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COMMUNITY DONATION: The Orangeville Lions and Shelburne Lions presented a cheque for \$4,000 to the Shelburne Food Bank on Wednesday, May 20. The funds came from the Orangeville Lions weekly TV Bingo, which runs every Wednesday at 7 p.m. on Rogers Channel 63 or online. Funds raised through the program are donated back to the communities where bingo cards are sold. Pictured with the cheque, from left, are Greg Dunne (Orangeville Lions), Bill French (Shelburne Lions), Art Sinkus (Orangeville Lions), Martin Mirander (Shelburne Lions), Andrea Whitten (Shelburne Food Bank), Don Sinclair (Orangeville Lions) and Ed Aukema (Shelburne Food Bank).

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Shelburne gets ready to launch fourth annual Fridays in the Park event series next month

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Fridays in the Park is set to return to Jack Downing Park this summer, bringing a full season of free, family focused programming to downtown Shelburne.

Now in its fourth year, the series has become a central piece of the town's Community Improvement Plan, which aims to "activate" the park as a community living room while driving foot traffic to nearby shops, services, and restaurants.

Carol Maitland, economic development officer for Shelburne, said that the initiative has grown steadily since its launch, evolving in response to resident feedback and the town's rapidly expanding population.

"Because Shelburne has so many new residents, it's really important that we introduce, or have the ability to introduce people to the local businesses that are downtown," she said.

"Just making sure that people are aware that the businesses exist is an important piece to making sure that the downtown survives."

What began as a roughly even split between adult and children's programming



FILE PHOTO

SUMMER SOUNDS: Mudmen performed at the Town of Shelburne's Fridays in the Park event series in 2025 and there's a full slate of live entertainment and family-friendly activities for 2026 at Jack Downing Park. Last year's event generated \$63,900 in economic activity for the town. The 2026 season opens Friday, June 12, with the Campfire Poets headlining.

has shifted to include more child centred entertainment to meet demand, with expanded face painting, character mascots, interactive performances, and new attractions such as a foam dance party.

At the same time, live bands continue to anchor the evenings and appeal to older audiences as the night goes on.

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FEATURED ITEM

Dufferin County returns Shelburne bus stop on a trial basis

Written By JAMES MATTHEWS

Dufferin County will resurrect a transit stop in the Primrose area that was discontinued in 2024.

The Grey County Transit Route 2 connection between Dundalk and Orangeville recorded as many as 7,142 trips in 2025. That showed a continued increase in demand, requiring the addition of a second vehicle and eight daily trips.

And there have been more requests to reinstate a transit stop in Primrose, near the Shelburne Motel, to address growing demand and improve equitable access to essential services for individuals experiencing transportation barriers.

Dufferin County council decided during its May 14 meeting that a six-month pilot starting in July 2026 will go a long way toward assessing ridership, operational impacts, and safety considerations. It could cost \$2,490 and is included in the 2026 budget.

Grey County has delivered transit service for the last six years through the Grey Transit Route, which included a stop in Melancthon at the Skyview Motel, two stops in Shelburne, and a connection to GO Transit services in Orangeville.

Grey County advised in 2024 that increasing demand from both Grey and Dufferin County residents had exceeded available system capacity. So another vehicle was added to ensure continued access to the service between Shelburne and Orangeville.

The Primrose stop was discontinued in 2024 due to declining usage. Recent feedback indicates that demand has increased, with several clients now requiring regular and reliable transportation.

“Reinstating the stop would support improved access to essential services and align with the county’s commitment to equitable and inclusive transit,” according to a report to county council. “The location serves individuals who may otherwise face barriers to transportation and its addition would strengthen the overall accessibility and responsiveness of the service.”

Councillor Chris Gerrits, Amaranth’s mayor, asked if there was a particular reason the Shelburne Motel was chosen for the stop. He asked if the county was housing people at the motel.

Brenda Wagner, the county’s health and human services director, said the motel is not a part of the county’s housing program. “But we are aware of clients that stay

there that are long-term tenants there and we were approached by the Shelburne Motel to make this request on their (tenants’) behalf,” she said.

Those clients are employed elsewhere, and the motel is a location in which it’s difficult to find transportation.

Gerrits said he’s struggling with the idea of running a six-month pilot program, given that the stop was previously on the route for 32 months and drew about 15 riders a month.

“I don’t know that a six-month pilot make a lot of sense,” he said.

The contractor identified a potential safety consideration with the southbound routing to the location. Accessing the stop requires crossing two lanes of traffic on a relatively busy section of highway.

By comparison, a previously utilized stop near the Super Burger location with traffic lights was safer.

“If we’re going to run a pilot, I suggest we run it at a different location,” Gerrits said.

Wagner acknowledged that the motel stop was one of the lesser-used stops. Regardless of ridership tallies, the people who require transit are badly in need of that transit.

Coun. Fred Nix, the deputy mayor in

Mono, said he is in favour of countywide transit. But he is more strongly in favour of council making decisions “with their eyes wide open,” he said.

The bus runs 260 days a year, he said. Last year, the service had about 27 rides daily. Eight trips north and eight south make 16 daily trips.

“On average, that’s 1.7 people per trip,” Nix said. “Maybe it’s a good expenditure of money. Maybe it isn’t.”

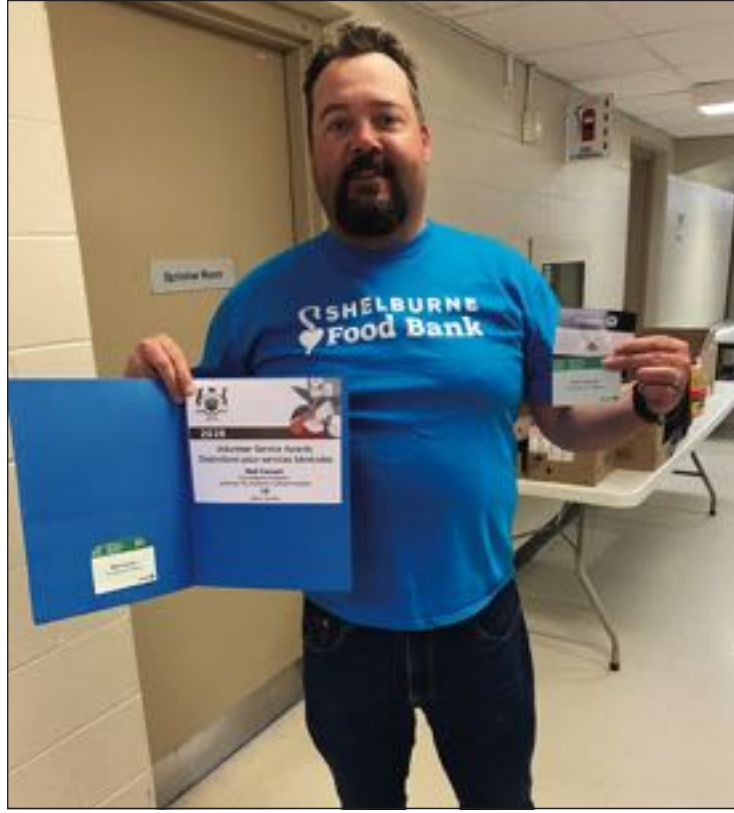
He suggested it may be more economical to use an Uber taxi service for those people who require the trip, as opposed to what it would cost to expand the bus service.

Coun. Philip Rentsch, who is also Grand Valley’s deputy mayor, asked if the clients at Shelburne Motel could find a way to reach a bus stop at the traffic lights at Super Burger for better driver safety.

“That make sense,” Rentsch said. Wagner said those locations are a “couple hundred feet” apart.

Coun. Darren White, Melancthon’s mayor, said there clearly is a need for the service expansion.

