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PAULA BROWN PHOTO

WINNER ANNOUNCED: The Shelburne Kinsmen pulled the winning name for their 'Beer for a Year' fundraiser on Tuesday (May 10). Winner, Rob Foster, will be presented with a gift card for \$1,870. The Shelburne Kinsmen sold over 470 tickets through the contest, with the donations raised going towards community service. From left: Dean Bertolo, Keith Quinn (president), Robin Pickett, Brent Lane, and Bob Turnbull.

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Local Rotary Club introducing HMF Concert Series

Written By Paula Brown
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Live concert music will be heard in Shelburne after a two-year break.

The Rotary Club of Shelburne has announced they will be shifting away from their traditional Heritage Music Festival (HMF) this year, and will instead be introducing a multi-concert event known as the HMF Concert Series. The HMF Concert Series will kick off in June and run until the fall.

Bobbi Ferguson, a member of the Rotary Club of Shelburne, spoke with the Free Press about the decision to shift away from the traditional annual music festival for 2022.

"It came about just by wanting to do something, but not putting all our eggs in one basket by having it all on one weekend. If something did go wrong, we have some other events to fall back on," explained Ferguson. "What we're doing now mostly is having different venues that are able to pivot if the pandemic gives us another curveball. For example, if we do an event at the arena, we can switch it to the parking lot."

The Heritage Music Festival, along with its earlier variations, has been a long-standing annual tradition in the Town of Shelburne.

The first fiddle contest in Shelburne took place in August of 1951, pitched by local resident Cliff McIntosh. Following the first fiddle contest the local festival began to grow to include more classes in the competition, a beauty contest, and the Fiddle Parade. In 2016 the festival was rebranded to the Heritage Music Festival (HMF) and the Canadian Open Old Time Fiddle Championship. The Heritage Music Festival was cancelled in both 2020 and 2021 due to uncertainty surrounding the pandemic.

"Obviously, it feels good to be able to bring back music and the event we've been doing for 70 years, but it's also a little scary," said Ferguson.

For the Rotary Club of Shelburne, the Heritage Music Festival is their largest fundraiser with the revenue made during the event going directly back into local initiatives.

Some of the local organizations the Rotary Club has supported in the last two years include; ALAS Dufferin; CDDHS Grad Awards; Hamper program; Multicultural Event; Santa for Seniors; Shelburne Minor Hockey; and Shepherd's Cupboard Food Bank.

"We have given to everybody, that's what we do; we raise money to give a hundred per cent of it back to the community," said Ferguson.

The Shelburne Rotary Club has released

the line up of musical acts which will be featured at the HMF Concert Series. Kicking off the HMF Concert Series is the ultimate classic rock experience with Leisa Way's Rock 'n Roll Is Here to Stay at Fiddle Park on June 26. Next, Alberta's country sensation Dan Davidson will perform at the CDRC on August 5, while August 6 is slated for Bands, Brews & BBQ at Fiddle Park.

Ferguson noted that the Rotary has not yet confirmed whether the Canadian Open Old Time Fiddle Championship will go ahead.

Ferguson said they hope the concert series and different genres of music brings rejuvenation to the traditional event for the community.

"I'm hoping it will bring more people out to see it, maybe a rejuvenated interest from existing long-time residents, but also for new residents to bring them out and see what we're all about," said Ferguson.

The Rotary Club is now on the look out for sponsors for the HMF Concert Series, and Ferguson says the series of concerts will be a benefit for any sponsors.

"They'll be promoted throughout the whole year at every event," said Ferguson.

Those interested in sponsoring the HMF Concert Series can contact the Rotary Club of Shelburne by calling 519-278-0016 or through emailing at ShelburneRotary@gmail.com.

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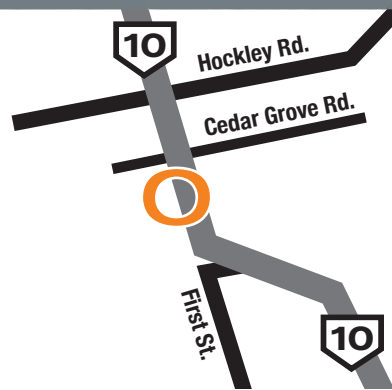


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Wellness Walk running in Shelburne now until November

Written By Paula Brown
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter



Shelburne residents get ready to tie up your shoe laces.

Dufferin Area Family Health Team (DAFHT) has partnered with local healthcare and social service community organizations to bring the Wellness Walk to Shelburne.

"I'm very excited that we're able to get this up and running," said Heidi Vanderhorst, program manager for DAFHT. "It's a great program to bring to any community because it promotes wellness and walking as exercise while also giving people an opportunity to come out and socialize."

DAFHT's Wellness Walk originated in Orangeville a number of years ago, and

allows community members of all different ages and speeds the opportunity to both exercise and socialize. The free program, which runs from May until November, consisted of a one hour walk around Island Lake when it ran in Orangeville.

In past years, DAFHT has operated a similar in-door walk in Shelburne but this year will mark the first outdoor walking program.

"We thought we would try to expand it further into Shelburne in order to facilitate our northern patients and community as well to participate in it," said Vanderhorst.

Shelburne Physiotherapy is one of the local health care providers who is partnering with Dufferin Area Family Health Team to bring the program to the community.

"As a business the best way I can give back to the community is with my knowledge and care in my own field," said David Egbert, owner of Shelburne Physiotherapy. "This program is super supportive for the community by not only promoting healthy lifestyle, but also getting people out and community involved."

Speaking with the Free Press, Egbert noted the benefits of walking as a form of exercise.

"When we talk about the benefits of walking, one is that it gets you up in the morning and moving to start your day. Even if it's simply going out for 30 minutes to an hour, not

only are there cardiopulmonary benefits, but there's also benefits for joints, muscles, and ligaments. It's often a great way to start a program for fitness and it can also be important for your mental health."

The Wellness Walk in Shelburne has a number of community partners involved including Family Transition Place, Shelburne and Dundalk Chiropractic, and Shelburne Pharmacy.

The first Wellness Walk in Shelburne will take place on Friday (May 13). The program will run every second and fourth Friday of the month from 9 a.m. until 10 a.m. The route for the walk will start at the Shelburne Physiotherapy Centre and head to Fiddle Park. The Shelburne Wellness walk will run rain or shine from May until October.

Debate scheduled for local candidates in provincial election

Written By Sam Odrowski

With the provincial election less than one month away, the Dufferin Board of Trade recently announced it will be continuing its tradition of holding an Election Forum for the local riding.

The Dufferin-Caledon Provincial Election Forum will air live May 18 at 7 p.m. on Rogers TV and online.

