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PAULA BROWN PHOTO

**SAFETY FIRST:** Shelburne & District Fire Chief Dave Pratt presented Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones with an honorary fire chief's helmet on Saturday (July 12) at the Shelburne & District Fire Department. Jones served as Solicitor General when the Mobile Live Fire Training Units were introduced as a training opportunity for local fire departments. See full story on Page 6.

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## Shelburne Long Term Care resident celebrates 102nd birthday

Written By PAULA BROWN LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

99 years old.

"It's pretty amazing," said Eileen's daughter, Pat, about her mother's 102nd birthday. "For us, because she's lived so long, this is normal and we take it for granted. She's always been here and we've been so lucky."

Shelburne Deputy Mayor Shane Hall attended the birthday celebration and presented Eileen with a Certificate of Achievement on behalf of Shelburne Town Council.

"Not many people can say that they've experienced 11 decades of history. Eileen has not only seen changes within the local area, the world, but also society as a whole," said Hall. "I'm sure the stories that she shares are moving and full of wonder and amazement. So today, we don't just celebrate a birthday, we celebrate a century of memories of character and of a life well lived."

The Activities Department at Shelburne Long Term Care Home often organizes special events to recognize significant birthday milestones for their residents.

Sarah Brown and Haily Prentice from the Activities Department spoke with the Free Press about the importance of celebrating their residents.

"It's not very often we reach an awesome milestone birthday like this," said Brown. "It's definitely important to celebrate the resident, because they've been through so much, seen so much and they're so important to our community here."

Shelburne Long Term Care Home has marked a milestone birthday for one of its residents.

Family, friends and neighbours gathered at the local long-term care home, located at 200 Robert St. in Shelburne, on July 9 to celebrate the 102nd birthday of resident Eileen Hanna.

Born on July 9, 1923, in the city of Lisburn in Northern Ireland, Eileen was the second oldest of eight children and the eldest daughter in the Hanna family.

In 1938, at the age of 15, Eileen left school and began working in a factory where she worked on clothing for soldiers in the Second World War.

It was after the war that she met her would-be husband of 44 years, Norman. In 1950, Norman sent a letter asking her to move to Canada and marry him. Like many women during the post-war era, Eileen replied with a "yes," and five short days later, she and Norman married.

Eileen and Norman went on to settle down in Toronto and have two daughters, Norma McLean and Pat Hanna. The couple lived in the Toronto area for the entirety of their 44-year marriage, until Norman's passing in 1994.

Prior to moving into Shelburne Long Term Care Home, Eileen lived on her own in an apartment in Orangeville until she was nearly



PAULA BROWN PHOTO

**MILESTONE** Shelburne Long Term Care Home resident Eileen Hanna (left) celebrated her 102nd Birthday on July 9. Eileen was joined by daughter, Pat Hanna (right), family members, friends and neighbours for an afternoon of music and cake.

"Since we are such a small home, a lot of our residents grew up in the area or have raised families in the area. Recognizing such a big milestone birthday is important for them as well as the community," said Prentice.

As she celebrated her 102nd birthday with music and cake, the Free Press asked Eileen Hanna about her secret to a long and happy life.

She simply stated, "being kind to other people and taking care of each other."

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# Family Transition Place to hold open house marking 40th anniversary

Written By PAULA BROWN  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Family Transition Place (FTP) is celebrating 40 years of work in the community, and to show their appreciation for the ongoing support, they're inviting community members to an open house event.

The open house will be held on Sept. 13 from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Family Transition Place, located at 20 Bredin Parkway, Orangeville.

"This year, FTP is celebrating 40 years of providing safety, support and hope within the Dufferin and Caledon communities," reads a press release from FTP. "This longevity is both the unfortunate reality of the enduring and growing need for its services and sup-

port as a violence against women agency, yet also a beautiful testament to this community's commitment and belief in FTP's work.

Family Transition Place (FTP) was founded in 1985 by a determined group of community members committed to creating a safe space for families in transition. The organization was originally based out of a small home on Hillside Drive.

Family Transition Place moved to the Bredin Drive location in 1997 and operates two satellite locations based out of Bolton and Shelburne. The Orangeville facility can accommodate upwards of 28 people, both women and children, at any given time. FTP has 12 independent units in their emergency shelter.

Over the past 40 years, the agency has

also grown beyond simply providing a safe space for individuals leaving intimate partner violence, as they also advocate for the prevention of gender-based violence through counselling services and education outreach programs.

As part of recognizing its 40th anniversary, Family Transition Place is launching a series of initiatives for community members to take part in, helping with the future goals of the organization.

The initiatives include: welcoming 40 new monthly donors, raising \$40,000 through third-party events, sharing the stories and experiences of 40 shareholders, and reaching 40 new businesses.

"We hope you'll consider how you can play an integral part in our future and realizing

our vision — a future free of abuse where all individuals are treated with compassion, equity and respect, and live their lives in healthy relationships."

