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REPAIRING THE WRECKAGE: Shelburne and surrounding area residents are in the process of cleaning up the aftermath of a freezing rain storm that hit the community late Saturday (March 29). The storm resulted in downed trees, downed hydro poles and power outages for thousands of residents.

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Shelburne devastated by ice storm over weekend

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

Residents of Shelburne and North Dufferin are starting the process of cleaning up and recovering from the aftermath of an ice storm that ravaged the community.

Over the past weekend, the community took a beating of freezing rain that saw hydro poles downed, trees toppled over, and thousands of residents and businesses left without power.

Michelle MacDonald, who lives on property on 4th Line in Melancthon, is one of the many residents in the community dealing with damage.

"It was insane. On the Saturday night, I started hearing the branches cracking and falling, and I knew at that point it was going to be bad," said MacDonald. "It was terrifying because we know these trees are over 100 years old, and the nervousness of one hitting the house and upstairs bedrooms."

MacDonald told the Free Press they experienced significant damage from the storm, including downed trees, a snapped hydro pole, pulled down hydro lines, fallen tree branches spread across their property and the back window of her van was blown out.

Giant Tiger, located at 226 First Ave. E in

Shelburne, was one of many local grocers that lost power due to the ice storm. The store lost the majority of power around 9 p.m. on Saturday (March 29) evening and was able to restore power on Monday (March 31), after bringing in a generator.

Andrew Lewis, owner of the Shelburne Giant Tiger, said they were able to minimize the loss of perishable food products by bringing in a temperature-controlled trailer.

Lewis described the experience of going through the ice storm and the resulting power outage as "very chaotic."

"We've had this happen to us before, but it's still an issue when we come up against it. There's a lot of lost sales, customers are inconvenienced and it's stressful on the staff," said Lewis. "We were all about saving the product and making sure that we minimize those losses as much as possible."

Shelburne Fire Chief Dave Pratt told the Free Press that they started receiving calls for service around 8 p.m. on Saturday (March 29), and responded to around 30 calls for service during a roughly 36-hour period.

He added that the majority of the calls the department responded to were related to downed power lines, but also included carbon monoxide detection and fire alarms due to the power outages.



FALLEN TREES: Northern parts of Dufferin County and Shelburne saw the worst of an ice storm that wreaked havoc on the community over the weekend.

"I'm happy to report that while there was a lot of inconvenience, nothing significant happened during the time," said Pratt.

Pratt is reminding residents to make sure generators are placed outside and don't ventilate into the home to avoid carbon monoxide; to treat downed wires as live until it is confirmed they're disconnected, and to proceed carefully when cutting trees and lumber debris.

"Safety is a priority," he said.

The County of Dufferin continues to work towards cleaning up the damage left behind from the storm.

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End of an era: Shelburne Foodland owner Sandy Bell announces retirement

Written By PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Shelburne Foodland is preparing for the closing of a chapter.

Sandy Bell, owner of the Shelburne Foodland, will be retiring on April 26 after more than a decade of owning the local franchise.

"It's a new venture. I've been with the same company for 61 years and never had to leave it. Now that I'm leaving, I think about how it's going to be and I'm hoping it'll be fantastic and enjoyable," said Bell.

At the age of 16, Bell left high school and began working full-time doing overnight shifts at what was then known as Food City in Oshawa, making \$55 a week. From there he worked his way up into management, and became a store manager from a location in London, Ont., at the age of 25.

Over the years, Bell floated to various stores in the Toronto area before eventually becoming a district manager in 1991.

While holding the position of district manager for eight years, Bell said he, and his wife Monica, never really thought about becoming the owners of their own store location, but the opportunity arose in 1998 to purchase the Beeton Foodland.

"Monica and I decided then to take a shot at it," recalled Bell.

The couple officially bought the Beeton Foodland and spent 14 years working

together, before eventually expanding to Shelburne Foodland. In September of 2022, Shelburne Foodland celebrated the grand opening of its new location in the Emerald Crossing Plaza along Highway 89 in Shelburne.

Being a part of the community for more than a decade has allotted Bell a number of highlights from raising donations for local athletes to sponsoring community events. But, when asked about his biggest moments of pride, he consistently points to the staff members of Shelburne Foodland.

"I'm extremely proud of the crew that works here, I think they're the best out there. I believe they're loyal, dedicated and love what they do. They're very good with the customers in the community and try to pitch in to help the community out," said Bell.

Bell's wife Monica Temmler, owner of the Foodland in Beeton, will also be retiring on the same day as him – April 26.

The couple plan to spend the first few months of their retirement enjoying the warmth of summer in the backyard of their Tottenham home, before heading out to travel in Europe.

"It's exciting. We're ready and looking forward to it," he said. "Thank you for the opportunity to serve the customers and the community and to show what we can do here. I'm very proud of our store."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

HANGING UP THEIR HATS: Sandy Bell (centre) cut the ribbon of his new Foodland location at Emerald Crossing Plaza to mark the store's grand opening on Sept. 1, 2022. Bell and his wife Monica Temmler will retire on April 26, after more than a decade of owning a Foodland stores.

Changes made to Dufferin–Caledon riding's boundaries ahead of the federal election

Written By SAM ODROWSKI & ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Some changes have been made to the electoral map for Dufferin–Caledon and surrounding ridings ahead of the upcoming federal election.

The riding of Simcoe-Grey has had its boundaries changed. It no longer includes portions of Mulmur Township and Grey Highlands. Meanwhile, all Mulmur residents and some residents of Adjala-Tosorontio will find themselves voting in the Dufferin–Caledon Riding.