The debate is anticipated to last two hours and is available to the public virtually instead of in-person due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Our province, and indeed the world, has had challenges like nothing we've ever seen before over the past two years. As Dufferin-Caledon residents, it is critically important that we all take the time to learn about each of the candidates, and their parties, to ensure that we vote for the person whose values and views most closely mirror our own, and who we feel will best represent our riding," noted Diana Morris, executive director of DBOT.

DBOT has invited all candidates currently declared as running in the local riding to participate in a televised/streamed debate, moderated by Doug Harkness, DBOT Board chair.

Questions can be submitted by the public through the DBOT's website in advance of the debate.

The organization's Election Forum Committee will sort through the questions and ensure as many topics as possible are covered

during the debate.

DBOT stressed that the candidates will not be informed of any of the questions prior to the debate.

To submit questions and learn a little bit more about the upcoming Election Forum, visit: www.dufferinbot.ca/ProvincialElection2022

"In order to represent our riding, our candidates need to know the pressing issues in Dufferin-Caledon. If there is an issue that's important to you, please send in a question, so you can hear how each candidate responds to your concerns," said Morris. "We are accepting questions from the public until Friday, May 13."

The Election Forum is being supported by the Dufferin Federation of Agriculture, the CFUW Headwaters, the Brampton Real Estate Board, and Rogers TV Orangeville.

DBOT held a virtual debate for the federal election last September, and Morris said it was a great success that her organization is hoping to build off of.

"Our goal with these debates is two-fold: first, we want to ensure local businesses voices are heard and their issues are a priority for the candidates; and secondly, we want to connect the community with those seeking their votes," she explained.

"The online format does allow the greatest reach and the maximum efficiency for hosting debates. However, we know there is great value in a live, in-person election forum. Unfortunately, due to Covid, we weren't able to use the cafetorium at ODSS as in previ-

ous years, and we struggled to find another suitable local venue with the tight timelines required for this debate. In future years we do hope to bring back an in-person component

of the election forums."

A link to the May 18 debate will be posted online for residents of Dufferin-Caledon to watch after it airs.

Local youth wins contest for DEI logo

Shelburne Town Council gave recognition to a young local student for her contributions in helping design the town's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee's logo.

During their meeting on Monday (May 9), Shelburne Town Council presented Kacineil Powell, a grade six student from Centennial Hylands, with a certificate of appreciation for her design of the DEI Committee's logo.

"You did a fantastic job on the logo, and I was very proud to work alongside you to do the finishing touches," said Coun. Kyle Fegan following the virtual certificate presentation.

The Shelburne Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee organized a contest to help with the creation of their official logo. After attending a school assembly, where she learned about the contest, Kacineil said she spent a week creating the logo that would end up winning.

"I think it was very cool because it was really fun to make at school and everyone in my class was happy when I won - it made me feel really good," Kacineil tells



the Free Press.

The Shelburne DEI logo depicts a community of people from different cultures, religions, and races as well as physical abilities and sexual orientation all holding hands.

Kacineil said the logo explains what it's like to have diversity, equity and inclusion.

In virtual attendance with Kacineil to receive the certificate of appreciation was her mother Karen Powell.

"She just moved here from Brampton, not even a year now...to see her come and fit in, to go out and do this, I am extremely proud," said Karen.

Kacineil told the Free Press she hopes that everyone is happy with the logo and feels included.



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Democracy? Who needs it?

I think many people in our society take the fact that we have a democratically elected government for granted.

In fact, so many people are complacent about it, in the last provincial election 42 per cent of you didn't even bother to get out and vote.

How many of those 42 per cent go on to complain about the government later? Well, if those who didn't make the ten-minute effort it takes to cast a ballot had actually marked an X, you could have changed the course of the election, and then you would, of course, be happy at every decision the government makes.

I used to work with a guy who had never voted once in his life. He was a middle-aged man with two kids, was born in this country and pays taxes, and yet had never visited the polls to vote in a municipal, provincial, or federal election.

When I asked him why he had never voted, he said "I dunno." In this case, I believe it was a case of ignorance or trepidation because he simply did not know enough about the process to make a real decision.

The other excuse I've heard is, "There's no one worth voting for."

That is a nonsense answer. Of course there are people worth voting for. People who are selected to run for office aren't picked up from the street corner while waiting for a bus and asked if they would like to be a politician.

It takes a lot of courage to run for public office and the people who are vetted and represent a political party usually have the background needed to be successful in what they do. Their decisions may not always be popular, and if they aren't working out, you've got the chance to show your displeasure at the next election.

We didn't arrive at a democracy and the right to cast a vote by setting up the province, and indeed the country by setting out some rules and electing the leaders.

Early in the 19th century, Ontario had no elected officials. The Family Compact ran the show, meaning a group of rich guys called the shots and filled government positions through patronage appointments.

If you were a typical citizen of the time, this meant you had no real say in who was running the government or what decisions would be made regarding the country, as it were at the time.

After years of frustration of having no responsible government, the populations in both Lower and Upper Canada decided it was time to call for an armed response to enforce change.

While Lower Canada had much more rebel support, and resulted in a much more violent uprising, the movement in Upper Canada was more subdued.

In December of 1837, a rag-tag army of rebels set out to overthrow the government. As they marched toward Toronto, they started picking up more members along the way until they numbered around 900.

When they finally reached Montgomery's Tavern in Toronto, they were met with a trained force of loyalist militia.

The rebels were untrained, and mostly farmers. Some carried rifles, others carried a pitchfork or some other kind of farm implement. They were not prepared to overthrow by force.

When the loyalist militia fired their first volley, the front row of rebels all hit the ground to avoid being shot. The men behind them were horrified thinking they had all been killed, and did what any untrained

group of rebels would do – they all ran away.

A large number of the rebels were later captured and imprisoned and quite a few ended up hanging the end of a rope for treason.

It wasn't much of a battle, but the effort was there and the point had been made, and those in power had little recourse but to re-think how things were run in the province.

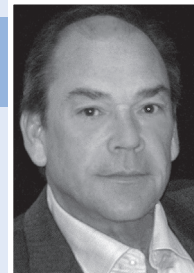
This eventually led the creation of the British North America Act in 1867 which created the contemporary Canadian federation and its government.

I tend to agree with the statement "Democracy is the worst form of government, except for all the others," attributed to Winston Churchill.

In many countries, the government is still run like a Family Compact, and they create and enforce laws based on a whim, not debate and legislation.

No, democracy is not perfect, but unlike a lot of people on this planet, we have a say in who governs the nation.

