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FIRST BABY OF 2022: It's a boy! Ilyas Idris Malik was born at Headwaters Health Care Centre at 1:11 a.m. on Jan. 1, weighing a healthy 7 pounds and 15.6 ounces. He is the third boy for his mother Nida Awan and dad Idris Malik of Tottenham. In 2020, there were nearly 900 deliveries at Headwaters, with the Obstetrical program having nearly 100 more births in 2021, than the previous year.

Ontario reintroduces COVID-19 restrictions

Written By Paula Brown
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Ontario has returned back to a modified version of Step 2 of its Roadmap to Reopening as the province prepares for a "tsunami" of cases in coming weeks. Premier Doug Ford announced the implementing of temporary restrictions in a press conference on Jan. 3. "As you know, like in other provinces and countries around the world, Omicron case counts are rising exponentially across the province. We face a tsunami of new cases in the days and weeks ahead and as we do, virtually everyone in this province will know someone who has been exposed to this virus," said Ford during the press conference. "Now, we're bracing for impact." The regression to Step 2 of the provinces plan went into effect as of Jan. 5. Measures that will change include:

- Reducing social gathering limits to five

- people indoors and 10 people outdoors;
- Limiting capacity at organized public events to five people indoors;
- Requiring businesses and organizations to ensure employees work remotely unless required to be on-site;
- Permitting a 50 per cent capacity for retail settings including shopping malls;
- Limiting capacity to 50 per cent at indoor weddings, funerals, and religious services, rites, and ceremonies. Outdoor services limited to the number of persons who can maintain two metre of physical distance;
- Personal care services permitted at 50 per cent capacity and other restrictions with saunas, steam rooms and oxygen bars closed;
- Public libraries limited to 50 per cent capacity.
- Closing indoor dining at restaurants, bars, and other food or drink establishments. Outdoor dining restrictions, takeout, drive through, and delivery is permitted;
- Restricting the sale of alcohol after 10 p.m. and the consumption of alcohol on premise in businesses or settings after 11 p.m. with an exemptions for delivery, take-out, grocery/convenience stores and other liquor stores;
- Closing indoor concert venues, theatres, cinemas;
- Closing museums, galleries, historic sites, landmarks, and tour guide services. Outdoor establishments permitted to open with restrictions and a limit of 50 per cent capacity
- Closing indoor sport and recreational fitness facilities including gyms and outdoor facilities permitted to operate with spectators not to exceed 50 per cent.
- Closing indoor meeting and event spaces with limited exceptions but permitting outdoor spaces to remain open with restrictions;

Continued on Page 2

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Continued from FRONT

Ontario reintroduces COVID-19 restrictions as Omicron surges

The provincial government has said it will be expanding the new Ontario Business Costs Rebate Program.

According to a press release, eligible businesses required to reduce capacity to 50 per cent such as smaller retail stores, will receive a rebate payment equivalent to 50 per cent of their costs while businesses required to close for indoor activities such as restaurants and gyms will receive a rebate payment to 100 per cent of their costs.

A full list of eligible businesses will be available when applications for the program open at the end of the month.

As part of the move back to Step 2 of the

reopening plan all schools will be moved to remote learning starting Jan. 5 and will remain in virtual learning until Jan. 17, subject to public health trends.

Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Kieran Moore has also reinstated Directive 2 for hospitals and regulated health professionals, which will see hospitals pause all non-emergent and urgent surgeries and procedures as of Jan. 5.

The move to Step 2 will remain in effect for at least 21 days (Jan. 26), subject to public health and health system indicators.

The provincial government has said it will be expanding the new Ontario Business Costs Rebate Program.

Upper Grand District School Board announces plans over school closure

On Monday (Jan. 3) the provincial government announced that all Ontario schools will shift to remote learning from Jan. 5 to 17, with the possibility of a further extension.

"During the time of remote learning, we want to highly encourage families to continue to follow all current health and safety guidelines, as the board continues to enhance the layers of protective measures in place in our schools," said UGDSB Director of Education Peter Sovran.

"Please continue to screen rigorously for symptoms on a daily basis. If you have symptoms or are feeling unwell, stay home and isolate."

For students enrolled at the Upper Grand District School Board (UGDSB), as of Wednesday (Jan. 5), those in Elementary or Secondary Remote Programs will continue with their remote instruction as usual.

All students enrolled in in-person learning will shift to remote learning, through accessing their class's Google Classroom or Brightspace environment starting on Wednesday (Jan. 5).

In the coming days, schools will be reaching out directly to families with students enrolled in specialized Life Skills classes to provide information on learning opportunities, including where possible, some limited options for in-person instruction starting next Monday (Jan. 10).

Device pick-up for students requiring technology will take place at UGDSB schools early this week. Schools will communicate school-specific details on device/technology pick-up to families directly.

"The UGDSB continues to be commit-



ted to reopening our schools for students and staff safely," said UGDSB Board Chair Linda Busuttill.

"Our schools will be receiving additional PPE for staff, upgraded masks for students, and staff will continue to optimize school ventilation including through the procurement of additional HEPA filter units."

On Monday the province also announced that school buildings would be permitted to open for third-party child care operations, including emergency child care. During this period of remote learning, free emergency child care will be provided for school-aged children of health care and other eligible frontline workers. Additional details on child care would be sent to families from the child care operators or province.

Families may be eligible for the Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit (CRCB). To find out who is eligible to apply, visit the federal website: <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/benefits/recovery-caregiving-benefit/crcb-who-apply.html>.

"We know that this has been a challenging time for students, families, staff and communities. We thank you for your ongoing support and will continue to communicate with families as the situation evolves," said the UGDSB in a recent press release.



PAULA BROWN PHOTO

EMPTY PARKING LOT: The parking lot at the Alder Recreation Centre was empty on Dec. 23, and the entire week that followed, with no vaccines being distributed locally.

No jabs at Alder for eight days

Written By Sam Odrowski

At a time when Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Kieran Moore said "We're pulling out all the stops" for the province's COVID-19 booster dose rollout, the Alder Recreation Centre ran zero clinics for eight days.

Vaccination clinics for booster doses were held leading up to Dec. 22, before stopping entirely until Dec. 30, making it difficult for Orangeville residents to get triple vaccinated.

Since then, clinics were held Jan. 2 and 5.

Looking ahead, clinics will be held Jan. 7, 10, 12, and 14.

Near the end of the eight-day period when no vaccines were administered through the Alder Recreation Centre, Headwaters Health Care Centre announced they would be operating two community vaccine clinics on Dec. 29 and 30.

The 276 available appointments for both clinics were filled in less than an

hour, showing the high demand for boosters locally.

As Ontario sees record numbers of COVID-19 cases, some Orangeville residents have been questioning why they're being forced to travel to other regions or wait weeks for a local appointment to get boosted.

Currently, the capacity of the Alder Recreation Centre is 400 to 450, while earlier in the year during the initial vaccine rollout, it had capacity to do up to 2,500 doses per day.

When asked why there was no clinics at Alder for eight days, Wellington Dufferin Guelph Public Health (WDGPH) emergency information officer Anna Vanderlaan said in an email, "WDG Public Health is working at full capacity to offer vaccination opportunities across our region over the coming weeks."

Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones was contacted to comment but deferred to WDGPH.

2021 THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Attention Readers!

For our first edition of the Shelburne Free Press in 2022, we will be taking you through all of the highs and lows over 2021. The 2021 Year in Review will share some of the most significant stories impacting our readers over the past 12 months.

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

January

• COVID-19 vaccine gets rolled out to local LTC staff: Greater protection against COVID-19 is coming to Shelburne's Long Term Care Home, as several of the staff received their first dose of the Pfizer vaccine, which protects against the novel coronavirus, last week. Sarah Ricci, who works at the long term care home was the very first person within the Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health region to receive the vaccine when it was rolled out at Guelph Public Health last Wednesday, Jan. 6.

In light of the tragic outbreak at Shelburne Long Term Care that claimed 15 lives in May of 2020, Ricci told the Citizen she's grateful and relieved to receive the vaccine and be better protected against the virus. "We were hit pretty hard," said Ricci when speaking of the outbreak.

"We're here to protect the residents and the staff as well, and we're here for the health and well being of everyone," she added, when speaking about why she chose to be included in the early round of vaccinations.

Staff from Shelburne Long Term Care have been commuting down to Guelph over the last week to receive the shot. So far, over 15 staff members are now inoculated.

