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PAULA BROWN PHOTO

ENDING THE CYCLE: Staff members from Family Transition Place gathered at Jack Downing Park in Shelburne on Monday (Nov. 25), where they raised the "Wrapped in Courage" flag in recognition of Woman's Abuse Prevention Month. The flag is part of a 30-day call to action held during the month of November that looks to raise awareness, education and willingness to help end gender-based violence.

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Shelburne Scouts celebrate 100-year anniversary

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

The 1st Shelburne Scouts Group has hit a milestone in their group's history as they celebrate 100 years of scouting in the local community.

The local scouting group commemorated the milestone on Monday (Nov. 26) at Centennial Hylands Elementary School, by bringing together current scout members, volunteers, and former scouts from the 1st Shelburne Scouts Group.

"I'm proud of this accomplishment that this group in Shelburne has been able to make, and especially for the number of years they have given back to the community," said Brenton Kennedy, group commissioner of the 1st Shelburne Scouts Group.

Established in early 1924, there is limited historical information about the formation of the 1st Shelburne Scouts Group and its formative years, with the loss of paper documents and members eventually leaving the program. Most of the information that is known about the 1st Shelburne Scouts Group is from the last four decades and comes from the stories of previous Scout Leaders and members.

Richard Hofman has been a part of Scouts Canada for nearly 60 years after initially joining the program in Toronto in 1965 at

the age of eight. After moving to Shelburne, Hofman became involved with the local scout program and spent 17 years as a scout leader.

Hofman fondly recalled the various activities himself and the scouts took part in during his time as a leader, including scuba diving, rock climbing, overnight hiking, tree climbing, and camping.

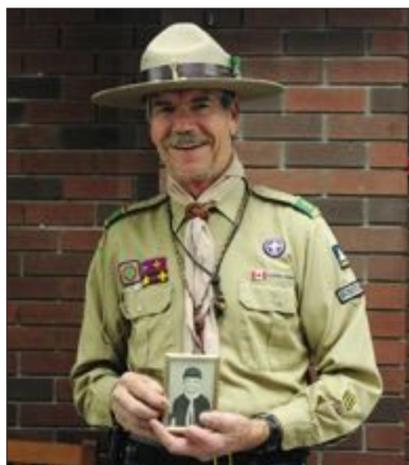
"It was a lot of fun and that's what kept me going in it for so long," said Hofman. Speaking with the Free Press, Hofman spoke about the significance of marking the 100-year anniversary of the 1st Shelburne Scouts Group.

"The program has changed over the years, but it's good that these children are still involved and see the vision of the scouting movement," he said.

Steve Stringer, was another former scout member and leader with the 1st Shelburne Scouts Group, who was in attendance for the 100th anniversary. In the late 1970s, Stringer spent three years as a "cub" in the 1st Shelburne Scouts Group and later became a leader while his own son took part in the program.

Stringer recalled that during his time in the program, they used to meet at the Town Hall and that the program helped him develop close long-lasting friendships.

"It's awesome that it's been here so long



PAULA BROWN PHOTO

THROUGH THE YEARS: Richard Hofman joined Scouts Canada in 1965 at the age of eight. He has continued to be a part of the organization for nearly 60 years, even serving for 17 years as a leader in the 1st Shelburne Scout Group.

and the kids still like doing these types of things," said Stringer, about the centennial anniversary.

Continued on Page 3

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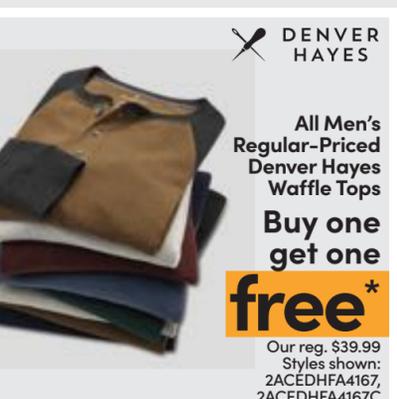
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Shoes4Shelburne and Coats for Dufferin keeps community warm

Written By PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Two annual initiatives have successfully distributed clothing items and footwear to help residents in need stay warm this winter.

Shoes4Shelburne and Coats for Dufferin hosted two campaigns on Nov. 13 and Nov. 14 at the Mel Lloyd Centre in Shelburne, where they distributed winter apparel and footwear to residents in need.

Shoes4Shelburne was started in 2016 by local chiropractor Dr. Richard Magder and his wife Alexandra Georgie from Shelburne Family Chiropractic. It is an annual initiative focused on providing new and gently used shoes to Shelburne and Dufferin County residents in need.

The inspiration for the campaign came af-

ter a pair of Dr. Magder's shoes were stolen when left outside to dry.

Through their 8th annual campaign, Shoes4Shelburne was able to help more than 100 families.

"It's an honour to be able to support the community, especially during a time when the economy is very challenging and there's a lot of families that are feeling the stress and burden," said Alexandra Georgie, co-founder of Shoes4Shelburne. "We're just really happy that we're able to be there to support families and individuals that need good footwear because good footwear leads to good foot health, which helps your overall body."

This year, Shoes4Shelburne was significantly supported by a private donor who helped provide brand-new kids' shoes.

Georgie said the private donation allowed

the local initiative to be generous and distribute multiple pairs of footwear to each family with growing children to support them all year round.

During the two-day event, Coats for Dufferin was able to provide close to 150 coats to individuals in the community.

"It's so wonderful that we have a really generous community, and this has been by far the biggest year of collections we've ever had. It makes us feel amazing that we're able to help them, but at the same time it's bittersweet because there so much need in our community," said Jacqueline Clement, operator of Coats for Dufferin.

Coats for Dufferin is an amalgamation of two previous initiatives; Stay Warm Shelburne, which was started in 2022 by Shelburne-based realtors Claire Knight and Dave

Crowe; and Coats for Kids, started by Clement in 2021. In 2023, the two initiatives joined together to address the need for winter outdoor wear for adults and children.

Since starting the coat collection, Coats for Dufferin has been able to provide nearly every elementary school in Dufferin County with a closet full of winter gear and coats for students to access.

Clement said the response and donations provided by community members were "overwhelming" with the initiative collection being double what they had previously received.

