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PAULA BROWN PHOTO

HIGH LEVEL CARE: Headwaters Health Care Centre (HHCC) leadership and local dignitaries gathered at the hospital on Jan. 19 to recognize the organization's accreditation of Exemplary Standing. On hand to celebrate were Kim Delahunt, HHCC President and CEO; MPP Dufferin-Caledon, Sylvia Jones; Dr. Grace Wang, Vice President of Medical Affairs and Chief of Staff; Orangeville Mayor Lisa Post; Caledon Mayor Anette Groves; Councillor Dave Sheen, and Caledon Councillors Lynn Kiernan with Headwaters Health Care Centre Board members, patient family advisors, community partners, and staff. Receiving Accreditation with Exemplary Standing is the highest ranking awarded by Accreditation Canada, giving the local hospital a great reason to celebrate. For the full story turn to Page 3.

Council looks to calm traffic after reviewing troubling data

Written By Paula Brown
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Shelburne Town Council is looking to slow the speed of traffic after receiving data concerning traffic flow and driving patterns within the community.

During their first meeting of the year on Jan. 8, Shelburne Town Council was presented with a traffic calming report from Denyse Morrissey, chief administrative officer, and Jim Moss, director of development and operations.

"We are not alone in dealing with this, it seems to be an emerging significant issue as well as cost for many municipalities. What's very frustrating and equally disappointing from a staff perspective is that we are dealing with this because people are disrespectful of speed limits that are set for the safety of this community," said Morrissey.

Traffic calming is a common physical approach to slowing down traffic and altering motorist behaviour on streets for drivers to have better attention to their surroundings. The goal of traffic calming is to ensure that roadways are safe for all

users, such as motorists, pedestrians, and cyclists.

There are a number of different traffic calming measures that can be utilized, including automated speed enforcement (ASE), community safety zones, curb extensions, digital radar speed signs, flexible bollards, lane narrowing, road chicanes, and textured crosswalks.

"It will increase the perception of safety for non-motorized users of the street so that they feel confident that they can utilize those streets," said Morrissey. "We're hoping it will achieve some kind of uniform driving patterns, which is the ultimate challenge we're facing."

In July of 2021, Shelburne Town Council approved and passed a motion to reduce the speed limit in town, with the exception of connecting link roadways, to 40 km/h.

The Town of Shelburne also purchased four Digital Radar Speed Signs (DRSS) from TrafficLogix, designed to advise drivers of their speed and remind them they are speeding.

From February 2022 to October 2023, the Town of Shelburne rotated the four signs between 11 streets to capture the traffic

patterns of drivers within the community.

Streets in the data collection included Fiddle Park Lane, First Avenue, Greenwood Street in two locations, Halbert Drive, Main Street, Morden Drive, Muriel Street, Owen Sound Street, Simon Street, Victoria Street, and William Street.

"It was eye-opening for us because I think as staff, we thought we didn't really have a problem, and we now believe that we have a problem that is going to require significant financial impact," said Morrissey.

According to the report, Main Street saw the greatest number of vehicles on it, with 665,061, from October 2022 to December 2022. Of those drivers, 339,988 were found to be driving over the 50 km/h posted speed limit.

The next street with the highest volume of traffic was Owen Sound, with 493,158 vehicles from August 2023 to October 2023, of which 372,805 were over the 40 km/h speed limit.

Continued on Page 3

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COUNTY OF DUFFERIN OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT Municipal Comprehensive Review Phase III – Land Use Policy Framework

NOTICE OF PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

TAKE NOTICE that the County of Dufferin will hold a Public Open House pursuant to subsection 17(15) and 17(16) of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.P.13, as amended, regarding the proposed land use policy framework updates to the County of Dufferin County Official Plan as a result of the County's Municipal Comprehensive Review (MCR) exercise under Section 26 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.P.13, as amended.

Public Information Centre

A virtual Public Open House is scheduled for Wednesday, February 14, 2024 at 1:30 p.m. To join the meeting virtually on Zoom, please use the following link:
<https://dufferincounty-ca.zoom.us/j/84933085713>
Password: 959929687

Documents shared at the Public Open House will also be posted on Join In Dufferin <https://joinindufferin.com/dufferin-county-municipal-comprehensive-review>

The Purpose and Effect of the Official Plan Amendment

This proposed third phase Official Plan Amendment (OPA) has been prepared in association with the County's Municipal Comprehensive Review (MCR) 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), to ensure that it has appropriate regard for matters of Provincial interest, and is consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement, 2020.

This proposed OPA represents the third and final amendment, concluding the County's MCR process. The Phase III OPA relates the policies of the Official Plan that address general strategy to govern development growth throughout the County. These include general policy updates relating to housing options, climate change, Employment Lands, implementation and interpretation. The policy text amendment also includes updates to key policy definitions for the purpose of conformity and to simplify policy wording.

The third phase OPA applies to the whole of the County of Dufferin and therefore, a key map is not provided with this notice.

For further information on the Public Open House, please contact:
Silva Yousif, Senior Planner, County of Dufferin, syousif@dufferincounty.ca

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

TAKE NOTICE that the County of Dufferin will hold a public meeting pursuant to Subsection 17(15) and 17(16) of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.P.13, as amended, regarding a proposed amendment to the County of Dufferin Official Plan to implement the County's Municipal Comprehensive Review (MCR) exercise under Section 26 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.P.13, as amended.

Public Meeting

The public meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the W. & M. Edelbrock Centre, 30 Centre Street, Orangeville. The purpose of the public meeting is to present the proposed land use policy framework updates to the Official Plan Amendment (OPA) being put forward for consideration as a result of the County's MCR exercise under Section 26 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.P.13, as amended, and to give an opportunity for the public to provide input.

Any person or public body wishing to participate in the meeting may attend in-person or virtually. To join the meeting virtually on Zoom, please use the following link:
<https://dufferincounty-ca.zoom.us/j/84760671556>
Password: 947791334

Written comments can be sent to the attention of the County Clerk by email or via regular mail to the address listed at the end of this notice.

