanent funds that earn an annual income, which in turn the foundation uses to provide grants to local charities every year.

In addition to their donor-advised fund program, DCF also offers residents the option of donating to its five "field of interest" funds which include the Vision Fund (helps meet the community's most urgent needs), the Arts, Culture & Heritage Fund, the Emergency Fund, the Mulmur Fund, and the Environment Fund.

"A donor-advised fund has all the benefits of a private foundation in that the family advises us where they want their contributions to go," said Gallagher. "But, it's much more hassle-free. We look after the audits, accounting, and legal requirements so they can focus on the good they want to do in the community."

Dufferin Community Foundation has a goal of raising \$10 million in total invested funds over a 10 year span. Surpassing the \$1 million milestone, the charitable group has seven years to raise the remainder. With \$10 million in endowment, DCF will be able to generate about \$400,000 in income annually to disperse to charities within Dufferin County.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CONTEST WINNER: The Amaranth Lions Club presented a plaque and \$100 to Mono Amaranth Public School (MAPS) Grade 8 student Ailsa Bogan-Randeraad on Dec. 1, who placed 1st among 9 schools in the Lions International Peace Poster Contest District A9. The Lions International Peace Poster Contest takes place worldwide in 209 countries. Bogan-Randeraad's poster is headed to the provincial level of the contest. (Pictured Left to right: Orangeville Lions Vice President Don Sinclair, MAPS Grade 8 teacher Boni Thompson, Ailsa Bogan-Randeraad and Bruce Blears)

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Animal sanctuary holding holiday market this Sunday

Written By Sam Odrowski

The Glo Farm Sanctuary is holding a Holiday Market this Sunday (Dec. 5), featuring a variety of seasonal gifts.

The farm, which is located at 61026 CR-3, East Garafraxa, will be running the event from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and attendees will be able to meet some of the 29 rescued animals permanently living there. There will also be free hot coco or apple cider as well as marshmallows for roasting on an open fire.

“The Christmas market is an opportunity for people to come and see the farm. We are not open to the general public, but we do offer limited private tours,” said Ali Valentine, director of the Glo Farm Sanctuary. “When we get into the fall and winter weather, it becomes more difficult to offer those tours, so this is our kind of our one last hurrah to get people to be able to come here and see what we do.”

Tickets to the event are available for \$15 each at: shorturl.at/bgixX and are broken down into one hour time slots to maintain appropriate numbers, allowing for physical distancing.

All of the money raised helps support the animal sanctuary, which is a registered charity and run entirely by volunteers.

“100 per cent of the money goes back into caring for the animals,” noted Valentine.

She said one of the largest expenses they have at the farm is purchasing enough hay to feed everyone, which costs about \$850 a month.

There’s also a large focus on preventative health care, which involves doing annual physicals and bloodwork to compare with if any of the animals ever get sick.

“We also do every 30-day health checks on everybody with a veterinarian. We’re very fortunate we have a veterinarian who lives on site, so we do get significant discounts on that that work,” said Valentine. “However, we don’t cut corners when it comes to their health because we’re trying to provide them longevity.”

She told the Free Press the animal sanctuary takes in vulnerable animals from the OPP and SPCA, as well as different agencies throughout southern Ontario. The farm has horses, cows, goats, sheep, chickens, and pigs.

“Where there’s animals who are finding themselves in pretty dire situations, we offer them forever homes here,” Valentine noted.

“When they come to us, they are vulnerable and rely on us to meet all of their needs. So, we have to meet not only their medical needs and their physical needs, but also their social/emotional needs.”

Currently there are over 60 regular volunteers at the Glo Farm Sanctuary and at the market they’ll be able to share some of the stories of where the animals came from.

“Some of the stories are awfully sad, but then when you see how they have kind of learned to trust and grow – it’s a really miraculous thing,” said Valentine.

An interesting aspect of the farm is that there’s a mixed herd, so the smallest pot belly pig is in the same paddock as their large goats, sheep, and cows.

“You get to watch everybody peacefully coexist, and [at the market event] we definitely will talk about how and why that’s able to work,” said Valentine. “A big part of that is how, as humans, the choices we make.”

There are some really unique interspecies friendships at the farm, she noted.

“One of our sheep, Maria is actually an honorary cow,” Valentine told the Free Press. “For sleeping groups, they all get to choose where they want to sleep at night... and Maria will always sleep with the cows, she has for four years, and I suspect she will until the end of time.”