Coats for Dufferin will be holding another event run by Sarah DeBoer and Jessica Menard on Dec. 2 at Physiomed Orangeville, located at 170 Lakeview Ct., from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Celebrating a 100-year milestone

Continued from Page 3

The mission of Scouts Canada is to help prepare participating youth to become well-rounded citizens and individuals in their community. Local youth in the program experience a variety of outdoor activities including hiking and camping, while also learning skills such as how to start fires, building shelters, identifying fauna and flora, tracking animals, reading compasses, and how to survive if you're stuck in the wild.

The 1st Shelburne Scouts Group current-

ly has nine youth in their Cub Pack Program and six youth in their Scout Troop Program.

"This [anniversary] shows that there are members of this community at can see there is a need for youth to have these life skills and we've established ourselves to help teach," said Kennedy. "It shows the dedication and sense of duty. It also allows the youth of this community to be part of something and to feel a sense of belonging."

As they celebrate their 100-year anniversary, the 1st Shelburne Scouts Group is hoping to use the milestone to encourage more residents to get involved as volunteers in the program.

Robert Hinbest, who has been a volunteer with the 1st Shelburne Scouts Group for 17 years, and Tiffany Holmes, who joined as a volunteer in September, spoke with the Free Press about the benefits of volunteering with the local Scouts Canada chapter.

"It's so rewarding at the end of the day to have taught the children and nurtured them in the scouting movement. To see how they use the tools that you've taught them to grow, to go on to the next level of their education and to see them thriving at way they're doing," said Hinbest.

"It's very rewarding to be able to help them grow and achieve their goals," said Holmes.

Those who are interested in volunteering are encouraged to reach out to the 1st Shelburne Scout Group.

To learn more about Scouts Canada visit, www.scouts.ca.



UNIFORM EVOLUTION: Shelburne Rotarian, Steve Stringer was a part of the 1st Shelburne Scout Group for three years in the late 1970s and later served as a leader. He brought his old uniforms in to show to the next generation of scouters.



PAULA BROWN PHOTOS

OLD AND NEW: Scouts old and new from the 1st Shelburne Scout Group, came together on Tuesday (Nov. 26) at Centennial Hylands Elementary School to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the local group.



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OPINION

Who needs a passport?

A friend of mine had a grandfather who grew up on a farm in Saskatchewan at the start of the 20th century.

His parents were real pioneers who carved out an existence on a farm they cleared themselves.

Early pioneers were one tough bunch of people.

When the grandfather got older, he acquired his own farm and started his own family.

A new migrant family moved to a nearby farm property in the spring, and he went over to meet them. They were, he thought, from Eastern Europe. They didn't speak much English, but enough that they could understand each other.

They kept tabs on each other, as people in rural areas do. It was mid-winter, and the temperature plummeted to one of those super cold spells that can happen on the prairies where water droplets freeze in the air and you have to dress properly to withstand the freezing cold temperatures.

One day the grandfather realized he hadn't seen the new family for a couple of weeks. He noticed there appeared to be no activity at all on their farm.

Growing concerned, he decided to visit

the farm to see if they were alright.

He found the entire family deceased. They had run out of heating fuel and froze to death.

He told my friend, that it wasn't uncommon for this to happen at that time. People arrived on the prairies from other countries with no idea of how cold it can really get and if they didn't properly stock for the winter, there was no way to get more fuel for heat.

Two US men are now on trial in Minnesota on human trafficking charges. It is alleged they were the masterminds of an operation that smuggled Indian nationals across the border from Manitoba.

In January 2022, RCMP found the frozen bodies of an entire family - mother, father, a young boy, and a toddler, in a field as they tried to cross illegally into the US when it was -32°C.

They were not prepared for the weather, not by a long shot.

The pipeline of smugglers bringing Indians into the US illegally across the border has increased sharply over the past couple of years.

US Border Patrol has already arrested more than 14,000 Indians as of Sept. 30, this year.

It's no wonder border control is such a huge issue in the US these days.

Many of these people arrive in Canada on falsified student visas – they aren't even on our shores legally.

An investigation into the family that froze to death reveals they weren't desperate refugees fleeing war or some natural disaster that left them homeless. They were actually doing quite well in their own hometown.

Apparently, in that part of India, advertising to the locals that they can get you smuggled into Canada, the US or Australia, is easily done – as long as you have money.

Indian authorities have reacted to this incident, apparently arresting three people there, but it is just a token effort.

It has just been reported that another human smuggler, linked to the deaths of people who drowned while trying to cross the St. Lawrence River, was issued a new passport by the federal government after he was already ordered to surrender travel documents as part of court-imposed release conditions. He was still operating as a smuggler after his arrest.

Federal MP Tom Kmiec, Conservative critic on immigration, refugee and citizenship, was quoted as saying, "It's just a com-

plete failure. How bad is our national security infrastructure when we can't catch the most basic things in our system?"

Human smuggling is a dangerous thing for a lot of reasons. If you are paying criminals a lot of money to take you somewhere, you have to be ready to find yourself in a very bad situation very quickly.

There have been several instances of illegal migrants being locked in the back of trucks only to be left in the desert in the southwest US and abandoned to die from the heat.

There has to be blame put on the parents in these cases of family smuggling as well. What kind of a parent willingly places a young child in a dangerous situation, in the company of criminal strangers?

Remember the tragic photo of the three-year-old lying face down on the beach in the Mediterranean? His parents placed a vulnerable child on a boat that was not seaworthy.

Ottawa has done a terrible job of securing our borders and needs to start treating human trafficking as a serious crime.

BRIAN LOCKHART
FROM THE SECOND ROW



Netanyahu and the International Criminal Court

The indictment of Israel prime minister Binyamin Netanyahu and former defence minister Yoav Gallant by the International Criminal Court on charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity in Gaza has triggered a great deal of public moralising, both pro and con. Almost all of it is missing the point.

Netanyahu and Gallant have not been found guilty of anything. However, Israeli weapons under their ultimate control have killed more than 44,000 people, most of them innocent civilians, in the past year, and no Israeli court or official inquiry has examined the circumstances of their deaths.

