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JOSHUA DRAKES PHOTO

YOUNG TALENT ON DISPLAY: Streams Community Hub President Andrew James, who co-founded the Shelburne-based not-for-profit arts organisation, poses on stage with this year's contestants of the Word of Mouth Monologue Competition. Streams said they are immensely proud of the work the contestants put into this event, and are just as proud of the support they received from families.

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Shelburne ends automated speed enforcement Ford Government bans use of municipal speed cameras effective Nov. 14

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Town of Shelburne has deactivated its automated speed enforcement (ASE) cameras after the Ford government passed legislation banning their use across the province last Friday.

The cameras were only in use for 70 days in Shelburne before the pilot program was forced to end.

The provincial government has largely condemned the use of automated speed cameras, with Premier Doug Ford referring to them as “cash grabs” aimed at taking money away from taxpayers.

The town confirmed the end of automated speed enforcement in its community safety and school zones in an announcement posted on its website's ASE page.

“In accordance with this new legislation, the Town of Shelburne's ASE Program will be ending. Effective November 14, 2025, all ASE cameras located in the Town of Shelburne will be deactivated,” reads the post.

They did, however, specify that, up until that point, all issued tickets are valid and must be paid.

The Shelburne Free Press reached out to the Town of Shelburne for comment, and CAO Denyse Morrissey directed the paper to an Oct. 6 Council motion, in which the town stated its opposition to the Province ending municipalities' use of ASE.

“Shelburne Town Council formally op-



FILE PHOTO

END OF ASE: Nov. 14 marked the end of an era in speed enforcement in Shelburne, as the Government of Ontario enacted its ban on automated speed enforcement (ASE) cameras.

poses the Province's decision to abruptly cancel ASE, a public safety tool enabled through provincial regulations in December 2019,” reads the statement. “Consistent with local, regional, national and international research by third parties including Sick Kids & Toronto Metropolitan Univer-

sity... The Town of Shelburne's ASE program has resulted in significant reductions in speed, increased speed compliance in Community Safety, and changes in driver behaviour.”

Continued on Page 3

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Town pens letter opposing Strada Aggregates' water permit amendment

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Town of Shelburne has officially submitted a formal response to Strada Aggregates Inc.'s application to expand and quarry below the water table, highlighting several local concerns.

The Strada quarry has been a hotly debated topic since it first appeared, drawing sharp criticism from local residents, politicians, and environmental experts.

Shelburne has specifically raised concerns about the amount of water the quarry will be drawing from the area.

"The Town of Shelburne has formally objected to Strada Aggregates Inc.'s application to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks to amend its Permit to Take Water (ERO #: 025-1082)," reads a statement from the town. "The proposed amendment would allow Strada to withdraw up to 5 million litres of water per day for 10 years."

Five million litres of water is no small number. This level of consumption would be more demanding than the towns around the quarry itself. In fact, that level of demand exceeds the daily water use of all eight lower-tier communities in Dufferin County combined.

In a letter to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, Todd McCarthy, Shelburne Mayor Wade Mills noted there are existing water supply issues impacting the county.

"Dufferin County currently experiences significant issues relating to water supply and, in our opinion, the proposed amendment to the Permit to Take Water will only exacerbate the significant water supply issues

present in the County of Dufferin," reads the letter from Wade Mills to McCarthy "In Dufferin, the agricultural sector represents a significant portion of the county's economy and, as such, the protection of agricultural lands is paramount."

He continued by warning that should Strada Aggregates be granted this level of consumption, the local economy and food supply would be harmed.

"The Town of Shelburne understands that the availability of a safe and abundant water source is critical to farmers' production of crops that are not only produced in large quantities but are also of the highest quality," Mayor Mills wrote. "It is our belief that Strada Aggregates Inc.'s amendment to their Permit to Take Water will harm Dufferin County farmers' ability to produce crops in high yields and maintain the current standard of crops."

The problems raised by Mayor Mills don't end with the volume of water Strada has requested. The town has also raised concerns about the nature of the quarry and the fact that it will be digging below the water table.

Shelburne CAO Denyse Morrissey also objected to Strada's proposal to expand its quarry operation below the water table in a letter to Minister of Natural Resources Mike Harris. She expressed concern for the impact it could have on the environment and water quality.

"While we understand the importance of aggregate resource extraction, Strada Aggregates Inc.'s proposal for aggregate extraction below the water table is concerning for both the short-and-long-term prosperity of Dufferin County," she said. "Town of Shelburne's concern does not centre around the mere ac-

tion of operating a pit and quarry, but, rather, it is the practice of below the water table extraction where our municipality's concern arises."

"This practice can be detrimental to local water systems, natural environmental heritage systems, and create harmful environments for surrounding residents," Morrissey added.

In her letter, she also questioned the potential impact of noise, debris, and vibrations from the quarry on the community. She said the type of deep digging this quarry proposes would exacerbate its byproducts to an even greater extent.

"While we can appreciate that no aggregate operation can eliminate any of the aforementioned by-products, it is our understanding that a below the water table operation greatly exacerbates those by-products," Morrissey wrote in her letter. "Local residents, therefore, will likely be subject to greater levels of noise, vibration, and noxious fumes, all factors that would prove detrimental to their overall quality of life and general safety."

"In our opinion, the reduction in residents' health and safety should not be viewed as merely an unfortunate outcome of the quarry expansion, but, instead, current residents' health and safety should be a minimum standard required to be maintained," the letter added.

Another concern stemming from Strada's proposed expansion is that trucking volume will further increase in Shelburne to a point where local infrastructure cannot support it.

"The submissions do not assess the impacts of trucking beyond the primary haul route; for example, the intersection of CR124 and High-

way 10/89 in Shelburne – which is the busiest intersection in the community, and a major existing and developing commercial node – has not been assessed," she said. "Existing conditions along CR124 in Shelburne are not suitable to accommodate both the trucking activities associated with the haul route and the urban roadway / complete street needs of Shelburne."

As the comment period for the proposed quarry closed on Nov. 10, many questions raised by town officials, residents, and local experts remain unanswered.

Dufferin-Caledon MP Kyle Seeback issued a Letter of Objection to the Ministry of Natural Resources Aggregates Section, regarding Strada Aggregates Inc.'s application for a Class A license.

In the letter, he asked 24 questions regarding the application's environmental and hydrological concerns, community and economic considerations, transportation, infrastructure, residential and agricultural impacts, air quality, noise, wildlife, property, business, and overall safety.

"Dufferin-Caledon deserves complete and transparent answers. Residents have engaged in good faith to understand the implications of this proposed project. It is the responsibility of the applicant to match that good faith with full transparency and accountability. When an applicant fails to match that good faith, it is impossible for the community to lend its support," reads Seeback's letter of objection.

The Town of Shelburne said it will continue to ask questions, challenge Strada and the provincial government, and remain committed to ensuring transparency while advocating for community interests.

Shelburne ends automated speed enforcement after provincial ban

Continued from FRONT

Morrissey said there will be a staff report provided to Shelburne council during its meeting next Monday, Nov. 24. The item regarding ASE will appear on council's agenda, which will be available for viewing by the end of today, Nov. 20. Morrissey also clarified that the Town of Shelburne did not incur any up-front costs related to ASE. No equipment was purchased to setup the program.

While the town continues to advocate for ASE, public perception paints a more mixed story.

Personal reactions within the public have been largely mixed. Some residents have applauded the removal and termination of the program, while some have lamented the cancellation, fearing a return to higher speeds

around town.

Councillor Len Guchardi said that personally, he believes that removing the cameras was a mistake.

"I truly think it's a bad idea to pull them down," he said. "I feel that they've helped calm traffic down across town. It's truly unfortunate to have just put them up and now pulled them down. We only got a couple months of use out of this pilot project."

He also said that, on a personal level, he's received positive feedback about the cameras for helping quiet traffic passing through downtown Shelburne.

"They've assisted with the truck noise and traffic in the evenings," he said. "They've helped slow trucks who've come flying through at high speeds that practically rattle people's windows. That's the kind of com-

ments I'm hearing. Citizens (could) back out of their own driveways with a little more ease."

Pat Belford, a Shelburne resident for over 40 years, expressed support for speed enforcement but not ASE cameras.

"I'm pro-speed bumps and those signs that light up and tell you how fast you are going," Belford said. "Speed cameras do not stop habitual speeders; they will just pay the ticket. Speed bumps will definitely slow you down, and also do not require any 'admin' for ticketing."

Automated Speed Enforcement remains a controversial topic across the province, especially among residents, while most municipalities continue to advocate for the program. For the moment, however, this chapter of traffic enforcement has closed.



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OPINION

Let them eat cake

“Let them eat cake.” That is the notorious phrase attributed to French Queen Marie Antoinette as her response to being told the population is starving.

It’s a little misleading as the phrase gets lost in translation. She wasn’t suggesting they bake a chocolate cake and have dessert – the reference was to brioche, another type of bread.