Caledon residents will also see some changes, as the region is split between two different ridings instead of one.

This means Caledon residents will either be voting in the new Brampton North–Caledon, in addition to the Dufferin–Caledon riding.

In Caledon, the Brampton North–Caledon riding is bounded by Mayfield Road to the south, King Street to the north, Gore

Road to the east, and Winston Churchill Boulevard to the west.

The Dufferin–Caledon riding includes the rest of Caledon not included in the Brampton–North Caledon riding boundaries.

The Dufferin–Caledon riding also still includes Grand Valley, Mono, Orangeville, Shelburne, Amaranth, East Garafraxa, Melancton and Mulmur.

The complete list of confirmed candidates for the upcoming federal election will be made available by Elections Canada on April 9.

As of the morning of April 2 in Dufferin–Caledon, confirmed candidates include: Kyle Seeback, Conservative Party of Canada; Malalai Halimi, Liberal Party of Canada; and Vikto Karklins, New Democratic Party.

For Brampton North–Caledon, the only confirmed candidate is Amandeep Judge of the Conservative Party of Canada.

Canadians will head to the polls for the 45th General Election on April 28.

What you should know:

Election day is: Monday, April 28, 2025

Advance voting takes place on: Friday, April 18, Saturday, April 19, Sunday, April 20 and Monday, April 21, 2025

Vote by mail: You can vote by mail if you apply by 6 p.m. on April 22, 2025 (Eastern time). Go to elections.ca to fill out the application form to vote by mail.

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3. Do you feel tired or irritable after a long conversation?	☐ Yes ☐ No
4. Do you feel the need to turn up the volume on your TV or radio such that it is too loud for others?	☐ Yes ☐ No
5. Do you often need to ask others to repeat themselves?	☐ Yes ☐ No
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OPINION

Is she real?

I recently had a discussion over the telephone about a service I required.

It was a fairly detailed conversation where the person asked me different questions about what I needed, and then provided answers.

Except there was no person on the other end of the line. It was an AI-generated voice.

At the start of the call it was explained you are being transferred to speak to someone who will help you, but it also briefly explained with not too much detail, that the person you would be speaking to was not a real person.

The call went fine. I got the information I needed and the voice was pleasant, accommodating, and knowledgeable.

In fact, it was so real, that there were only a couple of times that you could notice a slight variation that may give away the fact that the voice you heard was not a real person.

The advancements in Artificial Intelligence over the past few years have been phenomenal.

So far, the only AI that I have had experience with has mostly been positive. However, there is definitely a side to this technology that can be used for nefarious

purposes.

I'm pretty sure that over the next few years, we will learn more about the not-so-positive side of AI.

Some of the dark side of this technology has already been revealed through replicating a person's voice so accurately that you may receive a telephone call, thinking it is from a family member, and that you recognize the voice.

If your child calls you looking for help, and you recognize them, would you refuse?

Over the past few weeks, I have watched a series of AI-generated videos.

The first series recreated historical figures based on paintings and sculptures of that person. They went as far back as to create Cleopatra as a modern-day person.

It was fascinating to see what Cleopatra or Napoleon Bonaparte would have looked like if their photograph had been taken yesterday, complete with minor skin blemishes and lifelike complexion.

The second video brought people from a long-gone era back to life. They used black and white photos from the Edwardian age as a base for the work.

It was a time when photography still required a person to sit very still, not

blink, and not smile, to achieve a sharply focused image.

For that reason, people who were photographed at the time always appeared to be stern or unhappy.

The truth is, even in the Edwardian era, people smiled and laughed, you just couldn't show that in a photograph.

In the video, they first colourize the photo to create a very modern-looking picture.

From there, they bring the people in the photo to life. The characters laugh and smile. It is a very convincing production.

If I were a budding movie actor, I would be worried about future opportunities.

Although AI has been used to create locations that do not exist, so far, movies are still using actors.

In the near future, I think we should expect to see the first entirely AI-created feature film.

From a filmmaker's perspective, this could be a huge advantage.

You wouldn't have to pay a top star \$20 million to be in your movie, and several more million to supporting characters.

You could create the perfect character for the role based on the director's vision. Creating the most beautiful woman or man, or the ugliest person based on what

you need, could all be done from a desk.

There would be no need for a second take if you create the first take exactly as you want it to be.

You could do it right the first time and create the perfect emotion you want the actor to show.

You could create just about any setting you want to place your characters in.

I'm not sure how the public will react to watching a movie where none of the characters are real.

However, it has already worked for Disney Studios who have created an entire empire based on animated characters.

AI has a world of possibilities if it is used for good purposes, however, there is no doubt it is here to stay and will only get better over the next few years.

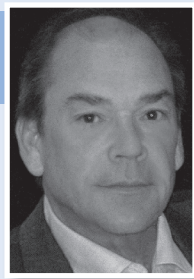
To what end? We don't yet know.

However, I did see a humorous post about visiting websites where you have to prove you are real.

"AI has now advanced to the point where you have a robot demanding that you prove you are not a robot."

Yeah, that is weird.

BRIAN LOCKHART
FROM THE SECOND ROW



Iran: A long fuse lit

Maybe it was the fact that we were coming up on the 10th anniversary of the treaty Donald Trump destroyed that prompted him to start issuing threats to Iran again.

The treaty, obscurely named the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), was a deal in which Iran put its nuclear program on hold in return for all the major powers easing sanctions on the country. The treaty was a major accomplishment of Barack Obama's presidency, which may be why Donald Trump pulled the United States out three years later.

