LOOKING TO BUY OR SELL?
CALL For
Free Market Valuation
519-925-6948
INFO@MCCARTHYREALTY.CA
IMPROVING LIVES EVERYDAY!
110 Centennial Rd Shelburne
40 Main St W Dundalk
Get the House of Your Dreams
Buyers - Great Time to Buy
GREAT VALUE $530,000
28 Wilson Cres. Dundalk
3 Bed Brick Bungalow, 2 Bath
Back yard, Finished Basement
MODERN $775,000
23 Wood St Conn
4 Bed House 3 Bath Large Back Yard
Country Village Great Value
The McCARTHY TEAM
We are Here for You!
McCARTHY
REALTY
BROKERAGE
519.925.6948

Shelburne
Free Press
SHELBURNE'S NEWSPAPER SINCE 1875
www.shelburnefreepress.ca
.75(Tax) Mailing Registration No. 40005412 Thursday, January 29, 2026 Volume 151, No. 4

Every service comes with a Complimentary Digital Inspection and 2-YEAR 40,000KM WARRANTY.
Performed by licensed technicians.
ROY'S SERVICE CENTRE
Just South of Primrose on Highway 10 • 519-925-2847
ROY'S

WINTER BREAK EVENT
0% PURCHASE FINANCING FOR UP TO 60 MONTHS ON A 2025 BRONCO SPORT BADLANDS MODEL
+ $1,000 BONUS
Welcome to your neighbourhood
Ford Dealership
506168 Hwy. 89 Shelburne · 519-925-5101
www.trilliumford.com
TRILLIUM FORD.COM
THE DRIVING FORCE OF THE 89 CORRIDOR

DUFFERIN BOARD OF TRADE PHOTO

SHARING REMARKS: Shelburne Mayor Wade Mills responds to a question during the Dufferin Board of Trade's annual State of Business Breakfast, held at the Westminster United Church in Orangeville on Jan. 22. See full story on Page 2.

CREWSON INSURANCE BROKERS
Let's not meet by accident
519.925.3145
info@crewsoninsurance.com
crewsoninsurance.com

Auto Care
complete automotive service & repair
BUY 4 and get a $50 Gift Card*
*(on select maintenance and repairs)
+ Manufacturer's Rebate
519-925-0044
autocareplus.ca
NAPA AUTOPRO

Town resolves to terminate participation in fire board

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

The Town of Shelburne has formally begun the process of pulling out of the Shelburne and District Fire Board.

Council passed a resolution to formally terminate its participation in the Shelburne and District Fire Board during a meeting on Jan. 26. This decision has been in the works for some time, having been discussed in previous meetings last year.

Council recognizes, however, that there will be challenges associated with this transition. These include, but are not limited to, financial obligations, asset valuation, redistribution, and any applicable payment arrangements, which the town will seek to resolve before the transition takes effect, so that emergency services remain uninterrupted.

Deputy Mayor Shane Hall stressed that this wasn't an abrupt move, and Shelburne will continue to work towards making the transition as smooth as possible for the next year.

"I just want to make certain that it's clear that while we'll support the motion this evening, we still need to take every reasonable step to come to the resolution," Hall said. "This is ultimately the direction that we'd like to go, but there's other steps that need to be taken."

The fire board currently runs local fire services for Shelburne and four neighbouring townships. Under an agreement signed in 2019 among the participating municipalities, any member can withdraw by giving written notice, with the withdrawal taking effect at the start of the next year.

This move follows council's earlier decisions to support dissolving the fire board and to re-establish a municipally controlled fire department, in part because Shelburne contributes the majority of the fire service's operating costs but has the same representation on the board as much smaller partners.

The town also says it is open to negotiating and cooperating with neighbouring municipalities to continue providing fire protection, prevention, and inspection services on a fee-for-service basis once it has its own department in place following the transition.

Mayor Wade Mills said that discussions will continue with other municipalities to come to a mutually beneficial solution.

"I can confirm those discussions are continuing and that the intent, I think, is embedded right in the resolution," he said. "We're confirming our willingness to negotiate, and that is still our preferred outcome. This formally starts the clock so that we're not losing any time, and we are providing the notice within the prescribed period that the agreement dictates."

FILE PHOTO

IN TRANSITION: The Town of Shelburne has officially ended its participation in the Shelburne and District Fire Board. Over the next year, Shelburne Firefighters will continue operations as normal, as the transition moves forward. Once implemented, Shelburne Fire will be under municipal control.

For the next year, the Shelburne and District Fire Department will continue to operate as normal, as the transition is worked out, but soon a new fire department under municipal control will be serving Shelburne and the surrounding area.

Shelburne Free Press
For all your advertising needs in the Shelburne Area call
Debbie Freeman
at our Shelburne office
519-925-2832
or 519-216-1021

LOOKING TO SELL? CALL TODAY!
2 Bedroom Bungalow on Lg Lot Only $439,000
Dundalk
IMPROVING LIVES EVERYDAY!
McCARTHY REALTY
BROKERAGE
519.925.6948 MCCARTHYREALTY.CA

BOOK YOUR AUCTION SALE Now!
KEVIN SCOTT
McArthur - Bessey Auctions
Farm, Livestock, Estate, Home & Business
Auctions with experience & consideration
Please contact us at
Kevin 519-942-0264 • Scott 519-843-5083
mcarthurbessey@gmail.com
www.theauctionadvertiser.com/KMcArthur

GIANT TIGER
226 First Ave, Shelburne
519-925-6857
www.gianttiger.com
Mon - Fri: 8am-9pm
Sat: 8am-7pm
Sun: 9am-6pm
AD MATCH GUARANTEE! WE'LL BEAT ANY PRICE!
SCHNEIDERS FROZEN CHICKEN WINGS
PRODUCT OF CANADA
$6.97 EACH REG $11.97 615G ASSORT
BEATRICE SOUR CREAM
PRODUCT OF CANADA
$2.48 EACH REG $3.18 500ML ASSORT
WONDER BREAD
$2.50 EACH 570 -675G ASSORT
FEATURED ITEM
Expires Tuesday, February 3, 2026
Photos displayed may be different from actual items.
saveoneverything store

THE CHRIS RICHIE GROUP

905-584-0234
519-942-0234
1-888-667-8299
www.remaxinthehills.com

It's the MARKETING, the EXPOSURE, the RESULTS!

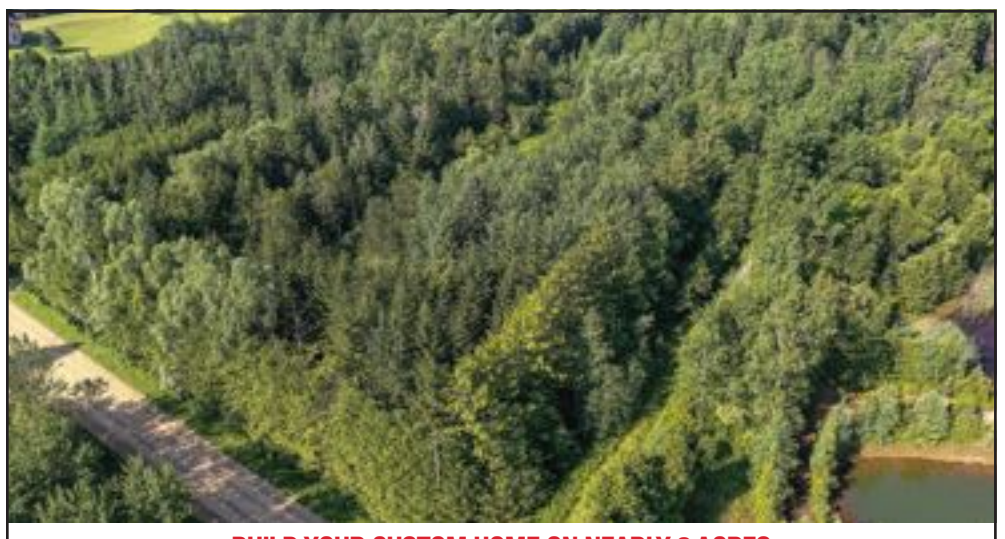
Our Award Winning agents have over 80 years of combined experience at your service! Caledon, Mono, Adjala and surrounding areas.

MODERN & UNIQUE HOME IN GREAT LOCATION

- Modern elegance meets natural serenity on 4.09 acres
- Large 2 storey home with 5+1 bdrms & 5 bthrms
- Ultra modern kitchen with pantry & large island
- Granite counter tops, 2 dishwashers, double ovens
- Living room w/ vaulted ceiling, skylight & fireplace
- Amazing primary bdrm with his/her 8 pc ensuite
- Finished lower level w/ kitchen, bdrm & 2 baths
- 4 car garage, 2nd driveway & landscaping
- Private outdoor deck, patio and screened porch
- 21 Bartley Dr., Caledon $2,499,000

FABULOUS 3+1 BEDROOM HOME IN FAMILY NEIGHBOURHOOD

- Lower level with bath, bdrm & kitchen
- Open kitchen/dining/living on main floor
- Kitchen w/ quartz counters & induct. stove
- Sun filled solarium with access to the pool
- Main floor laundry with entryway to garage
- Primary has 4 pc ensuite & walk in closet
- Privacy with no neighbours in the backyard
- Extensive perennial gardens w/ new deck
- 2 car garage, driveway fits 4 cars, steel roof
- 609 Simon St., Shelburne $899,999



BUILD YOUR CUSTOM HOME ON NEARLY 2 ACRES

- Vacant treed lot with mix of spruce & pine trees
- Exceptional privacy & natural beauty
- North of County Road 109, 10 mins. to Orangeville
- Nearby walking, hiking or biking trails
- Fiber optic internet located at roadside
- School bussing is available for local families
- Get away from the hustle & bustle of the city
- Don't miss this opportunity to create your dream home on a treed lot on nearly 2 acres
- 333130 7th Line, Amaranth $475,000

SET ON 50 GENTLY ROLLING ACRES

- Bungaloft, 4 (2+2) bedrooms & 3 bathrooms
- Custom Normerica post-and-beam home
- Open concept with soaring ceilings
- Expansive windows with a view
- Main floor primary with 3 piece ensuite
- Finished lower level, walk-out + 9' ceilings
- 3 tier pond with waterfalls + large deck
- Spectacular views to the east & west
- 5 stall barn, drive shed & Quonset hut
- 954461 7th Line, Mono $2,549,900

coldest night OF THE YEAR

Join Us in Lighting Up the Night

February 28, 2026

**At The Chris Richie Group, community is at the heart of everything we do.
That's why we're proud to be a sponsor and participate in the annual Coldest Night of the Year walk - an inspiring charity event that brings people together to support those facing hunger, homelessness, and hardship in our community.**

On February 28, 2026, participants will step out into the cold night to raise funds and awareness for people in need. While the temperatures may be low, the impact is powerful and every step taken helps bring warmth, hope, and support to those who need it most.

We invite you to join us! Bring your family, friends, and colleagues as we turn a cold night in February into a meaningful evening filled with compassion, connection, and purpose.

Together, we can make a real difference while showing what it means to stand as a community. If you wish to participate reach out to info@cnoy.org or visit https://en.cnoy.org/home.

If you are not able to participate, you can support the cause by sponsoring one of our Richie Group walkers!!!

Let's walk together, light up the night, and help spread warmth where it matters most.

With gratitude,
The Chris Richie Group

Dufferin Board of Trade hosts annual State of Business in Dufferin breakfast

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

The Dufferin Board of Trade's annual State of Business breakfast on Jan. 22 brought local business leaders together to discuss taxes, housing, trade, and infrastructure.