However, a history search reveals there’s no real evidence that the queen ever said those words, or even understood the plight of the peasants at the time.

It wasn’t even attributed to her until decades after her death.

More than likely, the phrase was blamed on her as a late excuse for explaining why an innocent person lost her head in the guillotine during the height of the French Revolution.

However, the phrase emphasizes the obvious need for people to have food.

“An army marches on its stomach,” is a phrase supposedly coined by Napoleon Bonaparte, the emperor who conquered much of the world, and apparently couldn’t get along with anyone.

Once again, it is not certain that he ever uttered that phrase. In fact, it has also been attributed to a few other historical figures.

But the phrase does have a meaning. A well-fed army stays healthy and maintains morale.

Try feeding your army fish heads and beans for a year straight and see how willing they are to take up a fight.

There is an old story from the Second World War. A group of German soldiers had captured some American supplies.

When the Germans took a look at what they had captured, they were stunned to see the amount and quality of food that was heading for the American troops.

The Germans realized they were going to lose the war, based just on what they had found. They figured that the Allies were better equipped in all ways, and morale would be boosted by decent food that would make the Allies a superior fighting force.

Apparently, the German Army was more of a ‘bread and water’ type of army when it came to feeding its troops, and as a soldier, you were expected to like it and never complain.

Years ago, I had a job working on the Welland Canal, delivering food supplies to both Great Lakes freighters and some foreign ocean-going ships.

Quite often, we would arrive close to lunch or dinner time. Almost always, if it was close to mealtime, after signing for the

delivery, the cook would invite us to stay for something to eat.

The food served on the ships was always good, and that includes both the domestic carriers and the foreign ships.

It was much better and had more variety than you would get if you were at home and decided to throw a sandwich together for lunch.

The shipping companies knew very well that if you have a crew of 29 on a ship, and they may be away for weeks or months at a time, you want to keep them happy so the ship operates properly and morale remains high.

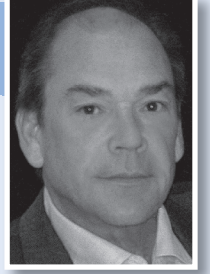
Good food makes people happy and healthy.

Health units in Ontario are reporting a dramatic increase in the number of households that are experiencing food insecurity. They simply can’t afford the food it takes to feed a household properly.

While we quite often think of low-income people struggling the most at the grocery store, the problem is now affecting the middle class.

Forget about inviting a group of friends over for a summer barbecue with steaks, baked potatoes, and corn on the cob. Who can afford to buy a bunch of T-bones to throw on the grill?

BRIAN LOCKHART
FROM THE SECOND ROW



More likely at a summer barbecue, you will hear the question, “How do you want your chicken hot dog cooked?”

No one in this country should have to struggle to put food on the table.

Food prices have been rising while grocery store chains are reporting record profits.

The rise in food prices was supposedly based on inflation. However, an educated consumer didn’t have to do much research to discover that many products that suddenly saw price increases were based solely on producers and suppliers seeing other producers raise their prices and following suit, strictly out of greed, not out of necessity.

Political leaders seem to be doing nothing to get this under control, so every citizen of this country can afford to feed their families.

While the fat cats dine at the fancy parliamentary café, I expect to hear one of them say, “Rising food prices? Let them eat hamburger.”

Except hamburger, which was once considered a cheap meat, has also gone through the roof price-wise.

No war in East Asia

Russia has its endless war in Ukraine, Africa has the Sudanese civil war, the United States is on the brink of invading Venezuela, India and Pakistan had a brief (non-nuclear) war in South Asia, and Israel bombed Iran, Qatar, Syria, Lebanon, and the Gaza Strip. Well done, everybody! No, wait a minute – where’s East Asia?

Not a single one of the East Asian countries – China, Japan, the two Koreas and Taiwan – has fired a shot in anger all year. Indeed, there has even been a shortfall in the production of bloodcurdling threats in the region. The worst anybody could come up with was a statement last week in parliament by Japan’s new prime minister, Sanae Takaichi, that a Chinese attack on the island of Taiwan could amount to a “survival-threatening situation.” It might even trigger a military response by the Japanese armed forces. The Chinese reply is just as blunt, and equally ritualistic.

“Should the Japanese side fail to draw lessons from history and use force to inter-

vene in the Taiwan question,” said Chinese defence ministry spokesman Jiang Bin, “it will suffer a crushing defeat against the steel-willed People’s Liberation Army.”

If you’re looking for trouble, a further provocation came with the announcement on 15 November that South Korea will begin building nuclear-powered attack submarines in collaboration with the United States. (Which country they will actually be built in is still disputed between Seoul and Washington.) North Korea is already building similar nuclear-powered subs, and it may well equip them with nuclear weapons. (Pyongyang already has land-based nukes, while South Korea has none.) Nevertheless, there is still little public enthusiasm for nuclear weapons in either Japan or South Korea, and few people lie awake worrying about imminent war in either country.

People do worry about China and Taiwan, although it has been many decades since those two countries fought each

other. Indeed, in a sense, they have never really fought: the losing side in the 1945-49 civil war just retreated to the island of Taiwan while continuing to insist that it was the legitimate government of the Republic of China (ROC).

The Communist victors of the civil war renamed the country the People’s Republic of China (PRC). They control the entire mainland and claim Taiwan as well, but they have never ruled there. Most citizens of Taiwan are quite happy about that, since Taiwan is a democratic country, but the PRC’s rulers insist that it must one day submit to rule from Beijing. Seventy-six years on, this frozen conflict remains the one wild card in what is otherwise a very stable political status quo in the region.

The only plausible scenario for a second Korean civil war would be a sudden collapse of the North Korean regime, which is most unlikely. Japan is still war-averse and would leave any military action to stop a Chinese invasion of Taiwan to its American ally. And the Taiwanese themselves, outnumbered seventy-to-one by the mainlanders, would never start a war. That leaves only China as the credible initiator of a war – and Xi Jinping, China’s president-for-life, always insists that the PRC has the right to ‘reunite’ Taiwan and China by force if other means fail. What has deterred Beijing from doing that for the past 75 years is the high probability that the United States would come to Taiwan’s defence.

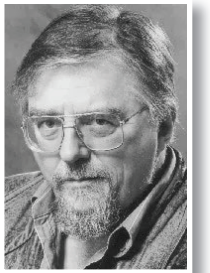
Since the US established diplomatic relations with the PRC in the 1970s, there has not been a guarantee for Taiwan, just a nod-and-a-wink sort of promise, but Xi Jinping, like all his predecessors, has taken it very seriously. What puts it in some doubt now is the very rapid growth of the Chinese economy (the second biggest in the world) and especially the Chinese armed forces.

This has enabled China to build military forces that might be able to get an invasion force across the 180 kilometres of open ocean separating the mainland and Taiwan if the US doesn’t intervene. So many arm-chair strategists (and some professionals) have started calculating how many aircraft carriers the US Navy would lose if it sent them into the Strait of Taiwan.

They are barking up the wrong tree. Taiwan’s land defences need some work, but it is a very big island with few usable beaches, and its submarines and missiles would decimate Chinese sea transports. Meanwhile, the bulk of the US Navy would be a thousand km. offshore in the western Pacific and the South China Sea, blocking all ocean-borne trade to and from China.

No nukes, no conquest of Taiwan, and a dodgy future for the regime in Beijing that rolled the dice. The current regime in Beijing are not fools, so East Asia will probably remain at peace.

GWYNNE DYER
OUR WORLD TODAY





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Correction

A story with the headline “Seniors to receive Christmas-themed care packages through Adopt a Grandparent” that ran on Page 6 of the Nov. 13 edition of the Shelburne Free Press featured an incorrect phone number. To get in contact with the program’s organizer, the correct number to call is 416-809-0914.





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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: Restoring an affordable Canada

Dear Editor:

Canadians were hoping for a budget that would deliver a positive and affordable future for all Canadians. The Liberals had promised that it would be a generational budget. I had also hoped they would put forward a budget that would fix the cost of living crisis, fix the housing crisis, and get spending under control. Unfortunately, Mark Carney's budget does none of these things.

Before the Budget was introduced in the House of Commons, Conservatives asked for affordability measures to help struggling Canadians, such as:

- scrapping hidden taxes on food, including the industrial carbon tax on farmers, the food packaging tax that adds billions in costs, and the fuel standard tax that adds 17 cents per litre to diesel and gasoline for farmers;
- ending the inflation tax by bringing down the cost of government to lower the burden on Canadians; and
- bringing down the deficit to the level Liberals promised in their last fiscal update.

It's really disappointing the Liberals had a chance to do something in this budget to help Canadians with affordability and the cost of living, but didn't. Our asks were reasonable. We know how tough life is becoming for Ca-

nadians. The highest number of Canadians in history visited food banks, with 2,165,766 million visits in March of this year. Nearly one in five of these visitors are employed, but still unable to afford food. This shows just how unaffordable life has become for average, hard-working Canadians and the need for relief.