Wagner said her Grey County counterpart has investigated the availability of the Super Burger parking lot as a bus stop.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

SPOTLIGHTING COMMUNITY SERVICE: Three volunteers at the Shelburne Food Bank recently received Ontario Volunteer Service Awards marking more than 10 years with the not-for-profit organization. Neil Carlson (left) and Pauline Lloyd (right) hold up their 2026 Volunteer Service Award Certificate at the Shelburne Food Bank, while Joanne Avison (centre) received her certificate at an awards ceremony, held by the provincial government. Awards began going out to eligible Ontario volunteers in March, with primary recognitions and kickoff events occurring during National Volunteer Week, April 19 to 25. Ceremonies and recognition events will continue through June. The awards recognize the dedication of Ontario volunteers.

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Shelburne BIA to host first classic car show along downtown core

Written By **JOSHUA DRAKES**
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Shelburne Business Improvement Area (BIA) is rolling out its first-ever Classic Car Show on June 13, aiming to bring families, car enthusiasts, and shoppers into the heart of the downtown area.

Running from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the event will see classic vehicles lining the downtown streets, turning the core into an open-air showcase of vintage and specialty cars.

Shelburne BIA organizer Melissa Hooper said that the car show was conceived as a new summer event to complement existing events and boost traffic for local businesses.

"We were looking for another event to run

We knew we wanted to do something in the summer, and have it be something to get families out and bring more people downtown," she said. "I own a classic car myself, so I kind of wanted to see a local car show, so that's how it started."

Timed to follow the community's Fridays in the Park series the night before, on June 12, the car show effectively creates a two-day run of activity downtown.

Beyond the vehicles themselves, the show is being designed as a family-friendly outing.

Jack Downing Park will host a variety of vendors, while the Shelburne Public Library and Mansfield Outdoor Center will team up to offer children's activities in the library parking lot. Alterna Savings will provide a bouncy

castle and additional kid-focused events in its parking area, creating several activity hubs within walking distance.

Downtown businesses are also being drawn into the festivities through a "Canada Proud" window display contest, with car show participants and visitors invited to vote for their favourite storefront.

The goal is to encourage visitors to explore the core, discover new shops, and stay for lunch at local restaurants.

Those wishing to display a classic car do not need to pre-register.

Owners can simply arrive on the day of the event and check in at the registration booth behind Jack Downing Park. Each vehicle will receive a ticket for door prize draws, and

awards will be presented for Best of Show and BIA Choice, offering some fun competition.

Organizers plan to review feedback and participation after this year's launch before deciding whether to make the Classic Car Show an annual tradition.

"For now, I think it's a one-off event," Hooper said. "We're going to see how it works for now... If it works well we can see about doing the same thing next year and making it another event that the BIA can [host] regularly."

The Shelburne BIA's Classic Car Show promises to be a fun-filled activity for car enthusiasts, families looking for a day out on the town, and curious visitors looking to see what Shelburne has to offer.

Shelburne gets ready to launch fourth annual Fridays in the Park event series

Continued from Front

The economic impact has been significant. In 2025, Fridays in the Park generated an estimated \$63,900 in local economic activity.

Town officials view the program as a practical way to introduce new residents to the downtown core, highlight local businesses, and reinforce that many services and amenities are available close to home.

"Every dollar that we invest, we're getting \$1.79 back into the local economy," Maitland said. "Getting people downtown, getting them shopping, getting them visiting the restaurants, and at least acknowledging that there are businesses downtown, or that we even have a downtown, is a really important piece for this event."

It's working, as feedback for the events remains overwhelmingly positive.

"The events are very well received," Maitland said. "We're averaging about 500 people per event. When we did our survey, over 90 per cent of the participants rated it as an excellent event, and then 90, almost 100 per cent said they would return."

The 2026 season opens Friday, June 12, from 6 to 9 p.m. at Jack Downing Park, featuring Steve Goodtime, a foam pop up party, and headliners Campfire Poets, along with roaming magic, face painting, mascots and local vendors.

The following day, Saturday, June 13, the Shelburne BIA will host its Classic Car Show downtown from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., with a classic car display, children's activities, a bouncy castle and a vendor area.

Fridays in the Park continues July 10 with Crowded Table headlining. There will also be a community garage sale, return-

ing children's activities, and K Pop Demon Hunter for entertainment.

The event series wraps up Aug. 28 with award winning reggae artist Errol Blackwood, The Rumble Show, another foam party and a full slate of family programming.

Local businesses, artisans and food vendors are being encouraged to take part in the series and related BIA events, using the busy evenings to reach new customers and strengthen Shelburne's downtown economy.

Fridays in the Park promises to be an-

other year of fun, family-friendly activities, bringing plenty to do for adults, teens and kids.

For more information on Fridays in the Park, go to: shelburne.ca/doing-business-here/economic-development-events/fridays-in-the-park/



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ANSWERING THE CALL: Members of the Dufferin County Paramedic Service gather in front of one of their vehicles to mark Paramedic Services Week, celebrated across Canada from May 17 to 23. The week honours the lifesaving work paramedics do in the communities they serve.

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OPINION

It's a funny language

Several years ago, I had a part-time job in a local place doing rather mundane, assembly-line work.

It was unusual, as half of the team there had regular jobs like mine and used this job to make some extra money and pay bills. The other half of the employees there considered the place to be their sole means of support.

It was a real mix of different people. All in all, I liked everyone there, and we actually had a lot of fun at work.

There was one fellow I worked with who was ethnic Chinese, grew up in Jakarta, Indonesia, and graduated with a degree in electrical engineering from Nebraska State University.

My friend spoke enough English that we could converse; however, he was having trouble obtaining employment as an engineer, as he said no one would hire him because he didn't have a command of the language.

I'm not sure, but maybe being an electrical engineer requires good verbal skills to avoid electrocuting someone on the job.

I asked him, how in the world did he graduate from a university without being able to speak the language?

He explained that although he understood only about 20 per cent of what the professors were saying, he understood the numbers. I guess that enabled him to pass his exams.

When we worked together, he would often come in and ask me the meaning of a new word he had heard on a television show.

I would explain the word and use it in context so he understood.

I recall one time he came to work and asked me what it meant when you refer to someone as a 'jerk.'

He was watching a TV show the previous night, and the word 'jerk' was used several times.

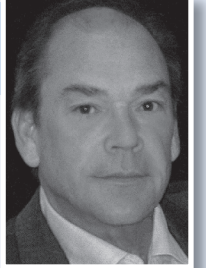
I explained what it meant, sort of.

That is a hard word to explain. Is a jerk an annoying person? A disagreeable person? Someone you don't want to be around?

I finally poked him in the chest a couple of times with my finger to be annoying. He laughed and said he understood.

I only speak one language, although I took French in college and have been trying to learn more of it over the past year, so I can at least ask for directions if I'm lost in Quebec.

BRIAN LOCKHART
FROM THE SECOND ROW



It must be difficult for a person to learn English as an adult. There are so many words with double or ambiguous meanings that it must be hard to understand how it all works.

I was driving through Alliston a couple of weeks ago with an out-of-town friend of mine, when I pointed out the Honda automotive plant.

To someone just learning English, how would they process that? Isn't a plant something you place in a pot to grow? Or the method of putting seedlings in the ground? What has that got to do with a place where they build cars?

There are words with several meanings, and it is often hard to explain them.

The sun goes UP in the morning, and you also look UP. You get UP in the morning, and rise UP to an occasion.

You can also put UP with something, ask someone to speak UP, find out your time is UP at an appointment, bring something UP for discussion, start UP your computer, start UP your car, and offer UP a solution. On top of that, you clean UP your house, put UP supplies, cut UP a piece of paper, and pull your car UP to the curb.

Try explaining that word to someone

who has never spoken the language.

I used to work with a Polish woman who taught me a little about her first language. That's when I learned that not all languages have articles like the word "the."

That's why you will sometimes hear people using English as a second language utter a phrase like 'close door,' rather than 'close THE door.' The word simply has no context for them, at least at first.

I was once standing next to a woman in a store who was from, I believe, Northern Africa, asking for a box for her purchase.

She simply could not say the word, and it came out something like 'bookus'. I think that whatever her native language was, it just didn't include any pronunciation that ended in an 'x', and that would be a tough one to learn.

Whenever I run into someone who is still learning English, I always take the time to listen to them and help them out.

