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Thursday, May 4, 2023

Volume 149, No. 18



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PAULA BROWN PHOTO

FIRST POLISH FLAG RAISING: Members of the Dufferin County Polish community and local leaders gathered at Jack Downing Park in Shelburne on Monday (May 1) for a flag-raising ceremony to commemorate the first proclamation of Polish Heritage Month in the Town of Shelburne. Read a full story on Page 2.

Family Transition Place raising awareness for Sexual Violence Prevention Month

Written By Paula Brown
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Family Transition Place (FTP) is working to educate the community on sexual violence as they raise awareness in recognition of Sexual Violence Prevention Month.

"We very much work from the premise that sexual violence is never someone's fault," said Lynette Pole-Langdon, FTP director of counselling, education and community mental health initiatives. "We want the community to know that we're here for support, whether someone's been a victim of sexual violence themselves, or they're supporting someone that has been a victim or if they're wanting to learn more about prevention and education that we have the services available."

During Sexual Violence Prevention Month, various agencies promote awareness and create opportunities for the community to learn about sexual violence to decrease the stigma surrounding it.

Formerly known as Sexual Assault Awareness/Prevention Month, the 30-day awareness initiative was renamed to reflect the shifting use of sexual violence versus sexual assault.

"With sexual assault, there's the image that it's a physical act and that's it. Whereas,

sexual violence exists on a continuum and it includes a wide range of behaviours from verbal harassment, online stalking, exploitation and physical sexual assault but it's a much broader term that speaks to the behaviours and experiences people can have," explained Pole-Langdon.

The support provided by sexual assault centres has become increasingly critical over the years as numbers indicate a notable rise in reported sexual violence incidents.

According to the Ontario Coalition of Rape Crisis Centres (OCRCC), there has been an 18 percent increase in reported sexual assaults in Ontario every year since 2016. The organization also says that 81 percent of all Ontario sexual assault centres saw an increase in crisis line calls in the last year.

Statistics provided by Family Transition Place show that during the 2021-2022 year, 116 women and 24 men accessed services for sexual violence counselling and received 3,875 calls to their support crisis line. The following year they saw 171 women and 29 men access services for sexual violence counselling and received 4,768 calls to their crisis line.

The organization has seen a 27 percent increase in calls to the crisis line over the last four years.

One factor that has become prevalent

in sexual violence incidents is the role of technology.

"Technology really has increased the vulnerability of people, but especially young people, because we know they spend lots of time online," said Pole-Langdon. "We know, technology provides new avenues for people to be harassed, stalked, and exploited – especially when people are vulnerable."

In 2022, Family Transition Place launched the Lotus Centre, a program that aims to provide a larger continuum of support for victims and survivors of sexual violence with increased counselling opportunities.

Supports that the Lotus Centre program offers include; 24/7 crisis counselling; sexual violence counselling services; support for partners, family and friends of survivors; therapeutic group counselling; sexual violence peer support groups; and sexual violence education and community engagement.

Throughout the month of May, the local organization will be sharing resources and educational information regarding sexual violence on their social media pages.

The County of Dufferin will be making a proclamation on May 11 in recognition of Sexual Violence Prevention Month, and a flag will be raised at Town Hall in Orangeville on May 15 at 1 p.m.

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Polish Heritage Month recognized for first time in Shelburne

Written By Paula Brown
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Town of Shelburne marked the start of Polish Heritage Month with a flag-raising ceremony.

Members of the local Polish community and dignitaries gathered at Jack Downing Park in Shelburne on Monday (May 1) afternoon to raise the country's flag in recognition of Polish Heritage Month.

"The flag raising is very important to us because Poland has a long history and we are a very patriotic people," said Anges Zagorsk, president of the Polish Highlanders Association Dufferin County Chapter. "I think this will show people who live here that there are Polish people in the community, and they might want to learn a little bit of our Polish history – it will bring us together."

Polish Heritage Month was established

in 2021 by the Legislative Assembly of Ontario in recognition of the impact Polish Canadians have had on Ontario's history, culture and community. Polish Heritage Month is held during the month of May to commemorate Constitution Day in Poland (May 3), which is an important date in Poland's history as it marks the centuries-long struggle for freedom and independence by the Polish people.

Ontario is home to over half a million people with Polish heritage, making the Polish community one of the largest groups in the province.

"It's always nice when we can honour the contributions of certain groups and the con-

tributions they've made to our country, our province, and our community," said Shelburne Mayor Wade Mills. "Talking to the residents who helped organize this, I think it's going to be an annual thing and hopefully we'll have a bigger crowd here next year."

The flag raising at Jack Downing Park on Monday marked the first-time Polish Heritage Month has been proclaimed in Shelburne.

"Part of our DEI commitment is to celebrate and honour the diversity of our community; this is certainly part and parcel of that commitment," said Denyse Morrissey, chief administrative officer for the Town of Shelburne.

Shelburne McDonalds celebrating McHappy Day

Written By Paula Brown
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Shelburne McDonald's is gearing up to celebrate their first-ever McHappy Day on May 10.

"We are extremely stoked to celebrate our first McHappy Day at our restaurant," said Leigha Cook, operations supervisor for the local franchise. "Come on out to see your town and fellow community members serving each other."

Each year, more than 1,400 McDonald's restaurants across the country celebrate McHappy Day, and this year marks the 29th McHappy Day in the history of McDonald's Canada. Since its inception, McHappy Day has raised more than \$45 million for Ronald McDonald House charities in Canada.

To celebrate McHappy Day, the Shelburne McDonald's has invited local civic and community leaders to participate in the festivities with guests. They've also organized some fun, family-friendly activities for attendees.

During the event, fundraising merchandise will be available for purchase, including vintage character socks for \$5, red hearts for \$2, blue hearts for \$5, and brown hearts for \$10.

