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PAULA BROWN PHOTO

**SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY:** The Order of Eastern Star Normac Chapter in Shelburne donated \$1,000 to the local food bank, Shepherd's Cupboard on Wednesday (Dec. 14). The donation was raised through the group's musical jamboree, which was held at the Shelburne Legion on Dec. 4 and saw over 250 tickets sold. Funds raised through the event were also given to other local organizations such as the Shelburne Christmas Hampers and Family Transition Place (FTP) as well as to areas where members are from including Alliston, Dundalk and Grand Valley.

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## Local hospital receives nearly \$2 million for upgrades

Written By Paula Brown  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Two health care facilities in Dufferin County are receiving more than \$2.1 million in funding from the provincial government to support critical upgrades and repairs.

Dufferin-Caledon MPP and Minister of Health Sylvia Jones announced the funding during a news conference at Headwaters Health Care Centre (HHCC) in Orangeville on Dec. 9.

"For over 25 years Headwaters Health staff and volunteers have provided high-quality healthcare close to home," said Jones. "Our government's investment to improve hospital infrastructure, enhance patient experience and increase capacity ensure our community will continue to receive world-class care for years to come, right here in Dufferin County."

Headwaters Health Care Centre (HHCC) will be receiving \$1.86 million from the provincial government's Health Infrastructure Renewal Fund.

Kim Delahunt, president and CEO at Headwaters, said the investment will help the hospital upgrade some of its critical areas in need.

"We have to be able to depend on our building when providing patient care as



PAULA BROWN PHOTO

**FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENT:** Dufferin-Caledon MPP and Minister of Health Sylvia Jones announced a \$1.86 million fund to Headwaters Health Care Centre (HHCC) on Dec. 9 to make upgrades and repairs to the facility.

well as provide for a safe environment for people who work and volunteer here," said Delahunt.

Headwaters has an extensive list of both short and long-term repairs and renovation needs. The funding will be used to support several areas including flooring replacement, ambulance bay paving, patient washroom renovations, additional signage, sinks and faucets in patient care areas, security camera upgrades and additional roofing upgrades.

Pine River Institute, a live-in treatment centre and outdoor leadership experience for youth ages 13 to 19 located near Shel-

burne, will also receive \$283,664 through the Community Infrastructure Renewal Fund. The facility combines therapy with a fully-accredited education program to reinforce healthy life skills.

The provincial government is providing \$175 million to hospitals through the Health Infrastructure Renewal Fund and over \$7.6 million to community health service providers through the Community Infrastructure Renewal Fund to address urgent infrastructure needs such as upgrades and replacements of roofs, windows, security systems, fire alarms and back-up generators.

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# County councillors sworn in for new term at inaugural meeting

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

Shelburne Mayor Wade Mills will hold the role of Dufferin County Warden for another term.

Mills was acclaimed and sworn in as the 146th Warden of Dufferin County, a role he will hold for the 2023 term, during county council's inaugural meeting last Thursday (Dec. 8) at Monora Park.

The Warden is the head of Dufferin County Council and acts as the chief executive officer (DEO) for the county, leading council meetings, and providing representation at functions.

Concluding his oath of office, Mills addressed his fellow council members before proceeding with the inaugural meeting.

"When I was elected Warden last December, I spoke about the challenges and opportunities that we faced during 2022, as we began to emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic. At the time, I suggested that we should not simply fall back into the familiar rhythm of doing things. Instead, I challenged us to move forward with an imaginative boldness



PAULA BROWN PHOTO

**SWEARING-IN:** Fifteen elected members from Dufferin County municipalities were sworn in to office last Thursday (Dec. 9) during Dufferin County Council's inaugural meeting at Monora Park. Shelburne Mayor Wade Mills was acclaimed as the 146th Warden of Dufferin County.

that drew up the lessons learned with an eye for reassessing and reimagining how we do things. I'm happy to say that I believe we've started to walk that in earnest."

Mills noted the difficulties this term of county council is expected to face in their decision-making, including economic uncertainty, inflation, housing, food security, provincial legislative changes with the potential for environmental concerns, and infrastructure pressures related to growth.

"These challenges and more will ensure that our collective job over the course of the

next four years will not be easy, but let's not allow this to discourage us or dampen our spirit or resolve," said Mills.

The inaugural meeting also saw 15 elected council members from the eight local municipalities sworn in for county council.

Following the swearing-in ceremony, four councillors were appointed as chairs to lead the standing committees: Amaranth Mayor Chris Gerrits will serve as chair of the infrastructure and environmental services committee, Mono Mayor John Creelman will lead the general government services committee, Melancthon Mayor Darren White will sit as chair of the health and human services committee, and Mulmur Mayor Janet Horner will continue as chair for the community development and tourism committee.

The remaining councillors on county council include Orangeville Mayor Lisa Post, East Garafraxa Mayor Guy Gardhouse, Grand Valley Mayor Steve Solomon and deputy mayors Shane Hall from Shelburne, Earl Hawkins from Mulmur, Gail Little from Amaranth, James McLean from Melancthon, Fred Nix from Mono, Philip Rentsch from Grand Valley, and Todd Taylor from Orangeville.

Dufferin County Council meetings are held on the second Thursday of every month. The next meeting will be held on Jan. 12.

## Council planning for first in-person meeting since pandemic started

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

Shelburne Town Council will be returning to in-person meetings come the new year after more than two years online.

During their meeting on Monday (Dec. 12), Shelburne Town Council received a report from clerk Jennifer Willoughby regarding the options to return to in-person meetings.

Shelburne Town Council has been holding electronic council meetings since early April 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. In May of this year, council chose to continue with the virtual format until the end of its term in October.

One of the main factors in returning to in-person meetings in Shelburne is finding a space that can accommodate council, town staff, and community members attending the meetings.

Similar to the report presented to council in May, Willoughby noted three options researched by staff for council to consider in returning to in-person meetings.

The first option looked into was a return to the council chambers located in Town Hall, but due to its size (400 sq ft) it was deemed 'insufficient' and 'non-functional' requiring an alternative location. Staff also looked into relocating the council chambers to the main floor of the Town Hall, into the space formerly occupied by the Shelburne Police Service (SPS).

"It was determined within that previous report that space would require significant capital costs to expand the space and currently we have repurposed this space for staff offices," explained Willoughby.

The third option presented to council in the report was returning to in-person meetings at Grace Tipling Hall, which has 195 theatre seats available.

"It can accommodate staff, it can accommodate council on the stage and it can accommodate members of the public," said Willoughby.

Willoughby noted that council meetings

would require an alternative approach (virtual) should the Grace Tipling Hall be booked or under renovation.

According to the report to council, attendance to meetings pre-pandemic was approximately four to 15 people while views noted through live streaming averaged around 119 views.

Coun. Walter Benotto, raised concerns with the continuation of virtual meetings and community participation as he did in the May council meeting.

"I agree that the former council chambers is basically useless...there is no way you could accommodate," said Benotto. "Zoom meetings are the worst way as far as I'm concerned to communicate, it makes it difficult. I understand a lot of people watch the meetings, but don't necessarily participate in the meetings - we never get questions during question period."