Young Canadians are frustrated that they'll never own a home and are now spending more money on taxes than on food, clothing, and shelter combined. The Liberals' budget doesn't help address the housing crisis and increases government spending. When the government spends more, it takes more money out of the pockets of Canadians, making it

that much harder to get ahead and being able to afford a home. We need to turn this hurt into hope for this generation.

Conservatives continue to call on the Liberals to help make life affordable again for all Canadians. We want to help restore the promise that working hard will bring a pay cheque that puts a roof over every Canadian's head, food on the table, and a comfortable retirement. We'll continue pushing Mark Carney for this positive vision of a brighter future and opportunity for all Canadians.

Dufferin-Caledon MP
Kyle Seeback, M.P.

Butterfly Bereavement Project art installation opens at local hospital, Orangeville Library

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

As National Grief and Bereavement Day passes, the Bethell Hospice wants to open up hearts and minds to processing grief and loss through a series of art displays in Dufferin County.

The displays in town will be located at the Headwaters Health Care Center ambulatory wing, with a general viewing event today (Nov. 20) from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Another display will be at the Orangeville Public Library on Mill Street, with a viewing event on Nov. 21, from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Titled the Butterfly Bereavement Project, the idea is simple: helping those struggling with loss express their feelings through art.

Bethell Hospice executive director Margaret Paan said it grew out of a desire to find a way to offer a more visible support mechanism to those in need.

"It really comes out of National Grief and Bereavement Day," she said. "The real crux of it is that we all experience grief and loss; it's a shared thing. We were thinking, really, about how we could make that more visible to people in a way that also can offer support to each other."

Paan continued by saying that the butterfly is already a symbol used in the grieving process and also represents the cycle of life. They are the sum of someone's grieving feelings towards another.

"It's the way I think people see it, the light, the shape of the butterfly, it means a lot to people," she said. "When you see one of our displays, you know that each and every one of those butterflies was made by somebody that who was likely thinking

about someone important to them."

"Those butterflies are like many hearts and memories and a lot of love put together," Paan added.

The project now numbers 3,500 butterflies and counting, potentially 4,000. While initially starting out with only a handful of participants four years ago, the initiative has expanded rapidly across the county, with thousands participating. Bethell Hospice has also had to expand its chosen venues in order to accommodate the size of its displays.

Even still, Paan said that everyone is encouraged to take up a butterfly and express themselves.

"I would encourage people to reach out, because you aren't alone, and there are supports here to help you," she said.

"We have kits that anyone can use. You do this as an exercise at home and in comfort, even with your family, because that's what this is all about. None of us are alone in grief. I want people to be able to reflect, whether that's through the butterflies or another means."

Paan also wanted to extend her thanks to the Ontario government for continuing to invest in counseling and support services across the province. Because of recent investments, more opportunities and programs have become available, including a new grief and bereavement services provider for youth and children.

"The Ministry of Health has invested heavily into grief and bereavement services in the last two years," she said. "Sylvia Jones has been very supportive, and we've gotten more money now to run our programs and even expand them. We are extremely grateful to them."



FILE PHOTO

COLLABORATIVE EFFORT: Bethell Hospice's Butterfly Bereavement Project from 2024 featured butterfly's decorated by community members affected by the loss of a loved one. A display is also up at the Caledon Town Hall Atrium. Over 3,500 butterflies were crafted.

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Shelburne's former deputy mayor discusses transit at Mayor's Breakfast

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

Caledon Mayor Annette Groves is thinking big for the future in terms of transit – and she wants to get businesses on board to invest in that future.

On Monday, Nov. 17, prominent business leaders from across Caledon and the broader region were invited to the Mayor's Fall Business Breakfast event hosted at Mount Alverno Luxury Resorts, just east of Orangeville.

The event was hosted by the office of Caledon Mayor Annette Groves, where guests were treated to a buffet breakfast, featuring everything from scrambled eggs to pastry desserts. The morning was an opportunity to gather influential people in the area, who pitched a bold new vision for Caledon's future.

That vision is for an overhauled transit system to accommodate a rapidly expanding, dispersed community. This plan for the future was supported by the morning's keynote speaker, Steve Anderson. He is an author and former deputy mayor of Shelburne, who was inspired by the stories he heard after entering politics.

"I remember being on Facebook one day, and I saw a post from a citizen looking for a ride to Orangeville to attend a medical event," he said. "Just imagine that, right? Feeling like it was necessary to go on Facebook to ask for a ride because there's no good transportation. Stories like this helped to fuel my desire for public transportation."

He spoke at length about the possibilities of public transportation and challenged guests to think outside the box about affordability, one of several key points to factor into introducing and popularizing transit, starting with collaboration.

"Collaboration is key; there is a role for businesses in public transportation," Anderson said. "That's why we're here, right? Innovative transport solutions are driven by partnership with the private sector."

He added that business leaders are being consulted to leverage their knowledge and expertise across society.

Anderson also pointed to examples from around the world to draw inspiration from.

He said that buses aren't the only form of mass transit available. In Asia, small, self-driving shuttle cars are becoming increasingly common, offering direct transportation throughout their host cities, while leaving a small footprint and being affordable.

In Seoul, South Korea, autonomous buses are running nighttime shifts, so they can remain operational without the need for employees or drivers.

Anderson said integrating advanced technology will change the face of public transport, especially in rural areas.

"AI can apply to public transportation as well," he remarked. "AI optimizes traffic flow, predictive maintenance enhances safety, and reduces downtimes. Flexible transit, micro transit, and dynamic routing serves diverse populations in suburban and rural areas."

Anderson said that the integration of technology will bring about a more inclusive Caledon, one that uses new technology to keep people moving without having large carbon footprints. He encouraged business leaders to work collaboratively with local government to invest in future transit programs that remain affordable and safe.

During Groves' remarks, she noted the significance of public transit as her community continues to grow.

"Caledon is a very unique place," she said. "We're bigger than the Cities of Brampton and Mississauga combined, we're bigger than the City of Toronto, geographically speaking. But we're 90,000 people. In 25 years or so, we're looking at becoming 300,000 people, and this is why public transportation is so important."

She continued by saying that with such a large influx of residents moving into the region, jobs will follow, bringing new businesses and new industry connections to the community. The focus then shifts to ensuring all those businesses are staffed and that the staff have an easy commute to reach them.

"We will have to create 125,000 new jobs over the next 25 years," she said. "That means a lot of employers here, and that also means a lot of taxes to the Town of Caledon."



JOSHUA DRAKES PHOTO

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE: Mayor Annette Groves and former Deputy Mayor Steve Anderson of Shelburne have pitched an ambitious plan for the future of rural transit. Incorporating cutting-edge technology and consulting local business leaders, Caledon is headed towards a makeover.

Groves added, "That means we need to be able to get those people to those jobs."

She framed investing in public transit as an investment for future prosperity. Making transit accessible to Caledon allows greater freedom of movement for incoming residents, which, in turn, will attract more growth as the region can support greater movement of people. She described transit as a lifeline for residents who don't have many options.

"When we talk about transit, it's not just a bus," she said. "We have a long-term care home here, the Davis Centre, and many years ago, their bus broke down. I went out to the community, saying 'we need to help them afford a new bus,' and I said to the folks who donated to attend the Davis Centre to see how your money is going to help so many people."

Groves continued, "One lady at the centre spoke up, and she said the bus was their arms and legs, because many people there are in wheelchairs. They're not able to move around. They have mobility issues. I see public transit as our arms and legs. It keeps us moving. It keeps our economy moving."

Groves said she hopes that by connecting with business leaders and innovators in the community, Caledon can plan a modern, clean, and cost-efficient transit program alongside businesses, hearing directly from them about ideas and feedback.

It's clear that Caledon has big plans for the future of the region, but this meeting was only the start of that plan. The pitch has been made to community business partners; time will now tell if it hooks. Plenty of work remains ahead for Groves, her team, and their business partners.

Dufferin OPP lay impaired driving charges after motorist registers twice the legal limit

Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officers recently charged a Hamilton resident with impaired driving-related offences following a traffic stop.

On Nov. 13, shortly before 11 p.m., officers on general patrol in the area of Fifth Avenue in Orangeville observed a vehicle strike a curb while attempting to enter a parking lot. Officers then initiated a traffic stop.

During the interaction, officers observed signs of impairment, and an impaired driving investigation was initiated.

David Power, 44, from Orangeville, has been charged with the following offence:

- Operation while impaired - alcohol and drugs
- Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus)
- Drive vehicle or boat with cannabis readily available
- Careless driving

The accused is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville. Power's driver's licence has been suspended, and his vehicle has been impounded.

The listed charges have not been proven in court.