After all, I may need some directions in Quebec someday, and I hope the person I ask will be just as patient with me.

Taiwan: Invasion is hard

On Donald Trump's flight home from his visit to China, all the journalists wanted to know was whether he had talked to President Xi Jinping about Taiwan. China has been pushing hard for the United States to cancel its military commitment to the island state, and Trump has been hinting that he may at least downgrade it.

So the journalists popped the question, focusing on the \$14 billion US arms sale to Taiwan that is currently awaiting approval. He must have known that question was coming, but he replied as follows: "I have to speak to the person that right now is, you know, you know who he is, that's running Taiwan." (The president of Taiwan is Lai Ching-te.)

Trump couldn't even remember the man's name – and he also seemed to say that he was in two minds about delivering on the previous \$11 billion arms sale to Taiwan. So the following few days have seen a noisy debate in the US about whether Trump is selling Taiwan out to China, but it's a bit late. Any US commitment to defend Taiwan militarily died years ago.

To be specific, it died on 24 February 2022, when Russia began its full-scale invasion of Ukraine and the United States did not come to its defence. True, Ukraine is not officially an American ally, but then neither is Taiwan. (Joe Biden often forgot and said that the US was committed to defend Taiwan, but his aides and advisers would quickly walk it back.)

What used to exist was an unwritten understanding that the United States would defend Taiwan against an invasion by the People's Republic of China (PRC). Initially it was only unwritten because Beijing gets cross if Washington uses those words, but by Biden's time there was real doubt that the US would fight for Taiwan. And then came the war in Ukraine.

Biden probably made the right choice. Four years later Ukraine is still standing, and there have been no direct confrontations between Russian and American troops. But if the United States won't even risk a war with Russia because it might spiral out of control and go nuclear, then it certainly won't risk one with China, which

is a far more formidable opponent.

In Europe, the United States has an entire alliance to back it up (although Mr Trump is now talking about leaving NATO). It has allies in Asia too, but I can't see any of them sending troops to save Taiwan.

Actually, I can't see the United States committing its forces to another ground war in Asia either. The logistics are insane: it is 11,000 km. from Los Angeles to Taiwan, and only 300 km. from Xiamen in Fujian province to the same destination. Taiwan is on its own, and Xi Jinping regularly says that he might resort to force to 'reunite' Taiwan with China.

So is Taiwan doomed? Not necessarily, although the odds against its long-term survival as a separate country have definitely worsened. Taiwan's numbers seem hopeless (23 million Taiwanese vs. 1.4 billion citizens of the People's Republic), but they have a secret weapon.

They live on a big island, with 300 km. of open ocean between them and the PRC.

"Oh God! Not another Strait!" I hear you cry, but the Strait of Taiwan works to the country's advantage. In terms of sea conditions you might as well be in the open Pacific, and the island gets hit by three or four typhoons every year. The Strait is quite shallow and easy to mine, and the beaches are a nightmare for any attacker

trying to land troops.

Where the Normandy beaches of D-Day were wide and flat, Taiwan's coastline has mud flats, cliffs and heavily urbanised areas. There are only fourteen stretches along the west coast where landing craft can come ashore, and everybody in the military knows where they are.

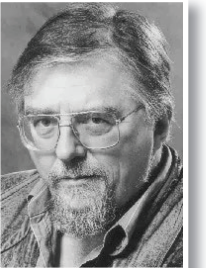
As for paratroops, forget it. They only carry light weapons and quickly run out of supplies.

Taiwan could not win a war against China, but a seaborne invasion against entrenched opponents is the most difficult military operation of all. If the Chinese regime will not use nuclear weapons against fellow Chinese (which one assumes they will not), it's perfectly possible that Taiwan could stay largely unconquered for weeks or even months.

Taiwanese certainly can't do that now – they have long been free-riding on the imaginary American 'guarantee' – but they could do it in two or three year's time if they are willing to spend the money and the US remains willing to sell them arms. (Nobody else will.)

They still couldn't 'win', but they could probably negotiate a lot better terms for a ceasefire. Look at what the Iranians did.

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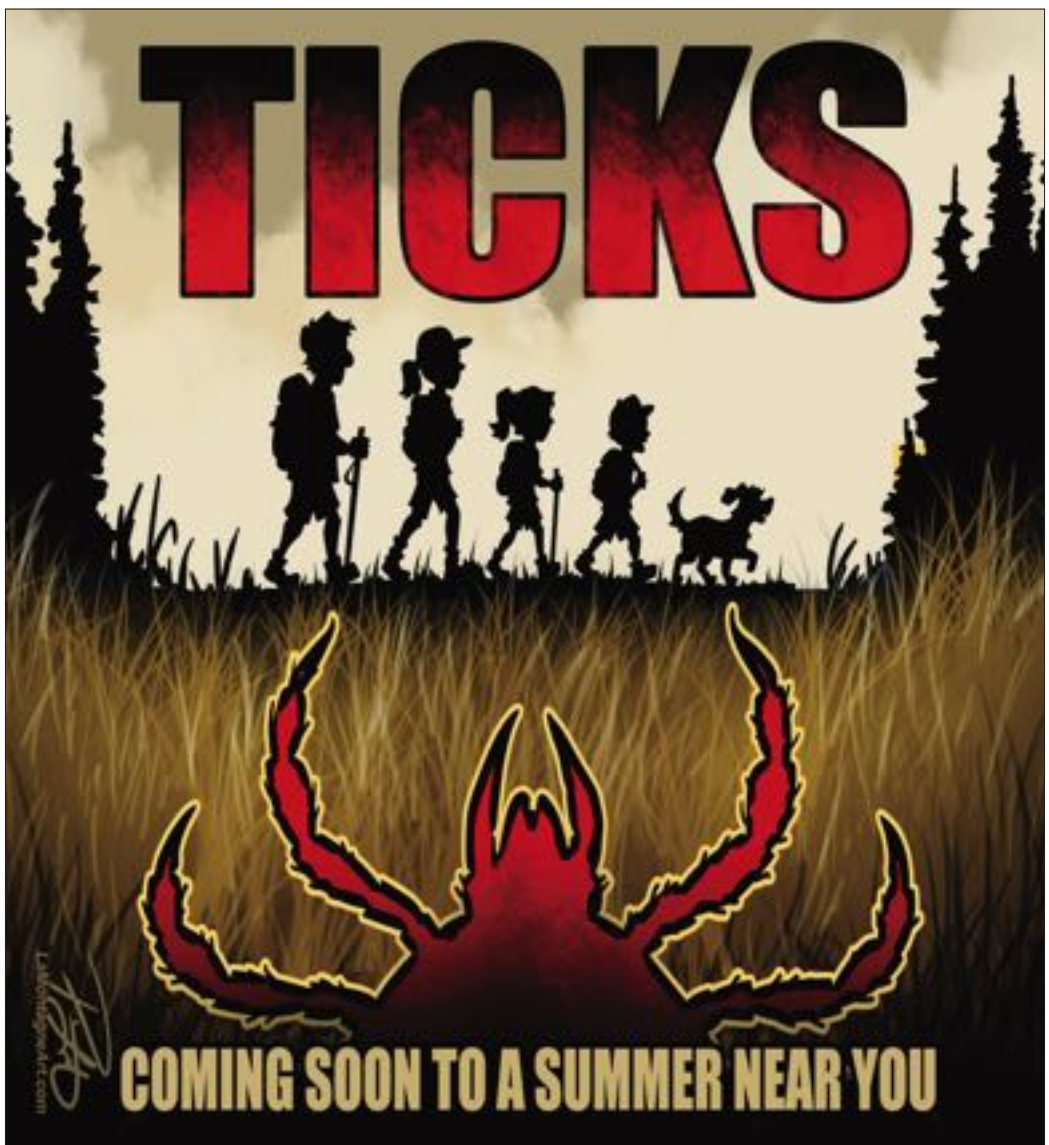
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COMMUNITY VOICES

Monthly Message: FTP gives hope to survivors of sexual violence

Three simple yet powerful words — we believe you — are at the core of what the Lotus Centre at Family Transition Place (FTP) is about. Originally established with a grant from the provincial government, FTP's Lotus Centre continues to provide enhanced support to those who have experienced sexual violence, as well as to the family and friends who support these victims.

