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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ALL SMILES: Rotary member Collette Whiting decorates cookies for the Tim Horton's Smile Cookie Campaign, which runs from April 28 to May 4. The funds raised through the sales of the smile cookies will go to the Shelburne Rotary Club to help support various charities in the community. See a full story on Page 5.

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County of Dufferin to allow local cattle farmers to lease 200 acres of public land

Written By PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Dufferin County cattle farmers will have the opportunity to expand their operations to a new pasture as Dufferin County Council approves an agreement to use 200 acres of public land.

Dufferin County Council approved a proposal to enter a 10-year lease agreement with the Grey-Dufferin Community Pasture Committee during their meeting on April 10. The lease agreement is for a roughly 200-acre piece of land off of Amaranth-Grand Valley Townline, which the County has owned for more than 30 years.

"How often do we talk about supporting local agriculture. We talk about it an awful lot, but we don't very often do a hell of a lot about it. This is an opportunity for us to really impact local producers in a positive way at very little, to no cost to the county ratepayers. I view this as a win, win, win all day long and really don't see any downside at all," said Coun. Wade Mills, Mayor of Shelburne, about the proposal.

Dufferin County Council has been discussing what to do with the piece of property for more than a year.

In March of 2024, the County's infrastructure and environmental services committee

explored turning the property into a landfill but opted against it. The committee then decided that the best option would be to sell the property, but the option was rejected by County Council.

In May of 2024, members from the Grey-Dufferin Community Pasture Committee presented their case to the County's community development and tourism committee, on why the piece of land should be used for cattle grazing.

The Grey-Dufferin Community Pasture Committee was established in 1979 as a provincial and federal partnership to support local agriculture. The committee is operated by a not-for-profit board with representatives from both Dufferin and Grey including the Cattlemen's Association and Federation of Agriculture.

The Grey-Dufferin Community Pasture Committee manages around 600 acres of land that is utilized by over 20 farm families, who pasture around 600 steers each year.

In addition to providing economic growth for the local agricultural sector by providing reliable pasture land to farmers, the Grey-Dufferin Community Pasture Committee also hosts farm tours and has worked with post-secondary institutions on research projects.

"Grey-Dufferin through the management

that we've had from the predecessors of our board of directors, has always made money and we've always improved pastures," said Dan Hargrove, Chair of the Grey-Dufferin Community Pasture Committee. "We treat this pasture as a business and we operate as a business to make money."

In their proposal, the Grey-Dufferin Community Pasture Committee highlighted the benefits the lease agreement would have for the County of Dufferin. These benefits include increasing the value of the property with fencing installation, improving the soil quality of the land, and providing an opportunity for young farmers to begin their cattle enterprises.

A number of Dufferin County councillors expressed their support in leasing the use of the land to the Grey-Dufferin Community Pasture Committee.

"There's the agricultural perspective of this, which is very important in my mind, right now it's support and eat Canadian and this is supporting that," said Coun. Guy Gardhouse, Mayor of East Garafraxa. "But it's also all the sideline things; the environmental tourism and education that is just as important. I also support this wholeheartedly."

Continued on Page 3



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Beyond the Gate named winner of 2025 Best Burger in the 'Burne contest

Written By PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The votes are in and Shelburne residents have selected Beyond the Gate as the restaurant in town with the best burger.

Shelburne BIA representatives Ed Crewson, Len Guchardi and Melissa Hooper presented Beyond the Gate with the 2025 Best Burger in the 'Burne plaque on Wednesday (April 23).

Owned and operated by Frederic Chartier, Beyond the Gate is an eclectic French restaurant and creperie, tucked away on Main Street in Shelburne.

Chartier is a true French Chef; hailing from the Loire Valley in France. Before settling in Shelburne, he spent over 20 years working around the globe, including for celebrity chefs, cooking in Michelin-star restaurants and for a Ritz Carlton.

After working in the Cayman Islands and the United States for over six years, Chef Freddie moved to Canada and became a Canadian citizen in March 2018.

Chef Freddie opened the doors of Beyond the Gate in 2017.

The burger at Beyond the Gate is made with all fresh items and is a mix of ground beef and pork, topped with pancetta, egg, caramelized onion, and "the stinkiest cheese as possible". The meal is served with duck-fat fried French fries and a peppercorn mayo.

"If people take the step to come here and try the food they'll realize it's worth the money and maybe come a little more often," said Chef Freddie.

The Shelburne BIA kicked off the Best Burger in the 'Burne Contest at the start of March with four participating local restaurants: Beyond the Gate, Dufferin Public House, Main Street Café and Topsy Fox.

This year, the Shelburne BIA utilized a ranked ballot system to determine the "best burger" and received roughly 50 ballots for submission.

"We're very pleased that so many of our restaurant owners participated in this annual event and that so many patrons decided to support these restaurants in this competition to see who produces the best burger in the 'Burne," said Crewson, chair of the Shelburne BIA. "We're excited to announced that



PAULA BROWN PHOTO

BEST SHEL-BURGER: Chef Frederic Chartier, owner of Beyond the Gate, won the 2025 Best Burger in the 'Burne contest and received a plaque on Wednesday (April 23) from Shelburne BIA representatives Melissa Hooper, Len Guchardi and Ed Crewson.

Freddie at Beyond the Gate prepared the best burger. I can attest to the quality of his food as a regular patron."

"It's exciting to do this every year and bring some traffic to the restaurants. The owners are always excited to participate," said Guchardi.

As part of the contest, the Shelburne BIA also held a draw for a \$100 gift certificate to any downtown business. Orangeville resident Garin Gaudet was drawn as the winner and chose a gift certificate to Beyond the Gate, the restaurant he voted as having the best burger in town.

Shelburne veterans encourage Dufferin County residents to fly Canadian flags

Written By PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

A local veteran is hoping to inspire other Dufferin County residents to express their Canadian patriotism ahead of the upcoming federal election.

John Flannery, a veteran with Shelburne Legion Branch 220, is encouraging Dufferin County residents to purchase and display Canadian flags any way they can as a show of patriotism. The idea behind the initiative came in response to the political turmoil caused by U.S. President Donald Trump, and his statements surrounding Canada becoming the 51st state.

"The political turmoil with Trump has really woken up Canadian patriotism, and I thought we should do something about it," said Flannery. "The first thing I did was buy a flag and put it on my vehicle. I've decided to show patriotism by sharing the flag around and bringing it to people's attention."

While there are a number of symbolic items that could be used to show Canadian patriotism, Flannery explained why he chose to use the Canadian flag as part of his initiative.

"The flag and the maple leaf are a symbol of the whole country; this is Canada. The Canadian flag is very easy to recognize and is probably the best in the world," he said.

Flannery joined the Armoured Corps in 1949 and remained with the Canadian Military until his retirement in 1982. During his time in the military, Flannery did four tours in Germany on NATO duty, one year in Egypt and six months in Cyprus.

On his mission to spread patriotism, Flannery



FILE PHOTO

PROUDLY CANADIAN: Veterans of Shelburne Legion Branch 220, John Flannery (right) and Walter Kolodziechuk (left), are encouraging residents to show their patriotism by displaying Canadian flags, amidst rising tensions with the U.S.

nery has shared his idea and message with other local veterans, members of the Shelburne Air Cadets, local businesses and politicians.

Walter Kolodziechuk, a member of the Shelburne Legion's Veterans Association, shared support for his fellow comrades' efforts.

"Our ancestors did a lot for our country, to make it what it is today, and we can not, all of us, just go along for the free ride," said Kolodziechuk, who served in the Canadian military and as a police officer for three decades. "We have to keep doing things to make sure our country stands for what they fought for."

Kolodziechuk also noted the importance of the next generation "picking up the torch".

"We need to get our young people involved; those are the ones who are going to carry the flags," he said. "Us old guys aren't always going to be here to carry them."

The federal election will be held on April 28.

Majority of council supports leasing lands

Continued from Front

"I see that this land as a form of reserve fund that Dufferin County holds, will continue to hold, and will only increase in value. It can be used 20 years down the road for some other project, but in the meantime the land will be improved and will be contributing to our agricultural community," said Amaranth Deputy Mayor Gail Little, who is a beef farmer in the community and County Councillor. "I see the value in this opportunity."

Philip Rentsch, Deputy Mayor of Grand Valley, was the only County Councillor who opposed the agreement.

"At Dufferin County [Council] we're looking at spending a pile of money over the next few years and these two properties are assets that we don't need. I don't think the benefits

are going to be all that great," said Rentsch.

With the proposal being before Dufferin County Committees and County Council several times in the past, Coun. Darren White, Mayor of Melancthon, urged the need to make a decision on the agreement.

"This may not be the perfect example of the use of this property or the scale or economics, but we have to start somewhere. My only regret is we keep kicking this back to council. We could have made this decision five months ago," said White.

Dufferin County Council passed a motion to enter into a 10-year lease agreement with the Grey-Dufferin Community Pasture Committee with the option to extend for an additional five years.

The terms of the lease are set to begin as of May 1.

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OPINION

Three cows please

I used to work with a guy who came from a certain European country.

In fact, there were several guys at this place of business from that same country. That country in particular had a good work ethic. Generally, the culture thought you should work for a living to support your family.

The guys were all friendly and fun to work with.

The reason I won't mention the country is because there is a joke here, and as we all know, you can no longer tell a joke about a particular person, nationality, group, ethnicity, hair colour, religious belief, political status, weight, gender, shoe size, or eyebrows without someone getting offended.

So I'll just refer to this guy as coming from Country 'C'.

He would tell me about his homeland from time to time, and in the course of discussion, he said his country would never rise to a top nation status – even though that particular country is doing well.

He told me there is a national joke they have about themselves and their attitude, and why they will never outperform their neighbours.

The joke is:

A guy and his two friends, all from different countries, found a magic lamp. Yes, it had a Genie who granted them all one wish.

The man from Country A, said 'I only have one cow. My neighbour has three cows. I want to have three cows like my neighbour.'

"Granted," said the Genie.

The man from Country B, said, "I only have one cow. My neighbour has three cows. I want three cows like my neighbour."

"Your wish is granted," said the Genie, and the guy got his three cows.

"What is your wish?" the Genie asked the guy from Country C.

The man from Country C replied, "I only have one cow. My neighbour has three cows. I want him to have only one cow, like me."

Some people just do not like it when someone else achieves success.

This happens on a small scale all the time, and I'm sure you have seen it yourself. You have a friend or family member who does something remarkable, and there is always the one person who makes a derogatory comment about that achievement.

Recently, there has been a growing

resentment about billionaires. People really hate it when a person becomes extremely successful.

There are posts going around social media claiming that billionaires are the real problem in society and are the ones causing the ills of the nation.

Maybe the people who have steady employment in a company owned by a billionaire would disagree.

Not a lot of people have the ability to achieve great wealth. If it were easy, we would all do it.

However, the opportunity is there. Nothing is stopping you from trying to be a success in life.

Several years ago, a poverty group in Toronto decided to hold a protest. They chose to march through the Forest Hill area of the city and condemn the 'rich' people who lived there, for being wealthy.

They marched through the streets with signs and chants saying that the rich people who lived in nice homes were the reason other people lived in poverty.

The protest fell flat. They did not achieve the support they thought they would receive.

Most people realize you can't blame a rich guy because another person lives in poverty. In fact, the people living in

these fancy houses employed a lot of people. If the people in the poverty group apply for a job with one of these companies, they may be able to work their way out of a bad situation.

One homeowner in that neighbourhood was interviewed and asked what he thought about a poverty protest in front of his house.

He replied by saying he and his neighbours had all worked hard for years to build their businesses and there was nothing stopping the people in the poverty group from working hard to achieve success themselves.

