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PAULA BROWN PHOTO
GROUNDBREAKING: Headwaters Health Care Centre (HHCC) marked the start of construction of their new magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) suite on Friday (Sept. 27) with a groundbreaking ceremony. The MRI is projected to be completed by Spring of 2025. See the full story on Page 3.

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Highland Heights unveils \$3.3 million expansion

Written By **PAULA BROWN**
 LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Students at Hyland Heights Elementary School will spend the school year together in a cohesive building with a new addition added to the existing school.

Staff, students and parents gathered on the school grounds of Hyland Heights Elementary School last Thursday (Sept. 26) for a special ribbon-cutting ceremony celebrating the school's new expansion.

"It's so important for our school community to have the students inside the building together as much as we can," said Tammy Fleming, Principal of Hyland Heights. "There's more collaboration, which gives kids a different kind of learning opportunity, and when you have beautiful classrooms like these it motivates kids because it's a pleasant environment."

In July 2020, the provincial government approved a multi-million-dollar expansion to Hyland Heights Elementary School that would see a four-classroom addition added to the local elementary school, replacing the school's existing four-portable complex. The approval of the expansion came following an announcement from the provincial government that they would be investing \$500 million to build 30 new schools and upgrade 15 existing ones.

Construction of the expansion to the elementary school began in September of 2022 and was completed last September.

"As we all know, Shelburne is growing rapidly and we want to be able to accommodate all of our students with state-of-the-art facilities for them to learn in," said Belal Taha, Superintendent of Education. "Before this was built, we had a number of portables, which



PAULA BROWN PHOTO
UNVEILING: Hyland Heights Elementary School celebrated the opening of their \$3.3 million, 4-classroom addition on Thursday (Sept. 26). Construction of the expansion began in September of 2022 and was completed last September. The addition to the existing school added an additional 92 spaces for students, who had been placed in portables.

are useful when the school capacity doesn't allow for us to all be in one building. However, the reduction of portables increases the amount of space that kids can play in and also ensures that we have as many students inside because ideally, we want them inside the school."

Hyland Heights Elementary is a junior kindergarten to Grade 8 school, located at 200 Fourth Ave in Shelburne. The school provides education to students from Shelburne and the surrounding rural communities of Amaranth, Riverview, Melancthon and Corbetton. The school shares property with Centre Dufferin District High School (CDDHS) and replaced the Shelburne Junior School, which had served the town and surrounding area for over 100 years.

In 2020, the Upper Grand District School Board said the expansion to the school would add an additional 92 spaces to the school's population.

"It really was built for the students who were here that we were struggling to find a spot for," said Fleming.

The expansion to the elementary school comes at a time when student capacity within local schools becomes an ever-increasing concern for many local families.

According to the Upper Grand District School Board's (UGDSB) Long-Term Accommodation Plan (LTAP) enrollment growth at Hyland Heights Elementary School is projected to reach 510 students by 2025/2026 school year and reach over capacity by 2030/2031 with 585.

Shelburne **Free Press**

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Shelburne Fire Department receives funding from Firehouse Subs

Written By PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Volunteer first responders with the Shelburne and District Fire Department (SDFD) will have access to necessary equipment to help keep themselves and community members safe after receiving grant funding.

The Shelburne and District Fire Department was presented with a cheque for \$24,318 from the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation of Canada last Thursday (Sept. 26) at the Firehouse Subs franchise location in Orangeville.

The grant money will be used to purchase four new Drager Portable Multi-Gas Detectors, allowing the local fire department to monitor air quality in potentially hazardous situations for the safety of the community and the department's members.

"We are grateful to the Foundation and our local Firehouse Subs in Orangeville for awarding us this grant," said Tony Quesnelle, Lieutenant, Shelburne & District Fire Department. "The four new Drager Portable Multi-Gas Detectors will fulfill a critical need within our department and allow our

first responders to better help the people of Amaranth, Melancthon, Mono, Mulmur and Shelburne during emergency situations."

In 2005, Firehouse Subs' founders established the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation in the U.S. with the mission of providing funding, lifesaving equipment and educational opportunities for first responders and public safety organizations. Ten years later, with the opening of the first Canadian Firehouse Subs restaurant, the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation of Canada was created.

Since 2015, the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation of Canada has awarded 351 grants to public safety organizations.

The funding given to the Shelburne and District Fire Department is one of 19 Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation of Canada grants awarded to public safety organizations during the most recent donation cycle. The 19 grants will provide critical lifesaving equipment valued at more than \$530,000 across Canada.

To date, the Canadian Foundation continues the mission of impacting the lifesaving capabilities of local heroes and their com-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

FIRE SAFETY: Shelburne and District Fire Department (SDFD) were presented with a grant for \$24,318 on Thursday (Sept. 26) at Firehouse Subs in Orangeville. The grant was provided through Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation of Canada and will be used to purchase four new Drager Portable Multi-Gas Detectors.

unities and has awarded more than \$3.7 million throughout Canada. To learn more about the Firehouse Subs

Public Safety Foundation of Canada or to donate, visit any Firehouse Subs restaurant or online at CanadaHelps.org.

Headwaters breaks ground on new MRI suite, expected to open in 2025

Written By PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Headwaters Health Care Centre (HHCC) has reached another step in bringing the community its first-ever magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) suite after years of advocacy, community engagement and fundraising.

Headwaters staff members and community dignitaries gathered outside the local hospital on Friday (Sept. 27) for a special ceremony marking the official breaking of ground on construction of the new MRI Suite.

"This groundbreaking signifies the culmination of so much hard work over the past number of years by many teams and individuals. Offering MRI at Headwaters will make a big difference in supporting high-quality patient care, knowing that MRI is finally available close to home," said Kim Delahunt, HHCC president and CEO.

In 2022, Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones announced that the Ontario government would be committing more than \$800,000 in annual operating funding for the first MRI suite in the community.

Headwaters Hospital was one of 49 hospitals across Ontario included in the provincial government's announcement of expanding MRI and CT scan services in an effort to reduce wait times.

According to Headwaters, there are approximately 4,000 annual scans that are being referred to other facilities for MRI, meaning the new suite will meet a significant demand for bringing more diagnostic imaging services closer to home for patients.

K.C Carruthers, CEO of the Headwaters Health Care Foundation, said after the government's 2022 announcement they saw people begin to come forward with donations for the MRI Suite, including those who had never contributed before. The Morningview Foundation was a key contributor to the fundraising process by committing to match community donations dollar-for-dollar up to \$3 million.