Moreover, it is extremely unlikely that any Israeli authority will conduct such an investigation so long as Netanyahu is in power. It is in cases like this that the ICC must act – even though it can only expect compliance from countries that have signed the Rome Statute and accepted its authority.

So why have most countries signed up

to the ICC, while a minority have not?

As American mobster Al Capone once put it, "You get more with kind words and a gun than with kind words alone." That is why Russia, China, the United States and India do not recognise the jurisdiction of the ICC. As great powers (at least in their own minds), they still have guns that work.

For 'gun' read guns, rockets, bombers, aircraft carriers, submarines and nuclear weapons in large enough numbers to frighten lesser powers into submission, or kill enough of their citizens to make the rest obey.

For 'kind words' read diplomacy, the rule of law, the United Nations Charter, the whole edifice of non-violent dispute settlement that weaker countries hope will protect them from the untrammled power of the strong. Sometimes it does protect them. Sometimes it doesn't.

Whether a country signs up for the ICC or rejects its authority is not a moral choice (although supporters of the ICC often pre-

tend it is). By and large, countries that think they can still get their own way by force usually reject the ICC, while those that doubt their ability to protect themselves sign up.

The latter group includes even most of the former great powers (Germany, France, the United Kingdom, Japan) that would once have relied exclusively on their own military power for their security. It's not enough any more, and so they seek at the same time to create the international rule of law (an activity they would once have despised).

Yet Israel, which is not even a former great power, has refused to join the ICC and indeed regularly condemns it in the harshest terms. Why?

We might reasonably assume that it is because Israel can still get more with a gun (and can even skip the kind words). This is largely because a genuine superpower, the United States, is pledged to protect it from retaliation. But the question remains: how can the ICC bring charges against two leading Israeli politicians if Israel has not signed the treaty?

It can do so because of the legal principle of 'complementarity'. The ICC has no power to interfere if alleged war crimes and crimes against humanity are being properly investigated and, if necessary, prosecuted by the courts of a law-abiding sovereign state. But it is the court of last resort for places where such investigations

are not taking place.

Netanyahu could have avoided these arrest warrants simply by opening a credible investigation by Israel's own legal authorities into his own and his government's conduct before, during and since the Hamas attacks of October 7, 2023. He chose not to do so because he rightly feared that such an investigation would cause his coalition government to fall.

Member states are obliged to carry out the ICC's arrest warrants. Non-members are not, so Netanyahu is not in any immediate danger of arrest. If he sets foot in any of the 124 countries that have signed the treaty, however, he could be arrested and transported to The Hague for trial.

Netanyahu won't go to jail over this, but even long-term friends and de facto allies of Israel like the United Kingdom say they will "follow the law" if he shows up on their soil. (Russian dictator Vladimir Putin participated in a recent summit in South Africa entirely by Zoom because he feared arrest on an ICC warrant.)

The Israeli prime minister's world has suddenly shrunk by more than half. Moreover, his trial at home on charges of breach of trust, accepting bribes, and fraud, halted a year ago when the war began, will reopen early next month. Netanyahu may be running out of rope.

GWYNNE DYER
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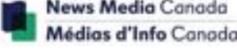
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: Open letter to Doug Ford and Sylvia Jones

Dear Editor,
 The press is filled these days with taxpayer-funded announcements telling us what wonderful things our current Conservative government is providing us – a sure sign of a coming election. Missing from those self-congratulatory sound bites is any reference to the mess our court system is in.
 Recent reports in the news media bring to public attention the fact that more than half of the criminal charges laid by police in Ontario never make it to trial because of delay. In 2022-23, the latest fiscal year of data avail-

able, 56 per cent of criminal cases ended that way – a 14 per cent increase since 2013-14 when guilty decisions still made up most outcomes. The cause? Charges are stayed because of unreasonable court delay. The cause of the delays? Inadequate court resources – caused by government inaction.
 The impact of stayed charges is far greater than just an inefficient justice system. Every time a law is broken and the perpetrator goes free, the law is weakened, the victim is further victimized, and the criminal is not only freed to recommit but also empowered to do

so. The police are then faced with a criminal back on the street for whom the law is now less of a deterrent. When all the resources that go into identifying, pursuing, arresting, and charging a person are tossed out, I can only guess what the impact on police service morale is when a perpetrator is set free. At a time when budgets for policing services are skyrocketing it is doubly important to take action.
 Doug Ford, apparently, recognized the need to act with the “Criminal Case Backlog Reduction Strategy” in 2021, earmark-

ing \$72 million in funding. Six months ago it was announced that another \$29 million in new investment resources were allocated for the need, yet we are still not seeing new resources on the front lines. Why? Is there no one in government who knows how to effectively use the money? I believe the government owes it to the citizens of Ontario to produce the action plan, with specific goals and timelines, that it is using to resolve this crisis.

Michael Monahan
 Mulmur

Peel Dufferin Plowmen’s Association donates \$10,000 to Smart Headwaters campaign

Written By ZACHARY ROMAN
 LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Local plowmen are supporting efforts to bring an MRI machine to our local hospital.
 On Nov. 27, the Peel Dufferin Plowmen’s Association donated \$10,000 to the Headwaters Health Care Centre for its Smart Headwaters fundraising campaign.
 The \$18-million campaign has a final goal of bringing a Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) machine to the hospital.
 Having an MRI machine at the Headwaters Health Care Centre would save more than 4,000 patients per year from having to leave our area for care. It would allow for more accurate and timely diagnosis, improved treatment planning, and enhanced patient outcomes.

The local Peel Dufferin Plowing match is the last one-day agricultural event hosted by a farm organization in Peel, and it’s an important one in the agricultural community’s calendar. Next year’s match will be the 100th, an important milestone.
 Paul Johnston is a director with the Peel Dufferin Plowmen’s Association and pitched the idea of donating to Smart Headwaters to his colleagues.

“Our annual Peel Dufferin Plowing Match relies on the continued support of our agricultural and supporting-business partners and we wanted to send a strong signal to our agricultural community that when there is a need in our community, we are here to support,” said Johnston.

Glen Early is the current president of the Peel Dufferin Plowmen’s Association.

“The current campaign to raise funds for the MRI is an important initiative so it was an easy decision for us to proudly support

such a great community medical resource,” said Early.