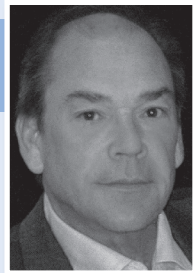
There's an old saying: Money can't buy happiness.

Well, yes, it can. I've never heard anyone say, "Financial stability is horrible."

The same people who always say you can't point at a certain group and blame them for a problem in society are the first to do the very same thing and point out high achievers as the reason for someone else's problems.

We're not all going to become rich, but there's nothing stopping you from trying.

BRIAN LOCKHART
FROM THE SECOND ROW



African scoreboard

Last Tuesday, British Foreign Secretary David Lammy said: "Many have given up on Sudan, but that is wrong. It's morally wrong when we see so many civilians beheaded, infants as young as one subjected to sexual violence, more people facing famine than anywhere else in the world... We simply cannot look away."

But Lammy was wrong. Of course we can look away. We do it all the time, especially when the disaster is happening in Africa. And by the way, 'we' includes many if not most Africans themselves: they too feel exhausted by the seemingly endless media reports of turmoil, violence and injustice.

Lammy was hosting an international meeting in London to mark the second anniversary of the outbreak of the Sudanese civil war, and all the usual things were said, all the standard (quite modest) pledges of money for starving Sudanese

refugees made. And at the end, everybody went home in despair.

The civil war in Sudan is truly terrible, with no hope of better in sight. The death toll, mostly civilians, is estimated at 150,000 but could plausibly be anything up to half a million. Twelve million people, more than a quarter of the population, have fled from their homes, and Khartoum, the capital (which recently changed hands) looks only slightly better than Gaza.

The leaders of the two sides are cruel and cynical bandits masquerading as military officers. General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan is the commander of the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF). Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo, universally known as 'Hemedti', is the leader of the Rapid Support Forces (RSF). And the mercenaries who work for them are the scum of the earth.

The only reason for the war is the

struggle between the two crooks for control of the country's resources. Hemedti has most of the gold, Burhan controls the flow of oil from South Sudan to the country's only port, Port Sudan on the Red Sea. and the sole hope for peace is a recent hint by Hemedti that they might just partition what's left of the old Sudan between them.

The African Union immediately stated that it will not allow the country to be partitioned again, but the RSF has already taken a tentative step in that direction by declaring itself a rival government across the whole country. Stay tuned for more tragedies. However....

Everything I have written here is true, and it is the sort of thing people expect to see in a report on Africa. But it is also misleading about the reality of the African continent today.

There are fifty-five countries in Africa (including a number of offshore islands), and in only two of them, Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo, are there open wars. In both cases the fighting is confined within the borders of the country, although the DRC also has the troops of at least two neighbouring countries on its territory.

There are close to a dozen ongoing insurgencies in parts of other African countries (Mozambique, Cameroon, Nigeria, Mali, Somalia, etc.), but in almost every case you would have to travel to out-of-the-way parts of the country to see any evidence of fighting above the level of mere terrorism.

In big African cities the level of personal safety ranges from New York City in the

late 1980s to London now. In most countries there is a tolerable level of crime and reasonable safety for those who take the obvious precautions.

And then there is the enduring African miracle of stable borders. Even 55 African countries are not nearly enough to provide each major ethnic and linguistic group with its own sovereign territory. You'd need at least twice as many even to accommodate every group of half a million with its own country.

So the founding doctrine of the Organisation of African Unity 62 years ago was that all the colonial borders must stay where they are. The diverse populations within each border will have to learn to live together, because the only alternative is several centuries of war to sort the surviving ethnic groups into linguistically and ethnically homogeneous nation-states.

The miracle is that it worked. Apart from the Sudan/South Sudan and Eritrea/Ethiopia splits, there have been no major changes to African borders since the end of colonial rule in the 1950s and 60s. Compare that to what happened in 20th century Europe, where borders changed drastically amid catastrophic wars, and you will understand what an achievement that is.

Most African countries are poor, and many are dictatorships. They face huge challenges from climate change and rapid population growth. But the glass is more than half-full.

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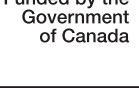
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COMMUNITY VOICES

Monthly message: Family Transition Place highlights Youth Education Program

In response to the need of our community to have an increased awareness of healthy and unhealthy relationships, Family Transition Place (FTP) began delivering Youth Education in schools in 2001. Within the current divisive world climate, we are reminded of the importance and essential need of these programs – now, more than ever.

Since its inception, more than 50,000 students in over 40 schools have participated in our skill-building and attitude-changing programming. At the culmination of the 2023-24 school year, another 1943 students were added to the growing number of youths who have benefitted from these programs. This year alone, our Youth Educators completed 648 in-class lessons comprised of 81 8-week programs in classrooms across 18 schools, and an additional 14 independent lessons delivered to high school classes and after school and community groups where we were privileged to educate 87 additional participants, including parents.

Delivered in partnership with the Upper Grand District School Board, FTP's Youth Education Programs increase the ability for youth in our community to form and maintain healthy relationships. These programs increase respectful, empathetic and caring behaviors and increase youth self-esteem. This is achieved through a multi-year approach (grades 5-8) through 8-week multi-lesson curriculums. These four grade-based programs

are strengths based and interactive and provide violence prevention education, role modelling and leverage current media and technology to generate awareness and understanding of social issues, supports and services – in Dufferin County and beyond. Below is a summary of the various programs we offer.



family transition place

Grade 5: Stereotype Busters Program
This program explores the link between stereotypes, discrimination and unhealthy relationships. Students learn and practice skills to facilitate behavior change.

Grade 6: Inspire Program
Students explore and practice the use of empathy to build healthy relationships. Students examine key issues that empathetic behavior can assist with, including diversity, family issues and unhealthy relationships.

Grade 7: Power Program
This program promotes personal safety through the development of healthy relationships. Students learn to build and maintain healthy relationships through effective communication, emotional self-regulation and the safe use of communications technology.

Grade 8: I am Program
Examines the importance of having a positive personal image using self-esteem-build-

ing activities. Students will explore topics that can impact an individual's self-esteem and how that can affect daily decisions.

Our Youth Educators use scientific evaluation tools, collect data in an ethically sound manner, and conduct surveys before, during and after our individual programs to gauge participant progress and content understanding.

Throughout the program, students will experience attitudinal and behavioral change, resulting in making healthier decisions for themselves and accepting people's differences. They have increased self-awareness, self-management and social awareness skills. We see an improvement in positive social behaviors, responsible decision making and increasing abilities to maintain healthy relationships.

Each of our lessons include pre-program and post-program analyses. The statistical results were very encouraging and indicate significant progress is being made in the areas of relationship knowledge, empathy levels, self-efficacy skills, self-esteem, feelings of hope, classroom climates and a reduction in stereotypical attitudes. Our 2023/24 year-end results were very encouraging.

The long-term goals of the program are to

reduce incidents of aggression and violence, students increase their ability to form and maintain healthy relationships and respect for themselves and others. They have improved emotional wellbeing – physical and mental health – and a deeper belief in self and self-awareness.

FTP is the only agency providing this type of education and support within our region and it is imperative, if we want to end gender-based violence, that our youth understand what it means to be good friends, siblings and partners. By educating youth – our next generation – FTP ensures we are closer to realizing our vision: a future free from abuse, where all individuals are treated with compassion, equity and respect, and live their lives in healthy relationships.

Of all of FTP's programs, our Youth Education Program is the only one offered exclusively through donor support and fund-raised dollars. While schools and community groups pay a modest cost recovery fee to receive programming, we receive no government or ministry funding to deliver these essential programs. For 25 years, the Youth Education Program has been and will continue to be a fundraising priority for FTP.

To learn more, including how you can support this vital program, or secure this programming within your school, please contact Brennan Solecky at brennan@familytransitionplace.ca or at 519-942-4122 ext. 240.

Smile Cookie campaign to launch locally in support of Shelburne Rotary Club, food bank

Written By PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Shelburne residents will have the chance to help support local charities by purchasing chocolate chip cookies decorated with blue and pink frosted smiles.

The annual Tim Hortons Smile Cookie campaign is back from April 28 to May 4, with 100 per cent of the proceeds going to the Rotary Club of Shelburne.

"We're honoured to have been selected again by John and Meagen and the staff of Tim Hortons. We very much appreciate

their trust in the Rotary to make this donation to us, knowing we will disperse the money into the community for local charities in need," said Bill Waite, president of the Rotary Club of Shelburne.

The money raised from the fundraiser will be distributed by the Shelburne Rotary Club to several local causes, including the Shelburne Food Bank, the Christmas Hamper program, the Backpack program and more.

"We get a lot of outreaches from groups in the community, needing some funds. Some of are regular requests that we plan on, who

kind of count on us, and this goes to help with those," said Waite. "Every year we also get more [groups] reaching out to us for the first time. This helps us satisfy some of those new needs in the community as well."

Last year, the Rotary Club of Shelburne received \$17,000 in donations through the Smile Cookies Campaign.

"As you can imagine, \$17,000 makes a tremendous impact. So please, if you can, buy some cookies knowing that you're giving that money to local organizations, who very much need it and appreciate it," said Waite. Tim Hortons first began the Smile Cookie

campaign in 1996 to help raise funds for the Hamilton Children's Hospital and has kept it going to help raise funds for community charities. Since its inception, the Smile Cookie program has raised over \$130 million nationwide.

In 2025, the Smile Cookie campaign raised a total of \$19.8 million, supporting over 600 charities and community groups in Canada and the United States. Recipients included local hospitals, community care organizations, food banks and schools.

The Tim Hortons Smile Cookie Campaign will run from April 28 until May 4.

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

This is a FREE event. Light refreshments will be served. Plus, get a chance to win prizes!



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15th Annual Hike for Bethell Hospice

Sunday, May 4, 2025

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Saturday, April 26, 2025
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Arts & Entertainment LOCAL COMMUNITY EVENTS

LP Productions to travel ‘under the sea’ in latest production

Written By MARIE HOY-KENNY

Audiences are invited to join the LP cast and crew “under the sea” for their latest musical, *The Little Mermaid*.

They won’t be disappointed, due to the fact that the young local performers’ beautiful singing and acting skills are astonishingly professional. In addition, the directors, cast, crew, and set designers have been hard at work creating a gorgeous set with surprises and special effects that will thrill crowds.

This show promises to deliver the wow factor.

This classic Disney production is beautifully adapted for the stage and the beloved music is sure to be familiar — to audiences young and seasoned — due to the wildly successful original animated movie in 1989, and the live-action version in 2023.

Audiences will love the humour and heart that the cast — ages 9-18 — portray, and will resonate with the evergreen moral lesson to follow one’s heart and to believe in the power of love. As Ariel, the Little Mermaid herself says, “Who says dreams have

to stay just dreams?”

“The show is family-friendly, mysterious, entertaining, and exciting. Some fun parts are the songs *Human Stuff* with the seagulls, and *Under The Sea*, the biggest musical number. An exciting dramatic scene takes place in Ursula’s lair with the eels. I won’t give away any spoilers, but I will say this show will blow audiences away,” said Alison Port, one of the show’s directors.

For this show, both of Alison’s daughters are involved. Danielle Gamache is the assistant director and Kristen Gamache is the choreographer. They are joined in their leadership by long-time cast member and high school student, Mia Jin, who is the musical director, and Dale Lundy, who builds the sets.

Port hopes that the community will come out to support the talented and hardworking local youth who have been preparing for this show, practicing three days a week since January.

Come on down to the Grace Tipling Hall in Shelburne for shows running from Friday, May 9, until Sunday, May 18, and become part of their world.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

UNDER THE SEA: The cast for LP Production’s *The Little Mermaid* is excited to take the show to Grace Tipling Hall in Shelburne from May 9 to 18.