While returning to in-person meetings at Grace Tipling Hall, Shelburne staff are still researching future possibilities to include a hybrid approach. As part of the report, staff asked for \$2,500 to be included in the 2023 budget to allow for the hybrid approach.

"Currently we can record and live stream those meetings with what we've got," said Willoughby. "This will allow us [to operate] should additional material, audio or visual, be required to be purchased in order to provide that hybrid approach."

Despite council meetings returning to in-person, committee and board meetings will continue to be held virtually and live-streamed online.

"The word that we want to emphasize is a barrier-free opportunity. The ability for many people to volunteer comes with some constraints and what we found is that with the electronic format those constraints are almost eliminated," said CAO Denyse Morrissey.

Shelburne Town Council's first in-person council meeting will be held on Jan. 9 at the Grace Tipling Hall, located in Shelburne Town Hall.

## Catalytic converters stolen from dealership

The Dufferin Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is investigating the theft of several catalytic converters stolen off vehicles at two dealerships in the Town of Mono.

The investigation revealed the thefts occurred in the overnight hours of Nov. 30 to Dec. 1. The catalytic converters were cut from 15 trucks between the two dealerships.

A catalytic converter is an exhaust emission control device that transforms hazardous gases and pollutants in your vehicles exhaust into less-toxic pollutants. Catalytic

converters contain precious metals, such as platinum, palladium, and rhodium which makes them attractive to thieves.

The investigation is continuing. If you have any information or video surveillance footage in relation to these thefts, please call the Dufferin OPP at 1-888-310-1122.

You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or submit your information online at <https://ontariocrimestoppers.ca/>.

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# Local hospital has 25% staff vacancy rate, says CEO

Written By **James Matthews**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Kim Delahunt said Headwaters Health Care Centre in Orangeville had another unprecedented year in 2022.

Delahunt, the hospital's CEO, described some of the hurdles and accomplishments to Mono town council on Tuesday (Dec. 13). And she spoke about some of the goals for the future.

Jennifer Hamilton, director of communications and stakeholder engagement at the hospital, and Tom Reid, chief paramedic at Dufferin Paramedic Services, were also on hand during the presentation.

"I cannot stress how proud I am of the team here at Headwaters who continue to show up each and every day with a smile on their face, ready to serve our patients and families," Delahunt said.

Then, later: "We are in a very good place, currently."

That's despite a current 25 per cent vacancy rate among staff at the hospital.

Councillor Ralph Manktelow, a retired surgeon, asked about any staff shortages at Headwaters. He said it's a problem shared by many health care facilities.

"The hardest areas to recruit into right now are pretty common across all hospitals, and those are the specialized nursing areas," Delahunt said.

Among those, she said, are Emergency Department nurses and those who work in intensive care units, obstetrics, and operating rooms.

Part of the challenge to recruit for those floors is the extra training required to qualify for those jobs, she said.

At Headwaters, they're looking internally for experienced nurses interested in availing of more training to be able to nurse in those specialized wards.

"We are leveraging all those opportunities," she said, and added they've recruited a handful of international nurses to work in Orangeville.

"We're in a decent place at Headwaters,"



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**STAFF SHORTAGE:** Headwaters Health Care Centre, located at 100 Rolling Hills Dr., currently has a 25 per cent staff vacancy rate, primarily among specialized nursing departments.

Delahunt said. "Our team has worked very, very hard."

Manktelow asked if she could quantify the staff vacancy at the hospital with a specific percentage.

"Overall, we have about a 25 per cent vacancy rate, primarily in nursing," Delahunt said. "It varies by department, what that percentage is, and I don't know those off-hand. I apologize. I just know the big number."

"It sounds high, but it is in line with the provincial rate, unfortunately. So we're not any different than other hospitals."

Headwaters uses agency staff when required. Those are nurses from agencies that charge high rates for temporary staffing.

"We're trying to decrease our reliance on that," she said. "We certainly want to have our own staff and support them."

Manktelow asked if Headwaters has had to close its Emergency Department in the last year.

"We had one 12-hour closure in the summer, at the peak when our staffing was

at an all-time low," Delahunt said. "The most acute, life-threatening [patients], we were still taking. Just anyone that was non-life-threatening, we had to turn away for a 12-hour period."

Deputy Mayor Fred Nix said many health care facilities throughout Ontario and, indeed, the country have been inundated with pediatric patients this fall. Hospitals have had to take drastic measures to handle increased patient loads of children with respiratory ailments.

"We are holding our own each and every day, which is great," Delahunt said. "We have had a few days where there were quite a few children in the Emergency Department."

"There was one day a few weeks ago where there were seven waiting to be admitted. Typically on every day there are four or five, but we are staffed up currently."

The hospital saw 38,343 emergency room visits, performed 348,101 lab tests, including the COVID-19 nasal swabs, and 76,048 diagnostic imaging tests from March 2021

to 2022. There were also 920 babies delivered at the hospital and 4,047 day surgeries during the same period.

"We're really proud of the work that continues to happen at Headwaters each and every year," Delahunt said.

A plan for foundational renewal at Headwaters will be set by updating the clinical priority plan, which is a clinical action plan that identifies priorities and areas of focus at the hospital for the next five years. It describes the directions hospital-wide to achieve those goals.

The plan outlines decision processes for individual programs and services at the facility and includes data from community-wide surveys.

"It's really about what we need to be doing to ensure we're continuing to serve the growth in our communities and the population that Headwaters services," Delahunt said.

The hospital received feedback from more than 1,000 stakeholders internally at the facility and externally from the public and community partners.

The two population groups with the largest growth in Dufferin County are people 65 years old and older and people who are between 20 and 29 years old. Delahunt said those groups are growing faster in Dufferin than the provincial average.

"It's a pretty key statistic for us to focus on to ensure that we're planning for those 65-plus," she said. "Focusing on geriatric programs and services and also ensuring that we've got programs and services for the younger (patients) and the new families moving into our area."

The hospital will continue its focus on wait lists for diagnostic imaging and elective surgeries, clinical priorities planning, the strategic plan renewal, and work toward future renovations in the Emergency Department and the dialysis unit.

"Due to numerous starts and stops throughout the past few years with the pandemic, our waitlist grew," Delahunt said.

## Shelburne council selects committees and boards for new term

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

Shelburne Town Council held their inaugural meeting for the 2022-2026 term of council on Monday (Dec. 12).

As part of their first meeting as a new council, the elected officials selected the committees and boards they will be serving on over the next four years.

"As we enter a new term of council there is a requirement to appoint members to the six committees and five boards of management," said Town Clerk, Jennifer Wiloughby.

A new component of the committee and board selection process was the recommendation by staff to have a limit of two members of council appointed to each committee and board.

"Three members of council is pretty close to quorum so we suggested that two would be sufficient and in some places, there's only one member of council on committees the municipalities appoint," explained Denys Morrisey, chief administrative officer. "Also, it gives a little bit more of a balance, and there's greater public representation on the committee than there are members of council."

Here are the committees and boards each council members was appointed to.

**Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex (CDRC) Board:**

- Deputy Mayor Shane Hall
- Coun. Dan Sample
- Coun. Lindsay Wegener as alternate

**Shelburne Public Library Board:**

- Coun. Lindsay Wegener

**Shelburne & District Fire Board:**

- Deputy Mayor Shane Hall
- Coun. Walter Benotto

**Police Services Board:**

- Mayor Wade Mills
- Deputy Mayor Shane Hall

**Business Improvement Area Association (BIA):**

- Coun. Len Guchardi
- Coun. Dan Sample

**Arts & Culture Committee:**

- Coun. Lindsay Wegener
- Coun. Kyle Fegan as alternate

**Canada Day Festival Committee:**

- Coun. Kyle Fegan

**Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Accessibility Committee:**

- Deputy Mayor Shane Hall
- Coun. Walter Benotto
- Coun. Len Guchardi

**Economic Development Committee:**

- Mayor Wade Mills
- Coun. Walter Benotto
- Coun. Lindsay Wegener
- Coun. Kyle Fegan

**Parks and Recreation Task Force**

- Coun. Dan Sample

**Coun. Lindsay Wegener Nottawasaga Valley Conversation Authority (NVCA):**

- Coun. Kyle Fegan

The application deadline for community members to apply for a spot on a committee or board has been extended to Dec. 31. Council will receive a report in the new year regarding the appointment of residents.

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# Inclusive - Unless it's you

Inclusive – it's a word being thrown around a lot lately.

Everything must be inclusive. You must include everybody in everything – or must you?

As usual, it's a small group of people demanding everyone else follow their rules, and for some reason, everyone follows along because objecting will have you labelled with one of many fashionable words that are tossed around if someone doesn't follow the herd led by a handful of vocal people.

The problem with inclusivity is when you cancel an event or something similar because a small number of people won't or can't take part, you eliminate the right of the majority to have their experience.

Of course, you should be inclusive as much as you can. I've never been part of any group or organization that would deliberately exclude other people. Most things I've been involved with have an 'all welcome' policy. However, if a person doesn't feel comfortable with us, they have the option of not joining – they don't have the option of forcing us to change our ways.

There are too many examples of so-called 'inclusivity' where the majority is punished.

A friend of mine posted on Facebook, how she had baked cupcakes for her son's school class to help celebrate his birthday and make the day special.

She was very careful and mindful of other students in the class and made sure her cupcakes would be nut-free, in case someone had an allergy, as well as a few other things she took precautions with. When she brought the cupcakes to the school, she gave some to the school staff who appreciated the effort and thought it was a thoughtful thing to do.

Unfortunately, the teacher would not allow the offending cupcakes in the class. The reason? She thought one student wouldn't be allowed to take part, so the recess party would not be inclusive.

While the rest of the staff rolled their eyes, they were also too afraid to say something, because of course if they did, the teacher would admonish them.

So the rest of the class, the majority, couldn't be part of something, because one kid might not take part.

He wouldn't be forced to participate, but of course, that didn't matter.

I spoke to another friend of mine this past weekend, who has been running a girls' club group for several years. The group

takes part in most local parades, except I noticed this year, they weren't in the Christmas parade.

I asked my friend why her group was not involved.

She told me the higher-ups in the organization decided none of the clubs should participate because not everyone celebrates Christmas.

I asked her if anyone in her group would be offended. She said, "No, they're 10 years old, they all celebrate Christmas."

So a group of young girls was disappointed because some seriously politically correct people decided to cancel their fun, for a non-existent reason.

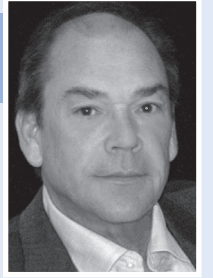
The thing with inclusivity is, it only works when you point fingers at someone else.

A couple of years ago I did a photo shoot with a local organization for an advertising brochure. The brochure featured actual members of the team.

When showing them the photos, one woman, who for some reason always throws a monkey wrench into things, announced that the brochure was not diverse enough and was not inclusive.

I assured her it was indeed inclusive because the photos included actual members of the organization

BRIAN LOCKHART  
FROM THE SECOND ROW



"Not good enough," she said. We need more inclusiveness.

One man, a member of the committee, who is not known for keeping his opinions to himself, said, "Aren't you a vice-president at the <insert religion, ethnic name> Association?"

She said she was.

He replied, "Well, I guess you are a member of a group, in fact, vice-president, who are not inclusive."

"That's different," she said.

The man replied, "No, it's not. The name of your association itself, says you only want people from your religion and ethnic background. That's not inclusive. I guess you'll either have to resign or change the name of your group and start letting other people in."

The guy made his point, and the brochure went ahead as planned.

If you want to be inclusive and include other people in your activities, great. The more the merrier.

But when you have other people demanding you stop your activities because someone else doesn't want to take part, you've taken your political correctness to an absurd level, and the majority should not be punished for a misguided way of thinking.

# Two coups failed

Could there be anything more ridiculous than last week's failed coup attempt in Peru?

Last Wednesday morning, President Pedro Castillo made an unscheduled broadcast announcing that he was dissolving Congress, suspending the constitution, and would rule the country by decree. But within minutes he was abandoned by his own ministers, in a few hours he was impeached by Congress, and he was in jail by dinner-time.

The baby-faced 53-year-old president, who wears his huge white ten-gallon hat everywhere he goes (except, perhaps, in jail), was never a credible occupant of the office. He had no experience of government before being elected two years ago by despairing voters who were willing to try anything new, and he showed no aptitude for his new job either.

Castillo ran as an independent, and his only declared ally was the Marxist-Lenin 'Free Peru Party'. Once in office, however,

he displayed much skill and enthusiasm in diverting public funds into his own pockets: bribes, fake contracts, selling government jobs, etc.

Even in Peru this is bound to attract public disapproval, and most of the people who joined his government quit again within months. (Five prime ministers in two years.) Moreover, Congress was dominated by hard-right parties, and soon they were trying to impeach him.

By last week they thought they had a majority to start the impeachment process, or at least Castillo thought they did. So he launched his 'autogolpe' ('self-coup'), named after the action of a previous Peruvian president who overthrew his own elected government and ruled as a dictator. But where Alberto Fujimori succeeded in 1992, Castillo failed in 2022.

He failed because most of Peru's 33 million people saw his action as illegitimate. The country is going through a bad patch, but its

people have concluded that respect for the constitution is good, while coups and dictators are bad.

Vice-President Dina Boluarte took over the presidency smoothly with Congress's blessing, while Castillo wound up behind bars. Well done Peru, but there was something even more ridiculous than Castillo's attempted coup last week.

Due to some sort of intercontinental quantum entanglement, a group of quite respectable German citizens were plotting a coup, and on the very same day they too ended up in jail.

Three thousand police carried out 130 raids across Germany and arrested 23 members of this largely internet-based organization. As many more people are still being sought. They included doctors, retired army officers, a former member of parliament, an ex-judge, even a celebrity chef – and they almost all had guns stashed away.

"We don't yet have a name for this group," said a spokeswoman for the federal prosecutor's office, but the goal was to storm the Bundestag (German parliament), overthrow the government, and revive the German Reich.