Construction on the MRI machine at the Headwaters Health Care Centre began this fall and should be completed next year.

The Peel Dufferin Plowmen’s Association is inviting fellow farm organizations and agri-businesses across Peel and Dufferin to join them in supporting Smart Headwaters however they are able.

K.C. Carruthers is the CEO of the Headwaters Health Care Foundation and extended his sincere thanks to the Peel Dufferin Plowmen’s Association for their recent donation.

“Our relationship with organizations in the community, like the Peel-Dufferin Plowmen’s Association, is invaluable. This gift will help us ensure exceptional care is available close to home for members of our community,” said Carruthers.

Bill Duron is the chair of the Headwaters Health Care Foundation board.

“I continue to be thankful that we live in such a philanthropic community. Generous donations like this \$10,000 from the Peel-Dufferin Plowmen’s Association help us give the health care team at Headwaters the tools they need to provide the best care possible, close to home,” said Duron. “I am deeply grateful the Peel Dufferin Plowmen’s Association have chosen to support Smart Headwaters; this campaign will transform care at Headwaters Health Care Centre thanks to community donations.”

The Peel Dufferin Plowmen’s Association is a local association within the Ontario Plowmen’s Association, and the organization will celebrate its centennial in 2025. They are the only association in Canada to produce two World Plowing Champions —



GG COLE PHOTOGRAPHY PHOTO

DRIVING SUCCESS: Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones joined the Peel Dufferin Plowmen’s Association for their donation to the Smart Headwaters campaign supporting the Headwaters Health Care Centre.

James Eccles in 1953 and William Dixon in 1961. The International Plowing Match and Rural Expo (IPM) has been held within the association borders on three separate occasions: twice in Peel (1924 in Brampton and 1963 in Caledon) and most recently in Bowling Green, Dufferin County in 2023. The local association also sponsors the Peel Dufferin Queen of the Furrow competition in the Ontario Queen of the Furrow competition. Since its inception in 1960, eight local representatives have won the provincial honours, including Barbara Cunnington

(1962), Irene Lawrence (1967), Mary Dolson (1970), Arlene Wilson (1974), Barbara Taylor (1976), Darlene Downey (2004), Abbie Brander (2005) and Mel Karpenko (2023).

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Recent RIDE spot check in Shelburne leads to two arrests

Dufferin Detachment Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officers recently charged two 49-year-olds with impaired driving-related offences while conducting a RIDE spot check in Shelburne.

A vehicle entered the spot check, conducted in the area of Owen Sound Street, on Nov. 23, at approximately 2:29 a.m.

After a brief conversation with the driver, Dufferin OPP officers were led into an impaired driving investigation.

Patrick Latour from Shelburne, 49, was charged with operation while impaired - alcohol and drugs and operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus).

About 25 minutes after Latour's arrest, Dufferin OPP officers spoke with the driver of a different vehicle that entered the same RIDE spot check.

After a brief conversation with the driver, officers began conducting an impaired driv-

ing investigation.

As a result of the investigation Satharsan Muthulingam of Vaughan, 49, was charged with operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus)

The two accused individuals are scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville. Both their driver's licences were suspended for 90 days, and their vehicles were impounded for seven days.



Theft of cedar rail in Mono leads to charges for two Dufferin residents

Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officers have charged Shelburne and Melancthon residents with multiple theft-related offences following an investigation.

On Nov. 18, at approximately 9 a.m., Dufferin OPP officers were dispatched to a rural farm property on 30th Sideroad in Mono for a reported break-and-enter. Upon arrival, officers found a dismantled cedar rail fence, with approximately 400 cedar rails piled up, along with a missing weed

trimmer. It appeared that the suspects had stacked the cedar rails, likely intending to return later.

On Nov. 21, at approximately 9:30 p.m., Dufferin OPP responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle at the same property. Upon arrival, officers found that the gate had been opened and the lock was missing. As they entered the property, they observed a vehicle exiting and stopped it for investigation. The two suspects were determined

to be responsible for the initial break and enter as well as the theft.

Matthew Tsiminos from Shelburne, 39, has been charged with trespassing at night, theft over \$5,000, mischief under \$5,000, trafficking in property obtained by crime, possession of property obtained by crime over \$5,000 - in Canada and failure to comply with a probation order.

Tonya Rego from Melancthon, 47, has been charged with trespassing at night,

theft over \$5,000, mischief under \$5,000, trafficking in property obtained by crime and possession of property obtained by crime over \$5,000 - in Canada.

Anyone with information regarding this investigation or any other criminal activity is asked to contact Dufferin OPP 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/>.

Markdale woman charged with impaired driving after putting vehicle in ditch

Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officers charged a 29-year-old Markdale resident with impaired operation-related offences on Sunday (Nov. 24) afternoon.

At approximately 4:13 p.m., officers were dispatched to a vehicle in a ditch on 5 Sid-

eroad in Mono. Upon arrival, officers had a brief conversation with the driver, which resulted in an impaired driving investigation.

The driver of the vehicle, Lianne Rambaran of Markdale, 29, has been charged with

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

Rambaran is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville at a future date. Her driver's licence was suspended for 90 days, and her vehicle was impounded for seven days.

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

Rambaran is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville at a future date. Her driver's licence was suspended for 90 days, and her vehicle was impounded for seven days.

Traffic stop results in impaired driving charges

Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officers have charged a Toronto man with impaired driving-related offences following a recent traffic stop.

Officers were conducting a general patrol in Mono on Nov. 20, around 9 p.m., when they observed a traffic violation.

An officer initiated a traffic stop, which

led to an impaired driving investigation.

As a result of the investigation Marvin Seymour, a 48-year-old male from Toronto, has been charged with three offences. The charges include operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus), operate a motor vehicle without insurance and obstruct plate.

Seymour is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville. His driver's licence was suspended for 90 days, and his vehicle was impounded for 7 days.