Iran had been scrupulously obeying the terms of the JCPOA, and none of the other signatories (China, France, Germany, Russia, and the United Kingdom) had any complaint about its behaviour. Trump, however, clamped strict trade sanctions back on Iran, which naturally responded by resuming its work on enriching uranium.

The Iranians claim that they are only enriching uranium for nuclear fuel and

other peaceful uses, but nobody believes them. The experts say they must want at least a 'nuclear threshold' capability, because nobody enriches nuclear fuel to 60% uranium just to fuel power plants. The Iranians want at least the ability to build their own nukes fast in an emergency.

What kind of emergency? Well, the Iranians know that there are Israeli and American nuclear weapons targeted on them, and currently they have no nuclear weapons of their own. Getting them would no more prove that they plan to use them than it did when the Soviet Union, Britain, France, China, Israel, India, Pakistan and North Korea got them.

However, many other nuclear states see Iran as less eligible to have nuclear weapons because it is ruled by an elderly and fanatical religious elite that regularly issues blood-curdling threats to its numerous enemies. That was why they banded together to back the JCPOA treaty, but

Trump trashed that and here we are.

Iran has used the past seven years to work away on its uranium enrichment project, first at a fairly leisurely pace but then more quickly as the prospect of another Trump regime loomed. Now they are almost there.

The International Atomic Energy Agency said last month that Iran has now stockpiled almost 275 kg of uranium enriched to 60 per cent purity, just short of weapons grade. The last step, to 90 per cent pure, is the easiest, and could be done in a few days or at most a few weeks.

That's enough fissile material for six nuclear bombs, although actually fabricating crude but effective nuclear bombs would probably take a further six months. If they want to put nuclear warheads on missiles, they could be looking at as much as two years.

Given how many Iranian missiles were intercepted or missed their targets in the past two rounds of fighting, however, Tehran might prefer not to put its precious warheads-to-be in the nose-cones of ballistic or cruise missiles. Trucks aren't a good bet for delivering across Israel's border either. Ships? Who knows?

None of this speculation means that Iran is planning to use nuclear weapons on Israel (or anywhere else) as soon as it get them. It does mean that potential target countries will be thinking that it might, and making their own plans to pre-empt that contingency if they can. It's definitely getting more dangerous.

None of this would be happening if Trump had just left the JCPOA alone.

Iran would still be years and years away from nuclear weapons, and even Trump might settle for just negotiating another ten-year term for the treaty.

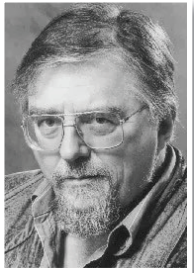
But maybe not. Trump is very much under the influence of Israel's Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, who really does want the US to attack Iran. (He'll even help.) And to make matters worse, the Iranian regime feels that it has its back to the wall.

Nationwide outbreaks of protest against the government of the ayatollahs are coming closer and closer together. The sanctions have crippled the economy and everybody is feeling the pinch. All of Iran's allies in the Arab world – Hezbollah in Lebanon, Hamas in Gaza, the Assad regime in Syria, even the Houthis in Yemen – are being stripped away.

And Donald Trump seems to think that he can retrieve his original blunder (not that he admits it was a blunder) by writing a letter to Grand Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. He gave the Supreme Leader two months to negotiate a new nuclear deal or the US and Israel will strike Iran's nuclear facilities.

This is typical Trump stuff: set very tight deadlines, demand unrealistic terms, and threaten 'Hell' if the deadline is not met. It generally doesn't work well, especially when you're dealing with fanatics. We have the makings of a really nasty war here, possible including a local nuclear war or (if Iran's nukes are still not ready) at least a 'dirty' bomb or two.

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I believe it was the great Mahatma Gandhi who stated, "The true measure of a society can be found in how it treats its most vulnerable members."

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Concert to commemorate lives of World War I soldiers at Grace Tipling Hall

Written By PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The month of April marks the anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge and local residents will have the opportunity to step back in time to the lives and experience of World War I soldiers through music.

Small Town Big Ideas, a speaker series organized by CanHist, will be welcoming Canadian acoustic folk band The Fugitives on April 30 at Grace Tipling Hall for a performance of their 90-minute musical tribute to the Battle of Vimy Ridge, entitled 'Ridge.'

"I think we're being faithful to the vision of what Small Town Big Ideas is all about. The vision always was that we bring in as many big ideas as we can that are current in the Canadian public discourse, whether those are ideas that are spoken from public intellectuals, authors or in this case, artists. It's very important that we have discussion and really provocative insights," said Neil Orford, founder of CanHist.

After seeing the band perform *Ridge* in Ferrus late last year, Orford approached them about bringing the show to Shelburne.

"I got a very strong sense from the band of how committed they were to telling stories in

music and song that are representative of the genuine words of people who were historical actors in important events," said Orford. "Getting a chance to see it live myself, certainly opened my eyes to the need to pay close attention to how we talk about historical moments in Canada, like Vimy Ridge, and rededicate ourselves to listening as best we can across the ages to the words of the men who were actually there."

The Fugitives are a Juno-nominated group consisting of songwriters Adrian Glynn and Brendan McLeod, who are joined by banjo player Chris Suen and violinist Carly Frey.

Ridge is a 90-minute musical tribute to the more than 10,000 Canadian casualties of Vimy Ridge. Through storytelling, theatre and music the show examines the misconceptions and varying perspectives around the battle. Featuring musical interpretations of WWI soldier songs, often known as 'trench songs', *Ridge* also probes difficult and necessary questions about the wartime experience.

McLeod started writing the outline for *Ridge* in 2020 while he was exploring the history of the Battle of Vimy Ridge. During his research, he began to comb through songs written by soldiers about their experiences in the war.