"It was a historic pledge and it's unsurpassed in the history of our foundation and hospital. John and Margaret Roth and their family generously promised to match \$3 million of community contributions with \$3 million of their own," said Carruthers. "We are honoured to recognize their lead-

ership and generosity with the naming of the Morningview Foundation MRI Suite."

Thus far, more than \$6 million has been donated through the Smart Headwaters campaign, enabling Headwaters Hospital to purchase, install and operate the community's first MRI.

The location of the new MRI Suite will be located near the hospital's Ambulatory Care Clinic and Emergency Department. The spot was chosen to accommodate the electric and mechanical infrastructure requirements of the MRI Suite.

The MRI Suite is an entirely prefabricated unit, designed with four zones that specify the level of increasing magnetic exposure. The prefabricated unit, called a cassette, will mean a significantly faster installation compared to traditional construction as well as minimizing disruptions to daily operations during construction.

"Quicker access to MRI means patients can receive timely diagnosis and treatment, potentially improving outcomes," said Jennifer Zdravec, director of clinical support services at HHCC. "Having access to accurate, timely diagnosis can lead to better patient outcomes and potentially save lives."



PAULA BROWN PHOTO

FUNDRAISING: Headwaters Health Care Foundation has raised more than \$6 million thus far to purchase, install and operate the new MRI Suite. The Morningview Foundation has contributed \$3 million via a match pledge.

When construction is completed, health care providers can refer patients over the age of 8 to Headwaters for services including abdominals, pelvic, brain, spine, breast, and musculoskeletal imaging.

Construction of the MRI Suite at Headwaters is projected to be completed by Spring of 2025.

TIP OF THE ICEBERG

by Chris Rait, Mark Williams, & Jeannine Bouw

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OPINION

First responders

Several years ago I was driving up Highway 400 around 10:30 p.m. heading north.

There was a car ahead of me travelling a little too slow for my liking, so I pulled into the left lane and hit the gas. As soon as I got around him, there were flashing red lights in the rear-view mirror.

I pulled over one lane to let him pass, but nope, he stuck with me.

I moved over one more lane and the police car stayed right behind me. That feeling of dread came over me when I realized he was pulling me over.

As I pulled onto the shoulder of the road, I was already calculating the fine in my head.

As the police officer walked toward my car, I decided the best course of action was to simply be polite. There was no way I was going to try to dispute what had just happened. I was well over the speed limit and he was right behind me.

"You know you were doing 130 back there?" he said when he came to the driver's window.

"I believe you're right," I replied as I handed him my driver's license. "I really juiced it when I

passed that car."

He took my license and went back to his police car. Most likely he checked to make sure I wasn't wanted for anything and to make sure my driver's license was valid.

The police officer returned to my window less than two minutes later, handed me my license, and said, "This is your lucky night. We're looking for drunk divers. Slow down"

I thanked him for his understanding.

I have no doubt that the reason I got a warning that night rather than a \$300 fine, was simply because I was polite, courteous, and acknowledged that I was speeding. Maybe this cop just appreciated not getting an earful from another driver who is angry for being pulled over for an offence THEY committed.

Police officers take a lot of grief from the public – from mouthy motorists who are indignant for being stopped after blowing a red light, to criminals who take a swing at them to avoid being arrested for a crime THEY have committed.

The police are simply upholding the law and doing the necessary job they have been hired

to do.

Quite often, first responders don't get the credit they deserve for the work they do in our communities.

You probably pass by your local fire hall all the time and don't give it much thought.

When you call the fire department, they respond – every time.

The fire department plays a vital role in society, and it's also an extremely dangerous job.

First, there is the inherent risk of being near a fire. There is a risk of burns, smoke inhalation, collapsing walls, and collapsing floors. There is a risk of explosion and dangerous gas.

When attending a motor vehicle accident, they use powerful tools, that pose a risk for the operator and those standing nearby. There is the risk of being on a street and having another car driven by a drunk driver crashing into you while you are completing a rescue.

Then there is the psychological trauma of dealing with some very bad situations.

Firefighters are always training to mitigate the risks of the job, however, the risks will never

completely go away.

Paramedics are first responders who have to deal with worst-case situations all the time.

They are routinely called when there has been a serious accident or someone is in a life-threatening situation. They have to remain calm, assess the situation, then act – possibly to save someone's life.

It is a tough job where you have to pack your emotions away and do the job you were trained to do. You can't become emotionally involved because a child has been seriously injured or a person is going through the last stages of life and you are trying to help them stay alive.

This is another job where the trauma of dealing with such things over a period of years can put a drain on even the strongest people.

The men and women in our cities and towns who take on these jobs and are the first to be there when you need them, deserve the greatest respect from our society because when you really need them, they'll be there.

BRIAN LOCKHART
FROM THE SECOND ROW



Who ruined Sri Lanka?

It's hard to know who ruined Sri Lanka, because are so many plausible candidates.

You could blame the Buddhist extremists of the majority Sinhalese population who led the first pogroms against the Tamil minority in 1958, or the Marxist insurrection that broke out in 1971 (30,000 dead) and resumed in 1987-89 (60,000 dead), or the government-backed attacks on Tamils that started the 26-year-long civil war in 1983 (100,000 dead).

Or you could choose the massacres of Tamils that ended that war in 2009 and brought the Rajapaksa clan to power, or the deluded Sinhalese Buddhists who went on voting for the Rajapaksas even as they looted the economy, or the 2019-2022 economic collapse that made even food and medicines unavailable to much of the population.

That ended with a non-violent revolution that ousted the Rajapaksas, and then a brief interval in 2022-2024 when a more or less non-political government negotiated loans from the International Monetary Fund and made deals with its biggest creditors. But the outbreak of tranquility may not last.

The austerity weighed heavily on an improv-

ished and disillusioned population, and in last Sunday's election they voted a Marxist party into power. It's the same Marxist party that launched the terrorist insurgencies of 1971 and 1987, although the current leader and new president of Sri Lanka, Anura Kumara Dissanayake, swears it will be different this time.

Dissanayake's party, Janatha Vimukthi Peremuna (People's Liberation Front), is what you would expect from a long-established Marxist-Leninist party that has outgrown its early enthusiasm for armed revolution but still holds fast to its core 'socialist' values.

Nobody knows the future, but here's how this is likely to play out over the next couple of years. Dissanayake will not get better terms on Sri Lanka's debt while he is simultaneously cutting taxes and raising welfare payments. He will probably have to start printing money again (inflation is currently under control) to cover even half his promises.