Dufferin's mayors, Dufferin–Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones, and Dufferin–Caledon MP Kyle Seeback, delivered remarks at the gathering, which DBOT Executive Director Diana described as the organization's primary advocacy event.

"As the Board of Trade, we're the voice of business in Dufferin," she said. "We have a series of moderated questions… about how the provincial, federal, and municipal governments are all working to support the issues that our local businesses are facing this year."

Seeback focused heavily on Canada–U.S. trade and the looming review of the CUSMA agreement, warning that recent rhetoric from U.S. President Donald Trump is a serious concern for the Canadian economy.

"Canada's economy is around 75 per cent trade, and 75 per cent of that is with the United States. We're in their top three trading partners," he said. "If you take out energy exports… trade with Canada's worth about three per cent of US GDP."

"I think it should be all hands on deck. I know we've signaled in the Conservative Party our willingness to help in any way with any contacts we have to try and get this deal done, because it's critical to the economy, and I hope that it is going to be the number one focus of the government as of today," Seeback added.

Seeback also addressed housing concerns, the importance of streamlining the process, and the need to support first-time buyers. He said that in Canada, housing faces two critical problems: the supply of houses and the speed at which construction is approved. He suggested removing HST on all home purchases to help incentivize buyers.

"I've heard from the Ontario Home Builders Association that the market could be in real trouble in the next six to eight months because people simply can't buy," he said. "That's why we've proposed taking the HST off all new homes under $1.3 million, which they said would be an amazing boost to help deal with the cost of new homes."

"All three levels of government need to work together to make market housing more affordable, while also investing in non-market housing for people who wouldn't be in the market anyway," Seeback added.

Jones also spoke at length about recent initiatives and concerns in Ontario.

She defended the province's move to standardize recycling rules across the province and shift costs back onto producers, emphasizing that the blue box system is, at its core, a residential program. She noted that while municipalities can offer additional services if they choose, the formal producer responsibility framework will remain focused on household waste.

DUFFERIN BOARD OF TRADE PHOTOS

MEETING OF THE MINDS: Mayors from across Dufferin County, as well as Dufferin–Caledon MP Kyle Seeback and Dufferin–Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones took questions and spoke about issues and initiatives currently facing the region. They highlighted the growing sustainability challenges of municipal taxes and infrastructure funding, and took time to acknowledge positive developments across the region, including regional transit, park development, and efforts to address recent copper thefts.

"This is really returning back to that producer responsibility," she said of blue box changes. "The blue box was… started as a residential program, and that really is the roots of where the focus is."

When asked whether there are any new, positive initiatives being put forward at the Ministry of Health, Jones highlighted recent investments in local healthcare, including the new MRI at Headwaters and a province-wide push to expand access to family medicine through team-based care.

She said Ontario's $2.1 billion primary care initiative is designed to attach hundreds of thousands more patients to regular providers by funding multidisciplinary teams, which are multiple different practitioners that operate under one banner, to offer more streamlined service to patients, rather than bouncing them between different clinics.

"Many communities are talking about the need for primary care and primary care expansion," she said. "So there's a lot of interest in the $2.1 billion investment that we have set aside to expand and fund primary care teams. New grads love working in interdisciplinary teams, and of course, patients get better outcomes."

In the mayors' panel, municipal funding and property taxes dominated the discussion.

Orangeville Mayor Lisa Post said the current funding model is broken, noting that municipalities receive only a small share of the overall tax dollar while carrying major infrastructure responsibilities.

"Out of every dollar you pay in taxes, only 11 cents actually stays with the municipality," she said. "The rest of it is paid in either federal or provincial taxes, so we are wildly underfunded for the work that we need to do."

Mono Mayor John Creelman agreed.

"I think the model for funding municipalities is severely broken," he said. "It's unsustainable to expect ratepayers, property taxpayers, to fund the majority of municipal services. It cannot go on. Something's got to change."

Shelburne Mayor Wade Mills stressed that municipalities are facing the same inflationary pressures as residents while trying to maintain services.

"It costs us more this year to provide the same level of service than it did last year," he said. "We have to walk a fine line… we don't want taxes to be so high that (people) can't afford those items… but… we have to make sure that the services that they rely upon are going to be there when they need them."

While the panel of mayors acknowledged these challenges, they also focused on some positive initiatives as well to balance out the session.

Mayor Lisa Post highlighted Orangeville's free transit and its success in increasing bus ridership.

"One of the things that our council is most proud of is our implementation of free transit," she said. "It's an innovative program that has really supported businesses, community members and everybody. It's been wildly successful, we're seeing about a 250 per cent increase in ridership."

Mayor Wade Mills highlighted progress in Shelburne as well, particularly in utilities and recreation.

"We have made record investments over the last three years in the Parks and Rec sphere," he said. "We've done it strategically so that most of that money has come from reserves. If you've been through Shelburne lately, you'll see lots of projects going on, and I'm hoping that those are all going to be things that our community can enjoy for years to come. We (also) have some great partnerships and cooperation with our provincial partners in terms of movement on the wastewater plant."

Taken together, the morning underscored both the challenges and the opportunities facing Dufferin.

Business leaders, MPs, MPPs, and mayors agreed that securing trade and housing, and investing in health care and core infrastructure, will require closer cooperation across all levels of government.

Mayor Wade Mills proclaims February as Black History Month in the Town of Shelburne

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

A proclamation recognizing and honouring the impact of Black Canadians, past and present, was made at Shelburne council's Jan. 26 meeting at Town Hall.

Mayor Wade Mills read out the proclamation to kick off Black History Month, which takes place every February.

"Black History Month is an opportunity to acknowledge and honour the historical and present contributions of Black Canadians, and recognize their significant contributions made to Canada," he said. "During Black History Month, we celebrate the many achievements and contributions made by Black Canadians to our collective economic, cultural, spiritual, social and political development."

Black Canadians have been at the vanguard of monumental societal developments throughout Canada for well over a century.

Viola Desmond's stand against segregation helped spark civil rights progress in post-Second World War Canada, Willie O'Ree broke racial barriers in professional hockey, and Lincoln Alexander became Canada's first Black MP. He later served as Lieutenant Governor of Ontario.

Going back even farther, Canada's Black history spans more than 400 years. The first recorded person of African heritage in what is now Canada was interpreter Mathieu Da Costa. He arrived in 1604 with French explorers, and his language skills were invaluable for communicating with the indigenous peoples they encountered.

The 1700s saw the reality of enslavement and the perseverance of free Black communities, notably the Black Loyalists who settled in Nova Scotia after fighting for the British during the American Revolution.

In 1793, Upper Canada passed one of the first anti-slavery laws in the British Empire, limiting servitude and positioning the region as a refuge for people escaping bondage.

Throughout the 1800s, an estimated 30,000 people travelled the Underground Railroad into Canada, founding settlements across Ontario and Nova Scotia.

In support of this history, legacy and ongoing struggle against discrimination and racism, Shelburne continues to recognize Black History Month.

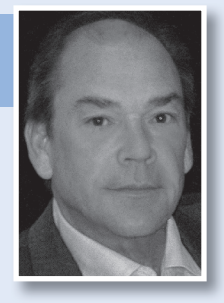
"The Town of Shelburne recognizes and values the significant contributions and advances that Black Canadians have made, and continue to make to Canadian society, and recognize the quest of Black Canadians for equal opportunity and freedom from discrimination in Canada," Mills said. "Therefore I, Mayor Wade Mills, do hereby proclaim February 2026 as Black History Month in the Town of Shelburne and encourage all residents to celebrate our diverse heritage and culture and continue our efforts to make Shelburne an inclusive community for all."

Following the proclamation, council announced that the town will host a Black History Month celebration on Feb. 22 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., with more details to follow.

OPINION

Getting cold in here!

BRIAN LOCKHART
FROM THE SECOND ROW



Several years ago, a storm blanketed the region and much of the province with a coat of ice.

The lights went out as the weight of the ice brought down power lines and caused havoc just about everywhere.

I went out the following day to survey the damage. I was shocked to see how many trees had been damaged by the weight of the ice.

Some forested areas near where I lived were completely devastated, and it was strange to see areas with as many as half the trees reduced to shattered stumps after breaking at the trunk and dropping all their branches.

I was looking out the window of my home office during the night of the storm when I saw a neighbour's backyard tree collapse into the yard under the stress of the ice.

The whole situation made for a difficult few days following the storm.

People started complaining on social media about not having power and about the amount of ice still covering just about everything – as if someone could force it to melt.

There were plenty of negative comments about Hydro's inability to restore power. There had been reports of people yelling abuse at workers.

During my travels, I went down a lonely concession to take photos of the damage. I had to navigate around a few trees that were scattered across the road.

It was a mess.

A large hydro truck had backed into a small cut-off and was starting to pull out as I approached.

I had to slow down again to go around another tree, and as I came up beside the truck, which was going the other way, I stopped and rolled down my window.

The guy behind the wheel of the hydro truck realized I had something to say, and he rolled down his window.

This guy had probably been up all night, working in freezing, dangerous conditions and moving from damaged line to damaged line to make repairs.

He looked weary, and from the look on his face, I think he was expecting me to yell out some comment complaining about the lack of power in my house.

"You must have done a lot of fixes over the night," I said.

"Yeah," he replied, "And there's a lot more to do."

"I know it's tough out there," I said to this tired, hard-working man. "You guys are doing a great job getting this all back together. I appreciated your efforts."

He seemed a little surprised at hearing a compliment. But he smiled, gave me a wave, and said, "Thanks, I appreciate that."

He left to go to the next fallen line.

Often, we don't give enough credit to the first responders who attend emergencies and work long hours keeping our society safe.

Have you ever heard of someone calling the fire department and not showing up for the emergency?

Firefighters respond every time they are called. It doesn't matter the time of day or the weather conditions; when you call, you will hear the siren of a responding vehicle a few minutes later.

Several years ago, I witnessed and narrowly missed being involved in a serious auto accident.

A few other people and I went to assist the injured parties.

Paramedics arrived a few minutes later, and we cleared out to let them do their job.

They are trained to help and know what to do when someone is injured or experiencing a medical emergency.

If you have ever received a speeding ticket, you understand what it's like to suddenly realize those flashing lights in the rearview mirror are meant for you.

Yeah, it's disappointing, and it's most likely going to cost you a few dollars.

For some reason, a lot of people blame the cop for pulling them over. However, if they were speeding, they brought this on themselves.

You can almost bet the next time you are travelling down that road, you are keeping an eye on the speedometer – traffic enforcement works.

When I think of these types of jobs, I always remember my Grade 7 homeroom teacher.

She hated kids. She screamed at us all the time.

She screamed that if we didn't go to university and get a degree, like her, we were all failures in life.

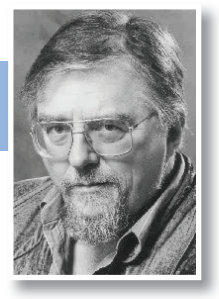
Yes, she actually said that to her Grade 7 students.

And yet, that degree in English literature doesn't mean all that much when the power is out, and you're in danger of freezing to death.

I wonder what Mrs. Hay would have said when the power was out, and her house was getting cold, and she called the power company, only to hear, "Sorry, Mrs. Hay, no one here has a degree in English literature, so we can't restore your power."

Inflection point?

GWYNNE DYER
OUR WORLD TODAY



It's too early to be sure, but it seems likely that we have just seen 'Peak Trump'.

Last week Donald Trump arrived at the Davos conference radiating power and menace. Fresh from his attack on Venezuela, he was going to invade and annex Greenland. If his European allies in the NATO alliance tried to protect it, he would crush them with tariffs. And he would launch a new rival to the United Nations that would make him World-President-for-Life.