"The Dufferin OPP reminds motorists to plan ahead when consuming alcohol or drugs. Use a designated driver, taxi, ride-share, public transit, or stay overnight," reads a press release from Dufferin OPP. "Even small amounts of alcohol or drugs can impair your judgment. In a split second,

you could ruin your future, harm or kill others, and cause deep pain to those who love you."

If you suspect someone is driving while under the influence of drugs or alcohol, call

9-1-1. If you have information about suspected unlawful activity, please contact the OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or Crime Stoppers to remain anonymous at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or visit www.crimestoppersdm.com.

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The County of Dufferin is updating our current Long-Term Waste Management Strategy, and we want to hear from residents and program users!

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The fall survey is open until December 8 (at noon). Please indicate at the end of the survey if you're interested in attending a Table Talk!

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MNRF tables proposal to allow hunting in Boyne Valley Provincial Park

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Ontario's Ministry of Natural Resources and Forests (MNRF) has put forward a proposal to change the Boyne Valley Provincial Park's size and hunting rules.

In a document titled "Supplemental Document Supporting Environmental Registry of Ontario Proposal Notice Number 019-9306," the provincial government is planning a large overhaul of parks across the province, including here in Dufferin County.

The Boyne Valley Provincial Park is set to have 496 hectares added to its regulated area, almost doubling its size. This land was previously acquired by the Ontario government in other deals.

However, the Ontario government, through the MNRF, is also considering permitting hunting within the regulated areas, which include trails managed by the Dufferin Hi-Land Bruce Trail Club.

In the proposal, the MNRF plans to continue permitting hunting in the new additions to the park, while beginning to permit hunting in the park's original, regulated area. The proposal will permit hunting of non-furbearing game mammals, migratory game birds, and game birds during normal hunting seasons.

This raises concerns among local residents and trail users, as sections of the Bruce Trail managed by the Dufferin Hi-Land Club see heavy foot traffic that passes directly through the area that could be

opened to hunting.

Tom Thayer, a local resident and trail user, said that the proposal puts thousands of lives at risk if hunting is allowed.

"You've got a lot of people that use that park, and not just on the Bruce Trail," he said. "You've got people on horses, hikers on other trails, and explorers who just go in regularly. There are thousands of people who go out there every year to enjoy the park."

"The province needs to realize that they're putting people's lives in danger. Beyond the trail, the park, which will become a hunting zone, comes right up to Primrose Public School and all the residences in the area," Thayer added.

He said he hopes the MNRF is open to discussing different approaches for the area that can accommodate everyone safely.

"I've so far heard that the province is open to alternative ways of doing this, which I'm happy for. I have hope that we can actually stop this," said Thayer.

While Thayer is president of the Bruce Trail Conservancy's Dufferin Hi-Land Club, his comments are not affiliated with the official position of the Bruce Trail Conservancy or his club, and are entirely personal.

Currently, the MNRF is accepting public comments on the proposal, so those with input are welcome to share their thoughts. That link can be found at <https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-9306>.

Commenting is open until 11:59 p.m. on Nov. 24, 2025.



IAN COBURN PHOTO

BIG CHANGES BEING CONSIDERED: The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forests is proposing to permit hunting in Boyne Valley Provincial Park, which is home to the Dufferin Hi-Land Bruce Trail Club's trails.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

SMILE COOKIE CAMPAIGN UNDERWAY: Streams Community Hub staff were busy dropping off Holiday Smile Cookies to various businesses in Dufferin County on Wednesday, Nov. 19. Streams Community Hub is this year's recipient of Smile Cookies purchased in Shelburne from Nov. 19 to 23. Streams Community Hub Executive Director Juli-Anne James (left) and Program Coordinator Megan Mare (right) drop off cookies to Dr. Dino DiSanto at Shelburne Family Dental.



LOCAL SUPPORT: Streams Community Hub staff drop off cookies to the Shelburne No Frills.



DENTAL OFFICE DELIVERY: Juli-Anne James (left) and Megan Mare (right) of Streams Community Hub drops off Smile Cookies at Main Street Dental.



BIG SMILES: Rose Van Brunt (centre) of Dentistry at Summer Hill receives a delivery of Smile Cookies from Juli-Anne James (left) and Megan Mare (right) of Streams Community Hub.



CAMPAIGN KICKS OFF: Kim Stringer of SGR Plumbing (left) shares a smile with Juli-Anne (centre) and Andrew James (right) of Streams Community Hub.



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Arts & Entertainment LOCAL COMMUNITY EVENTS

Streams Community Hub hosts annual Word of Mouth Monologue Competition

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

On Saturday, Nov. 15, Shelburne saw the best speakers the area had to offer go head-to-head in a war of words at Streams Community Hub's fifth annual monologue competition.

Juli-Anne James, co-founder and executive

director of Streams, said it was a remarkable event featuring young talent from the community.

"This past Saturday, Streams Community Hub proudly hosted the fifth annual *Word of Mouth Monologue Competition* at Grace Tipling Hall," she said. "It was truly an unforgettable evening. A packed house came out to support 19 young performers from

schools across the region."

Among the participants were kids from across the region, including schools such as Centennial Hylands Elementary, St. Peter Catholic Elementary, Highpoint Community School, Primrose Elementary, Arbour Vista Public School, East Garafraxa Public School, Centre Dufferin District High School, Westside Secondary School, and Centennial Collegiate Vocational Institute.

James said that this year, Streams was deeply impressed by the outpouring of support from families and friends for the youth participating. She said it is critical that young minds receive that support, giving them the confidence they need to grow.

"What stood out most this year was the overwhelming support from families, educators, and community members," she said. "The atmosphere was filled with pride and encouragement, giving these young performers a moment that will stay with them for years. Events like this demonstrate the power of giving youth a platform to express themselves and be celebrated."

Finalists delivered exceptional performances across the board, showing great courage for taking the stage and making great use of storytelling skills to deliver their monologues.

Judging their monologues was a panel of talented adjudicators.

Jay Vaidya, who judged the competition, is a Toronto-based television writer and producer whose credits include *Odd Squad*, *Run the Burbs*, *The Hardy Boys*, and the award-winning *Beyond Black Beauty*.

James Gerus, an actor and writer from Mono, scored the competitors' monologues. His film work has screened at Cannes, and he will soon perform as a lead at Roy Thomson Hall with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra.

Bradley Reid, a film and theatre actor who began his career in the comedy film *Dirty Work*, now calls Dufferin County home, and also judged the monologues.

However, there can be only one winner in each category of the contest, which was undoubtedly a tough decision for the three judges.

In the Senior Category, Audrey Hawkins earned first place, followed by Maleeha Bashir in second. In the Junior Category, Maya Abhimanu placed first, with Grady Gallagher taking second. The grand prizes included large rewards for their efforts, with \$1,000 for first place and \$500 for second place in each category.

The prize money was generously provided by Crewson Insurance Brokers, who have been long-standing supporters of the competition for four of its five years.

Jennifer Crewson, director of client experience at Crewson Insurance Brokers, said that they are proud to be supporters of the Word of Mouth competition and praised Streams for its ongoing support of creativity and development.

"It is an honour and a privilege for Crewson Insurance to have been the presenting sponsor of the Word of Mouth Monologue Competition for the fourth year in a row," she said. "Juli-Ann and Andrew James are an inspiration and true leaders in our community. Streams Community Hub offers a safe and welcoming place where the young people in Shelburne can explore arts, music, singing, baking and more."

Crewson continued by saying that speaking is a passion for the group, and she encourages everyone to find their own voice, which remains an important tool in everyday life.

She added that Crewson is proud of every contestant who participated and looks forward to future events.

"Crewson Insurance is passionate about speaking, we believe that it is important to use your voice, speaking is a powerful tool that can captivate audiences and influence people," Crewson said. "It takes courage, hard work and bravery to stand up on stage and recite a monologue in front of a crowd. Crewson Insurance is proud to be a part of this event and hopes it will continue for many years to come."

For those interested in learning more about the competition or Streams Community Hub, visit their website at <https://streamshub.org>.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

WINNING PERFORMERS: Streams Community Hub President Andrew James, who co-founded the Shelburne-based not-for-profit arts organization, poses on stage with this year's contestants of the Word of Mouth Monologue Competition. In the Senior Category, Audrey Hawkins earned first place (bottom left), followed by Maleeha Bashir in second (top left). In the Junior Category, Maya Abhimanu placed first (top right), with Grady Gallagher taking second (bottom right). First-place contestants took home \$1,000, and second-place winners received \$500. Streams said they are immensely proud of the work the contestants put into this event, and are just as proud of the support they received from families.



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By Debbie Collins
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- February 9 & 23
- March 9 & 23
- April 13 & 27 (Virtual)
- May 11 & 25
- June 1 (virtual) & 22 (Virtual)
- July 13 & 27
- August 24
- September 14 & 28
- October 5
- December 14

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 Dec. 31, 2025 to 11:59 pm Jan 1, 2026

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Statements will be sent out at the beginning of December to notify you of the total amount scheduled for withdrawal.