While it isn't mandatory for nursing home staff to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, they're being highly encouraged. In clinical trials, the Pfizer vaccine, which Ricci received, has been proven to be 95 per cent effective in preventing COVID-19, beginning one week after the second dose.

• Second provincial emergency declared today for COVID-19: Effective Jan. 14 the Province of Ontario is issuing a stay-at-home order, requiring everyone to remain in their household, except for essential purposes. Trips to the grocery store, pharmacy, healthcare services, exercise, and essential work have all been deemed valid by the government.

In addition to this, a second provincial emergency order under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act has been declared in Ontario as a response to the Province's doubling of COVID-19 cases over the past two weeks.

• WDGPH vaccine distribution to see delays from paused production lines: Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health's (WDGPH) roll out of the COVID-19 vaccine will be seeing impacts with pause in production lines at Pfizer's facility. WDGPH announced on Monday (Jan. 18) that they would be making changes to their vaccine program in response to the recent announcement from Pfizer that some production lines at their facility in Belgium are working to increase their overall capacity.

Public Health, in a press release, said that the pausing in production will be felt in Ontario and affect deliveries to Guelph for a short period.

• Police Board appoints first BIPOC vice chair: Shelburne resident Althea Alli has been appointed as the new vice chair of the Shelburne Police Service Board – becoming the first woman of colour in the community to hold the position.

Speaking with the Free Press about her reaction to the new role, Alli admitted she was still absorbing it but that she was "completely honoured to be in the position."

"I'm humbled and honoured to be in the position, and of course have a voice for the more marginalized and the racialized community," said Alli. "It is a great honour that I'm able to stand and speak on behalf of them, I do hope to learn more and to understand from my community their concerns."

Alli was appointed to the Police Service Board last Tuesday (Jan. 19), after previously serving as a provincial appointee on the board. She has been on the local Police Service Board since 2019.

February

• Black History Month kicks off in Shelburne: Municipal councillors and community leaders in Dufferin County marked the beginning of Black History Month with the raising of the Pan-African flag.

Shelburne Deputy Mayor Steve Anderson and Dufferin County Canadian Black Association (DCCBA) founder and president Alethia O'Hara Stephenson gathered at Shelburne's Town Hall on Monday (Feb. 1) to mark the raising of the flag.

"It never gets old," said Deputy Mayor Anderson to the Free Press about the flag raising. "This continues to demonstrate that Shelburne is a very inclusive, diverse,

and welcoming community and it's important that we celebrate and acknowledge the achievements of not only Black Canadians, but Black history as Canadian history."

• March Break postponed for students and teachers across the province: Students and teachers in the Upper Grand District School Board (UGDSB), along with others across the province expecting a break next month will be waiting a little longer as government postpones March Break to April. Education Minister Stephen Lecce made the announcement last Thursday (Feb. 11) that the weeklong break for students and teachers, which was originally scheduled for March 15 to 19, would begin on April 12.

"Postponing March Break, not cancelling it is an important way that schools can help to limit community transmission," said Lecce. "I recognize that this is one more change in the year that has been challenging for so many students and our education staff who continue to work so hard, it is one made on the best advice of Public Health officials to keep them safe and to keep our schools open in this province."

UGDSB teachers and student returned to the classroom on Feb. 8, after switching to remote-only learning following the winter holiday break, when the province saw a surge in COVID-19 cases.

• Shelburne moves out of lockdown and into red zone of COVID-19 framework: The Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph region on Tuesday (Feb. 16) officially moved to the red control category of the COVID-19 response framework, as Ontario transitions out of province-wide lockdown.

• Shelburne officially transitions to OPP: It was a day marked with mixed emotions, as the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officially took over responsibilities of policing in Shelburne last Thursday (Feb. 18).

"On one hand we're saying good bye to an institution that's proudly and bravely served our community for 142 years and that's always going to be a difficult moment to get through," said Shelburne Mayor Wade Mills. "But, looking to the future I think we as a community can be pretty optimistic about what to expect."

Last July, Shelburne Town Council voted unanimously in favour of bringing OPP into the community, disbanding the Shelburne Police Service (SPS) who have policed the town for 141 years. At the time of the decision, Mayor Mills said it was no longer financially sustainable to maintain the municipal force.

All officers from the Shelburne Police Service who applied for a position with the OPP were hired on. The now former SPS officers will be attending the OPP academy in Orillia over the next two weeks.

Insp. Ward said a schedule has been established with officers from the Dufferin Detachment and the surrounding area to continue policing while the local officers are off being trained.

Dufferin County will now entirely be policed under the OPP. Ongoing investigations will become part of the OPP case files.

March

• Local marketing initiative #SupportTheBurne receives national recognition with award: COVID-19 has hurt local small businesses most severely, but the Town of Shelburne did not let the pandemic drag them down; rather, they rallied together create a community marketing strategy to encourage support for local businesses.

The Economic Developers Association of Canada awarded Shelburne with a Marketing Canada Award for their marketing initiative #SupportTheBurne, which recognizes communities who are marketing their town to improve the overall economic well-being of Canadians.

Shelburne worked in conjunction with Tristan Barrocks of The Digital Storytellers creative agency to run unique short commercials which addressed the common concern, "how can we reach current and new clients?" The campaign consisted of a string of social media ads ranging from postings on the town website, local billboards, and airtime on the local Country105 FM. This message was displayed on all digital platforms to communicate a clear and cohesive message – #SupportTheBurne.

• Shelburne Polar Plunge raises over \$11,000 for Special Olympics: The Shelburne Police Service (SPS) Polar Plunge generated over \$11,000 this year for Special Olympics Ontario, with the majority of the funds going to the Dufferin Chapter.

The event is held across Ontario and in total generated over \$350,000 for Special Olympics, which helps individuals with development disabilities or exceptionalities achieve their athletic goals and compete against fellow athletes.

This year's event was held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic, so it was harder to generate revenue than in the past, but over-

all, Shelburne Police Const. Jeff McLean who organized the event says he's happy with its success.

• Heritage Music Festival postponed until at least 2022: The Rotary Club of Shelburne for the second year in a row, has postponed its largest fundraiser, the Heritage Music Festival (HMF) and 70th Canadian Open Old Time Fiddle Championship.

The local Rotary Club made the decision at the end of February to postpone the annual festival until the first week of August 2022. In a notice to the public, Rotary Club of Shelburne said the decision was not made lightly but with the ongoing uncertainty with the COVID-19 pandemic, that it was the "correct decision" to make.

• Dufferin marks one year anniversary of COVID-19 pandemic: It was a week of grim milestones. Dufferin County, alongside the world, marked one year since the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 as a global pandemic.

The community, on Tuesday (March 16) also marked the one year anniversary of the region's first positive case of the novel virus.

"It's been a difficult year for our community, for every community essentially," said Dufferin County Warden Darren White. "A year ago, when we started this, I don't think any of us would have realized what was about to come."

Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph (WDG) Public Health confirmed the first case of COVID-19 on March 16, 2020. A male in his 40s, returning from Atlanta, Georgia had been tested at Headwaters Health Care in Orangeville.

In early April, an outbreak was declared at Headwaters Hospital as 13 hospital staff tested positive, 38 were asked to self-isolate and an additional 10 were admitted for COVID-19.

By the end of April an outbreak of the virus was declared in two Shelburne long-term care home.

• County Council adopts climate plan:

Dufferin County Council has adopted a climate action plan to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) in the community by 2050. The Climate Action Plan has six focus areas (on the move, in our buildings, for our land, planning our county, in our bins, and empowering our communities), with 34 actions to help mitigate or reduce local greenhouse gas emissions, and adapt to climate change.

• The Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health region moves to Orange: The Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health (WDGPH) region has officially made a move down on the COVID-19 response framework from red (control) to the orange (restrict) category. The Ontario government announced the move for the region last Friday (March 19) with the changes to the restriction going in effect Monday (March 22) at 12:01 a.m.

April

• Shelburne dentist found guilty in sexual assault case: A Shelburne dentist accused of sexually assaulting a minor at his dental office has been found guilty. Muthanna Gewarges, a dentist who practiced at Small Town Family Dental on Main Street in Shelburne, was convicted on charges of sexual assault and touching for sexual purposes following a trial in Orangeville earlier this month.

• WDG schools revert back to remote learning under Section 22: Students in the Upper Grand District School Board (UGDSB) will be making the shift to remote learning once again, as Public Health issues a Section 22 Order.

Both the Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph (WDG) Public Health and UGDSB issued press releases late Monday (April 5) evening notifying that the change would go into effect starting April 7.