By the time Trump and his retinue landed in a fleet of four military helicopters, however, the wind had changed. Canada's Prime Minister Mark Carney had already crystallized the new mood with a remarkable speech that bade a regretful but decisive farewell to the old 'rules-based' international order.

What is happening now is 'rupture' with the past, Carney said, and the risk is that we end up with a world solely run by and for the great powers. He proposed instead a shifting coalition of the 'middle powers' that would work to contain the more outrageous wishes and whims of the three autocratic great powers: Russia's Putin, Trump's America, and Xi's China.

For all his frankness, Carney did not name the villains, partly because they vary in their villainy. Vladimir Putin is a tyrant and serial warmonger, but has limited territorial ambitions. Donald Trump is an instinctive autocrat who demands supremacy in the Western Hemisphere but might not permanently erase US democracy. And Xi Jinping hasn't made his mind up yet.

There's Xi's promise to 'reunify' China by conquering Taiwan, if necessary, but apart from that China's territorial claims are limited to some seabed boundaries. Many in the Chinese elite still regret the decline of the 'rules-based order' and wish for its return. And while neither Trump nor Putin want it back, they are both mortal men.

Carney didn't get into all this – I'm just channeling his inner realist – but it was implicit in the parts he did say out loud. Don't let the bullies win; fear is the mind-killer; stick together and you might even win. At the very least, you'll lose less.

And he got a standing ovation, at a venue where even a brief round of polite claps is normally a triumph. He was telling the political and economic elites of the world what most of them were already thinking in a less coherent or at least less public way, and overnight the mood changed. Trump already seemed much smaller by the time he flew in the next day.

Right away he retracted his threat to seize Greenland by force (although the bond markets can take most of the credit for that). Soon he was also cancelling his threat to impose tariffs on NATO members that support Greenland, with only the face-saving pretense of a "framework of a future deal" (content unspecified) as a consolation prize.

But the big humiliation was the launch of his 'Board for Peace,' a bold bid for symbolic status as King of the World. It was created to provide UN backing for the Trump-brokered ceasefire in the Gaza Strip, but it wound up as a Trump-controlled vehicle to run the UN off the road entirely.

Membership is pay-to-play and permanent membership costs one billion dollars (even more than Mar-a-Lago). Trump is chairman for life, wrote the rules, has veto power, and can terminate any member at will. Gaza is not even mentioned in the 'charter'. It is a pure vanity project: 62 invitations were sent out – but only 21countries have signed up.

It is a useful list of those countries that still fear Trump's wrath, and they are almost all in the Middle East or Central Asia. A few are ideological allies of Trump (e.g. Belarus, Hungary and Argentina), but no major power is a member except the U.S., and only four members are genuine democracies.

Six months ago, Trump might have pulled off this brazen attempt to hijack the UN, at least for a while. With more time, however, those who once feared him have learned what 'TACO' means (Trump Always Chickens Out), and they can see how fast his own power base, the United States, is drifting towards chaos and irrelevance under his rule.

Just this month we have seen his non-overthrow of the Venezuelan regime, his empty promise to stop the massacres in Iran, and his hollow threats to invade Greenland. He remains extremely dangerous to the domestic peace of the United States, but the rest of the world is realizing that it can just work around the US.

Except Canada, perhaps. Trump has taken to calling Prime Minister Carney 'Governor' Carney again, and Canadians know what that may imply.

Shelburne Free Press

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

Keep up with what's happening in your community.
Have your community news delivered right to your home!

1 year = $51.00 plus HST ($53.55)
2 years = $90.00 plus HST ($94.50)
3 years = $125.00 plus HST ($131.25)

We hope you enjoy your complimentary copy of our Newspaper.
The charge is to cover postage.

YES, I would like to subscribe to, or renew my subscription to:
The Shelburne Free Press

❍ 1 year = $51.00 plus HST ($53.55) ❍ 2 years = $90.00 plus HST ($94.50) ❍ 3 years = $125.00 plus HST ($131.25)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone No.: _____

Email: _____

Card type: ❍ VISA ❍ MasterCard Name on card: _____

Card #: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Shelburne Free Press
Mail to: **The Shelburne Free Press**
109 ADELINE STREET
SHELBURNE, ON L9V 1J8

LP LONDON PUBLISHING CORP.

For more information about subscribing to the Shelburne Free Press please contact us at **519-925-2832**

Shelburne Free Press
Shelburne's Newspaper Since 1875

109 Adeline Street, Shelburne, ON L9V 3J8
519-925-2832 Fax: 519-925-5500
Email: **shelburnefreepress@gmail.com**

Simcoe York Group of Newspapers
"A Division of London Publishing"
Your Community Newspapers

GENERAL MANAGER: **Doug Rowe**
EDITOR: **Sam Odrowski**
PRODUCTION MANAGER: **Janine Taylor**
REPORTER: **Joshua Drakes**
SPORTS REPORTER: **Brian Lockhart**
SALES: **Debbie Freeman**
OFFICE MANAGER: **Debbie Freeman**
CIRCULATION MANAGER: **Sheila Ogram**

CMCA AUDITED
News Media Canada / Médias d'Info Canada

Subscription Rate:
$51.00 + $2.55 (GST)
per year ($53.55)
payable in advance

ocna Ontario Community Newspapers Association
Funded by the Government of Canada | Canada

Second Class Mailing Registration Number 0153
Member of: Ontario Community Newspaper Association
Canadian Community Newspaper Association
Ontario Press Council, 80 Gould Street, Toronto M5B 1E9 (416)340-1981
nnc National NewsMedia Council

All original editorial and advertising material used in this newspaper remains the property of Simcoe-York Group of Newspapers and may not be reproduced without written permission.

We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Canada Periodical Fund of the Department of Canadian Heritage.

"T.F.E. Claridge, Publisher 1903-1964 Fred M. Claridge, Publisher 1964-1974 Thomas M. Claridge 1974-2012 The Free Press and Economist was formed from the amalgamation of The Shelburne Free Press (est. 1875) and The Shelburne Economist (est. 1883) in 1928."

COMMUNITY VOICES

Monthly Message: Together we can make a difference – ways to give

At Family Transition Place (FTP), our work begins and ends with community. Every day, individuals and families in our region turn to us for safety, support, and hope during some of the most difficult moments of their lives. We continue to meet them with compassion and care because individuals and businesses in our community choose to stand beside us. They choose to believe in the important work that we are doing and support us in ways that are meaningful to them.

One of the most common questions we are asked is, "How can I help?"

There are many ways to give to FTP and the individuals we support, and each one, no matter the size or method, helps to change lives. Below are a few of the ways to support FTP, so we can support those in our community who need our help most.

1. Financial donations: Flexible and immediate support

Financial contributions are the foundation of our ability to respond quickly and effectively to the needs of the women and children we serve. Your donation is tax-deductible ($10 or more) and can be made in several ways: online through our secure form, by e-transfer to donations@familytransitionplace.ca, or by mailing or dropping off a cheque directly to our office: 20 Bredin Parkway, Orangeville (payable to Family Transition Place).

We offer options that allow you to give in a way that's meaningful to you:

- One-time donations provide vital support for our day-to-day services, including our Youth Education Program.
- Monthly donations help us build a reliable and stable financial base, ensuring we can sustain long-term programs that so many depend on.
- Celebration gifts allow you to commemorate birthdays, anniversaries, or other special occasions with a gift that supports others.
- Memorial gifts honour the memory of a loved one while contributing to a cause that saves lives.

2. Planned giving: A legacy of hope

Some supporters choose to make a long-term impact through planned giving, which allows you to include FTP in your financial or estate plans. These legacy gifts help ensure our work continues for years to come and can also provide tax benefits. Planned giving can include:

- Bequests in a will
- Gifts of life insurance
- Donations of securities (stocks, bonds, etc.)

These thoughtful gifts leave a legacy of compassion and demonstrate a lasting commitment to our community's safety and well-being.

3. Matching gifts: Double your impact

Many companies and employers offer matching gift programs that match the donations their employees, board members and their partners make to charities like ours. This means your gift could be doubled (or tripled!) at no extra cost to you. We encourage you to check with your employer about matching opportunities.

Participating in a matching gift program is one of the easiest ways to increase the impact of your generosity.

4. Donate a vehicle: Support that goes the extra kilometre

Through our partnership with Donate a Car Canada, you can support FTP by donating a vehicle—a car, truck, boat, motorcycle, or RV. This process is simple: free towing is provided, and the organization handles all the logistics. When your vehicle is sold or recycled, FTP receives the entire proceeds, and you receive a tax receipt for the same value.

This form of giving turns something you no longer need into meaningful support for women and children seeking safety.

5. Product and service donations: Meeting real needs

In addition to monetary gifts, we gratefully accept product and service donations that help support clients' everyday needs. While we ask that you contact us in advance to coordinate in-kind gifts, certain items are always in high demand, including:

- Personal care products (e.g., body wash, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant)
- Tampons
- New towels and bedding
- Gift cards for local retailers (tax receipts can be provided with original sales receipts)

Your thoughtful donations help meet clients' immediate needs, offering dignity and support during challenging transitions.

6. Clothing donations — Supporting families through partnerships

While we are not able to accept used clothing directly at our shelter, we have developed a partnership with local second-hand store, As We Grow, that accepts gently used adult and children's clothing on our behalf. Simply request that the proceeds from the sale be designated to FTP account #3763.

When items are sold, the proceeds benefit FTP, and clients receive vouchers redeemable for needed clothing. Please call ahead with any large donations.

As We Grow | 3-20 Dawson Rd. | Orangeville, ON | 519-941-8733

Not only do these donations ensure families receive the clothing support they need, but they also reduce textile waste.

7. Food donations: Nourishing bodies and spirits

We gladly accept both perishable and non-perishable food donations (with health and safety considerations) to support individuals and families in shelters. We ask that donors contact us before dropping off food so we can coordinate it safely.

Food donations reflect the caring spirit of a community that looks out for its most vulnerable members.

8. Support through shopping, events, and fundraising

There are even more ways to give beyond direct donations:

- Purchase a gift from our online shop, where proceeds go directly to our programs and services.
- Support fundraising events by donating prizes or attending with friends.
- Organize your own fundraiser and direct the proceeds to FTP.

These creative avenues allow people of all ages and circumstances to contribute in ways that match their interests and capacities.

9. Sponsorship opportunities: Show your support publicly

Businesses and community organizations can partner with us through sponsorships. Sponsoring events or programs not only supports our services but also tells your network that you stand for safety, dignity, and community wellbeing.

It's not too late to sponsor our annual International Women's Day Breakfast taking place at Hockley Valley Resort on Thursday, March 5, 2026.

We work with sponsors to build recognition packages that align with their values and goals. By sponsoring this event, you will strengthen your company's image, build brand awareness, generate positive PR and most of all, support a very important cause in our community.

To learn more about any of the ways you can support our work and the families we serve, please contact Brennan Solecky at brennan@familytransitionplace.ca or at 519-942-4122 ext. 240.

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.

Shelburne Fair Board AGM

Is scheduled for Friday February 13th

Starting at 7pm

Shelburne Agricultural Building

Any questions or concerns please give Sue a call.

519-217-5606

Be wastewise this winter!

Winter weather can bring some challenges to your waste set out at the curb. Follow the **WasteWise** winter tips to ensure collection!

Set out your waste by 7 am.

Routes often change in the winter to give snow plows enough time to clear the roads. To ensure collection, make sure your garbage and green bins are out on the curb by 7 am on your collection day.

Do not place your waste bins on a snowbank, icy surfaces or on the road.

Shovel a part of the curb/collection area to make room for waste bins/bags OR place them at the end of your driveway to ensure the safety of waste collectors and snowplowing of your road. GFL cannot collect any waste placed on snowbanks or buried in snow.