The meeting will be livestreamed and will be available on the County's YouTube channel
<http://www.youtube.com/DufferinOne>

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The third phase OPA applies to the whole of the County of Dufferin and therefore, a key map is not provided with this notice.

Additional Information

A copy of the proposed OPA and additional information will be available at
<https://joinindufferin.com/dufferin-county-municipal-comprehensive-review>

Notification of Adoption

If you wish to be notified of the adoption of the proposed OPA, you must make a written request to the County Clerk at the address listed below. Such requests must include the name and mailing address/email address to which such notice should be sent.

NOTE: The approval authority for adopted County of Dufferin Official Plan Amendments is the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. If a person or public body would otherwise have an ability to appeal the decision of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to the Ontario Land Tribunal but the person or public body does not make oral submissions at the public meeting or make written submissions to the County of Dufferin before the proposed official plan amendment is adopted the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the County of Dufferin before the proposed official plan amendment is adopted the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Land Tribunal unless in the opinion of the Tribunal there are reasonable grounds to add the person or public body as a party.

Notice of Collection, Use, and Disclosure

All personal information collected will be used to support Council in their deliberations and decision making, and by staff, about the second phase schedules and maps Official Plan Amendment, in accordance with sections 17 and 26 of the Planning Act and disclosed in full, including names, opinions, addresses and email, to any other persons requesting access to these records, or published as part of a public agenda. All information submitted to the County is subject to the Municipal Freedom of Information Act and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA). Questions about this notice of collection should be directed to the County Clerk.

DATED at Orangeville this 24th day of January, 2024.
Michelle Dunne, County Clerk
W. & M. Edelbrock Centre, 30 Centre Street,
Orangeville, ON L9W 2X1
Phone: 519-941-2816 x 2504
Email: clerk@dufferincounty.ca

Continued from FRONT

Council looks to calm traffic flow after reviewing troubling data

“Everybody thinks there is speeding problem on their street...but actually having this imperial evidence is really helpful because it allows us to pinpoint the problem areas and we can now demonstrate to the OPP or for ourselves that these are the areas where it's not just somebody standing out there think-

ing there's a speeding problem; we have the data to back up that in fact this is a problem,” said Shelburne Mayor Wade Mills. “It's sad too because it's so easily prevented, just be a responsible driver,” said Coun. Lindsay Wegener. “It's going to cost us valuable tax dollars that we can put into

something else, when you could just be responsible as a community member in our community.” In their next steps for calming traffic flow, town staff will contact the Ministry of Transportation to inform them of the Town's intention to decrease the speed limit on

Connecting Links within town limits from 50 km/h to 40 km/h. Staff will also be approaching the County of Dufferin to reduce the speed limits from 60 km/h to 40 km/h on County Road 11 from the intersection of Hwy. 89 to 2nd Line, and on County Road 124 within Shelburne.

Inquest into 2016 death of Grand Valley Institution for Women inmate underway

Written By Paula Brown
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

A coroner's inquest examining the 2016 death of Terry Baker, an inmate at the Grand Valley Institution for Women in Kitchener, is underway.

Baker, who was 30 years old at the time of her death, was serving a life sentence after pleading guilty to her part in the 2002 murder of 16-year-old Orangeville teen Robbie McLennan.

Baker was convicted of first-degree murder in 2006 and handed a life sentence without the eligibility of parole for 10 years. Her then 20-year-old boyfriend, William Bronson Penasse, also pleaded guilty to first-degree murder in 2005 and was sentenced to life in prison without the eligibility for parole until 2030. Another 16-year-old – never identified under the Youth Criminal Justice Act – was convicted of second-degree murder and sentenced to 18 months.

A coroner's inquest to examine the event surrounding her death was announced in 2017 by then regional supervising coroner, Dr. David Eden, and was delayed due to the pandemic and receiving documents from Corrections Canada.

A coroner's inquest is mandatory under the Coroner's Act.

History of Self-Harm Behind Bars

Co-counsel Kristin Smith shared details about Terry Baker's life prior to incarceration and the decline of her mental health while behind bars.

Baker experienced many challenges as a young person, including substance use issues that started when she was 13 years old, bullying, sexual assault, and self-harm. Before incarceration, she left her adopted family and lived with acquaintances or at shelters.

Baker was diagnosed with borderline personality disorder, also known as BPD, and had low-level cognitive function consistent with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder.

She received psychiatric treatments and was prescribed several psychotropic medications, including anti-depressants, mood stabilizers, antipsychotics, anti-anxiety medication and medication for ADHD.

She reportedly felt remorse and guilt over participation in the murder.

During her time in custody, Baker experienced deteriorating mental health. The jury heard she tried multiple times to kill or seriously harm herself by swallowing batteries, drinking cleaning products with bleach, cutting herself with a razor, banging her head, and tying ligatures around her neck.

Baker was repeatedly put into isolation under suicide watch, placed in restraints and had her possessions limited or taken away. Correctional staff were recommended not to give attention to her self-harming behaviours so it “doesn't get reinforced.”

Days Leading up to Baker's Death

Baker spent more than a decade at the Grand Valley Institution for Women in Kitchener, with intermittent stints at the Institut national de psychiatrie legale Philippe-Pinel in Montreal and the Regional Psychiatric Centre in Saskatoon.

The inquest was told that about 10 days before Baker's death, she had become upset after a visit from her mother. When she made threats to kill a staff member, Baker was placed in a segregation cell.

On June 27, she was found unresponsive on the floor of her cell in the segregation unit with a ligature around her neck. Correctional staff performed life-saving

measures, and Baker began breathing on her own again. The jury was told that she was moved from the segregation cell into an interview room, where she tried to bang her head against the wall. Baker was placed on a high suicide watch and kept in restraints for approximately 20 hours, during which time she continued to attempt to bang her head.