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Long piece of squared timber
5. Emaciation
10. "Bewitched" boss Larry
14. Combining form meaning "different"
15. Current unit equal to 10 amperes
16. Older
17. Large, stocky lizard
18. Ringworm
19. Actor Pitt
20. Indian hand clash cymbals
22. Data at rest
23. Jeweled headdress
24. Indicators of when stories were written
27. Check
30. Cigarette (slang)
31. Arctic explorers (abbr.)
32. Yearly tonnage (abbr.)
35. Delivered a speech
37. A place to bathe
38. Postmen deliver it
39. Surface in geometry
40. More (Spanish)
41. ___ and Venzetti
42. Exclamation at the end of a prayer
43. Hawaiian dish
44. Aggressively proud men
45. Fellow
46. Mark Wahlberg comedy
47. Mock
48. When you expect to get somewhere
49. Songs
52. Pair of small hand drums
55. Play
56. Sword
60. Evergreens and shrubs genus
61. Filmed
63. Italian Seaport
64. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
65. Pores in a leaf
66. U. of Miami mascot is one
67. Snakelike fishes
68. Pretended to be
69. Body part

CLUES DOWN

1. Piece of felted material
2. Ancient Greek City
3. Aquatic plant
4. Potentially harmful fungus (Brit. sp.)
5. Body art (slang)
6. One who follows the rules
7. Ordinary
8. Honorably retired from assigned duties and retaining one's title
9. Relaxing space
10. Japanese socks
11. Indian city
12. Rip
13. Icelandic book
21. Satisfies
23. Where golfers begin
25. Small amount
26. Snag
27. Determine the sum of
28. A distinctive smell
29. Exposed to view
32. Stain or blemish
33. Small loop in embroidery
34. River herring genus
36. Large beer
37. Deep, red-brown sea bream
38. Partner to cheese
40. At a deliberate pace
41. Gurus
43. Of each
44. Angry
46. Popular beverage
47. Flower cluster
49. Blocks
50. Those who benefitted from efforts of relatives (slang)
51. Polio vaccine developer
52. A (usually) large and scholarly book
53. Popular soap ingredient
54. NBAer Bradley
57. Popular movie about a pig
58. Musician Clapton
59. Not a sure thing
61. Recipe measurement (abbr.)
62. Father

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

Mulmur's Pine River Institute wins 2024 Defender Services Award

Written By PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Pine River Institute is receiving a boost to continue helping youth facing addiction and mental health struggles after winning the 2024 Defender Services Award.

The local organization announced in a press release on Monday (Nov. 25) that they had won the Outdoor Accessibility and Education Award category of the 2024 Defender Services Award. As the winners of the Outdoor Accessibility and Education Award, Pine River Institute is taking home the grand prize – a 130 Defender vehicle, \$25,000 USD and an additional \$5,000 USD for being in the top five finalists.

"It has been a long process to get to this win, filled with a lot of suspense and excitement. It was absolutely thrilling to be there and hear our name called and to be able run up on stage to accept this wonderful award," said Jill Palmer, executive director of development for Pine River, who was in California for the announcement at Destination Defender on Nov. 23. "This is an amazing win for Pine River, and it will really help propel us forward. A lot of people helped us get to this win."

The Defender Service Awards are an annual initiative that looks to recognize charitable organizations. The awards include five categories that reflect the Defender brand's commitment to bringing a positive impact to the community through acts of service and humanitarian efforts around the world.

This year, the initiative awarded six customized Defender 130 vehicles to six charitable organizations in the U.S., Puerto Rico and Canada. The sponsors of each category also pledged to award \$25,000 USD to the six winners.

In September, Pine River Institute was announced as a finalist in the Outdoor Accessibility and Education Award category, which focuses on supporting people who can benefit from the outdoors. In late October, the local organization provided an update that they

were one of two remaining finalists in their category.

The Pine River Institute is a treatment centre, located in Mulmur, that looks to help adolescents struggling with addictive behaviours as well as mental health challenges regain control of their lives through their programming. The Pine River Institute has a four-phase program for youth and their families that starts with a six to eight-week-long Outdoor Leadership Experience in Algonquin.

According to Pine River Institute, there are more than 100 teens and families on their waitlist, which they typically stay on for anywhere from six months to one year.

In order to help operate their program, Pine River Institute utilizes a fleet of eight vehicles. The organization has two vehicles up north at their Outdoor Leadership Experience, one in Orilla at their transition house and five on the main campus in Mulmur.

The newly won 130 Defender vehicle that Pine River will be receiving as the winner of the 2024 Defender Service Award will be going to their existing fleet of vehicles.

The vehicle will be used to transfer food supplies and equipment such as canoes, cross-country skis and mountain bikes for the Outdoor Leadership Experience. The eight-seater will also help with transporting staff and students between the wilderness program, the 200-acre property north of Shelburne, the transitional housing facility in Orilla and the various therapeutic activities they attend across the County.

"We really need vehicles," said Palmer. "This Land Rover Defender is everything we need to get the kids into the wilderness for the beginning of our program."

The institution is expecting to receive and begin using the 130 Defender in early 2025.

The total of \$30,000 USD in funding from the award will be going towards the institution's programming on campus as well as its outreach work, which focuses on prevention and education through its Centre for Family Initiatives.

To date, the Centre for Family Initiatives has led more than 80 webinars in the community with more than 700 people attending live. Pine River Institute also works with seven Ontario School Boards regarding addiction and mental health and hopes to expand that number to 10 in 2025.

"We take the Pine River model and what we know about youth addiction and mental health to education and train families, educators and clinicians so that we can prevent kids falling into an addiction or mental health crisis," said Palmer.

Dufferin County residents played a significant role in Pine River Institute's achievement of becoming a finalist and ultimately winning the 2024 Defender Services Awards. The contest was based on a voting system, which required individuals to cast their ballots in support of Pine River Institute. The voting ballots were accepted until Oct. 17.

"We had incredible support from across Dufferin County and Ontario from our supporters and we know those votes made a difference," said Palmer. "Our thanks for our supporters for doing that. It was a really won-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CELEBRATING: Pine River Institute celebrated a win on Nov. 23, as they were announced a winner in the 2024 Defender Services Award. Winning the Outdoor Accessibility and Education Award, Pine River will be receiving a 130 Defender vehicle, \$25,000 USD and an additional \$5,000 for being a top five finalist.

derful, warm way to involve people and we really felt the momentum behind us."