'Reich' can mean 'kingdom' or 'empire', but it doesn't normally mean 'democracy'. And it wasn't clear which Reich they had in mind, but it presumably wasn't the t

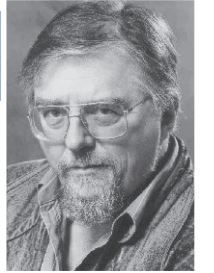
housand-year-old Holy Roman Empire, the First Reich, destroyed by Napoleon in 1806.

Maybe the Second Reich, the unified Germany ruled by the Hohenzollern dynasty from 1871 to 1918. Or even the Third Reich, run by Adolf Hitler from 1933 to 1945. But definitely an autocracy of some sort, and the nameless group even had a 'king' ready to take power, a 71-year-old minor aristocrat known as Prince Heinrich XIII.

All musical-comedy stuff, except that the guns were real. Many of the plotters were also anti-vaxxers, and a leading Swiss newspaper was probably right to dismiss the group as "fifty loons". Certainly, the constitution of the German Federal Republic was never in danger, and we might conclude that 'what happens on the internet stays on the internet.'

That's true in most places, most of the time. Moreover, when the conspiracy theories do occasionally bleed over into reality it's usually horrible but isolated events like school shootings, not massive changes in national politics. However, big lies do sometimes take hold. They could do so even before the internet, as a previous generation of Germans could attest to. And no country is immune, no matter how old and secure its democracy may seem.

GWYNNE DYER  
OUR WORLD TODAY



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# Police share warning about the '12 Scams of Christmas'

The Dufferin Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) has seen an increase in fraud reports recently. Investigators from the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre have provided information warning about the 12 scams of the holidays.

For most people, this is the season for giving, but for scammers, it's the season for taking advantage. Don't fall victim to the following scams.

1) Phishing Emails and Texts - You may receive messages claiming to be from a recognizable source (e.g. financial institution, telecommunications company, service provider, shipping company) asking you to submit or confirm your information. They may even include a malicious link.

2) Emergency - Is a supposed loved one reaching out to you because they need money now and you're the only one they trust to keep it a secret? Resist the urge to act immediately and verify the person's identity by asking those questions a stranger wouldn't know.

3) Counterfeit Merchandise - Look out for huge and flashy discount ads that direct you to websites that look like the legitimate manufacturers. If you do receive any inferior products, they could pose significant health risks.

4) Selling Goods & Services Online - Be suspicious of payment offers that are more than the asking price and confirm that you have

received a legitimate payment before you send the product.

5) Crypto Investments - Fraudsters are using social media and fraudulent websites. Before investing, ask for information on the investment. Research the team behind the offering and analyze the feasibility of the project. Verify if the company is registered by using the National Registration Tool ([www.aretheyregistered.ca](http://www.aretheyregistered.ca))

6) Romance Scams - An attractive fake identity lures you into their web of lies spun with loving messages and sweet promises. The fraudsters play on your emotions to maximize their payday over time.

7) Online Shopping - Fraudsters pose as genuine sellers and post fake ads for items that do not exist. The listing price for almost any item (e.g. event ticket, rental, vehicle, and puppy) is usually too good to be true. Research before you buy. Whenever possible, exchange goods in person or use your credit card for payment.

8) Secret Santa - You may have noticed multiple gift exchange posts on your social media feeds. This may seem like a fun activity where you only have to send one gift and receive multiple in return. Unfortunately, this exchange collects some of your personal information and also hides a pyramid scheme where only those on top profit. Pyramid schemes are illegal in Canada.

9) Prize Notifications - You may receive a letter or a call with the good news; you've won millions and a fancy car too. First, you just need to confirm your personal information and then cover a few fees before your winnings can be delivered. Remember: If you didn't enter, you can't win. You can't enter another country's lottery without purchasing a ticket from within that country. In Canada, if there are fees associated to a prize, they are removed from the total winnings; you would never be required to pay fees in advance.

10) Gift Cards - Gift cards are a popular and convenient way to give a gift. They should also be considered like cash; once they are exchanged, it is unlikely that you are getting your money back. Gift cards are not meant for payments and no legitimate business or organization will request these; especially under pressure.

11) Charity Scams - During the season of giving, make sure your donations are going to the right places. Charity/donation scams involve any false, deceptive, misleading or fraudulent solicitation for a donation to a charity, association, federation or religious cause. Refuse high-pressure requests for donations, ask for written information about the charity and do your own research. Remember to always ask the solicitor for the charitable tax number and confirm their registration with the Canada Revenue

Agency or by phone at 1-800-267-2384.

12) Identity Theft and Identity Fraud - In all the hustle and bustle of the season.

DO: keep your wallet on your person and cover your PIN.

DON'T: share passwords or provide your personal information on impulse.

Fraudsters love a good shopping spree; especially when they're using someone else's name and money. Contact your financial institutions and the credit bureaus, Equifax Canada and TransUnion Canada, as soon as you notice:

a. Suspicious activity on your financial statement/s.

b. Unauthorized activity on your credit report.

c. Letters approving or declining credit applications you did not authorize.

d. Re-routed mail.

e. Bills from service providers you do not use.

f. Your information was compromised as part of a database breach.

Anyone who suspects they have been the victim of cybercrime or fraud should report it to Dufferin OPP at 1-888-310-1122 and to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre's online reporting system or by phone at 1-888-495-8501. If not a victim, report it to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre anyways.

# Dufferin OPP nab pair for stunt driving well over speed limit

Members from the Dufferin Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are working diligently to keep the roads in Dufferin County safe.

Speed continues to be a major contributing factor in serious collisions. Officers charged two drivers with stunt driving including the driver of a transport truck.

On Dec. 12, shortly after 2:00 a.m., a Dufferin OPP officer was conducting enforcement on Highway 10 in the Town of Orangeville when he stopped a large commercial motor vehicle for travelling 110kms/hr in a posted 60km/h zone.

As a result of the investigation, the driver, a 24-year-old, from Brampton, was charged with:

- Stunt Driving

On Dec. 10 at approximately 4:40 a.m., a Dufferin OPP officer was conducting enforcement in the area of County Road 12 in the Township of Amaranth when he stopped a vehicle for travelling 179kms/h in an 80km/h zone.

As a result of the investigation, the driver, a 20-year-old, from Orangeville, was charged with:

- Stunt Driving

Both drivers are scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville to answer to their charges. These charges have not been proven in court. Their driver's licences are suspended for thirty days and their vehicles will be impounded for 14 days.

Dufferin OPP would like to remind motorists that the charge of stunt driving includes a variety of driving behaviours, including:

- Lifting some or all tires off the ground;
- Driving in the manner to cause some or all tires to lose traction while turning;
- Driving in a way that indicates an intention to spin (or cause it to circle), without maintaining control;
- Driving side by side, where one of the vehicles is in the lane intended for oncoming traffic, for a period longer than reasonable to pass;
- Driving with someone in the trunk of the motor vehicle;
- Driving while the driver is not seated;
- Driving 50 km/h or more over the posted speed limit;
- Driving at a rate of 150 km/h or more; and
- Driving without due care and attention, without reasonable consideration for other persons or in a manner that may endanger any person by:
  - o Driving in a way that indicates an intention to prevent another vehicle from passing;
  - o Stopping or slowing down to indicate an intention to interfere with the operation of another vehicle;
  - o Driving as close as possible to another vehicle, pedestrian, or fixed object; and
  - o Making a left turn at a traffic light immediately at the green indicator with vehicles also

stopped in the opposite direction (to turn before the other vehicle is able to proceed straight through).