The only way he won power this time is because a despairing and disillusioned electorate was willing to bet on any party that had not already failed. (The JVP got only 3 per cent of the votes in the previous election in

2019, but 46 per cent this time.) If Dissanayake cannot keep his promises, which is all too likely, the anger and the violence may return.

But why is Sri Lanka's post-colonial history so angry and violent? None of the five major successor states to the British empire in South Asia (India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka) has an entirely peaceful past, but none compares with Sri Lanka for sustained, large-scale violence across five decades.

It's fashionable to blame the British empire, because British colonial administrators preferred to hire and promote members of the Tamil-speaking Hindu minority (15 per cent of the population) rather than members of the fiercely nationalistic Sinhala-speaking Buddhist majority. This led to resentment in the majority, which led to anti-Tamil violence, etc., etc.

But this is really an inadequate explanation for the mass murders of Tamils by Sinhalese mobs, police or soldiers are a recurrent feature of post-independence Sri Lankan history.

The likelier answer is that Buddhist communities in south and southeast Asia feel besieged even when they are in the majority,

and lash out against communities of other faiths that really pose no threat to them.

It's not just Sri Lanka. Consider the brutal behaviour of Burma's Buddhist majority towards the country's 4 per cent Muslim minority, the Rohingyas. Most of the survivors now live in refugee camps in Bangladesh.

When some pattern of behaviour seems inexplicable, the real reason is often history. Buddhism rose to dominate India and most of south and southeast Asia in 500 BC-500 AD, but was then reduced to a tiny minority of believers in the next thousand years by a revival of the old religion of Hinduism and the arrival of the new religion of Islam.

Such a huge defeat can leave lasting scars. It may have left a conviction deeper than words in the few remaining Buddhist countries that they are forever at risk of being somehow replaced by the 'enemy' in their midst. Get the minority before they become the majority.

I don't like this hypothesis, but I suspect it may be true.

GWYNNE DYER
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Plaque honouring local resident unveiled at Greenwood Park

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

While he lived in Shelburne, Alex Carter was very involved in the community in various events and committees.

He was a huge supporter of minor soccer and was a member of Shelburne's Arts, Culture and Heritage Committee.

Alex passed away suddenly on Sept. 27, 2023, however, his legacy lives on.

He touched the lives of many people during his time in Shelburne and as a testament to the good works he did here, a bench and memorial plaque was unveiled at Brigans Field in Greenwood Park, where soccer is played. The plaque was unveiled during a ceremony held on Saturday, Sept. 27, and it was attended by many friends, family, and local residents. Alex's wife Bella unveiled the plaque.

Member of Shelburne Town Council, and Arts, Culture and Heritage Committee member, Lindsay Wegener, spearheaded the initiative to honour Alex with the plaque.

"Bella and Alex were both members of the Arts, Culture, and Heritage Committee," Lindsay explained. "When they first moved to the town, I remember them attending

council meetings. From there, they wanted to know what they could do to be a part of the community. I told them there were some committees and volunteering is big as well. When I heard of his passing last year, I was distraught, and was wondering what we could do. I knew that he was active with the soccer club, he created the Dufferin Film Association. I brought it up at one of the meetings and suggested we do something for both Bella and Alex. We knew how much he loved soccer and he loved seeing the kids on the field."

It was decided that a bench with a memorial plaque would be appropriate.

"This means that every day counts," Bella said of reflecting on her loss and the memorial plaque. "He was on the soccer executive, the parent's council, he was very active. Every time he was in the line at No Frills, he would speak to kids and ask them if they signed up for soccer. I think this plaque is a real honour because it shows that the work we do as volunteers is not invisible – it doesn't go unnoticed. People notice it – we may just not realize it, because we just do it. Alex was very involved."



BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

IN HIS HONOUR: A memorial plaque and bench honouring Alex Carter were installed at Brigans Field at Greenwood Park in Shelburne. Alex was a local resident who was very involved in the community. Alex's wife Bella and Shelburne Town Councillor Lindsay Wegener, unveil the plaque during a ceremony on Saturday, Sept. 28.

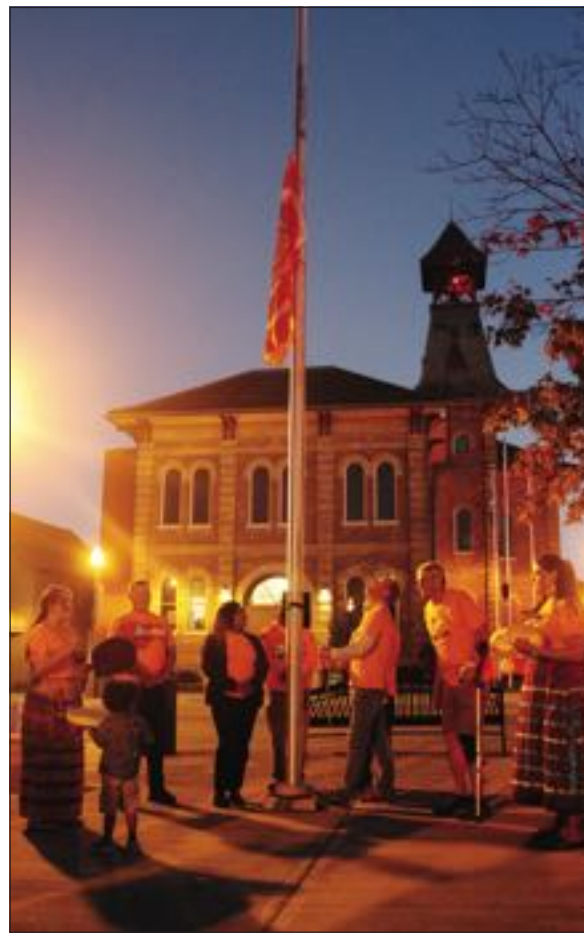
The plaque and bench are situated where someone can watch a soccer game from the sidelines.

Many friends, family, and local residents turned out to honour Alex and be there when the plaque was unveiled.



PAULA BROWN PHOTO

TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION: Bathed in the orange glow of the setting sun, Shelburne residents gathered at Jack Downing Park on Monday (Sept. 30) to commemorate Orange Shirt Day and the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. The event, which was attended by roughly 30 people, included drumming by Tessa and Mary Ismail from the Brave Canoe, the raising of the Every Child Matters flag and a candlelight reflection walk. Orange Shirt Day is a commemorative day that looks to honour residential school survivors and the Indigenous children who were forced to leave their families while also educating the public on the history and legacy of residential schools.