BRIAN LOCKHART
FROM THE SECOND ROW



Our Readers Write

Where's the Bypass?

Vehicle traffic in Shelburne continues to increase. Transport trucks, various sized aggregate haulers, other commercial vehicles, commuter and weekend tourism traffic continuously roar through town. No doubt, summer will bring greater volume.

The bypass issue has been brought to the attention of the Ministry of Transportation (MOT) by Shelburne Town Council and County of Dufferin. Any diversion of traffic involves the roads of neighboring townships and the County, as well as the MOT.

Main and Owen Sound Street, as part of Highways 10 and 89 are vastly overutilized in servicing this traffic flow.

As well, adjacent residential streets become crowded connecting routes when Main and Owen Sound Street are overwhelmed and gridlocked. This

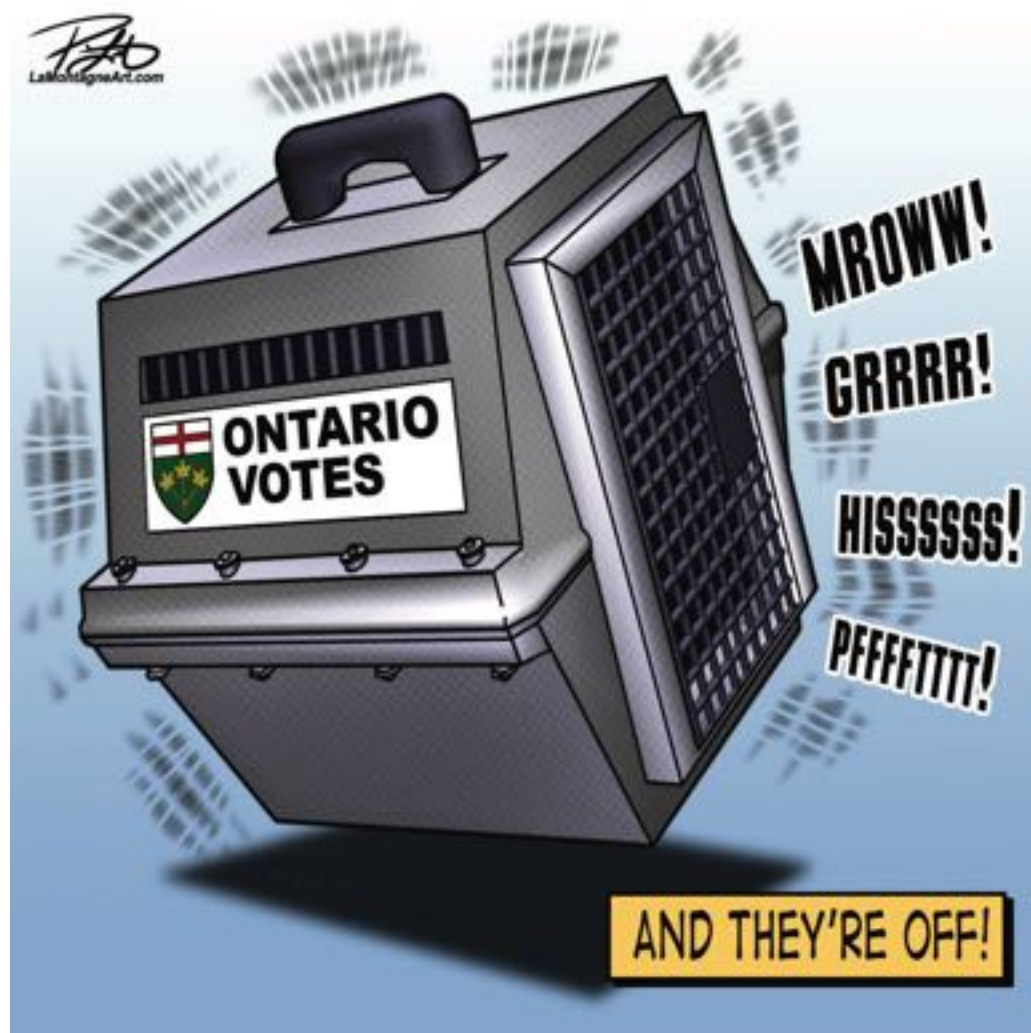
creates a dangerous situation, mixing pedestrians, residences and storefronts with too many vehicles.

Shelburne is bearing the brunt of GTA traffic traveling to other locations. The volume of traffic is very detrimental to the downtown and main streets.

Through traffic to other destinations is a regional matter requiring local input in finding solutions. Share your concerns with government representatives.

Elections are in the offing at provincial and municipal levels. Perhaps current and aspiring politicians should be reminded of the need for the long overdue Shelburne bypass.

Alex Bell
Concerned Owen Sound St., Shelburne resident



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Council tries to tackle parking problems at Cook Crescent

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

The saga of parking problems continues in Shelburne.

During their meeting on Monday (May 9), Shelburne Town Council received a report from staff detailing possible parking options for Cook Crescent. The report was drafted after concerns were raised by residents of the Summerhill subdivision regarding winter parking and infractions.

“The whole idea was to go through the exercise to see if there was something feasible and reasonable that would help solve the problem,” said Mayor Wade Mills.

In the report to council, staff noted the homes in the development have two official parking spots – one in the driveway and another in the garage.

“First of all, people don’t park in a garage because they load it with stuff and secondly, having two vehicles, they have no place to park a second vehicle,” said Coun. Walter Benotto. “I don’t know how we can change that.”

The first option presented to council was to create an additional parking area on

the north side of Cook Crescent. To create the parking area a number of utilities, streetlamps, and trees would need to be relocated. Town staff said they estimate the cost for changes such as asphalt, curbs, and store water to be in excess of \$525,000 without engineering costs.

The new parking area would create around 20 new parking spots for the subdivision.

“To recover some of the cost associated with this possible option one, is municipalities may impose special charges, known as local improvement charges. Parking areas specific accommodations should be funded by residents experiencing direct benefit, through local improvement charge,” said Jennifer Willoughby, director of legislative services for Shelburne.

The second option proposed is to provide a town-wide exemption for boulevard parking, as a trial and pilot project basis, during the winter parking season from Nov. 15 to April 15.

Boulevard parking is not permitted at any time throughout the year. Staff said the option would create new winter maintenance issues and possible damage to vehicles with the restricted snow clearing

opportunities.

“This option also creates a safety hazard and sight line issues trying to negotiate a driveway where a vehicle may be parked blocking access and sightlines to and from a driveway,” said Willoughby.

The third option would be to approach the owner of a vacant parcel of land located at 300 Col. Phillips Drive, owned by the Roman Catholic Episcopal, to inquire about parking accommodations.