Continued on Page 5



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Thirty seconds to lockdown

SAM ODROWSKI
FROM THE EDITOR'S CHAIR



"This took me about 30-seconds to make a decision," said Doug Ford, on shutting down schools and going into yet another lockdown, this Monday (Jan. 3).

Does he ever stop to think that might be the problem?

Knee jerk reactions to modelling data from "public health experts" that has proven to be incorrect time after time, is how Ontario has ended up in the past as one of the most locked down jurisdictions in North America.

Right now, the apparent experts, who haven't been successful in accurately modelling any past waves of COVID-19, say their projections reveal that hundreds of thousands of COVID-19 cases per day will take hold in Ontario, with 1 in 100 cases resulting in a hospital admission, quickly overwhelming the healthcare system.

But instead of using fancy computer models that shout doom and gloom, why not look at Public Health Ontario's (PHO) actual data and get a more realistic perspective?

A Surveillance Report released less than a week ago by PHO states 0.3 per cent of all Omicron cases result in hospitalization, not 1 in 100 or one per cent, as stated by Ford.

That makes his claim about hospitalizations – used as justification to lock us down – a flat out lie.

Maybe Ford mixed up his data for Omicron with Delta which does have a 1.3 per cent hospitalization rate among

those who test positive,

Another fallacy with respect to hospitalizations is the reporting of incidental COVID-19 cases.

It was encouraging to see Dr. Moore last Thursday, finally acknowledge that as many as 50 per cent of all hospitalizations reported in Ontario are from individuals receiving care for something other than COVID-19, such as a broken arm or appendicitis, but happen to test positive.

This is something that many hospital workers have been ringing the alarm bells on since the start of the pandemic, but the idea was often dismissed as misinformation or a conspiracy theory.

Fortunately, the provincial government is now asking for hospitals to separate this information to provide a more accurate picture of the pandemic, which should have been done from the start – better late than never I suppose.

Dr. Moore says he has more confidence in ICU admissions, since hospitals are only supposed to report admissions from COVID-19 or a related critical illness, but stressed that he's still asking hospitals to review their ICU numbers. This is to make sure they aren't tracking people who are in the ICU for a car accident or other issue that happen to also test positive for the virus.

Right now, the ICUs are in a great spot in Ontario, with just 266 or about 25 per cent of how many people were in ICUs during

the last wave's peak.

It's in stark comparison to recent modelling done by Ontario's COVID-19 Science Advisory Table, which showed that ICUs could be at 75 per cent of their former peak by Dec. 31.

When looking at Ontario's schools, just three days before announcing they're closing for a minimum of two weeks, Dr. Moore said with confidence they would reopen yesterday (Jan. 5) and stay open.

"It is critical to the positive mental health and academic success of our children," he said, while maintaining that schools should be last to close and first to open.

Dr. Moore noted that he and his colleagues across the province, pediatricians, experts at the Hospital for Sick Children, and the COVID-19 Science Advisory Committee, endorse schools being open.

He also welcomed a recent letter, signed by more than 500 doctors, asking the Ontario government to keep schools open. It cited the "significant harms" caused by prolonged school closures since March 2020.

The letter notes that numerous jurisdictions around the globe are keeping schools open, regardless of case counts, realizing the importance of in-school learning and the little harm COVID-19 poses to children. They also cite the fact that transmission in schools has mirrored what's been happening in the general population and secondary cases are small at about one per cent.

Some of the more significant harms outlined in the letter is disengagement by students, chronic attendance problems, and declines in academic achievement/credit attainment. Admissions to hospitals among youth for eating disorders have increased 55 per cent and psychiatric illness increased by 30 per cent, while urgent mental health visits are up by 20 per cent over the pandemic. Newly diagnosed eating disorders in youth has also almost doubled from 24.5 to 40.6 each month, with hospitalizations nearly tripled from 7.5 to 20 a month. On top of this, school closures worsened food security, resulted in more screen time, and less physical activity for kids.

But all of this information, which the provincial government is fully aware of, didn't stop it from doing a full 180° since Dr. Moore's press conference last Thursday, announcing school closures as well as a new lockdown at the start of the week.

What changed between last Thursday and this Monday?

Next time, let's hope Ford takes more than 30 seconds to make such important decisions that directly impact the livelihood and wellbeing of Ontarians.

These things require significant scrutiny, analysis, and review.

None of which Doug Ford or his government appear to be very good at.

It's a new year

Yes, it's a new year. Although there's no logical reason why the new year starts in January.

It's just an arbitrary date on the calendar. We're just at the same point in the planet's journey that we were last year at the same time.

Ancient calendar makers could have picked any month to start the new year and the result would have been exactly the same. It would have been nice if they chosen August 1, so you could celebrate outdoors without having to dress for sub-zero temperatures.

For some reason, the changing of the year makes people decide to resolve some issues in their own life – call resolutions.

Most of the goals people set for themselves are attainable. However, most of those goals are never achieved.

Just ask the people who run fitness centre – they make their bank on people who sign up for the gym, have a rousing two sessions of a high intensity work-out, then put the next

one off for a day, then two days, then a week. Before you know it, it's been six months since you've been on a treadmill, but the gym still has your money.

There is a list of the top ten most common New Year's resolutions. Whether it is completely accurate is debatable but it sounds pretty close to the usual resolutions you hear people make.

On top of the list is 'get more exercise.' Well, see the above and maybe save yourself a few bucks by working out at home to start and see how that goes.

Number two on the list is 'lose weight.' How often do you actually know of someone that has had a noticeable and healthy weight loss? Probably not often, although it does happen.

The third top resolution is 'get organized.' I'm not really sure what that is supposed to mean.

In what way are you supposed to organize? Is you life that much of a mess already? Or does it mean, organize your sock and under-

wear drawer or do your grocery shopping every Thursday at 2:43 p.m.?

Learning a new skill or hobby is on the list. This one I can understand. If your evenings revolve around turning on the television or watching Netflix, it's probably time to come up with a better way to spend your time.

"Live life to the fullest," comes in at number five. That sounds like a fun one, but it's actually pretty difficult for most people. After you spend the day at work, you rush home to make dinner for the kids, then clean up and get ready for the next day.

Living life to the fullest means, Monday night tap dancing lessons, Tuesday night at the Open Mic night playing your kazoo, Wednesday nights at your favourite pub, Thursday nights at origami class, and what ever fun activities you have.

That all sounds like living life to the fullest, but it can be a little unrealistic for most people. Number six on the list is to spend less money and save more. Good luck with that. With the current rate of inflation, we'll all be lucky to break even this year.

Putting out your smoke and giving up the habit is also on the list. Yes, this is doable, but can be very difficult. For men, I believe the motivating factor can be a certain woman of your dreams who tells you she just can't be with a person who smokes. That might make you butt out.

Spending more time with family and friends is on the list. Shouldn't you already be doing that? Who else are you going to socialize with?

Going on vacation and travelling always makes the list. In current times however, this is one you might want to save until next year. Going on a cruise sounds like fun, but do you really want to get on board a giant enclosed place with several thousand gemy strangers and risk a nightmare floating vacation when a new virus is brought on board?

At the bottom of the list is "read more." This must have been placed there by the request of the Followers and Supporters of the Dewey Decimal System Society.

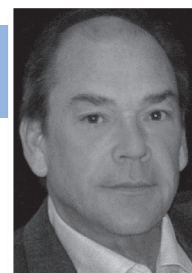
If you're not an avid reader now, you won't be curling up with a good book in front of the fireplace any time soon.

It's interesting to note that 'quit drinking' or 'drink less' did not make the top ten. Judging from the amount of business beer and liquor stores do on any single day, I don't think too many people want to give up their suds or corn liquor.

If you do have some resolutions in mind, congratulations on at least making some goals for the year ahead.

The challenge is to stick with them and carry them through – good luck!

BRIAN LOCKHART
FROM THE SECOND ROW



wear drawer or do your grocery shopping every Thursday at 2:43 p.m.?

Learning a new skill or hobby is on the list. This one I can understand. If your evenings revolve around turning on the television or watching Netflix, it's probably time to come up with a better way to spend your time.

"Live life to the fullest," comes in at number five. That sounds like a fun one, but it's actually pretty difficult for most people. After you spend the day at work, you rush home to make dinner for the kids, then clean up and get ready for the next day.