While raising funds for the Ronald McDonald House Charities is at the center of McHappy Day, the event will also raise funds for three local organizations.



PAULA BROWN PHOTO

FIRST MCHAPPY DAY: Shelburne McDonalds is celebrating McHappy on May 10 and during the event merchandise is available for purchase. Funds raised support Ronald McDonald House and local charities.

According to Cook, 50 per cent of the proceeds raised during the event will be donated to the Shelburne Food Bank, Headwaters Hospital, and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Dufferin.

"I'm really excited that the proceeds of our day will go right back to our families. To be in a small town mean you need to care about a small town. We employ 98 people in our restaurants so we're working with our neighbours and people that at times need to access these services," said Cook.

As a large employer of the Town's local youth, Cook also noted the importance McHappy Day has for them.

"They're now being linked to local causes that are right in their community, and for them to have the ability participate in their first McHappy Day it will matter to see how their work can contribute to bigger causes," Cook said.

The fundraising goal across all MacKinnon-owned McDonald's restaurants is \$36,000.

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Council passes trespassing bylaw for town facilities

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

Shelburne Town Council has unanimously voted in support of a trespassing policy for the use of town facilities and property.

During their meeting on April 24, Shelburne Town Council received a report from chief administrative officer (CAO) Denyse Morrissey regarding the trespass to property policy.

"The town recognizes that the majority of individuals use town properties and facilities in a responsible manner," wrote Morrissey in the report. "However, there are certain instances where users engage in inappropriate activities, which are not in compliance

with polices or bylaws, compromise the health, safety, and well-being of others and their enjoyment and use of town properties and facilities."

The purpose of the trespass-to-property policy is to implement a process where users may be denied use of municipal property and facilities in cases of non-compliance. The policy would be applicable to all Town of Shelburne properties and facilities.

"The town is committed to ensuring that users are able to use or enjoy public premises, as and when permitted by the town, without unreasonable interference by another user," reads the policy.

One of the ways the town plans to manage non-compliance with the new trespassing policy is the use of a trespassing notice.

Some of the factors that determine whether a trespass notice is given or extended will include the following:

- Any warnings previously given to the person or graduated restrictions previously placed on the person;
- Any operational or staff requirements or limitations;
- The severity of the harm or potential harm caused by the person's prohibited conduct;
- The person's circumstances;
- The history of the person's conduct on town premises;
- The likelihood of recurrence of prohibited conduct by the person;
- The impact of restrictions or prohibitions on the person

"This is not some Draconian measure, in

fact this is something that is widely used in other municipalities," said Mayor Wade Mills. "One of the chief reasons I'm going to be wholeheartedly supporting this is that it provides protection for not only the corporation of the Town of Shelburne, but for residents regardless of what town property we're talking about."

"At the end of the day our job is to protect our community and to make policies and implement bylaws that help do that," said Coun. Lindsay Wegener. "This isn't directed at a specific group. It's something that will protect anyone and everyone who's using any of our facilities within our town."

The trespassing policy was approved with unanimous support from Town Council.

Mother's Day Market coming to Primrose Elementary

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

The month of May is here, which means it's time to start looking for the perfect Mother's Day gift.

Primrose United Church will be hosting a Mother's Day community market, called Mom's the Word, on May 13 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Primrose Elementary School.

"It's a very happy, uplifting event because it's that time of year where we've come out of winter and nobody's had any flowers. Everyone is upbeat to get something for Mom and for their own gardens," said Gail Brown, an organizer for the event. "It's a chance in the year that we can come together to offer something for the community and bring people together."

In previous years, Primrose United Church has limited the Mother's Day event to a plant and bake sale at the church, but this year they've expanded it to include a community vendors market.

"This year, we wanted to reach out in the community to include other community groups and non-profits with the idea that they can do their fundraising at our event, and everybody can benefit from it," said Brown.

The community market will feature a number of different local vendors, including food, beauty and arts and crafts such as woodworking and quilting.

The event will also have fun, family-friendly activities such as the kid's craft table, the special shopping area for Mother's Day gifts and a photo wall for family pictures.

"It's an exciting way to bring different areas of the community together and family-wise, it's great to see the different family generations come out."

Primrose United Church will once again hold its pre-order flowers and plants sale, which will be available for pickup at the community market.

The sale consists of a huge range of garden items, from mega planters and wind boxes to hanging planters, smaller plants, and select vegetables. The sale will also have a variety of flower types, colours and greenery.

"I think everyone just likes to pick something for their garden that is going to be bright and cheery for this time of year," said Brown.

Pre-orders are due by May 7 and can be done via email to primroseuc@gmail.com or by calling 519-925-2397.

Safety night upcoming at the Shelburne Fire Department

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

The Shelburne and District Fire Department is hosting a fire safety night to help educate families and residents about emergencies.

The safety information session will be held at the Shelburne and District Fire Hall at 114 O'Flynn St. on Thursday (May 4) from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

"We want to get various safety messages out to the people, and to create some interaction with our residents," said Chief Ralph Snyder. "We practice regularly on Thursday nights and we want to open our doors so people can come and meet our firefighters, see our equipment and know we are a very well-equipped fire department that can respond to just about any emergency."

The fire department will share information on safety topics such as fire extinguishers, ATV safety, smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, escape planning, choking and first aid emergencies, and more.

"We had each platoon pick a topic that they thought was important to deliver a message on. The choice of the topics is

out of their experiences on various calls in the past, that they are familiar with," said Snyder.

The information session will also look at mitigating some of the misconceptions surrounding fire safety, such as the life span of fire and carbon monoxide alarms and the length of time you have to evacuate.

"One misconception is that smoke and CO alarms last forever – they don't – they have a life span and should be replaced," said Snyder. "The amount of time you have to get out of a house has changed dramatically in the last 30 years, just due to building materials."

Snyder also said the information session will give new residents a better understanding of how the Shelburne and District Fire Department operates as a volunteer-based fire department.