On June 29, Baker's status was changed from high to moderate suicide watch with constant observation by camera. She was continually observed on camera by correctional officers over the Canada Day long weekend.

The following Monday (July 4), staff met to discuss whether she should stay in segregation. It was ultimately decided to remove her from segregation the next day. She was also taken off modified suicide watch, and her status was changed to mental health monitoring, with staff checking every 30 minutes. She was no longer being observed by correctional officers, but cameras were still recording the activity in her cell.

On July 4, shortly after 8:30 p.m., an officer saw Baker lying on her back on the cell floor. Baker had a ligature tied around her neck and wasn't breathing.

Baker was transferred to hospital and died two days later, on July 6, after being removed from life support.

Ashely Smith Similarities

Baker's death at the Grand Valley Institution for Women occurred nine years after another inmate, Ashley Smith, died while in custody.

The 19-year-old died after tying a ligature around her neck while under direct camera observation from correction staff, who were told not to intervene.

Smith's inquest led jurors to provide 104

recommendations to Correctional Service Canada (CSC) to address similar issues being explored in Baker's inquest.

“Ms. Smith's death shone a bright light on CSC shortcomings in balancing the requirements for operational security and to provide every inmate with essential mental health care.”

Recommendations

The inquest is expected to span three weeks, during which the jury will hear from approximately 18 witnesses.

Inquests are mandatory by law whenever a prisoner dies from non-natural causes while in custody.

“This is because persons in custody are deprived of their liberty,” said Smith. “They are under the control of the state and it is the state that is responsible for keeping them safe.”

“As a society, it is up to us to ensure that non-natural deaths in correctional institutions are not covered up, overlooked or ignored,” she added.

Dr. David Eden, the presiding officer of the Office of the Chief Coroner, explained what the jury's role will be over the three weeks while they hear from witnesses and are presented with evidence from Baker's death.

The jurors will not be making a finding of guilt or innocence during the inquest; instead, they will be looking at the facts surrounding Baker's death and will come up with recommendations to help prevent similar deaths from happening in the future.

The inquest is being conducted by video conference. Members of the public who wish to view the proceedings can do so live via - firstclassfacilitation.ca/office-of-the-chief-coroner/inquest-into-the-death-of-terry-baker/.

Headwaters awarded Accreditation of Exemplary Standing for high level of care

Written By Paula Brown
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Headwaters Health Care Centre (HHCC) has been awarded with Accreditation of Exemplary Standing in recognition of its quality of care.

The local hospital announced on Friday (Jan. 19) that it had been awarded the accreditation following an assessment of its programs and services.

Accreditation is an internationally recognized evaluation and quality improvement process that helps organizations identify what they are doing well and where they need to focus their improvement efforts.

Being accredited means Headwaters has been assessed by an independent third-party organization, Accreditation Canada, and has proven it meets or exceeds current health care standards.

“This achievement is not only a source of pride for us, but also our reassurance to our patients, families and caregivers. It sends a very clear message that when anyone comes through our door at Headwaters Health Care Centre, and when they are in our care, we are always going to do



our utmost to ensure a great patient experience and provide the highest quality clinical care,” said Kim Delahunt, president and CEO of HHCC.

“This achievement is not only a source of pride for us but also our reassurance to our patients and their families, and caregivers. It sends a very clear message that when anyone comes through our doors at Headwaters Health Care Centre and when they are in our care, we are always going to do our utmost to ensure a great patient experience and provide the highest quality clinical care.”

In order to receive accreditation, Headwaters underwent a process involving a thorough and detailed review of hospital policies, programs and plans.

The local hospital also had a week-long onsite visit from health care professionals

trained as surveyors with Accreditation Canada, who spoke with staff, volunteers, patients, physicians, families and caregivers to gain an understanding of care practices at the hospital. The surveyors participated in programs and services to observe the hospital at every level.

“What became evident is that the process for accreditation is not just a regulatory requirement, it is our commitment to ongoing excellence,” said Dr. Grace Wang, vice president of medical affairs and chief of staff. “By looking at our practices, ensuring we meet the highest standards, we take steps towards a healthier community. Each standard, each protocol ensures the safety of everyone who comes to us can trust us.”

Accreditation Canada identified a list of strengths at the local hospital which includes:

- Staff are dedicated to quality patient care and services
- Headwaters is a learning organization with a commitment to resources, support and a strong focus on its health human resources challenges
- Headwaters is investing in planning, design and continuous improvements

• Patient engagement is at the forefront of the hospital's activities and future plans

• Headwaters has a unique and strong ethics framework and emergency preparedness plan

• There is a focus on being a data-informed hospital, integrating data in decision-making

• They have a quality improvement mindset

• The hospital's culture reflects its values

• Teams are positive, proactive, and proud, with visible leadership

“This achievement is an acknowledgement of what many of us in the community already felt about Headwaters, which is that they provide exceptional care. Getting then exemplary standing is really a reinforcement that the people who work here, who volunteer here, and the community partners are all very much engaged and working together to keep that level of service up,” said Sylvia Jones, MPP of Dufferin-Caledon. “I think it should give people a very high confidence when they have to have their loved ones or themselves interact with Headwaters that they're getting exemplary care.”

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What is it with Europe?

Are we really headed for another war in Europe?

Already, in Sweden, the government has called on its population to prepare for a future war.

Really? Sweden? If a peaceful, successful nation like Sweden is preparing for war, then something is seriously wrong on the European continent.

The Chairman of the NATO Military Committee has now declared that an all-out war between the West and Russia is inevitable.

The news story reporting this said, "Western countries should also be prepared for a conflict that will require significant changes in their lives."

Significant changes? Like what? Death? Mutilation? Bombings? Artillery shells landing on retirement homes and schools? Having your home destroyed, your family killed, and fighting with the guy next to you for a potato because you're starving and living waste-deep in mud in some refugee camp?