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House in Amaranth repeatedly vandalized over four days

The exterior of a house in Amaranth has been repeatedly vandalized over a four-day period.

Officers from Dufferin County Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are investigating the incidents that started on Sept. 20 and last took place on Sept. 23.

The first incident occurred at roughly 11 p.m. on Sept. 20. Officers were called to a

residence on County Rd. 11 in Amaranth to respond to a vandalism incident. The homeowner notified police that a window of their garage had been smashed and approximately \$600 worth of tools were stolen.

The following day (Sept. 21) at 7:30 a.m., Dufferin OPP received a second call from the homeowners, notifying them that they woke up to find their house's exterior and

garage door covered in spray paint.

Later that same day, around 10 p.m., police were called back by the homeowners advising that within the last couple of hours, the home had fallen victim again to a can of spray paint. This time targeting the front porch of the home.

At roughly 1:30p.m. on Sept. 23, Dufferin OPP were called back to the Amaranth

home in response to additional incidents of spray paint covering its exterior door.

Dufferin OPP are asking that anyone with information regarding this investigation or any other criminal activity to contact them at 1-888-310-1122 or Crime Stoppers to remain anonymous at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

You can also submit your information online at <https://ontariocrimestoppers.ca>.



BEHIND THE SCENES: The Dufferin Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) hosted an open house event on Saturday (Sept. 28) at their command centre in Mono from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. showcasing a few of the resources available to the residents of Dufferin County. Attendees got a up close look at the OPP's helicopter as well at their ATV Unit, OPP K-9, Snowmobile Unit, Emergency Response Team and Project Lifesaver.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Dufferin OPP cracking down on noise pollution created by modified mufflers

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

Dufferin County Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are cracking down on drivers of modified vehicles with loud exhausts.

Dufferin OPP say they are listening to

concerns brought forward by the public regarding noise pollution created by modified mufflers.

"Modified vehicles along with loud exhaust have become a major concern to the residents," said Dufferin OPP in a press

release. "Dufferin OPP will be conducting patrols for excessively noisy and modified vehicles."

Drivers must remember that it is their responsibility to ensure their vehicle exhaust systems meets the current requirements of the Provincial Laws, including local by-laws along with the Highway Traffic Act (HTA), said Dufferin OPP.

This means the exhaust system must be working properly, which includes no excessive noise or unreasonable smoke.

"All motor vehicles and motor assisted bicycles are required to have a proper muffler in good working order and shall not use a muffler cut-out, straight exhaust, gutted muffler, Hollywood muffler, by-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

NOISY: Dufferin OPP will be cracking down on drivers of modified vehicles with loud exhausts after concerns raised by the public regarding noise pollution.

pass, or similar device in accordance with the HTA s. 75," said Dufferin OPP's press release.

"Dufferin County roadways are meant to be shared and enjoyed by everyone, please keep this in mind when operating a motor vehicle."

adopt a cat

Hear ye- hear ye! May we present to you, Duchess! Not only is this girl stunning, she is so so friendly and great with other cats.

Duchess is approximately 5 years old and melting all the volunteers hearts since she came in months ago.

She is spayed, vaccinated, microchipped, dewormed 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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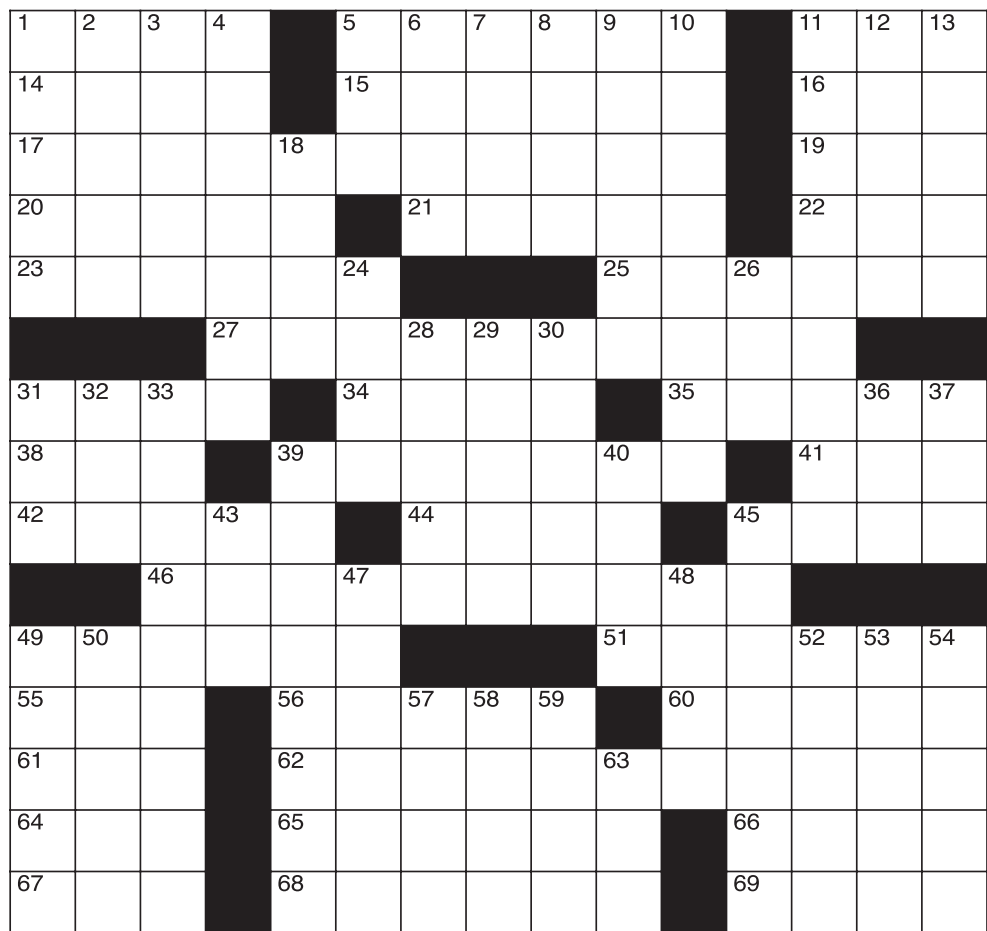
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CLUES ACROSS