Working from the premise that sexual violence is “never your fault,” the staff and counselling team at FTP provide a safe place for survivors to flourish and bloom. It is a symbol of strength, resilience and rebirth — of beauty without blemish. At the Lotus Centre, healing is possible, and together, the dedicated team helps clients to discover their inherent strengths and acknowledge their own power.

FTP was granted new annualized funding in 2021 through the Ministry of the Attorney General for Sexual Assault Programming in Dufferin County to enhance its existing sexual violence services. In consultation with partner agencies — Headwaters Healthcare Centre (HHC) and Dufferin Child and Family Services (DCAFS) — FTP developed a model for this new centre to expand the collaborative services available in this community.

HHC provides important emergency medical attention for any victim of sexual violence, and a dedicated nurse collects important forensic evidence. DCAFS provides support and counselling for youth. FTP provides support and counselling for individuals aged 16 and older. The creation of the Lotus Centre allowed FTP to build on the existing services by providing enhanced mobile crisis response; counselling support to survivors, their family members and friends; peer support; and community outreach and education within schools and sports teams. This collaborative approach serves the community well, with each organization delivering services within this scope of practice and expertise.

All genders and identities are served at FTP's Lotus Centre by a team of dedicated experts committed to recognizing the trauma arising from sexual violence—for survivors and their loved ones needing support. Holding credentials in social work, counsel-



ling and psychology, and with many years of experience behind them, the Lotus Centre crisis intake team and counsellors use a variety of strategies, including trauma-focused therapy, to support survivors. Anyone can call directly for help through FTP's 24-hour support line (519-941-4357 or 1-800-265-9178). There is no referral required.

FTP's Counselling Supervisor, Lauren Babcock, comments, “The work of healing trauma related to sexual violence has changed to now include providing support to partners, family members, or friends of someone who has been subjected to sexual violence. This is because the Lotus Centre recognizes the impact this can have on those supporting a survivor and it can be helpful and beneficial to have a space to learn more about the impacts of trauma, how to respond, and how to take care of themselves and survivors through positive coping.”

What is Sexual Violence?

How do you know if the shame, fear of violence or judgment, or any of the many feelings you might be experiencing are because of sexual violence? The answer is simple: “If something didn't feel ‘right,’ then it probably wasn't.” Lauren explains, “It's important to help clients understand and acknowledge that what they went through was indeed sexual violence and in no way their fault. Often, there are reasons why people dismiss or downplay their experiences, and it is helpful to explore that. Ultimately, we meet the clients where they are at.”

FTP is not the only agency to have replaced terms like “sexual assault” with “sexual violence” and “victims” with “survivors.”

Empowered survivors who feel “heard, understood and validated” no longer think of themselves as victims.

Sexual violence can be historic or recent, but at its core, sexual violence includes being subjected to an unwanted and non-consensual touch or sexual act, sexual abuse, sexual assault or rape, trafficking, stalking, sexual harassment or exploitation, or being exposed to language or behaviour or the non-consensual sharing of images. What matters most, however, is how you felt about what was experienced. Lauren adds, “We don't want to label people's experience, especially if they don't want it labelled. We want to help people work through how something has impacted them.”

Beyond counselling and support, the Lotus Centre has a second and equally important component to its work, and that is the important role that education plays in reducing sexual violence. Sexual Violence Community Engagement Facilitator Barbara Mason shares that education is an essential aspect of the work the Lotus Centre will undertake in the community: “To be able to provide excellent support to survivors of sexual violence and their loved ones is a priority but, how do we stop the cycle? How do we target the root cause of the issue? How do we get to a point where we actually see a shift in culture that translates into a reduction of sexual violence in the communities we serve? Education is the key to prevention.”

Since the centre's inception, FTP has connected with hundreds of individuals through community agencies, youth, school boards, sports organizations and even area businesses to ensure everyone knows about the Lotus Centre, how it can help, and that eliminating sexual violence is the responsibility of us all.

Sparking a sustained cultural change might seem daunting, but if anyone is up to the challenge, it's the team behind the Lotus Centre at FTP. Here you will find a safe space, counsellors who understand trauma, who are “respectful, gentle and kind,” and who will listen so that you feel “heard, understood and validated.” Perhaps most importantly of all — you will find people who believe you.

May is Sexual Violence Prevention Month (SVPM)

Alongside agencies across Canada, FTP aims to build important awareness of sexual violence throughout the month of May. Together with members of the Ontario Coalition of Rape Crisis Centres (OCRCC), FTP will raise awareness with community flag-raising ceremonies, proclamations, and other awareness initiatives throughout the month.

There are over 30 community-based sexual assault centres involved with the OCRCC. These centres provide crisis and counselling support to survivors of sexual violence in communities across Ontario.

Both the Town of Caledon and the Town of Orangeville have recognized this annual awareness-building initiative by proclaiming May as SVPM and raising a flag designed in partnership with the OCRCC by an Indigenous design firm. The County of Dufferin and several municipalities within the county have also proclaimed this important month, urging the thoughtful observance and recognition of SVPM by their residents.

According to Statistics Canada's 2025 Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces — the most comprehensive national data available, released March 2026 — nearly 15 million people living in Canada, or 44 per cent of the population aged 15 and older, have been physically or sexually assaulted since the age of 15. This annual initiative provides an opportunity to highlight the importance of sexual violence support and centres. Critically, only 8.6 per cent of sexual assault victims reported the most serious incident they experienced to police — a stark reminder that community-based supports remain essential.

Local resources, information, and SVPM updates continue to be published on FTP's website and the following social media pages throughout the remainder of the month.

Family Transition Place can be found on Facebook, Instagram, and Threads at @familytransitionplace, on LinkedIn at @family-transition-place, and online at www.familytransitionplace.ca

If you or someone you know needs support, compassionate staff are available to help 24/7. Call 1-800-265-9178. If you are in immediate danger, call 911.

adopt a cat



Magic

Magic is 7 years old and head of the greeting committee. He loves to get his pets and runs to meet the volunteers. Magic is very playful and will spend hours with a wand toy. This handsome stud has a best buddy Rufus, who although isn't as outgoing, also loves his pets (yes you can adopt both!).

Magic is neutered, microchipped, dewormed, flea treated and vaccinated.

Adoption price: \$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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May 23, 2026

Orangeville Farmers' Market

8:00am - 1:00pm

87 Broadway Ave, Orangeville

Grand Valley Public Works Yard

9:00am - 11:00am

56 Main St. N, Grand Valley

May 24, 2026

Shelburne & District Horticultural Society

9:00am - 12:00pm

735 Industrial Rd, Shelburne (Trainer Games Parking Lot)

Bring your own container.
Limit of one blue box-sized container per household.
First come, first served.



Do you participate in our Green Bin & Yard Waste programs? Enjoy the end result!
Your garden will thank you. Visit dufferincounty.ca/waste for updates.

Dufferin County to launch Green Development Program

The County of Dufferin recently announced that it will launch a Green Development Program later this year.

During a county council meeting last week, the Green Development Program was approved in partnership with Grey and Wellington Counties, with an anticipated launch this summer.

The program aims to support reduced long-term housing costs, improved resilience to climate risks, and economic development in the green building sector. It establishes a consistent regional framework to support higher-performing residential development while reducing duplication for municipalities and the development industry.

“As Dufferin County continues to see sustained population and housing growth, the Green Development Program will support local development that reduces long-term demand on energy, water and stormwater systems, help manage lifecycle infrastructure costs, and improve system resilience,”

said Dufferin County Warden Lisa Post.

“It will support long-term affordability for residents and promote more complete and connected communities while helping us reach our climate and economic goals. We thank NRCan for their funding of this joint County initiative and will provide our community and developers with more information closer to Program launch.”