Do not let food scraps freeze to the bottom of your green bin.

Wrap compostable materials in newspaper to absorb moisture or use certified compostable bags to help prevent materials from freezing to the bottom of the bin.

For missed collections, call GFL at 1-888-941-3345 ext. 1

Dufferin county

dufferinwaste

Saturday January 31

Grand Valley Community Centre

10:00 am - 5:00 pm

The best way to understand the power, efficiency, and thrill of driving an electric vehicle is to get behind the wheel yourself.

Book your test drive appointment

plugndrive.ca/events

Drop-ins are welcome, but priority will be given to scheduled visitors.

Dufferin county | Canada

Dufferin County accepting applications for BetterHomes Program

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

Applications are now being accepted for Dufferin County's BetterHomes Program.

The $11.25 million program provides up to $40,000 in financing for qualifying households to complete energy-efficient upgrades, such as insulation, new windows, and heat pumps.

"Energy efficiency retrofits are critical to keeping Canadian's bills low while reaching our climate goals. We are proud to support BetterHomes Dufferin taking action to build a clean, affordable future — one home at a time," said Tim Hodgson, Canada's Minister of Energy and Natural Resources.

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), through its Green Municipal Fund's Community Efficiency Financing (CEF) initiative, provides BetterHomes Dufferin with $5 million in loans and a $2.5 million grant. Natural Resources Canada also provides funding.

"By addressing the financial barriers to energy efficiency upgrades, CEF empowers municipalities and homeowners to take meaningful action on climate change while improving housing affordability and community resilience," reads a press release from the County of Dufferin.

The $40,000 loan is provided to households at a fixed interest rate of 2.5 per cent. The loan is tied to the property rather than the homeowner and is repaid through property taxes over 20 years.

Qualifying low-income households are eligible to receive the loan with zero interest.

While the County of Dufferin is calling on all homeowners to consider the program, households that heat with fuel oil or propane are especially encouraged to apply. They are expected to see the highest energy and cost savings.

"BetterHomes Dufferin will allow our residents to take practical, affordable steps to make their homes more comfortable and energy-efficient for the long term," said Janet Horner, former warden of Dufferin County. "This program reflects Council's commitment to helping people save money on energy costs, reduce emissions, and replace aging heat sources with new energy efficient technologies."

A free Energy Coach is available to all participants of the BetterHomes program. They will help homeowners through every step of the process — from the initial energy audit to identifying the most cost-effective upgrades, reviewing contractor quotes and applying for additional rebates.

"What sets BetterHomes Dufferin apart from other programs is that it's designed to address the biggest barrier to home energy upgrades – upfront costs," said Sara MacRae, Manager of Climate and Energy for Dufferin County. "The program will cover initial project expenses, so people don't have to pay out of pocket before the savings begin."

BetterHomes Dufferin aligns with the municipal priorities the county committed to in its climate action plans. The program helps residents lower energy costs, prepares homes for extreme weather, and stimulates local green-job growth. Eligible projects may also include upgrades for safety, accessibility and electrical systems.

"BetterHomes gives Dufferin homeowners a safe and reliable way to make upgrades that they might otherwise put off." said Horner. "Because the loan is tied to the property and paid back slowly through their property taxes, it is an easy, low-risk option where homeowners can see savings immediately while improving their home."

To apply for BetterHomes, visit betterhomesdufferin.ca/get-started.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Integrated Mutual Insurance Group

NOTICE is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Integrated Mutual Insurance Group will be held virtually on **Wednesday, March 18, 2026, at 1:30 p.m.**
Members may register and access the meeting through our website:
www.integratedmutual.com

The business of the meeting will include:
- Receiving the Annual Reports (Chair, President & CEO, Financial, etc.)
- Appointment of Auditors and authorization for directors to fix their remuneration for the upcoming term
- Ratification of the Acts of the Board of Directors
- Election of Directors: Adam Chevis, Daryl Trivers, Frank Barretto, Laura Strom (to complete the term of a director who has resigned)

The Corporation's annual statement will be available on the website 21 days prior to the Annual General Meeting. Members may also request a copy by contacting the Secretary of the Corporation at info@integratedmutual.com at least 14 days prior to the meeting.
Individuals interested in applying for a position on the Board of Directors are invited to submit their application. Application forms are available on our website and must be completed and submitted electronically. To be considered, applications must be received by the Secretary no later than 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, February 18, 2026. Applicants must meet the qualifications outlined in the Company By-Laws, which are available on our website.
In accordance with Company By-Laws, only business set out in this notice may be transacted at the meeting.

Amalgamation Update
Effective July 1, 2025, Dufferin Mutual Insurance Company and Algoma Mutual Insurance Company amalgamated to form Integrated Mutual Insurance Group. The organization now operates two divisions:

Dufferin Mutual Division
802 Main Street East, Unit 4
Shelburne, Ontario, L9V 2Z5
Tel: 519-925-2026

Algoma Mutual Division
131 Main Street, PO Box 488
Thessalon, Ontario, P0R 1L0
Tel: 705-842-3345

By order of the Board of Directors,

Edward Forbes,
Corporate Secretary
January 23, 2026

The Ontario SPCA reminds pet parents to take extra care during extreme winter weather

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

As bitter cold settles across the province, the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society are reminding pet parents to take precautions to help keep their animals safe. Extreme winter weather poses serious risks, such as frostbite and hypothermia. Animals rely on their owners to protect them from the elements.

"Even a short time in severe cold can be dangerous for animals," says Dr. Joey Tang, Interim Medical Director, Ontario SPCA and Humane Society. "By watching for signs of discomfort and making small adjustments to your routine, you can help keep your pets safe this winter."

Some animals love the snow, but prolonged time outdoors can quickly become hazardous in frigid temperatures. Keep a close eye on your dog when they are outside playing and watch for early signs of cold, such as shivering or lifting their paws. Cats, puppies, seniors, and short-coated animals are especially vulnerable during cold snaps. An insulated sweater or coat can offer much-needed protection for dogs who need an extra layer. But even with winter clothing, animals should only be outside for short periods during extreme cold.

As temperatures drop, frozen lakes and rivers may look inviting to curious pets, but ice can be unpredictable. Keep your pet close, steer clear of the water's edge, and be mindful of thin or refrozen ice that could break without warning.

The Ontario SPCA also urges caution around vehicles. Cars cool rapidly in winter, making them unsafe places for pets. Engines remain warm for a while after being turned off and can attract cats seeking shelter. Before starting your car, knock on the hood or honk the horn to make sure no animals are hiding under the hood.

If you're worried about the safety of an animal, call the Government of Ontario's Provincial Animal Welfare Services team at 1-833-9ANIMAL (1-833-926-4625) or contact your local police. In an emergency, call 911.

For more information on winter pet safety, visit ontariospca.ca

Shelburne welcomes new doctor's office as a pharmacy expands to full-service clinic

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

A new full-service medical clinic and community pharmacy has opened its doors in Shelburne, bringing much needed primary care closer to residents who previously had to travel to neighbouring towns for basic services.

Shelburne Town Pharmacy has expanded, opening the Shelburne Town Medical Clinic late last year at a new location – 110 Centennial Rd. Pharmacist and owner of the clinic, Sanjay Lekhi, said it offers comprehensive medical care six days a week.

"The clinic is a full-fledged, full-service clinic," he said. "We do vaccines, TB (Tuberculosis) testing, and we see children, infants, and seniors. The doctor also does all the usual forms, like WSIB and driving medicals — the 'you're okay to drive' certification that some people need for their jobs, for example."

Under the same roof, the pharmacy operates as an enhanced community hub.

"The pharmacy is… a full community pharmacy where we do, apart from the regular pharmacy operations, we do things like compression stockings for example, and ostomy supplies," Lekhi said. "We do compounding, as well as offer services for addiction."

The business began as a standalone pharmacy in 2013 in Shelburne's Giant Tiger Plaza, later relocating in 2019 and experimenting with a virtual medical clinic model.

That early telemedicine partnership demonstrated the demand for local care but was disrupted when a change in building ownership led to steep rent increases, forcing healthcare tenants to search for new, affordable locations.

Despite those setbacks, they persisted and eventually secured a suitable location to co-locate a permanent clinic and pharmacy.

The team now includes a full time doctor, a medical office assistant managing appointments and administrative work, and a staff of about seven in the pharmacy, supported by family and a pharmacist partner.

By offering primary care and pharmacy services within town limits, the new clinic aims to reduce pressure on regional hospitals, cut travel time and costs for patients, and set a precedent for more providers to invest in smaller communities that have grown rapidly but lag behind in essential healthcare infrastructure.

For more information about the clinic, visit shelburneclinic.com.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

EXPANDING CARE: The Shelburne Town Pharmacy and Medical Clinic officially reopened on Nov. 11, 2025, in a full-service location at 110 Centennial Rd. The new location has a doctor on site six days per week. The pharmacy continues to fill prescriptions and offer health consultations, addiction support, and more. Owner and pharmacist Sanjay Lekhi hopes that, with additional healthcare services available, the strain on the system will be reduced and that Shelburne residents will have more convenient services closer to home.

Caledon \ Dufferin
Victim Services

Board Recruitment

Caledon\Dufferin Victim Services (CDVS) supports victims of crime, abuse, and tragedy enabling the continuum of recovery through rapid response, informed referrals, and community partnerships.

We are seeking passionate community members to become involved in our Board of Directors. A position on the CDVS Board of Directors is a meaningful way to make a difference and give back to your community in a leadership role.

Board members represent the diversity and interests of the people of The Town of Caledon and the County of Dufferin. The work of the Board helps guide the organization and focuses on governance, strategic direction, and accountability. Board members are community residents and are elected for a term of three years. The Board meets between 6-10 times a year on a weekday evening for approximately 2-3 hours per session. Most of the meetings are held virtually but the Directors try to meet in person at least twice per year. Board members will receive required materials and training and will be oriented to our model of Board Governance. Community focus and relevant experience or expertise will be considered regardless of previous board experience. Please include this information in your cover letter.

Interested individuals may forward their resume and letter of interest using the following methods:

EMAIL: president@cdvs.ca | **MAIL:** Chair, Board of Directors
15924 Innis Lake Road, Caledon East, ON L7C 2Z1

Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis.

To learn more about Caledon Dufferin Victim Services, please visit our website:

WWW.CDVS.CA

CDVS is committed to the principles of equality and inclusion with regard to race, colour, religion, nationality, social or ethnic origin, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, domestic partnership status or any other status that is representative of the communities we work in. CDVS encourages applicants from all communities.

Theatre Orangeville set to present 'Common Ground,' an 80s romantic comedy

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

Theatre Orangeville is going back in time with Common Ground, a romantic comedy premiering Feb. 6 that blends heartbreak, humour and hope against a distinctly 1980s backdrop.

Directed by Theatre Orangeville Artistic Director Jennifer Stewart, Common Ground explores what happens when long-standing relationships suddenly fall apart – and what can grow in their place. Set in 1984 in a small town in New Brunswick, the play introduces audiences to Pam and Jake, two strangers whose spouses have abruptly run off, leaving them blindsided and struggling to make sense of their new realities.

Instead of depicting the breakups themselves, the play drops viewers directly into the emotional aftermath. The story follows Pam and Jake as they navigate betrayal and rediscovery – with plenty of awkward moments and laughs along the way.

Lauren Bowler, who plays Pam, describes her character as highly cerebral and cautious, someone who lives largely inside her own head. Pam is grounded by her best friend Lizzy, whose confidence and spontaneity challenge Pam to reconnect with herself and rediscover what she wants from life.