If the landowner agrees, the Town would be required to lease the property for a fee to establish a new municipal parking lot. According to the report the estimated capital cost for 20 permit parking spots ranges between \$27,000 and \$74,000 with additional costs for snow removal and a possible \$3,835 fee to rezone the land.

Staff did not recommend any of the options outlined in the report to council, and also noted that over-night municipal parking is provided in two areas and town for the winter months. While inconvenient, staff also added that other residents in town utilize the parking in cases where parking is not sufficient.

“Unfortunately, the answer seems to be,

at least from a reasonable and feasible point of view, there just isn’t an easy fix to this,” said Mills. “At least in good conscience, I feel comfortable enough going back to the resident to say this isn’t something we swept under the rug, we looked long and hard at what options were available. There isn’t a good solution there.”

Coun. Lynda Buffet raised the question on whether parallel parking on the driveway portion located between the sidewalk and roadway could be tested, as suggested by the concerned resident.

“That still leaves us pressured for snow storage area,” said Jim Moss, director of development and operations for Shelburne. “The wing of the plow, when it fills up with snow, if you are pushing that up against a vehicle it can damage the body work or cave in the side of the vehicle.”

Parking in the Shelburne streets is restricted during the winter month with no overnight parking permitted from Nov. 15 to April 15 between 12 a.m. and 8 a.m.

The ticket cost for noncompliance of the overnight street parking is \$10 and will be increased to \$40 when the new traffic bylaw has been enacted.

Museum of Dufferin seeking public input for new strategic plan

Written By **Sam Odrowski**

What does the Museum of Dufferin (MoD) mean to you? What ideas do you have for its future?

The Museum of Dufferin is seeking input from the community to help with the development of a new strategic plan.

“Our whole objective is to make sure that as much as possible, we’re meeting the needs of the community,” said Cody Jourdy, the MoD’s director of development and tourism. “The people the museum is meant to service are the residents of Dufferin County primarily and visitors alike, and our focus is to make sure that it’s relevant to our residents. We’re trying to figure out what does the community want, what’s important to them and how do we make sure that we’re working in that direction.”

“We’re all ears and eyes in terms of the feedback that we might receive,” he added.

The local museum began the strategic planning process in January and officially launched the survey on Monday (May 9). Input from the survey will be used to help create a strategic plan, which will in turn act as a roadmap and guide for the MoD over the next five years.

“There’s always input that we get where we go ‘I didn’t think about that’ or ‘that’s a really interesting perspective’, it’s a nugget that sort of blossoms into something even bigger and more substantial,” said Jourdy. “Unless we get that feedback from the community, we’re left to wonder and made an educated guess on the community’s thoughts.”

Through the brief survey the museum is asking participants to share their experiences and perspectives on the existing programs and services at the museum.

“What happens in museums, not unlike many other organizations, is to keep the status quo, and I think we’re trying to shake thing up. It’s really important that, regardless of the size of the organization, everyone takes an opportunity every now and again to hit pause and think about; are we doing a good job; how they can improve; and how do we do it.”

While looking for input from the community, the MoD has already begun internally focusing on new priorities to improve programs and service. One specific priority the

museum is looking at is called “collecting the community” – a project that looks to diversify the MoD’s exhibits and collections.

“All of us have taken a moment to ask is it as diverse. Does it have exhibits and material that take perspectives from all different walks of life, and does it represent our community today and what it might look like in the future,” said Jourdy.

For the survey, the Museum of Dufferin is encouraging those who have not visited or engaged with MoD to take part as well as past and present visitors, members, and volunteers.

Individuals who complete the survey can enter to win one of two \$50 gift certificates to a local business of their choice.

The MoD’s strategic plan public survey can be accessed through their website and will remain open to the community until May 30. The MoD’s strategic plan is scheduled to be completed by summer 2022.



PAULA BROWN PHOTO

PUBLIC INPUT WANTED: The Museum of Dufferin is asking for the public’s help in developing its new strategic plan.

X CROSSWORD

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- 8. Veggie stick
- 9. Pavarotti solo
- 10. Of the mind
- 11. Take part in a biathlon
- 12. Queen’s dog
- 13. Klaatu or E.T.
- 14. “A ____ of Honey”
- 21. Silk from Assam
- 24. Tot rod?
- 26. Honolulu hello
- 29. White with age
- 30. Actress Anita ____
- 32. Nuisance
- 37. Bundle, as of hay
- 39. Little, in Milan
- 40. +
- 41. Solemn promise
- 42. Bubbles
- 43. Jealousy
- 44. Young adult
- 46. Diddly
- 47. Tart
- 48. Ball of yarn
- 51. Pass into law
- 54. Competition
- 55. Golf strokes
- 57. Stout
- 60. Part of a whole
- 62. 1960s dance
- 63. Bitsy biter
- 64. Default result
- 66. Waver
- 67. Make angry
- 68. Italian staple
- 69. Register
- 70. Something to let off
- 73. Train terminal
- 76. “Gone With the Wind,” e.g.
- 77. Straddling
- 79. Look inquisitively
- 81. Small crow
- 82. Chopping tool

ACROSS

- 1. Chatter
- 4. Big event
- 8. Gear
- 11. Ella’s forte
- 15. Operate
- 16. Rueful word
- 17. Previous to, in poems
- 18. Tropical nut
- 19. Superhero’s chest letter
- 20. Airship
- 22. Spring bulb
- 23. Seat for two
- 25. Lasso
- 27. Learn
- 28. Nasal sound
- 29. Will beneficiary
- 31. Mountainous
- 33. Ninny
- 34. Approval word
- 35. Mauna follower

- 36. Skewered meat
- 38. African animal, for short
- 42. Jubilee
- 45. Point ____, California
- 48. Certain oil
- 49. ____, two, three . . .
- 50. Songlike
- 52. Gash
- 53. Opposed
- 56. Move smoothly
- 57. Opulent
- 58. Talking starling
- 59. Peg
- 61. Milk-giving animal
- 63. Junket
- 65. Minstrel’s instrument
- 68. Former Spanish coin
- 71. Religious order
- 72. Edit text
- 74. Tiny hill-builder
- 75. Soak

- 77. Electrical unit
 - 78. Interval
 - 80. Current
 - 83. Light rap
 - 84. Go fast
 - 85. Female relative
 - 86. Nerve-cell part
 - 87. Conscious being
 - 88. “____ of Darkness”
 - 89. Drink cooler
 - 90. Sobbed
 - 91. Steep flax
- ### DOWN
- 1. Hypothesize
 - 2. Concur
 - 3. Confer an honor
 - 4. Newspaper
 - 5. Ship’s position
 - 6. Track-runner’s circuit
 - 7. Serpent

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What would you like to see at the Museum of Dufferin?