Theatre Orangeville presents world premiere, ‘I’m In Love With Your Sister’

Written By CONSTANCE SCRAFIELD

The cast and crew at Theatre Orangeville are thrilled and excited to be the first to produce and perform the World Premiere of “I’m In Love With Your Sister” by Norm Foster.

This brilliant show opens on May 1 and runs until May 18. What adds to the excitement is the cast themselves, Maria Dinn, Reid Janisse and Erin MacKinnon, each of whom has performed in several Foster plays and appeared here at Theatre Orangeville as well.

“I’m In Love With Your Sister,” so we were told collectively in an interview with the cast and the director of the piece, David Naim,

includes much humour, a life-changing and traumatic fork in the road and the unexpected — all comedy’s favourite elements.

“It can take a heartbreak to realize what you are after hanging on to what’s convenient,” was MacKinnon’s comment, in the role of Louise.

Foster enjoys putting odd characters together to see what will happen.

Naim said, “His plays are more focused on the characters. His plays are character-driven.”

Naim expressed his opinion humorously that the playwright gleans most of his dialogue from sitting in coffee shops, listening to people talk. Foster allows his highly orig-

inal characters to show themselves, with Naim saying, “That’s the key to his success.”

This is true especially of his widely accepted talent for portraying women, getting inside how they really talk to each other, has been the praise.

Hopefully, we have all loved and the comedy here is how things can resolve themselves.

Reid Janisse plays Kevin, an ordinary sort of chap, working a mundane sort of job whose life gets turned upside down when he is faced with a revelation. The three characters live in the same neighbourhood, not in a big city but a place with a small-town life. Into this comes a broken heart and a burden

for the audience to bear.

Any time the audience comes into the theatre, they leave changed, was Naim’s assertion. He insists that even to a small extent, the experience in live theatre of being engaged in the stories of the characters is so meaningful, that it continues to travel with us.

Maria Dinn’s character, Patsy was “in love with the wrong person,” as she put it. There is the element of wanting to change or bring out the best of a man. Yet, Patsy wants to celebrate Kevin’s strengths — from that place, one makes the best connection.

Continued on Page 16






Election Day
Monday, April 28

Malalai Halimi
For Dufferin-Caledon MP

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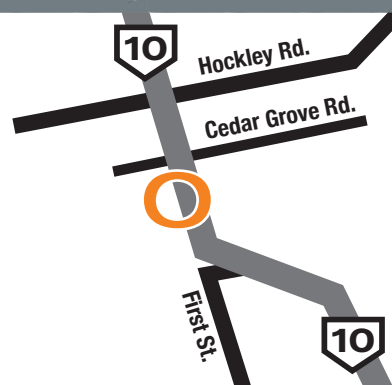


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SPORTS

Centre Dufferin girls' varsity rugby team wins season opener in shutout

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

Girls high school rugby has started the District 4 and 10 season with a six-game regular season schedule.

There are eight high schools entered in the girls' competition this season.

The Royals have a strong team this year with 31 girls on the roster. For eight of those players, it is their first season playing rugby.

The Centre Dufferin District High School Royals girls varsity team played their first game of the season when they hosted the Bears from Orangeville District Secondary School in Orangeville on the pitch at Centre Dufferin on Tuesday, April 22.

It was a well-played game by both teams, but the Royals got the edge early in the match and kept up the pressure for the entire game. A lot of time was spent in the Orangeville zone as the Royals' offence put out a strong effort in this game.

"We have a lot of new girls this year and I thought they all did extremely well today," said Royals player, Brooke Cunningham, after the game. "I think we have a strong team and I feel like we're going to have a very successful season. I think our pre-game warm-ups really help. I love this team, everybody picks everyone up – it's such a team sport."

First-year rugby player, Karina Taylor said she thought the team put out a good effort in the first game of the season.

"It was a good game," Karina said. "I think both sides did really well. We put a lot of pressure on them and they put a lot of pressure on us."

At the end of the match, the Royals came out on top with a 31-0 win in their first game of the year.

Girls' rugby is very active this season with teams from Centre Dufferin, Orangeville District Secondary School, Centennial Collegiate, Centre Wellington, Erin District, Guelph Collegiate, John F. Ross, and St. James fielding teams.

The regular season runs through to May 8, leading into playoffs.

Teams have to put out their best effort as only the top four teams will make the playoffs. Those four teams will play semi-finals to see who will go to the District Championship game.

The District Champion will then move on to regional competition at CWOSSA.



BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

SHUTOUT GAME: The Centre Dufferin District High School Royals girls' varsity rugby team host the Orangeville District Secondary School Bears on the pitch at Centre Dufferin on Tuesday, April 22. It was the opening game of the season. The Royals left the field with a 31-0 win in their first game of the year.

The Royals will have two road games before returning home.

They will be back on the field at CDDHS on Wednesday, April 30, when they will host Centre Wellington District High School.

Game time is 2:30 p.m.



No clear winners determined yet in Provincial Junior Hockey League playoffs

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

It's too early in the provincial Junior C hockey Schmalz Cup playoffs semi-final round to see any clear winners emerging.

Two best-of-seven series to decide what teams will go onto the championship round began on April 17.

The North Conference champion Hanover Barons are up against the Napanee Raiders

who won the East Conference championship.

Hanover defeated the Orillia Terriers in the Conference championships. The Raiders arrived after winning over the Clarington Eagles in their Conference championship.

In the current series, Napanee took Game One with a 3-1 win on April 17.

Hanover responded in Game Two of the series with a 5-2 win on April 18.

The Raiders took a lead in the series when they had home-ice advantage in Game Three and left the ice with a 2-1 win in front of a hometown crowd. That game was played to a 1-1 tie, and the teams returned for an overtime period to decide the winner.

It was over when Napanee scored at 11:15 into the overtime period

Game Four of that series is slated to get underway on Friday, April 25, in Hanover.

In the other series, the West Conference champion Essex 73s are up against the New Hamburg Firebirds who won the South Conference.

New Hamburg took an early lead in that series after winning Game One by a score of 2-1.

The first game was played to a 1-1 time,

forcing the teams to return for overtime.

Napanee scored at 50 seconds into the overtime period for the win.

Game two of the series took place on New Hamburg home ice on Monday, April 21.

Essex was leading the game 2-1 at the end of the second period.

Neither team could score in the third period and the 73s took the 2-1 win to even the series at one game apiece.

Game Three of the series was scheduled for Wednesday, April 23, in Essex.

The results of that game were not available at press time.

The winners of the two series will go on to play in the final best-of-seven championship final for the provincial Junior C Schmalz Cup.

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i'm lovin' it



ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

QUINN MILLSAP

Participating in track and field since Grade 9, CDDHS Grade 12 student Quinn Millsap is looking forward to breaking his personal best record this year.

"I feel like track and field is such a community and such a family," Quinn said of why he enjoys the sport. "It's a sport where you get to come out and try your hardest. Everyone can find a place in track and field."

A well rounded athlete, Quinn also plays volleyball in high school and also participates in golf, baseball, and swimming outside of school.

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2025 RAM 1500 BIG HORN SPORT CREW 4X4



RH0012

MSRP **\$69197** +HST/LIC
OC PRICE **\$54085** +HST/LIC

Includes
\$3325
OCL
BONUS CASH

FINANCE FROM
\$145 +HST/LIC /week
for 96 months at 4.99%
COB \$10735 - \$4500 DOWN

OR
0%
for up to 60
Months finance on
2024 RAM 1500



4 TO CHOOSE FROM

MSRP **\$73260** +HST/LIC
OC PRICE **\$69543** +HST/LIC

FINANCE FROM
\$190 +HST/LIC /week
for 96 months at 4.99%
COB \$13997 - \$4500 DOWN

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2025 JEEP COMPASS NORTH 4X4



ST0018

MSRP **\$46047** +HST/LIC
OC PRICE **\$41776** +HST/LIC

Includes
\$1000
OCL
BONUS CASH

LEASE FROM
\$99 +HST/LIC /week
for 48 months at 2.49%
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2024 DODGE HORNET R/T PHEV eAWD

2024 DODGE CHARGER DAYTONA STAGE 2 AWD



4 TO CHOOSE FROM

MSRP **\$59072** +HST/LIC
OC PRICE **\$49872** +HST/LIC

Includes
\$4700
OCL
BONUS CASH

FINANCE FROM
\$146 +HST/LIC /week
for 96 months at 4.99%
COB \$10587



RR0019

MSRP **\$107105** +HST/LIC
OC LEASE PRICE **\$94105** +HST/LIC

Includes
\$10000
OCL
BONUS CASH

LEASE FROM
\$225 +HST/LIC /week
for 54 months at 1.99%
12,000KM/YEAR - \$5000 DOWN - FREE LEVEL 2 CHARGER

2024 RAM 1500 TRADESMAN SPORT 4X4

2025 RAM 1500 BIG HORN SPORT CREW 4X4



RH0012

MSRP **\$69197** +HST/LIC
OC PRICE **\$54085** +HST/LIC

Includes
\$3325
OCL
BONUS CASH

FINANCE FROM
\$145 +HST/LIC /week
for 96 months at 4.99%
COB \$10735 - \$4500 DOWN

OR
0%
for up to 60
Months finance on
2024 RAM 1500



4 TO CHOOSE FROM

MSRP **\$73260** +HST/LIC
OC PRICE **\$69543** +HST/LIC

FINANCE FROM
\$190 +HST/LIC /week
for 96 months at 4.99%
COB \$13997 - \$4500 DOWN

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'Volunteers Make Waves' in Dufferin and across Canada for National Volunteer Week

Written By PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Volunteers dedicate countless hours each year to help support their communities, and Dufferin County organizations will be recognizing those contributions during National Volunteer Week (NVW).

Volunteer Dufferin and Volunteer Canada will be celebrating National Volunteer Week (NVW) from April 27 to May 3. National Volunteer Week (NVW) is an annual celebration that recognizes volunteers from coast to coast.

"In Dufferin County, tens of thousands of volunteer hours help drive programs, support events, and strengthen our communities every day. These actions create ripples that lead to greater well-being, stronger connections, and a more resilient community," said Jennifer Payne, executive director of Headwaters Communities in Action (HCIA), the organization that runs Volunteer Dufferin.

This year's theme is 'Volunteers Make Waves', which highlights the power, impact and importance of individual and collective volunteer efforts across Canada.

"From the smallest act of kindness that starts a ripple of goodwill, to a group of advocates making waves of change, every act is important. Here in Dufferin, people do make waves, they stand up for what they believe in, they go out of their way

to help their neighbour, and champion for things they're passionate about. And many just quietly and humbly offer a helping hand. You can't go far in Dufferin without encountering a volunteer or evidence of their work," said Payne.

Payne spoke about the importance of having a dedicated week recognizing the contributions of the volunteers in Dufferin County.

"Most organizations do a great job at showing their volunteers how much they appreciate their contributions. Having a recognition week like National Volunteer Week makes that appreciation more visible amongst the general public too, reminding us all how vital volunteers are in keeping our communities safe, healthy, friendly and beautiful," said Payne. "It shines a light on the fact that volunteers make things happen, and we cannot take them for granted. Where would we be without volunteers? I can't imagine that world and wouldn't want to."

During National Volunteer Week, Volunteer Dufferin and other local organizations will be launching a "season of engagement" initiative, which will run through the spring, and summer, and wrap up with a volunteer fair in the fall.

Payne noted that volunteering has benefits not just for the organizations and businesses that utilize them, but also for the individual volunteers and the community as a whole.

"For the volunteers, it helps them connect to other community members, offers a sense of purpose, contributes to a sense of belonging, and can also build skills that can help with employment," said Payne. "For the community, volunteerism builds resiliency, leadership, social inclusion, cohesion and helps create a just society."