"Pam really lives in a constant state of stress throughout this entire show," Bowler said. "She has to go on a journey of reconnecting with herself, and Lizzy is this beautiful prompt of a friend to encourage her to take those next steps."

Lizzy, played by Heather McGuigan, is described as an unapologetic free spirit. Loyal, outspoken and largely unmoved by social expectations.

"Lizzy was given an extraordinary amount of confidence to live the way that she wants to live," McGuigan said. "She either tries to encourage other people to embody that freedom, or she's not bothered by a world that doesn't like it. She is fiercely loyal to her friends."

On the other side of the story is Jake, portrayed by Jamie Mac. At first glance, Jake appears to be a simple farm boy, but Mac says there is much more depth beneath the surface. Jake is plain spoken and direct, someone who may come across as unsophisticated, but who possesses a grounded wisdom shaped by a quiet life.

"I think Jake is more sophisticated than might meet the eye from the start," Mac said. "In some ways, he's just a farm boy who doesn't have a lot of social experience or worldliness, but he discovers a certain kind of earthly wisdom through the eyes of someone special."

Mac adds that Jake's straightforward nature can be misread.

"He's a bit of a square peg no matter where he goes," he said. "People might find him offensive, but he wouldn't view himself that way. I think he's lived a pretty simple life, and he's desperate for a lot more connection than he's ever had before."

As Pam and Jake meet while picking up the pieces of their lives, the play explores themes of self discovery, healing and the possibility of new love. The question isn't just whether romance will spark, but whether these characters can build meaningful connections and support systems after everything they thought was stable has fallen apart.

Stewart said casting was central to making the small cast production work, particularly given the balance required between comedy and emotional weight.

"It's about casting the actors you think will work well together, then rehearsing the play and figuring out all the moments," Stewart said. "What do they want? What do they need? What's their arc? Then helping them get there through rehearsals so they feel confident and ready to tell the story in a way that's engaging, interesting and truthful."

The decision to set Common Ground in 1984 was also deliberate. Stewart said the era helps ground the story while raising the stakes for the characters. The culture around affairs, or divorce, was less progressive and less support was available at the time.

JOSHUA DRAKES PHOTO

IN THE LIMELIGHT: Still early into rehearsals, Common Ground has a long way to go while the actors find their strides and settle into their characters. But even early into rehearsals, the chemistry that Director Jennifer Stewart (right) was looking for is already manifesting. The cast and crew of Common Ground are excited to bring this 1980's story to life.

Combine that with a nosy, small town, and the stakes have risen significantly.

"Everyone knows everyone, word gets around fast, and anything deemed not right or not nice is hugely troubling and shameful," Stewart said. "It's a bit of a fishbowl, so the stakes are extremely high."

Despite those tensions, Stewart emphasized that Common Ground remains firmly a comedy. The production leans into humour through misunderstandings, awkward encounters and sharp dialogue, all underscored by a distinctly 1980s soundtrack.

"We decided on 1984 because it was an exceptional year for hits that are still around," Stewart said. "Girls Just Want to Have Fun, What's Love Got to Do With It, When Doves Cry, and I Wear My Sunglasses at Night – they're songs people still recognize and respond to."

The goal, Stewart said, is to create an immersive, feel good experience that allows audiences to escape for a couple of hours while still connecting with something meaningful.

"We're encouraging people to come in their '80s best," she said. "Dress up — it's going to be a fun night out. Humans need hope, whether it's in relationships, friendships or life in general. There's always hope. We can never give up."

Common Ground premieres Feb. 6 at Theatre Orangeville, promising laughs, romance and a nostalgic trip back to the 1980s.

For tickets and more information, visit theatreorangeville.ca.

Weapons, drugs seized after concerned citizen reports alleged drug transaction to police

Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officers have charged an Orton resident with multiple offences following a traffic stop that resulted in the seizure of a large quantity of cash, weapons, including an imitation firearm, and cocaine.

On Jan. 20, just before 10 p.m., members of the Dufferin OPP B Platoon received information from a concerned resident regarding a possible drug transaction in the area of Fourth Avenue in the Town of Orangeville. Officers located the vehicle while responding to the call, conducted a traffic stop, and spoke with the driver.

Following consultation with the Dufferin OPP Community Street Crime Unit (CSCU), officers continued the investigation, which resulted in the following:

Josh Perkins, 23, of Orton, has been charged with:

- Obstruct plate
- Possession of a Schedule II substance for the purpose of Trafficking (three counts)
- Possession of a prohibited device or ammunition (two counts)

Items Seized:

- 26.7 grams of cocaine
- One bag containing a substance believed to be opium
- One half-filled bottle of codeine
- Two spring-loaded knives (prohibited devices)
- One imitation firearm
- One baseball bat
- One vehicle seized
- Cash seized as proceeds of crime
- One cellular phone

The accused individual is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville.

The accused was held for a bail hearing before the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville. The listed charges have not been proven in court.

"SAFETY IN MOTION"
ATTRIDGE TRANSPORTATION INC.

NOW HIRING!
SCHOOL BUS AND CHARTERED DRIVERS

PART TIME OPPORTUNITIES IN
Orangeville, Shelburne, Grand Valley, Mono, Melancthon and Mulmur

SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS NEEDED
Drive a School bus and make a difference in a child's education.

SUPPLEMENT YOUR INCOME
Drive with purpose and earn more.
Join our team of school bus drivers and enjoy extra pay.

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING
Attridge Transportation Inc. is providing friendly training for steady part-time bus drivers (and in some cases spare drivers).

Professional Experience not required.
Vehicles are all automatic.

Attridge Transportation is an inclusive and accessible employer. We welcome a diverse range of candidates to apply for this position. Including people with disabilities. Accommodations are available on request for candidates taking part in all aspects of the selection process.

APPLY TODAY!
attridge.com
Call 1-888-749-1515 or Email jobs@attridge.com

Looking to showcase your business in the Shelburne community?

To reserve your spot in the Shelburne Recreation Guide Spring/Summer 2026 Edition, please contact Debbie Freeman.

PUBLISHED BY:
LP LONDON PUBLISHING CORP.

Shelburne Free Press

519.925.2832
deb.freeman@hotmail.com
debbie@lpcmedia.ca

Homelessness and Addiction Recovery Treatment Hub launches in Orangeville

Written By **SAM ODROWSKI**

Orangeville has been selected as one of 28 new Homelessness and Addiction Recovery Treatment (HART) Hubs in Ontario.

The provincial government announced $550 million to open the 28 new hubs in March, and on Jan. 23, a celebration marking the opening of the local hub was held with Services and Housing In the Province (SHIP). Orangeville Mayor Lisa Post, Dufferin–Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones, community leaders, emergency services, and HART Hub partners were in attendance.

The local hub is operated by SHIP and improves access to treatment services for people with unstable housing, mental health challenges, and addictions. The hub also offers social services and employment support.

"Our government is delivering on its promise to build a stronger, more connected system of mental health and addictions care that better reflects the needs of communities and focuses on lasting recovery," said Jones, who's also the Deputy Premier of Ontario and Minister of Health. "The opening of this new HART Hub will ensure that those struggling with mental health and addictions challenges in Orangeville and across Dufferin County can access compassionate care and support services that prioritizes their path to recovery and strengthens community safety."

While the Dufferin HART Hub is now open and offering services in Orangeville at the Edelbrock Centre (30 Centre St.), a satellite site in Shelburne will soon launch. A mobile clinic will follow in the spring to expand access to care throughout the region.

"Dufferin County is committed to working with our partners like SHIP, other local agencies and the Province of Ontario to ensure those most vulnerable in our community have access to the essential services that they need, when they need them," said Orangeville Mayor Lisa Post. "The new HART Hub will provide local access to mental health, addiction and housing supports so that our community members get the care they need, right here in Dufferin. We are grateful to the province for this investment and look forward to continuing to work together to address housing instability, quality care and community safety in Dufferin County."

The HART Hub, operated by SHIP, delivers services through a collaborative network of clinical, social service, and care providers working together to connect people with the supports they need, when they need them.

In addition to the services previously mentioned, the local hub provides primary care, basic needs support (food and hygiene products), transitional beds, and supportive housing services.

"HART Hubs are about meeting people where they are and connecting them to the care and supports they need," said Vijay Thanigasalam, Ontario's Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions. "By expanding services in Dufferin County, we're helping more individuals access treatment and recovery closer to home, while strengthening partnerships that make a real difference in communities."

HART Hubs will not offer safer supply, supervised drug consumption, or needle exchange programs. The focus is on treatment and recovery.

"As the operator of the HART Hub in Dufferin, SHIP is proud to work alongside community and health system partners to deliver integrated, compassionate, and recovery focused supports for individuals experiencing mental health challenges, addiction and housing instability," said SHIP CEO Susan Doyle.

"The HART Hub represents a fundamentally different approach that meets people where they are, connects them to coordinated care, and supports pathways to stability and long term housing, while advancing the core priorities of Dufferin's safety and wellbeing plan. SHIP is grateful for the province's leadership and investment and looks forward to continuing this important work in Orangeville, Shelburne and across Dufferin County."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CARING FOR THE COMMUNITY: The opening of a Homelessness and Addiction Recovery Treatment (HART) Hub in Orangeville was celebrated by local leaders, dignitaries, and community partners on Jan. 23. Orangeville Mayor Lisa Post, Dufferin–Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones, and HART Hub partners were in attendance and hold up plaques recognizing the hub's grand opening. The local hub is operated by Services and Housing In the Province (SHIP) and is designed to help support people with unstable housing, mental health challenges, and addictions. The hub also offers social services and employment support.

Dufferin OPP team up with local municipalities to address concerns on snow removal

Dufferin County residents have been raising concerns with local authorities regarding plow operations, and steps are being taken to address ongoing issues associated with winter road maintenance and public safety.

Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police officers met with municipal plow operators on Jan. 22 to better understand the challenges they face during snow removal and road maintenance operations.

From these conversations, officers learned of plow operators frustrations related to unsafe and aggressive behaviour from the public, while out on the job.

Some of the concerns highlighted were vehicles swerving toward snow plows, residents shouting or making threatening gestures, throwing objects at plow. A key issue is homeowners pushing snow directly across roads or creating large roadside piles, known as "snow mountains".

"While it may seem harmless, depositing snow back onto the roadway and engaging in aggressive behaviour can create hazardous conditions for motorists, slow plow operations, and make it more difficult for operators to keep roads clear and safe," reads a press release from the Dufferin OPP.

"Snow plow operators work long hours, often in the worst conditions, to ensure our roads stay safe and passable."

Across several communities within Dufferin, operators have reported unsafe and aggressive behaviour from some drivers and residents during snow removal operations. These actions put operators and all road users at risk.

There's a few things residents can do to support the safe removal of snow from roadways.

- Respect road closures: Driving past a road-closed sign is illegal and dangerous. Check your local 511 or municipal updates for real-time conditions.
- Give plows plenty of space: Snow plows are large, heavy vehicles with limited maneuverability. Do not pass a plow, crowd it, or drive aggressively near it.
- Do not throw objects at plows or operators: This behaviour is dangerous and may result in criminal charges.
- Keep snow off the roadway: Pushing snow across or onto the road - or creating large roadside piles - is unsafe and, in many areas, an offence under the Highway Traffic Act. These piles reduce visibility and obstruct plowing.
- Direct concerns to your municipality: Operators do not control their routes or schedules.
- Avoid parking on the road during snow events: Parked vehicles slow down plowing efforts and create hazards for everyone.

"Thank you to the snow plow operators working day and night to keep our communities safe. Your patience, cooperation, and safe winter driving habits help ensure everyone gets home safely," said Dufferin OPP.