"What we're seeing with the new demographic in Town is that some of them don't understand how our fire service works, that we don't have a manned fire station that can respond instantly," said Snyder. "There an opportunity here to get that bit of important information out there so that residents know enough to protect themselves until we can get there."

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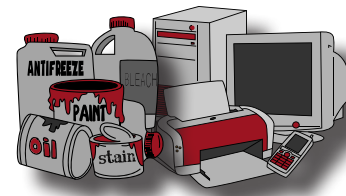
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Shoot the messenger

Over the course of the past couple of years, my doorbell has rang numerous times, announcing the arrival of unexpected visitors.

My normal course of action when the doorbell rings is to get ready for this – answer the door.

Over the course of those few years, I have met several local realtors offering their services, several people selling home maintenance services of various kinds, a kid selling popcorn as a fundraiser for his school, yes, I bought the popcorn, a next-door neighbour kid selling greeting cards, I bought those too, and one really cute Girl Guide under the supervision of her mother, selling cookies.

The Girl Guide was very polite and very nice, so yes, I supported her troop and bought some cookies.

I only had one unusual circumstance, when the bell rang close to 11:00 p.m. That time I looked through the window to see who it was because it was a little later than usual time to drop by someone's house. In that case, I saw a uniform. It was a local police officer inquiring if I had seen or heard a hit-and-run accident that occurred at the house across the street. We had a nice chat.

Never once, when answering the door, did I pick up a baseball bat, golf club, frying pan, or other blunt instrument to use as a weapon. Never once did I prepare a rifle and load a round into the firing chamber just in case I didn't like the looks of the person and thought I might have to fire a shot to ward them off.

Never once did I feel threatened because a doorbell rang.

This past couple of weeks have seen several absolutely ridiculous shootings south of the border. Usually, I won't comment on foreign news, but because it comes to me through my news feeds and these incidents are so insane, I think they should be examined and used in comparison to gun-related crime and shootings in Canada.

In Kansas City, Missouri, a 16-year-old kid arrived at a house to pick up his siblings. He had the right street number, 115 Northeast, but he had arrived at Northeast Street rather than Northeast Terrace. It was an easy mistake.

The homeowner responded to seeing an unknown person on his porch by shooting him. The kid was shot once in the arm and once in the head. He did survive.

In a rural area of New York State, four young women were in a car, looking for a friend's house. They pulled into a driveway and realized they had the wrong house. They backed out and were getting ready to drive away. The homeowner opened fire on them, killing an innocent 20-year-old woman.

In Texas, an 18-year-old cheerleader and a friend arrived at a supermarket - a place the cheerleading academy often uses as a meeting point. The girl was going to her own car but mistakenly opened the car door of a similar vehicle. She apologized to the driver, who then opened fire, hitting both girls and injuring one seriously.

The shooter was a 25-year-old man. What possible threat could he have felt from an 18-year-old woman who was walking away and apologizing?

States that have a so-called 'stand your ground' law don't seem to take gun violence too seriously, as long as you're on your own property. The reasoning is you should be able to defend your home.

Well, yes, I think we should all be able to defend our homes and families if a person has entered our dwelling with the intent to

do harm.

Sometimes, deadly force may be necessary, although, in Canada, that is extremely rare.

However, opening fire on someone because they are on your property is insane.

In the case of the New York incident, a totally innocent young woman is dead simply because they entered the wrong driveway.

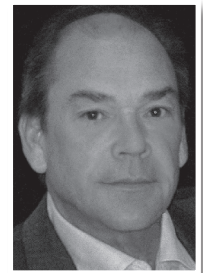
There is no reason to kill anyone simply for being on your property.

Even if someone was breaking into my home, I would not pull out a firearm and shoot – for the simple reason I don't want to be responsible for killing a human being.

Americans have a constitutional right to have firearms. However, that should not mean you can blast away just because you don't recognize someone as a friend.

If you feel the need to cock your pistol just because your doorbell rings, you need to either visit a psychiatrist to have your paranoia problem taken care of or move to a desert island where you won't have to be bothered by interaction with other people.

BRIAN LOCKHART
FROM THE SECOND ROW



Thailand: Another Round?

There have been occasional violent episodes in Thai politics and one recent massacre (2010), but the struggle for a genuine democracy has usually been relatively restrained. Maybe that is why it has lasted so long.

In fact, the tug-of-war between the army, the monarchy and the conservative middle class on one side, and the peasants, the students and one billionaire's family on the other, has acquired a ritual quality. The election later this month (14 May) will mark the third time Thailand has gone around the full range of political possibilities since the turn of the century.

A typical trip round the circuit starts with an election that brings some member of the Shinawatra family to power as prime minister. Despite their great wealth the Shinawatras are on the left politically, and they begin to implement a programme of subsidies to poor farmers, a national healthcare system and other expensive reforms.

Most middle-class taxpayers strongly resist any government spending that isn't on them, and start protesting against it in the streets of Bangkok.

Shinawatra supporters organize counter-demonstrations, and it turns into a struggle in the streets. Sometimes the

opposing sides even wear different-coloured shirts (red for Shinawatra, yellow against) to show their loyalties.

The turmoil in the streets gives the army, the bureaucracy and the monarchy a pretext to shut down the elected government by a military coup that 'restores order'. The courts obediently ratify the army's actions and jail or ban the opposition's leaders, but now the shoe is on the other foot.

As the military junta settles into power, its legitimacy is challenged by renewed demonstrations by students, the urban poor, and farmers. Within a few years the junta leader tries to regularise his position by running for office as a 'civilian' under a new constitution written by the military. (New Thai constitutions last an average of four years.)

Sometimes the newly civilianised great leader – the current incumbent is former General Prayuth Chan-ocha – manages to 'win' the first rigged election, but by the second election after a coup one of the Shinawatras is invariably back in office.