Volunteer Dufferin is a web-based volunteer matching platform run by Headwaters Communities in Action (HCIA).

Volunteer Dufferin supports thousands of individual volunteers and hundreds of organizations to fill opportunities in communities across the county. The organization works to advance volunteerism through an enhanced online matching portal, member communications and surveys, community outreach, partnerships and events.

According to Volunteer Dufferin, there are more than 3,000 individual volunteers registered on the portal.

"We know that there are likely thousands more who are not [registered] and who have a regular volunteer gig that they do, such as church groups, sports teams, school volunteers, hospital volunteers and more," said Payne.

Today, there are more than 50 active



JOIN US FOR NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK APRIL 27 - MAY 3

How to participate:

- 01 Post a pic or video of you volunteering!
- 02 Use the Hashtag #NVW2025Youth
- 03 Tag @VolunteerCanada for your chance to be featured on Volunteer Canada's channel
- 04 Challenge 3 friends to do the same!
- 05 Check out the NVW playlist on Spotify. Search for "Volunteers Make Soundwaves"

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK 2025
Volunteer Bénévoles Canada
volunteer.ca/nvw #NVW2025youth

VOLUNTEERS MAKE WAVES
VOLUNTEERS MAKE WAVES
VOLUNTEERS MAKE WAVES

opportunities on the Volunteer Dufferin platform, covering a wide range of activities, including tutoring, barn chores, friendly visits, fostering, first responders, driving, retail, music, events, food and beverage service, and board members.

"There are opportunities suitable for students, seniors, groups, those who prefer virtual volunteering, short- or long-term commitments. There's something for everyone," said Payne.

Those interested in finding a volunteer position or who may need help with finding a match with an organization can visit www.volunteerdufferin.ca.

JASON MAKE WAVES

Volunteer Bénévoles Canada
NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK 2025
VOLUNTEERS MAKE WAVES
APRIL 27 - MAY 3

Big Brothers Big Sisters OF DUFFERIN AND DISTRICT

Thank You for Making a Difference!

To our amazing mentors, board members, and supporters, thank you for helping us serve 216 children in 2024. Your commitment to youth mentoring empowers youth across Dufferin County. You're not just appreciated — you're a BIG deal to us and the kids we serve.

Learn more about becoming a youth mentor at bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/dufferin

How can we thank the many volunteers that tirelessly help our organization ... Your efforts are endless, and we couldn't do it without you!

Thank You!!!

Legion

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TEEN VOLUNTEERS VOLUNTEERS KEMAKEMAKE VES WAVES WAVES

**NATIONAL
VOLUNTEER
WEEK 2025**



**Volunteer
Bénévoles
Canada**

APRIL 27 - MAY 3

volunteer.ca/nvw #NVW2025

Volunteer Canada: How does volunteering fit in to lifecycle transitions and retirement planning?

There are numerous circumstances that you may find yourself in as you move throughout your lifecycle.

Bookstores and information racks are filled with material to help people plan for a range of considerations, including family life, finances, housing, travel, recreation, health, and lifelong learning. Volunteering can play a key role at every stage but it can also serve as a vehicle to help you through these transitions. Volunteering can serve to heighten one's quality of life today and act as a legacy for the future.

Whether your transition or retirement involves a change in your household, neighbourhood, health situation, employment status, or daily schedule, volunteering can provide extra meaning to your days. It can connect you to your community, help maintain, grow or develop new skills, facilitate your participation in the democratic process, and help you shape and preserve the society you want to live in for yourself and for generations to come.

FINANCIAL PLANNING

Greater numbers of people are looking for ways to contribute to the community by giving both time and money to the causes they care about. For those who are considering charitable donations and bequests to non-profit organizations as part of their financial planning, what better way to really know an organization than through volunteering? This can give people the insider's view of the organization's values, culture, programs, and leadership. It will also give you an opportunity to maximize your impact.

TRAVEL

Volunteering, combining volunteering and touring is a very appealing option for many people in transition or retirement. Many international development organizations offer opportunities to volunteer anywhere from 2 weeks to 2 years to work on projects such as mentoring small businesses, providing technical support for emerging industries, setting up schools, rebuilding housing, providing health and social services to refugees, staffing clinics, teaching English, as well as many other projects.

RECREATION

Whether your pleasure is swimming, softball, playing chess, or riding horses, you can combine this with important volunteer roles in the community. Being a swimming buddy with someone with a physical disability, being a coach for a little league team, playing chess with youth in a drop-in centre, or grooming ponies in a therapeutic riding program, your time will be very well spent.

Volunteering can also open up new recreational avenues that you have not considered before, such as playing cribbage, winter camping, being part of the chorus in a musical, or building a haunted house.

FAMILY TIME

If your time with family is important to you, consider family volunteering.

Helping with activities in a nursing home, sorting donations in a food bank, or making decorations around your kitchen table for a special event; there are many volunteer activities that can be done by people of all ages and abilities.

If you are looking for more time with family, there may also be volunteer opportunities in your grandchildren's school, the nursing home where your aunt is living or the drop-in centre where your partner gets support dealing with his or her illness.

LIFE-LONG LEARNING

Volunteering is a way to transfer skills whether you want to contribute the skills you have gained or you wish to learn new skills, volunteering can help you prepare for a new career or feed your hunger for learning new things. Volunteer to research social policy issues and learn more about the root causes of homelessness, get trained on desk-top publishing programs as a volunteer editor of an organization's newsletter, or find out more about fossils during orientation as a tour guide in the museum of nature.

HOUSING

If you are approaching a transition that includes moving, volunteering in your neighbourhood is a great way to get more connected to your new surroundings.

Whether you volunteer to serve on the social committee of your condo association or housing co-operative, take a shift at the information booth at the community centre, or join a team of door-to-door canvassers, volunteering will help you meet your neighbours. If your move means that you no longer have the garden you have always loved, volunteering in a community garden can help fill the gap.

HOBBIES

You have always had a great eye for a good picture or you can spend hours working on your family scrap book. You like to keep your hands busy while you watch the evening news or you are an avid stamp collector. Volunteering to take photos at an organization's anniversary gala, creating an archive album for the local service, knitting layettes for young single parents, or leading a stamp club at the local high school can link your hobby to important community



programs. This is the ideal approach if you want to volunteer in areas that are totally different from your work life and can also be done with groups of friends, as a project of your social club, or with your bowling team.

HEALTH

Many studies have shown the health benefits of volunteering such as reduced stress-related illnesses, an enhanced sense of self-worth, and the prevention of social isolation.

There are also times in your lives when your health situation does not permit you to be as active as usual. You may want to volunteer for an organization that is directly connected to the health issue that you or your family is dealing with. Virtual volunteering (off-site and online) or micro-volunteering (moments of helpfulness) have become part of the volunteering landscape. With a wide spectrum of volunteering opportuni-

ties available, you can find something that needs your experience, time, and skills that suit your particular situation.

As seen on Volunteer Canada's website: volunteer.ca/engaging-volunteers/



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Victim Services**

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and present, who have
given so generously of
themselves to make a
difference in the lives
of others.

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NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK 2025

animals seniors children family health nature arts LGBTIQs+ newcomers poverty events sports culture food


VOLUNTEERS MAKE WAVES

Together, we create ripples of change.





BIG THANKS to all the volunteers whose vital contributions make Dufferin a place to thrive for everyone, every day.



APRIL 27 - MAY 3

volunteer.ca/nvw #NVW2025

Thanks to: Telecheck, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Dufferin Board of Trade and Hills of Headwaters Collaborative-OTI for partnering on this campaign.
Volunteer Dufferin is a project of Headwaters Communities in Action: hca.ca

Volunteers
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A huge thank you
to Shelburne's
amazing
volunteers!

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MEET THE CANDIDATES

FEDERAL ELECTION COVERAGE



Local candidates respond to questions on key issues ahead of federal election

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

A record-setting number of Canadians participated in advanced voting ahead of the country's 45th General Election.

And many millions more will cast a ballot for their preferred party and candidate when the federal election takes place on April 28.

As election day approaches, Canadians are encouraged to set aside some time to become informed on all the major party's platforms, stances on issues, and objectives, if elected.

To assist residents of Dufferin-Caledon in learning more about their local candidates, the Citizen asked them several questions about issues relevant to voters.

Responses were received from incumbent Conservative MP Kyle Seeback, Liberal Party candidate Malalai Halimi, Green Party candidate Ifra Baig and NDP candidate Viktor Karklins.

Here are the questions and what the candidates had to say in response:

What issues do you see as unique to the Dufferin-Caledon riding?

Kyle Seeback (Conservative): Housing affordability is an issue across Canada; however, it is particularly challenging for people in Dufferin-Caledon. For example, as of February 2025, the average price for a home in Dufferin County was \$820,278 and in April 2025, the average price for a home in Caledon was \$1,374,819, making it nearly impossible for young families to buy a home.

Under the Liberals, housing prices doubled, and it now takes 25 years to save up for a down payment. Canada has the worst housing inflation of any country in the G7. Young people are forced to rent, but rent has doubled too.

Since 2015, the Liberal government has put in place costly government programs that build bureaucracy, not homes. As a result, Canada has the second-slowest building permit approval time out of 35 countries, as measured by the OECD, and when compared to the United States, Canada's approval times are over three times longer.

Conservatives have a real plan to tackle the housing affordability issue for young families and first-time home buyers in Dufferin-Caledon and across Canada. We will axe the sales tax on new homes, saving families up to \$65,000 on the purchase of a home and \$3,000 on yearly mortgage payments while



KYLE SEEBACK,
CONSERVATIVE PARTY
CANDIDATE



VIKTOR KARKLINS,
NEW DEMOCRATIC
PARTY CANDIDATE



MALALAI HALIMI,
LIBERAL PARTY
CANDIDATE



IFRA BAIG,
GREEN PARTY
CANDIDATE



DYMPNA CAROLAN,
PEOPLE'S PARTY OF
CANADA CANDIDATE

spurring a massive new home-building boom. We will bring more Boots, not Suits, backing 350,000 positions for trade schools and union halls to train red-seal apprentices to build homes, and we will bring back the \$4,000 apprenticeship grant that the Liberals plan to eliminate. We will work to eliminate red tape and delays in approving housing projects. We will also incentivize municipalities to speed up permits, free up land, and cut housing taxes so homes can be built faster.

Malalai Halimi (Liberal): Dufferin-Caledon is my home. It's where I live with my three teenage children, where I shop, and where I enjoy some of my downtime when I'm not working as a business manager. As a resident, I know firsthand the importance of supporting this community to make sure it thrives.

Part of what makes Dufferin-Caledon so special is our natural beauty. Dufferin-Caledon is home to some world-renowned natural wonders, and it is all of our responsibilities to protect them. Throughout my campaign, I've had the pleasure of meeting with various environmental organizations who are committed to protecting our local environment.

As your Member of Parliament, I will work to preserve and protect more of Dufferin-Caledon's nature. And I'll ensure that your federal representative has a strong voice that stands up for our environment.

But our community also faces our fair share of challenges.

As a mother who wants to ensure her kids own a home in the future, I'm concerned by the lack of housing that exists in our com-

munities. I will work with our federal government to ensure we can build more homes across Dufferin-Caledon. In Caledon, our federal government has committed to building 6,250 homes over the next 10 years – but that's just a start. I'll work to ensure that more homes are built in our riding, as part of our Liberal plan to build 4 million homes across Canada.

Viktor Karklins (NDP): When looking at Dufferin-Caledon, I see an amazing region of hard-working people. I see those who have seen success and those who have seen hardships. One thing I firmly believe is that nobody should be left behind, and instead of declaring some as winners and some as losers I believe the government of Canada has a responsibility to weave a strong and free safety net to catch those who fall.