The Green Development Program has been designed as a voluntary, points-based system with three core components:

Metrics: Recognizing the diversity of projects, the framework offers a flexible menu of 18 possible development features that applicants may choose to incorporate into their projects. These metrics were developed based on best practices, existing building credential programs, and local input from industry, municipal staff, and residents.

Recognition: For each metric incorporated into the project, the project achieves

a certain number of points. Based on their total number of points, the project would be recognized as bronze, silver, or gold achievement.

Capacity Building: To support program implementation, staff will work with the construction and development industry, as well as county and municipal planning and building staff, to share knowledge, best practices, case studies, resources, and training opportunities to overcome local barriers to advancing higher performance construction.

Administration of the Program will be coordinated at the county level, with opportunities for lower-tier municipalities to participate, subject to their capacity and interest.

Georgian College and Sustainable Waterloo Region are currently undertaking an industry readiness assessment to identify opportunities to strengthen local capacity within the construction sector to ensure industry adoption.

To learn more about The Green Development Program, visit www.dufferincounty.ca/gdp

“The Green Development Program is helping the County advance key actions in both its Climate Action Plan and Climate Adaptation Strategy, which prioritize improving building performance and increasing resilience to climate impacts through new development. It also supports the County’s Economic Development Strategic Plan by strengthening local capacity in the construction sector and positioning Dufferin to respond to growing demand for higher performance building practices,” said Sara MacRae, manager of climate and energy for Dufferin County.

“We’re excited to announce the launch of this plan with our partners Grey and Bruce Counties and look forward to celebrating developers who are doing their part to advance sustainable development in Dufferin and beyond.”

Shelburne Councillor Len Guchardi confirms bid for re-election this fall

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Councillor Len Guchardi has confirmed he will seek re-election, positioning his bid as a continuation of four years of work focused on accessibility, recreation and long-term infrastructure planning in Shelburne.

Coun. Len Guchardi filed his papers on May 14 to confirm his intent to run for re-election.

He described municipal office as challenging but rewarding, with a workload that proved busier than he initially expected.

“This is the most effective way for me to serve the community,” he said. “It was a little busier than I thought it was going to be, but there’s always surprises that way. The past four years have been wonderful and engaging.”

Over his first term, Guchardi points to significant gains in public recreation as a defining achievement, as well as progress on the town’s sewage treatment plant, a roadblock which limits town capacity for growth.

“I think we made huge advances in public recreation, making our trails and our parks and Fiddle Park accessible to everyone,” he said. “I am also looking forward to the sewage treatment plant coming online in 2029, then other things can be dealt with.”

Guchardi frames his experience on council largely in positive terms, stressing engagement, hard work and forward movement on key files. He said that the term has been marked more by incremental gains than by

“This is the most effective way for me to serve the community,” ... “It was a little busier than I thought it was going to be, but there’s always surprises that way. The past four years have been wonderful and engaging.”

Coun. Len Guchardi

singular setbacks.

Looking ahead, he identifies several challenges that will shape the next four years if his bid for a return to office is successful. Chief among them is what he sees as increasing provincial overreach into municipal affairs.

“I would say over the last two years of this last term, provincial overreach has been a huge concern for us,” he said. “The frustration for us right now is keeping some level of autonomy in the decisions that we make in the community.”

He is concerned about the amalgamation of conservation authorities, the appointment of provincially selected overseers in some municipalities and legislation that allows the province to override local environmental and planning decisions, including through special economic zones.

“I’m really upset about the amalgamation of the conservation authorities. I don’t think that’s a great idea,” he said. “I think that



JOSHUA DRAKES PHOTO

SEEKING RE-ELECTION: Councillor Len Guchardi is throwing his hat into the re-election race, hoping to secure another term. Citing further infrastructure developments and maintaining town autonomy as priorities, Guchardi plans to continue pushing in those directions if re-elected.

having bills in place to override municipal decisions when it comes to environmental assessments and rushing projects through without doing the due diligence... Those are big things for me.”

At the same time, his focus is on advancing the long-discussed truck bypass project.

Funding commitments for environmental assessment have been secured from the town and county, and discussions with the Ministry

of Transportation and neighbouring municipalities are ongoing, positioning the bypass as a key long-term priority in his re-election campaign.

Guchardi believes that he still has work to do in Shelburne and has recommitted himself to seeing it through in his next term, if elected.

Municipal elections will take place across Ontario’s 444 municipalities on October 26.

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COUNCIL 2026 DATES May 25, June 1 (virtual) & 22 (Virtual), July 13 & 27, August 24, September 14 & 28, October 5, December 14

ANNUAL SPRING HYDRANT FLUSHING BEGINS IN SHELBURNE

The Town of Shelburne will begin its annual spring hydrant flushing program next week, starting in Zone 1.

Zone 1: May 11–15

Zone 2: May 19–22

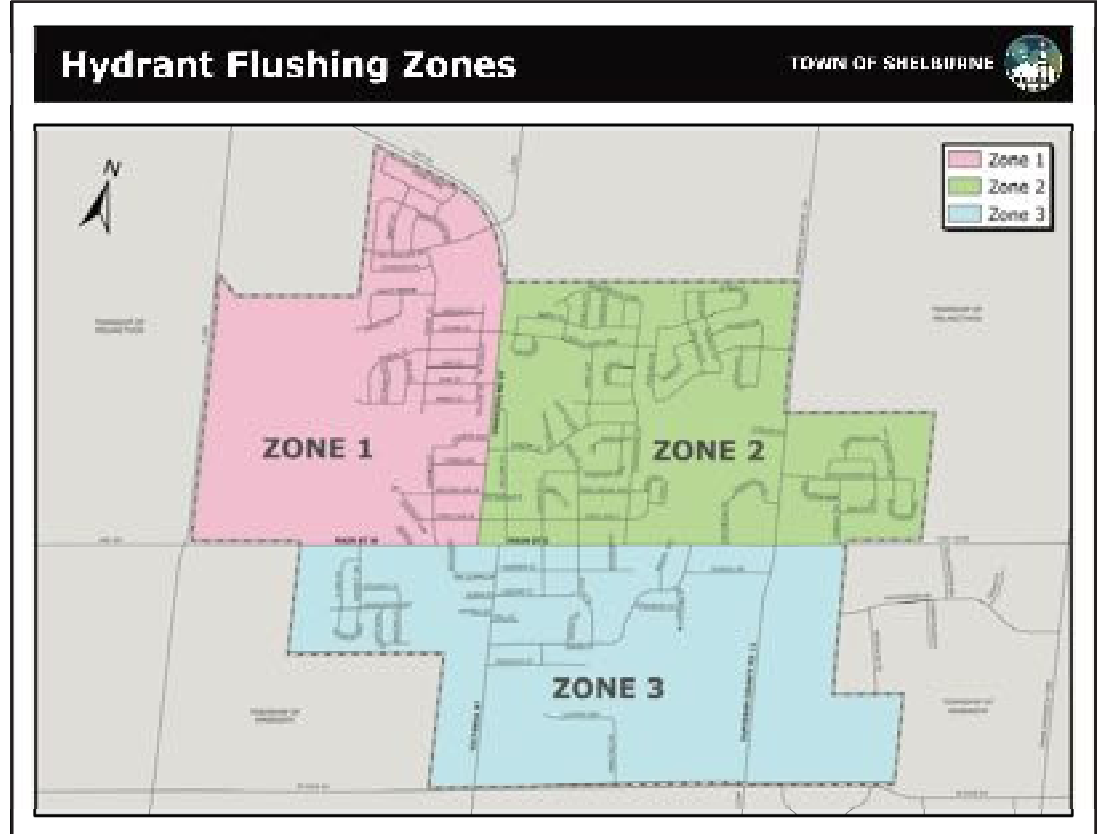
Zone 3: May 25–30

*Dates are subject to change due to operational requirements.

Hydrant flushing is an important part of maintaining the Town's water system. The process helps remove the buildup of iron and minerals from water mains, preventing sediment accumulation and maintaining water quality.

During flushing, residents may notice temporary discoloration in their water due to increased mineral content. If this occurs, residents are advised to run a cold tap preferably in a laundry tub or bathtub for 5 to 10 minutes until the water clears.