“She’s obsessed with Martin, and she’s never ever far from him,” Valentine added.

For safety reasons, she noted that none



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ANIMAL SANCTUARY: Glo Farm Sanctuary has 29 animals on its farm, including several pigs. Some of the animals will be out and about during the upcoming market this Sunday.

of the animals should be fed over the fence, but many of them are social and some will be roaming.

“We do have a flock of chickens led by our fearless rooster Russell Crowe, and he is a worse beggar than any dog you’ll ever meet. I’m sure he’ll be near the bonfire or wherever there’s treats,” Valentine said.

She told the Free Press she’d encourage anyone who loves animals or is looking to do some local holiday shopping to swing by this Sunday.

“You really should come to support the work that we’re doing. It’s really amazing to be able to see what it looks like when animals are given the privilege of growing old,”

she noted. “Our cows are both seniors, so Patricia is an 18-year-old Jersey Angus cross and Martin is an 11-year-old Hereford.”

The event is more than 50 per cent sold out and a maximum of 250 people can attend.

For more information about the Glo Farm, visit: glofarm.org or subscribe to their Patreon: patreon.com/glofarmsanctuary

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BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

TAKING THE SHOT: Type here The Shelburne Senior Muskies host the Seaforth Centenaires at the Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex on Saturday, November 27. The Muskies came back from a two goal deficit in the second period then went a head to leave the ice with a 4-3 win.

Muskies upset Seaforth with hard work in Saturday home game

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

The Shelburne Muskies started off the weekend with a loss on the road, but rebounded the following night with a win on home ice.

The squad travelled to Saugeen Shores Winterhawks home ice in Port Elgin on Friday, Nov. 26, but came up short and had to settle for an 8-1 loss.

Returning to home ice at the Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex the following night (Nov. 27) they turned the weekend around when they handed the first place Seaforth Centenaires their second loss of the season.

The Centenaires opened the scoring in Saturday's game on a two-man advantage midway through the first period.

Another Seaforth goal made it a 2-0 game early in the second frame.

The Muskies stormed back in the second to tie it up, then scored two more to take the lead - all in under a minute and a-half.

Justine Graham scored a beautiful wrap around goal when he caught the Seaforth goalie out of position to put the Muskies on the scoreboard.

Just 47 seconds later, Jamie Bennett hit the back of the net with a shot from the point.

Chris Greer got the go-ahead goal on a power play to make it a 3-2 Shelburne advantage.

It was again a tie game when the Centenaires scored with just under two minutes remaining in the period.

The Muskies went ahead when Nick Glassford took the pass from Justin Graham on two-on-one and fired the puck to the top corner of the net to give Shelburne the lead with nine minutes remaining on the clock.

The Muskies held on for the rest of the game and left the ice with a 4-3 win for the night.

The Muskies were outshot 38-28 for the night.

Shelburne was assessed eight minor penalties for the night, while Seaforth picked up four minors for the game.

The Muskies will be in Milverton this coming Sunday, Dec. 5.

They return to home ice at the CDRC on Saturday, Dec. 11, when they will host the Creemore Coyotes.

Game time is 8:00 p.m.

Local mouthguard clinic ensures smiles stay intact for minor hockey players

Written By Brian Lockhart

Playing hockey is an inherently dangerous sports so when suited up to get on the ice players are required to wear mouthguards to make sure they keep their smiles intact.

The mouthguards are a required piece of equipment for all minor hockey players.

The Shelburne Wolves U11 rep team are lucky enough to have been sponsored by Main Street Family Dental in Shelburne who turned out at the arena for a mouth guard clinic on Tuesday, November 23.

Each player had a mould made of their

teeth which is then used to make a custom mouth piece at the dental office.

"Dr. Carriere from Main Street Family Dental is sponsoring mouth guards for the U11 Shelburne Wolves," explained Sarina Nasato, a dental hygienist at the dental office.

Four people from the office turned out to help with the clinic.

The players from the team waited their turn to have the semi-hard mould inserted into their mouth that creates a perfect impression of their teeth.

Continued on Page 11

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Photo Credit: Anthony Oragunye.