Thank you for your continued participation in the PAP Plan!



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SPORTS

Shelburne Wolves U11 Rep team defeats Wasaga Stars over the weekend

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

It was Hockey Day in Shelburne on Saturday, Nov. 15, as the Shelburne Minor Hockey Association hosted a special day of games on the ice at the Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex.

A total of 12 games were played, starting with a U8 game at 8 a.m.

The Shelburne Wolves U11 Rep team put on a good show and their best effort of the season when they hosted the Wasaga Beach Stars.

Looking for their first win of the season, the Wolves didn't disappoint their hometown fans.

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

It was a 3-2 game when the Wolves took a shot and scored with less than a second remaining on the clock.

It was again tied when Wasaga scored in the second period, but the Wolves managed to take a lead with another goal before the buzzer sounded to end the period.

The Wolves were ahead 5-3 with a goal early in the third period, but Wasaga answered with another goal to again tie the game.

The Wolves put out a huge effort late in the third period, scoring three goals, then capped the game with a final empty netter when the Stars pulled their goalie to put an extra attacker on the ice.

It was a 9-5 final to give the Wolves their first win of the season.

"We had a lot of scoring and put a lot of pressure on the other team," summed up Wolves left wing Katie Sheppard of the way her team played. "We were doing a lot of forechecking."

Wolves U11 Rep coach Justin Dzikowski said he has seen a lot of improvement in the team since the start of the season.

"Everyone was doing their job on the ice," Dzikowski said after the game. "They've come a long way. We didn't have any returning players from last year, so they're all new to the team. We started with the basics and they started to get it and started to play their po-



BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

WINNING MATCH: The Shelburne Wolves U11 Rep team takes on the Wasaga Beach Stars on the ice at the Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex on Saturday, Nov. 15. It was a competitive game through to the third period when the Wolves netted three goals to take a 9-5 win.

sitions."

He added, "We're starting to forecheck a little more. We've been having trouble getting shots on net so we practiced that this week. Our goal was to get more shots on net and it

worked out. At the start of the year they were running around a little wild, but now they have some direction and they are learning their positions. It goes from there. Once everyone is doing their job, it works out."

The Shelburne Wolves U11 Rep team will be back on home ice on Saturday, Nov. 22, when they will host the Georgian Shores Lighting at the Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex. Game time is 12:30 p.m.

PJHL's North Carruthers Division sees an increase in competition so far this season

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

The North Carruthers Division of the Provincial Junior Hockey League (PJHL) is turning out a highly competitive season as the top four spots in the standings are up for grabs.

The top four teams are separated by eight points after the first-place Alliston Hornets took two losses over the weekend.

The Hornets were shut out 3-0 by the Penetang Kings in Penetang on Friday, Nov. 14.

It was the first time this year that the Alliston squad failed to score in a game.

The Hornets lost their second game of the weekend when they travelled to Orillia to take on the Terriers and gave up a 4-2 loss to the Orillia team.

Despite the two losses, Alliston remains in first place in the division with 28 points.

The Stayner Siskins moved into second place in the standings after winning three games, including a recent victory over Al-

liston that ended a 13-game win streak. Stayner also defeated Muskoka and Penetang.

Stayner now has a 12-5 record and 24 points – just four points behind Alliston.

Dropping to third place, the Orillia Terriers were in the number two spot for the early part of the regular season schedule before Stayner took over.

The Terriers have an 11-3 record and 22 points.

The Penetang Kings have 20 points and are in fourth place in the standings with a 9-5-2 record, including one shoot-out loss.

In the middle of the pack, the Midland Flyers have 16 points and are followed by the Muskoka Bears, who are two points behind with 14 recorded this season.

The Huntsville Otters are in the number seven spot with 10 points and a 5-13 record.

The Innisfil Spartans are in the basement, recording four wins after 16 times on the ice this season.

There's a lot of hockey left on the sched-

ule. The Division is now approaching the halfway mark in the 42-game regular season schedule.

The second half of the season could see significant changes in the standings as teams work hard to secure playoff berths.



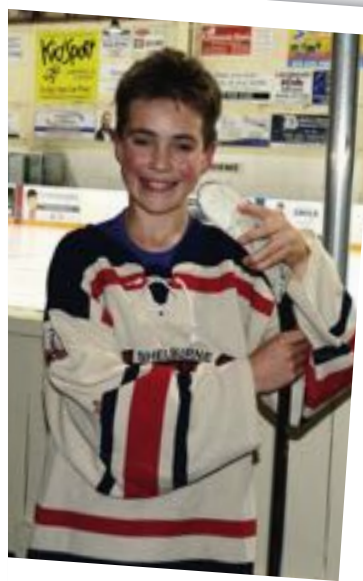
BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTOS

MARTIAL ARTS AT THE AG CENTRE: Competitors show a lot of skill on the mat during the third annual Orangeville Open Martial Arts championships held at the Orangeville Agricultural Centre in Orangeville on Saturday, Nov. 15. Around 400 competitors were involved in several disciplines of martial arts.

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ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

MICHAEL SHEPPARD

"I like the intensity of the game," said Shelburne Wolves U13 Rep centre Michael Sheppard of why he likes playing hockey. "I like seeing all my friends and playing with my friends and scoring goals."

Michael is an important player on the Wolves team.

"We play hockey with controlled aggression," Michael said of playing at the level that doesn't yet allow body contact.

A well rounded hockey player and athlete, Michael also plays lacrosse with the Shelburne Vets.

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Theatre Orangeville holds annual 'Twas the Night gala at Hockley Valley Resort

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

Orangeville's most anticipated day of the year arrived on Saturday, Nov. 15, as actors, staff, board members and supporters, both new and old, gathered for a night of entertainment and food.

'Twas the Night is the theatre's most important fundraising event, and is responsible for a significant chunk of funding for the local theatre each year. The fundraiser, which took place at Hockley Valley Resort, raised thousands to invest in bringing higher-quality entertainment to the town.

Guests were initially greeted with drinks and snacks upon arrival, then brought into the large ballroom to be seated and served a three-course dinner, with, of course, live entertainment.

Theatre Orangeville Artistic Director Jennifer Stewart said that the night was a roaring success.

"We had so much fun, we were in a glorious resort, and everyone was dressed to the nines," she said. "Everyone here was

excited to be able to support Theatre Orangeville, and of course, they're excited to be able to dress up and go out to have a nice meal and be entertained, too."

Entertainment wasn't pulling any punches Saturday night.

Theatre Orangeville's Young Company made their mark as they took the stage to perform parts of the production of *Hadestown: Teen Edition*. Showcasing their superb skills on stage, their performance, led by a youthful cast, was a reminder to guests of who their donations would support.

Evidently, the theatre's focus on high quality is paying off. Stewart said this year is even more successful than last, as the performing arts continue to recover from the COVID pandemic.

"We're actually up from last year, which is so exciting for us," she said. "All we want to do is keep building our sponsors and donors. We just want people to have a good time, have a good meal and spend time with friends."

The sentiment was shared by Board Di-



JOSHUA DRAKES PHOTOS

SHARING REMARKS: Artistic Director Jennifer Stewart and Executive Director Sharon Ayliffe hosted 'Twas the Night, leading the main auction items that include exclusive theatre tickets and a prized leg-lamp.



STEALING THE SHOW: Theatre Orangeville's Young Company stole the spotlight with their performances of select tracks from *Hadestown: Teen Edition*, put on by Theatre Orangeville.

rector Laura Austin, who praised the Young Company cast for delivering a performance that amazed the crowd.

"The night went excellently, it was full of enthusiasm and support," she said. "Young Company did a stellar job as the entertainment, which is what this is all about. Supporting our youth programs."

Austin said that this year they were seeing a reassuring mix of both old and new supporters of the theatre, including generational supporters, such as parents whose kids are now grown adults, who continue to donate to the theatre.

Following Young Company's performance, the cast for the upcoming production of *Rapunzel: A Braid New World* took the stage to sing for guests, showing off the upcoming pantomime's all-star cast.

To complement the food and entertainment, Theatre Orangeville added some extra incentives for people to donate. A live and silent auction was held throughout the night, offering guests the chance to win exclusive prizes they couldn't get anywhere else. Offers included exclusive tickets to the most prestigious theatrical performances in the region, as well as a very special lamp made from a mannequin's leg.

The silent auction at the back of the room, with dozens of items ranging from gift baskets to sports tickets, offered guests a chance to walk about and mingle.

'Twas the Night 2025 offered something for everybody to enjoy. From good food and live entertainment to fundraising incentives, the community came out in force to support the local arts.

Lighthouse Counselling and Support Services to hold vaping awareness discussion over two days

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

Shelburne-based Lighthouse Counselling and Support Services has recognized a community need to raise awareness on the concerns surrounding vaping. To tackle the issue, the organization is hosting free-to-attend discussions on Nov. 21 and 22.