"They were funny, they were poignant, they were beautiful and harrowing and really gave you a snapshot of the emotions they were going through," said McLeod.

Speaking about why they wanted to explore the Battle of Vimy Ridge as the subject of the show, McLeod explained, "It's one of those formative events in Canadian history and I was curious as to how much of what we're told is real and how much of it lines up with the truth."

He added, "I was looking at the history of it and wanted to think of the soldier's experience, not what the government tells us happened or what the military told us happened, but what the soldiers' say happened."

While the battle of Vimy Ridge occurred more than a century ago, McLeod said the themes brought up in *Ridge* continue to be relevant in the face of modern events.

"Every year we tour the show; it unfortunately gets more resonant with audiences. Since we've been doing it, the world has gone through so many different trajectories with everything happening in the Middle East, war breaking out in the Ukraine, and now we're going on tour while there's an economic trade war between Canada and the US with people talking about Canada's sovereignty," said



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McLeod. "I would never have anticipated five years ago that this is the curtain behind which we're playing the show."

Tickets for the show are \$40 and can be purchased by visiting the Small Town Big Ideas page on www.canhist.ca.

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To register for FREE, scan the QR Code or visit: hikeforbethellhospice.ca

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SPORTS

Terriers claim North Carruthers Division championship with overtime win

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

The Orillia Terriers are the North Carruthers Division champions after an overtime win in Game Five of their best-of-seven championship series against the Alliston Hornets.

Orillia will now enter the Provincial Schmalz Cup playoffs as one of eight Provincial Junior Hockey League Division championship teams.

The final series was a real upset for Alliston fans. The Hornets finished the regular season in first place with a 40-2 record, then went on to sweep their quarter-final playoff series in four games over the Muskoka Bears.

They continued with a clean record by eliminating the Penetang Kings in four games in the semi-final round.

Orillia had a strong season, finishing in second place with a 35-7 record, however, they lost all six games they played against Alliston during the regular season.

The Terriers eliminated the Midland Flyers in the quarter-finals, then went on to knock out the Stayner Siskins in five games in the semi-final round to earn the right to advance to the final against the Alliston Hornets.

Game One of the championship series got underway at the New Tecumseth Recreation Centre in Alliston on March 21.

Alliston fans were shocked when the Hornets failed to score and were shut out 3-0.

The series was tied after Game Two when the Hornets won 3-2 on Terriers' home ice.

The Terriers were back in the lead with a 4-2 win in Game Three.

Game Four took place in Orillia on March 26, and the Terriers had a huge advantage in the series after winning that game 4-3.

The return to Alliston for Game Five meant the Hornets had to win or face elimination.

The Hornets took an early two-goal lead in



BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

MOVING ON TO FINALS: The Orillia Terriers celebrate their 2025 North Carruthers Division Championship win at the New Tecumseth Recreation Centre in Alliston on Friday, March 28. The Terriers claimed Game Five of the series with the winning goal just 26 seconds into overtime. The Orillia team will now go on to play in the provincial playoffs in a bid to win the Schmalz Cup.

the first period. The Terriers scored one late in the frame.

Alliston went ahead 3-1 with a goal at 1:27 into the second period.

It was a tie game when the Terriers scored twice to make it 3-3. That included a devastating short-handed goal that the Terriers scored while on a penalty kill.

The Hornets again took the lead in the third period, but a late Terriers goal tied the game at four and the teams prepared for overtime (OT).

The OT period lasted only 26 seconds when Dylan Palomaki scored on the first shot on net to win the game and give the Terriers the 2025 Division championship.

It was a big loss for Alliston fans and players who expected the squad to go on to compete at the provincial level this season.

"We played great during the regular season and we played great in the playoffs," said Hornets head coach Jacob Bauchman after the final loss. "We didn't face any real adversity and that's what ended up getting to us. We didn't

know how to battle through the adversity and bear down when we needed to. I'm not trying to make excuses. It happened last year as well – no one really tested us. They [Orillia] were a different team than they were in the regular season. We didn't have the fight in us. We had three leads in that game and couldn't hang on."

Four other PJHL Division championships have been decided.

The remaining three series will be decided this week.



BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

PLAYOFF MODE: The Orillia Terriers and Alliston Hornets battle it out during Game Five of their best-of-seven North Carruthers Division championship series at the New Tecumseth Recreation Centre on Friday, March 28. The Terriers won the game 5-4 in overtime to claim the 2025 Division title.

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i'm lovin' it



ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

KENLEY MCCALLUM

Shelburne Wolves U13 LL forward, Kenley McCallum has only been playing hockey for two years and she really enjoys the sport.

"My siblings have always played hockey, and then my parents really wanted me to try it," Kenley explained of her start in the sport. "I tried it and ended up loving it. I like the fast pace and the consistency of moving the puck."

Kenley is the only girl on her team and said playing with mostly boys is a good learning experience.

"I think it is competitive and teaches me to push for the hardest I can go."

During the summer, Kenley plays lacrosse with the Shelburne Vets.

TEAM: SHELBURNE WOLVES U13 LL
POSITION: FORWARD

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Creative Partners On Stage Festival returns to Theatre Orangeville next weekend

Written By CONSTANCE SCRAFIELD

Creative Partners on Stage (C.P.O.S.) is a theatre company made up of neurodiverse adult actors and artists, in a partnership between Theatre Orangeville and Community Living Dufferin (CLD).

C.P.O.S.'s initial production within this unique union between Theatre Orangeville and CLD took place in 2003 and proved forever that theatre can be surprisingly redefined by who stands on the stage.