Members of the Dufferin OPP are committed to public safety, delivering proactive and innovative policing in partnership with our communities. Officers value your contribution to building safe communities. If you have

information about suspected unlawful activity, please contact the OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or Crime Stoppers to remain anonymous at 1-800-222-8477 or [crimestoppersdm.com](http://crimestoppersdm.com).

## X CROSSWORD

### PUZZLE 465

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9	10		11	12	13	14
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81						82				83	84	85		86		
87						88				89				90		
91						92				93				94		

3. Geological layers
4. Sturgeon delicacy
5. Auricle
6. Coffee additive
7. Broad expanse
8. Keep trying
9. Marble figure
10. A real shocker?
11. Central part
12. Alas!
13. Musical transition
14. White with age
25. Considerably
26. Theatrical part
28. Art \_\_\_\_\_
29. Laundry utensil
31. Precipitate
34. Mineral
36. Bric-a-brac stand
38. Pounce
40. Tinker
41. Dwarf buffalo
42. Turnpike fee
43. Organic compound
44. Assist a criminal
45. Pamper
46. Wing-shaped
48. Gator's cousin
52. Juicy fruit
55. Alcohol lamp
57. Phonograph record
58. Evidence
60. Palm drink
62. At the top
64. Ancient Egyptian symbol
66. Echo
67. Come to light
68. Distanced
69. Toil
70. Desert plant
71. Manners
74. Moroccan capital
77. Monopoly fee
79. Uneasy
82. Earlier
84. Before "blastoff"
85. Shelley offering

### ACROSS

1. "\_\_\_\_ fleece was white ..."
4. \_\_\_\_ room (family room)
7. Church part
11. Pin money
15. Negative
16. Paddle's cousin
17. Nerve network
18. Toast spread
19. Sable
20. Prior to, in verse
21. Of a time
22. Indian melody
23. WWII agency
24. Sailor's "stop"
26. Come again
27. Steep
28. Coin
30. Continental currency
32. Florida island

### DOWN

33. Sparse
35. Expose
37. Follower
39. Sober
44. Mother-of-pearl source
47. Coyly roguish
49. Promptly
50. Unit of cotton
51. Enrage
53. Western tie
54. Abba \_\_\_\_\_
55. Fencing equipment
56. Weirdo
59. Absolute ruler
61. Vital
63. Shoe part
65. Music lover's equipment
69. On the \_\_\_\_ (fleeing)
72. Tropical American rodent
73. Killer whale

75. Flightless bird
76. Plato's market
78. NBA site
80. Special favorite
81. Exposed
82. Waterless
83. Ghostly greeting
86. Foul up
87. Bread baker
88. "The Over-the-Hill \_\_\_\_"
89. In addition
90. Turkish ruler
91. Repose
92. Submit to
93. Football holder
94. Perfect score, to a gymnast

### DOWN

1. Notify
2. Wig





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# Feed Ontario highlights record food bank use in annual report

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

As food costs continue to rise, more people are accessing support than ever before. Canada's food bank usage hit an all-time high earlier this year with nearly 1.5 million visits in March. Provincially, food bank usage has risen for six years straight with more than 600,000 people accessing them last year, accounting for 4.3 million visits.

Representatives from Feed Ontario delivered a presentation to the Orangeville Food Bank on the organization's newly released 2022 Hunger Report on Dec. 5. They went over food bank use within the province over the last year.

"Food bank use across the province has hit record highs. We are seeing more people than ever before and people are visiting food banks more frequently than ever before," said Amanda King, director of government relations and advocacy at Feed Ontario, a not-for-profit collective of hunger-relief organizations. "In fact, when we look at it provincially, there is some concern that the rate of growth could outpace the capacity of the network."

Many communities in Feed Ontario's network of 134-member food banks have had their inventories cut back from two to three months' supply of food down to two to three weeks, due to increased demand, King noted.

At the current rate of rising demand, she said food banks around the province could reach a tipping point where they don't have the resources to feed everyone trying to access them. To help avoid this, good public policies need to be enacted that reduce the need for food banks, said King.

"We also need to make sure people have the income that they need to afford today's cost of living," she told the Citizen.

The demographics of people accessing food banks are those with precarious employment, unaffordable housing costs, black and Indigenous people, and those who rely on social assistance as their primary source of income.

The number of different people accessing food banks in Ontario climbed by 15 per cent since 2019 and there's been a 42 per cent rise in the total number of food bank visits, Feed Ontario's report noted. The report also shared that over the same period, there's been a 64 per cent increase in first-time users of food banks, who now represent one in three people that visit



**SHARING DATA:** Amanda King, director of government relations and advocacy at Feed Ontario, delivers a presentation at the Orangeville Food Bank for community members, dignitaries, and those working in the social service sector. King highlighted the fact that there were 4,353,880 food bank visits last year, which is up 42 per cent from 2019, and one in three food bank users were there for the first time.



**TALKING FOOD INSECURITY:** Executive director of the Orangeville Food Bank Heather Hayes talks about what she's seen in her role over the past few years as the demand for food continues to rise.

them. The Feed Ontario report highlights a key statistic – it's harder to break the cycle of poverty today than ever before.

A child born in the 1980s is 22 per cent more likely to remain in poverty as an adult than a child born to the same circumstances in the 1960s, and that trend has continued.

Many things have changed over the last 40 years. One of the biggest factors is that the jobs aren't the same.

"We used to be a manufacturing powerhouse in Ontario. It was very common to have long term jobs, stable jobs, jobs that offered employer benefits, pension programs, sick days, all sorts of things that really helped to support workers," said King. "But those jobs are becoming few and far between. As time goes on, they're actually becoming almost an exception in many cases."

Instead, there's been a rise in precarious employment or the gig economy, which is employment through corporations like SkipTheDishes, Uber, and Instacart. This type of work now represents almost one in 10 workers in Ontario.

This, in part, has led to a 47 per cent increase in the number of people with employment accessing food banks, King noted.

"People working today still cannot earn enough money for the cost of living, so consequently, they're coming to the food banks to help fill that gap and get that support," she explained.

In addition to employment, another significant change over the past four decades

leading to increased poverty is that employment supports are not the same.

Employment Insurance (EI), a government program every working Canadian pays into, has the worst coverage in Ontario. Just 27 per cent of Ontarians who were unemployed in 2019 collected EI benefits.

Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) has also become harder to access and has seen a reduction in investments over the years.

"When it comes to just our workforce, we have poorer jobs, lower quality jobs, and fewer worker supports to help people get back on their feet between employment opportunities," said King.

Another challenge today that wasn't present 40 years ago is a lack of funding for social support programs.

Ontarians denied EI often collect Ontario Works (OW) instead for \$733 per month, which is significantly below the poverty line at around \$2,600. Meanwhile, the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) pays \$1,228 per month.