First time around, in 2001, the new prime minister was the paterfamilias of the clan, Thaksin Shinawatra. He made his fortune in telecommunications but stayed loyal to his humble origins. His social welfare policies were condemned by angry con-

servatives as 'bribes' to the poor. He was removed by the military in 2006 and went into exile.

Second time, in 2011, it was his youngest sister, Yingluck Shinawatra, who became prime minister. She pursued the same populist policies and was removed from office and replaced by General Chan-ocha in 2014. She is also now in exile, but the pattern continues.

Chan-ocha made the usual transition from general to fake civilian prime minister, and his new constitution created a 'Senate' whose 250 members are all appointed by the military. That enabled him to 'win' an election in 2019 even though he lost badly in the vote by the 500 elected members of the House of Representatives.

The popular response to that was a huge wave of student-led protests in 2020, which for the first time even criticised the politicised role of the King, hitherto a sacrosanct figure. Those mass protests were crushed by an equally massive wave of arrests, but it was clear that the activist youth of the country were fed up with the old games.

So now comes Paetongtarn Shinawatra, Thaksin's 36-year-old daughter (popularly known as Ung Ing). She now leads his old party, Pheu Thai, and has been cam-

paing hard despite being more than eight months pregnant. The latest opinion polls give Pheu Thai 47.2% of the votes, followed by the Move Forward Party with 21.2%.

Move Forward is another reform-oriented party that is winning over a lot of first-time voters. Together with Pheu Thai they might take 70% of the 500 seats in the House of Representatives, almost enough to outweigh the 250 military seats in the appointed Senate. Make a coalition with some third party in the House, and you have a reformist government.

But here's the problem: Pheu Thai's campaign promises are virtually unchanged since Thaksin Shinawatra's policies of 22 years ago. It's offering a 10,000 baht (\$300) digital payout for every Thai aged 16 and older. It will raise the minimum wage by 60%. It will triple farmers' incomes by 2027. It will create 20 million high-paying jobs.

All the old populist promises, in other words, and practically guaranteed to elicit the same old reactions. Maybe this election will produce a radical break with the past, but it could also be just the start of the next trip round the circuit.

GWYNNE DYER
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Dufferin OPP issue warning of illegal dumping after increase in Mulmur

Members of the Dufferin Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) reminds citizens that the illegal dumping of garbage is an offence and those found in violation will be charged.

The Township of Mulmur reports an increase in the unsightly illegal dumping of garbage. Items being dumped along roadways range from household garbage, tires, construction waste and even restaurant waste.

The clean-up efforts can be very costly for all Dufferin County taxpayers. The OPP are requesting citizens contact the police immediately when they observe suspicious vehicles dumping unknown materials and garbage.

Anyone caught illegally dumping may be charged with one of more of the following:

- Engage in Prohibited Activity - Trespass to Property Act
 - Littering Highway Prohibited - Highway Traffic Act
 - Deposit Waste without Environmental Approval - Environmental Protection Act
 - Illegal Dumping - Town or Township By-Law
- If you witness suspicious vehicles dumping unknown materials in the act, immediately

report it to OPP at 1-888-310-1122. Please note vehicle description, licence plate number, occupant description and direction of travel.

To report illegal dumping after the fact, please contact the Town or Township found in.

For those looking for a place to legally dispose of waste visit Dufferin Transfer Station at:

Dufferin OPP charge man with trafficking meth following traffic stop

Members of the Dufferin Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police laid multiple charges as a result of a traffic stop in the Orangeville.

Officers with the Dufferin Community Street Crime Unit (CSCU) stopped a driver for a highway traffic act related offence in Orangeville on Wednesday (April 26). The officers were led into a criminal investigation which resulted in charging the driver with multiple offences.

Travis HEWITSON, 32-year-old, from Arthur, has been charged with:

- Possession of property obtained by crime – Under \$5,000 – Criminal Code
- Possession of Schedule I substance for the purpose of trafficking – Methamphetamine – Controlled Drugs and Substance Act
- Drive vehicle of boat with cannabis readily available – The Cannabis Act
- Fail to comply with probation order – Criminal Code
- Possession of forged document with intent – Criminal Code
- Operation while prohibited under the Criminal Code – Criminal Code

- Driving while under suspension – Highway Traffic Act
- Use plate not authorized – Highway Traffic Act

As a result of the investigation, the following was seized: Methamphetamine, over \$1,000 in Canadian currency, a cellphone, cannabis, a forged Ontario drivers license and unauthorized vehicle plates

The accused was transported to the Dufferin Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police and held pending a bail hearing. These charges have not been proven in court.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SEIZED ITEMS: Dufferin OPP seized a quantity of methamphetamine, over \$1,000, a cellphone, cannabis, a forged Ontario drivers license and unauthorized vehicle plates

Impaired driver taken off road, charged with resisting officer

The Dufferin Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) charged a driver with impaired operation and removed the driver from the road.

On April 26, 2023, at approximately 10:10 p.m., officers from Dufferin OPP responded to a complaint of a possible impaired driver in the area of Highway 10 and Broadway in the Town of Orangeville. Officers located the vehicle a short time later and were led into an impaired driving investigation.

As a result, Patryk RODYCOW, 29-year-old from Orangeville, has been charged with:

- Operation while impaired - alcohol and drugs
- Failure of refusal to comply with demand
- Obstruct Peace Officer
- Resist Peace Officer
- Driving while under suspension
- Fail to surrender permit
- Fail to have insurance card

The accused is scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville in May 2023, to answer to the charges. Their driver's licence was suspended for 90 days, and the vehicle impounded for a period of 7 days.

Thank you to the concerned citizen who contacted police with this potentially lifesaving information. If you suspect someone is driving impaired, please call 9-1-1. You could be saving a life.