1. Separate with an instrument
5. State clearly
11. One-time MLB speedster Gordon
14. Broad in scope
15. Lacking social polish
16. Amount of time
17. Frame
19. Automobile
20. Caps
21. High school dances
22. Utilize
23. Checked
25. One-sided
27. Having an extreme greed for wealth
31. Potted plants
34. We all have one
35. Lake north of the Kalahari
38. Unidentified flying object
39. Aging persons
41. Small amount

42. Mother of Perseus
44. Ornamental waist box
45. Officials
46. Uncertain
49. A cotton fabric with a satiny finish
51. Extensive, treeless plains
55. Your consciousness of your own identity
56. Consumer advocate Ralph
60. Notable Spanish sports club
61. Body part
62. One's responsiveness
64. Woman (French)
65. Ready and willing to be taught
66. Muslim ruler title
67. Unhappy
68. Gradually disappeared
69. Able to think clearly

CLUES DOWN

1. Brushed
2. Water sprite
3. Ones to look up to
4. Monetary units
5. We all have one
6. Marine invertebrate
7. One who institutes a legal proceeding
8. Outer
9. Parallelograms
10. Uncomfortable feelings
11. Cross to form an X
12. Remove (abbr.)
13. Some pages are dog-__
18. Capital of Ukraine
24. A citizen of Denmark
26. Eighth month
28. Hindu queens
29. Acids structurally related to amino acids
30. Rider of Rohan in Tolkien
31. Wet dirt
32. Russian city
33. Observed
- 36.irate
37. Travelers need them
39. Musical composition
40. Auction
43. Form of "to be"
45. Women
47. Inspire with love
48. Think Japanese
49. Appears
50. Old World lizard
52. The lead dancer: __ ballerina
53. Protein involved in motion
54. Rosalind Franklin
57. Popular 1920s style art __
58. __ Blyton, children's author
59. Abnormal breathing
63. A place to rest

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

Resource fair coming to Centennial Hylands Elementary School

Written By PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Families new to Shelburne and northern Dufferin County have the opportunity to learn more about the services and programs available to them locally.

Centennial Hylands Elementary School, located at 35 School Rd. in Shelburne, will be hosting a resource fair on Saturday (Oct. 5) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The purpose of the event is to bring the many organizations and groups that provide services and programming for youth in the community, into one space to bridge the accessibility gap with new families.

"I know from our experience in the school

that families are feeling very overwhelmed and they don't have a starting point; they're not aware of what is out there in the community," said Elisia Fendley, organizer of the event. "I did this event so the organizations could come to them, rather than them having to search themselves and possibly giving up."

The resource fair will feature more than 30 organizations, groups and sports teams from all around Dufferin County.

A few of the local groups slated to appear at the resource fair include Dufferin Child and Family Services (DCAFS), Kerry's Place, Shelburne Soccer Club, LP Stage Productions, Streams Community Hub, Girl Guides, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Julia's Place Music

Therapy Center, YMCA, Active Lives Canada, Lighthouse Counseling, Museum of Dufferin, Shelburne Rotary Club and Shelburne Taekwondo.

Fendley came up with the idea to host a resource fair at the school after receiving many questions from parents and guardians about what supports were available locally for their families and how they could be accessed.

While planning for the event, Fendley specifically looked for resources and organizations with an emphasis on mental health, neurodiversity, and special education.

"As a special education resource teacher at the school it's my job to provide resources and support for families, most specifically

in the area of special education. We have so many amazing organizations in our area and I speak from personal experience with my own family, that there's so much available to the community. I share with families all the time what's available, but this way they're able to meet and ask the questions themselves," said Fendley.

The Centennial Hylands Elementary School Resource Fair will be held on Saturday (Oct. 5) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and is free to attend.

"I'm very excited to be doing this. I never thought it would be as big as it has turned out to be and hopefully the turnout is equally as good as the number of organizations that are excited to participate," said Fendley.



PETER RICHARDSON PHOTOS

FARM FUN: Dufferin County residents had the opportunity to learn about the day-to-day operations of five local farms on Saturday (Sept. 28) as they took part in the annual Dufferin Farm Tour. Families got up and close with farm animals including horses, cows and sheep as well as the equipment used on the farm. The event looks to help bridge the gap between the agricultural industry and community members, so they understand where their food comes from.



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Date: Saturday, October 5, 2024
Time: 8am - 3pm
Location: Orangeville Agricultural Society Event Centre
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Hazardous waste includes automotive containers, cleaning products, fluorescent lights, batteries, paints, pesticides, pharmaceuticals, syringes, and much more.

Electronic waste includes audio equipment, cameras, computers, home entertainment equipment, phones, and household electronic items, including lamps, alarm clocks, microwaves, toasters, and small appliances.

Limitations No waste from industrial, commercial, or institutional sources. No white goods/large appliances (including any appliances with freon). No garbage, or recycling. No unidentified/unknown materials. No drums of materials.

Visit dufferincounty.ca/waste for updates and a full listing of acceptable materials & limitations.
Final event of 2024: November 9, 8am - 3pm @ 500 C-Line, Orangeville.
See website for updates on events in 2025.

For Residents of Dufferin County, including Amaranth, East Garafraxa, Grand Valley, Melancthon, Mono, Mulmur, Orangeville and Shelburne.

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Holiday Cookie Recipe CONTEST

DO YOU MAKE MAGICAL CHRISTMAS COOKIES?

Welcome to Our Routes Magazine's first annual Holiday Cookie Recipe Contest. Send us your original recipe along with all the ingredients, directions, a photo and brief description of why your holiday cookie is Santa's favourite. Also include name, city/town and phone number. Three winners will be selected from submissions entered. Winners will be featured in the winter edition of Our Routes magazine and win a gift basket of prizes.

Winners must be willing to make a batch of 12 cookies that can be used in photographs for the magazine. Submissions can be emailed to: contactus@ourroutes.com Deadline to enter is October 18, 2024 at 5p.m.

SPORTS

Royals win by a single point in overtime over Wellington Heights

Written By **BRIAN LOCKHART**

It was a nail-biting finish when the Centre Dufferin District High School Royals went into overtime with the Wellington Heights Secondary School Wolverines during senior girls' basketball action on Monday, Sept. 30.

It was a close game for all four quarters. With six minutes left in the fourth quarter, the Royals were leading 21-19.

The game was tied when Wellington Heights hit a three-pointer with two minutes left on the clock.

Neither team could score in the remaining minute and the game went into overtime.

Both teams played an exceptional, hard-fought overtime period but neither squad was able to put the ball through the hoop.