The goal of these events is to provide a safe space to learn about the risks and damages associated with vaping, and to remind people that help is available here in town.

"I really just saw a need in the community that wasn't being met, so I decided that I would test the waters to see if people might be interested in raising awareness about vaping," said Sarah Kaulback, registered social worker and clinical counsellor at Lighthouse Counselling & Support Services.

"There's a lot that people don't really know about vaping, or they are uncomfortable talking to their parents or their kids, so that's why I'm doing it for two days."

The meetings will be separated for privacy. Youth are welcome at the Friday (Nov. 21) event, which will be focused on them, to give them a space to talk freely without judgment. On Saturday (Nov. 22), the discussion will be geared more towards parents, focusing on how they can best support their teens.

According to Kaulback, vaping has been brought up to her multiple times by clients during their visits, so she decided to do

some digging and discovered that it is a growing community issue with little information publicly shared.

"I've had a number of clients, both youths and adults, who have brought up vaping as an issue," she said. "There's a heavy presence of vape shops here in town, and in my practice, at least, a lot of people are struggling with it. I've also realized there isn't a lot of publicized information about vaping and its potentially harmful effects, and how to manage it."

"So now we've kicked off this vaping awareness campaign in town to try and spread some awareness and teach people. While we have put posters up around Orangeville, Dundalk, and other communities, our focus remains here in Shelburne," Kaulback added.

In the process of setting up the awareness campaign, Kaulback said she found a lot of publicly accessible information from Public Health about the effects of vaping, but it hasn't translated into public knowledge.

She told the Free Press that there is a disconnect between health officials and the public. Her presentations aim to bridge that gap so important information reaches residents in an environment that remains accessible and understandable.

"We really have been very lucky in setting this community event up," Kaulback said. "Public Health has been very open to helping us get ready. They've been generous enough to send us tons of research and

information packages that we'll be handing out at the workshop."

"There definitely is a movement in our community to bring this information forward, so now we just have to find a vessel to disseminate it in a way that's understandable and relatable – so that's our goal," she added.

Kaulback is encouraging anyone interested in learning more, even if they don't vape, to attend the info nights. She said that community involvement is the first step in treating the problem.

The youth night is Friday, Nov. 21, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at Streams Community Hub – Classroom A+ and will include free pizza. The adult info night is Nov. 22, 10 to 11:30 a.m., in the same location.

Streams is located at 305 Col Phillips Drive, Shelburne.

To register, contact sarah.lighthouse-counselling@gmail.com or phone Lighthouse at 519-943-3475.

For more information, those interested can visit the Lighthouse website at www.lighthouse-counselling.ca.

THE STATE OF OUR SCHOOLS

We want to hear from you! Come share your voice and interact with speakers about what the future of education in Ontario should be. For more info, contact Andrea Aloe at andreaaloe.etfo@gmail.com.

24 NOV 2025 7-8:30pm zoom Meeting ID: 842 8894 4356 Passcode: 549812



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Get ready to ride: Work begins on Dufferin's snowmobile trails

Written By SAM ODROWSKI
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

With the Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs' (OFSC) season quickly approaching, preparations are being made across Dufferin County.

Several snowmobiling clubs in the region, such as the Dufferin Drift Busters, Orangeville Snowmobile Club, and Hillsburgh Snow Roamers, are working to prepare trails for the winter season.

"As we approach the start of the season, we ask riders to have patience while volunteers continue signing, brushing, and inspecting trail sections. And of course, keep doing your snow dance, good snowfall is essential before trails can safely open," reads a statement from Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP).

Local clubs are seeking volunteers to assist with pre-season trail work and winter maintenance. The Dufferin OPP encourages

anyone who is interested in getting involved to contact their local snowmobile club to lend a hand.

"Riders are reminded to stay off all OFSC trails until they are officially marked as open on the OFSC Interactive Trail Guide (ITG). Trail status will continue to change with weather conditions, so please check the ITG regularly," Dufferin OPP stated.

"As the season approaches, snowmobilers are encouraged to purchase their OFSC permit. Your permit directly supports your local club, helping fund trail maintenance, grooming, signage, equipment, and insurance to keep the system safe and operational."

It's important to note that ATV use remains closed at the rail line trail until next May, weather permitting.

"Dufferin County OPP officers will again be conducting RIDE spot checks and radar enforcement throughout the snowmobiling season to promote safe and responsible rid-

ing. Officers look forward to positive interactions with riders and appreciate the continued cooperation from the snowmobile community," Dufferin OPP stated.

"We look forward to a fantastic season ahead and thank everyone for their patience, support, and commitment to safe snowmobiling."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

RECOGNIZING COMMITTED VOLUNTEERS: The Dufferin Hi-Land Bruce Trail Club marked its 60th anniversary with an appreciation lunch for its volunteers on Sunday, Nov. 16, at Monora Park Pavilion in Mono. Around 120 people turned out to the event, which featured guest speakers, presentations, and an awards ceremony. Ted Klich Awards were distributed, honouring former president Ted Klich. This award recognized exceptional service in helping with the success and fulfilling the mission of the Dufferin Hi-Land Bruce Trail Club. Norm Wingrove Awards were also presented, posthumously honouring Norm Wingrove, a volunteer with the club for 50 years. Wingrove passed away earlier this year, and the awards recognized volunteers' commitments through 2025. Years of Service Awards were also distributed to volunteers. Dufferin Hi-Land Bruce Trail Club President Tom Thayer shared remarks, along with Carl Alexander, who focused on the trail's history. Meanwhile, Liz Jansen discussed biodiversity. Antoin Diamond, who's in charge of the Bruce Trail Conservancy's land securement, was present and also spoke about its history. Bruce Trail Conservancy CEO Michael McDonald sent in a video congratulating the club on its 60th anniversary. Overall, it was a day for volunteers and trail users to reflect on the club's past and the biodiversity along its trails, while enjoying lunch with like-minded individuals. Local youth, Henry Little, better known as Henry the Hiker, was present at the appreciation lunch. He's amassed a large social media following for his hikes along the Bruce Trail and other prominent areas. He hiked the entire Bruce Trail, which spans nearly 900 kilometres from the Niagara River to the tip of Tobermory. He also hiked the 800-kilometre Camino de Santiago in Spain.

Shelburne Public Library shares upcoming events, services, recommended read

Our Silent Auction and Book Sale are almost here. We are still accepting new or gently used items in excellent condition. Please contact the library to inquire about donating. All funds raised go back into your library.

We hope to see you on Dec. 6.

Last week, we told you about Ancestry Library Edition, and this week, we want to highlight another fantastic service you can access from the comfort of your home.

LinkedIn Learning provides access to high-quality video courses taught by real-world industry experts. You can upgrade your technology, creative, and business skills, and earn certifications. With thousands of courses to choose from, LinkedIn learning is your destination for lifelong learning, and all you need to get started is a library card.

RECOMMENDED READ:

***The Anxious Generation: How the Great Rewiring of Childhood is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness* by Jonathan Haidt.**

In *The Anxious Generation*, social psychologist Jonathan Haidt lays out the facts about the epidemic of teen mental illness that hit many countries at the same time. He then investigates the nature of childhood, including why children need play and independent exploration to mature into competent, thriving adults.

Haidt shows how the "play-based child-

hood" began to decline in the 1980s and was finally wiped out by the arrival of the "phone-based childhood" in the early 2010s. He presents more than a dozen mechanisms by which this "great rewiring of childhood" has interfered with children's social and neurological development, covering everything from sleep deprivation to attention fragmentation, addiction, loneliness, social contagion, social comparison, and perfectionism.

Why Shannon recommends it: Parenting can be difficult, and with children's ease of access to social media and their rapid consumption of mass amounts of information and curated content (thanks to algorithms), it is even harder.

As parents, we want to empower our children to make healthy choices and live happy lives, but it can be difficult to know where to start, especially when it comes to smartphones and social media.

In *The Anxious Generation*, Haidt explains the negative impact of a phone-based childhood and what we can do to bring back a play-based childhood.

My biggest takeaway from Haidt's research was that we overprotect children in the physical world and underprotect them online.

Fun fact – Haidt's research helped inspire schools all over North America, including right here in Shelburne, to go phone-free.



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

NOTICE OF THE PASSING OF A DEVELOPMENT CHARGES BY-LAW BY THE TOWN OF SHELBURNE

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Town of Shelburne passed Development Charge By-laws No. 45-2025 and No. 46-2025 on the 10th day of November 2025, under Section 2 of the Development Charges Act, 1997 (the Act).

AND TAKE NOTICE that any person or organization may appeal to the Ontario Land Tribunal under Section 14 of the Act, in respect of the Development Charges By-laws, by filing with the Clerk of the Town of Shelburne on or before Monday, December 22nd, 2025, a notice of appeal setting out the objection to the By-laws and the reasons supporting the objection. Appeals filed with the Office of the Clerk at 203 Main Street East, Shelburne, ON, L9V 3K7, will be accepted on or before Monday, December 22nd, 2025. A processing fee will be payable to the Town of Shelburne Clerk's Office with the appeal application. The appellant is advised to contact the Ontario Land Tribunal to access required forms and applicable fees.