To learn more about Pine River Institute's programs and services, visit www.pineriverinstitute.com.

Shelburne Legion reopens after month closure

Written By PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Shelburne Legion Branch 220 has reopened their doors and will continue to serve Veterans and community members alike.

More than 170 members flocked to the Shelburne Legion on Tuesday (Nov. 26) for a pivotal meeting that would determine the future of the organization. Members casted their votes and elected Shelburne Town Councillor and local resident, Dan Sample, as the next president of the legion.

"I'm very happy that it is open and will continue to provide the Town of Shelburne and the community with assistance," said Chuck Arrand, Zone Commander for E-3 of the Royal Canadian Legion. "They had a huge turnout of support at the meeting. They spent the last 30 days deciding who they could come behind as really support as their president, and I think it was a resounding success."

The Shelburne Legion temporarily closed its doors for 30-days following the resigna-

tion of former president, Judy McCarrol, on Oct. 22,

Traditionally, when a Royal Canadian Legion is unable to or fails to elect a president to oversee the branch it is closed permanently. The permanent closure means that the building, along with all of its assets, are sold and the revenue from the sale is donated to charities within the community it resides.

In the case of the Shelburne Legion, instead of permanently closing, Arrand was able to receive permission from Ontario Command to have a temporary closure for 30 days and allow for an election of a new president at their next meeting, which was held on Tuesday night.

Following the election of Sample as the new president, the Shelburne Legion moved ahead in making donations to community organizations, including the Food Bank, in time for the holiday season.

"They are back up and running and serving the community, which makes me extremely happy," said Arrand.

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SPORTS

Centre Dufferin Royals move into third place after win over Erin

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

The Centre Dufferin District High School (CDDHS) Royals varsity boys hockey team are in third place after a win over the Erin District High School Raiders on home ice at Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex on Thursday, Nov. 21.

The game was tied 2-2 midway through the second period.

Two more Royals goals in the second frame gave the Centre Dufferin squad a 4-2 lead with one period remaining in the game.

Both teams scored in the third period to end the game with a 5-3 win for the Royals. The win gives the CDDHS team a 2-1 record for the season with nine games left to go on the regular season schedule.

"It wasn't a great game, we could have played better," said Royal left winger, Quinn Patton, after the game. "We weren't working as hard as we could. For the rest of the season we're going to keep working hard, and get back at it and win some games."

Teammate Coen Galbraith said he thinks the team has good potential.

"It was good, we battled hard," Galbraith said. "We could focus on forechecking more. It was a pretty slow game. We're doing pretty good. We got a couple more tough games coming with good competition - including a game against Ross (John F. Ross V.I.), the Guelph team - they're a tough team. We just got to play our game."

Centre Wellington District High School is currently leading the District 4 / 10 hockey standings with a 3-0-1 record.

They are followed by John F. Ross, Centre Dufferin, and Norwell District Secondary School.

The Royals had a game against Bishop Macdonell on Wednesday, Nov. 27, with re-



BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

IN THE NET: The Centre Dufferin District High School Royals varsity boys hockey team host the Erin District High School Raider on the ice at the Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex on Thursday, Nov. 21. The Royals left the ice with a 5-3 win and are in third place in the District 4 / 10 standings.

sults not available at press time.

They will have three road games before

returning to home ice at the Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex on Tuesday, Jan. 7, to host Centre Wellington District High School. Game time is 1:30 p.m.

Junior C hockey approaching mid-way mark in the regular season

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

The Provincial Junior Hockey League (PJHL) is approaching the halfway mark in the 2024/25 season and the standings are definitely showing the front-runner for this

year. In the North Carruthers Division, the Alliston Hornets remain in first place with an 18-0 record and 36 points. They are the only undefeated team in the PJHL's 62-team league this year.

The Hornets picked up four more points over the weekend with wins over Huntsville and Muskoka.

The Orillia Terriers have moved into second place in the division, knocking the Stayner Siskins down a notch to third place. The Terriers earned four points over the weekend with wins over Midland and Huntsville.

Orillia is having a good season with a 16-3 record including one overtime loss.

The Siskins are also having a good year. They have chalked up 32 points and currently have a 16-4 record.

In the middle of the pack, the Penetang Kings are in fourth place with a 9-12 record. They are followed by the Innisfil Spartans and the Huntsville Otters.

The Midland Flyers haven't been able to do much this year and are in seventh place with a 5-15 record.

In the basement, the Muskoka Bears have only managed to win two games after 16 times on the ice.

Other teams around the province have

made good gains over the first half of the season.

In the South Doherty Division, the Norwich Merchants are leading with 32 points.

The Clarington Eagles are in first place in the East Orr Division with 39 points and a 19-3 record.

In the west end of the province, the Exeter Hawks are leading the West Yeck Division with a 14-8 record and 31 points.

Down in Niagara Region, the Dundas Blues have emerged as the top team with a 15-5 record and 31 points.

In the West Stobbs Division, the Essex 73s are having a good year taking only two losses after 20 games.

The Frankford Huskies are leading the East Tod Division with a 19-4 record and 38 points.

The North Pollock Division has the Hanover Barons in first place with 37 points and an 18-1 record.

The League will take a short break over the holidays with the regular season schedule resuming on Jan. 2.

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ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

KAEDEN FACEY

A key player on the CDDHS senior boys soccer team, Kaeden helped his team make it to the District 4 championship final game this year.

Kaeden has been playing the sport for 11 years.

"It's really active and it's good exercise," Kaeden said on why he likes playing.

When he's not playing for the high school, he plays for the Pro Stars in Mississauga.

A dedicated athlete, Kaeden puts in two hours training each day at home.

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MEET THE **O**RANGEVILLE NISSAN TEAM



KEREN MILLARD

Asst. Parts / Service Manager

Working at Orangeville Nissan for 13 years, Keren Millard enjoys her job as Assistant Parts and Services Manager. "I like meeting the customers and enjoy working with the staff here," Keren said. "Upper management are great. It's a fun job." Keren greets customers who need parts for their vehicles or require vehicle service. Keren says her ultimate job is "look after our customers." She can be found at the parts and service desk at the Orangeville Nissan dealership.