The Creative Partners On Stage Festival is back for its second year from April 11 to 13. Three days featuring two great shows per day make up the scheduling for this wonderful festival. Each day, between the shows, is an extended intermission for the sets to be re-figured for the next performance and allows time for patrons to visit the artisan marketplace in the Orangeville Town Hall Atrium. This is a chance to marvel at the beautiful artwork created by these artists and also to shop for items that are as unique as the people who made them.

Then, back we go upstairs to the theatre for the second show.

Kait Gallant, program coordinator at Theatre Orangeville, spoke to the Citizen about the festival and how excited she is to be involved with it and C.P.O.S.

"We have been super busy," she said. "It felt really good last year when we did the first festival and we felt we wanted to do it again. This is their big show. After it last year, we stopped for a break and C.P.O.S. took the summer off."

Theatre Orangeville still had the Young Company shows to do but there was time to talk about the festival with the creative teams and they were back in September, working with CLD and C.P.O.S.

Now, 23 years after the beginning of C.P.O.S. Kait Gallant said, "There are definitely some familiar faces back this year and some people who have aged into C.P.O.S. from Theatre Orangeville Exceptional Players (T.O.E.P.), which includes young people from grades 7

and up. Being able to see them coming up is really exciting."

Gallant is coming to her fourth year in May at Theatre Orangeville; her third full season. She explained that C.P.O.S. was one of the first things she worked on with Theatre Orangeville, having had experience working with the neurodiverse community before.

Her enthusiasm for her job is compelling. Gallant assured us that even when she has had a stressful day, when she comes into the rehearsal hall, there is a constant state of joy – she is filled with joy being with that group of actors.

She laid it out: "These groups do the work that they do, I see how passionate they are, it's courageous."

The Creative Partners On Stage Festival in partnership with CLD is offering two original shows, written for the festivals and performed by C.P.O.S.

First up is "All You Need is Love," written and directed by Chandra Pepper. Peaceful Piper Reef is disrupted by a sudden surge of competition and "selfISHness," which causes "mayhem and discord." When two buddies, Oscar and Marlin go looking for someone to help quell the trouble, they make an amazing discovery about where the answers really are.

"All You Need is Love" is co-choreographed by Chandra Pepper and Kait Gallant.

Following the extended intermission is "Cruise Control," a saga written by Elizabeth Glenday and Kristen Gamache.

A voyage on board a cruise ship takes us through "love, adventure and sometimes rough waters!"

A laugh-out-loud comedy, we are promised, that will have us joining in with the songs and dancing in our seats.

Cruise Control is directed by Elizabeth Glenday, and the choreography is by Kristen Gamache.

The pre-production for this festival began in August, while rehearsals started at the end of October.

The cast and creative team "work very hard

and they deliver a dynamic show," Gallant said.

"What was hard about it was definitely all the bad weather this past winter, which meant fitting in what they had to fit in yet, all the joy has been persistent; they never allow those feelings of frustration to halt their process. There stays a positive space in a positive room," Gallant told us.

"They support each other and the community and ensemble," was her comment, "That allows us to push forward. It's so easy when things are busy; when things are stressful, I am quickly reminded how much joy theatre is."

She keeps coming back to the word joy: it is very inspiring.

C.P.O.S. participants are keen and committed to having the opportunity to do what they love.

Theatre Orangeville supports the program through its professional team to the same calibre as any program on its main stage.

Gallant said they are not shy of pushing the actors to excel, as the actors want that too. Their input is wanted as well.

The shows are open to anyone to come and see them, with the purchase of a ticket.

"It's quite spectacular," Gallant praised the new shows.

During the extended intermissions, members from their community will be there to display and sell their artwork, to celebrate their art and there is real excitement to showcase these artists in all their work.

For artistic director David Nairn, who initiated the partnership between Theatre Orangeville and CLD and the formation of C.P.O.S. back in 2003, what makes these shows special



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

REHEARSALS: Monica, Sara and Philip are hard at work in rehearsals for All You Need Is Love, one of the two shows you can see at the Creative Partners on Stage Festival. On at Theatre Orangeville from April 11 to 13, a program the theatre runs in partnership with Community Living Dufferin.

is how they "touch my heart more deeply and honestly," he said. "You'd have to have a heart of stone not to be moved by them."

Commenting on some of the cast for C.P.O.S. shows, Narin said, "Some of them have been with us for more than 20 years; they have developed considerable talent."

He noted that audiences "kind of" don't know what to expect. They come with diminished expectations and encounter a production of laughter, hope and joy. Everyone comes away changed, he is sure, "entertained, enlightened, enchanted."

For more details and to purchase tickets, go to www.theatreorangeville.ca or call the charming folk at the Box Office at 519-938-7584. You can also stop by at 87 Broadway.

Tickets are sold separately for each show, "All you Need is Love" or "Cruise Control."

There is one price for both at only \$35.

Kick-off springright with the Orangeville Lions Club's 26th Annual Home & Garden Show

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

Spring is here and with it comes the season of home improvement.

To assist residents of Orangeville and the surrounding area with their various improvement projects this spring, the Orangeville Lions Club is hosting its 26th Annual Home & Garden Show from April 4 to 6.

The three-day event will feature 135 exhibitors filling nearly 190 booths at the Orangeville Fairgrounds (247090 Five Sideroad).

"The Home & Garden Show gets people stepping out of hibernation and coming to meet vendors in the community to learn about what's new and what they can do to improve their home for the summer," said John Lackey of the Orangeville Lions, who's helping organize the event.

The Home & Garden Show runs from 5 to 9 p.m. on April 4, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on April 5 and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on April 6.

Organizers anticipate 6,000 to 7,000 people will drop in over the three days.