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2021 THE YEAR IN REVIEW

"I wish this step was not required," said Dr. Nicola Mercer, medical officer of health and CEO of WDG Public Health. "I know the tremendous burden this places on families in our region".

Local feed mill demolition picked up by History Channel: For more than a century the feed mill stood as a part of Shelburne's history, and its demolition will soon be taking the Town to the small screen.

History Channel's Salvage Kings, stars the crew from Priestly Demolition documenting their demolitions and modern-day treasure hunting, and is set to feature the demolition of the old Sawyer's Feed Mill in an upcoming episode of its second season.

With its large silos and conveyor belts, the Sawyer's Feed Mill stood out amongst the growing residential landscape. It also stood as a historic icon of the farming community in Shelburne and the surrounding area.

According to documents from the Museum of Dufferin, the mill was first established in 1900 by Henry White, Edward Berwick and Robert Rickey. Originally called H. White and Company, the mill worked with flour, feed, seed, and grain and later became a limited company in 1911.

While Henry White died in 1935, the company continued on until 1957, when it was taken over by William Henry "Harry" Sawyer - marking of official opening of Sawyer's Feed Mill. Sawyer's Feed Mill would go on to become a three-generation family owned business, spanning over 50 years.

In 2016 the mill was sold and renamed Sharpe's Farm Supplies. The Museum of Dufferin currently has a wagon from the mill which was used between the 1940s-1970s in their collection, and the sign for the Sawyer's Feed Mill was also salvaged prior to demolition. Sawyer's Feed Mill was officially demolished on March 16, 2020.

First mosque opens in Shelburne: When Shelburne resident Imam Yehya Soliman founded Muslims of Dufferin, he was looking to create a place for local Muslims to gather and pray - now he is doing the same opening Shelburne's first mosque.

Located just outside the Town's border along Hwy. 89, Muslims of Shelburne Centre opened their doors to the community at the beginning of April under the leadership of Imam Soliman.

The Muslims of Shelburne Centre holds five prayers per day, and is open 24/7 for daily prayers. More information about the mosque can be found on the Muslims of Shelburne Centre website. "We are very proud, and happy to be the first mosque to open in Shelburne," said Imam Soliman.

Shelburne's first retail cannabis shop opens Friday: The first retail cannabis store in the Town of Shelburne is set to open its doors this Friday (April 30).

Jamie Bates and John Pavaovic, are co-owners of Cannabis Stop Inc., located at 171 Main Street in Shelburne's downtown core. The duo have been working for over a year to bring the first retail cannabis shop to the community.

Being the first cannabis retail store in Shelburne, the duo say they are looking to create an experience that steps away from the negative stigma typically associated with cannabis, providing more than product but also knowledge as well.

Cannabis Stop Inc. will officially open on Friday (April 30). For more information visit www.cannabistopinc.com.

May

Shelburne introducing weekend transit pilot project: The Town of Shelburne is launching a transit pilot project, which will see service expanded to include weekend runs of buses. The launch date of the transit project is tentatively scheduled to begin on June 19. The weekend transit pilot project was originally planned to begin in early to mid-May, but has been delayed a number of times due to COVID-19 provincial orders.

Four fire departments called to large structure fire: Four local fire departments responded to a large fire at an abandoned house at the intersection of Hwy. 89 and Hwy. 10 on Wednesday (May 12) afternoon.

Fire departments from Shelburne, Orangeville, Rosemount, and Melancthon/Mul-

mur responded to the call shortly before 1 p.m., where flames and smoke could be seen coming out of the upper levels of the structure.

"From the time we responded it was fully involved," said Shelburne Fire Chief Ralph Snyder. "We did a defensive attack, we've not been inside, it's not safe for our firefighters to enter."

The burnt brick walls and chimney were all that remained of the abandoned house as crews waited for an excavator to arrive; demolishing the remaining structure. Fire officials have not yet deemed whether the fire was suspicious.

Shelburne Farmers' Market planning return for mid-June: A small team of local volunteers have banded together in the hopes of bringing back the Shelburne Farmers' Market, more than a year after being cancelled.

Alexandra Georgie, is one of the four volunteers working on revitalizing the local farmer's market and says they wanted to bring the market back as a way to create a sense of connectedness to the community.

"We're surrounded by farms and agriculture, it's such a huge part of Shelburne's culture that we need to embrace. Shelburne has always been a great community for having events and COVID-19 hasn't given the Town the opportunity to showcase and create that sense of belonging to a community," said Georgie. "There's opportunity to bring that back into our Town and to showcase the local farms and local small business."

The Shelburne Farmers' Market group officially announced their plans to revitalize the annual local market on May 10, with the hopes of launching by mid-June. The plan is to hold the Shelburne Farmers' Market every three weeks on a Thursday, rather than on a weekly basis and it will be located on First Ave. W, in Shelburne.

Ontario government unveils new reopening plan: Out with the old, and in with the new. The Ontario government announced last Thursday (May 20) the details of a new three step plan, dubbed the Roadmap to Reopen, which will gradually reopen the province based on vaccination rates.

"The speed at which we get through this reopening will come down to one thing, how quickly we get people vaccinated," said Premier Doug Ford, during a press conference at Queen's Park.

Step one will begin after 60 per cent of Ontario adults have received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine. Step Two of the new reopening plan will see expansion on outdoor activities, and the resuming of outdoor sports and leagues. Outdoor gatherings of up to 25 people, indoor gatherings up to five people and non-essential retail at 25 per cent capacity will be allowed. Public libraries and personal care service will also open with capacity limits and face coverings. Weddings, funerals, religious services, rites and ceremonies will be permitted to have 15 per cent capacity indoors and outdoors permitted with capacity limited.

To enter Step Two, 70 per cent of adult will need to have one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine and 20 per cent of adults vaccinated with their second doses.

Continued on Page 6

SHELBURNE CHURCH DIRECTORY

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JUST NORTH
OF 25TH
SIDEROAD,
WEST SIDE
We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called Opportunity and its first chapter is New Year's Day. - Edith Lovejoy Pierce
So then, as we have Opportunity, let us do good to everyone. - Galatians 6:10
Please visit us at: www.shelburnechristadelphians.ca

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www.bethelshelburne.com - All Welcome!!

X CROSSWORD

PUZZLE 411

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4. Animal's home
5. Mackerel
6. Court excuse
7. Retribution
8. Buck or doe
9. Wicker material
10. Untethered
11. "We ___ a Little Christmas"
12. Clerical garment
13. Lassie
14. Poetic work
22. Notation
24. Streamlined
28. Trounce
30. Provoke
31. Flower part
32. Indian pole emblem
34. Foreground
36. Volatile solvent
39. Grain-storage tower
40. Bosc or Bartlett
42. Dress part
43. Beginning
45. Land surrounded by water
46. Numerical ending
47. Settee
48. Woman's title
50. Despots
55. Licorice flavoring
58. Silly talk
60. Channel
61. Deviate
62. Profession
64. Catlike
65. Eloquent speaker
69. Not widespread
70. Light bender
72. Fix text
74. Pager sound
75. Asian nanny
77. Grill
78. Maui strings
79. Serious offense
81. Enjoin

ACROSS

1. Remove
5. Hospital area
9. Scurried
12. Formerly
15. Whitewall, e.g.
16. Protected, at sea
17. Fruit cooler
18. Young chap
19. Draw wages
20. Busy spot
21. Shake
23. 7th Greek letter
24. Astute
25. Motion of the ocean
26. Fixed habit
27. Tender meat cut
28. Clod
29. Very fine rain
33. Diamond decision
35. Extremely thin

DOWN

37. Aboard
38. Aretha Franklin wanted it
41. Siamese or tabby
42. Track broker
44. Correct
47. Dollar division
48. Day's beginning
49. Milk sugar
51. Scoop
52. Entrance
53. Ricelike pasta
54. Yeast, e.g.
56. Unearth
57. Insect's feeler
59. Burning substance
61. Threaded fastener
63. Data
66. Bill of fare
67. Lived
68. Matterhorn's range

DOWN

71. Before of yore
73. Ten-four buddy
75. Cherish
76. On the ___
77. Forbidding
80. 1601, to Caesar
81. Sink one's teeth into
82. Glide over snow
83. "___ of Destruction"
84. Word of regret
85. Promptly
86. Scope of knowledge
87. Apiece
88. Sulu's station
89. Geek
1. Oversee
2. Break
3. Boo-boo list

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2021 THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Step Three of the plan will permit indoor services with larger numbers of people with restrictions in place including gyms, cinemas, performing arts facilities, indoor dining, casinos and museums. Weddings, funerals, religious services, rites and ceremonies will be permitted to have larger indoor services and outdoor services with capacity limited.