With the average cost to rent a basic single-bedroom apartment in Orangeville ranging from \$1,200 to \$1,800, it's no wonder many people who rely on social support programs end up accessing food banks.

A Feed Ontario survey last year showed that one in three respondents reported having less than \$100 after their rent payment each month to pay for everything else.

A divestment in affordable housing has also created a cost-of-living crisis in

Ontario over the past few decades. Since the 1990s, investments in co-ops and supportive housing have dropped significantly.

"It actually used to be approximately one supportive or social housing unit per 14 people in Ontario was built, now it's one in 200," King remarked.

To help with the food insecurity crisis hitting Ontario, she said there are two main things people can do – talk to their government representatives and support their local food bank, whether that's volunteering or donating.

"Talk to your MPPs and elected officials, ask for poverty reduction to be prioritized," King noted. "So that's increasing the support provided through social assistance, increasing investments in supportive and social housing, as well as improving Ontario's labour laws to help support workers – ensure they are able to earn sufficient income for today's cost of living."

One of the key takeaways from Feed Ontario's hunger report this year is that solutions are possible, King said.

"What we're seeing is an accumulation of a lot of long-term income insecurity issues and contributors to [food] insecurity that have progressed. And we're seeing that in conjunction with the pandemic and inflation rates all coming to a head. But prior to that, 30-40 years ago, we actually had fantastic job opportunities, a social safety net, great access to EI and other supports for workers and people who perhaps had fallen on hard times," King stressed. "The solutions are there. We just need to bring them back."

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# SHELBURNE SPORTS

## Local athlete competes at Mens' Softball World Cup

Written By Brian Lockhart

Local softball player, Quinten Bruce, represented the nation as a member of Team Canada at the Men's Softball World Cup, held in Auckland, New Zealand Nov. 26 to Dec. 4.

Team Canada made it to the championship game, but lost to Australia in the final, earning the silver medal.

Quinten, who lives in Grand Valley, and attended Centre Dufferin High School in Shelburne, is a product of Grand Valley softball, where the sport is taken seriously. He started playing the sport when he was just three years old.

Quinten plays the outfield position.

"It's the small town of Grand Valley – in the winter everybody plays hockey, and in the summer the majority of kids play softball. It's been like that as long as I can remember," Quinten said of growing up in a town where softball is a way of life. "I played baseball in Orangeville for two years, but it was a lot different, and the pace was a lot slower. Everyone here played softball, it was the sport of choice."

He played through his teen years in a league organized by the Western Ontario Athletic Association. His team competed at the provincial level.

Keeping with the sport, he kept getting more and more involved.

"There's an ISC circuit, and it's the highest level of club men's softball in North America," Quinten explained. "There's 10 to 15 teams and they get international players. That's where your initial exposure to national teams is. Fortunately, I was picked up in my second last year of juniors by the Kitchener Cubs, the team was ranked pretty

high. We were ranked sixth in the world. The first year I just sat on the bench, but it was a great learning experience. I was learning from all these guys who played for their country."

Making team Canada was a process that took several years.

"2019 was my breakout year, with the Kitchener Cubs," Quinten explained. "Team Canada has an athlete pool – it's a 40-man roster – and every year the roster changes depending on what guy's commitment levels are, and when they are trying to bring in a new crop of players. In 2019, I was named to the 40-man roster and part of the pool. I got onto bigger and better teams, and this summer after the Canadian championships in St. John's Newfoundland, that's when I was approached by the head coach and coaching staff and asked if I was able to take three weeks off work to go to New Zealand."

There were 12 teams competing in the World Cup.

"The World Championships are held every two years," Quinten said. "We were in the gold medal game, and we lost that game. There were 12 teams split into two groups of six. We started the tournament against Venezuela, and we beat them 3-2. Then we steamrolled a couple of teams, we beat Denmark 10-0, then South Africa 12-0. We were undefeated in round-robin play. We played Australia in the gold medal round and they beat us 5-2. They beat us in every aspect of the game – they were just better than us that day."

For Quinten, it was the chance of a lifetime to play his sport at the highest level of competition.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**LOCAL SOFTBALL PLAYER**, Quinten Bruce, takes a swing during competition at the Men's Softball World Cup, held in Auckland, New Zealand. Bruce, who's a Grand Valley resident, competed with Team Canada at the event. Team Canada won silver after going to the championship game but took a loss in the final.

## Wolves U11 LL team battling through the season

Written By Brian Lockhart

It has been a tough season for many hockey teams as they needed to recruit new players to fill the roster.

The pandemic saw many clubs lose players when arenas were closed and hockey players moved on to other activities.

The Shelburne Wolves U11 LL team has several new players, but as the season progresses they are understanding the game and getting better on the ice. The team has several players who lost a couple of seasons of development during the pandemic.

Coach, Justin Dzikowski, said his team has many new players who have come a long way since the start of the season.

"To start the year, we had kids that were so brand new to the sport they couldn't even line up for a face-off," Justin said. "They didn't know what a face-off was. Now we are playing games – we know our positions, our lines, different plays, break-outs, and forechecks."

The loss of ice time during the pandemic

meant some players missed out on important instruction to move them to the next level.

"We have four or five kids that lost two and a half years," Justin explained. "The way instruction works with Hockey Canada, those are development years where you switch from half-ice to full-ice and have new rules like icing, off-sides, and on-the-fly changes. Those are big things for the game that they didn't learn."

Despite the missing time, Justin has worked hard with the kids to give them the skills and training they need to compete.

"It's amazing – it's night and day from where we were when we started," Justin said. "We had players that couldn't skate at the beginning of the year. We practice and run two drills and we run them all year. It's all about repetitiveness. It's just transitioning to a game. They're listening and they're getting it."

The Wolves won their first game of the season on Saturday, Dec. 10, when they beat the South Grey Spartans 7-6.



PHOTO BY BRIAN LOCKHART

**THE SHELBURNE WOLVES U13 REP TEAM** host the South Muskoka Bears at the Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex on Saturday, Dec. 10. The Wolves played a good game but had to settle for a 4-1 loss.



PHOTO BY BRIAN LOCKHART

**THE SHELBURNE WOLVES U11 LL TEAM** takes on the South Grey Spartans on the ice at the Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex on Saturday, Dec. 10. The Wolves won their first game of the season, leaving the ice with a 7-6 victory.

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## ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

### ELLA CRUIKSHANK

"I love how you can practice, and the more you work at it the better you can shoot and the better your skills are," Said Centre Dufferin District High School senior girls basketball team member, Ella Cruikshank, of why she likes the sport. "It's pretty physical, and like that part too."

Ella helped bring her team to the District 4 championship game this season.

When she's not on the basketball court, Ella plays U18 AA hockey with the Junior Gryphons.

She also played with the school's field hockey team and will be on the school's girls ice hockey team.