Businesses focused on real estate, gardening, landscaping, home renovations, pools, doors, windows, home décor and interior design will make up much of the Home & Garden Show.

"There's quite a variety of businesses that come to the show, and I think it's a great opportunity for the community to see what's out there," said Lackey.

There will also be nine not-for-profits organizations at the show and they'll be educating attendees about the charitable work they do in the community.

"They'll let people know what services they provide," Lackey said. "That's an important feature of the show as well. It gives the community some knowledge as to what services are out there and how they can support them."

New this year is the Speakers Corner, which will be set up in the food court area of the fairgrounds on April 5 and 6.

Lackey said he'd encourage everyone to stop by the Home & Garden show to support a good cause while seeing what's available locally.

"Come and see what's new for the Orangeville community," Lackey smiled.

Sections of Bruce Trail closed due to ice hazards

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

The Bruce Trail Conservancy's Dufferin Hi-Land trail has been temporarily closed for the safety of visitors and volunteers as a result of an ice storm over the weekend.

Several areas along the Bruce Trail have been heavily impacted by the storm, these include Mono Cliffs, Boyne Valley and Black Bank, which covers all associated side trails between Mono Centre and Lavender.

BTC staff and volunteers are in the process of assessing the damage and carefully planning for the removal of hazards.

During the assessment, other areas of the Bruce Trail may be temporarily closed. The BTC will provide further notices and updates about Trail closures and re-openings on its website, the Bruce Trail App and on the organization's Facebook and Instagram accounts.

The damage in these areas includes downed trees and branches, and the destruction of infrastructure such as bridges

and boardwalks. In some sections, it may take several weeks to clear the hazards and debris to make the Bruce Trail safe and passable. Until that time, scheduled hikes and activities planned by Bruce Trail Clubs in these areas will be cancelled or postponed.

"As we work to restore the affected areas of Canada's oldest and longest marked footpath, we are also thinking of our many friends and neighbours across Ontario who have been impacted by the storm," said Michael McDonald, Bruce Trail Conservancy CEO.

"We are so grateful to our trail development and maintenance volunteers, staff and community partners, who will be working hard over the coming weeks to clear the Trail and make it safe to explore ahead of the summer hiking season."

In addition to the Dufferin Hi-Land Section of the Bruce Trail being closed, the entire Blue Mountains Section, including the main Bruce Trail and all associated side trails between Lavender and Craileith are closed.

Spring Into Style!

CLOTHING SWAP & SHARE

Saturday, April 26, 2025
10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Sunday, April 27, 2025
12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Grand Valley Public Library
4 Amaranth St. E, Grand Valley

Bring your unwanted spring and summer clothing/accessories to the event and look for something new to wear for free! Don't have anything to bring? Stop by anyway! All are welcome.

Clothing Drop-Off Options at Grand Valley Public Library:
Wednesday, April 23rd (6pm - 8pm)
Thursday, April 24th (6pm - 8pm)
Friday, April 25th (10am - 6pm)
Saturday, April 26th (9am - 10am)

All clothing must be clean and in good condition.
Event guidelines: dufferincounty.ca/waste

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Lots begin closing at 5pm on Apr 18th. Preview on auction day, 10am-4pm.

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LIVE AUCTION SALE
 for **Ron & Wilma Lehman**
Saturday April 5, 10:30am

7681 Highway 89, Mount Forest, ON From Mount Forest come 9.3km East on Hwy 89 OR from Conn come 4.7km West on Hwy 89. To sale on South side of highway.

**** PARKING ON ROAD** **NOTE - POND ON SITE - please be aware for children****

Tractors/Skid Steer: Case IH 5230 4WD tractor, 660 Quicke loader, 6770 hrs; Ford NH 5030 4WD tractor, 7310 loader; Gehl 4840 skid steer & material bucket. **Mach/Equip/Accs:** Gehl 1410 manure spreader; Gehl 940 forage wagon; H.L.A. skidsteer pallet forks; Agro-Trend 71 snowblower; Hawklime box scraper; Maple Lane skidsteer; Ford manure bucket; Ford bale spear; Little Giant 6" auger; Hinniker 1120 20' cultivator; Horst 20H wagon gear; Kewanne 16' disc; Danuser posthole auger; Kverneland 5/16 semi-mount plow; acid applicator for round baler; 9' chain conveyor; 30' chain conveyor; 8'sweep auger; grain auger **Hay Equip:** NH Br740A round baler, net wrap/twine; Gehl 2340 discbine, 9'; Farm King 4 pod tedder; NH HT 152 wheel rake; Maple Lane (SS)round bale spear; Tubeline bale 3pth unroller; horse drawn hay mower; 30ft round bale wagon. **Sheep/Hog Equip:** Steel lambing pens; collapsible sheep rnd bale feeders; lamb feeders; goat rnd bale feeder; wood & hog panel sheep hay feeder; plastic pig feeders; ss pig feeders; pig barrel feeder; homemade wood lamb hay feeders; used 45gal plastic barrels made to lamb warmers; Mar-Weld sheep handling system; homemade runway system; hog paneling; pig scale-dial type **Shop & Farm Related Items, Hay/Straw:** (90)bales oat straw, 2022, stored outside; (30)bales hay, last year, 2nd cut, stored outside **Lunch Booth & Washroom Available Preview: Friday April 4, 1-6pm**

Note: Shorter sale - please be on time - not a large number of small items

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- Previous heavy equipment experience preferred.