FILE PHOTO

RESPECT THE PLOW: Local authorities are asking the public to be respectful of snow plows after concerns were raised from operators on Jan. 22.

A People Place, A Change of Pace
SHELBURNE
ONTARIO, CANADA

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF SHELBURNE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
UNDER SECTION 45 OF THE PLANNING ACT

Take notice that the Committee of Adjustment of the Corporation of the Town of Shelburne will hold a public meeting on:

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2026

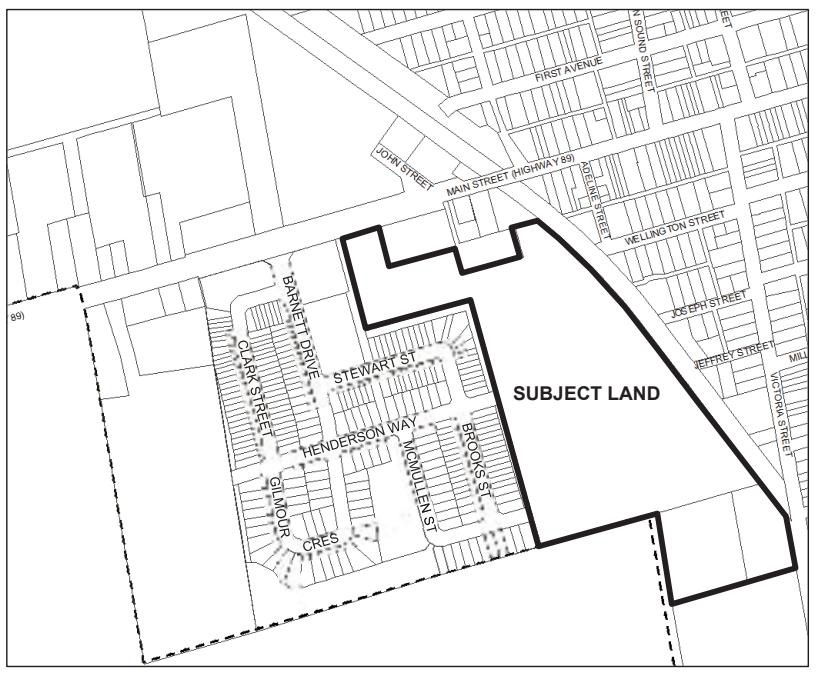
The public meeting is scheduled to start at 6:30 p.m., or as shortly thereafter as possible, and will be held in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Office (2nd Floor), 203 Main Street East, Shelburne. The purpose of the meeting is to consider the following planning application:

COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT

1) Application for Minor Variance A26/01 – Groundswell Urban Planners Inc., on behalf Stella-Jones Inc. being the owner of the property known municipally as 201 Wellington Street in the Town of Shelburne, has submitted an application for a Minor Variance to request relief from Section 3.2.2 of Zoning By-law 38-2007 to permit an accessory building to be located closer to the front lot line than the principal building on the lot. The proposed accessory building is comprised of a modular system of retrofitted shipping containers which will enclose an enhanced stormwater treatment system for the existing stormwater management facility on the lot, and will have a gross floor area of 90 m2 and a height of 2.9 m. A previous Minor Variance (File No. A21/02) was granted in 2021 to provide similar relief for an accessory pumphouse building which has since been constructed on the lot.

A map showing the location of the subject property is provided below.

For more information about this matter, including information about appeal rights, email planning@shelburne.ca or visit the Town's website at www.shelburne.ca.



MADE IN
CANADA
SUPPORT LOCAL

Hockley
HOCKLEYBEER.CA

SPORTS

Mono Nordic Ski Club hosts annual cross-country race

Written By **BRIAN LOCKHART**

The Mono Nordic Ski Club hosted its annual cross-country race along the trails at Monora Park in Mono on Saturday, Jan. 24.

This popular event brings competitors from across the province who earn points for Nordic and cross-country skiing competitions in the Southern Ontario Paraffin Race Series. This includes racers from various clubs, universities, and high schools.

The snowy weather this year provided excellent conditions with plenty of snow and well-groomed trails along the challenging course.

Founded in 1985, the Mono Nordic Ski Club is celebrating 40 years as an organization and has hosted ski races every year since it began.

Nordic and cross-country skiing are popular sports across the province, and the Mono Nordic Ski Club has an enthusiastic membership that enjoys getting out on the trails during the winter months.

"We have 20 different teams here from Nordic clubs, high schools including ODSS and Mayfield, and university teams from Guelph, McMaster, and Waterloo, as well as lots of ski clubs from all over southern Ontario who come and race," explained event co-organizer René Beukeboom. "Our youngest competitors are U8, and we go up to the Masters division."

Competitors compete in age groups, with the distance increasing as age increases.

The youngest competitors race a 1.5 km course. At the U18, U20, and masters divisions, racers compete on a 6 km course.

"We have over 170 racers today," Beukeboom explained. "There is an interval start, so as a division, each racer starts 15 seconds apart. This year we did the order backwards and started with the older kids first, with the hope that the day warms up in the afternoon for the younger kids."

With the interval start, racers must rely on their own instincts to judge their pace on the course.

The temperature for the day was -15°C, as the race happened to take place in the current cold snap.

The course becomes quite challenging at the longer distances, as the trails have many hills and push racers to their limits to keep a good pace.

A lot of spectators turned out for the day to cheer on the racers and provided a lot of encouragement as the competitors sprinted down the final 100 yards to the finish.

Organizers would like to thank the local businesses that donated door prizes: Barley Vine Rail Co., BMP Group, Booklore, Dave's Butcher Shop, Global Pet Foods, Moguls in Mocean, and Orangeville Nissan.

BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

AT THE FINISH LINE: The Mono Nordic Ski Club hosted its annual cross-country race on the trails at Monora Park in Mono on Saturday, Jan. 24. Over 170 competitors from clubs and schools across southern Ontario turned out for the event. Two competitors give a final push toward the finish line.

Local snowmobilers from Dufferin Drift Busters heading to Wasaga to break world record

Written By **BRIAN LOCKHART**

It is turning out to be a good year for snowmobilers across the province, with ample snow and cold temperatures to keep it on local trails.

Local snowmobile enthusiasts have been taking advantage of the season and having a lot of fun on the trails.

The local snowmobile club, the Dufferin Drift Busters, is going to take part in a fun event in Wasaga Beach, when the Wasaga Snowmobile Club and Sledheads 4 Kids host Sledfest for the Record.

This will be an attempt to set a world record for the largest snowmobile parade.

The current record is 1,047 sleds. This was achieved by the Whitecourt Trailblazers in Whitecourt, Alberta.

The Wasaga group wants to bring the record to Ontario.

The event will be held at the Wasaga Sports Park and will follow a circular route, returning to the park.

The club has MTO approval for the sleds to cross Highway 26. Local OPP will be assisting with the crossing to ensure everyone stays safe.

Participants must register online for a fee of $15.00 and check in upon arrival to complete the signing-in process.

Signing in for the event will take place at the Wasaga Legion building, which is also located at the Sports Park. A waiver must be signed, along with proof of insurance, a sled license, and a trail permit.

There will be draw prizes for participants. Net proceeds will go to food banks in the area and to the Amici group, which helps low-income families with children attend summer camp.

Organizers are also asking local club members participating to serve as trail marshals and assist with sideroad crossings and other functions required on event day.

The Sledfest for the Record event will take place on Sunday, Feb. 15.

BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

ON THE TRAILS: All the recent snow may have made driving hazardous and created driveways that need shovelling; however, for some people, the snow means they can enjoy one of their favourite winter activities. Local snowmobilers have enjoyed the trails this season with plenty of snow for easy travelling. Two sledders enjoy a trail near Shelburne on Thursday, Jan. 22.

800 OJIBWAY ROAD, SHELBURNE • LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED

i'm lovin' it

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

RYLEIGH HORNER

Playing hockey since she was just four-years-old, CDDHS right wing, Ryleigh Horner brings a lot of experience to her team.

"I like the competitiveness of it and always getting to meet new people and having fun with it," Ryleigh said of why she likes the sport. "It's fun to play at a high level."

Ryleigh scored four goals in one recent high school game.

Outside of school, Ryleigh plays hockey with the U18 AA Mississauga Hurricanes.

When the ice is out, Ryleigh likes to play ball hockey during the summer.

TEAM: CENTRE DUFFERIN DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' VARSITY HOCKEY

POSITION: RIGHT WING

NEED A BODY SHOP?

fix AUTO COLLISION

GIVE US A CALL
519-941-8254
FIND US ONLINE
www.fixauto.com
199 C-Line, Orangeville
(Across from the local OPP station)

CLAXTON DENTURE CLINIC
DWIGHT CLAXTON DD
Implant and Denture Solutions
Same day relines and repairs
EAT • LAUGH • SMILE
NO REFERRALS NECESSARY
FREE CONSULTATION
ELECTRONIC CLAIMS PROCESSING
WE NOW ACCEPT
Canadian Dental Care Plan Clients
121 FIRST STREET UNIT 2 A, ORANGEVILLE 519-941-9510
141 MAIN STREET WEST, SHELBURNE 519-925-9511

Don't go fishing for your news, community highlights, current events and more!
THE SHELBURNE FREE PRESS HAS YOU COVERED ONLINE AND IN PRINT EVERY THURSDAY.
Shelburne Free Press
109 Adeline Street, Shelburne
519-925-2832 • shelburnefreepress.ca

CLASSIFIEDS

519.925.2832 • Fax: 519-925-5500 • email@shelburnefreepress.ca
Email, or call us for pricing. Classified cut-off time is 12 pm Tuesday

AUCTIONS

HOME OF THE 5% BUYERS PREMIUM
Kidd Family Auctions is calling all buyers and sellers!

PRESENTS - SOME AWESOME UPCOMING AUCTIONS!

FEB 6TH – Canvas, Carvings & Keepsakes - Art & Jewelry & Gems
Features: original artworks, Inuit pieces, and fine jewelry, watches and gemstones. Each piece selected for their craftsmanship, character and the stories they carry. Come preview this collection firsthand to see what draws you in. Oil on canvas; "COTTONWOOD GAZETTE" BY TOM LOVELL. Stone; TWO-FACED SEDNA BY QUVIANATULIAK TAKPAUNGAI. Gems; OVAL MIXED CUT TOPAZ. Watch; BREITLING CHRONOGRAPH. Jewelry; 18K DIAMOND & RUBY CLUSTER RING. Pocket watch; OMEGA 17J. Statue; BRONZE & MARBLE DANCING WOMAN BY DH CHIPARUS. Collectible; HANDCARVED ASIAN MOTHER-OF-PEARLANTIQUE GAMING CHIP. Plus more than can ever be listed!

FEB 17–21ST – Straight Shooter Sale

MAR 5TH & 6TH – Sports Memorabilia / Trains & Toys / Advertising Collectibles

MAR 25-27TH – The Roger Hadfield Estate Auction for Militaria and Firearms

APR 10TH – The Antiques, Collectibles and Quality Household Items Sale

Interested in absentee bids? Consigning in an upcoming sale?
Joining our Referral Rewards Program? Give us a call to get started.
Call, text or email anytime. Call: 519-288-2228 • Text ONLY: 519-938-1315
Lyn@KiddFamilyAuctions.com | www.KiddFamilyAuctions.com
438280 4th Line, Melancthon L9V 1S9 (North of Shelburne)

CHILDCARE

ELIZABETH'S HOME CHILDCARE Unlicensed & Private in Shelburne will have 2 spots available January 1, 2026. Ages 1 to 4 years.Contact via e-mail elizabeth.tozer@hotmail.com

FOR RENT

FOR RENT. Ground floor 2 bed apt for rent., on quiet street in Shelburne. Smoke free property, no pets, ideal for retired person. A/C, single parking space, 5x appliances , gas fireplace, in floor heating. References required. Available March 15th. Call 519-940-5336 between 8am and 5pm.