Yeah, I think you should consider those to be 'significant changes' in your lifestyle.

Again, it is war in Europe.

How can one continent be so entrenched in destruction all the time?

The entire history of Europe has been one of constant conflict. They didn't build

all those castles for leisure and recreation purposes.

Some historians claim that we've already had three world wars, as the Napoleonic Wars should be considered World War number one.

After the period of 1914 to 1918, that war was called "The War to End All Wars." That period was the first modern war that caused mass destruction and a huge loss of life.

Yes, it should have been an experience you don't want to repeat.

Did Europe learn a lesson from this?

No, apparently not, because just 21 years later, they were at it again.

By the end of 1945, Germany was destroyed. Belgium and the Netherlands were in ruins. Most of Europe was in rubble. Poland had almost six million deaths. Russia lost a staggering 20 million-plus people.

You would think that experience would teach them that having a war with your neighbours is not a good thing.

There have been several smaller wars in Europe over the past few decades, with entire countries disappearing – remember Yugoslavia?

At the time, Canada was drawn into both European wars, first as a duty to King and Country, and because of our close ties to

the United Kingdom.

If we had not gone to war in Europe, would the outcome have been different? Probably not. All those dead Europeans would still be dead, and all those countries would have still been left in ruins.

This time, if a war does occur, we will again be drawn into another European conflict because of our obligations to NATO. Do you really want to see more names etched on the cenotaphs around the country because of yet another foreign war?

While we are relatively safe in Canada due to our location and size, which makes any type of invasion almost impossible, the difference between past wars and current conflicts is the danger of long-range missiles.

I'm not sure what Russia's plans are. In the time they have been warring with Ukraine, they have lost more tanks, support vehicles, artillery pieces, weapons systems, aircraft, and personnel than most countries have in their entire arsenal.

They can't have that much left, and Russia does not have the resources to start building new war machines.

Reports have said that prisoners serving time in prison, including very dangerous people, have been released, handed a rifle

and sent to the front line.

That is the mark of a very desperate regime that is trying to raise bodies to act as cannon fodder because the prisoners are not well trained and are poorly equipped, but they can stop a bullet.

Another war in Europe would be an absolute disaster. Russia cannot win a war against NATO in the conventional sense. It would no doubt resort to the use of nuclear weapons.

Even then, that may not be something to be overly concerned about.

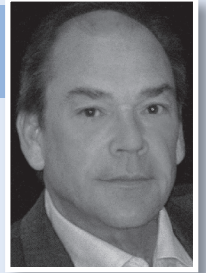
Russia can't even manage to maintain the playgrounds in its cities and towns, let alone a nuclear arsenal.

Their system is so corrupt that the plutonium cores in their bombs have probably already been scavenged and sold, and the missiles are covered in cobwebs.

I've heard the question before: if you could go back in time and meet Hitler before his rise to power, would you do something about it?

I don't think time travel is the answer, but I do know you don't kill a rabid dog by cutting off its tail.

BRIAN LOCKHART FROM THE SECOND ROW



Canada needs to spur the growth of new small businesses

The Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) called last Friday "a sad day for many Canadian small business owners."

The reason: many businesses will be unable to repay the emergency government loans they received in the middle of the pandemic.

Approximately 900,000 businesses took out loans. But many had little choice – small businesses such as restaurants were forced by the government to close their doors for long stretches, and many struggled to survive. Now, with the loan deadline kicking in, some of them will go under.

It's not just the weight of the government loan payments crushing these businesses – it's also the current business climate.

According to the CFIB, only about 50 per cent of small businesses have returned to the sales levels they enjoyed before the pandemic. When you add on top of that the rising cost of doing business, coupled with high inflation and labour shortages, it's no wonder we're bracing for a spike in business bankruptcies.

It's tough running your own small business in the best of times. But just as frustrating is the fact that we make it increas-

ingly difficult for Canadians to open up their own business in the first place.

According to the Business Development Bank, fewer Canadians are starting their own businesses compared to 20 years ago.

The decline in new business start-ups matters for many reasons. It matters because small businesses are the country's biggest job creators and they're also the source of many of our new technologies and products.

But most importantly, it matters to millions of Canadians. The pursuit of economic freedom is what drives many Canadians to start their own business. It's a dream held by Canadians of all ages and backgrounds and beliefs – the desire to be your own boss and chart your own path to financial success.

And for many entrepreneurs and business owners, myself included, it has been the key to achieving financial independence.

But that dream is becoming harder and harder to achieve.

Over the years, we've added more and more hurdles for Canadians trying to get their business up and running – everything from new fees and forms to regis-

trations and licenses. Starting your own small business shouldn't be difficult.

We should do everything we can to encourage people to start a small business, rather than install roadblocks at every step of the process. To spur the growth of more small businesses, there are a number of measures we can take.

One of the most important would be to scrap all of the forms, licenses, permits and fees that are not absolutely essential in launching a new business. It wouldn't take long to draw up that list, and it would save new business owners invaluable time and money.

Beyond that, we also need to start fostering entrepreneurship skills and training in our high schools in addition to technical skills apprenticeships. Both these roads will lead to the creation of many new small businesses and will give young Canadi-

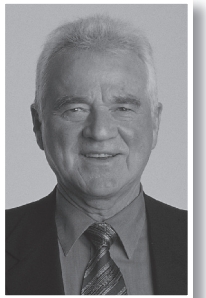
ans a path to financial rewarding careers.

Getting government off the backs of our small businesses is one of the key elements in the national economic charter of rights I've proposed. But we also need to remove all of the many barriers that are keeping small businesses from being formed in the first place.

If we did that, we could set off a chain reaction of economic growth that our country hasn't seen for many years.

To learn more about the economic charter and how it could generate economic growth and prosperity, email me at info@economiccharter.ca. Or to learn more about the economic charter, visit: www.economiccharter.ca.