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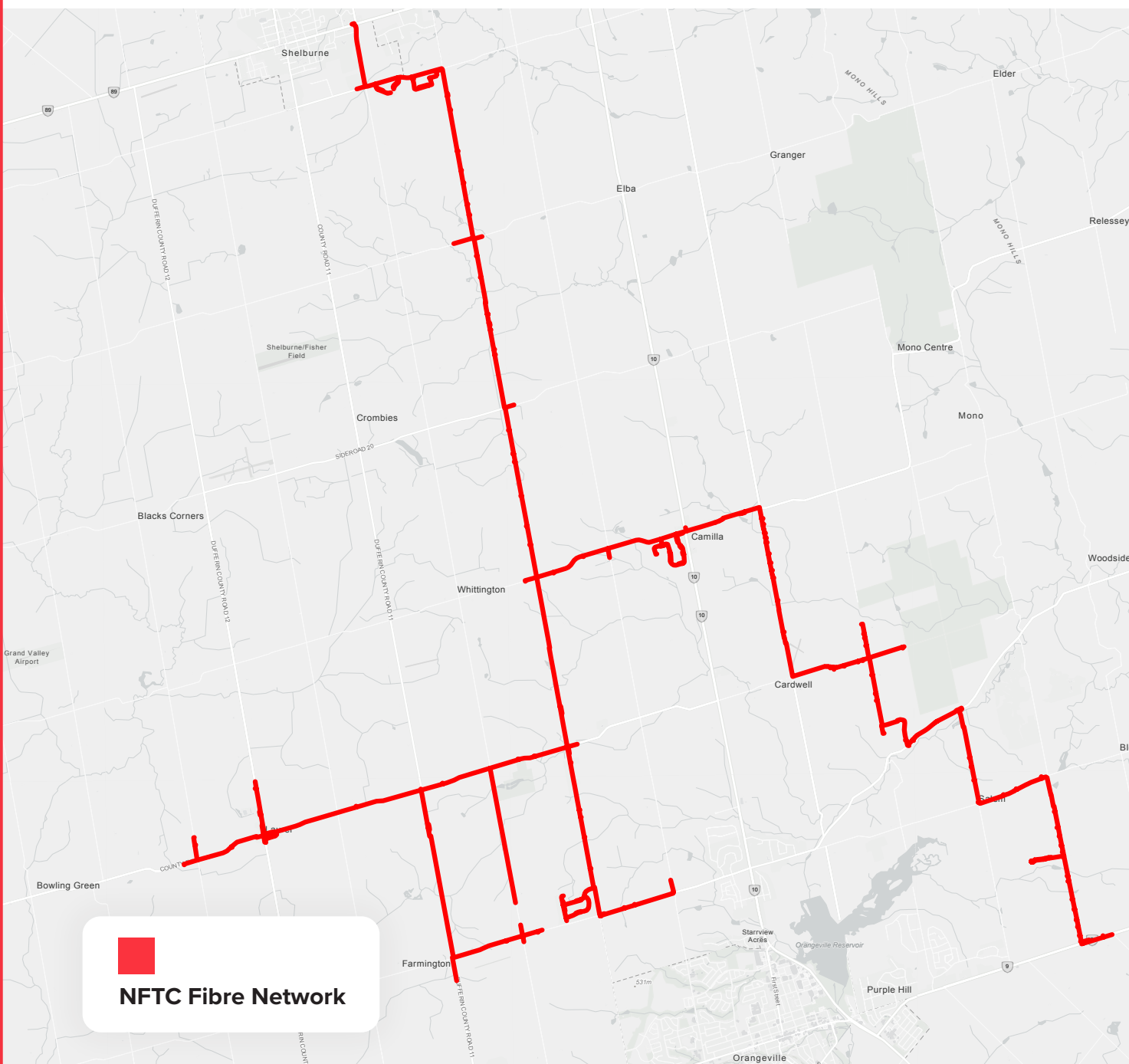
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Continued from Page 8

Local mouthguard clinic ensures smiles stay intact for minor hockey players

"It's a flour and water mixture and we have disposable impression trays," Ms. Nasato explained. "It turns into a sort of bubble gum material. It pushes up over the top teeth. You wait for about a minute and then it comes out."

The mould is placed in a separate bag and will harden. From there the mould is taken back to the dental office where a vacuum system will secure the final mould material around the casting to make the final impression of a player's teeth.

When the mouth guard is inserted, it is a perfect custom fit for each player.

The guards help ensure players teeth are protected from all the jarring that can take place on the ice.

The Main Street Family Dental office can make custom mouth guards for any player.



BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

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Co-op Corner: Special Education Resource Teacher at Glenbrook Elementary

Written By Marissa Fernandes

This week Marisa Fernandes from Centre Dufferin District High School shares a little bit about their experience and how Glenbrook Elementary School Teacher Rob Henry is contributing to our community's future.