To view a comprehensive overview of the position, please go to <https://jobs.dayforcehcm.com/en-US/irs/CANDIDATEPORTAL/jobs/1755>. Interested candidates please send a copy of your resume and cover letter to cstewart@iceriversprings.com or write to:

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First Ave West (by train tracks/ new condo mailboxes)

Royal LePage RCR Realty, 126 Main Street East, Shelburne

Stewart Street (Hyland subdivision by mailboxes)

Hornings Mills (by the Community Centre)

Dean Road, Mulmur (by news boxes)

Shelburne Canadian Legion (front entrance on 2nd Ave.)

Superburger, 506269 ON-89, Shelburne (Corner of Hwy 89 and 10)

Town Hall, 203 Main St E, Shelburne (inside Town Hall)

Trillium Ford, 506168 ON-89, Mono

CDRC, 200 Fiddle Park Lane, Shelburne (Box inside lobby)

Foodland, 824 Ojibway Rd, Shelburne

Caravaggio, 128 Main St E, Shelburne

Autocare Plus, 710C Industrial Rd, Shelburne

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PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER!

Yard waste season underway: collections to start in Shelburne on April 14

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

With spring in full swing, the season of yard waste collection is again upon Dufferin County residents.

Yard waste is collected between April and November each year, and collections will begin in Orangeville on the week of April 7. In the urban areas of Shelburne and Grand Valley, as well as rural subdivisions, collections will

begin on the week of April 14.

All other rural areas will have collections begin the week of April 7.

For a map of neighbourhoods that receive yard waste collection, visit dufferincounty.ca/waste-services/yard-waste.

Waste collection starts on either Monday, April 7 or Monday, April 14 at 7 a.m. and proceeds throughout the week until the area is complete.

In rural areas, yard waste is collected on a monthly call-in basis.

Please note that your yard waste collection may not be on the same day as your regular collection day.

Acceptable yard waste items include:

- Fallen fruit from trees
- Grass clippings
- Hedge trimmings
- Leaves

- Tree prunings (sticks, twigs and small branches)
- Weeds
- Yard and house plants (no soil)
- Yard and garden trimmings

Place yard waste in paper bags, labelled containers or bundles.

Dufferin Waste also provides yellow yard waste stickers for personal containers and can be called at 519-941-2816 ext. 2620ca to inquire.

Shelburne Public Library shares upcoming events, recommended read this week

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Shelburne Public Library has many exciting events for adults coming up in the next few weeks:

• April 16 at 12 p.m. – National Canadian Film Day: Join us and watch “Force of Nature: The David Suzuki Movie.”

• April 16 at 7 p.m. – Coffee, Conversation & Books featuring Sonia Day comes to the Grand Valley Public Library.

• April 26 at 2 p.m. – David T. Chapman will present Exploring Birds of Ontario III and give attendees tips and tricks to identify birds

quickly in the wild

• May 4 at 2 p.m. – Library Literary Event featuring Robert Rotenberg will be held at the Shelburne Public Library

Please register for any of the above events by calling the Shelburne Public Library at 519-925-2168 or by visiting its website at shelburnelibrary.ca.

RECOMMENDED READ:

Wake by Shelley Burr: The tiny outback town of Nannine lies in the harsh red interior of Australia. Once a thriving center of stock-

yards and sheep stations, years of punishing drought have petrified the land and Nannine has been whittled down to no more than a stoplight, a couple bars, and a police station. And it has another, more sinister claim to fame: the still-unsolved disappearance of young Evelyn McCreery nineteen years ago. Mina McCreery's life has been defined by the intense public interest in her sister's case—which is still a hot topic. Now an anxious and reclusive adult, Mina lives alone on her family's sunbaked, destocked sheep farm. Enter Lane Holland, a young private investigator

who dropped out of the police academy to earn a living cracking cold cases.

Why Jade recommends it: What drew me to this book, at least initially, was the similarity to fellow Australian author, Jane Harper's books. The harsh and unyielding landscape plays a critical role in stories like these, and adds an additional threat to an already tense story. While Lane is drawn into Mina's world as a result of the large monetary gain he stands to earn if he solves the case, he proves himself as a likeable P.I. and I look forward to the next installment.


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M&M FOOD MARKET



INCREDIBLE PRICE **SAVE \$10**

29⁹⁹

Boneless, Skinless Chicken Breasts
8-12 BREASTS 1.36 kg/3lb

Other size available, 4-6 BREASTS 680 g/1.5 lb **\$16.99 SAVE \$6**

INCREDIBLE PRICE **SAVE \$9**

19⁹⁹

Slow Cooked Beef Pot Roast
907 g/2 lb

Also available, Pork Pot Roast 907 g/2 lb **\$16.99 SAVE \$6**

NEW! Sweet Teriyaki Heat

14⁹⁹ each

SAVE \$4

Fall Off the Bone® Back Ribs
1 FULL RACK OF RIBS 510 g - 680 g
Choose from 5 varieties.

SAVE \$5

Bistro Steaks
2 STEAKS x 170 g/6 oz.
Choose from 3 varieties.

Seniors Day Every Tuesday 10% Off Regular Priced Items!