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PAULA BROWN PHOTO

PREPPING FOR BIG DAY: Staff at the Canadian Creamery Emporium, located at 101A Main Street W, are preparing their scoops as the new local ice cream parlor looks to celebrate its grand opening this Saturday (May 14)

Canadian Creamery Emporium hosting grand opening celebration this weekend

Written By Paula Brown
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

When you walk into the Canadian Creamery Emporium the first thing staff will do is make you feel like part of the family.

Then new local ice cream parlor, located at 101A Main Street W, is gearing up to celebrate their grand opening this Saturday (May 14).

"We're really excited about it," said owner Cam Simone. "We've had a soft opening to get the staff into a routine, and supporters who have come out have had such positive feedback. It's been fantastic and we can't be more grateful to our patron for their support."

Speaking with the Free Press, Simone said the idea to open Canadian Creamery came from the personal desire to create jobs within the community.

"In a pandemic or when there's no work, what can we do – create work," said Simone.

Create work it has done with almost 20 employees, many of which of young adults and teens who are experiencing their first jobs.

Owning, operating, and working at an ice cream parlour holds close ties for the Simone family. As a young teen Simone worked at his aunt's ice cream shop in Jackson's Point and his children have also experienced working behind the counter scooping ice cream.

Simone said their goal is to be a place where patrons can escape from the chaos of everyday life.

"We want out seniors feeling like children again, our youth creating memories and all

ages in between to share those memories, whether it's living them or reliving them," said Simone.

While he may be the owner of the Canadian Creamery Emporium, Simone points to his four children for its success in opening.

"I always thought it would be a great business to start even as young teens," said Baily Simone, the eldest the Simone teens. "Interacting with people, getting hands on experience, and making a fun environment for everybody is just amazing."

In 2021, the Simone teens began contacting and touring ice cream distributors including Central Smith, Chapman's and Kawartha. After touring the facilities and tasting a variety of ice creams, they settled on Central Smith.

"They were all amazing, but the back story behind Central Smith starting as a family-owned company's amazing," said Bailey Simone. "I thought it was amazing because we are starting out as a small family run business."

Canadian Creamery Emporium has a variety of ice creams from staples like chocolate and vanilla, to unique flavours such as rum raisin, to sherbets. The ice cream shop also has flavours catering to diabetes, lactose intolerance, and is looking for vegan options in the near future.

"We want everybody to come in and at least be able to have something, some variation that will make them happy," said Bailey.

Local church raises funds to reopen programming with local Yard Sale

Trinity United Church in Shelburne raised more than \$1,600 through a yard sale fundraiser to help re-launch some of their pre-COVID programming.

The local United Church hosted the yard sale fundraiser at the church, located at 200 Owen Sound Street, on April 30.

"It was a great community event. It was fun to watch so many people stop by, browse, chat, and get to know one another better," said Rev. Valerie Vande Wiele.

Proceeds from the yard sale were raised as a way to help reopen programs the church was a part of prior to the pandemic. One specific project the church is focused on bringing back is a meal program, such as the Soup Haus, which provided nutritious, complementary dinners to anyone out for the evening.

"We really feel it's important to offer a space where people can share a meal together in safe place at least once a month," said Rev. Valerie. "We are looking into how we can do that. The ultimate goal is to offer the community at large at least one sold meal a month. It's not an extraordinary goal, but it's a start and we will build from there."

At the fundraiser, Trinity United Church sold a variety of yard sale treasures, many of which were provided through community donations.

"Churches are places that tend to gather a lot of stuff and for us a yard sale is giving a new life to things. We respect creations so if other people can use it instead of it going into a landfill, it's given a second life," said



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

COMMUNITY YARD SALE: Trinity United Church in Shelburne generated over \$1,600 during its yard sale fundraiser from April 30.

Rev. Valerie.

Trinity United Church also raised donations by selling a variety of "Church Lady" pies.

Remaining items from the yard sale are being donated to the Diabetes Association.

"We are proud to have the support of the community and to be able to offer support for the community. This is an affirmation of who we are, what we stand for and that we are walking in the right direction. We want to be there for the community and continue looking into offering other services," said Rev. Valerie.

Trinity United Church will be hosting another fundraising event at the end of the month, which will be a concert starring Gary Heaslip and friends. The event will be held in the church concert hall on May 27 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$25 and can be reserved by calling 519-925-6343 or 519-925-0905.

Annual Multicultural event to be held at MoD

The Dufferin County Multicultural Foundation's annual Multicultural Event will be held at the Museum of Dufferin on Saturday June 11th, 2022 between 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

The event's mission is building a stronger, more empowered community.

The Multicultural Event, founded by the Dufferin County Multicultural Foundation, is an event designed to bring together the variety of cultural diversity in our community. The successful event offers an opportunity to enjoy arts, crafts and foods from

the diverse cultures in our community. Now in its 5th year, this event has a proven track record of bringing communities together and spreading a positive message!

At 11:00 a.m., the event will start with the annual flag raising ceremony. Inside the MoD's Main Gallery will be a juried art show of community talents.

On the MoD grounds will be food, a vendor's market, dancing, musical and poetry performances, and a cricket match. Everyone is welcome to come and celebrate the diversity of Dufferin County.



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Local NDP candidate says she'll stand up for people, not profits

Written By Zachary Roman

As an educator, Tess Prendergast said she's seen firsthand how devastating cuts to education funding can be.

She said Ontario classrooms are overcrowded, schools are understaffed and underfunded, and they're falling apart.

"Decision-making that has been made in regards to social services like health care and education... it has left a huge gap in our society and it has made me want to stand up and speak up for vulnerable persons," said Prendergast.

Prendergast seeks to eliminate that gap in Ontario by running to be Dufferin-Caledon's next Member of Provincial Parliament with the New Democratic Party.

Born and raised in Scarborough, Prendergast moved to Dufferin in 2011 with her husband, who is a lawyer that practices charity and not-for-profit law. A French teacher and librarian at an Orangeville school, Prendergast has two children, is a leader with Scouts Canada, and is a "huge advocate for the environment."

Prendergast said she's been interested in politics ever since she was a young girl and has always followed politics. As a librarian, she's used to connecting people with resources that are the best fit for them, and, if elected, she looks forward to connecting her constituents with the best government resources and programs for them.