FRANK STRONACH CREATING AN ECONOMIC CHARTER OF RIGHTS



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Man charged with arson following structure fire in Shelburne

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

Dufferin OPP officers have charged a 29-year-old man with arson in connection to a structure fire that occurred in Shelburne at the end of December.

Officers from Dufferin OPP, along with firefighters from the Shelburne & District

Fire Department, responded to a house fire call on Second Avenue West at approximately 3 a.m. on Dec. 30. The structure was completely engulfed in flames when emergency services arrived.

No one was inside the home at the time of the fire, and no injuries were reported.

Dufferin OPP initially reported, at the time of the fire, that they believed there were

people in the area when the fire started.

The Ontario Fire Marshal attended the scene, took over the investigation, and deemed the structure fire an arson.

The OPP's Dufferin Crime Unit continued the investigation and has since charged a 29-year-old man, who has not been identified, with arson.

Police are asking anyone with informa-

tion regarding the fire on Second Avenue West to contact the OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or visit Crime Stoppers to remain anonymous by calling 1-800-222-8477 or emailing www.crimestoppersdm.com.

If you witnessed the fire and wish to speak to victim services, Caledon/Dufferin Victim Services can be reached at 905-951-3838.

Dufferin OPP investigating theft of four vehicles overnight

Members of the Dufferin Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are investigating the theft of four pickup trucks in Orangeville and Mono.

The thefts took place between the evening of Jan. 21, and the early morning hours of Jan. 22, 2024.

The pickup trucks were stolen from the driveways of residential addresses in Mono and Orangeville. The vehicles are described as the following:

- 2023 black Ford F-150 crew cab bearing Ontario marker BV62917 from Perry Road in the Town of Orangeville.
- 2023 black Ford F-150 bearing Ontario marker BW34470 from Ashwood Drive in the Town of Mono.
- 2023 grey Ford F-150 bearing Ontario marker BX76254 from Meek Avenue from

the Town of Mono.

• 2023 grey Ford F-150 bearing Ontario marker BT97565 from McMaster Road in the Town of Orangeville.

Officers secured video surveillance where a dark colour sedan is observed pulling up to one of the residences. Two suspects are viewed exiting their vehicle and entering the stolen pick-up. After a couple of minutes within the truck, they get it started and are viewed driving it out of the driveway.

The investigation is ongoing. If you have any information or video surveillance footage in relation to any of these thefts, please call the Dufferin OPP Detachment at (519) 942-1711 or 1-888-310-1122.

Residents can help protect their vehicles by taking any of the following crime prevention measures:

• Ensure your vehicle keys are kept well away from doors and windows

• Use a signal blocking pouch/box - they can block your key fob from transmitting its code to the vehicle as the pouch is lined with layers or metallic material

• Turn off the keyless fob wireless signal at night (refer to your car manual for instructions)

• Use a steering wheel lock or car alarm - this could add a significantly delay or be a deterrent for thieves

• Consider a secondary audible car alarm - which works by using sensors placed in different points of your vehicle

• Park in the garage (if possible)

• Insert a car tracker - unusual activity is monitored, and car can be tracked using GPS if stolen.

Police also want to raise public awareness about the opportunities for criminals who intend to steal personal identification from unsecured vehicles.

Vehicle owners/passengers can do simple things to decrease the risk of being victimized, such as:

- Never leave a running vehicle unattended
- Lock your doors
- Roll up your windows
- Keep valuables out of sight
- Keep your registration and proof of insurance in your wallet or purse, not in the glove box
- Pocket your keys
- At night or during extended parking periods, always park in a well-lit area.

Vehicle collision leads to impaired driving charges for Orangeville man

Officers from the Dufferin Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have charged one driver with impaired operation related offences as the result of a motor vehicle collision.

On Jan. 16, just after 7:00 p.m., officers from the Dufferin OPP responded to a motor vehicle collision in the area of County Road 109 and 8th Line in the Township of Amaranth. Officers located the vehicle and driver and were led into an impaired operation investigation.

Mark Humberstone, a 36-year-old male, from Orangeville has been charged with:

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

The accused is scheduled to appear at

the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville to answer to the charges. Their driver's licence was suspended, and the vehicle was impounded.

"Dufferin OPP continues to conduct traffic enforcement daily as drivers who are impaired by alcohol or drugs and who drive at excessive speeds continue to pose a threat to Ontario roads. We are committed to the safety of our community," said Dufferin OPP in a press release.

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).