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# TOWN PAGE

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### COUNCIL 2023 DATES

January 9 & 23, February 13 & 27, March 13 & 27, April 3 & 24, May 8 & 29, June 12 & 26, July 10 & 24, August 28, September 11 & 25, October 16 & 30, November 13 & 27, December 11 • Meetings commence at 6:30 pm



### WINTER MAINTENANCE – WINDROWS

Snow left at the bottom of driveways after a snowplow has gone by is called a windrow. The priority of snow removal is to clear the travelled portion of the road. The only place to move the snow is onto the boulevard, which includes driveways. If you have cleared your driveway, but Snowplows have not cleared your street, be prepared for a windrow at the bottom of your driveway.

When clearing snow from your driveway, pile the snow on the right side of the driveway (looking towards the street from driveway). This will reduce the amount of snow pushed back into your driveway when the street is plowed.

Also, reduce the amount of snow pushed back by not parking on roadways during the winter months. Plows need to move around parked vehicles, which create snow build-up. Ultimately when the vehicles are moved and further plowing is done, snow build-up is pushed back into driveways.

### Winter Dos and Don'ts for Residents

#### DO NOT

- Park on any roadway as it prevents timely and efficient snow removal.
- Put waste containers on the road, sidewalks, and snowbanks.
- Shovel, plow, or blow snow onto roads or sidewalks, it is not only a safety hazard; it is against the law.

#### DO

- Give snowplows plenty of room as they are working to keep roads safe.
- Keep fire hydrants and catch basins clear.
- Take extra time and caution when travelling as roads and sidewalks can be slippery.

## TOWN OF SHELBURNE 2023 NOTICE OF RATE CHANGE WATER AND SEWER

Please take notice that an increase in the Water and Sewer Base Rate Charges and Consumption Charges will take effect the first invoice of 2023 to be received in March 2023 for the consumption period (January 1-March 1, 2023).

Rate increases for both Water and Sewer are outlined in By-Law 2020-10 Water and Sewer Rates passed by Council in February 2020. The By-Law provides for rates for the years 2020-2025 and are reflective of data collected in the updated Water Rate Study with respect to future water and sewer operating and capital needs.

### WATER AND SEWER CONSUMPTION RATES:

Increasing Block Rate measure in meters cubed	2023 Sewer Consumption Rate	2023 Water Consumption Rate
000-220	1.31	0.95
221-690	1.44	1.04
690 and greater	1.63	1.18

### WATER AND SEWER BASE RATES:

Size of Meter	2023 Sewer Base Fee	2023 Water Base Fee
5/8" or 3/4"	36.42	26.90
1"	91.05	67.25

For larger Commercial and Industrial Water Meters, please visit: [www.shelburne.ca](http://www.shelburne.ca) for further details.

Any questions regarding the water and sewer rates, please contact the Town of Shelburne:

By phone: 519-925-2600 x 231  
[water@shelburne.ca](mailto:water@shelburne.ca)

### YOUR PROPERTY TAX BILLS ARE RECEIVING A NEW LOOK!!

Beginning with your 2023 Interim Tax Bill, you will no longer receive a legal size, blue background Tax Bill. All Property Tax bills will now be printed on 8.5 x 11 plain paper.

Don't forget to enroll in eBilling! Your Tax bill will be delivered directly to your inbox!

Visit [www.shelburne.ca](http://www.shelburne.ca) for full details

### AVOID FROZEN WATER PIPES!

With the cold weather approaching please remember to keep your Water Meter warm!

To protect your meter and pipes, ensure that they are kept warm; they should be insulated or located in areas that are kept warm. Keep garage doors closed to ensure pipes located there are kept warm; even a cracked garage door can allow entry of enough cold air to freeze pipes and meters.



**Season's Greetings**  
 Council and the Town of Shelburne  
**Holiday Closing Times**  
 Town offices will be closed Dec 23 at 4:30pm and reopening on Jan 3, 2023 at 8:30am  
 Council and Staff wish all residents and visitors a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year

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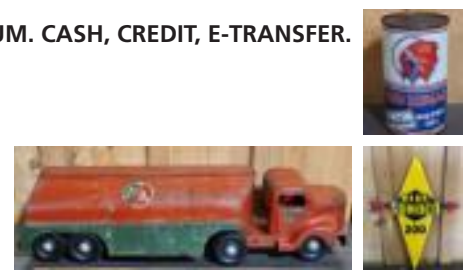
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**A FEW HIGHLIGHTS:** JACKIE ROBINSON SIGNED BASEBALL; MINNITOYS BA TANKER; LOTS OF TIN & PORCELAIN SIGNS; VINTAGE LICENSE PLATES; COMICS, CANS, CLOCKS AND SO MUCH MORE.

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OBITUARIES

## DAVE SMILEY

Dave passed away peacefully, with Susan by his side at Matthews House Hospice on Tuesday, November 15th, 2022. He will be greatly missed by his loving wife Susan Smiley (nee Holmes). He is the father of Rochelle Smiley and Debbie Lemon (Mark) of St Catherine's and grandfather of Brooke, brother of Greg Smiley (Noreen) of Nova Scotia, brother-in-law of Grant Holmes, Greg Holmes (Heather) and Jeff Holmes (Isabel). Predeceased by his brother Don Smiley (Edwina) and Barbara Herwick (Henry).



Dave was blessed to have 8 nieces and a nephew who he cherished their time together, and always looked forward to family gatherings whether holidays at home, camping, weekends at the cottage, boating and cruising. Most recently (past 5 years) he loved to see his 6 great nieces and nephews, who took time to spend with him and include him in birthday parties. He had many cherished memories.

In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to Matthews House Hospice Alliston, Trinity United Church Shelburne, or Order of the Eastern Star. Online condolences may be made at www.imfunerals.com

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

NOTICE OF CREDITORS

## NOTICE

Claims against estate of Mark Dennis Kameka, late of Twp of Melancthon, who died on April 22, 2022, must be filed with the undersigned estate trustee on or before January 10, 2023, after which date the estate will be distributed.

Dated December 6, 2022.  
 Aine Peter Kameka  
 Estate /Trustee  
 By his lawyer  
 Daley, Byers  
 121 Richmond St. West, Suite 1100  
 Toronto, Ontario M5K 2K1  
 Phone: 416.864.0246  
 Email: realestate@daleybyers.com

OBITUARIES

## BAIRD, SHAWN



Passed away on December 3, 2022 at Hospice Wellington at the age of 57.

Shawn was born in 1965 in Barrie, Ontario to his parents: Bob and Bette. He grew up in Shelburne, Ontario and started driving trucks in his late teens for Baird Moving Systems. He later moved to Kitchener. He built an empire as the president of Sharp Transportation Systems.

It was through Shawn's heart that some great accomplishments were achieved. Getting the message out against Human Trafficking, supporting the Women's Trucking Federation and the PMTC, to the ongoing animal rescues. One of the organizations that Shawn will be remembered for is developing awareness around the issues of Drivers Inc. and everything it stands against. This initiative was started to ensure that Drivers were being given the right to have equal opportunity by obligating companies to use good employment practices.

By investing in people and equipment, Shawn always had the best interests of people at heart.

Predeceased by his wife Donna Baird (nee: Egerdee) (2015).

Loving Father of Cassandra Long.

Dear Brother of Mike (Michele) Baird and Dean (Samantha) Baird.