Dufferin OPP continues to conduct R.I.D.E spot checks daily as drivers who are impaired by alcohol or drugs continue to pose a threat to Ontario roads.

The Dufferin OPP reminds motorist to plan ahead when consuming alcohol or drugs. Use a designated driver, cab, rideshare, public transit or stay overnight. Any amount of alcohol or drugs can impact your ability to

make sound judgements. In a split second you could ruin your future, injure or kill others, and tear a hole in the heart of everyone who loves you.

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 1-800-822-8477 (TIPS) or www.crimestoppersdm.com.

Police encouraging good driving habits for Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month

Curbing last year's spike in motorcyclist fatalities on Ontario Provincial Police (OPP)-patrolled roads is as simple as riders and drivers maintaining safe space and driving habits around each other at all times.

Last year marked a particularly tragic riding season and the highest number of motorcyclist deaths since 2017, with 44 riders losing their lives in collisions.

Failing to yield right of way, excessive speed and inattentive driving are among the leading contributing factors in OPP-investigated motorcyclist fatalities over the past 10 years.

The data speaks to poor and careless behaviours on the part of riders and other drivers, with motorcyclists at fault in 61 per cent of the fatalities, and drivers of other vehicles at fault in 39 per cent of the deaths.

With Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month underway in May, the OPP is reminding motorcyclists and other motorists to be responsible, defensive, attentive, and alcohol/drug-free drivers throughout the riding season.

Motorcyclists are reminded to wear bright, protective equipment and clothing to increase their visibility to other motorists. Every driver doing their part will help ensure Ontario citizens and visitors have the safe, enjoyable summer that awaits them!

Promoting motorcycle safety through public education and enforcement forms part of the OPP's commitment to saving lives on Ontario roads, waterways and trails.

Even the smallest momentary lapse in a motor vehicle driver's awareness can result in the death of an unseen motorcyclist, according to OPP.

Riders between 45-64 years of age account



for 51 per cent of the motorcyclist fatalities in the past 10 years.

Over the past 10 years, 38 per cent of OPP-investigated motorcyclist fatalities have occurred on provincial highways.

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- Baking measurement (abbr.)
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- Japanese ankle sock
- Grave
- Japanese industrial city
- People of southern Ghana
- Particular designs
- Device fitted to something
- Infections
- Pirates' preferred alcohol
- Expression of sympathy
- Rock guitarist's tool
- Neither
- Ancient city of Egypt
- You ___ what you sow
- Ruined

- Narrations
- Body art (slang)
- Fencing sword
- Apartment buildings
- Type of missile
- Fathers
- Extremely high frequency
- Type of school
- Incorrect letters
- Two-year-old sheep
- Nasty manner
- One who accepts a bet
- Indian prince
- Asian country
- Rhythmic patterns in Indian music
- "Uncle Buck" actress Hoffmann
- Detailed criteria
- Son of Shem
- Talked wildly
- Discount
- Not good
- Growing out

- Part-time employee
- Emaciation
- "Westworld" actor Harris
- Gains possession of
- Relaxing spaces
- 23rd star in a constellation
- Northern grouse
- Monetary unit of Bangladesh
- Manila hemp
- Unites muscle to bone
- Makes deep cuts in
- 18-year period between eclipses
- Member of a people inhabiting southern Benin
- Synthetic rubbers
- Unwelcome rodent
- Expression of creative skill
- Some is red
- Seems less in impressive

- Harry Kane's team
- Gland secretion
- Action of feeling sorrow
- Disallow
- Deceptive movement
- More dried-up
- Crimson
- Actress Ryan
- Adherents of a main branch of Islam
- Accomplished American president
- Side of a landform facing an advancing glacier
- Sheep breed
- Appetizer
- Broadway actress Daisy
- Influential film critic
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- London park
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Local hospital announces five-year plan setting clinical priorities

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

Headwaters Health Care Centre (HHCC) has released its new five-year plan for clinical services and programs to meet the growing needs of the community.

The local hospital announced the publication of the 2023-2028 Clinical Priority Plan (CPP) on April 24. The Clinical Priority Plan, which identifies where the hospital needs to grow and how to improve care, will act as a road map to enhance clinical programs and services at the local hospital.

“Dufferin County – Caledon region’s population is forecasted to grow faster than the provincial average. Our 2023-2028 Clinical Priority Plan is well positioned, backed by data, to ensure care reflects the growing health care needs of the communities we serve,” said Headwaters president and CEO Kim Delahunt.

In order to identify clinical priorities, Headwaters heard from more than 1,000 staff, physicians, patients, volunteers, and community members. The engagement included a survey, a review of program data, service volumes, performance, future trends,

and projected population growth.

Based on the feedback, a list of four focus areas was created to apply to all clinical programs at the hospital in their day-to-day delivery, future planning and decision-making.

Known as the Quadruple Aim, the focus areas include: improving the patient experience, enhancing population health, maximizing resources, improving efficiencies, and optimizing the care team’s well-being.

Five specific clinical priorities reflect the most urgent needs and populations poised for growing – emergency services, geriatrics, mental health and substance use, obstetrics, and pediatrics.

“We heard from our community which

programs and services are in highest need: emergency services, geriatrics, mental health and substance use, obstetrics, and pediatrics,” said Dr. Grace Wong, vice president of medical affairs and chief of staff. “Our teams are committed to expanding and improving these services. At the same time, we will continue to work with all our programs to ensure we provide quality care, close to home.”

The hospital said planning for specific actions for the clinical priority areas is underway.

To learn more about Headwaters’ 2023-2028 Clinical Priority Plan or to read the report in full, visit www.headwatershealth.ca.



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Mother’s Day Banquet coming to Shelburne Legion May 14

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

Are you looking for a way to celebrate a mom in your life this Mother’s Day? Tickets are now available to purchase for a local Mother’s Day Banquet hosted by CB Light House.