For more information about each of the opportunities, reach out to Kelly Lee, FTP's manager of fund development and communication strategies, at 519-942-4122 ext. 243 or kelly@familytransitionplace.ca.

Those interested in attending the open house, celebrating Family Transition Place's 40th anniversary, are required to register for the event. A registration link will be sent out later in the summer.

Registration details will be available on FTP's Facebook, Instagram, and Threads accounts as well as their website — www.familytransitionplace.ca.

# Shelburne's Town Hall Art Gallery features Orangeville Art Group in new exhibit

Written By PAULA BROWN  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Dufferin residents have the opportunity to celebrate seven decades of artistry in the community at the hands of a local not-for-profit arts organization.

The Orangeville Art Group (OAG) is hosting an exhibit titled "OAG: 70 Years of Art in the Community" at the Town Hall Art Gallery in Shelburne until July 25. The exhibit opened on July 7 and celebrates the group's 70 years of history.

"It's our first time at the Shelburne Town Hall and this is what we're all about; bringing art to the community," said Genni Selby, show coordinator and president of the OAG. "Our biggest and most important mandate of this group is community outreach and building relationships with the community by bringing art to the community through shows, exhibitions of members work, and by performing and creating workshops."

The Orangeville Art Group was founded in 1955 by a group of nine women who met in the basement of Westminster United Church and christened themselves the Orangeville Art Club. Bonded by a shared love of painting, these friends became the driving force behind the group that would one day become a not-for-profit arts organization.

Today, the group has more than 100 members, representing a wide range of styles and media — from painting and photography to pottery, sculptures and jewelry making. The group also works to educate the community in different artistic mediums by hosting workshops.

"We're very proud to be able to say that our legacy goes back 70 years," said Selby. "Our artists come from all different walks of life."

The "OAG: 70 Years of Art in the Community" exhibit features roughly 40 pieces of

work from a total of 10 artists who are members of the Orangeville Art Group.

A special reception to celebrate the exhibit was held on Saturday (July 12), with four of the featured artists in attendance.

Judi Island has been a member of the OAG for 25 years and during that time, has taken part in roughly 12 exhibition shows. Island received a Bachelor's degree in Fine Art and Education before going on to teach art, sculpture and photography for 15 years at Wexford School for the Arts in Toronto. Her artwork has been exhibited in galleries in New Zealand, Australia and Canada.

"My work is sort of an impressionist style. I love colour and the use of light in my work more than working in a specific subject matter," explained Island.

Milly Tseng is a mainly self-taught artist who has been crafting her skills over the last 15 years. She had her first solo exhibition in 2020 at Steve Wilson Studios and The Gallery, Niagara. In May 2023, she was the featured artist for the Mayor's Showcase in Georgetown Town Hall. Tseng currently sits as director on the Board of the Orangeville Art Group (OAG) and is the current president of the Credit Valley Artisans (CVA).

"For this show, I've only presented my watercolour painting, but otherwise I do work with oil acrylics as well as stained glass," said Tseng. "I'm not familiar with [Shelburne], so it's very nice to be able to take part in an art show in such a beautiful setting."

A full-time barber in Bradford, Jane Kulha joined the Orangeville Art Group in 2025 when she took part in one of the group's workshops. Kulha's passion for art began at a young age and was heavily influenced by her mother, who was an artist and former president of the Toronto Watercolour Society.

Kulha has a single oil painting in the exhibit called "Sunday Journey," which she paint-



PAULA BROWN PHOTO

**ARTISTIC DELIGHT:** Members of the Orangeville Art Group are taking over the Shelburne Town Hall Art Gallery with a new show to celebrate its 70th anniversary, titled "OAG: 70 Years of Art in the Community."

ed based on a photograph of a couple going to church on Rice Lake.

"When you walk around these old Ontario towns you start to think of the generations; what it was like when these houses were new and the clothes they wore. What a time they lived in," said Kulha about the inspiration behind her painting.

Freda Wrench began her journey in the arts first with a passion for figurative work, which led her to study Fashion Design at George Brown College. She was later drawn to fine art and received her education through evening classes, workshops and many hours of painting and drawing.

Wrench has experimented with various art mediums, but finds her favourites to be

watercolour and acrylic ink. As a visual artist, her subject matter varies with inspiration coming from nature, humanity and music.

She's participated in group and solo shows as well as studio tours throughout Ontario and Quebec. She also sat on the Headwaters Art Gallery Committee in Alton for 10 years.

"It's good to be able to show and share your work with a new audience," said Wrench about the exhibit in Shelburne.

The "OAG: 70 Years of Art in the Community" exhibit will be on display at the Shelburne Town Hall Art Gallery until July 25.

More information about the Orangeville Art Group, including membership and workshops, can be found at orangevilleartgroup.com.

# Dufferin County's Youth Climate Activation Circle holds 'Plant Our Future' event

Written By PAULA BROWN  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

A group of young local climate activists are hoping to spark conversations on how native plants can help climate resilience locally with the development of a new garden.