ROBERT ANDREWS

Parts Manager

As parts manager at Orangeville Nissan, Robert Andrews knows his job and the vehicles that he works with. Prior to becoming a parts manager, he was a service technician for 40 years so there's a good chance he worked on your car. Robert orders parts for customers as well as for the shop when a vehicle needs a replacement part. He said he enjoys his job and the fact that his workplace as a 'laid back' atmosphere, which makes Orangeville Nissan a pleasant place to work.



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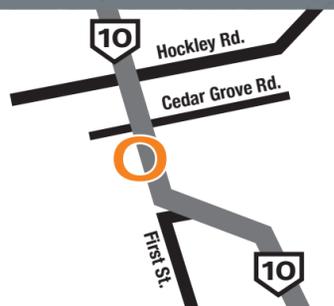
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Donations to local charities encouraged for Giving Tuesday

Written By PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Dufferin Community Foundation (DCF) is urging residents to “give where you live” as local charities prepare for their busiest fundraising efforts on Giving Tuesday.

The local foundation announced in a press release on Monday (Nov. 25) that they have launched a campaign for Giving Tuesday, which will be held on Dec. 3, to help connect residents from across the county with local charities in need of their support.

“Our community is known for its caring and generosity, and we need to keep up the momentum to support our fellow citizens through this time of increasing need,” said Debbi Goss, board chair of the Dufferin Community Foundation. “Every gift counts – whether it’s a donation of money or a gift of time or care.”

Giving Tuesday was founded in Canada in 2013 by Canada Helps and several other founding partners. The day was originally created as a way to counteract the consumerism of Black Friday and Cyber Monday but has since grown to become a larger movement of supporting, giving and donating.

Giving Tuesday boosts all areas of the local helping sector – human services, conservation and environmental organizations, arts & culture, animal welfare, health care, providing basic necessities and much more.

“This is the biggest giving day of the

year,” said Michele Fisher, executive director of the Dufferin Community Foundation. “We’ve all seen that needs are increasing and that people are grappling with affordability. The charities are always on the frontlines, responding to that need. We thought it was important to focus on giving locally so that our charities could take action locally.”

Close to 30 charities serving the Dufferin County and Caledon communities will be taking part in Giving Tuesday this year.

Some of the charities will be using the day to reach specific fundraising goals, such as Services & Housing in the Province (SHIP), who is hoping to raise \$10,000 for safe and supportive community-based housing, and CMHA Peel Dufferin, which is seeking \$2,000 for local mental health services.

Other charities will be running matching campaigns for Giving Tuesday, where a donor’s impact can be doubled by individuals or businesses contributing matching funds. Headwaters Health Care Foundation is offering matching funds up to \$15,000, while National Wildlife Foundation is matching gifts up to a maximum of \$25,000.

Choices Shelter and Support Service has teamed up with Home Depot through their Orange Door Campaign, which will see \$2, \$5, or \$10 donations given to the local men’s and youth shelter, which will be matched by the retailer.

Local charities will not just be raising donations for their own initiatives on Giving Tuesday but will be using the movement to give back to the community at the same time.

Share the Bounty will be hosting a Toy Drive at Giant Tiger in Shelburne from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Dec. 3, and are asking residents to bring a new, unwrapped toy that can be given to children in need this holiday season.

Scientists in School will be providing free STEM workshops for kids at underserved schools and ACT Foundation Canada, based out of Amaranth, will be donating food as part of their act of service.

“It’s in the DNA of anybody who’s working in a charity to give to others. The service of helping people and strengthening communities is just part of what we all do,” said Fisher.

Some other initiatives that will be happening on the day include the Shelburne Rotary collecting donations for its Holiday Hamper Program; Bethell Hospice Foundation inviting donors to give in memory of a loved one to their Light and Love campaign and tree lighting ceremony on Dec. 5; and Dufferin Film Festival launching a crowdfunding campaign to raise money for film showcases and workshops in 2025.

Dufferin Community Foundation’s campaign for Giving Tuesday has a specific focus on donating and supporting charities within the Dufferin County area.

“At Dufferin Community Foundation, it’s our mission to support local charities, and to invest in them. So, for us, it was a natural thing to launch a giving campaign that’s going to benefit all of our local charities, and not just us,” said Fisher.

“Donating locally makes a huge difference because you can see your gift in action when you give to local charities.”

Those who are not able to help on Giving Tuesday, are still encouraged to try to give over the holiday season, whether it’s volunteering, supporting a community member or donating.

“We all have a little something that we can give,” said Fisher. “By giving locally, you can see your gift in action. There’s no better feeling.”

For a list of the charities participating in Giving Tuesday, visit Dufferin Community Foundation’s website: dufferincommunityfoundation.ca/giving-tuesday.

Shelburne Public Library shares weekly news

WOW is all we can say in regards to the support our community showed, once again, for our Annual Silent Auction & Book Sale.

Not only were the donations for the Silent Auction outstanding, but the support we saw in the bids to buy the items is remarkable. All proceeds go right back into library collections!

Upcoming Events

Our Seniors Tech Tutoring appointments are available on Thursdays (5 p.m. to 7 p.m.) and Fridays (1 p.m. to 4 p.m.) through the New Year. It’s the perfect opportunity to ask your tech questions in a non-judgmental environment. Call 519-925-2168 to book an appointment

Recommended Read of the Week

The Grey Wolf by Louise Penny: A missing coat, an intruder alarm, a note for Chief Inspector Gamache reading “this might interest you”, a puzzling scrap of paper with

a mysterious list—and then a murder—all propel Gamache and his team toward a terrible realization. These clues lead the team to discover something much more sinister than any one murder or any one case is fast approaching.

Why Jade Recommends it: It goes without saying that Louise Penny’s Gamache series is a favourite among staff. I always listen to the series because the narration transports you in and out of the quaint village of Three Pines and makes you feel like you’re part of the team trying to solve what’s at hand.

If you weren’t a big fan of The Beautiful Mystery, this one might not be for you either as we revisit the monastery through the investigation here. That said, the stakes are high in this one as the team races to foil a terrorism plot, and we get to see the strength and love between the characters we’ve come to enjoy.