A foul gave the Royals a free throw, and Paris Hackshaw hit the mark for one point, and the Royals left the court with a 30-29 win.

"It was a close game, we had all our subs coming in and out with our players getting injured because it was an aggressive game, it was still good even though we didn't have our main five on the court the whole time," said Royals shooting guard, Ashley Valade after the game. "Everyone put out a lot of competition. At the last second, Paris got

her free throw and that won it for us. It was tied and we went into over time for four minutes. Everyone was putting in their best effort and the other team was doing really good defence. It was really good competition."

The overtime play was really intense as both teams tried to get into shooting positions.

"The whole game was like a game of tag because we kept going back and forth," summed up Royals player Tahlia Henry after the game. "The overtime period was so tiring. There was so much adrenaline – we wanted to win. You could tell we wanted to win. I think our season is going really well. Our first game was against Emmanuel (Christian School) and we did pretty good for our first game without much practice. Our second game against Norwell, we won."

The Royals are now in first place in the District 4 standings with a 2-1 record and 4 points.

The Royals will play two road games against Erin District High School and Emmanuel Christian High School.

They will return to home court at Centre Dufferin on Wednesday, October 16, to host Norwell District Secondary School.

Game time is 2:10 p.m.



BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

IN THE ZONE: Centre Dufferin's, Tea Bosiljevac, takes the ball into the Wellington Heights Secondary School zone during the fourth quarter of a senior District 4 game in the gym at CDDHS on Monday, Sept. 30. The game was tied at 29 at the final buzzer and the game went into overtime. The Royals won the game by a single point, leaving the court with a 30-29 win.

Shelburne Stallions triumph in Dufferin County Cup final at season finale

Written By **BRIAN LOCKHART**

The Shelburne Stallions emerged victorious in the highly anticipated final of the Dufferin County Cup (DCC) cricket match.

The Stallions secured a comfortable win over the Wingham Falcons by 64 runs.

The match was held at KTH Park in Shelburne on Saturday, Sept. 21.

Prior to the match, the Stallions won the toss and elected to bat first.

The Falcons put a lot of pressure on the play, taking two key wickets within the first three overs.

The Stallions' middle-order duo of Harpreet Sandhu and Abdul Razzaq revived the innings, contributing 53 and 67 runs. They

were supported by Ahsen Siddiqui's 17 runs, giving the Stallions a competitive total of 176 runs.

Amit of the Falcons was the standout bowler, taking three crucial wickets.

When the Falcons came out to chase, Stallions' opening bowler Amjaid Hussain had a huge start, claiming two wickets in the very first over.

Despite a good effort by Subh, who managed 26 runs, and Milind, who added 19, the Falcons couldn't break through the Stallions' disciplined bowling attack.

Falling short by 64 runs, the Falcons had to settle for a loss.

After the win, the Stallions were crowned DCC champions for 2024. The Stallions

were also awarded a monetary award for the win.

The season finale continued on Sunday, Sept. 22, with the Shelburne Cricket Club hosting its annual awards gala at the Hockley Valley Resort.

The event honoured the outstanding players of the 2024 season.

Awards went to: Best Wicketkeep – Rajmohan Mithadil. Best Fielder – Shivdhan

Singh. Best Fielder (youth) – Adyaan Siddiqui. Best Bowler – Ravi Gill. Best Bowler (youth) – Mohammad Raza. Best Batsman – Shared between Abdul Razzaq and Garry Gill. Best Batsman (youth) – Hisaan Siddiqui. Player of the League – Abhay Pratap Singh.

The gala brought a fitting close to the 2024 season making a year of stellar cricket for the Shelburne Cricket Club.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SEASON FINALE: The Shelburne Stallions claimed the 2024 Dufferin County Cup after a match against the Wingham Falcons on Saturday, Sept. 21, at KTH Park in Shelburne. The match was the final for cricket in the region for this season.

Ontario raises minimum wage to \$17.20 per hour

Written By **SAM ODROWSKI**

Ontarians with minimum wage jobs will see a few more dollars go into their bank account when they are paid next.

The Government of Ontario increased minimum wage from \$16.55 to \$17.20 on Tuesday, Oct. 1, impacting nearly one million minimum wage workers in the province.

"Ontario's minimum wage is one of the highest in the country," said Ontario's Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development David Piccini.

"This 3.9 per cent increase is tied to the Consumer Price Index, meaning that a worker making the general minimum wage over a 40-hour work week will have up to \$1,355 more in their pockets every

year. Our fair and balanced approach makes things predictable for both workers and businesses."

Piccini added that minimum wage jobs should be a starting point for Ontario's workers, not an endpoint.

"That's why we have programs helping people get into good jobs offering higher pay and more benefits. Most recently, we passed the Working for Workers Four Act, 2024, which puts workers first, fills the labour shortage, incentivizes employers to create more local jobs and helps more workers land better opportunities with bigger paycheques," he said. "We are going to continue to deliver real, positive change so Ontario can continue to be the best place to live, work and raise a family."

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i'm lovin' it



ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

BROOKE CUNNINGTON

"I was volun-told into playing this position," said CDDHS Royals field hockey goalie, Brooke Cunningham of how she ended up the net position on the team. "I do it for the team."

Brook enjoys playing the position and is a real team player on the squad.

"I like the community and the team. We all mesh well together," Brooke said. "I like to play team sports because I'm a team player and I like connecting with other girls."

Brook also plays rugby and hockey at school and also plays hockey with the Grey Highlands Markdale Shooting stars.

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POSITION: GOALIE

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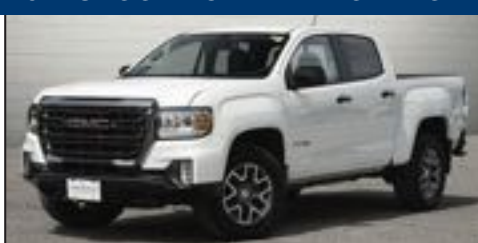
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\$162 WEEKLY INCLUDE HST 84 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA | **\$42,995**^{HST/LIC} | **9.49%**^{O.A.C.} | **\$0 DOWN** | C.O.B \$15,888

2022 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA COMFORTLINE



STK# 7149P - 63,012 KM - 1.4L 4-CYLINDER, CRUISE CONTROL, BACKUP CAMERA, 6.5" TOUCHSCREEN, APPLE CARPLAY, ANDROID AUTO, BLUETOOTH, LED TAIL LIGHTS, 16" ALLOY WHEELS, HEATED CLOTH SEATS, AND MORE! COME AND SEE THIS CLEAN 2022 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA COMFORTLINE THAT HAS ONLY 27K KM!