As we've seen with the growing issues of homeless encampments, with seniors being the largest growing demographic of those without homes due to economic hardship, when homes are an asset class for investors rather than a place to live we see only economic winners and losers.

Dufferin-Caledon is no exception to these challenges, and we need to ensure that there are enough homes for everyone by building 3 million new homes by 2030 with a new \$16 billion housing accelerator fund. Let's ensure that homes are for living in, not just for profiting off of.

If we're looking specifically for a unique issue in this area, I think there is so much opportunity for the region to be a hub of economic activity.

In order to build 3 million new homes in five years we will need everything from labourers to engineers, and with Dufferin-Caledon being so close to an array of massive cities we are uniquely positioned to take advantage of that.

If our carpenters, architects, and project managers can help accelerate the building of homes everywhere from Toronto to Bolton to Shelburne we can be at the centre of a housing boom.

Ifra Baig (Green): Dufferin-Caledon is such a special place. You can feel it — the sense of community, the connection to the land — but I also see the challenges people are living with every day.

Affordable housing is slipping out of reach for too many families. Development is happening so fast that a lot of us are worried about losing the small-town feel and the farmland that defines us. There's also a real need for better healthcare access, and for transit options that actually connect our communities.

If I'm elected, I want to protect what makes Dufferin-Caledon home — by standing up to developers who don't put the community first, protecting the Greenbelt, and pushing for affordable, sustainable housing. I want to invest in rural healthcare and expand local transit so people aren't cut off. And I really believe we can be leaders in agriculture, green innovation, and small business — we just need a government that believes in us the way we believe in ourselves.

Continued on Page 13



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

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF SHELBURNE
NOTICE OF COMPLETE APPLICATIONS
UNDER SECTIONS 22 AND 34 OF THE PLANNING ACT**

Take Notice that the Corporation of the Town of Shelburne has received complete applications for an Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendment. The Town will be processing the applications in accordance with the Planning Act, and the applications are now being circulated to Town departments and public agencies for technical review. Town Council may not make a decision for approval of the applications until a Public Meeting is held in accordance with the Planning Act. Notice of a Public Meeting will be given and a Public Meeting will be held to receive comments on the applications at a future date (to be determined), in accordance with the Planning Act.

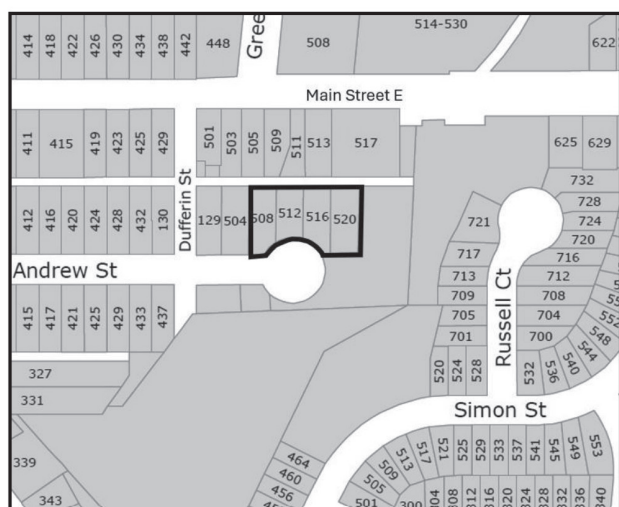
The land subject to the proposed Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendment includes four (4) properties having a combined land area of approximately 0.39 hectares (0.96 acres) located along the north side of Andrew Street. From east to west, the properties have municipal addresses of 508, 512, 516 and 520 Andrew Street, respectively, each consisting of a fourplex dwelling for a total of 16 units. The subject land is legally described as the West Part of Lot 32, Concession 2, Registered Plan 7R2413, Parts 2,3,4 and 5 in the Town of Shelburne, County of Dufferin. A map showing the location of the subject land is provided with this notice.

The purpose and effect of the Official Plan Amendment application is to change the designation of the subject lands from 'Low-Density Residential' to 'High-Density Residential' with site-specific exceptions to the permitted dwelling types and minimum and maximum Gross Residential Densities

The purpose and effect of the related application for Zoning By-law Amendment is to re-zone the subject land from Residential Type Five (R-5) to Residential Type Five Exception X (R-5X). The proposed exception zone standards include minimum landscape open space, minimum rear yard and parking requirements.

The applications propose two (2) four-storey apartment buildings consisting of 29 dwelling units, for a total of 58 dwelling units.

For more information about this matter, including information about appeal rights, please contact the Town Planner by email to planning@shelburne.ca, or by telephone at 519-925-2600, or visit the Town's website at www.shelburne.ca.



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Interested in staying up to date with local news, community events, sports and more?

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NO FRILLS, 101 2nd Line RR 1, Shelburne (by the mailboxes)

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

Roys Service, 635202 ON-10, Mono

Dynes Senior Building, 301 First Ave E, Shelburne

Town Milk & Variety, 516 Main St E, Shelburne (near New Orleans Pizza)

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Continued From Page 12

Dympna Carolan (PPC): One of the main issues affecting Canada, our economy and our housing market is something we actually can solve and that is irresponsible immigration.

Being so close to the GTA, where a large portion of new immigrants settle, Dufferin-Caledon has been enormously negatively affected by immigration policies.

Mass immigration plays a part in our slow economy and stagnant wages and puts enormous pressure on our services.

This strains our citizens, both economically and socially.

For many years we had a strong immigration policy that benefited both Canadian citizens and newcomers to our country. Let's get back to sound policies.

The People's Party policy is an immediate moratorium on immigration, to cool down the housing market and reboot our economy. Then get back to responsible immigration for the benefit of all.

What actions will you and your party take to improve the economy, tackle the cost-of-living crisis and increase the number of good-paying jobs across Canada and Dufferin-Caledon?

Viktor Karklins (NDP): If elected, the NDP stands firm on the creation of good, unionized jobs and fair wages. When corporations put profits above people, instead of treating employees like people you reduce them to gig-workers and contractors.

We need to recoup those unfair profits from companies that exploit the opportunity for profit in the midst of crisis, like a wealth tax on companies that overcharge for product of Canada goods at the grocery store to take advantage of those who are looking to fight back against the United States' unfair tariffs.

Instead, we need to help reduce the cost of basic essentials at the store, ensuring that everyone can afford to eat, not just those who have been the luckiest. One job should put a roof over your head and food in your fridge, you shouldn't have to stitch together a series of part-time gigs to barely get by.

We also need to ensure that tax cuts help those who need it most, not millionaires. Let's ensure that the billionaires and the ultra-wealthy pay their fair share in taxes, just like you and I do. Stop the offshore tax havens and let's stop giving handouts to mega-corporations, if we even just collected the taxes that are owed by the ultra-wealthy that would pay for more nurses, doctors, and new homes.

Ifra Baig (Green): People are working harder than ever, but life keeps getting more expensive. That's not right, and it's not sustainable. The Green Party and I want to rebuild the economy so that it actually supports people and families, not just the big corporations at the top.

We want to create good-paying, future-ready jobs right here by investing in clean energy, sustainable farming, green manufacturing, and local entrepreneurship. In Dufferin-Caledon, that means creating opportunities for farmers, tradespeople, young entrepreneurs — anyone who wants to build a good life close to home.

When it comes to the cost-of-living crisis, we have to be real: inflation isn't just a number. It's your grocery bill, your rent, your ability to take your kids to soccer without stressing over gas prices.

We need to build affordable housing, crack down on corporate price gouging, and expand healthcare coverage so you're not paying out-of-pocket for essentials like dental care. And we need a fairer tax system because the billionaires shouldn't be paying less (percentage-wise) than the people working two jobs to survive.

This isn't about temporary fixes. It's about building an economy that finally puts regular people first.

Malalai Halimi (Liberal): As a single mother of three teenagers, I know firsthand how rising costs have impacted families here in Dufferin-Caledon and across the country. We need strong, experienced leadership to help bring costs down, especially at a time when Donald Trump is threatening our economic stability.

As Mark Carney has said, we cannot control Donald Trump, but we can take measures that ensure life becomes more affordable while building a stronger Canadian economy.

Mark Carney and our Liberal Party have already started doing just that. We've cancelled the divisive carbon tax, have committed to delivering a middle-class tax cut saving families up to \$825/year, and pledged to eliminate the GST for first-time homebuyers on homes under \$1 million, saving Canadians up to \$50,000 on the purchase of their first home.

We would also take measures to protect and increase the number of good-paying jobs across the country, with investments like a \$2 billion strategic response fund that would protect Canadian manufacturing jobs and boost Canada's auto sector competitiveness, launching a new training and upskilling benefit worth up to \$15,000 for workers in the middle of their careers,

and ensuring all workers have access to employment insurance.

Pierre Poilievre, Kyle Seeback and the Conservatives have consistently voted against programs like \$10-a-day child care, dental care, pharma care, and the National School Food Program. Why should Canadians trust them now to protect, not cut, programs that make life more affordable for Dufferin-Caledon families?

Mark Carney and I are committed to creating new jobs, cutting taxes for the middle class, and keeping Canada strong.

Kyle Seeback (Conservative): A Conservative government will unleash our industry, cut taxes on our workers, zero capital gains taxes on Canadian reinvestment, and build more homes, LNG plants, pipelines, mines and more to build our own economic fortress here in Canada.

We are going to do this while implementing our plan to build more homes, fixing the budget to keep inflation down, capping immigration so we never again add people faster than we add jobs and remove criminals from our streets.

We've promised a massive 'Bring it Home Income Tax Cut' to cut income tax by 15 per cent. We will reduce the lowest income tax bracket rate from 15 per cent to 12.75 per cent to save the average family \$1,800 a year and the average worker up to \$900 annually. Our plan means Canadians will keep more of their paycheck and that their hard work will be rewarded.

Everyone who pays income tax will pay less, but because Conservatives will cut the rate on the lowest income bracket, average hardworking Canadians will save the most in percentage terms.

Canada is now spending more on debt interest than on health transfers.

A Conservative government will cap government spending with a dollar-for-dollar rule law that requires we find \$1 of savings for every dollar of spending. We'll also cut bureaucracy, waste, and consulting contracts so that we can get the budget close or hopefully on balance as soon as possible to bring down interest rates, inflation, and debt.

China and Canada are the only two countries that support formal counter-tariffs against the United States. Do you support counter-tariffs or would you prefer to use other tools to respond, if elected?

Kyle Seeback (Conservative): The imposition of U.S. President Donald Trump's tariffs has been a wake-up call to

all political leaders who are now forced to put the national interest ahead of special interests. Canadians expect all political leaders to do what it takes to make our country more self-reliant and less dependent on the U.S.

Our immediate response should be to impose targeted tariffs that will harm American businesses and have very little impact on Canadian businesses; help affected workers and businesses with tariff revenue; implement a bring it home tax cut on work, investment, energy, and homebuilding; scrapping the Liberal anti-energy law C-69 and greenlight resource projects; removing interprovincial trade barriers; and rebuilding our military and taking back control of our borders.

We will propose accelerated renegotiations to replace the Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement (CUSMA), bringing in a new deal on trade and security. We will also propose that both countries pause tariffs while we renegotiate a deal. Canadian businesses and workers need certainty now.

During the negotiations, we will protect our border, our resources, our farmers, including our supply-managed farmers, our fresh water, and our automotive workers.

Ifra Baig (Green): I'm always going to stand up for Canadian workers and industries, no question about that. But when it comes to counter-tariffs, I think we have to be strategic.

Tariffs can sometimes protect our industries in the short term, but they can also drive up prices for Canadian families, and that's not something I take lightly. I believe we need to prioritize strong diplomacy, smart negotiations, and building real partnerships internationally.