For more information or if you have questions, please contact the Town of Shelburne at 519-925-2600 ext. 231 or email water@shelburne.ca.



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To confirm or change your school support, visit MPAC.ca.

SHELBURNE VOTES 2026 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

The Municipal Election will be held on **Monday, October 26, 2026.**

2026 PROPERTY TAX

Payment Dealine: May 21, 2026

Shelburne.ca

WATER Sewer bills

Due **May 26**

2026 Street Sweeping is underway, visit shelburne.ca for details

Report a Concern

Report a Compliment or Concern

We want to hear from you.

Report

Visit Shelburne.ca

COMMON INFRACTIONS

PARKING

- On or over the sidewalk or curb
- Parking on boulevards
- Parking beyond the expired time periods in the downtown core
- Parking within an accessible spot without a valid permit

YARD MAINTENANCE /CLEAN YARDS

- Garbage and debris on property
- Lack of lawn cutting
- Inoperable vehicles

The Town has an enforcement team that monitors compliance with bylaws and takes action when necessary. This may include issuing warnings, fines, and even court proceedings in some cases.

To learn more about all the Town bylaws, visit <https://www.shelburne.ca/en/town-hall/by-laws.aspx>

ANIMAL CONTROL

- Dogs off leash
- Running at large
- Persistent barking

Residents who have questions or concerns about bylaws are encouraged to contact enforcement services at 519-925-2600 Ext 229, 255, 263. or email bylaw@shelburne.ca

Air conditioners are cool, but electrical fires are not!

Heavy-draw appliances like air conditioners, dehumidifiers, and microwaves should always be plugged into a wall outlet, never into a power strip or extension cord. Those cords aren't designed to handle the sustained load, and they can overheat enough to start a fire.

Shelburne & District Fire Department
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COUNCIL 2026 DATES May 25, June 1 (virtual) & 22 (Virtual), July 13 & 27, August 24, September 14 & 28, October 5, December 14

FREE ADMISSION
TOWN OF SHELBURNE EVENT

**Honk
&
Explore**

**Touch
a
Truck**

Details:

May 23, 2026
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Sensory Hour
No lights or Sounds
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Operations Yard
124 Luxton Way

Accepting donations of non-perishable food for the Shelburne foodbank.

Activities Include:

- Vehicle Displays
- Meet Staff
- Free Popcorn
- Face Painting
- Button Making

2026

FREE Fridays
 IN THE
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 FAMILY FUN
 Jack Downing Park
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Sponsored By:

June 12
 6 - 9 PM

The Campfire Poets
 Steve Goodtime
 Foam Pop Up Party
 Elvis the Magician
 Mario
 Face Painting + More

SCAN ME!

THE CAMPFIRE POETS

Classic Car

June 13
 10 AM - 2 PM

Shelburne BIA Presents:
 Classic Car Show
 Vendors
 Family Fun Activities

No outside alcohol permitted

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June 1-5

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GOLF

TOURNAMENT

JUNE 4, 2026

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05

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A curated exhibition featuring the work of youth and emerging artists from our community.

streamshub.org/art-gallery-takeover

SPORTS

CDDHS varsity girls' rugby team finish regular season in second place

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

The Centre Dufferin District High School Royals varsity girls' rugby team finished the District 4/10 regular season in second place after a strong season that saw them lose only once in six games.

The Royals fell one place behind the first-place team from John F. Ross, who went undefeated after six games.

Over the season, the Centre Dufferin team averaged just over 42 points per game while allowing just over 11 points per game.

The Royals are a highly skilled team that knows how to get the ball downfield and are very good at defence.

In their final game of the regular season, the Royals travelled to Orangeville to take on the Bears from Orangeville District Secondary School.

The Royals took an early lead in the game and kept up the pressure for the remainder of the time on the field.

The final game was a 39-10 win for the Royals.

After the final games, Centre Dufferin finished in second place behind Ross. Guelph Collegiate finished in third place, followed by Centennial Collegiate in the number four spot.

Teams will now go on the semi-final play-offs to see which teams will battle it out for the District championship.

Centre Dufferin was scheduled to meet Guelph Collegiate for their semi-final game on Tuesday, May 19. Results were not available at press time.

In the other District 4/10 semi-final, Centennial Collegiate will be up against John F. Ross.

If the Royals are successful, they will play for the District championship.

The championship game will take place on Thursday, May 21, with the home advantage going to the top seed team.



BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

STANDING IN SECOND: The Centre Dufferin District High School Royals varsity girls' rugby team battles the Orangeville District Secondary School Bears on the Bears' home pitch in Orangeville on Wednesday, May 13. The Royals won the game 39-10 to secure second place in the District 4/10 standings. Royals player Charlotte Wallace takes the ball into the defender's zone during the second half of the game. The Royals will now compete in the semi-final game in a bid to advance to the District championship.

Mansfield Cubs look to secure their first win of the season following loss to Lisle Astros

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

After two games in the 2026 regular season schedule of the North Dufferin Baseball League (NBDL), the Mansfield Senior Cubs are looking for their first win.

The team is going through a bit of a rebuilding year with new players on the team, and they are hoping to have a good showing this season.

"I've made four or five cuts and picked up six or seven new players," said coach Lance Bryan. "They haven't played in a few years, but they used to play rep and travel ball, and they're looking pretty good."

With late spring and wet, cool conditions this year, most teams in the league had little opportunity to practice before the start of the season.

The Mansfield Cubs held only four practices before the start of the regular season.

In their first game of the season, the Cubs took a narrow 4-3 loss to the New Lowell Knights on their home diamond in Mansfield.

They were back at it the following week with another home game.

This time out, they took a 12-1 loss to the Lisle Astros.

In the early going of the season, the Owen Sound Baysox have moved into first place.

The Baysox are 4-0, averaging an impressive eight runs per game.

In second place, the Barrie Angels are undefeated after three games.

They are followed by the New Lowell Knights, Lisle Astros, Ivy Rangers, and the

Midland Mariners.

In the Junior division of the NBDL, the Creemore Padres have moved into an early lead, winning their first three games of the season.

They are followed by the Barrie Baycats,

Aurora King Jays, Orillia Royals, and the Innisfil Cardinals.

The Cubs will be back on their home diamond in Mansfield on Wednesday, May 27, to host the Ivy Rangers.

Game time is at 6:30 p.m.



BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

SLIDING INTO SAFETY: The Mansfield Cubs hosted the Lisle Astros for their second game of the 2026 regular season on Wednesday, May 13. A Lisle player slides safely into home during the first inning of the game. The Astros won this game 12-1.

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ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

ASHLEY ANDERSON

"I like the hitting on the field," said Centre Dufferin District High School Royals rugby player, Ashley Anderson of why she likes playing the sport. "I really enjoy the fact that we're a family when we are on the team. We all get a chance to be on the field and play together."

As a Grade 12 veteran on the team, Ashley brings a lot of experience and skill to the sport.

Rugby is the only sport Ashley plays.

"When I started playing rugby, it just clicked with me," Ashley said. "It's the one sport that I know is for me."

TEAM: CENTRE DUFFERIN DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL ROYALS VARSITY GIRLS RUGBY

POSITION: FLANKER

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Shelburne Rotary Club preparing for annual EDC Golf Tournament

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Shelburne EDC and Rotary Club of Shelburne are preparing to welcome golfers and community members back to the greens for the annual Rotary EDC Golf Tournament on June 4 at the Shelburne Golf and Country Club.

The long-running tournament has become a staple community fundraiser, bringing together local businesses, organizations and residents for a day of golf, networking and fundraising aimed at improving amenities throughout Shelburne.

Rotary Club spokesperson Bobbi Ferguson said that the partnership between the Shelburne Economic Development Committee and the Rotary Club began roughly six years ago, when the two organizations joined forces to raise money for the community splash pad project.

“After about three years we had raised enough to build a splash pad,” she said. “From then on we just thought that because it was a success, we would continue the tournament, and the proceeds would always go towards something for town improvement,

whether it be parks or whatever was needed within the town.”