The Mother’s Day Banquet will be held on May 14 at the Shelburne Legion, 203 William St, with doors opening at 5 p.m.

“I always look for something to celebrate my mom for what she’s been through. This is just another way of celebrating the strength and love they have for their children and family,” said Leisha Chin-Bramwell, organizer of the event. “Moms are really the backbone of the family so this is just one day that we can put them on a pedestal and show them how much we love and care for them.”

The theme for the Mother’s Day event is centred around the colour scheme of yellow, pink and white. The event will feature a number of performances throughout the night, including poets, singers, comedians and musicians. It will also have a catered dinner by local restaurant Jamaica House Jerk.

Speaking with the Free Press, Chin-Bramwell said the event was created to offer a different celebration experience for the Shelburne community.

“It’s something to do for their moms, other than buying a gift,” said Chin-Bramwell. “They can see that they’re really appreciated not only by their children, but other people in the community.”

Tickets for the event cost \$50 for adults and \$30 for children. Those interested in attending Mother’s Day Banquet can purchase tickets online at www.cbighthouse.ca.

Three summer camps coming to Museum of Dufferin this year


The Museum of Dufferin (MoD) is hosting three summer camps this year.



Powerful Pollinators PA Day Camp – June 30
Children ages seven to 11 can have a fun day of hands-on learning at the Museum!
Campers will learn all about pollinators and will be joined by special guest, Ontario Honey Creations, to learn about honey bees!

Summer Archaeology Camp – August 14 to 18
At this camp, children ages five to nine will learn about archaeology digs, get their hands dirty doing their own dig, create some archaeology inspired crafts, see a mammoth bone from the MoD’s collection, and much more!

Blast from the Past! Camp – August 21 to 25
At this camp, children ten to 14 will learn some cool wheritage crafts, make new friends, and discover the Museum!
All camps run from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Children will need to bring a packed lunch and snacks with them to camp. Aftercare is available until 4:45 pm at an additional cost of \$10 per day.



NOTICE OF PASSING OF BY-LAW NO 2023-25 BY COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF DUFFERIN TO ADOPT DUFFERIN COUNTY OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT NO. 2

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the County of Dufferin passed By-law No 2023-25 on April 13, 2023 pursuant to Section 26 of the Planning Act, R.S.O., 1990, C.P13, as amended.

THE PURPOSE AND EFFECT of By-law No. 2023-25 is to adopt Dufferin County Official Plan Amendment No. 2, which is the first phase related to growth allocation and management plan prepared in association with the County’s Municipal Comprehensive Review to bring the County Official Plan into conformity with the Provincial Growth Plan, A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (Growth Plan) (Office Consolidation 2020), ensure that it has appropriate regard for matters of Provincial interest, and is consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement, 2020. The Official Plan Amendment represents the first of multiple amendments to the existing County Official Plan that will establish where and how growth is to occur in the County to 2051.

A copy of the Official Plan Amendment is available on Dufferin County’s website <https://www.dufferincounty.ca/sites/default/files/clerks/2023%20By-Laws/2023-25%20Dufferin%20County%20PA%20No%202.pdf>

Additional information is available on <https://joinindufferin.com/dufferin-county-municipal-comprehensive-review>

Official Plan Amendment No. 2 applies to the whole of the County of Dufferin and therefore, a key map is not provided with this Notice.

PUBLIC INPUT in the form of oral submissions at the public meeting and written submissions in advance of the public meeting, was received by the County. Prior to Council adopting the amendment to the Dufferin County Official Plan, a public meeting was held by the County in accordance with the Planning Act. Summaries of the written submissions received regarding the amendment to the County Official Plan, the County’s responses to the submissions, and the effect of the submissions on the decision by Council, are summarized in the April 13, 2023 Statutory Public Meeting agenda package and in Item #74 of the Regular Dufferin County Council agenda. The April 13, 2023 agenda packages are available on the County’s website <https://www.dufferincounty.ca/council/council-meetings>

AND TAKE NOTICE THAT any person or public body will be entitled to receive notice of the decision of the approval authority, being the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, if a written request to be notified of the decision (including the person’s or public body’s address) is made to the approval authority. Requests to be notified must be made to:

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SHELBURNE SPORTS

North Dufferin Baseball League announces junior schedule

Written By Paula Brown
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The North Dufferin Baseball League has announced the Junior Division schedule for the 2023 season.

Beginning on May 6, the Junior Division will commence with an 18-game regular season that will run through to mid-July before going into the playoffs.

There are seven teams entered in the competition this season.

Teams include the Barrie Baycats, defending champion Creemore Padres, Georgina Bulldogs, Innisfil Cardinals, Mansfield Cubs, Orangeville Bengals, and the Orillia Royals.

The Mansfield Cubs will be back on the diamond this year, hosting games at their home diamond at Mansfield Community Park. The squad will again be coached by Lance Bryan this season.

Mansfield went to the championship last year but lost the final season to the Padres,

who spent most of the season in last place but had a tremendous playoff run to win the Junior title.

The Cubs last won the title in back-to-back years in 2017 and 2018. There are a lot of familiar names on the Mansfield roster for this year, with many players returning from last season.

This bodes well for the team after having a successful year in 2022.

The Junior Cub's home opener is scheduled for Thursday, May 11, at 6:30 p.m.

The League's Senior Division schedule was previously announced, with the first game underway in Creemore on May 6.

In the Senior Division, there is a 12-team line-up this season, with all teams returning from last year. The Senior Division has a 22-game regular season schedule that will run through to the end of July before heading into the playoffs.

The Senior Mansfield Cubs home opening will get underway, on Sunday, May 14, with the first pitch scheduled for 2:00 p.m.

Stayner Siskins to advance to next round of Schmaltz Cup playoffs

Written By Paula Brown
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Stayner Siskins will advance to the championship tournament of the Junior C Schmaltz Cup provincial playoffs after knocking out the Mount Forest Patriots in the North Conference championship series.