The charges in the by-law will apply to all new residential and non-residential development, subject to certain terms, conditions and limited exemptions as identified therein.

Town-wide development charges are levied against new development to pay for the increased capital costs related to the provision of such municipal services as: Library Services, Parks and Recreation, Protection Services, Development-Related Studies, Services Related to a Highway (Public Works and Roads and Related), Water Supply and Distribution Services, and Wastewater Services (Collection, Plant, and Financing if applicable).

The development charges are calculated on a "per unit" basis for residential development and on a "square metre" basis for non-residential development. Schedules 1-3 below provides the new residential and non-residential development charge rates applicable throughout the Town of Shelburne. The Town-wide charges apply to all lands located within the boundaries of the Town of Shelburne.

The development charges imposed under the By-laws will come into effect on the 10th day of November 2025. Copies of the complete Development Charges By-laws are available for examination by appointment in the offices of the municipality located at 203 Main Street East, Shelburne, ON, L9V 3K7, and on the website at www.shelburne.ca.

For further information, please contact the Clerk's Office at 519-925-2600 or by email clerk@shelburne.ca

Dated at the Town of Shelburne, 11th day of November, 2025

Jennifer Willoughby, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk
Town of Shelburne
203 Main Street East, Shelburne, ON, L9V 3K7

SCHEDULE 1 TOWN OF SHELBURNE SUMMARY OF TOWN-WIDE DEVELOPMENT CHARGES ALL SERVICES EXCEPT WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Service	Charge By Unit Type (1)				Non-Residential (\$/sq.m)
	Single & Semi-Detached	Other Multiples	Apartments 2 + Bedrooms	Apartments 1 or < 1 Bedroom	
Library Services	\$117	\$75	\$196	\$171	\$914
Parks And Recreation	\$14,514	\$11,700	\$1,738	\$1,107	\$914
Protection Services	\$1,113	\$842	\$501	\$431	\$427
Development-Related Studies	\$422	\$342	\$274	\$179	\$177
Services Related To A Highway/ Public Works	\$773	\$222	\$461	\$301	\$237
Services Related To A Highway/ Roads And Related	\$2,732	\$2,112	\$1,250	\$1,080	\$1070
TOTAL TOWN-WIDE CHARGE	\$29,825	\$19,229	\$12,029	\$7,161	\$19,777
Water Supply And Distribution Services	\$1,014	\$1,014	\$4,401	\$7,940	\$2815
Wastewater Services - Collection/Sewers	\$2,792	\$2,322	\$1,577	\$1,070	\$1084
TOTAL WATER & WASTEWATER	\$10,298	\$7,258	\$5,978	\$3,970	\$29,991
Town Wide Charge	\$20,325	\$10,325	\$12,027	\$7,851	\$19,777
Water and Wastewater Services	\$10,298	\$7,257	\$5,205	\$3,970	\$39,20
TOTAL FULLY SERVICES CHARGE	\$30,623	\$22,108	\$17,232	\$11,821	\$58,977
(1) Based on Persons Per Unit Of:	1.88	2.93	2.93	1.50	

SCHEDULE 2 TOWN OF SHELBURNE SUMMARY OF TOWN-WIDE DEVELOPMENT CHARGES WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT (WITH FINANCING)

Service	Charge By Unit Type (1)				Non-Residential (\$/sq.m)
	Single & Semi-Detached	Other Multiples	Apartments 2 + Bedrooms	Apartments 1 or < 1 Bedroom	
Wastewater Facilities (Plant)	\$20,868	\$15,750	\$12,359	\$8,060	\$90.78
Wastewater Facilities (Financing)	\$7,194	\$5,423	\$4,253	\$2,775	\$27.81
TOTAL WWTP WITH FINANCING	\$28,062	\$21,173	\$16,612	\$10,835	\$118.59
(1) Based on Persons Per Unit Of:	3.88	2.93	2.93	1.50	

SCHEDULE 3 TOWN OF SHELBURNE SUMMARY OF TOWN-WIDE DEVELOPMENT CHARGES WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT (WITHOUT FINANCING) – SUBJECT TO AGREEMENT WITH THE TWON

Service	Charge By Unit Type (1)				Non-Residential (\$/sq.m)
	Single & Semi-Detached	Other Multiples	Apartments 2 + Bedrooms	Apartments 1 or < 1 Bedroom	
Wastewater Facilities (Plant)	\$20,868	\$15,750	\$12,359	\$8,060	\$90.78
(1) Based on Persons Per Unit Of:	3.88	2.93	2.93	1.50	

Note:
1) The charges in this schedule, Schedule "3", are only applicable to development that has entered into an agreement with the Town of Shelburne as per section 2((2) (c)) of By-law 46-2025 and any related policy of the Town.

adopt a cat

BERT

Bert is a 4 year old, goofy guy. He loves to play with toys, balls and wands. He is always adventuring around, and will keep everyone laughing. Bert gets along well with all the other cats.

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

Adoption fee is \$275.

Check our facebook page to see the other kitties looking for their forever home. Donations always needed to help care for the cats as we are not funded at all, and rely on donations and fundraisers. If you would like to volunteer as well we are always appreciative.

FERAL CAT RESCUE INC.
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 Email, or call us for pricing. Classified cut-off time is 12 pm Tuesday

AUCTION



Herd Dispersal Live Auction Sale

for **118 Bred Cows/Heifers**
Saturday November 22, 11:00am to be held at
554447 Mono-Amaranth TLine, Mono, ON

Directions: 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.

- Cattle:**
(40) Heifers: (10) Char, (20) Black, (10) Simm & Blk - 1st time calvers, bred Angus, vaccinated, double moved
(26) Heifers: (7) CharX, (8) Black, (11) Red - bred Simm/Red Angus X, vaccinated, all double moved
(15) Heifers - Black, bred to Black Angus bull, vaccinated
(10) Charolais cows - all bred Charolais - vaccinated
(11) Cows: (4) Black cows & calves, (4) bred cows, (3) black heifers - bred Angus/Simm X, vaccinated
(10) Charolais Cows & Calves - (4) first calf heifers with calf at side, vaccinated
(2) Charolais Cows

All Cows will be preg checked prior to sale.

Lunch Booth Washroom Available

Terms & Conditions: Cash or cheque with proper I.D. on day of sale. Owner & Auctioneer will not be responsible for any accidents or loss on day of sale. All announcements on day of sale will take precedence over printed ads.

Auctioneers: Kevin McArthur (519) 942-0264 / Scott Bessey (519) 843-5083
www.theauctionadvertiser.com/KMcArthur - Email: mcarthurbessey@gmail.com



HELP WANTED



NOW HIRING

Ice River is currently looking for four (4) Continuous Improvement Maintenance Specialist to join our team. You will be working for our Head Office, operating from our Feversham facility located at 494306 Grey Road 2, Feversham, Ontario, N0C 1C0.

Position Summary

The Continuous Improvement Maintenance Specialist will provide technical support to the maintenance and production teams, driving continuous improvement (CI) initiatives across the company's packaging assets. This role will be instrumental in enhancing equipment performance, optimizing maintenance practices, and ensuring reliable production through strategic improvements and predictive maintenance programs.

These are full-time positions, based on 88 hours of work per 2-week cycle, with occasional overtime. At this time, we are only looking for individuals who can work a 12-hour rotating continental shift, including nights and weekends.

- Salary \$52.45 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.
- Minimum of 7 years of experience in maintenance, production, or continuous improvement within a manufacturing environment.
- Minimum of 5 years of experience working as a service engineer with Krones machinery; this includes performing installations, audits, maintenance, troubleshooting, overhauls and conducting training sessions.
- Must have hands-on experience with automation and control systems, including plc programming, troubleshooting, and integrating these systems into production lines.
- Diploma or degree in mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, industrial engineering, or a related field.
- Electrical or mechanical red seal certification preferred.
- Strong understanding of mechanical and electrical systems related to packaging equipment.
- Experience with preventive and predictive maintenance programs.
- Knowledge of KPI development and performance monitoring.
- Technical writing skills – report, summaries, instructions, procedures, structure.
- Willingness to travel to plant locations for onsite support.
- Ability to multitask in a fast-paced environment with a lot of change.
- Ability to work 12-hour continental rotating shift.
- Excellent knowledge of health and safety and lockout procedures.
- Strong team player with excellent problem-solving skills.
- Have a positive willingness to assist all departments as required.