Counter-tariffs should be a last resort — not our first move. Long-term, the best thing we can do is invest in making Canada more self-sufficient. That way we aren't constantly vulnerable to the decisions of other countries. We should be making things here, growing things here, and supporting Canadian workers here.

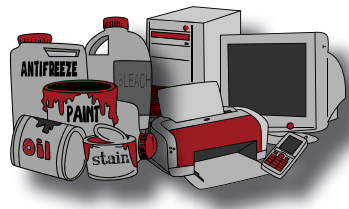
Dympna Carolan (PPC): Counter Tariffs are simply a tax Canadians consumers pay; we would lose a trade war against the US and the Canadian economy would be further decimated.

Let's act rationally and not reactionarily. We should negotiate with our largest trading partner, long-time ally and closest neighbour.

Continued on Page 14

hazardous & electronic waste event THIS SATURDAY!

Date: Saturday, April 26, 2025
Time: 8am-3pm
Location: Shelburne Operations Centre
 124 Luxton Way, Shelburne



- Hazardous waste** includes automotive containers, cleaning products, fluorescent lights, batteries, paints, pesticides, pharmaceuticals, syringes, and much more.
- Electronic waste** includes audio equipment, cameras, computers, home entertainment equipment, phones, and household electronic items, including lamps, alarm clocks, microwaves, toasters, and small appliances.
- Limitations** No waste from industrial, commercial, or institutional sources. No white goods/large appliances (including any appliances with freon). No garbage, or recycling. No unidentified/unknown materials. No drums of materials.

Visit dufferincounty.ca/waste for updates and a full listing of acceptable materials & limitations.

Future events: May 31, June 28, July 23, August 20, September 20, October 25.

See website for details on hours & locations for each scheduled event.

Dufferin County residents, including Amaranth, East Garafraxa, Grand Valley, Melancthon, Mono, Mulmur, Orangeville and Shelburne can attend any of these events.



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Continued from Page 13

Let's face it, if our country was economically sound, Trump's tariffs would not have been so disturbing. Rather than address the security issues the U.S. raised or take responsibility for our weakened economy, we blame Trump. Trump is not the problem; our lack of self-responsibility is the problem.

Malalai Halimi (Liberal): I stand with Mark Carney and our federal government's recent actions to protect our economy, including the implementation of counter-tariffs. Canada will never be the 51st state, and it is vital that we take measures now to protect our sovereignty and economy for future generations.

I am particularly pleased to support a plan that will see every dollar raised from the counter-tariffs go towards supporting Canadian businesses and workers affected by Donald Trump's unjustified decisions.

Mark Carney and I will work to unite our economy and unleash free trade in Canada by Canada Day. We will reduce internal trade costs by up to 15 per cent, expand our economy by up to \$200 billion, and unlock projects that grow our Canadian economy.

Viktor Karlkins (NDP): Tariff and counter-tariff games are incredibly complex and challenging, but regardless of what happens, we need to ensure that any coun-

ter-tariff is targeted and narrow, ensuring it will cause the most harm to the USA and the least to Canada.

We also need to make sure that we have a solid EI safety net in place and that workers are as protected as possible. While we do that, we need to continue to build new trading relationships around the world and here at home.

Inter-provincial trade barriers need to drop, and those working hard to shift their sales away from the USA need to be able to seamlessly move it to Canadian soil. If we can make sure that people can sell their goods to other Canadians, that will help us weather this storm.

What are your plans going forward ahead of the federal election on April 28?

Ifra Baig (Green): No matter what happens on April 28, my work for Dufferin-Caledon is just getting started. I'm committed to staying deeply connected to this community, including listening, learning, and fighting for the issues that matter most to you.

If elected, my first priority will be making sure Dufferin-Caledon's voice is heard loud and clear in Parliament. I'll start pushing for real action on affordable housing, protecting our environment, expanding healthcare, and building a stronger local economy. I want to bring the energy of this campaign — the

hope, the heart, the honesty — into every room I walk into in Ottawa.

And if I'm not elected, I'm not disappearing. I'll stay active, keep organizing, and keep building momentum for a better future. For me, this isn't just an election, it's a life-long commitment to standing up for people, for justice, and for the planet.

Viktor Karlkins (NDP): My plans are to continue to be a voice for those who don't have one in Dufferin-Caledon. As long as Dufferin-Caledon has been a riding, it has been ruled by one of two conservative Members of Parliament.

We need to stop with the coronations and instead call for change. If you want to see change here at home, you need to start by changing your vote. If we continue to do the same thing every four years, we will see only more of the same. Let's demand better.

Kyle Seeback (Conservative): I want to see the promise of Canada restored after 10 years of corruption, waste, debt, and division. Too many young people are feeling disillusioned and hopeless.

I, along with all Conservatives, are committed to restoring hope and opportunity to everyone, especially young people.

I also want to see life become more affordable again. Too many Canadians are struggling with the cost-of-living crisis with two million Canadians visiting food banks

in one month just to survive after ten years of the Liberals. A Conservative government will turn that hurt into hope by axing the tax and fixing the budget to bring home lower prices for Canadians to make life affordable again.

Malalai Halimi (Liberal): This election has given me the opportunity to meet so many incredible residents from across Dufferin-Caledon. And one thing's for certain — our community is strong, not 'broken.' That's why I look forward to continuing to visit communities across the ridings, meeting residents at the doors to hear their stories and answer questions, attending community events, sitting down with community groups, and using my voice to fight for families in our community here in Dufferin-Caledon.

Dympna Carolan (PPC): Canadians have everything needed to be a strong powerful country, where families thrive and people come to enjoy our shared values of democracy and freedom and rights for all.

We are going the other way, it is time for a change.

The Peoples Party offers a principled alternative to corrupt establishment parties.

I am taking this opportunity to help raise awareness of our platform and invite Canadians to check out our policies at peoplespartyofcanada.ca.

Green Ribbon Campaign encourages organ donation, raises awareness

Written By PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Do you know if you're an organ donor?

An Orangeville-based initiative dedicated to organ donation advocacy is raising awareness of donor registration in recognition of Organ Donation Awareness Month and National Organ and Tissue Donation Awareness Week.

The Green Ribbon Campaign was started in 2017 by Orangeville resident Mike Steele, a heart transplant recipient who wanted to pay forward his gift of life by encouraging others to register for organ donation.

In June of 2018, Steele passed away from his battle with cancer and his daughter, Michelle White, chose to continue the campaign in his memory.

"He wanted to do as much with his second life as he possible could, and I felt like I needed to continue what he started. It was extremely important to my dad to reach out and get as many people as possible registered because he wouldn't have had as many milestones that happened in his life. Because someone donated their heart, we got him for eight more years," said White.

Organ Donation Awareness Month and National Organ and Tissue Donation Awareness Week (NOTDAW) both look to advocate the critical need for more donors across the country and also encourage Canadians to register their decision.

Canadian Blood Services reports that 90 per cent of Canadians support organ and tissue donation, but only 32 per cent have registered their decision to be a donor.

By registering, one organ donor is able to save the lives of eight people and up to 75 patients can receive a tissue donation from a single donor.

"You can be a donor for both and be a part of something incredible in someone's life," said White.

In previous years, the Green Ribbons Campaign has held information booths at community events such as the Orangeville Fall Fair and Home Show, to spread the word about organ and tissue donation.

White said it was during these events that she began to wonder how many people she met would go home to register or check their donor status.

In the hopes of increasing the number of people registered as donors in the community, the initiative organized a registration drive at Headwaters Health Care Centre on April 15.

"We wound up having over 20 people check their status and we had two people that were not registered and registered on the spot, which was amazing," said White.

As important as it is to register as a donor, White also wants to highlight the importance of sharing your wishes to be a donor with your family.

"Do you know if they want to be an organ



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BE AN ORGAN DONOR: Michelle White (centre), organizer of Green Ribbons 4 Mike, hosted a donor registration drive at Headwater Health Care Centre (HHCC) on April 15. During the event, they were able to check the donor status of over 20 visitors and register two individuals as donors. Supporting White in the effort is her husband Richard White (right) and Derek Clark (left), an HHCC board member and double lung transplant recipient.

donor is a tough question for a family member to answer in a time of grief," said White.

Trillium Gift of Life Network is part of Ontario Health and responsible for delivering and coordinating organ and tissue donation or transplantation services across the province.

At the time of print, Trillium Gift of Life Network reports that there are 1,531 people waiting for an organ

transplant.

"Think about it not in terms of numbers. Those are people," said White.

According to Be A Donor, there are a total of 61,767 health card holders in Orangeville, of which only 26,334 are registered donors. Meaning that there is about a 43 per cent registration donor rate.

An easy way to find out if you're an organ donor is to check your health card. Those interested in becoming a donor or would like to check their registration status can do so by visiting www.beadonor.ca.

To learn more about the local Green Ribbon Campaign, visit the "Green Ribbons 4 Mike" Facebook page.

Nomination period for Business Excellence Awards closing soon

Nominations are being accepted until April 30 for the Dufferin Board of Trade's 2025 Business Excellence Awards.

This long-standing tradition recognizes the many businesses, business leaders and nonprofits doing outstanding work in Dufferin County.

"This year's celebration will shine a spotlight on Canadian pride and local achievement with a Red & White themed gala, recognizing those who are both proudly Canadian and proudly Dufferin," said the Dufferin Board of Trade in a press release.

Nominees for the awards champion community, resilience, and innovation.

"They exemplify strong corporate values, contribute meaningfully to the local economy, and help make Dufferin a better place to live and work," the press release noted.

Nominations are open to members and non-members of the Dufferin Board of Trade. The only requirement is that they are located within Dufferin County.

The 2025 award categories include Business of the Year, Small Business of the Year, Nonprofit of the Year, Businessperson of the Year, New Business Award, Local Impact Award and Chairman's Award.

"We encourage community members to nominate the local businesses and organizations that inspire them — those who go above and beyond to uplift our community," said the Dufferin Board of Trade in a press release.

Nominations will close on April 30 for the 2025 Business Excellence Awards.

Winners will be announced at the Dufferin Board of Trade's Red & White Business Excellence Awards Gala on May 29 at the Best Western in Orangeville.

Early bird ticket pricing is available until May 16.

"Join us in celebrating local excellence and recognizing the people and organizations that make Dufferin County thrive," said the Dufferin Board of Trade's media release.

To learn more, purchase tickets or make a nomination, visit: www.dufferinbot.ca/2025beas



NOTICE OF A HEARING

Enbridge Gas Inc. has applied for approval of a new certificate of public convenience and necessity for the Township of Amaranth

Enbridge Gas Inc. (Enbridge Gas) is asking the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) for an order cancelling Enbridge Gas's existing certificate of public convenience and necessity for the Township of Amaranth and replacing it with a new certificate to construct works to supply natural gas in the current Township of Amaranth. The new certificate is needed to address municipal boundary changes associated with past municipal amalgamations and annexations.

YOU SHOULD KNOW

THE ONTARIO ENERGY BOARD WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING

There are three types of OEB Hearings: oral, electronic and written. If you have a preference for the type of hearing, you can write to us to explain why. During this hearing, we will question the applicant about its application. We will also hear questions and arguments from participants that have registered as Intervenor. After reviewing all the evidence, we will decide whether to approve this application.

HAVE YOUR SAY

You have the right to information about this application and to participate in the process. Visit www.oeb.ca/participate and use file number **EB-2025-0134** to:

- Review the application
- Apply to become an intervenor
- File a letter with your comments

IMPORTANT DATES

You must engage with the OEB on or before **May 5, 2025** to:

- Provide input on the hearing type (oral, electronic or written)
- Apply to be an intervenor

If you do not, the hearing will move forward without you, and you will not receive any further notice of the proceeding.