The province will remain in each step of the reopening plan for at least 21 days to evaluate any impacts on the relaxed restrictions.

June

• **Pride month being celebrated in Dufferin County:** The month of June, in many ways, is of great significance when looking at the battles LGBTQ people fought to be treated equally and accepted in society.

June is Pride month, which started out as a protest, but now, in Dufferin County and other communities across Canada, it is seen as a celebration of LGBTQ people and diversity.

Celebrate Your Awesome, a local Pride and diversity group, has been hosting celebrations locally since 2018, with a shift to virtual events last year and this year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In 2020 a live virtual show was hosted by a drag performer with a DJ spinning tracks for entertainment. Members of the community also submitted videos for the show, which were featured.

This year, Celebrate Your Awesome is taking a similar route to keep everybody safe

from the COVID-19 pandemic. The virtual show is set to release in early August

• **Flags lowered at Shelburne Town Hall to honour indigenous children:** The Town of Shelburne has lowered the Canadian flag at Town Hall to half mast, in recognition of the 215 Indigenous children found buried beneath a former residential school in B.C.

Shelburne Mayor Wade Mills addressed the lowering of the flags during the regular town council meeting on Monday (May 31).

"To honour the lives and spirits of those 215 children, and others who we may not know about, we have lowered our flags at Town Hall to half-mast. On behalf of Council and the residents of the Town of Shelburne, I want to extend our deepest collective condolences to all of those who are directly or indirectly affected by this," said Mills. "I also want to make it clear to members of our indigenous community both locally and nationally, that the Town of Shelburne grieves with you and we stand with you."

Last Thursday (May 27), preliminary findings from a ground survey at the former Kamloops Indian Residential School uncovered the remains of 215 children. Some of the remains belonged to children as young as three.

The Kamloops Indian Residential School operated from 1890 to 1969, and was run as a day school for nine more years before being closed in 1978.

Built on the territory of the Tk'emlúps to Secwépemc First Nation, Kamloops Indian

Residential School was at one point the largest residential school in Canada with up to 500 students registered and attending.

• **Eight-year-old boy from Mulmur sets goal of hiking entire Bruce Trail:** Henry Little doesn't come from a family of avid hikers, but the local eight-year-old is setting out on a goal to hike the entirety of the Bruce Trail. Henry, who goes by Henry the Hiker on social media, began going on walks or as he calls them "forest adventures" with his mom, Carola Little, last September.

With the Bruce Trail crossing behind their family home in Mulmur, the walks started out as a way of getting out of the house while homeschooling during the pandemic.

Now, Henry is looking to complete the entire Bruce Trail, which spans 900 kilometers end-to-end from the Niagara River to the tip of Tobermory.

Since starting their hiking journey last year, Henry and Carola have already completed 143 kilometers in the Dufferin Hi-land, Beaver Valley, and Caledon Hills sections of the Bruce Trail.

Going out for hikes around three times a week, Carol said they hope to reach 250 by mid-July and 500 kilometers by the end of the year.

• **Local mosque holds vigil following London attack:** We Stand With Our London Family. More than a dozen community members gathered outside the Muslims of Shelburne Centre last Thursday (June 10), in a vigil and prayer for the members of a Muslim family targeted in an attack in London, Ont. Salman Afzaal, 46, his wife Madiha Salman, 44, their daughter Yumna Afzaal, 15, and Salman's mother, Talat Afzaal, 74, were killed on June 6 after a truck rammed into the family as they were taking an evening walk.

The family's nine-year-old son, Fayez, is the only survivor and remains in hospital. Nathaniel Veltman, 20, has been charged with four counts of first-degree murder, one count of attempted murder, and terrorism charges.

• **Province declares WDG as area of concern for Delta variant:** The region of Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph (WDG), has been declared a hotspot in the province for the Delta (B.1.617) variant by the Province of Ontario.

Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph (WDG) Public Health announced in a press release on June 10 that the province would be expanding the local vaccine supply to communities with higher rate of Delta variant transmission.

July

• **Drive-in concert in Mulmur sees huge support:** Hundreds of fans were in attendance for the inaugural Music in the Hills Concert at the Mansfield Ski Club in Mulmur on Friday (June 25).

The drive-in concert, which sold out in five days, was started by the Suicide Awareness Council of Wellington-Dufferin in partnership with Go With Crowe Real Estate.

The event helped raise more than \$11,000 for suicide prevention and awareness initiatives within the community.

This year's lineup included Juno-award winning musician Jim Cuddy and his band The Jim Cuddy Trio as well as musician Woody Woodburn and local singer-songwriter Sohayla Smith.

• **Shelburne to reduce default speed limit to 40 km/hr:** Traffic in Shelburne will soon be moving a little bit slower.

Town council, during their meeting on June 28, directed staff to take the immediate steps in reducing the Town's default speed

limit from 50 km/hr to 40 km/hr.

The decision to lower the speed limit comes after a motion, brought forward by Coun. Wegener, to implement speed humps along Greenwood Street as a way to mitigate speeding on the residential road, was defeated 6-1.

• **WDG approaching 80 per cent of adults with first dose of vaccine:** Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph (WDG) Public Health has nearly reached 80 per cent of the adult population with a first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine – now officials say they're focused on those who are still on the fence. In Dufferin County, 73.3 per cent of the eligible population is partially vaccinated.

• **Weekend service now offered for Dundalk, Shelburne, Orangeville route:** 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 realigning of \$25,000 included in the 2021 budget for two bus shelters.

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

• **Former dentist sentenced for sex crimes:** A former Shelburne dentist found guilty in sexually assaulting a minor at his dental office, has been sentenced to 90 days jail time.

Muthanna Gewarges, a dentist who practiced at the former Small Town Family Dental on Main Street in Shelburne, was sentenced last Friday (July 16) after being found guilty of one count of sexual exploitation by sexual touching and one count of sexual assault.

Gerwarges will serve his 90 day sentence intermittently on weekends and will face two years of probation. He is also required to submit a DNA sample and must comply with the sexual offender registration program for 10 years.

August:

• **Volunteer firefighter recognized with federal award:** A Shelburne resident recently received a special award from the region's member of parliament for his selfless acts of kindness and generosity during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Randy Narine, who operates Choices Youth Shelter in Orangeville and is a volunteer firefighter for the Shelburne Fire Department, received the COVID-19 Local Community Hero Award from Dufferin-Caledon MP Kyle Seeback. A large part of why he received the award is for the programs he runs for at-risk or less fortunate youth and a program he started during the pandemic, which was self-funded, that provides financial assistance to families impacted by job losses due to COVID-19.

• **Province of Ontario releases back-to-school plan:** Ontario students returning to in-person learning this school year will see themselves in an environment close to that of pre-pandemic, as the Ontario government unveils the back-to-school plan.

Secondary and elementary school students will return to the classroom five days a week, with 300 minutes of instruction come the fall.

Continued on Page 7



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Webinar ID: 885 1380 8450

NDACT needs your VOTE to determine community support for our proposal to Strada on its planned application to quarry below the water table in Melancthon.

Votes will be taken during the virtual meeting by ZOOM poll. A survey monkey will be available on the NDACT website after the meeting www.ndact.com

**DON'T MISS THIS IMPORTANT
VIRTUAL MEETING.**

CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION

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

Christmas trees in the Town of Orangeville will be collected during the week of **January 10th.**

Christmas trees in the urban areas of Grand Valley, Shelburne & the rural subdivisions will be collected during the week of **January 17th.**

Residents in **rural areas** must call 1.888.941.3345 ext. 1 a week in advance to be put on the list for collection the week of **January 17th.**

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



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

2021 THE YEAR IN REVIEW

But, the document also warns the school boards to be prepared with plans to move quickly to remote learning. Students enrolled in elementary schools (Kindergarten through to Grade 8) will be cohorted for the full day and will remain with one teacher, where possible. Exceptions to these cohorts include specialized education staff and teachers such as French teachers and support staff, who are permitted to go into classrooms and multiple schools.

With the back-to school plan, a number of programs and activities that have been halted during the pandemic will be allowed to resume.

• Olympic gold medalist receives honours at Council: The Town of Shelburne has found itself the new home of an Olympic gold medalist, and council members gave them a warm welcome to the community.