Since then, the tournament has continued to fund projects designed to improve community spaces and amenities across Shelburne.

This year’s event will support the completion of the Community Kitchen Project, along with additional recreation initiatives in town.

Golfers will take part in a shotgun start tournament format, with participants heading to their assigned holes at 11:45 a.m. before the noon tee off.

The day will include 18 holes of golf, on-site fundraising games for guests, networking opportunities, an auction, and a gourmet dinner served in the clubhouse dining room following the tournament.

Past fundraising efforts from the tournament have helped support the splash pad, seating improvements at Greenwood Park and the Community Kitchen project.

Ferguson said this year it will do the same. “This year, part of the proceeds will go towards the Community Kitchen project,” she said. “The proceeds will also help fund improvements at Greenwood Park, a future snack shack.”



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ANNUAL FUNDRAISER: Held every year, the Rotary Club’s EDC Golf Tournament is a major fundraising event designed to help fund local projects and town initiatives.

Ferguson said the event will continue to serve as an important way to invest in the community while supporting projects that benefit residents, families, and local businesses alike. Sponsorship opportunities remain available for businesses interested in

supporting the event and helping fund future community improvements.

For more information on the event or to get tickets, visit eventbrite.ca/e/rotary-edc-golf-tournament-2026-tickets-1983074451066.

Town of Shelburne maintains current rules on alcohol consumption at public events

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Town of Shelburne says it will maintain its current rules surrounding alcohol consumption at outdoor public events, opting not to adopt Ontario’s new bring-your-own-beverage (BYOB) framework at this time.

In a statement released by the Town of Shelburne, officials said existing bylaws, policies and Alcohol and Gaming Commission

of Ontario (AGCO) regulations will remain in effect for festivals, community gatherings and events held on municipal property.

Under the current rules, alcohol is not permitted in outdoor public spaces, parks or events unless it is being served within a licensed or approved area.

Town officials said the decision is aimed at maintaining public safety, supporting local businesses and ensuring events remain well-managed and family-friendly.

The town added that residents and visitors

attending local festivals are encouraged to purchase beverages from licensed areas or nearby restaurants and businesses, noting that local vendors and establishments play an important role in sustaining community events and the local economy.

Event organizers wishing to offer alcohol service at an event must continue following the town’s existing approval process and obtain all necessary permits.

The move comes after the Province of Ontario announced earlier this year that mu-

nicipalities could choose to allow attendees at certain outdoor cultural and community events to bring their own alcohol into designated areas.

The new framework, which takes effect through the AGCO beginning this spring, applies only in municipalities that pass enabling bylaws and approve eligible events.

Provincial officials have said the policy is intended to support tourism, reduce costs for event organizers and provide greater flexibility for community festivals.

Financial literacy workshop for parents scheduled for Sunday at the Shelburne Public Library

On Sunday, May 24, the library is hosting a special financial literacy workshop for mothers. Presented by Jacqueline Blair, a Money Mindset Coach, this 90-minute workshop is designed to help mothers explore and heal their relationship with money.

Rooted in the understanding that our earliest money experiences shape how we feel, think, and make decisions about finances as adults, this workshop invites mothers to examine the beliefs they inherited, understand their personal money personality, and begin building a new financial story, one defined by safety, confidence, and possibility.

This interactive workshop is structured into three parts:

1. Understanding your money story
2. Discovering your money personality
3. Building a legacy of financial safety

This program aligns with the library’s goal of fostering financial literacy – the ability to understand and manage personal finances. Financial literacy in libraries goes beyond teaching patrons how to budget. It helps families build the foundation for generational wealth, ensuring that today’s knowledge creates greater opportunities for children and grandchildren. Stay tuned for more financial

literacy workshops in the future.

Recommended Read of the Week

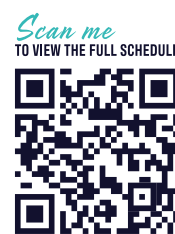
What Remains by Nicole Dalcourt is this week’s staff pick. The book is for anyone who has ever mourned a person, a place, a version of themselves — and wondered how to begin again. At its core, this collection of poetry is a testament to the resilience it takes to keep reaching for love and for healing, and documents the tender process of becoming whole again.

Why Shannon recommends it

I connected deeply with Nicole’s beautifully crafted poems. The reader is taken on

a journey through pain and grief, resilience and gratitude. As someone who spends hours meandering through the woods, I just loved how so many of the poems were grounded in nature, which is of course where we bear witness to resilience, life, death, and just raw beauty. Perhaps that’s why many of us feel more grounded, more connected, and more at peace after time among the trees.

Nicole is not only an award-winning Canadian writer, but a local one. She was the featured poet at our open-mic event on April 25, and we hope to host her again soon. Visit the library to borrow her debut collection.



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Position Summary

The Process Control & Machine Operator plays a critical role in our manufacturing process, responsible for ensuring the efficient and safe operation of bottling processing equipment. This role involves operating and maintaining specialized multi-function process control bottling machinery, monitoring production processes, and adhering to quality standards to ensure the consistent bottling of beverages. This position requires a strong focus on safety, attention to detail, ability to interpret technical instructions to operate sophisticated equipment and the ability to work effectively in a fast-paced environment.

- This is a full-time position, based on 88 hours of work per 2-week cycle, with occasional overtime.
- At this time, we are only looking for individuals who can work a 12-hour rotating continental shift, including nights and weekends.
- Salary \$23.00 per hour, with possibility of bonus; 10 days vacation plus extended medical, dental, and long-term disability insurance & participation in our retirement savings plan.
- Inbound transportation costs for out of province applicants
- Completion of high school required.
- Some post-secondary education required as the position requires the ability to read and understand technical instructions and sophisticated Husky equipment user manuals.
- Two years plastics injection or bottling line experience required.
- Previous heavy equipment experience preferred.
- Youth applicants are welcome to apply.

To view a comprehensive overview of the position, please go to <https://jobs.dayforcehcm.com/en-US/irrs/CANDIDATEPORTAL/jobs/4103>

Interested candidates please send a copy of your resume and cover letter referencing Req#317 to recruiting@iceriversprings.com or write to:

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 Shelburne, ON
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LIVE AUCTION SALE

Equipment Consignment with the Estate of Ken Hall Saturday May 23rd, 9:30am

554447 Mono-Amaranth TLine, Mono, ON Go west through Orangeville on Hwy 9 to County Rd 16 (Veterans Way at Greenwood Cemetery), turn north 5 miles to farm on East side. OR From Shelburne go east on Hwy 89 for 2 miles to Mono-Amaranth Townline, turn south & go 5 miles to farm on East side.