"What really drove me to run is over the winter holiday, I was researching the Highway 413. I discovered Minister's Zoning Orders (MZOs) and that Ford could grant big developers a 'Get Out of Jail Free' card, which allowed them to bypass environmental assessments, community planning and the provincial policy statement," said Prendergast.

She found these zoning orders to be unfair. Prendergast is not opposed to growth, but is opposed to what she says are "big ticket" decisions being made that impact every Ontarian, that aren't being made transparently and equitably.

"I tell students, be the change you want to see... and if you see an injustice you need to stand up and speak for what's right," said

Prendergast. Through her campaign, and if elected, Prendergast strives to practice what she teaches.

"Us individuals that care about the planet, care about our society and the promotion of well-being, really need to stand up and speak and band together to create a more prosperous and hopeful Ontario," said Prendergast.

Prendergast said the NDP will invest in a strong public education system by lowering class sizes, eliminating mandatory online credits for high school students, getting rid of EQAO testing and reinvesting the money saved in schools.

She said Ontario New Democrats also plan to hire new teachers and education staff for schools, clear the repair backlog on Ontario schools, and do all these things through a social and environmental lens with input from educational stakeholders.

Prendergast said she was incredibly disappointed with the Ford government's response to the pandemic as it related to schools. Due to the Conservatives not investing sooner in vaccines for education staff, she said, personal protective equipment for staff and students, expanded rapid testing, and ventilation in schools, Ontario had the longest school closures in North America.

She said younger students can't learn online like older students can, and early literacy rates have taken a huge hit — not to mention the mental health of all students in general.

Prendergast said the Ford government doesn't respect every day Ontarians, and that the NDP will work hard to fix problems in the province's education system.

Another issue important to Prendergast is health care. Her mom, a strong role model of hers, is a nurse who was a manager during the SARS Pandemic and went back to work when COVID-19 hit Canada. Prendergast said for her and the NDP, strong universal health care is a priority and she does not support privatization of health care.

"Right now, we have a different kind of problem and that is the retention of nursing staff in hospitals. The horrendous Bill 124 is impacting Ontario's ability to retain, respect, and honour the bargaining rights of our nurses. We need to repeal this bill and that is something that Andrea Horwath and the NDP will do," said Prendergast.

"We need to treat nurses and frontline health care workers with dignity and respect. And as an educator, I know what it feels like to be in an industry where you've been taken advantage of these last four years, and you just have to show up and do your job. Now, health care workers are really in the thick of it and they are still battling with the sixth wave of the pandemic... we were told to take our masks off after the March Break and we saw a huge uptick in COVID cases within our school, huge absence rates with students and staff, and I know that hospitals are dealing with the repercussions."

Prendergast said the NDP will focus on hiring new nurses, bringing nurses that left during the pandemic back, and making it easier for internationally-educated nurses to get certified and find work. She also said the NDP will invest in creating well-paying full-time jobs with benefits for personal support workers so they can live and work in the same area. She said this will also help increase the quality of home care in the province, as she believes people should be able to stay in their homes as long as they want.

"We want to take control of all long-term care centres, we want to bring them back into public hands," said Prendergast. "We're looking at creating small community homes like they have in Europe with six to 10 beds, and they'd be within a residential community instead of the current warehouses that we're putting our vulnerable elders in right now."

Prendergast said the Ford government's changes to the Ontario Autism Program have been devastating. She emphasized the importance of early intervention for an autistic child's success later in life, and said current government waitlists of five years make early intervention impossible.

"Imagine if you had a child and they were diagnosed with autism, and you knew that starting any kind of therapies, essential therapies or programs early on would directly correlate to their future success, but they're not available to you and you cannot access the funding for years," said Prendergast.

"It puts parents in a situation where they have to stress themselves financially if they're able to, or simply just wait with their hands tied. It is a system that is not working... we need to be looking towards a more inclusive Ontario that acknowledges and accepts autism as a regular part of life."

Prendergast said she and the NDP will always prioritize people over profits. According to Prendergast, the NDP wants to bring actual affordable housing to Ontarians, not million-dollar mansions.

"We want to intensify in existing urban areas... that means saying no to urban boundary expansions. We want to make sure that we're building in existing areas where municipal services already exist and the infrastructure is there," said Prendergast.

She said sprawl hurts taxpayers as once a developer moves out, sewage, roads, and upkeep for giant subdivisions is left to municipalities.

Prendergast ended her May 9 interview with the Citizen by saying she wanted to affirm her support for Dufferin-Caledon's LGBTQ+ and BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Colour) communities. While she's not a member of one of those communities herself, she wants people to know she's there to support them.

"I just wanted to express that I will be a representative for everyone that lives here," said Prendergast.

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NDP CANDIDATE: Tess Prendergast is seeking the Dufferin-Caledon seat under the NDP banner in the June 2 provincial election. Last weekend she joined Dufferin-Caledon candidates for the Green and Liberal Party at Old School Road in southern Caledon to protest the Ford Government's proposed Highway 413, which will run through that area.

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ALL WELCOME

Dufferin County Cultural Resource Circle holds event for MMIWG2S

Written By Sam Odrowski

Dufferin residents recently gathered to show their support and raise awareness around the issue of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-Spirit People (MMIWG2S).

The National Day of Awareness for MMIWG2S, also known as Red Dress Day, was marked locally on May 5 with a walk and smudging ceremony at the Mino Kamik Medicine Wheel Garden in Bravery Park.

The event was held by the Dufferin County Cultural Resource Circle (DCCRC), and attended by local politicians, municipal representatives, heads of organizations, and community members.

DCCRC chair, Debbie Egerton, who founded the organization in 2014, said more needs to be done on the issue of Indigenous women, girls, and Two-Spirit people going missing or being murdered at disproportionate rates compared to non-Indigenous people. The homicide rate for Indigenous women in Canada was almost six times higher than non-Indigenous women from 2001 to 2015.

"I've been doing this for eight years and I can't tell you how many people have gone missing in that time and each time it breaks my heart to see what doesn't get done," she remarked. "We need to make that happen. We can do it in our community - we start here."

An Orangeville resident and Indigenous woman who attended the local walk and ceremony, Kristi Bhogal, has been doing a vow of silence every May 5 since 2003, the year her cousin went missing. She has vowed to this each year until her cousin is found.

Prior to the walk for the MMIWG2S event, Egerton told attendees, "I hope that as we make this walk together, we keep in mind these people that are missing and have been murdered."

She added, "Whoever you choose to pray to or acknowledge, please send a prayer through your own being and let's all try and bring forward some of the solutions, so that we can get these people back."

For the MMIWG2S event, attendees were given tobacco to hold while thinking about the important women in their lives and what MMIWG2S means to them.