IN MEMORIAM

JEAN CLAYTON
SEPT. 16TH 1941 - JAN. 31ST 2017

n memory of Jean who passed away January 31st 2017.

They say memories are golden
well that may be true,
But we never wanted memories
we only wanted you.

Lovingly remembered by
Hazel, Millie and Bob, Brad and Ron

HOME SERVICES

STOP WASTING MONEY THROUGH YOUR ROOF!!

The problem isn't your HVAC system it's your insulation!!

Save up to 20%
with topped up attic insulation

Call for Free Estimate
437-898-3875
References Available

CLEAR THE CLUTTER
Call Debbie at 519-925-2832 to book your Classified ad

HELP WANTED

Shelburne Public Library

SUMMER STUDENT JOB POSTING

Are you a student enrolled in college or university looking for summer employment? Do you believe in the magic of stories? Do you have experience planning and facilitating engaging and educational programs for children?

The Opportunity:
Shelburne Public Library is seeking a Children's Library Assistant to join our small but mighty team from June to August 2026. Under the direction of the Children's Librarian, the Children's Library Assistant will foster a love of literacy and life-long learning by assisting with our award-winning TD Summer Reading Program.

Duties include:
- assisting with the planning, development, implementation and the evaluation of programs that are accessible to all children and promote equity, diversity and inclusion.
- program and event set-up and take down.
- responding to patron inquiries and concerns and referring to senior staff when necessary.
- other duties as assigned.

Normal hours of work for this position will be up to thirty (30) hours per week. There may be a requirement to work various shifts, including some evenings and weekends.

Qualifications
- Full-time enrollment in a post-secondary education program, preferably in a library, creative, educational, or child-related field.
- Previous experience in program planning, event planning, working with children, and leadership would be an asset.
- Proficiency with Microsoft Office and familiarity with video/digital technology, editing software, and social media platforms.

Hourly Rate: $18.00

Please note:
- The successful candidate will be required to complete a Criminal Record Check, including a Vulnerable Sector Screening. Criminal record checks must be dated within three (3) months of the employment offer to be considered valid.
- Virtual interview formats are available upon request.
- This position is subject to budget and grant approval and thus may be subject to change.

Qualified candidates are invited to apply no later than **12 p.m. on February 20, 2026**. Please email your resume and cover letter to Shannon McGrady, CEO, at smcgrady@shelburnelibrary.ca . Please note that only those who are selected for an interview will be contacted.

The Shelburne Public Library is an equal opportunity employer. Accommodations are available for all parts of the recruitment process, and applicants are asked to make their needs known in advance.

By submitting your personal information to the Shelburne Public Library, you consent to the collection, use and disclosure of that information in connection with our recruitment, hiring and/or employment processes. Personal information is collected under the authority of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c.25, as amended, and will be used to determine the qualifications for employment.

OBITUARIES

In Loving Memory of

WILLIAM (BILL) HAROLD CRUIKSHANK

OCTOBER 14TH 1935 - JANUARY 24TH 2026

William (Bill) Harold Cruikshank passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by his family. Devoted husband to Ruth Marie (Hamilton) for over 60 years. Loving father of Jane (Steve) Matthews, Joe (Linda), Brian (Beth) and David. Much loved grandfather of Emily (Kyle) O'Grady, Melissa Matthews, Noah (Emily), Kayla, Ella, Erica and Gil Cruikshank. Great grandfather to Scout and Tate. Brother of Lorna Jean Hodgson and brother-in-law of Joanne Gordon, Beth Firth and Howard Hamilton (Lynn Whelan). Predeceased by his parents Ellen May (Rintoul) and Joseph Harold Cruikshank, siblings Ross, Bob, Sam and Mary as well as several cherished in-laws and relatives. Bill will be fondly remembered by his nieces and nephews, and many family and friends.

Bill spent 32 years working for CN Rail as a construction engineer. Bill and Ruth started their married life travelling for work, blessed with two children in Capreol, moving to Welland to have Brian and finally returning in 1972 to the Hamilton farm in Amaranth to welcome David. Bill was a man of few words but his actions demonstrated the importance of hard work, prioritizing your family and sharing a good sense of humour.

A service honouring Bill's life will be held on February 1st, 2026 at 2:00 pm at Trinity Primrose United Church, 200 Owen Sound St. Shelburne, Ontario. Reception to follow at the church.

Friends wishing to make a donation in memory of Bill are invited to direct them to Trinity Primrose United Church or the Canadian Cancer Society through Jack and Thompson Funeral Home. Online donations and condolences may be placed at *www.jackandthompsonfuneralhome.com*

In Loving Memory of

JOHN ROBERT HUME

OCTOBER 10TH, 1951 - JANUARY 20TH, 2026

At Bluewater Health - Sarnia, on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, John Hume, aged 74, wrapped up a good long run with his family by his side. He was the loving husband of Anne, with whom he recently celebrated 50 years of marriage - an accomplishment he took great pride in, and one Anne deserves at least equal credit for. John was a devoted father to Rebecca and Scott (wife Andrea), and a very proud Papa to Clara and Chloe.

Cherished brother of Ken (Cathy), Don (Barb), Linda (Dennis, D. - 2016), and Bill (Debbie) - each of whom shared in the long tradition of Hume-family humour, storytelling, and competitive teasing.

Born in Shelburne, Ontario, John carried its stories with him everywhere he went, editing and improving them over the years like any responsible storyteller. After moving to Sarnia in the late 1970s, he and Anne built a full life surrounded by community. John built a very successful accounting practice here in town while also coaching many kids' sports, golfing frequently, and maintaining an impressive familiarity with several local pubs, strictly for the purpose of "supporting local businesses."

John had a deep love for history, travel, and spending summers at the cottage in Port Elgin.

Known interchangeably as John, Dad, Papa, and Bumper, he will be deeply missed. The family invites you to honour his memory with a favourite story and a smile.

A celebration of life will take place on the afternoon of Saturday, April 25, 2026, 1 -3 pm, at the Sarnia Golf and Curling Club. Please drop in for a drink, a laugh, and the kind of easy company he always appreciated.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Kidney Foundation at https://kidney.ca or a charity of your choice.

The arrangements are entrusted to the D. J. Robb Funeral Home & Cremation Centre (102 N. Victoria St, Sarnia, ON, N7T 5W9). Memories and messages of condolence may be sent through: *www.djrobb.on.ca*

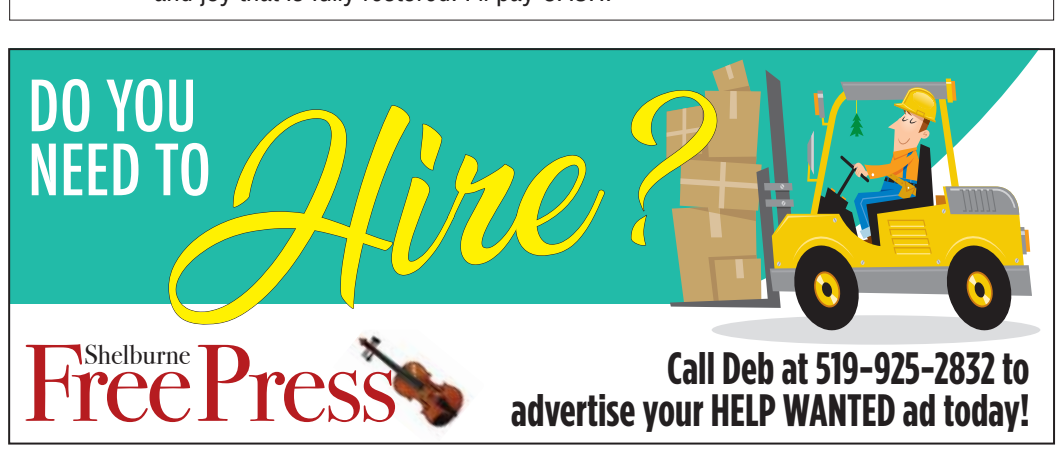
WANTED

WANTED
CAR COLLECTOR SEARCHING

I WANT YOUR OLD CAR!

Porsche 356/911/912,
Jaguar E-Type or XKE. Tell me what you have,
I love old classics especially German, British and Muscle Cars.
Whether it's been in the barn for 25 years, or your pride
and joy that is fully restored. I'll pay CASH.

Call David
416-802-9999



PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER!

Headwaters announces lineup of fundraising events through 2026

Written By SAM ODROWSKI
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Headwaters Health Care Foundation (HHCF) has released its official lineup of events in 2026 to fundraise for essential equipment and facility upgrades not funded by the government.

The first event of the year is the Headwaters Golf Classic on June 22, it will be followed by the Headwaters Gala, "Headwaters in Wonderland" on Sept. 11, and to finish off the year, Headwaters Hike to Fight Cancer will occur on Oct. 8.

"These events are more than celebrations, they are a lifeline for local health care," said HHCF CEO K.C. Carruthers. "Last year, our signature events raised over a million dollars to support care in our community. We look forward to seeing our community at all these events again this year as we build a healthier future for Headwaters."

2026 Headwaters Signature Event Lineup

• Headwaters Golf Classic: Presented by Crewson Insurance & Dufferin Mutual Insurance Company, The Headwaters Golf Classic is hosted at TPC Toronto at Osprey Valley (North Course & Heathlands). The Headwaters Golf Classic is bigger and better than ever this year, expanding to two courses for a full day of golf, on-course food stations, activities, a silent auction, and a post-event cocktail reception featuring a live auction and prizes. Funds raised will support Headwaters upcoming Emergency Department (ED) expansion, a vital project for our growing community. Sponsorships and foursomes are available for purchase now.

• The Annual Headwaters Gala: This year's theme is sure to dazzle. Head down the rabbit hole with Headwaters in Wonderland at Hockley Valley Resort on Friday September 11th. Step into a world of wonder and whimsy inspired by Alice in Wonderland. Guests will enjoy cocktails and culinary delights, live and silent auctions, dancing and games, and a night of transformative philanthropy. Last year, the Gala raised $925,000 for vital surgical equipment; this year's proceeds will help fund the Emergency Department expansion. Space is limited, an unforgettable evening awaits, tickets go on sale March 2.

• Headwaters Hike to Fight Cancer: Lace up and make every step count. The Headwaters Hike aims to raise $60,000 to support life-saving cancer care close to home. On Thursday Oct. 8, at 5 p.m. choose between a 1 kilometre or 3 kilometre route at the picturesque Caledon Ski Club. All ages welcome! Registration opens April 1. The first to register can win an early bird prize – ski/snowboard passes for four at the Caledon Ski Club, rentals from Skiis & Biikes, and two semi-private lessons (Total prize value: $950).

Shelburne Public Library launches Teen Advisory Board, shares Young Adult Pick of the Week

Recent research shows that Gen Zs (teens and young adults) are the loneliest generation despite being the most connected. This is largely fueled by time spent indoors and online which has led to a reduction in-person socializing and the deeper connections that are formed when we connect off screen.

We are excited to announce that we have launched a Teen Advisory Board (TAB) to help engage youth and empower them to become leaders in our community. Members of TAB help plan fun events for teens – thereby increasing the opportunities for social connection – and advise on our young adult collection, ensuring our books reflect the diversity of our community.

Not only does participation on our Teen Advisory Board provide volunteer hours (a high school requirement), but it builds key life skills including leadership, communication, and teamwork skills.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, Feb. 10, from 4 to 5 p.m. A special thank you to Pizza Pizza for helping us help teens by providing pizza for our monthly meetings.