\$103 WEEKLY INCLUDE HST 72 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA | **\$22,744**^{HST/LIC} | **6.99%**^{O.A.C.} | **\$0 DOWN** | C.O.B \$5,923

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\$173 WEEKLY INCLUDE HST 60 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA | **\$37,993**^{HST/LIC} | **6.99%**^{O.A.C.} | **\$0 DOWN** | C.O.B \$7,051

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PETER RICHARDSON PHOTO

DAYS TO DECADES: Carrvaggio I.D.A Pharmacy held a appreciation barbeque for their customers on Saturday (Sept. 28) from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. as they celebrated a decade of serving the community. The local pharmacy nvited families to attend the event, which included in-store specials, a complimentary lunch, balloon twisting by Josh Oatman and a magic show presented by Tyler Fergus.

Local children featured in Hallmark Christmas movie

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

Lights. Camera. Action. Parts of downtown Orangeville have been made up of artificial snow and ice throughout September as film crews flip the community into the backdrop for an upcoming holiday movie.

But, this holiday season the Town of Orangeville won't be the only one making an appearance on the silver screen.

Seven local youth – Logan Coombes, Alex Feret, Westin Amaya, Greysin Amaya, Sophie Lauria, Arianna Salonga and Noah Bayne – will all find themselves on screen as background characters in the Hallmark Christmas movie "Trading Up Christmas."

The young actors hit the set located on Mill Street in Orangeville on Friday (Sept. 27) evening for the last scheduled day of filming. For the budding young actors, it was the first time they'd experienced stepping onto a movie set.

"They've been great. They're super excited about spending time with their friends, being on set, meeting people in the film because it's a whole new world they're being exposed to, and of course about being on TV," said Stephanie Ferreria, who helped cast the kids in the movie.

Bundled up in winter attire including hats, scarves and coats as they awaited their turn on camera, Logan Coombes and Westin Ama-

ya shared their thoughts on being part of the Christmas movie.

"We haven't gone on set yet, but we're both extremely excited. We've been thinking about this day all week," said Coombes.

"I really want to be in the movie. My friend Noah already went and I can't wait to be in this," added Amaya.

Among the first to have their chance on camera were Arianna Salonga and Sophie Lauria. In their scenes, the girls were instructed to pass a snow globe and run up towards Santa.

"I like acting and doing dramas so I though it would be really fun to do the movie. The set is really pretty with the lights and I like the style of clothing. I love Christmas movies so it was pretty cool to be a part of," said Arianna.

"Everyone was so nice and they made Orangeville look so beautiful. I loved pretending that we were in a Christmas Park and I loved when we all had to run to Santa," added Sophie.

The seven youths in the movie were selected from a call put out by talent agency Bonkers Casting, requesting kids between the ages of eight and 12 years old in the local community.

With filming sets often located in close proximity to Toronto, Ferreira says it can become difficult to get young talent located north of the city onto film sets.

"It's been lovely that this one was local and being here, I've come to realize how much tal-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ON THE BIG SCREEN: Seven local youth will be making their first appearance on the silver screen in the upcoming Hallmark movie Trading Up Christmas set to premiere on Dec. 10.

ent we actually have in the area," said Ferreira. "We get more requests for young adults and kids than we do adults for shows. This is up-and-coming talent and it's definitely important to get them out and exposing them to set to see if this is what they want to do."

Starring Italia Ricci and Michael Xavier, "Trading Up Christmas" follows Michelle (Ricci), who hatches a creative plan to help her

sister Keri find a new home for Christmas. Starting with just a Christmas stocking, Michelle sets out to trade her way up to getting a house for Keri. Local reporter Dan (Xavier) is assigned to cover Michelle's story and as her plan gains attention, he starts to see the world through her hopeful eyes.

"Trading Up Christmas" will premiere on the Hallmark Channel on Dec. 10 at 8/7c.

Dufferin Hi-Land Club to celebrate Bruce Trail Day this weekend

Written By PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Dufferin County families and hikers have been invited out to experience the beauty of the Bruce Trail at a special event this upcoming weekend.

The Dufferin Hi-Land Bruce Trail Club will be celebrating Bruce Trail Day on Sun-

day (Oct. 6). The event called "Tunes on the Trail" will be held in an area known as "Split Rock Narrows Nature Reserve" (755437 2nd Line EHS) in Mono from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

"We want to invite the residents of the area to come out and see a section of the trail and get to know the club that is representing the area," said Don Stewart, co-organizer of the Dufferin Hi-Land Bruce Trail Day.

As families and individuals walk the trail, they will have the opportunity to learn more about the trail itself while listening to the tunes of some notable bands and musicians, including Twin Fawns, Dean Woods and BonGioVanni, The Fitzees, Sandy Harron and Brenda Carol.

The Dufferin Hi-Land Bruce Trail Club will also be offering a complimentary barbeque for visitors.

Every year, on the first Sunday of October, the nine clubs under the Bruce Trail Conservancy host a special event in recognition of Bruce Trail Day.

The purpose of Bruce Trail Day is to introduce more residents to the beauty and serenity of the trail and to encourage involvement with the local club as members, volunteers, sponsors and hikers.

"The trail is free for anybody to go to at anytime and we want people to know that it's here and promote all the benefits of being part of the Bruce Trail," said Stewart.

The Bruce Trail is a roughly 900-kilometre trail, with around 450 kilometres of side trails, that runs the length of the Niagara Escarpment. The trail features many different landscapes such as cobble beaches, open meadows, waterfalls, rocky crevices, and old-growth forests.

The Dufferin Hi-Land Section of the Bruce Trail runs from Mono Centre in the south to Lavender in the north, for a total distance of 56.3 kilometres.

The local portion of the Bruce Trail passes through areas of natural beauty such as the Mono Cliffs Provincial Park, the Boyne Valley Provincial Park and the Pine River Fishing Area.

"It's a beautiful site with cliffs, fantastic views, caves, and rock cut outs; it's a very intriguing spot," said Stewart.

For more information about the local Bruce Trail Day event or to learn more about the Dufferin Hi-Land Bruce Trail Club, visit www.dufferinbruceclub.org.