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RFP forms and special provisions are available at www.shelburne.ca/en/town-hall/rfps-and-tenders.aspx

RFP's shall be sealed and submitted to the Shelburne & District Fire Department during regular office hours (8:30am – 4:30pm), no later than **6:00pm on Tuesday December 3, 2024.**

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SEASON'S GREETINGS
GUIDE

Shelburne Free Press

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Tipsy Fox featuring Canadian Celctic rock band this weekend

Written By PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Shelburne residents will have the opportunity to rock out to some non-traditional bagpipe music.

Mudmen, a Canadian Celtic rock band, will be making a stop in the Town of Shelburne on Saturday (Nov. 30) at the Tipsy Fox.

"Celtic music is good, fun music. It makes you want to dance, drink, laugh and cry, and we say we cover all those bases in our show," said Robby Campbell, a founding member of Mudmen. "It's an affordable night out to see a hard-working, independent Canadian band and it'll be more fun

than you can handle."

The band was initially started by brothers Sandy and Robby Campbell and went by the moniker "The Campbell Brothers" until the late 1990s when they signed a record deal with EMI Records and rebranded as "Mudmen." Since re-established as the Mudmen in 1998, the band has gone on to play over 3000 shows in 8 different countries.

The band consists of members: Colin Amey, lead vocals and acoustic guitar; Robby Campbell, bagpipes; Sandy Campbell, bagpipes; Andy Gingerich, drums and percussion; Alex Showdra, electric guitar and banjo; and Emmett Glancie, bass guitar and backup vocals.

Mudmen's music has been featured on Xbox and PlayStation video games, NBC's television show "The Black Donnelly's", WWE Wrestling, HBO's Shameless, Hockey Night in Canada's "Coach's Corner," and on six Don Cherry Rock 'em Sock 'em hockey videos.

The band has also played at a number of sporting events including seven Grey Cup fan fest parties; two IIHF World Hockey Championships; three Memorial Cups; three Briers; and two Tournaments of Hearts.

As of 2024, the band celebrated 26 years of playing together.

During the concert, Mudmen will be playing a variety of songs from the 11 CDs

they've release over the years as well as three new songs from their latest album, which is slated to release in 2025. Fans of the band may recognize some of the songs in the set including "Drink & Fight," "Dropped on a Country Road," "Dirty Old Town," "The Night Pat Murphy Died," and "Who My Friends Are."

"There's lots of great songs in our set. We really only do maybe four or five covered and the rest is all original; it's nice to have your own identity," said Campbell.

Mudmen will be playing at the Tipsy Fox in Shelburne from 9 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. on Nov. 30. Tickets can be purchased online for \$25 at www.ticketscene.ca or at the door (subject to availability) for \$28.

Headwaters' ability to generate holiday donations impacted by nationwide postal strike

Written By PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The ongoing nationwide postal strike is bringing chaos to end-of-year fundraising campaigns at charitable organizations across the country, and Headwaters Health Care Foundation (HHCF) is no different.

HHCF is sharing the different options available for residents to donate to the local hospital, which doesn't include mailing services, as they attempt to stem the fundraising impacts from the ongoing nationwide postal strike.

In previous years, the HHCF holiday appeal has been sent out in the mail to residents, with stories of the care received at Headwaters Hospital and a request for charitable donations.

Due to the nationwide postal strike, the holiday appeal will not be reaching the mailboxes of thousands of potential donors this year and the Hospital Foundation says the delay could have significant impacts on their ability to fund essential medical equipment.

"Despite the challenges posed by the

postal strike, the need for support for Headwaters Health Care Foundation has never been greater," said K.C. Carruthers, CEO of Headwaters Health Care Foundation. "Medical services are in high demand, and every donation makes a difference in the lives of patients and their families. Your support helps to ensure that vital medical equipment is funded, even in the face of unforeseen obstacles like a postal strike."

According to Headwaters Health Care Foundation, nearly 100 per cent of the equipment in Headwaters Hospital is funded by charitable donations from local residents, rather than the government.

"Headwaters Health Care Centre relies on donations to fund the vital medical equipment our doctors and nurses need to be able to provide exceptional care, close to home for the community," reads a press release from HHCF.

"The postal strike is expected to disrupt the delivery of mail and packages, ultimately causing delays in receiving donations that are mailed in. This delay could have a significant impact on the Foundation's ability to

fund essential medical equipment."

Headwaters Health Care Foundation is not the only hospital charity in the area expressing concerns for donations.

Stevenson Memorial Hospital Foundation, located in Alliston, spoke with the New Tecumseth Times about the impact of the nationwide postal strike on their charitable efforts.

"It's common knowledge that many charities across Canada still have donors that rely on the mail," Frank Cerisano, CEO of SMHF, told the Times. "It won't affect just the Hospital Foundation, but charities across the country. In December, the average charity will receive between 40 and 60 per cent of their donations. For the Hospital Foundation, this will represent around 15 per cent. We will start to contact donors offering online options and see if they can get some online assistance. They are always welcome to drop off donations right at the hospital."

Headwaters Health Care Foundation is asking those interested in contributing to consider making a donation online or in-person.

Online donations reach the hospital foundation quickly and securely while being a convenient and efficient way for donors to provide support to Headwaters. Charitable donation receipts are sent to donors immediately by email.

Donations can also be made in-person at the Foundation's office, located inside the main lobby of Headwaters Health Care Centre.

Individuals who are interested in donating but are unable to stop by during the Foundation's office hours, which are Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., can leave their donation in the securely locked mailbox outside the office to be processed the next business day.

"Community support is crucial to the success of the hospital, and every donation, no matter how big or small, makes a difference. Thank you for your continued support," concluded the press release.

To learn more about Headwaters Health Care Foundation and their fundraising efforts for the local hospital, visit www.hhc-foundation.com.

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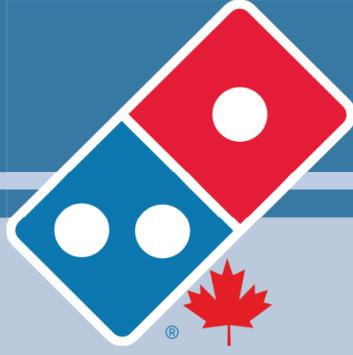
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