During their meeting on Monday (Aug. 23) Shelburne Town Council presented Kadeisha Buchanan, who helped the Canadian women's soccer team win gold on Aug. 6 at the Tokyo Olympics, with a key to the town and Shelburne's Community Excellence Award.

Mayor Wade Mills proclaimed Aug. 24, Kadeisha Buchanan Day in the Town of Shelburne, while the Dufferin County Canadian Black Association also awarded her their Black Excellence Award.

The accolades were in recognition of her outstanding athletic achievements.

September

• Community celebrates retirement of local entrepreneur: Well-known local entrepreneur Bob McBride, owner of Shelburne Memorials, has officially retired after almost 30 years of work in the community.

Co-workers, community members, friends, and family gathered at the local business, located at 709 Industrial Rd, last Friday (Aug. 27) to honour McBride's retirement after 54 years as an entrepreneur in the community.

McBride, who is a third generation Shelburne resident, worked for Canada Packers from 1964 until 1966 before starting his career as a self-employed entrepreneur with his company McBride Produce (1966-1979).

McBride went on to open Dufferin Potato Storage and Hi-Land Potatoes in 1979, which he would own for the next 10 years until selling the company to Downey Farms. It was in 1991 when he officially took purchase of Shelburne Memorials, the town's second oldest running business dating back to 1888.

With no previous training or knowledge into the making of cemetery monuments, McBride learned the trade on the job.

• Ontario rolls out vaccine passport for certain 'non-essential' businesses: The Ontario government will soon require people to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination status to access certain businesses and settings.

The province announced last Wednesday (Sept. 1) that as of Sept. 22 Ontarians will need to show proof of full vaccination (two

doses plus 14 days), and photo identification to access a number of non-essential businesses and restaurants.

• Council votes in favour of COVID-19 vaccination policy: The Town of Shelburne is in the process of developing a mandatory vaccination policy for all municipal staff members and elected officials, after a 6-1 majority vote from council.

During Shelburne Town council's meeting on Monday (Sept. 13), Deputy Mayor Steve Anderson brought forward a motion to have staff come back with a draft report on a vaccination policy by November that is in line with the County of Dufferin's policy.

"As leaders I think it's important that we do just that. Demonstrate leadership in a time where leadership is required," said Anderson. "This might not be popular in the eyes of some, but at the end of the day it's not a popularity contest as far as I'm concerned – it's about saving lives."

The draft report being brought back to council will include two policies; one focused on municipal staff and another for elected officials, as they are not considered municipal employees.

• Council to borrow \$5 million for new water tower: Shelburne Town Council has approved a plan to borrow \$5 million to complete construction of a new water storage tower.

During their meeting on Monday (Sept. 27), Shelburne Town Council received a report from municipal engineer Stephen Burnett and town treasurer Carey Holmes on the new water tower project.

Council unanimously voted in favour of applying for a loan from Infrastructure Ontario over a 20-year term.

The total cost of the project is slated for \$7,184,254.98, which includes the water tower base construction at \$5,983,050, a 10 per cent construction contingency of \$598,305, an eight per cent engineering cost of \$478,644, plus a 1.76 per cent non-refundable HST cost of \$124,555.98.

In June, a request for proposal was issued by the Town, receiving only one bid at \$6.7 million. The \$6.7 million bid, which was later negotiated down to just shy of \$6 million, is significantly higher than the original budget of \$3.5 million.

• Provincial government begins to loosen capacity restrictions in select settings: The Ontario government has loosened capacity limits on select indoor and outdoor settings where proof of vaccination is required.

As of Sept. 25, arenas, cinemas, banquet halls, and other meeting and event spaces were allowed to increase their capacity limits. Dr. Kieran Moore, chief medical officer of health, said in a press release last Friday that the changes to the capacity limits is due to key public health and health care indicators stabilizing.

For outdoor setting where people are standing, the capacity limits have increased to up to 75 per cent or 15,000 (whichever is less). Outdoors events where people are seated have increased to up to 75 per cent capacity or 30,000, whichever is less. Indoor venues such as cinemas, theatres, sporting events, concerts, and conference centres have capacity limits of up to 50 per cent or 10,000 people, whichever is less.

October:

• Community gathers for Orange Shirt Day Walk: Shelburne residents' clad in orange t-shirts gathered on Saturday (Oct. 2) to take part in a local Orange Shirt Day Walk in honour of residential school survivors, and missing Indigenous children.

The remembrance walk started at Greenwood Park and lead towards Jack Downing Park, where the Every Child Matters flag was raised in recognition of the first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

Deweigenkwewuk, a drumming circle of Indigenous women ages 5 to 60, began the walk with traditional drumming and sharing community songs.

"Each of us, regardless of position or standing, regardless of background or heritage or blood – each of us has a vital role, an inescapable role in our national efforts toward reconciliation."

"Canadians of all backgrounds and origins need to stand shoulder to shoulder committed to walking the path of reconciliation together. This is the journey, to which we must all commit; a journey that may be long, one that may not always be straight or easy. One that will almost certainly include, still yet unforeseen challenges and pitfalls, but a journey nonetheless."

less, which must be undertaken and a journey which can only be finished together."

• Town celebrates opening of Community Garden: While seeds took root and fresh produce grew all summer, the Town of Shelburne was officially able to celebrate the opening of the Shelburne Community Garden last week.

Town leaders, staff, and donors gathered at Fiddle Park in Shelburne last Thursday (Sept. 30) to mark the opening of the local community garden with a ceremonial ribbon cutting.

"For staff this is definitely a remarkable achievement. We started with the design idea and to see all the garden full of life is amazing," said Carol Maitland, Shelburne's economic development and marketing coordinator. "We've had a lot of positive feedback from the community with not only the fact that the garden has been incredibly successful, with every garden bed being used, but also it being a place for people to just relax and visit."

The Shelburne Community Garden has been in the works for around two years, with construction breaking ground in September of 2020 and completing in April.

First, developed as a way to address food insecurity in the community following the release of a study commissioned by Dufferin County and Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health, the garden has also become a safe and healthy space for community members to socialize.

• Deputy Mayor pens autobiography: Shelburne Deputy Mayor Steve Anderson has added the title of author to his list of accomplishments after penning a self-published autobiography, Driven to Succeed.

Continued on Page 11

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Town of Shelburne

Notice of Public Budget Meeting

Monday January 10, 2022 – 6:30 pm

Electronic Participation

Residents are invited to join Shelburne Town Council for a presentation of the draft 2022 Operating and Capital Budgets.

Council will entertain questions and provide the opportunity for public input during the meeting.

Further to the COVID-19 Pandemic and current public health restrictions, we are offering the opportunity to participate electronically through Zoom video conferencing. In person attendance will not be accommodated.

Please contact the Clerk at jwilloughby@shelburne.ca to register in advance of and in order to have access to the public meeting no later than **10 am Monday January 10, 2022**.

To ensure your questions will be addressed during the meeting, it is recommended that you submit questions in advance via:

1. Email to jwilloughby@shelburne.ca;
2. Fax 519-925-6134;
3. Regular mail – 203 Main Street East Shelburne ON L9V 3K7;
4. Or at the Town Hall by the deadline date noted above (**10 am Monday January 10, 2022**).

Access to the meeting is by invite only, once your request to participate has been confirmed by the Clerk, the meeting details will be provided to you confidentially.

If you would like to view the proceedings, you will have the opportunity to view a live stream of the meeting on the Town of Shelburne's YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsar-MwF8CXrgPbe2EVxh-w>.

Jennifer Willoughby
Director of Legislative Services/Clerk
(519) 925- 2600 Ext. 223
jwilloughby@shelburne.ca

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SHELBURNE SPORTS

Minor hockey player tips: Stay engaged while on the bench

Written By Brian Lockhart

While there are only five skaters and one goalie on the ice at a time during a hockey game, everyone takes a turn in contributing to a team's success.

The Ontario Minor Hockey Association is offering some advice to minor hockey players on how to stay engaged and support your team when it's not your turn on the ice.

Always be ready: When it's your turn to hit the ice, make sure you are prepared. Stay focused on the flow of the game and be ready for instructions from your coach. You should know what you are supposed to be doing before you hop over the boards and hit the ice.

Encourage your teammates: While your teammates are on the ice you should be encouraging them from the bench. A fist bump or a pat on the back after a hard-working shift are easy gestures to show your teammates that you appreciate their effort.

Keep your ears open: Pay attention to what your coaches are saying. They could be

sharing important messages about strategy, line changes, or what's happening on the ice. Communicate with your coaches if you pick up on a trend from the opposing team.