Stayner clinched the series with a 6-2 win

in game six on Sunday, April 30.

The series got underway on April 21, with the Siskins winning the first two games.

Game three gave Mount Forest a 5-2 win on April 25.

Stayner was leading 3-1 after taking game four 6-3 on home ice.

The teams were back for game five on April 28, with Stayner hoping to finish it with a win.

That game had a massive Patriots comeback effort after Stayner ended the first period with a 3-0 lead. The Patriots blasted into the second period scoring four unanswered goals to take the lead. They finished the game with three more third-period goals to take a 7-4 win and keep the series alive.

The series was back in Stayner on Sunday. After two periods, the game was tied 1-1.

Stayner scored early in the third period, then followed with two more goals before the seven-minute mark for a 5-1 lead. They ended the game with an empty net goal to get the win and earn the right to advance to the championship tournament.

The Schmaltz Cup championship tournament will take place in Woodstock on May 12 to 14.

Along with Stayner, competing teams are

the Wellesley Applejacks from the South Conference, Lakeshore Canadiens from the West Conference, and the Clarington Eagles from the East Conference.

The tournament will feature round-robin style play to see which teams will advance and make it to the championship final.

The Siskins had a stellar season finishing first in the North Carruthers Division of the Provincial Hockey League.

They knocked out the second-place Alliston Hornets in the Division championship series. That series took five games to complete.

After taking a loss in the first game of the Division championship series, the Siskins won four straight.

The Siskins now have a week to prepare for the Schmaltz Cup.

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ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

LAUREN SMITH

Currently in her second season playing rugby at CDDHS, Lauren Smith, enjoys everything about the sport.

"My sister Jordan used to play and she got me involved in it," Lauren said of her start in rugby. "I like the contact because in most female sports there is no contact. I like the speed and momentum of the game."

Jordan makes a valuable contribution to the Royals team.

During hockey season, Lauren steps on the ice to play hockey with the Brampton Canadettes.

TEAM: CENTRE DUFFERIN DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL ROYALS VARSITY RUGBY

POSITION: SCRUM-HALF



SENIOR RUGBY: The Centre Dufferin District High School Royals senior boys' rugby team host the squad from John F. Ross on the pitch at CDDHS on Wednesday, April 16. It was the first senior game of the season. The Royals a solid game but were blanked 54-0 by the visitors.



GIRLS' TEAM: The Centre Dufferin District High School Royals girls' varsity rugby team take on the squad from Mayfield Secondary School from Caledon during a pre-season exhibition game on the pitch at CDDHS on Wednesday, April 19. The regular season kicks off this week with four high school teams in the line-up.

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Local hospital to receive \$1.8 million for after-hours doctor work

Written By Paula Brown
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Headwaters Health Care Centre (HHCC) will receive more than \$1.8 million in funding from the provincial government.

Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones announced on Tuesday (May 2) that the local hospital would be receiving \$1,845,832 to support more on-call funding for doctors working after hours.

"Caring for our community is a team effort,

and we are grateful to the government for their commitment to ensuring our physicians are always available for those in need. Patients are more likely to seek medical attention when they know that care is available when they need it," said Kim Delahunt, president and CEO of Headwaters Health Care Centre.

The funding from the provincial government will be used to support after-hours care at Headwaters Hospital and allow for more stable after-hours care.

"Additional on-call funding for physi-

cians will provide greater opportunity for patients who need urgent medical care," added Dr. Grace Wang, chief of staff and vice president of medical affairs. "It will improve access to health care services for patients who need it the most, which will lead to better patient outcomes."

The support is part of a previous agreement between the Ontario Medical Association and the Ontario Ministry of Health to increase dedicated funding for physicians on-call. Nearly 100 acute-care hospitals in

Ontario have received funding support for on-call coverage.

"Our government is ensuring hospitals have the funds needed so that their doctors can deliver high-quality care at any time of the day or night," said Jones. "For patients visiting hospitals across Ontario, this funding means they'll receive the care they need when it is needed."

The province government has invested over \$259 million in funding to support on-call coverage in acute-care hospitals across the province.

Speech and Hearing Month seeks to normalize conversation about hearing loss

Being able to hear properly has a huge impact on your life.

From everyday things like listening to music or watching a TV show to social interaction with others, how you hear the world affects almost everything you do.

May is Speech and Hearing Month, devoted to awareness of hearing loss, normalizing conversations about it, and eliminating the stigma of wearing hearing aids.

If you are 50 or over, you should get your hearing checked every year. Many people don't realize their hearing ability has decreased, as it may happen slowly.

Like with many things, the earlier you find out you have hearing loss, the sooner you can do something about it.

"Speech and hearing go hand-in-hand," explained Bridgette Assuncao, Hearing Instrument Specialist, with Hear Well Be Well Hearing Clinic in Orangeville. "Audiologists, hearing instrument specialists, speech and language pathologists, and communications disorders assistants all work together to manage communications. As we develop as

a child, you're taking in what everyone is saying to you, how they pronounce words, and we have that part of the brain that picks up language but we have to hear the sounds to learn how to communicate. Not only do we take in communication through our eyes, we learn about the world through speech and hearing things."

Part of Speech and Hearing Month is awareness so people can recognize the signs of hearing loss.

"During Speech and Hearing month there is a lot of education. All the disciplines in hearing, work together so people have better health," explained Wendy Moore, marketing manager at Hear Well Be Well. "The fact that you have untreated hearing loss, means you will start to lose your ability to recognize speech because your brain is not engaging with those words. The ears are the channel that sends message to the brain. Untreated hearing is dramatically connected to your risk of dementia. If you have untreated loss, you are five times more likely to develop dementia, and even with moderate hearing loss, you are two times more likely

to develop dementia. The reason for that is the part of your brain that is used to process outside noise stops being engaged. Untreated hearing loss is now listed as the number one modifiable risk factor in the list of risks for dementia. Speech and Hearing month is about normalizing the conversation so people don't feel there is a stigma to it. If you hurt your wrist, you wear a wrist brace, and no one would think anything of it. With hearing aids, it's the same concept."