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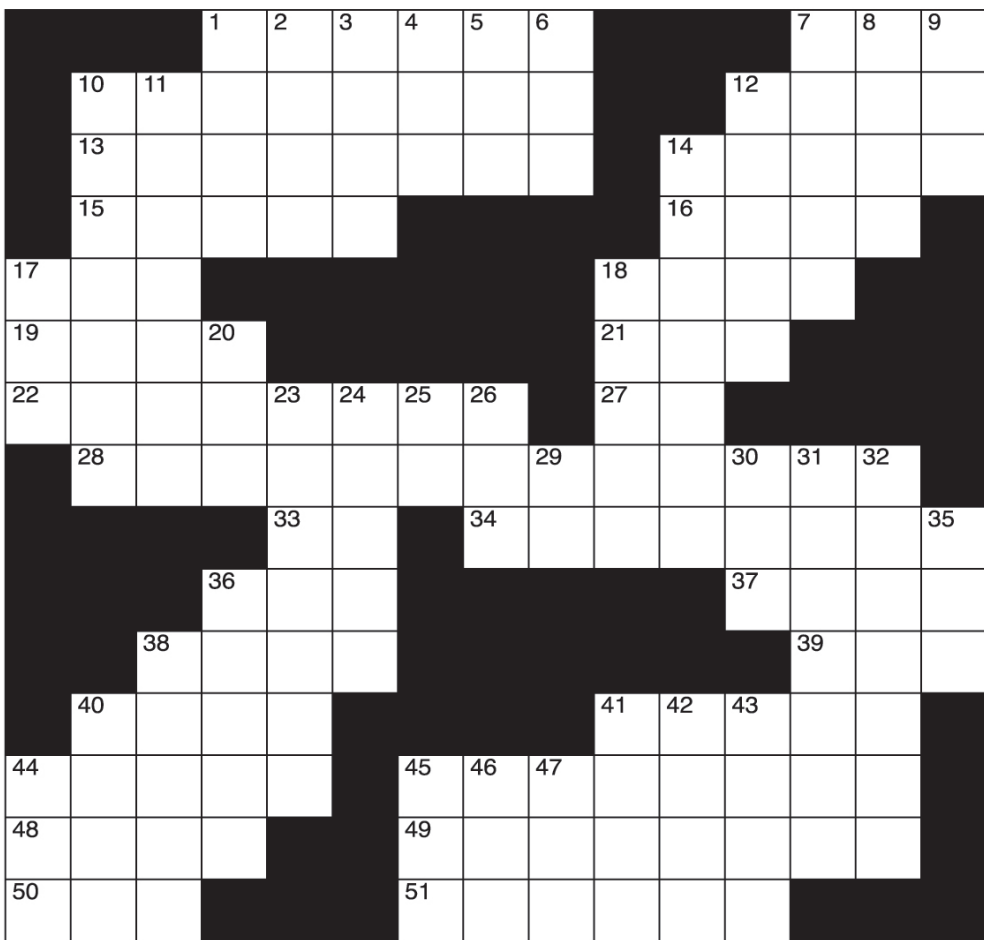
Kate

Kate is a 3 year old gal who is our greeter of the shelter. She is super friendly, silly and playful. Any time we turn around she is doing something hilarious or adorable. Kate would do best as an only cat or one of two cats as she prefers all the attention. Kate is spayed, vaccinated, dewormed, microchipped, and flea treated.
Adoption fee: \$275

Check our facebook page to see the other kitties looking for their forever home. Donations always needed to help care for the cats as we are not funded at all, and rely on donations and fundraisers. If you would like to volunteer as well we are always appreciative.

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CROSSWORD



CLUES ACROSS

- Winged nut
- ___ Humbug!
- One who sets apart
- Circle above a saint's head
- Unpleasantly loud and harsh
- Expressed pleasure
- Feminine given name
- Company of badgers
- Popular Dodge pickup truck
- Witty sayings
- Leader
- Autonomic nervous system
- Premolar
- Atomic #28
- Holiday decorative item

- Exclamation of surprise
- Rusk or cracker
- Returned material authorization (abbr.)
- Scottish or Irish Gaelic language
- Eat
- Marxist economics theory (abbr.)
- Ceases to exist
- Male Arabic name
- Series of ridges on an organ wall
- Places where bees are kept
- One-time Yankees sensation Kevin
- Church office
- Single lens reflex
- Pieces of fibrous tissue

- Classify
- Dismounted
- Produced
- Consumed
- Director Howard
- The products of human creativity
- Thai monetary units
- Away from wind
- Builder's trough
- Relating to Islam
- It can sometimes ache
- Small quantities (Scot.)
- Poisonous plant
- Laugh at
- Vogul
- C. European river
- Type of cat
- Exclamation of disgust
- Stephen King novel

- Without armies
- Expression of sympathy
- Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
- Previously
- Illegal drug
- Kiloelectronvolt
- Large, flightless birds
- For smoking
- Binary
- Competition
- Mark resembling an arrow
- Containers
- Root mean square (abbr.)
- Commercials
- I.M. ___, architect
- 007's creator

No one has more self-confidence than the person who does a crossword puzzle with a pen.

SHELBURNE SPORTS

Shelburne Curling Club hosts Glow in the Dark Bonspiel

Written By Brian Lockhart

The Shelburne Curling Club opened a new dimension for the sport when it hosted its annual Glow in the Dark Bonspiel on Saturday, Jan. 20., at its Shelburne location.

Members from other curling clubs from around the province signed up to participate in the event, featuring the entire playing area filled with black lights that created a fun and rather eerie Glow over the ice sheets.

Everything from the numbers on the scoreboards to the rings on the playing surface was illuminated and glowed under the black lights that filled the ceiling of the building.

Players were also adorned in colours that glowed.

"We've got a lot of returning clubs to this event," said Jamie Horne, Shelburne Curling Club member and organizer of the Glow in the Dark Bonspiel. "We have people from Mississauga, Chinguacousy, Collingwood, and Alliston, who have come to compete. This year we have 48 players with a random start. Who you play next depends on how a team does. We play winners against winners, and losers against losers. You play three, six-end games."

Jamie has been organizing this event for the past eight years.

"I joke that it's like playing billiards on ice," Jamie said of how the game plays out with everything reflected under the black lights. "We paint the rings in the spring, but we paint for this event. It's all fluorescent paint on the ice. On a normal day, all you see is orange and green but under the fluorescent lights they pop. We also have skirts that glow on the rocks. You have to see the Skip at the other end of the ice, so we have paddles that are fluorescent and fluorescent glow sticks on the ice. We'll have two winners – an early draw and a late draw. We also have prizes for the best dressed team."

Players can dress to glow in the dark. They quickly learn that some materials don't have the right effect while others work very well and light up.

Some players have it all figured out and look like walking, glowing stick figures under the black lights.

It's a lot of work to get ready for the event, but it's worth it as everyone has a lot of fun and enjoys playing a few games in the different Glow in the Dark atmosphere.



BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

ICY GLOW: The Shelburne Curling Club hosted its annual Glow in the Dark Bonspiel on Saturday, Jan. 20, at its Shelburne location. Painted fluorescent rings on the floor, scoreboards, and skirts on the rocks all glowed under the black lights that filled the ceiling. Players also dressed so they would glow on the floor during games.

Shelburne Cricket Club elects 2024 executive members

Written By Brian Lockhart

The Shelburne Cricket Club held its presidential election in October 2023, adopting an online voting system.