Study the flow of the game: When you're on the bench you should still be paying attention to what's happening on the ice. Watching the game from outside of the action can be a great learning tool and you can see the other team's tendencies that you may not have otherwise noticed.

Speak up and be an effective communicator: Talk to your linemates after your shift and go over what went well and what you can improve on together. Keep the talking on game-related topics and save non-game chatter for the locker room.

Keep the bench organized: Put water bottles back in their proper place. Don't leave a mess on the bench. Be aware of your surroundings and remember there are coaches behind you.

By remembering these tips, you will stay engaged with your team and game on the ice and you will contribute to your team's success.



FILE PHOTO

BEING EFFECTIVE ON THE BENCH: There's lots of different things minor hockey players can do while on the bench to help their team win the game. Being ready to hit the ice, encouraging teammates, keeping an ear to the ground, and keeping the bench organized are a few things players can do to help their team achieve success.

Standings remain the same after game postponements in PJHL

Written By Brian Lockhart

Junior C hockey got off to a slow start for the new year when several games were postponed across the province due to inclement weather.

The postponements included all games in the Carruthers Division of the Provincial Junior Hockey League so the standings for the division will stay the same until games resume later in the week.

The Stayner Siskins still lead the pack in the Carruthers Division with a 16-3 record and 32 points.

The Siskins have played a solid season and have dominated on the ice in most of their games this year.

In second place, the Alliston Hornets also have 32 points, however they have played 23 games compared to the 19 times the Siskins have been on the ice.

The Hornets have a 15-7-1 record including one overtime loss.

The Alliston team had a slow start to the season taking several losses, but have turned it around and are now on a winning streak and looking strong.

Stayner and Alliston will meet for an important game today (Jan. 6).

The Schomberg Cougars are in third place in the division with 31 points. The Cougars are having a good season with a 15-5-1 record

so far placing them a single point behind Alliston and Stayner.

In fourth place, the Orillia Terriers are also looking good. They have 29 points and a 14-6 record including one overtime loss.

The top four teams in the division should produce an interesting and exciting playoff situation this year.

In the middle of the pack, the Penetang Kings have 20 points and a 9-2 record including two overtime losses.

The Caledon Golden Hawks are in the number six spot with 13 points.

The Midland Flyers are struggling this season. They have a 4-17 record and are in seventh place.

In the basement, the Huntsville Otters have won only two games after 21 times on the ice.

The Division should be back on a regular schedule this week if weather conditions improve.

Across the division, Schomberg Cougars forward, Marc Bottero is leading in player points.

Botter has 37 points so far with 21 goals and 16 assists on his record.

Penetang Kings forward, Kyler Watson, is close behind with 36 points including 18 goals and 18 assists for the year.

Cole Turcotte, forward for the Alliston Hornets has 35 points including 20 goals and 15 assists recorded.



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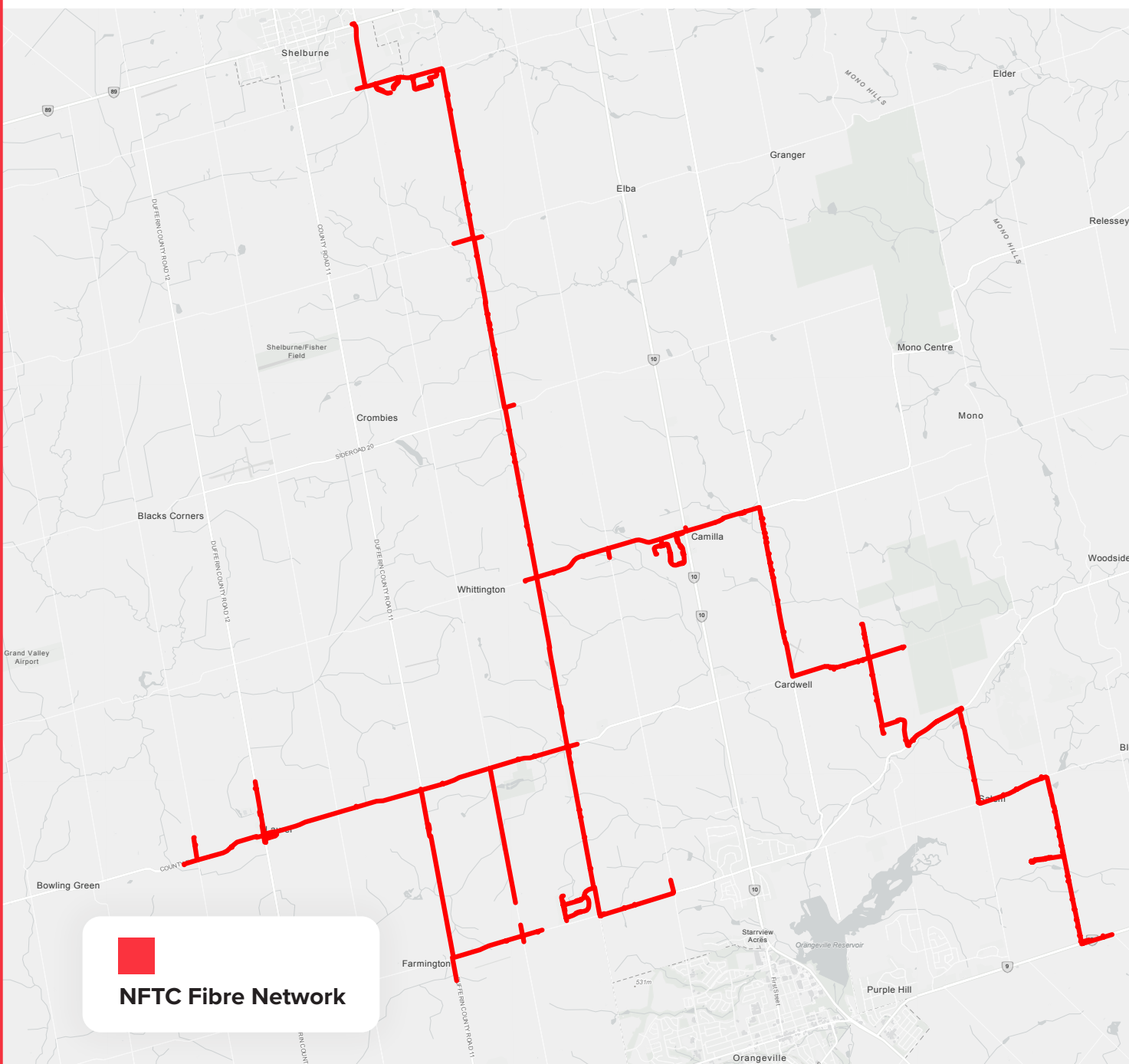
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OBITUARIES

BRYAN DAVID THWAITES (1985-2021)

On December 22, 2021 Bryan David Thwaites, formerly of Orangeville, died suddenly.



Bryan leaves behind his father David Thwaites, his mother Wendy Balicki and his brother, Matt, together with many extended family including his grandmother Carol Koeslag. He was predeceased by his brother Michael (2008) and his grandparents George Thwaites, Peter Koeslag and Graham and Marie Willan.

Donations in memory of Bryan may be made to Inn from the Cold, Newmarket or the Blue Door Shelter, Newmarket.

Psalm 23:1 "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want."

Revelation 21: 4 "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes, there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying and there shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."

Online condolences may be made at www.imfunerals.com

In Memoriam Funeral Services Inc. has been given the honour to serve the Thwaites Family.

BELL, ALVIN ROY November 6, 1933 - December 30, 2021

Alvin Roy Bell entered into rest peacefully on December 30, 2021 at Headwaters Health Care Centre, Orangeville at the age of 88. Predeceased by his dear wife of 64 years Loreen Effie (nee Young). Deeply missed dad of Allan (Glenna) Bell of Brampton and Sylvia (Steve) Perry of Owen Sound. Proud and treasured grandpa of Jason Shirley, Lisa Shirley, Louise (Stuart) Quigley, Catherine (Joey) Becki and Patrick (Michelle) Bell and the late Steven Perry Jr. Much loved great-grandpa of Alexander, Lucas, Brayden, Keira, Josip and Izabela. Treasured uncle of Connie, Faye, Graham, Larry, Melanie, Karen, Dennis, Murray, Margie, Eric, Sandy, Susan, the late Ross, the late Cheryl, the late Helen and their families. Predeceased by his parents Roy and Laura Bell, sisters Marjorie and Eualie and brother Glenn.