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Notice of Municipal Decision

Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2022 [Sections 84.(4)(b) and 85]
FUNERAL, BURIAL AND CREMATION SERVICES ACT, 2022
NOTICE OF DECISION

Corporation of the Township of Melancthon

TAKE NOTICE that on September 19th, 2024, Council of the Corporation of the Township of Melancthon approved the proposal to establish a Cemetery located at Part Lot 241, Concession 1 NE.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that the applicant, Registrar or any person with an interest therein may, within 15 days after publications of this notice refer the decisions to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal for a hearing.

Further information may be obtained from
Township of Melancthon
157101 Highway 10, Melancthon, Ontario L9V 2E6
519-925-5525

Dated at the Township of Melancthon this 25th day of September, 2024



News from Shelburne Library

Thank you to all who signed up during Library Card Sign Up month! The winner of the Kobo will be announced next week! We have a great lineup of events for October — check them out below:

Wednesday, Oct. 16 at 7 p.m. – Coffee, Conversation & Books with local author, Mike Bonikowsky
Mike will tell us about his new book, *The Shepherd of Princes*, as well as his writing and publishing experiences.

Saturday, Oct. 19 at 10 a.m. – Seed Saving 101 with Kim Delaney from Hawthorn Seeds
You can save your own seeds whether you have a couple of tomatoes on your balcony or you have a large rural garden full of herbs and veggies. Come learn about such seedy concepts as isolation, population size and rogueing.

Sunday, Oct. 20 at 2 p.m. – Ontario's Natural Serenity with David T. Chapman
Our good friend David will be back, this time to teach us about Ontario's serene landscapes, birds, and night photography.

Thursday, Oct. 24 at 6 p.m. – Visit From Archivist
Our favourite archivist, Laura, will be at your library with some spooky tales from Dufferin County.

Shelburne Public Library's Recommended Read
The Wilds by Sarah Pearse: Since the dark events that scarred her childhood, Kier Templer escaped her hometown to live life on the road. She and her twin have never lost contact until, on a trip to a Portuguese national park, Kier vanishes without a trace. Detective Elin Warner arrives in the same park ready to immerse herself in its vast wilderness—only to hear about Kier's disappearance, and discover a disturbing map she left behind. The few strangers at an isolated campsite close ranks against Elin's questions, and the park's wild beauty starts to turn sinister. Elin must untangle the clues to find out what really happened to Kier. But when you follow a trail, you have to be careful to watch your back

Why Jade Recommends it: This is book 3 in the Elin Warner series, and I'd say the best so far. This is a detective series for people who like a lot of detail in their reading—you've got to pay attention to all of the little details in this series.

Pearse does a good job weaving the tragic stories of the crime victims into the personal life of our Detective, which makes me more invested in the outcome than some other series. This would be a good choice for those who like Tana French, Anna Downes, or Rachel Hawkins.

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c/o: 879 Penson Crescent, Milton, Ontario, Canada, L9T 8Z8 before expiration of twenty-eight (28) days of the first publishing of this Notice.

OBITUARIES

RONALD IRA COLES
 July 25, 1931 – September 26, 2024

Passed away peacefully in his 94th year with his family by his side on September 26, 2024. Beloved husband of Olive Coles nee Williams for 72 years. Loving father of Dale Coles (Bonnie), Jane Macivor (Greg), Stephen Coles and Gregory Coles (Stephanie). Cherished Poppa of Michelle Cowell (Derek), Caitlin Beccroft (Sean), Amanda Coles (Laura), Ryan Coles, Jeremy Martin (Sara) and Anthony Martin (Alyssa). Very Proud Great Poppa to Willow Cowell. Predeceased by his parents Angus and May Coles and brother Lavern. Will be missed by his sisters Grace and Betty and brother Murray.



Ron was a well-respected businessman who loved his family. In his early career at Orenda Engines as a draftsman Ron worked on the engine design of the Avro Arrow Aircraft. Following the death of his father he purchased 3 buses from the estate and began Coles Coach Lines Ltd. Ron was a hands-on Manager and was rarely at his desk. He could be found in the garage under a bus, training a new driver, driving a school run or conducting a tour to Ottawa or Quebec City.

Ron was a faithful member of the Parish of Mono. He served in his church as a warden and lay minister for many years and was a member of the Order of the Diocese of Toronto.

Ron was a Rotarian and served as President for 2 terms from 1980-1981 and 1993-1994 and was awarded the Paul Harris Award for his work and contributions to his community. Ron served 2 terms as a councillor for Township of Mono in the 1990's. Following retirement in 1989 Ron and Olive had time to travel and one of the most memorable trips was taking the Queen Elizabeth II from New York to England and flying home on the Concord.

The family would like to thank the nurses and staff at the Shelburne Residence Home for their care of Ron especially over the past two weeks.

The family will receive friends at the St. John's Anglican Church East Orangeville (3907 Highway 9 Caledon, ON L7K 0G7) on Friday October 4, 2024, from 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM and 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM.

Funeral Service will take place at St. John's Anglican Church East Orangeville (3907 Highway 9 Caledon, ON L7K 0G7) on Saturday October 5, 2024, at 12:00 PM.

The family will receive friends one hour prior. Reception to follow the service.

Interment will take place at St. John's Anglican Cemetery Mono. (953334 7th Line, Mono, L9W 6E8) on Saturday October 5, 2024, at 3:30 PM.

If you are unable to attend the service in person, there will be a live stream available at <https://www.youtube.com/@stjohnsorangeville/streams>

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Heart and Stroke Foundation or St. John's Anglican Church East Orangeville.

Online condolences may be made at www.imfunerals.com

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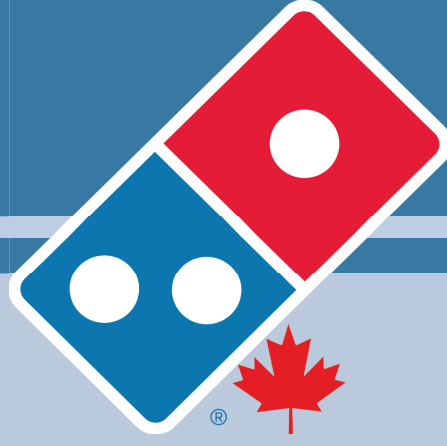
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Domino's

*Extra large may be available at select locations for an additional charge. Pricing may vary by location. An additional charge may apply for premium toppings, sauces, extra cheese, and special pizza types including: Handmade Pan Pizzas, Thin Crust Pizzas, Gluten Free Pizzas and Feast Pizzas. Please refer to offer when ordering. Limited time. Prices, participation, delivery area & delivery fee may apply. Terms and charges may vary.