Ahsen Siddiqui was re-elected as president for a five-year term with 80 per cent of the vote.

A founding member of the Club, Mr. Siddiqui has played a pivotal role in advancing the vision to establish cricket as a prominent sport in Shelburne and Dufferin County. Under his direction, along with a dedicated management team, the Club has gone from seven players to around 200 active participants.

Mr. Siddiqui has been successful in introduc-

ing a coed adult soccer tournament, a Women's T15 cricket series, and the Dufferin County Cup – DCC T20 Premium cricket tournament in Shelburne.

As the Club looks forward to 2024, the Annual General Meeting of the Club's management looks forward to a calendar filled with exciting cricket and soccer events. The events are designed to be inclusive, extending invitations to individuals of all genders, ages, and skill levels to register and actively participate.

Registration for the upcoming 2024 season is now open. Interested individuals can find details on the Club's official website at www.shelburnecricketclub.com.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

LEADERS: The Shelburne Cricket Club is gearing up for a new season. The Club recently held elections with Ahsen Siddiqui re-elected as president for a five-year term. Mr. Siddiqui is seen here with vice-president Greg Parker, general secretary/treasurer Maira Quraishi, and operations manager Zaid Baig.

What's new at the local library?

New Hours* starting February 1st, 2023

Thanks to all who took the time to respond to our hours of operation survey. We have taken the feedback into consideration and are happy to launch a pilot project with the hours of operation below, effective February 1st, 2024-May 31st, 2024:

- Tuesday: 10am-7pm**
- Wednesday: 10am-5pm**
- Thursday: 10am-7pm**
- Friday: 10am-5pm**
- Saturday: 10am-4pm**

Upcoming Events:

Using Ancestry to Research Black History with MoD, Thursday, February 8th, 6pm: Archivist Laura Camilleri will demonstrate some methods for researching Black Roots in Dufferin County. Registration can be found on our Programs & Events for Adults page.

Library Literary Event: The Lucie & Thornton Blackburn Story with Suzette Daley, Sunday, February 11th, 2pm: Local author, Suzette Daley will tell the story of Lucie & Thornton Blackburn, founders of Toronto's first taxi company, The City. Their story epitomizes resilience, entrepreneurship, and community-building, and is one you won't want to miss! Registration can be found on our Programs & Events for Adults page.

Staff Pick of the Week: The Fury of

Beijing by Ian Hamilton

Still reeling from the brutal murder of her close associates Lau Lau and Chen, Ava Lee embarks on a quest for revenge that takes her from Toronto to Los Angeles to Beijing. Along the way, Ava is aided by some familiar faces and old comrades-in-arms, including Sonny Kwon, Jimmy Li, Lop, and Xu, the mountain master of Shanghai. The search leads first to Ava's old opponent, Mo, the chairman of the China Movie Syndicate, and then to a shadowy figure at the very top of the Chinese Security Service—the man who gave the order to kill her friends.

Why Rose recommends this book: One of the things that series-readers often have to contend with is the loss of pace, tone, or feel of a series the further along in the series one gets. I'm very happy to note, this is absolutely not the case for the 16th installment in the Ava Lee series! Ava is still a take-no-prisoners protagonist, and the break-neck speed at which she faces adversaries remains as it always has throughout the series. One of my favourite things about this series is the way Hamilton can make you feel like you're there with Ava Lee; the descriptions of the cities she finds herself in are painted in such detail you can't help but be transported.

My recommendation would be to start with book one, The Water Rat of Wanchai, and follow Ava Lee's story through to the present!

CDDHS Royals need first round win

Written By Brian Lockhart

The Centre Dufferin District High School Royals boys' hockey team will have to win their first opening-round game to advance into District 4/10 playoffs this season.

The Royals have been playing well and have a lot of talent on the team, but they're just not winning this year. They have had several one-goal games but have managed to come out on top only once this season and are in eighth place in the nine-team District line-up.

Prior to the playoffs, there was an opening round between the lower-place teams to see who would advance to the quarter-final round of playoffs. Eight teams will start the quarter-final round beginning February 14.

From there, four teams will qualify for the semi-final round, with the two remain-

ing teams battling in the championship final.

Currently, the team from John F. Ross is in the lead in the District with a 9-1 record.

St. James is in second place with a 9-2 record. They are followed by Orangeville District Secondary School, who are in third place with an 8-3 record.

Norwell District is in fourth place, followed by Centennial Collegiate and Centre Wellington.

The Royals will likely be up against Erin District High School in the first round. Erin has only won one game this season.

The team from CDDHS is scheduled to play their final regular season game on Thursday, Feb. 8, against Centre Wellington on home ice at the Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex.

Game time is 2:00 p.m.

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Canicross event provides exercise to both canines and owners

Written By Brian Lockhart

It was cold and snowy, but that didn't stop pet lovers and their dogs from participating in the Snowy Paws Canicross event on the trails at the Island Lake Conservation Area on Saturday, Jan. 13.

Dogs of all sizes and their owners went through courses of different lengths and enjoyed a good run that benefited everyone involved with some physical activity.

Canicross is the sport of cross-country running with dogs. Runners use hands-free running equipment with a belt and harness to allow the dog to run in front and pull their owner along behind them.

There are special verbal commands that owners use to guide the dogs. Most dogs understand the new commands pretty quickly and pick up on what the sport is all about.

The event was scheduled for a 9:00 a.m. start for the first 10k race. However, the event was moved back an hour to accommodate people arriving late due to the inclement weather. Once things started, all the races went off without a hitch.

After the 10k race, there were two 5k races.

"The crew at Island Lake did an awesome job," said organizer Shawn Sobon, founder of Canadian Canicross Sports. "They were out there early clearing the snow. When I arrived at

7:15 a.m., the roads leading into the park were already cleared and the parking lot was clear. There was an outdoor fire pit for spectators to stay warm, and we had the use of a garage to stay warm and register everyone. We had just under 40 people show up. Everybody had a great time. The smallest dog in the event was a miniature Dachshund."