Loving uncle of Josh, Adam, Justin, Bradley, Joel, Patrick, Zachary and Brook.

Shawn will also be missed by many employees, friends and associates.

Shawn's family will receive relatives and friends from 4:00-7:00 p.m. on Friday, December 16th, 2022 at the Henry Walsler Funeral Home, 507 Frederick Street, Kitchener, 519-749-8467. A Celebration of Life for Shawn will be held on Saturday, December 17 from 3 p.m. at the DoubleTree hotel in Kitchener.

As expressions of sympathy and in lieu of flowers, donations to Hospice Wellington would be appreciated by the family (cards available at the funeral home).

Visit www.henrywalsler.com for Shawn's memorial.

## SERVICE, MURIEL

MARCH 08, 1931 - DECEMBER 11, 2022

Passed away peacefully on Sunday, December 11, 2022 at Shelburne Long Term Care Home and Retirement Community in her 92nd year.

Predeceased by her Beloved husband Eldon Service (1996) her parents Edward and Adelaide Scott and her brothers Bartley and Malcom, and sisters Edna, Dorothy and Agnes and daughter-in-law Sandra (Kendrew) Service.

She leaves her children Edward (Jamie), Joyce, Robert (Dawn) and Herbert (Hilda). Grandchildren Scott, Heather, Lindsay, Greg, Pamela, Tamara, Vanesa, Kimberly, Michelle, Tricia and Mark & many great-grandchildren, her brothers Victor and Jack (Lidia) and many nieces and nephews.

Muriel was devoted to her family and faith. Her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren brought her great joy, and she loved sharing time, pictures, and stories. Muriel leaves behind special memories and an amazing example of love and faith.

Muriel was born and raised in Englehart, Northeastern Ontario and came to live in Melancthon Township in 1952 when she married her husband Eldon who was a resident of the area. They spent 44 years of married life together on the 4th line OC, Melancthon where she continued to live until July of this year when she moved to the Shelburne Long Term Care Home and Retirement Community, in the retirement home.

Friends will be received at the Jack & Thompson Funeral Home on Thursday, December 15, from 7-9 p.m. The funeral service will be held in the funeral home chapel on Friday, December 16, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. Interment to follow at Shelburne Cemetery. If desired donations can be made to the Cancer Society. Online condolences and donations may be placed at www.jackandthompsonfuneralhome.com

The family would like to express their sincere gratitude to the Shelburne Long Term Care Home and Retirement Community for the wonderful care and friendships made.



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COMING EVENTS

**PLEASE JOIN US** in worship at St. Paul's for Christmas. The Christmas Eve service will be held at 4:30 pm and the Christmas Day service will be held at 9:30 am. All are welcome.



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# Headwaters Dental provides free dental care for a day

Written By Brian Lockhart

For many people struggling to pay the bills, receiving dental care may be something that they just can't afford or have to put off to pay for something else.

At Headwaters Dental in Orangeville, Dr. Raj Khanuja, was so moved by one of his patients, that he decided to make a day available for free dental care for anyone who needs it.

Around 10 years ago, one of his patients had some cavities that needed to be taken care of. The patient opted to not return to complete the procedure. The next time he saw her, when she brought her son in, he asked the patient why she didn't want the cavities repaired.

She explained that as a single mother, she had limited funds, and as her son was playing hockey, she decided to spend what little money she had on buying him hockey equipment rather than taking care of her own health.

"She said something that really touched my heart," Dr. Raj explained. "She said she had been trying to buy some hockey equipment for her son, and she had a choice between hockey equipment or her teeth. That really stuck with me. I have many colleagues that go abroad, like those working with Beyond Borders, helping in developing nations that



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**FREE DENTAL CARE:** Dr. Raj Khanuja and his staff at Headwaters Dental in Orangeville offered a day of free dental care for patients on Tuesday, Dec. 6. Dr. Raj is offering a day of free care in all eight of his clinics in southern Ontario this year as a way to help those who simply can't afford to visit a dentist. Dr. Raj said it's a way of giving back to the community and helping those who need it.

do good work, so it occurred to me that there are people here that need help. Instead of going abroad and helping people, I'd decided to stay in my own backyard. I told the patient to come in and book an appointment and she will be the first patient for the free dental day. And that's how it got started."

Dr. Raj has expanded the free dental day to all of his eight clinics located in southern Ontario meaning he is offering eight days of

care for patients in those areas. Free procedures offered include cleaning, white fillings, and simple extractions.

The free clinic took place in Orangeville on Tuesday, Dec. 6.

"We started the program at one clinic, then expanded to four, and now this year we are doing all eight clinics," Dr. Raj explained. "We are doing Orangeville today, this is our second one. We did it in Brampton in November,

and the next one is coming up in Hillsburgh."

Dr. Raj's philosophy regarding those that request free dental care is to assume those requesting it, need it.

"Whoever comes in – we don't ask questions," he explained. "Generally it's people who don't have insurance. We take care of people on this day. We're not here to ask them questions or screen them to see if they can afford it or if they have coverage. It is their choice – they are choosing to be here, and we are here to provide a service. It's a way of helping people in my community. It is a feeling of satisfaction to do this. It makes you feel wonderful that you are able to help someone. Some of the people we see, you can really tell they were in need of our services. Any difference we can make, even if it's one person at a time, it's worth it."

At the end of the day, the clinic provided \$15,011 worth of dental services for free. Many patients left heartwarming messages for Dr. Raj and his staff for their compassionate work.

Dr. Raj is a busy man as he moves around between his eight clinics, and he has decided to give back to the members of the communities that support him, by offering this service every year to those who otherwise may go without any dental care at all.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**HOLIDAY CELEBRATION AT LOCAL LEGION:** The Shelburne Legion celebrated the holiday season with local veterans on Wednesday (Dec. 7) at their annual Christmas luncheon.



PETER RICHARDSON PHOTO

**WINTER WONDERLAND:** The Optimist Club of Orangeville is again hosting Christmas in the Park with the Magical Forest of Lights at Kay Cee Gardens. During December, there will be several special performances by local musicians. The popular Campfire Poets will be on stage at the park pergola on Monday, Dec. 19.



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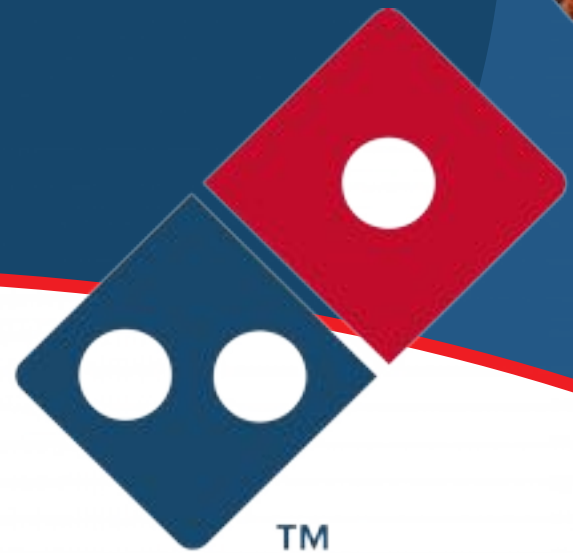
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