Alvin will be forever remembered by his favourite slogan, "I'm just the country boy".

Due to Covid restrictions, a private visitation and funeral service were held in the Jack & Thompson Funeral Home chapel. Interment followed at Shelburne Cemetery. If desired, donations to Primrose United Church or the Shelburne Legion would be appreciated.

Online condolences may be placed at www.jackandthompsonfuneralhome.com

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2021 THE YEAR IN REVIEW

More than a year in a half in the works, Anderson celebrated the official launch of his debut book on Tuesday (Oct. 12), and said he hopes it will serve as a source of inspiration for readers facing difficult obstacles and setbacks.

• OPP charge Shelburne man with first-degree murder: Provincial police have charged a 32-year-old Shelburne man with murder in connection to a death in Northern Bruce Peninsula. Police say Wazhir Gafoor was arrested and charged with first degree murder on Oct. 11.

Officers from the Grey Bruce OPP responded to a death near Scugog Lane of the Northern Bruce Peninsula at about 3 p.m. on Oct. 10, where the body of a deceased female was located in a wooded area.

Police say the identity of the deceased is under investigation.

• OPP identify body connected to Shelburne man's murder charge: Provincial police have identified the body of a deceased woman found in Northern Bruce Peninsula over the Thanksgiving long weekend.

Grey Bruce OPP, in a press release on Oct. 14 confirmed the individual to be 36-year old Christina Yadram of Toronto. On Oct. 11, officers arrested and charged 32-year-old Wazhir Gafoor of Shelburne with first degree murder in connection with her death.

Gafoor was remanded in custody and is scheduled to make an appearance before the Ontario Court of Justice in Owen Sound this Friday (Oct. 22).

Officers from the Grey Bruce OPP detachment responded to a death at around 3 p.m. on Oct. 10 near Scugog Lane, where the body of a woman was located in a wooded area.

• Haunt in the Park returning to Shelburne this weekend: For almost three decades, the Little family has brought Halloween spirit to the Shelburne community with their haunted house, and now they're back stronger than ever.

After cancelling the annual Haunt in the Park last year due to COVID-19 restrictions, the attraction has returned to Fiddle Park for three nights of scares and screams.

"We're really happy to be back. What may have started out as a small family haunt has grown to something the community looks forward to year-round and has become a part of the tapestry of Shelburne. We are incredibly proud and honoured to be the ones that have brought it to this point," said Carola Little.

Making the events return to the community after a year of cancellations, Little said Haunt in the Park feels bigger than ever before, with new layouts, ideas, character, and all around community support.

November

• Local teacher writes children's book about her physical disability: As a teacher with a physical disability, Dorrett Homer has become accustomed to answering an array of questions from her students.

Now, she's published her first children's book to help inspire and teach children about living life with a physical disability. Titled, 'Hi Ms. Homer' the children's book, which was published in May of this year, is based on snippets of Homer's experiences within the classroom with students. Homer was born with a

congenital birth defect resulting in her left arm being significantly shorter than her right arm, and also only has three fingers.

"Even though my arm is like this, I don't let it stop me. I live a regular normal life with three children and my husband of 28 years," said Homer.

'Hi Ms. Homer' takes the reader through the various questions students asked her over the years, including why she was born this way, can she write, can she hold a cup, and can she put her arm above her head.

"I just answered those questions for the students to let them know how much someone that is born with a disability still is able to function in society just like anyone else," said Homer. "I also tried to inspire them to know even if they have a disability that they are more than capable of setting goals and reaching dreams, and not to let it discourage them; having a physical disability doesn't hamper you from living a life."

In an effort to bring further representation into children's literature, Homer published her second book in July titled 'Compliments to My Mommy'.

Focused on a little girl who wants to give her mom a gift for Mother's Day, by writing messages on pieces of paper in a jar and having her pull them out, Homer said it has a 'Caribbean twist'.

• Shelburne BIA Santa Claus Parade making return: Santa Claus is coming to Shelburne. The Shelburne Business Improvement Area (BIA) has announced they will be hosting their annual Santa Claus Parade on Saturday Dec. 4 starting at 6 p.m.

"Everyone was looking forward to a parade happening, and a lot were wondering if it was going to," said Melissa Hooper, treasurer for the BIA. "It's nice to see community events come back, not just for the businesses or the downtown, but also for the residents who haven't been able to do too much over the last year."

The annual parade is returning after a year hiatus, due to health safety concerns and regulations related to the pandemic. Planning for the holiday parade, which typically takes place a month in advance, began earlier this month.

• County Warden stepping down: Melancthon Mayor Darren White, who has served as Dufferin County's Warden for three consecutive terms, is stepping back from the role, not seeking re-election next month.

White officially announced his decision to step away from the lead position with Dufferin County Council, during a council meeting last Thursday (Nov. 11).

"I've been the Warden for four out of the last five years, which is a long time. Unfortunately, during my term, we've had to deal with a pandemic, and some other really big challenging issues," White told the Free Press.

White was elected as the 144th Warden of Dufferin County in December of last year, and previously held the council position in 2017, 2019, and 2020.

He said he originally planned to step back after his 2020 term, but stayed on due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

• Michelle Hanson pleads guilty: Michelle Hanson, a mother who faced charges in relation to the 2018 death of her three-year-old son Kaden Young, has pleaded guilty to criminal negligence causing death.

Hanson appeared in Orangeville court virtually on Tuesday (Nov. 23), alongside her lawyer, Hal Mattson to enter her plea. Hanson was charged in relation to her son's death after her vehicle was pulled into the Grand River on the early morning hours of Feb. 21, 2018, during a period of heavy flooding which saw river water rise up onto the road.

Both Hanson and Kaden escaped the vehicle, but Kaden was pulled out of his mother's arms. His body was later recovered in Belwood Lake on April 21, two months to the day of the incident.

Following the reading of agreed statement of facts, Justice Gisele Miller accepted the guilty plea. Hanson was charged in October of 2018, and was ordered to stand trial on counts of impaired driving causing death and criminal negligence causing death following a preliminary inquiry in 2019.

Her trial, which was scheduled to begin in a Guelph courtroom in March of 2021, was delayed due to a hold on jury trials during the pandemic, and the request from her former lawyer, Marco Forte, to be removed as her counsel. Hanson's sentencing is scheduled for Jan. 18, 2022.

December

• Town reveals plaque honouring No. 2 Construction Battalion: 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 of 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.

• Headwaters confirms unauthorized access in suspicious email activity: 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.

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.

• Dufferin Community Foundation reaches \$1 million milestone: 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.

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.

• Province announces changes to proof-of-vaccination program: The provincial government has announced changes to the proof of vaccination requirements with COVID-19 Omicron variant cases expected to rise in the coming weeks. In a press release last Friday (Dec. 10), the government said they would be delaying the lifting of proof of vaccination requirement beyond Jan. 17.

• Council working to lower tax rate increase: Shelburne Council has continued discussions on the town's operating budget for 2022. On Monday (Dec. 20), Shelburne Town Council held a special meeting to continue budget talks in an effort to lower the suggested tax rate.

A draft budget presented to council earlier in December consisted of a tax levy increase not exceeding 13 per cent resulting in an 8 per cent tax rate increase, including an approximate 1.12 per cent (\$100,000) tax levy increase for arts and culture, a 5.09 levy increase related to staffing and utilizing \$200,000 from the Town's tax stabilization reserve.

A motion was passed by council for staff to return with a final draft with the changes including the additional \$177,288 draw on the tax stabilization reserve, resulting in a tax rate increase of 5 per cent.

• New COVID restrictions in effect: The Ontario government has introduced new restrictions on capacity limits and gathering sizes in the wake of rising cases of COVID-19. Premier Doug Ford announced the new measures during a press conference last Friday (Dec. 17), which became effective as of Dec. 19.

The new measures reduces social gathering limits for indoors from 25 people to 10 and outdoor gatherings reduced from 100 people to 25. Restaurants and bars now have a seating limit of 10 people at a table and are required to close by 11 p.m., with the exception of takeout and delivery which are permitted to run past 11. The sale of alcohol has also been restricted after 10 p.m. Food and drink services are prohibited at sporting events, concert venues, theatres, cinemas, casinos, bingo halls, and other gaming venues. Dancing is not allowed except for workers or performers. The restrictions do not apply to areas of business or place being used for a wedding, a funeral or a religious service, rite, or ceremony.

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