The harness the dogs wear is similar to what a mushing dog would wear when pulling a sled. Instead, they are pulling people behind them. The idea is to get the dog to pull the owner along the trail.

"It seems to be natural for dogs to want to pull," Shawn explained. "There is some learning involved. Some dogs have already been trained to walk along side their owner."

For most dogs, once they are in the special harness, they seem to get the idea about what is going on.

Some dogs see what others are doing and realize this event is different than going for a regular walk.

Each race was a timed event, with the top three finishers receiving an award.

It was a very competitive atmosphere, with first and second place in the 10k run separated by only four seconds.

The Snowy Paws Canicross event will be making a donation to the Friends of Island Lake to help with projects at the Conservation Area.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

MAN'S BEST FRIEND: The Snowy Paws Canicross event was held on the trails at the Island Lake Conservation Area on Saturday, Jan. 13. The event featured competitors with the dogs on 10k and 5k courses around the Conservation Area. A special harness allows the dogs to run while pulling their owner behind them, giving both canines and their owners some good physical activity.

Centre Dufferin's Co-op Corner: Dufferin Oaks

Local business and education partnerships provide students with a transitional opportunity to experience the world of work while still completing high school. Locally, many of our community businesses have been involved with this partnership. This week from Centre Dufferin District High School, we highlight co-op student Hailey Luxemburger and a little bit about her co-op experience at Dufferin Oaks Long Term Care Home.

Dufferin Oaks is a non-profit long-term care home for up to 160 residents, owned and operated by the County of Dufferin. Dufferin Oaks takes care of adults and elders needing long-term care. They care about the dignity and well-being of their residents, providing client-centred services and a workplace focused on the team and personal growth in a safe, comfortable, home-like environment. The administrator is Brenda Wagner, the director of care is Jenny Power, and the Infection Prevention and Control Lead is Rhonda White.

Currently, Hailey works as a Personal Support Worker's Assistant. She has completed assisting in their personal hygiene, feeding them their meals, changing, toileting and toileting assistance and applying required creams and assistance with medi-

cine. She still has more time to learn about the collection of specimens, housekeeping chores such as doing the laundry and washing dishes, running errands, observing and reporting certain behaviours, and changes in the clients and lifts. Training that was needed to be completed included health and safety, customer service, Alzheimer's background and other illnesses, Covid-19, retirement basics, workplace rules, dementia, abuse and neglect training and basic resident care.

Related jobs in Dufferin Oaks that I have now noticed are RPN, RN, PSA, and HSW. RPNs are registered psychiatric nurses specializing in nursing, focusing on patients' mental health. RNs are registered nurses who focus on coordinating patient care. PSAs are a second pair of hands for nurses who don't provide hands-on care. HSWs are short-term or long-term care assistants who help with in-home and personal needs in the comfort of the resident's home.

Dufferin Oaks supports Centre Dufferin District High School Co-op students by offering them placements and incredible learning experiences that students can use as a stepping stone to continue on towards their dream jobs within the healthcare field.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CO-OP CORNER: Dufferin Oaks nurses and PSW workers from the first floor of Dufferin Oaks have been working with Hailey during her placement. From left to right: Elizabeth Bennett, Ramandeep Warring, Hailey Luxemburger (co-op student), Ramandeep Sidhu, and Casandra Hall.

WE HOPE YOU ENJOY READING THE RECREATION GUIDE.

To reserve your spot in the Spring/Summer 2024 Edition, please contact Debbie Freeman

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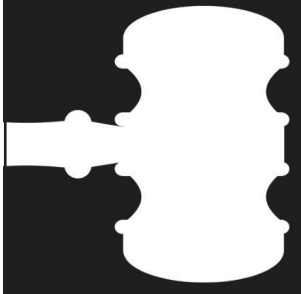
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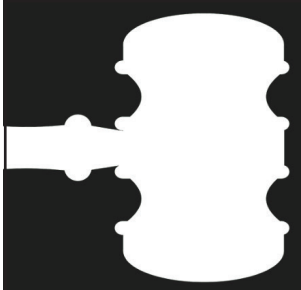
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Online bidding begins closing on Feb 2nd at 5p.m. Preview: Fri Feb 2nd 10 – 4p.m., or call for an appointment on another day. Preview & pickup at our home office base. 438280 4th Line, Melancthon. North of Shelburne.

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The role will include assisting individuals who have questions regarding the provincial government. Knowledge and interest in issues within Dufferin-Caledon will definitely be considered an asset.

Excellent verbal and written communication skills will be needed.

Comfort in working with platforms like Facebook and X as well as preparing written materials such as press releases and brochures is critical.

Interested candidates should direct their cover letter and resume to: sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org.

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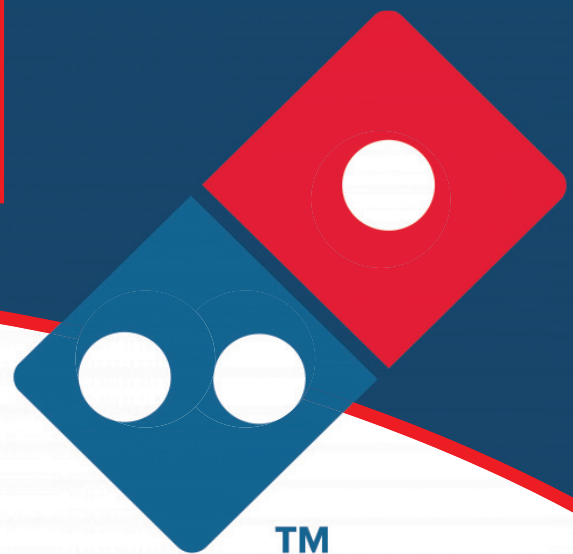


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