Rob is a SERT at Glenbrook Elementary School. SERT stands for Special Education Resource Teacher. Rob has been a SERT for at least 4 years, and he provides resources to staff and students to help students be more successful. He also arranges reading and math groups with students who need extra help.

During my co-op experience as a SERT's Assistant, I have developed connections with

many students by spending time in different classrooms helping students and teachers. This includes many different tasks like helping students with their work, reading to them or reading with small groups, and helping teachers with classroom management. I also spend a lot of time in the Hub. The Hub is a room where students can go if they need a short break from class. Within the Hub there are many different activities for the students like board games, toys, fidgets, colouring pages, and puzzles. While I am in the Hub, I help supervise the students, play games with them, and help the staff with any other jobs like, cleaning, walking students to their class,

and using the photocopier.

Before I started at my placement, I completed multiple school board provided online training courses on safety.

While being at Glenbrook I have become aware of some of the other positions that are associated with the SERT's position, and these include EAs, parent volunteers, Speech and Language Therapists, and Attendance Counselors. These positions relate to my placement because they mostly involve focusing on students with learning disabilities, special needs, or behavioural issues.

Another person I have had a chance to work with is the Child and Youth Coun-

selor at Glenbrook. She organized a group of students to meet and discuss any issues they see around the school or any way they can make it feel more welcoming and safe. This group is called the TIE group and these meetings take place every Tuesday at first break. I help supervise the students and work with them and the CYC to come up with ideas for the group.

Glenbrook Elementary School and the wonderful staff here provide a safe learning environment for all their students, and offer their students numerous opportunities to get involved within the school and out in the community.

Shelburne Public Library shares new books, upcoming events

The following is a newsletter from the Shelburne Public Library.

We are starting up our Community Readers program again and will be featuring Dr. Magder with a Hanukkah story. Watch for this on our YouTube channel on December 6th at 7 p.m.

Also on the YouTube channel, you can check out the library's interview with Deputy Mayor, Steve Anderson as he discusses his book, Driven to Succeed with CEO, Rose Dotten.

Teen Scene

Our December Take & Make kits have been picked up, and we are eagerly awaiting photos of our participants' creations! Don't forget to tag us in photos of your gingerbread bird houses (@ShelburneONLibrary) on Instagram or emailing your submissions to jwyse@shelburnelibrary.ca by December 14th @ 5pm!

We also have some new and exciting plans for you in 2022, check them out below!

Upcoming Events

DIY Snowglobe- December 7th @ 4pm
Gingerbread House Photos Due- December 14th
Cinnamon Ornaments- December 21st @ 4pm

Children's Programming

'Tis the season for warm and cozy books! The Children's Department has officially brought out our entire holiday collection. Stock up on your festive reads now, and look forward to many evenings snuggled up with a good book.

Do you have children between the ages of 10-13 at home? This month, the registration for our new Tween & Teen program "Shelved" will open. This completely new program will have a featured novel with weekly activities based on themes occurring in the story, and video instructions to accompany each activity on YouTube. Each participant will have a copy of this novel to take home and read at their leisure. Everyone will be provided with a cus-

tomized bookmark each week that includes thought-provoking questions and an opportunity to express themselves creatively (with doodles!) What better way to start off the New Year than with a new program!

Oh what fun it is to BUILD a one horse open sleigh! As always, we are posting weekly LEGO challenges on our Facebook and Instagram accounts. Who will be the best builder this week - who knows?

Questions about programming, pictures of LEGO challenges and craft creations can all be sent to children@shelburnelibrary.ca.

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

The Christmas bookshop by Jenny Colgan
Sleigh bells ring by RaeAnne Thayne

The bloodless boy by Robert J. Lloyd
The Attic on Queen Street by Karen White
The French gift by Kirsty Manning
Blue skin gods by SJ Sindu
The family by Naomi Krupitsky
Go tell the bees that I am gone by Diana Gabaldon
Flying angels by Danielle Steel

Non fiction

The age of AI and our human future by Henry A. Kissinger
The end of craving by Mark Schatzker
Leonard Cohen: untold stories, volume 2 by Michael Posner
Bourdain by Laurie Woolever
Immune by Philipp Dettmer
Strong and lean by Mark Lauren
The diabetes code cookbook by Dr. Jason Fung
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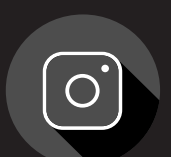


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