Tractors/Skid Steers/Backhoe: Case Farmall 95A, 4WD loader(L575) tractor, 3 remotes, hydr bus bucket, 3rd function on loader, wheel weights, F: 10.00-16, R: 18.4-30, 230hrs; Kubota B2630 4WD loader/backhoe tractor, material bucket, 1176hrs; JD 7230 4WD tractor, cab, new tires, 4628hrs; Case Farmall 95C 4WD loader tractor, L630 loader, open station, 1479hrs; MF 2606 tractor, open station 2WD, shuttle shift, 395hrs; Kubota MX 5100 4x4 tractor with LA854 loader; open station; hydrostatic; 1 remote, 2977hrs; Ford TW20, cab, dual power, 135hp; (2) Ford 5000 tractors, open station 60hp, 8 spd ; International 1066 tractor, hydrostatic, dual speed PTO, 7000hrs; JD 2155 loader tractor, 15,000hrs, was 4WD- running as 2WD, stored inside, open station, 2 remotes; Kubota B2630 4WD loader/backhoe tractor, material bucket, 1176hrs; Kubota SSV65 Skid Steer, enclosed cab, heat, A/C material bucket, 1176hrs; JD 410G backhoe, 4x4, turbo, Nortrax power shift, 10,500hrs; Case 450CT Series 3 skid steer, new bucket, new tracks, 1877hrs; Cub Cadet Professional (The Tank) mower, zero-turn, 60" deck, 404hrs. **Trucks/Trailers (all sold as is):** GMC T8500 single axle dump truck, 131Kkm(?), no ownership; 2008 Hitchman 612 utility trailer-needs work, ownership; 12'x7' skidsteer float trailer, elec brakes, 2 axles, ramps; 1993 GMC Topkick, 3116 CAT diesel engine, auto transmission, Frink 2-way salter dump body, 52,710km; 20ft flatbed trailer, pintle hitch, loading ramps. **Motorcycles(sold as is), Club Car & Seadoos:** 2000 Honda Shadow Spirit 1100, running, new battery April 2026, 92,443km; 2008 Honda Shadow 750, running, lady driven, 40,666km; Bobcat Pioneer Club Car, newer Honda GX390 engine, gas, new battery 2025, manual dump; (2) Seadoos excellent cnd, to be sold with trailer. **Mach/Equip:** Westfield 110-71 PTO grain auger, 71ftx10; Super-Tilt 20ft dump wagon; Woodland Mill WC88 woodchipper, 35-100hp pto drive, takes up to 8" diam pieces; (24) Y drops, complete set, universal fit, very low acres on them, 30" corn rows, next to new; 18ft winged harrows: Walco 6ft 3pth bushog; 300L sprayer, 3pth, wand only; Turnco 14ft packer & transport; 20ft steel single reach round bale wagon; Case IH 4500 18ft cultivator, man wings; White 251 10ft disc; Overum 4 furrow semi-mount plow; Forage King hay basket; Forage King-Meteor 7ft snowblower, hyd chute, 1 auger; 3pth 6ft tiller; 3pth 2 furrow plow; Meteor 8ft snowblower 2-auger; NA 7ft snowblower; 8ft snowblower, 2-auger; Landpride LR1560 landscape rake, 3pth, 5ft; NH 918H flail mower, 3pth, 4ft; 5ft finishing mower, 3pth; pallet forks, skid steer attach, new; TMC-SLG49 skidsteer rotation log grapple; 8.5'x5' silage pusher bucket; 9ft snow blade; (2)24' feeder wagons; (2)grain buggys; 5ft scraper blade; 18ft steel truck deck; Hardi 32ft field sprayer, manual arms; International moldboard plow, 6 furrows-18in bottoms, auto-reset; Hardi TR500 field sprayer, 45ft manual booms; 8ft 3pth disc; 6ft 3pth cultivator; 6ft 3pth grader blade; JD 2-furrow plow; Balderson skid steer adapter plate; Balderson pallet forks; trough conveyor; NH 185 manure spreader for trailer or parts; old steel wheel wagon; 3pth broadcast grass/fert spreader; MF 1486 pickup head, draper style. **Haying Equip:** Kubota BV5160 round baler, wide pickup, net wrap, has knives, under 11,500 bales through, endless belts, self oiler; JD 582 Silage Special round baler, net & twine, with "The Juice" hay preserver; JD 925 MoCo mower conditioner, 10ft cut; Vermeer 5400 Rebel round baler, 4x5's, new belts; NH Sperry 489 haybine; Heston 1120 mower/conditioner; Recon 2 hay crimper; JD 435 round baler, 4x6, double twine tie only, monitor; MF 124 sq baler & chute; Brillion 10ft grass seeder; NH 144 hay inverter; wood hay wagon; Kuhn 3pth rotary rake; (2) steel thrower wagons, wood floors; John Deere No.9, 7ft sickle mower; 3 prong bale fork; NH hay roller/conditioner; NH 273 square baler with thrower, working cond. **Farm Rel/Shop/Misc.** Fuel tank for JD 4430 tractor; HD drill press; (50)cedar posts - (25) under 8in, (25)over 8in; (3)light cattle gates; upright air compressor; Martin head gate & chute-older.

Preview: 1-6pm, Friday May 22nd

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'Make Grand Valley grand again': Oldest building in town set for new life

Written By **JOSHUA DRAKES**
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The oldest standing building in Grand Valley is getting a new life as a restaurant, bakery and ice cream shop. Local resident Joshua Tuck is working to transform the historic 1870 structure into a new community gathering place.

The project, called OG 1870, aims to blend the town's deep roots with a fresh sense of energy and tourism potential. Located across from the site of Canada's first GM dealership, the building was built in 1870. It has long served as an inn and restaurant in various forms but sat vacant in recent years before Tuck and his family stepped in to restore it.

"Since moving to Grand Valley, I have more friends and more support in this community than I ever had in my whole life – it just feels like home," he said. "I want to do something in return. I would like to help make Grand Valley grand again."

When completed, the space will feature a breakfast diner, bakery and ice cream parlour under one roof, while also serving as a tribute to Grand Valley's history through historic displays, murals and memorabilia connected to its past.

For Tuck, the project is about more than opening a business. After moving to Grand Valley a few years ago, he said the welcoming atmosphere and strong sense of community convinced him and his family to put down roots permanently.

"I've only lived here for a short couple of years, and I love it so much," he said. "It gives me such a strong feeling of belonging... It's the best place I've ever been, honestly. There is something about this little

place called Grand Valley that just makes me want to stay here forever and put the roots in. That's why we bought this restaurant."

He saw the town as a place with untapped potential – one that could become a destination similar to communities like Elora or Hockley Valley, where visitors are drawn by history, charm and local experiences.

That vision pushed the family into an ambitious undertaking. Tuck and his wife took possession of the building just one day after the birth of their son and immediately began renovation work, often putting in 14-hour days to prepare for an early summer opening.

Despite the scale of the restoration, much of the work has been completed with the help of local residents and volunteers.

Tuck assembled a small but determined crew made up of tradespeople, retirees and residents who wanted to help bring the building back to life. Friends, neighbours and local supporters have regularly stopped in to assist with cleaning, construction and organizing as excitement around the project continues to grow.

"Our crew to build this place is made up of myself, and then one other guy who is a part time contractor approached me as I started to work on it and wanted to help," he said. "I had two other gentlemen come in off the street, a retired gentleman, one man from Trinidad... He's 67 years old... And another... a Polish man who is 71 and also retired."

He said to Tuck, "Hey, listen, we want to help you. We want to work. We're not concerned about the money."

Tuck said, "It's been a very community



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

REVIVING GRAND VALLEY: Built in 1870, the newly rechristened OG 1870 is trying to help Grand Valley shine on the map. Vacant and in need of renovations, Joshua Tuck and his wife took over the building with a dream of turning it into a new community hub in town. It will feature a restaurant, bakery and ice cream shop.

focused project."

He believes the revitalization effort could encourage more tourism, attract new businesses and inspire further investment in the downtown core.

By preserving one of Grand Valley's oldest landmarks while creating something new for residents and visitors alike, he hopes the project will remind people what makes small-town communities special.

"We wanted to create something new and exciting for the town," Tuck said. "We want to set a standard of what's possible, because we believe that if we can create one successful business like this... then there's a lot of opportunity for other people within the community to do the same."

"I think that ultimately it will increase people's standard of living and their prop-

erty values, and say, 'I'm from Grand Valley' with pride. This is Grand Valley, and there's no reason everybody shouldn't know how grand it is."

As renovations continue and plans move toward an official opening later this summer, Tuck said he hopes OG 1870 will become more than just a place to eat.

By combining local history, community spirit and a welcoming small-town atmosphere, he believes the project can help spark a new chapter for Grand Valley – one that encourages residents to take pride in their hometown while giving visitors a reason to stop, explore and keep coming back.

The business is expected to begin opening in phases this summer, with the ice cream operation anticipated to launch first.

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Proud to Grow Together Welcoming Royal Chevrolet Cadillac

At Brackett Auto Group, community has always come first. Welcoming Royal Chevrolet Cadillac is more than growth. It is about strengthening the relationships we have built over the years and continuing to support the people, families, and local businesses that make this region feel like home. As we grow, our focus remains the same: delivering a trusted experience, giving back where it matters, and being a part of the community every step of the way. We are excited to welcome Royal Chevrolet Cadillac to the Brackett Auto Group family.



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