Afterwards the tobacco was buried in the Medicine Wheel Garden.

"By putting that prayer back to the earth, what you're doing is you're asking all of creation to help because it's only when all of creation gets together that we will be able to fix what we've broken," Egerton explained.

During the MMIWG2S event, people also tied red ribbons to trees, as a way of showing their support for Red Dress Day.

DCCRC member who is Métis-Cree and Two-Spirit, Tiffany Smith said she was

thrilled with how the event turned out.

"One thing that I always am amazed at is the community support," she said.

Smith opened up about her experience as a Two-Spirit person during the MMIWG2S event and shared how they and Indigenous women are targeted.

"When you're talking about places like where I'm from - the reserves in Manitoba. They're very protected on the reserve. That's the way it's set up. But it's when they go off reserve, it's like you and I walking down the street with a crosshair on our back - you're targeted," Smith told the Citizen.

She also noted that the rates of suicide among Two-Spirit people are very high compared to non-Indigenous people.

As well, back when Canada was being colonized, Smith said Two-Spirit people were singled out and killed in front of their communities by European settlers, simply because they were Two-Spirit.

Through speaking about her own experience and being an advocate for Two Spirit people, Smith said she hopes she can bring further understanding to the local community.

"What I hope for and pray for out of events like this is, first of all, it's creating awareness. It's getting the conversation started," she noted. "It's like the old saying of planting a seed. We plant a seed in hope and wait for it to grow."

Going forward, Egerton said she hopes more men will become involved in the issue of MMIWG2S and speak out more about it so there's a unified front within society.

Joining the Moosehide Campaign is one way that men can get more involved, she noted.

The campaign is a grassroots movement of Indigenous and non-Indigenous men and boys who are against violence towards women and children. Those who join the movement make a pledge and are given a pin with a moose hide that signifies their commitment to honour, respect, and protect the women and children. It also symbolizes their pledge to work together with other men and boys to end violence against women and children.

To order pins, sign the pledge, and learn more about the campaign, visit: moosehide-campaign.ca

Dufferin-Caledon Liberal candidate shares support for Shelburne Bypass

The Ontario Liberal Party (OLP) candidate in Dufferin-Caledon, Bob Gordanier announced on Tuesday that he will advocate for the construction of the proposed truck bypass in Shelburne.

Shelburne Town Council has been asking the province to support construction of a truck bypass for years, but there has been no action by the provincial government.

If built, the bypass will not only provide much needed relief to those in town hav-

ing to deal with truck traffic and noise, but it will also support continued downtown growth and investment in the community, according to Gordanier.

"Shelburne has a community improvement plan that relies on having this truck bypass built so that small businesses can expand and thrive in their community," said Bob Gordanier, the OLP candidate for Dufferin-Caledon.

"If I am elected on June 2nd, I will get it built."

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SHELBURNE SPORTS

Local diamond dedicated in memory of local ball player and coach

Written By Brian Lockhart

A local baseball diamond at Hyland Park in Shelburne has been dedicated in memory of a local player, coach, and fan who loved the game and played his last game in a 3-pitch tournament the night he passed away in 2011.

Known as "Mr. Baseball" in Shelburne, Gary Galbraith, was a lifelong baseball player who started playing for the Whitfield Sr. Baseball Club as a youth.

After moving the Club to Shelburne in the early 80's to take advantage of a field with lights, he continued with the sport.

He soon joined the Shelburne Schooners.

Gary became a leader for the club and in 2004 he took over the responsibilities of the team as a player and coach. He actively recruited young talent to join the club.

Gary and his team were successful and

were able to win a championship.

He was also a member of the Shelburne Men's Thursday night 3-Pitch League and played for the Diggers.

Over the years Gary led many fundraisers which supported senior men's baseball and Shelburne Minor Baseball.

Many people who played ball with Gary remember him fondly when they head out to play a game, not only for his contributions to the game of baseball but to the community of Shelburne.

In September, 2019, local resident Paul Smith made a request to Shelburne Town Council to provide official recognition to Gary Galbraith for his service to Shelburne.

Council agreed it was a worthwhile effort.

On Saturday, May 7, family and friends gathered at the diamond in Hyland Park where the diamond was named Gary Galbraith Memorial Field.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF GARY GALBRAITH gather at Hyland Park in Shelburne on Saturday, May 7, for the naming of a diamond in his memory. Mr. Galbraith, known as 'Mr. Baseball' locally, was a player and coach who dedicated much of his time to the sport. The diamond was named Gary Galbraith Memorial Field.

Junior Cubs host home opener with high scoring game against Orangeville

Written By Brian Lockhart

The boys of summer are back.

The crack of the bat and the cheers on a big hit will be heard at local baseball dia-

monds all summer long.

The Mansfield Junior Cubs hosted their home opener against the Orangeville Bengals on the diamond in Mansfield on Sunday, May 8, in a high scoring game.

The Bengals were first to bat with Cubs pitcher Aidan Pain starting on the mound.

Orangeville Bengals scored a single in the first inning for the first scoring of the season.

Bryce Cameron was the first batter for the Cubs this season getting on base with a single in the first inning.

Orangeville had a big second inning scoring six runs to take the lead.

The Mansfield Cubs were back in the game when they went to bat in the bottom of the second, starting with Bryce Cameron driving in a run to put the Cubs on the scoreboard.

That was followed by a hit to deep centre field by Luke Dunmore to bring in the second run.

With the bases loaded, Cody Bryan hit a line drive down the third base line to bring in two Cubs runners.



BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

BIG CATCH: Mansfield Junior Cubs second baseman, Cody Bryan, leaps to make the catch during the Cub's Sunday, May 8, home opener against the Orangeville Bengals on the diamond in Mansfield. It was a wild game the saw the Cubs edged out by two runs when Orangeville won the game 18-16.

The Cubs put up a solid defence in the third inning stopping the Bengals from scoring.

A dinger to midfield brought in another



Cubs run to make it a 6-5 game.

From there, both teams got the bats moving with a lot of hitting and scoring for the rest of the game.

The final was an 18-16 win for Orangeville to start the season.

There are eight teams in the Junior Division of the North Dufferin Baseball League this season.

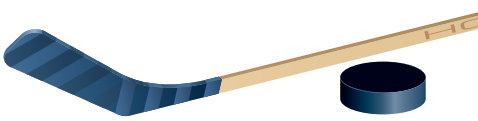
Teams from Mansfield, Orangeville, Barrie, Caledon, Creemore, Georgina, Midland, and Orillia will battle it out on the diamonds this summer.

The Junior Cubs will be back on the diamond in Mansfield on Thursday, May 19, when they will host the Georgina Bulldogs.