To view a comprehensive overview of the position, please go to <https://jobs.dayforcehcm.com/en-US/irss/CANDIDATEPORTAL/jobs/3052>

Interested candidates please send a copy of your resume and cover letter to cstewart@iceriversprings.com or write to:

Company
 Ice River Springs Water Co. Inc.
 485387 30th Sideroad
 Shelburne, ON
 L9V 3N5

CARD OF THANKS

THANK YOU

A most sincere and heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed so much to my retirement celebration. Perfect in every way; your presence, kind words, cards, messages, plants, contributions to my book fund, and the many other personal gestures made this milestone truly special. The efforts and thoughtfulness put into organizing this event, from the décor, to the wonderfully elegant tea, the slide show over the years, the unique book cake, and so much more, are deeply appreciated. The plants are now a treasured part of my gardens and the magnificent trees from my staff will bring me joy for years to come. The lovely handwoven scarf from my

Board has a deep personal connection. Many thanks for the gifts from our partnering Townships, scrolls from Premier Ford, MP Seebach and MPP Jones. For those of you, too numerous to mention, I will be connecting with each one of you personally over the next while.

The afternoon was, for me, a culmination of all the friendships, affection, and joy, I have experienced every day of my last 17 years. Thank you once again for making my retirement celebration so meaningful and memorable.

Rose Dotten

If you have a garden, (friends) and a library, you have everything you need. *Cicero*



HELP WANTED



NOW HIRING

Ice River is currently looking for ten (10) Process Control & Machine Operator(s), Beverage Processing (NOC 94140) to join our team. You will be working at our Shelburne facility, located at 108 Prentice Drive, Shelburne, ON, L9V 3N5.

Position Summary

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

- This is a full-time position, based on 88 hours of work per 2-week cycle, with occasional overtime. At this time, we are only looking for individuals who can work a 12-hour rotating continental shift, including nights and weekends.
- Salary \$20.60 - \$21.50 per hour, with possibility of bonus; 10 days vacation plus extended medical, dental, and long-term disability insurance & participation in our retirement savings plan.
- Inbound transportation costs for out of province applicants
- Completion of high school required.
- Some post-secondary education required as the position requires the ability to read and understand technical instructions and sophisticated Husky equipment user manuals.
- Two years plastics injection or bottling line experience required.
- Previous heavy equipment experience preferred.

To view a comprehensive overview of the position, please go to <https://jobs.dayforcehcm.com/en-US/irss/CANDIDATEPORTAL/jobs/3083>

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

Company
 Ice River Springs Water Co. Inc.
 485387 30th Sideroad
 Shelburne, ON
 L9V 3N5

OBITUARIES

SARAH MARGARET “MARG” INA TODOROFF

Peacefully, with family by her side, at the Grey Bruce Hospice on Saturday November 8th, 2025, at the age of 76. Predeceased by Jerry, her beloved and devoted husband of 44 years. The proud and loving mother of Jason (Miranda) and Paul. Loving grandmother of Allison, Clarissa and Everett. Treasured sister of George (Juliane) Neil of Bridge North, Elizabeth (the late Edwin) Fry of Toronto and Mary (John) Mann of Blind River. She will be greatly missed by her many nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews.



Sarah was raised in Iron Bridge and Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario where she finished out her high school years before attending the University of Toronto for her undergrad and teacher's college, followed by obtaining her Masters of Education at Brock University. She had a lengthy career as a teacher and principal in Dufferin. Her love for children ran deep in the way she loved her sons and in later years her grandchildren, always putting family first. When she wasn't teaching in a formal setting, you could find her teaching at the keys of a piano and lending a listening ear and a gentle word to anyone who needed her gift of counselling. Marg was selfless and humble, dedicated and faithful, she was strong in her faith and had a pull for adventure and a keen love for gardening. Her wise words and kind heart will be greatly missed.

Visitation will be held at Markdale Baptist Church (144 Lorne Street) on Saturday, November 22nd at 10:00am followed by the funeral service at 11:00am. All are welcome to stay for a time of fellowship following the service. In lieu of flowers, donations to Markdale Baptist Church or the Grey Bruce Hospice- Chapman House. Online donations and condolences at www.fawcettfuneralhome.ca



CHILDCARE

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

FIREWOOD

SEASONED HARD MAPLE - \$375/bush cord. Delivered volume discounts. Call 519-379-6447 or 519-922-1117. Email: Kathy.winters77@gmail.com.

OBITUARIES

JEAN I. STEWART 1928-2025

Jean passed early in the morning on November 15th, 2025 at Royal Terrace in Palmerston. She resided in Fergus, was formerly of Mulmur Township (Shelburne).



Mother of Mary Elizabeth and her husband Brian and beloved grandson John William.

Daughter of James Henry (Harry) Armstrong (1953) and Margaret Jane (Jean) Blackley (1988). Sister of the late Mary Hilda Hollingsworth (2018), nephew Victor Fletcher (2024), John Andrew Armstrong (2009), and William Henry Armstrong (2011) (Maxine).

She was married to Harvey Rennie Stewart (2000) for 51 years. Jean also married Dr. George Jones. She will be remembered by George's children Deborah and Bruce, the late Robert, and Douglas (Linda 2007) and their children and grandchildren.

Jean started her banking career at the CIBC in Fergus located in what is now The Vault. Unfortunately, she experienced a bank robbery there. After marrying Harvey, they moved to Horning's Mills, just north of Shelburne. She worked for the Royal Bank til she retired. She was a charter member of Normac Eastern Star; made coleslaw for 600 for the Horning's Mills United Church Fowl suppers. A fervent Liberal she knocked on doors, ran committee rooms and baked cookies for cabinet ministers. She immensely enjoyed travelling with George and had many happy memories with him and his children.

After George passed, she was thrilled to move back to her home farm in Upper Nichol, and spend time in the country. Unfortunately, she contracted vascular dementia and eventually moved to the Royal Terrace in Palmerston, where she was treated royally.

A Celebration of Life will take place in the springtime. Donations may be made to Cats Anonymous, 063055 Dufferin Road 3, East Garafraxa, Ontario, L9W 7J1. Arrangements are entrusted to Graham A. Giddy Funeral Home. www.grahamgiddyfh.com



CLASSIFIEDS

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

OBITUARIES

EVELYN MAE PELL

Peacefully at Owen Sound Hospital on Monday, November 10, 2025 in her 77th year. Beloved wife of Bob Orr. Loving mother of Annalisa McMahon (Roy McMahon) & Stephen Pell (Karen Pell), Dwain Orr (deceased) and Jeff Orr (Lisa). Proud grandmother of Amanda Burnett (Dylan Burnett), Jamie Peterson (Shawna Peterson), Ashlyne Pell (Justin Bates), Meghan Pell, Sophia Pell, Nicole Orr & Jordyn Orr (Jasmine Orr) and great-grandmother of Eastyn Hymers, Lily Peterson, Tucker Peterson, Kip Peterson and Haizley Burnett. Dear sister of Rhonda Hawkins, Linda Morrow (deceased) and Bill McClelland (deceased). She will be greatly missed by her nieces and nephews.



A Celebration of Life will be announced at a later date. If desired, donations to Crohn's & Colitis Canada or the Alzheimer Society would be appreciated as expressions of sympathy. Online condolences and donations may be placed at

www.jackandthompsonfuneralhome.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

**CENTRE DUFFERIN RECREATION COMPLEX
 RFT 01-2025 Snow Removal and Salting**

Closing Date: Friday, November 14, 2025
 Time: 3:00:00 p.m. EDT

The Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex (CDRC) invites tenders for snow clearing and salting at its facility located at 200 Fiddle Park Lane, Shelburne, Ontario during the months of **November 1, 2025 through April 15, 2026.**

Interested bidders are invited to submit their tender on the 2025-2026 Snow Removal Tender form showing tender prices for snow clearing and salting services. Full details are available on the CDRC RFP and Tenders page of the Town of Shelburne website at www.shelburne.ca/cdrc.

Tenders marked "Snow Removal Tender" in a sealed envelope addressed to Rick Thompson will be received until **3:00pm (local time) on Friday, November 14, 2025** at the Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex, 200 Fiddle Park Lane, Shelburne, ON.

This will not be a public opening. The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted. The CDRC reserves the right to reject any or all tenders. It is the Bidder's responsibility to make themselves familiar with the project location.

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WANTED

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Supreme Stuffed Peppers 4 PIECES 907 g

Stuffed Pasta Shells 1.02 kg

Braised Beef Pappardelle Pasta 850 g

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14 PIECES 280 g

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Florentine

Mini Quiche
16 PIECES 340 g 2 Varieties

SAVE \$3

9.99 each

Hot Honey Cheese Bites
14 PIECES 280 g

9.99 each

SAVE \$2

Fried Battered Pickles
10-12 PIECES 390 g

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Supreme Homestyle Meat Loaf 600 g

Mild Italian

Sausages 8-9 PIECES 900 g

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2 STEAKS x 170 g/6 oz

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Bavette Steaks
2 STEAKS x 170 g/6 oz

SAVE \$2

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16-19 SHRIMP 340 g

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