PRIVACY

If you write a letter of comment, your name and the content of your letter will be put on the public record and the OEB website. If you are a business or if you apply to become an intervenor, all the information you file will be on the OEB website.

LEARN MORE

Ontario Energy Board

■ /TTY: 1 877-632-2727
● Monday - Friday: 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM
● oeb.ca/participate

Enbridge Gas Inc.

■ 1 866-763-5427
● Monday - Friday: 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM
● enbridgegas.com

This hearing will be held under section 8 of the **Municipal Franchises Act**, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.55.

Ce document est aussi disponible en français.



PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER!

Local leaders reflect on passing of Pope Francis at 88 years old

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

Catholics and religious people around the world are mourning the death of Pope Francis.

He passed away at 88 years old on Easter Monday (April 21).

A stroke and subsequent heart failure resulted in Pope Francis's death according to a statement from the Vatican.

Leaders around the world have issued statements or made social media posts reflecting on the legacy, life and loss of Pope Francis.

Locally, several leaders shared comments on the pope's passing.

"I offer my condolences to the Catholic community of Dufferin-Caledon and all Catholics around the world on Pope Francis' passing," said Dufferin-Caledon MP Kyle Seeback. "The leadership displayed by His Holiness has been an inspiration to millions."

"My prayers are with all Catholics during this difficult time, as we all reflect on his many contributions and legacy, including his historic apology for residential schools in Canada," Seeback added.

In a statement on social media, Orangeville Mayor Lisa Post said, "The Town of Orangeville extends our deepest condolences to Catholics around the world on the passing of Pope Francis. As a spiritual leader to

millions, his legacy of faith, service, compassion, and unwavering commitment to social justice will be remembered by many.

The statement continued, "As a mark of respect, flags at all Town facilities will be lowered to half-mast and will remain lowered until after Pope Francis' funeral."

Senior pastor at the Uptown Church in Orangeville, Matthew McLean, noted his surprise regarding the announcement of Pope Francis's death.

"I was especially shocked to hear of Pope Francis's passing after seeing him ministering publicly the day before on Easter Sunday (April 20)," said Pastor Matthew McLean. "Pope Francis death happening at the end of a holiday (Holy Day), one that celebrates the death and resurrection of Christ Jesus is much to take in. To be 88 years of age and fighting to fulfill your ministry right to the end is a challenge for us all."

Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones noted her sympathy for people impacted by the pope's death.

"I extend my deepest condolences to all those in Dufferin-Caledon who are mourning the loss of Pope Francis. His unwavering dedication to kindness will always serve as an inspiration, and his global leadership will never be forgotten," she told the Citizen.

Pope Francis's body was held at the chapel of Casa Santa Marta, the Vatican guesthouse



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

PERIOD OF MOURNING: Catholics across Canada and the world are mourning the loss of Pope Francis, who passed away at age 88 on April 21.

where he lived during his papacy before being moved to St. Peter's Basilica on Wednesday (April 23). His body will be kept at St. Peter's Basilica for three days, while cardinals

and members of the public pay their respect.

Pope Francis's funeral will be held outdoors on Saturday, April 26, beginning at 10 a.m., in St. Peter's Square.

Senate report at Amaranth council calls for collaboration to protect soil assets

Written By JAMES MATTHEWS

The federal government needs to designate soil as a strategic national asset.

That's according to a 2024 report called Critical Ground: Why Soil is Essential to Canada's Economic, Environmental, Human, and Social Health by the Standing Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry.

Robert Black, a senator from Ontario, delivered the report to Amaranth council when it met on April 16. This report is a follow-up to the 1984 report on soils, which has been the most-read report ever produced by the Senate.

Black emphasized to council the importance of acting now to protect and conserve soil. Climate change and more frequent extreme weather events such as fire, floods, and drought are impacted by urbanization and improper soil management practices.

Around the world, there are at least 20 million sites of varying sizes with soil that is contaminated. Currently, this is 30 per cent of

world soil and the amount is increasing rapidly.

Soil pollution can affect the food that we eat, the water we drink, and the air we breathe.

Generally, Canadian soils are well maintained with minimal tillage. But challenges remain. Only about seven per cent of our land is suitable for agricultural use. In every region of Canada, agricultural land continues to be lost to development and soil degradation occurs due to mining, oil and gas industries, pharmaceutical products, lead and pesticide contamination, or other forms of direct pollution. Black addressed the value of education to study the significance of healthy soils to all communities and the importance of soil conservation in the development of sustainable goals.

Throughout Canada, education in agriculture and soil science has declined and the consumer disconnect has grown.

The report outlines 25 recommendations submitted to the federal government starting

with the number one recommendation that "the Government of Canada designate soil as a strategic national asset."

Black said that all but three of the recommendations have been adopted by the federal government.

"May this report inspire action, foster collaboration, and ignite a renewed sense of stewardship towards our precious soils," Black said. "Together, let us embark on a transformative journey towards a greener, healthier, and more prosperous Canada, rooted in the timeless legacy of our soils."

The report calls on Ottawa to appoint a national soil advocate and to support the development of a long-term strategy to protect and conserve soil.

It urges collaboration between Ottawa, the provinces and territories, Indigenous communities, and academic scholars to support the development of a consensus on how to measure, report, and verify soil health.

It suggests the importance of a national permafrost assessment program.

To Build Soil-Related incentives and initiatives, the standing committee recommends that the federal government encourage provinces, territories, and municipalities to adopt land use planning that best preserves and protects agricultural land in their jurisdictions.

According to the standing committee, Ottawa needs to implement tax credits for farmers, ranchers, and growers who have adopted innovation and technology that support soil health.

Rural broadband internet access is necessary to promote a wider adoption of precision agriculture techniques to enhance soil health. The report also suggests the federal government should enhance funding for public-private partnerships for research and development with respect to agricultural and forestry soils.

Amaranth council supports the 25 recommendations in the report and will look at how to implement them when a review of its municipal Official Plan is completed.

The 2025 dufferinwaste guide is coming!
Check your mail for your copy.

Contact Dufferin Waste if you don't receive a copy by May.

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Priscilla

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Headwaters opens nominations for 25th Annual Dr. David Scott Award

Headwaters Health Care Centre (HHCC) is now accepting nominations for the prestigious 2025 Dr. David Scott Award. Named after surgeon and life-long Orangeville resident the late Dr. David Scott, the annual award recognizes individuals or groups who have gone above and beyond to improve the overall health and wellness of the Dufferin-Caledon community and promote links between

the hospital and the community. The award has been handed out annually since 2000. The deadline for Dr. David Scott Award nominations is Friday, May 2, 2025, at 5 p.m. The award will be presented at Headwaters' Annual Meeting on June 24, 2025. Previous award recipients have been selected for advocacy in many areas, including performance during the COVID-19 pandemic,

improving accessibility, fundraising and volunteer leadership with local organizations, improving long-term care, recruiting physicians, establishing after-hours clinics and promoting violence prevention. To find out more about the Dr. David Scott Award or to complete the nomination form, visit headwatershealth.ca/who-we-are/awards



David Nairn's final Theatre Orangeville play as artistic director opens May 1

Continued from Page 6

Nairn reminded us that until we love ourselves, we can't love another.

I'm In Love With Your Sister is a play very carefully constructed. Foster's strength is to take those very real moments in our lives and as these thespians admitted, nothing is more truthful than heartbreak while a lot of comedy comes from it too.

The characters are "so real, so true" – there are lessons to be learned in this play, was the assessment, a reflection of who we are.

They are all very happy about doing this play as a World Premiere. Janisse explained the excitement of now a new play can be subject to changes by the author, anything is possible.

Seen as a privilege, it is always special to be the first cast for a play, they agreed. The premiere production of any play goes a long way to defining it for future performances and the responsibility that imposes is thrilling.

While he was writing this show, Norm Foster had a picture in his mind of how each of the characters would look physically. When Foster and Nairn began talking about the actors they wanted for this production, they considered the list of likely actors and thought of these very three people as exactly right.

"We didn't even open auditions," Nairn told the Citizen. "This is the dream team for

this play. These world class actors in this world-class show," he added, "and with [production manager] Beckie's creative dream team, is the ideal combination."

He continued by offering a personal note: I'm In Love With Your Sister is the last play David Nairn will direct as artistic director of Theatre Orangeville.

Associate artistic director Jennifer Stewart moves into Nairn's position on July 1.

For interest's sake, Nairn provided the history with TOV, himself and Norm Foster. Since he began as artistic director in 1999, Nairn has programmed 25 shows by Norm Foster, three of which were musicals. Nairn directed 20 of those shows and acted in the other five. Eleven of the shows were world premieres.

This show is all about love was the answer to why we should come to fill the audience seats.

Will he get the girl?
"You'll laugh for two hours," one said.

"You'll come away with a smile on your face," said another.

"That's our responsibility – to bring joy," declared the third.

I'm In Love With Your Sister runs from May 1 to May 18.

For more information and to buy tickets go to www.theatreorangeville.ca or call the Box Office at its new number – 519-938-7584.

The delightful people at the Box Office love visitors. You can purchase your tickets at Orangeville's Opera House (87 Broadway).



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

HILARIOUS & HEARTWARMING: From left: Maria Dinn, Reid Janisse and Erin Mackinnon star in the world premiere of "I'm In Love With Your Sister" by Norm Foster. The show opens May 1 and runs to May 18.

Dufferin OPP request the public's assistance in recent break and enter investigation

The Dufferin Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is looking for the public to help identify possible suspects in a recent break and enter.

On April 1, at approximately 3:50 p.m., a black or dark blue Chevrolet pickup truck was caught on surveillance breaking into a rural property on County Road 17 in Mel-

anthon. The suspect(s) broke a lock on the gate to access the property and stole multiple items, including:

- Generator
- Leaf blower
- Chainsaw
- Portable welder

- Rototiller
- 2 hay bales

The vehicle was on-site for just over an hour, leaving shortly after 5 p.m. The truck was an extended cab Chevrolet with light-colored trim around the rear wheel wells and a "4x4" decal on both sides. The tonneau cover was flipped open, and there

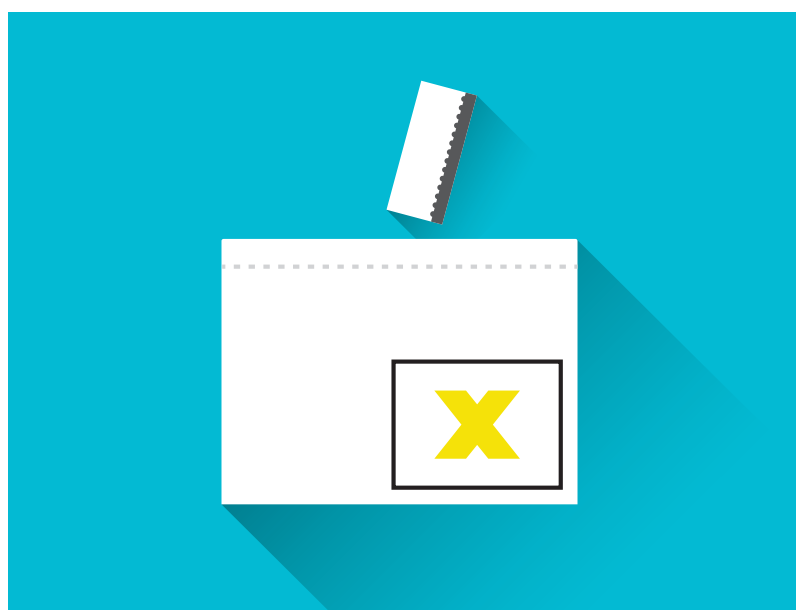
appeared to be boxes in the bed of the truck.