The first pitch is being scheduled for 6:30 p.m.

Shelburne Free Press

For coverage of any local sports events please contact me and I'll be there!



brian.lockhart@hotmail.com

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Shelburne Cricket's second season starting soon

Written By **Brian Lockhart**

The Shelburne Cricket Club is currently looking for more players from Orangeville.

The Shelburne Cricket Club is ready to start the 2022 season with the opening game getting underway at KTH Park in Shelburne on Saturday, May 21.

The Club had a successful season last year that wrapped up with an exciting final game in September.

This year the league has expanded with more players and teams entering into competition.

To get the season started, the Club is hosting an opening day and ceremony which will include several speakers and a history of cricket in Dufferin County.

"We are proud to say that the Shelburne Cricket Club has grown tremendously from last year," said Club president Ahsen Siddiqui. "This year, due to a large turnaround of cricket players we were able to make a



BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

CRICKET IS BACK: The Shelburne Cricket Club is ready to start a new season. There is a new team in the league this summer as interest in the sport locally has been growing. The Club will host a season opening ceremony and game at KTH Park in Shelburne, on Saturday, May 21.

A new team beside the two existing teams from previous years. We are excited to introduce to everyone the Shelburne Warriors. Also new this year is our game format. We will be

playing our first every T20 house league. The season will last from May 21 until the end of September, after which we will have our exhibition games between Shelburne youth and Stars. Our social media slogan this year is '#gameison.'

This season will mark the first complete season for the club since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Last year the club had a short playing season due to provincial restrictions.

The first game of the season will pit the champion Shelburne Knights against last season's runner-up, the Shelburne Gladiators.

Opening day on the cricket pitch will feature several activities, refreshments, and opening remarks.

The first game of the year will get underway at 3:30 p.m. at KTH Park.

The Club encourages spectators to come out to the park to watch the game and enjoy the day's festivities.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CO-OP CORNER: Corey Limbeek (right) has been working with JJS Contracting Jesse Sandbrook (left) for his co-op placement. He says the experience there has been very valuable and helped him build important skills.

Co-op Corner: JJS Contracting

Written By **Cory Limbeek**

This week Corey Limbeek from Centre Dufferin District High School shares a little bit about his experience and how JJS Contracting is contributing to our community's future.

JJS Contracting has been in business since 2016 servicing the GTA and surrounding areas with custom excavation and dozer work. JJS contracting is run by owner Jesse Sandbrook with a long history in operating heavy machinery catering to the needs of you, the customer.

My position at JJS Contracting is Operator/Mechanic where I have a variety of responsibilities, such as operating our wide range of equipment that include bulldozers, excavators, compactors, skid steers and a variety of grading equipment. I have been fully trained to work safely and efficiently on all these machines. Furthermore, in my time at the company I have performed a wide range of service on all of the equipment and completed many heavy repairs as well. At JJS contracting we believe in fol-

lowing all safety rules to keep us and the community safe.

In addition to honing my knowledge of excavation, my time at JJS contracting has made me aware of many associated careers that are more specialized such as pond excavation and construction which is an extremely lucrative specialty to get into. Another specialty would be land clearing which with the right equipment can be profitable and relatively straightforward and is a highly sought after specialty almost anywhere in the country. Another associated specialty is demolition which can be profitable and even extremely fun with the right equipment. On the mechanical side of my role at the company I have become interested in the industry of mobile service technicians which I will have great interest in if I start my own company one day.

JJS Contracting greatly supports our CDDHS Co-op Program by offering exceptional learning opportunities and training to our Co-op students.



BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

BALL BATTLE: CDDHS Royals girls varsity soccer team played against the Wellington Heights Secondary School from Mount Forest at home on May 4. The Royals won this game 7-0 and are now 1-1 for the season.



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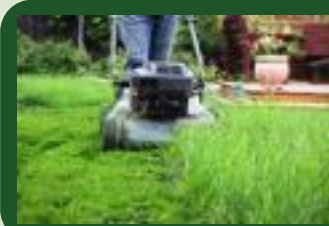
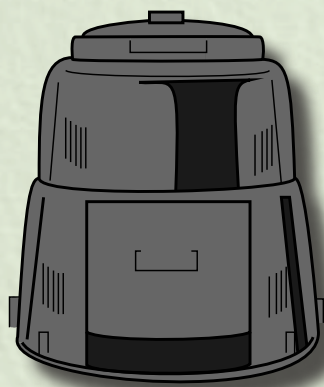
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING



TOWNSHIP OF AMARANTH NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING



On Wednesday May 18, 2022 the Council of The Township of Amaranth will hold a public meeting to present a draft By-law to regulate the discharge of firearms within the Township. All interested parties are invited to attend the Public Meeting. This will be an electronic meeting only.

The Public Meeting will be held:

Wednesday May 18, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Electronically through Zoom

Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89407818769>

In order to provide sufficient information to the public, a draft copy of the By-law is available on the Township website at: <https://www.amaranth.ca/en/municipal-government/By-Laws.aspx>. Copies of the draft By-law will also be available in hard copy form at the Township office. Interested persons may express their comments at the public meeting, in writing or via e-mail to the Municipal Clerk prior to the meeting. Such written comments will be brought before Council.

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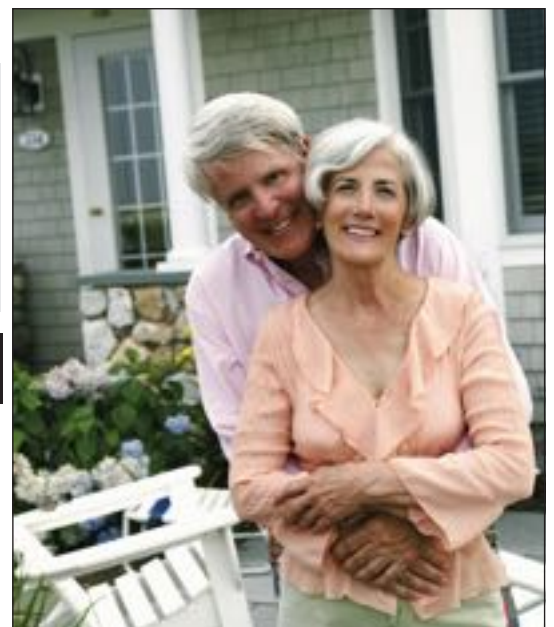
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NOTICE

RIGGIN

To honour Peter's wish, his family will be planting a tree on his golf course to celebrate his long life.

SATURDAY MAY 28TH AT 11:00AM

Tree planting at 11:30am

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