SAVE \$3 each

Cream Cheese Stuffed Jalapeños 10-13 PIECES 360 g

SAVE \$4

Cream Cheese and Cheddar Stuffed Jalapeños 10-13 PIECES 360 g

SAVE \$2 each

Jamaican-Style Beef Patty Bites 500 g

SAVE \$2 each

Crispy Everything Cream Cheese Bites 14 PIECES 280 g

SNACKS 9⁹⁹ each

SALE

Spanakopita 12 PIECES 340 g

SAVE \$4

Lobster Mac & Cheese Bites 14 PIECES 252 g

SAVE \$2 each

Fried Battered Pickles 10-12 PIECES 390 g

SALE

Mini Vegetable Spring Rolls 16 PIECES 384 g

SALE

Artichoke Mac & Cheese Bites 14 PIECES 280 g

Chicken Quesadillas 4 PIECES 500 g

MIX AND MATCH

★ MULTI BUY ★
Buy 3 or more for \$3.33 each
Regular price \$4.99 each

SAVE AT LEAST \$4⁹⁸

Bistro Chicken® 114 g
Choose from:
• Swiss • Ricotta & Spinach

Stuffed, Breaded Chicken 142 g
Choose from:
• Broccoli and Cheese • Kiev • Parmesan • Swiss

14⁹⁹ each **SAVE \$3 each**

PARTY PACKS

Korean Appetizer Party Pack 21 PIECES 462 g **NEW!** **LIMITED TIME ONLY**

Asian Party Pack 38-46 PIECES 632 g

Indian Party Pack 32 PIECES 740 g

Pub Party Pack 32 PIECES 576 g

Also available, Puff Pastry Quartet 40 PIECES 720 g **\$18.99 SAVE \$4**

ON THE SIDE

NEW! **Veggies & Rice** 500 g **4⁹⁹ each**

VEGGIES 4⁹⁹ each SALE

Bistro-style Green Beans 300 g

Seasoned Sweet Peas 300 g

Gourmet Floret Medley 300 g

PASTA & RICE 9⁹⁹ each SALE

Penne Pasta Salad 400 g

Cheese & Spinach Ravioli 400 g

Mushroom Risotto 434 g

NEW! **Peaches & Cream Corn** 500 g

SALE **19⁹⁹ each**

Bacon Wrapped Chicken 4 PIECES x 142 g/5 oz

SAVE \$4

Mini Bacon Wrapped Chicken Fillets 14 PIECES 238 g

SAVE \$3 **25⁹⁹**

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

14⁹⁹

Bacon Wrapped Jalapeño Shooters® 12 PIECES 255 g

SAVE \$3 each

16⁹⁹

Bacon Wrapped Scallop Medallions 9-13 PIECES 300 g

25⁹⁹ SAVE \$2

Beef and Bacon Skewers 15 SKEWERS 450 g

MEALS MADE SIMPLE

12⁹⁹

Apple Butter Pork Tenderloin 400 g

SAVE \$2 each

15⁹⁹

Supreme Homestyle Meat Loaf 600 g

SAVE \$4

12⁹⁹

Meat Loaf Minis 4 PORTIONS 680 g

SAVE \$3

9⁹⁹

Maple Butter Pork Chops 4 PIECES 500 g

SAVE \$2

15⁹⁹ each

SANDWICH BAR

Pulled Pork 2 POUCHES x 340 g

Smoked Beef Brisket in BBQ Sauce 400 g

Philly Beef Steak 4 PORTIONS 336 g

NEW! **Montreal Smoked Meat** 2 POUCHES x 200 g

2 lb of Wings

23⁹⁹

Fully Cooked Chicken Wings 907 g/2 lb

SAVE \$5

7 VARIETIES

Buffalo, Honey Garlic, Louisiana Style, Barbecue

SINGLE SERVES 275 g - 340 g 4⁹⁹ each SALE

Fettuccine Alfredo

Spaghetti Bolognese

Cheese and Spinach Cannelloni

Chicken Pad Thai

Six Cheese Tortellini

Lasagna

NEW AND IMPROVED RECIPE! **Homestyle Shepherd's Pie**

NEW! **Butter Chicken**

NEW! **Sesame Noodles**

Also available, Chicken Lasagna • Chicken Parmesan • Sesame Chicken Noodles • Cabbage Rolls • Shanghai Style Beef Noodles • Chicken Teriyaki • Beef Chili • Homestyle Tuna Casserole • Shrimp & Scallop Pasta • Sweet Sriracha Chicken & Noodle Bowl • Macaroni & Cheese • Three Cheese Pasta Bake \$4.99 each **SALE**

INDULGE YOUR SWEET TOOTH

Pralines and Cream **Cheesecake Bites** 15 PIECES 300 g

Vanilla Bean **10⁹⁹ each** **SAVE \$3**

Mini Chocolate Peanut Butter Cakes 6 PIECES 300 g

NEW! **Mini Mocha Cheesecakes** 6 PIECES 330 g

100% CANADIAN DAIRY

SAVE \$2 **10⁹⁹ each**

Also available, Mini Raspberry Cheesecakes 6 PIECES 300 g **\$10.99 SAVE \$2**

Nanaimo Bites 15 PIECES 300 g

Mini Apple Crisp Cheesecakes 6 PIECES 360 g

NEW! **9⁹⁹**

Confetti CakePops 6 PIECES 216 g

Mini Cream Puffs 250 g

Also available, Caramel Cream Puffs 240 g **\$5.99 SALE**

5⁹⁹ each

Mini Eclairs 12 PIECES 200 g



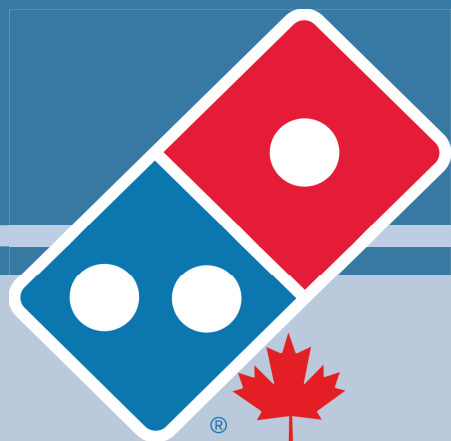
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