Dufferin OPP is looking for the public's assistance in identifying this vehicle. If you recognize it or have any information, please contact the OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or Crime Stoppers to remain anonymous at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or www.crimestopperssdm.com.

FEDERAL ELECTION / MONDAY, APRIL 28

f i y x in #ItsOurVote

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Pick up & preview at our Home Office Base, located at 438280 4th Line, Melancthon L9V 1S9 (North of Shelburne). Preview on both auction days, 10am-4pm. Lots begin closing May 1st & 2nd at 5pm, each day.

Featuring: 1955 Ford Thunderbird; 2005 Harley Davidson Fat Boy FLSTFI Motorcycle and more vintage vehicles with an outstanding selection of petroliana and vintage toys including 1950s-1990s Dealership Promo Cars with Chevrolet, Ford, Plymouth, Mercury, Studebaker, Oldsmobile, Rambler, Buick, Pontiac, Chrysler, Lincoln, AMC, Dodge and so much more.

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COMING EVENTS

Mother's Day Plant and Bake Sale

Sat., May 10th 8-11a.m.

Pre-order hanging baskets, planters, window boxes, urn inserts, 4" pot flowers, vegetables, strawberries, herbs, fresh bouquets –to arrive just in time for Mother's Day!

Complete order forms and give to any congregation member at

Trinity Primrose United Church, or phone 519-925-2397 or email gailbrown.pharm@yahoo.ca

Note: plant orders due by Sun., May 4th. Orders can be picked up at Primrose United Church on Sat., May 10th. (Delivery available upon request.)

Join us at the sale for huge assortment of delicious homemade baking (pies, tarts...!), perennials, wares from local vendors, and a great visit with neighbours and friends!

Great chance to spoil Mom! Hope to see you there!



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CLEAR THE CLUTTER

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HELP WANTED



NOW HIRING

Ice River Sustainable Solutions – Blue Mountain Plastics Inc. is currently looking for sixteen (16) Material Handler/QA Technician(s) to join our team. You will be working at our Shelburne facility, located at 485387 30 Sideroad, Shelburne Ontario L9V 3N5.

A Production Operator (Material Handler/QA Technician) is responsible for sorting products on the production line, operating forklifts to move materials, ensuring quality assurance compliance, and performing equipment calibration. The operator is also tasked with data interpretation, software interfacing, and maintaining accurate records. Working as part of a team, the operator focuses on meeting production goals while maintaining safety, efficiency, and quality standards.

- Permanent, full-time positions, based on 80 hours of work per 2-week cycle, with occasional overtime. Work an 8.5-hour rotating shift, days, afternoons, nights and weekends.
- Salary \$22.40 per hour, with possibility of bonus; 10 days vacation plus extended medical, dental, and long-term disability insurance & participation in our retirement savings plan.
- Inbound transportation costs for out of province applicants.
- Completion of high school required.
- Utilize analytical skills to interpret production data, identifying patterns, inefficiencies, and potential improvements. Make data-driven recommendations to enhance the efficiency of sorting, increase output quality, and reduce waste. Collaborate with team leaders to implement optimized workflows.
- Demonstrated ability to work independently on specific tasks and collaboratively within a small team to achieve production goals in a fast-paced, high-volume setting.
- Certified and experienced in operating various forklifts, including models equipped with clamps, with a strong emphasis on safety protocols, efficient loading techniques, and adherence to load capacities.
- Previous heavy equipment experience preferred.

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

Company
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 Shelburne, ON L9V 3N5

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FERGUSON AUCTION SERVICES

**Outstanding Tool Auction
 for the Bryan Kekewich Estate
 on Saturday May 3, 2025 at 10AM
 7079 6th Line Tottenham**

Approximately 200+ lots of shop and handyman tools including De Walt, Ryobi, Craftsmand, Milwaukee, Ridgid, Master Craft and others. Numerous socket sets, wrenches, saws, Lincoln 225 welder, Acetylene torch kit, 80 gallon upright Campbell Hausfeld air compressor, new Empire sand blaster, bench grinder, numerous oils, tile saws, drywall, electrical and plumbing supplies, wiring, VW parts, pallet forks, shop vacs, pressure washer, new 80lb tow behind spreader, transmission lift, Direct Lift, scaffolding, ladders, floor jack, ar cleaning supplies, caulking, 2 X LT2000 Utility winches, testers, new batteries, retractable reels, qty of paving stone, landscape stone, Dremel rotary tool, 12 ton shop press, parts cleaner, Hilti DX 450 nailer, torque wrenches, AST ball joint separator, car ramps, MC variable speed drill press, 72 hole bolt bin, Makita N1900 planer, levels, saw horses, Fluke DSP 4000 cable analyser, 4 ton Ram stand, baring pullers, Bose car stereo, F150 truck radio, hammer drills, Torin work bench, boxes of screws, nails, garden trailer/tools, extension ladders, and much more.

Special Interest: Three brand new Honda small engines including GX200, GX160, GCV overhead cam 160. Also two ATV's undergoing restoration, Many new parts, machines are not running and need reassembled. 1998 Honda TSC and 2001 RXC. Ownerships available sold as is.

Notes: This is an exceptional offering of tools some of which were never used, Plan to attend this enterprising auction. See our webpages fergusonauctions.com or Auctionsontario.ca for details.

Terms: Cash/cheque with ID, E-Transfers under \$ 1000.00, Nothing to be removed until settled for. Owners, and Auction Company will not be held responsible for accidents, deletions, nor property loss day of sale.

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**LIVE AUCTION SALE
 Spring Equipment Consignment
 Saturday May 17th,
 at 9:30am**



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

Accepting: Tractors, Machinery, Equipment, Farm Rel/Shop

Note: Please contact auctioneer if you are wanting to consign any equipment/items
 Watch the website as items will be added regularly

Auctioneers: Kevin McArthur (519) 942-0264 Scott Bessey (519) 843-5083
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www.theauctionadvertiser.com/KMcArthur - full listing & photos

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
COMMUNITY SPIRIT: Grade 3 and 4 students of Centennial Hylands Elementary School rolled up their sleeves and collected just over 115 pounds of trash from Fiddle Park on Earth Day (April 22).

Shelburne
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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
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 486281 30th Sideroad, Mono
 Worshipping at Trinity Primrose United Church
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 email: communications@shelburneprimrose.com
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ALL WELCOME

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SUNDAY SERVICE 10:00AM
 Mel-Lloyd Centre, Entrance "F" Door,
 167 Centre St, Shelburne
 Pastor: Rev. Gord Horsley
Come and be Blessed

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\$14.99 **SAVE \$3**
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SAVE \$7
Fall Off the Bone®
Back Ribs
1 FULL RACK OF RIBS
510 g - 680 g
Choose from 5 varieties.
Tangy
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14⁹⁹
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2 STEAKS x 170 g/6 oz
Choose from 3 varieties.
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19⁹⁹ **SAVE \$5**
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Chicken Breasts
8 PIECES 907 g
Choose from 3 varieties.
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Also available,
Chicken Breast Grills
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\$19.99 **SAVE \$3**
SAVE \$6
9⁹⁹
Haddock
Tenders
8-12 PIECES 454 g
Sauce included

PREMIUM SINGLE SERVES 370 g - 400 g

NEW! Sweet & Sour Chicken
Korean Style Beef
Chicken Dumplings and Noodles
Mediterranean Chicken
SALE
8⁹⁹ each
Italian Sausage and Penne
Chicken Burrito Bowl
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General Tao Chicken

WEEKNIGHT MEAL IDEAS

16⁹⁹ each
SAVE \$2
Deep Dish Beef and
Vegetable Pie 907 g
SALE
9⁹⁹ each
North Atlantic
Salmon 142 g
15⁹⁹ **SAVE \$2**
Supreme
Homestyle
Meat Loaf 600 g
17⁹⁹ **SAVE \$3**
Sirloin Beef
Meatballs
60-70 PIECES
907 g

READY IN THREE
EASY STEPS
1-2-3
STOVETOP KITS 840 g - 1.05 kg
17⁹⁹
20⁹⁹
SAVE \$2 each
Sweet and Spicy Shrimp and Scallops
Lemon Herb Chicken and Pasta
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Beef Lo Mein
Chicken Stir Fry
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Chicken Fajitas

FLATBREADS 460 g - 515 g
SAVE \$2⁹⁹ **ONLY**
\$10 each
Hot Honey & Chicken
Gourmet Mushroom and Black Truffle Oil
Bruschetta
Gourmet Double Pepperoni
4 VARIETIES

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8⁹⁹ **SALE**
Grilled
Mini Potatoes
500 g
9⁹⁹ **SAVE \$3**
Maple Butter
Pork Chops
4 PIECES 500 g
16⁹⁹ **SAVE \$3**
Sausages
8-9 PIECES
750 g - 900 g
Turkey
Oktoberfest™
Mild Italian
24⁹⁹ **SAVE \$4**
Bacon Wrapped
Beef Top Sirloin Steaks
4 STEAKS x 142 g/5 oz

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IN A CONVENIENT
SMALLER SIZE
14⁹⁹
Chicken Strips
6⁴⁹
TRY WITH
Plum Dipping
Sauce 350 mL
SAVE \$5

Burgers
6 BURGERS x 142 g/5 oz
17⁹⁹ **SAVE \$2**
Sirloin
Beef
Gourmet
Chicken
Gluten-Free Burgers to choose from:
• Angus Beef • Sirloin Beef
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23⁹⁹ **SAVE \$5**
Slow Cooked
Beef Pot Roast 907 g/2 lb
19⁹⁹ **SAVE \$3**
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SAVE \$1
Lasagna
SAVE \$3
Cabbage
Rolls
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Thai Style
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\$13.99 **SAVE \$3**

SNACK IDEAS **9⁹⁹** each

Hot Honey
Cheese Bites
14 PIECES
280 g
SAVE \$2 each
Crispy Everything
Cream Cheese Bites
14 PIECES 280 g
Also available,
Pepperoni Pizza Rolls
8 PIECES 460 g
\$9.99 **SAVE \$3**
9⁹⁹ **SAVE \$3** each
Cream Cheese
and Cheddar
Stuffed Jalapeños
10-13 PIECES 360 g
Also available,
Cream Cheese Stuffed Jalapeños
10-13 PIECES 360 g
\$9.99 **SAVE \$3**
Jamaican-Style
Beef Patty
Bites
500 g
Mini Franks
in Pastry
15 PIECES
279 g
Mini Vegetable
Spring Rolls
16 PIECES
384 g

SAVE ROOM FOR THESE

Homestyle
Key Lime Pies
2 PIECES 264 g
5⁹⁹ each
SALE
10⁹⁹ each
NEW!
100% CREAM
DAIRY
Mini Mocha
Cheesecakes
6 PIECES 330 g
9⁹⁹
Double
Chocolate
9⁹⁹
SALE
Ice Cream
Cookie
Sandwiches
6 SANDWICHES 600 mL
Mini Apple Crisp
Cheesecakes
6 PIECES 360 g
Mini White Chocolate
Raspberry
Cheesecakes
6 PIECES 300 g
Mini Chocolate
Peanut Butter
Cakes
6 PIECES 300 g



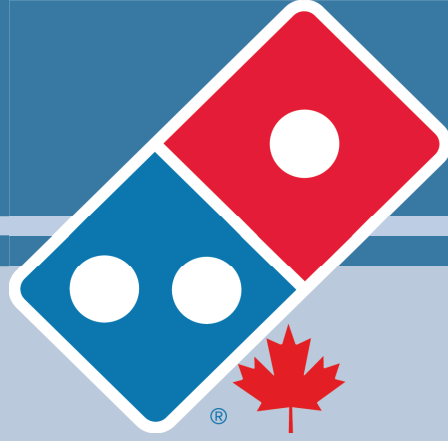
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