YA (Young Adult) Pick of the Week

You asked for more graphic novels and we listened. The very popular Witch Hat Atelier Series by Kamome Shirahama is coming to our shelves soon!

A beautifully illustrated story about a girl who longs for magic in her life and learns that, on the inside, she already is what she wishes she could be. Reminiscent of Studio Ghibli, this lushly-drawn story has captured the hearts of fantasy fans worldwide.

In a world where everyone takes wonders like magic spells and dragons for granted, Coco is a girl with a simple dream: She wants to be a witch. But everybody knows magicians are born, not made, and Coco was not born with a gift for magic. Resigned to her un-magical life, Coco is about to give up on her dream to become a witch... until the day she meets Qifrey, a mysterious, traveling magician. After secretly seeing Qifrey perform magic in a way she's never seen before, Coco soon learns what everybody "knows" might not be the truth, and discovers that her magical dream may not be as far away as it may seem...

adopt a cat

Rufus and Magic - the two most handsome and playful guys. These 7 year old male cats are great pals and would do great in a home together. They love to greet people, play with wand toys, and patrol the sanctuary. Magic loves pets, and Rufus is learning too. They are volunteer - favourites.

Both are neutered, microchipped, dewormed, vaccinated, flea treated.

Adoption fee is $275 each or $400 for the pair.

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.

Rufus and Magic

FERAL CAT RESCUE INC.
519-278-0707

OPP lay several sexual assault related charges

Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have charged two people with sexual related offences as a result of a multi-jurisdictional criminal investigation.

On Wednesday, Jan. 21, members of the Dufferin and Huronia West Major Crime Unit and the Dufferin Community Street Crime Unit (CSCU), executed two search warrants at addresses in Orangeville and in Wasaga Beach.

A 30-year-old male from Wasaga Beach has been charged with:

• Sexual Assault on a Person Under 16 years of age
• Sexual Assault
• Sexual Interference- two counts
• Sexual Exploitation
• Invitation to Sexual Touching under 16 years of age
• Assault
• Assault Cause Bodily Harm- choke, suffocate or strangle
• Uttering Threats- cause death or bodily harm
• Assault with a weapon
• Makes, Prints, Publishes or Possesses for the Purpose of Publication of any child sexual abuse and exploitation material
• Sexual Assault with a Weapon
• Unauthorized Possession of a Firearm- three counts
• Failure to comply with undertaking

The above accused was held for bail.

Additionally, 29-year-old female from Wasaga Beach has been charged with:

• Sexual Assault
• Sexual Interference
• Sexual Exploitation
• Invitation to Sexual Touching under 16 years of age
• Assault Cause Bodily Harm- choke, suffocate or strangle
• Uttering Threats- cause death or bodily harm
• Assault

The above accused is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville on Tuesday Feb. 10, to answer to the charges. None of the charges have been proven in court.

Three firearms, ammunition, electronic devices, and other items were seized as part of the investigation.

Shelburne CHURCH DIRECTORY

BETHEL BIBLE CHAPEL
419 Main Street East, Shelburne
Sunday Services – 9:45am Lord's Supper
10:45am Family Bible Hour, Sunday School
Chapel 519-925-3910 or 519-278-0066
www.bethelshelburne.com – All Welcome!!

ABIDING PLACE FELLOWSHIP
www.abidingplace.ca
519-925-3651
SUNDAY SERVICE
10:00AM
Mel-Lloyd Centre, Entrance "F" Door,
167 Centre St, Shelburne
Pastor; Rev. Gord Horsley
Come and be Blessed

PRIMROSE FULL GOSPEL CHURCH
A FAMILY CHURCH
SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE
10:30 a.m.
Children's Church Available
Pastor Gavin Sullivan
226-200-0843
764213 8th Line
Melancthon, Ontario

TRINITY PRIMROSE
UNITED CHURCH
TRINITY PRIMROSE UNITED CHURCH
200 Owen Sound Street, Shelburne
Sunday Service at 11a.m.
PRIMROSE UNITED CHURCH
486281 30th Sideroad, Mono
Worshipping at Trinity Primrose United Church
Office: 519 925 0905
email: communications@shelburneprimrose.com
www shelburneprimrose.com
ALL WELCOME

SUPPORT LOCAL SMALL BUSINESS
AT YOUR Service

BRANCH MANAGER TREE CARE
Tree Removal • Trimming • Stump Grinding
Land Clearing • Storm Damage • 24 hr Emergency Services
519-938-6996 branchmanagertreecare@gmail.com

GARAGE DOORS
ALL-MONT LTD.
GARAGE DOOR EXPERTS
GARAGA EXPERTS
Broken Spring
Broken Cable
519-942-1956 • 1-800-957-5865 • www.allmontdoors.com
48 Centennial Road, Unit #20, Orangeville

DE SANTO DESIGNS
NEW YEAR TILE & BATH DEALS
Affordable
Reliable • Local
Tile installs & bathroom renos
416-881-2371• Email Luigi@ddesignsltd.com
BACKSPLASH PROMO starting @ $499+HST

STANDT
SHELBURNE TIRE AND TOWING INC.
"Where Quality and Service is Our Priority"
Oluf Jensen Wreck Master Certified
MICHELIN BFGoodrich BRIDGESTONE
Police approved towing and storage
serving Dufferin County for over 30 years
525401 5th Sideroad, Melancthon, RR #4 Shelburne, ON L9V 1Y5
519-925-5002 • 519-925-2795
Email: shelburnetire@hotmail.com

DOMINION LENDING CENTRES
DLC AIMI Collective Mortgage Group
FSRA #13717 Independently Owned and Operated
211 Main St. E.
Shelburne, ON
Carol Freeman
Mortgage Broker
519-925-6700
CELL: 519-938-6518
carolfreemanmortgages@gmail.com
www.carolfreeman.ca

DO YOU NEED TO Hire?
Call 519-925-2832 to advertise.
Shelburne Free Press

47 Broadway Ave. ORANGEVILLE 519-942-2573

M&M FOOD MARKET

STOCK UP SAVE BIG

SAVE $7
INCREDIBLE PRICE 10.99
Fall Off the Bone® Back Ribs
1 FULL RACK OF RIBS 510 g - 680 g
Honey Garlic
CHOOSE FROM 4 VARIETIES
Seniors Day Every Tuesday 10% off Regular Priced Items!

OUR LOWEST PRICES ARE HERE!‡

‡Based on 2025 pricing.

INCREDIBLE PRICE 17.99
SAVE $7
Breaded Chicken Breasts
8 PIECES 907 g
3 VARIETIES
Original
Also Available Chicken Breast Grills 8 PIECES 800 g $17.99 save $7

SAVE $3
Asian
14.99
Party Packs
21-46 PIECES 462 g - 740 g
CHOOSE FROM 5 VARIETIES.

SAVE $5
Cocktail Sauce included
14.99
Shrimp Ring
42-48 SHRIMP 454 g

✶ MULTI BUY ✶

Buy 3 for $9.99 Regular price $4.99 each

SAVE $4.98
MIX AND MATCH
Ricotta & Spinach
Bistro Chicken® 114 g
Choose from:
• Swiss • Ricotta & Spinach
Broccoli and Cheese
Stuffed, Breaded Chicken 142 g
Choose from:
• Broccoli and Cheese • Kiev • Parmesan • Swiss

KICKOFF DEALS 9.99 each

SAVE $3
Cheesy
Pizza Rolls
8 PIECES 460 g
2 Varieties

SAVE $5
Battered Cheese Curds 280 g

Artichoke Mac & Cheese Bites 14 PIECES 280 g

Cauliflower Bites 450 g
Sauces included

Caramelized Onion Dip
LIMITED TIME ONLY 450 g
NEW!
Buffalo Chicken Dip 450 g

SAVE $3 each
Lobster Mac & Cheese Bites
14 PIECES 252 g

Hot Honey Cheese Bites
14 PIECES 280 g

SAVE $2 each

Mini Franks in Pastry
15 PIECES
279 g

Sausage Rolls
26-28 PIECES
500 g
SAVE $2

SAVE $5
27.99
Slow Cooked Beef Pot Roast 907 g

SAVE $2
17.99
Pork Pot Roast 907 g

SAVOURY SEAFOOD

SAVE $4 each
15.99
Cod Nuggets
17-27 PIECES 567 g

15.99
Herb and Garlic Shrimp Skewers
4 SKEWERS 365 g

SALE
15.99
Seasoned Breaded Cod
4-5 PIECES 400 g

BRING HOME THE BACON

SAVE $3
16.99
Bacon Wrapped Scallop Medallions
9-13 PIECES 300 g

14.99
Bacon Wrapped Chicken
4 PIECES x 142 g/5 oz
SAVE $5

SAVE $5 each
54.99
Bacon Wrapped Beef Filet Mignons
4 STEAKS x 170 g/6 oz

24.99
Bacon Wrapped Beef Top Sirloin Steaks
4 STEAKS x 142 g/5 oz

COZY CLASSICS 4.99 each

SINGLE SERVES 275 g - 340 g
21 VARIETIES
Homestyle Shepherd's Pie
SALE
Macaroni & Cheese

Pot Pies
225 g - 250 g
2 Varieties
Beef and Mushroom
SALE
Florentine
Quiche
170 g
3 Varieties

SOUPS 255 g - 400 mL
SAVE $2 each
French Onion
Loaded Potato
Wonton
Broccoli Cheddar
Tomato and Grilled Cheese

EVERYDAY LOW PRICE 9.99
Lasagna
907 g

PREMIUM ENTRÉES 850 g - 1.02 kg

5 VARIETIES
SAVE $2
17.99 each
Braised Beef Pappardelle Pasta
Supreme Stuffed Peppers
4 PIECES
Stuffed Pasta Shells

✶ MULTI BUY ✶

Buy 2 for $10
Regular price $5.99 each
MIX AND MATCH

SAVE $1.98
Crinkle Cut Fries 600 g
Tater Bites 600 g
Shoestring Fries 600 g
Seasoned Potato Wedges 600 g
Onion Rings 454 g

BUY 1 GET 1 50%OFF
Regular price $12.99 each
MIX AND MATCH
SAVE $6.50
Flatbreads
460 g - 515 g
Hot Honey & Chicken
CHOOSE FROM 4 VARIETIES.

NEW!
100% CANADIAN DAIRY
10.99 SAVE $2
Mini Red Velvet Cheesecakes
6 PIECES 300 g

SAVE $2
15.99
Blueberry Bliss Cheezecake
600 g

To view the full flyer, scan the QR code or go to mmfoodmarket.com

PROUDLY SERVING CANADIANS SINCE 1980

ALL PRICES IN EFFECT THURSDAY, JANUARY 29 TO WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2026 UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.

All discounted prices of products within this flyer are exclusive to members of the M&M Food Market Rewards program. Simply present your membership card or sign up for a free membership in store or online, to take advantage of these exclusive offers. Special pricing and promotions are not valid at M&M Food Market Express and other non-traditional stores, as they offer a limited range of products. We reserve the right to correct any errors.

©2026 M&M Meat Shops Ltd. *Trademark of Celiac Canada. Used under license.

BEST DEAL EVER!

ANY SIZE PIZZA
ANY TOPPINGS

STARTING AT $13.99

PROMO CODE 9260

TURN YOUR CARRYOUT INTO
DELIVERY
with our new
DELIVERY CHARGE OF
ONLY $2.49

ORDER NOW

802 Main Street East, Shelburne

Call 519.925.2121

Domino's™

SIGN UP DOMINO'S REWARDS

NOW EARN FREE DOMINO'S EVERY 2 ORDERS

1 Order of $10 or more = 10 points

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