The awareness campaign also strives to eliminate some of the stigma some people may feel when wearing a hearing aid. Manufacturers now produce hearing aids that are almost invisible when worn. They even have a new line of products that look like earbuds that some people like.

"Usually when somebody does have hearing loss, sometimes they don't even notice or recognize it until five to seven years later," Bridgette explained. "One of the points of Speech and Hearing Month is to recognize and know the signs of hearing loss. People don't realize the connection between communication and hear-

ing loss. That can result in depression and withdrawing from social events. The point of hearing aids is to give you better speech clarity. Hearing aids now, are small and so much more technologically advanced. The point is to hear and communicate and engage."

Lisa Diaz, customer care representative at Hear Well Be Well, provided an example of hearing aids that are designed to fit a person's ear.

"This is a custom style," Lisa explained. "Bridgette will check your ear and check for wax, and if all is good to go, some impression material is place in the ear canal, and we get the custom shape of your ear. We have a lot of good information and tools on our website help guide you to see if getting a hearing test is a good idea."

Speech and Hearing Month is a good time to take your hearing into consideration.

You can get a free hearing test at Hear Well Be Well, and if you need some help, their experts can guide you through the steps to prevent further hearing loss and correct any issues you may be having.

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TECHNICAL SUMMER STUDENT ASSISTANT

Shelburne Public Library will receive applications until May 8th, 2023, for its Technical Summer Student Assistant position.

The position involves supporting tech-based programming at the library during the summer. The successful candidate will plan and deliver technology-based programming for adults with wide-ranging skills. The ideal candidate will also support other programs, including our Children's Summer Reading Program, if necessary.

We are looking for highly motivated, enthusiastic individuals who can work well in a team environment where quality service and good communication skills are a requirement.

Qualifications:

- Enrolment in a post-secondary program. Second or third year students preferred
- Experience working with adults, seniors, and children
- A demonstrated proficiency with a variety of technology is essential
- A Police Record Check, including vulnerable sector screening, is required and a condition of employment

Resumes should include all educational and training information, work experience and references. The rate of pay for this position is minimum \$16.00 hr. commensurate with experience. The work period is mid May 2023 to mid August 2023. This position will work approximately 32 hours per week.

Shelburne Public Library is an Equal Opportunity Employer - only those applicants selected for interviews will be contacted.

Please send your resume and covering letter to:
 Rose Dotten, CEO
 Shelburne Public Library
 201 Owen Sound Street
 Shelburne, ON L9V 3L2
 Or by email: rdotten@shelburnelibrary.ca



Shelburne Public Library



Besley Country Market is currently hiring a Greenhouse Worker.

Working in our farm's greenhouse, this role is responsible for supporting the growth, maintenance and harvesting of 1,900 tomato plants. Duties include weekly plant maintenance, picking and packing tomatoes, and general support of our farm market operations. This role works collaboratively with a small team of farmers and staff.

This is a seasonal part-time position from May to November 2023. Hours vary throughout the season, averaging around 10-20 hours per week.

What we are looking for:

- A mature individual
- Enjoys working with plants and is passionate about locally grown food
- Able to work independently with minimal supervision
- Able to perform repetitive tasks
- Able to lift up to 40 pounds and work in a hot environment

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- Competitive hourly wage (\$18/hr)
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To apply for this position, please submit a resume to bcmshelburne@gmail.com. Applications will be accepted until May 14, 2023.

To learn more about Besley Country Market, visit our website: www.besleycountrymarket.ca

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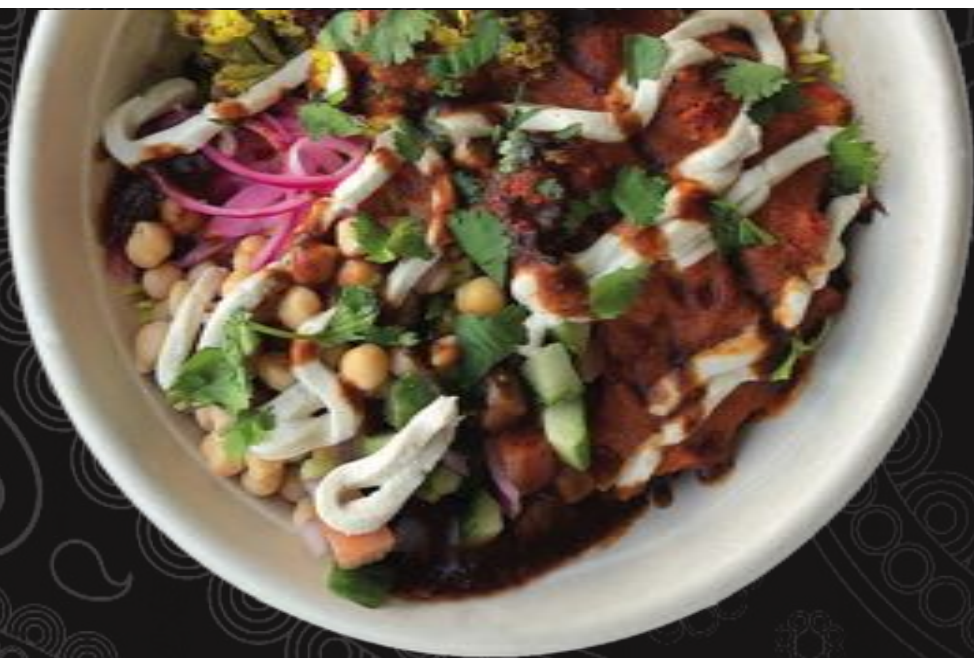


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