Dufferin County's Youth Climate Activation Circle gathered with community members on June 7 at The Door Youth Centre, located at 9 Centre St. in Orangeville, to plant roughly 240 native plant seedlings.

The native plant garden is part of a project called "Plant Our Future," which was developed by the Youth Climate Activation Circle.

The Youth Climate Activation Circle is a volunteer program hosted by the County of Dufferin that looks to engage youth aged 16 to 25 in climate leadership. Throughout the program, participants receive climate change training, connect with local climate champions and organizations, and participate in a job shadowing program. The program culminates in a youth-led climate action project designed to bring tangible, local change to

the community.

Over the winter, youth ambassadors in the program, with the support of Shaun Booth from In Our Nature Gardens, learned about native plants, their benefits, and how to design an effective garden.

For the native garden at The Door Youth Centre, a mix of seasonal blooming plants, grasses, and edible species was selected to help reduce the need for watering. The selection of plants also provides food and shelter for pollinators and other insects, essential for biodiverse and climate-resilient ecosystems.

"Native species are a vital part of climate action and resiliency," says Youth Climate Ambassador Flora Dickson. "By supporting native fauna, enforcing and stabilizing ecosystems, aiding in mitigation of extreme weather and climate changes, as well as trapping carbon at a higher rate, native plants in Ontario are crucial to climate action".

The native plant garden is the first of many upgrades to the outdoor space at The Door Youth Centre, a drop-in centre that provides a safe and supportive environment for young

people to connect and grow.

The Door is developing an outdoor gathering space for youth and the wider community, including a revitalized greenspace and basketball court. The Door is currently seeking sponsors to bring this community space to life.

"The garden is really just the beginning," said Kerry Duffield, community director of Orangeville Youth For Christ (YFC), which operates out of The Door Youth Centre. "We have a vision for beautifying and better utilizing our outdoor space that includes expanded green space, a new and improved basketball court, a gazebo to offer protection from the elements, and an overall bigger, better space for our youth to gather. That's what we're working on right now — really having a space that will benefit the youth of the community."

Ambassadors in the Youth Climate Activation Program saw firsthand the urgency of their messaging on climate action.

The day before the scheduled event, Environment Canada issued a forecast of "very

unhealthy" air quality conditions as a result of wildfires occurring in Western Canada. In response, the Youth Climate Ambassadors adapted the event schedule to limit time outdoors and planned to supply N95 masks. Overnight winds ended up clearing the smoke in time for the event.

"A wildfire that occurred west of this province affected the air quality and caused changes to 'Planting the Future', which was held the following day," said Youth Climate Ambassador, Adam Shane. "This occurrence indicates how climate change can directly affect initiatives designed for alleviating it."

The County of Dufferin will be welcoming new volunteers to the Youth Climate Activation Circle in September. Dufferin youth between the ages of 16 and 25, who are passionate about climate action and can commit 60 hours to program activities, are encouraged to apply to the volunteer group. The program runs from September 2025 to June 2026.

Applications can be found on www.joinindufferin.com and must be submitted by Aug. 11.

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# OPINION

## Rule of thumb

Several years ago, a person I worked with used the phrase 'rule of thumb' when referring to a project we were working on.

One of the women in the office, who was known to be offended by just about everything, became quite incensed at his wording.

'Rule of thumb,' she declared, was an old law in the UK that determined the thickness of a rod in which a husband could legally beat his wife. She referred to my co-worker as misogynistic and a few other choice words.

He had no idea what she was talking about.

I explained to the woman that the law she was referring to never existed, and someone just made it up a few years earlier. The phrase 'rule of thumb' was used in the same way as 'feet' were determined for a measurement, and 'hands' were used to measure the height of a horse. It never had anything to do with a man beating his wife.

She gave me a blank stare and stormed away – again offended because she was wrong and couldn't think of another name to call someone.

There are plenty of old phrases or occurrences in history that never happened or have had their meaning or real history changed so much that they have no rela-

tion to the original event.

Prima Nocta was supposedly the right of a feudal lord during medieval times to have sexual relations with any female in his jurisdiction, particularly on her wedding night.

I was actually taught this by an English teacher in high school when we were studying a Shakespeare play.

However, it never happened, and there was no such law.

It occurred in Mel Gibson's movie, "Braveheart," when the Lord showed up and took a young bride away from her soon-to-be husband. However, ask any Scotsman what he thinks about Braveheart.

Braveheart was a fun movie to watch, a real epic, but it is also one of the most wildly historically inaccurate movies ever made. Most of the events in the movie never happened, and the kilt, as worn by every man in the film, had not yet been invented.

Even if Prima Nocta really existed, no feudal lord in his right mind would think of doing something like that to the peasants who lived on his land.

Showing up at a wedding with the intent of taking the bride away for an evening of his pleasure would have likely ended with a sword thrust into his chest or the local

village rising up and burning his house to the ground with him in it.

There is a myth that diamonds are both rare and a good investment.

Diamonds are not rare. There are plenty of them.

The myth was started by the De Beers company, which at the time had a monopoly on the diamond industry and still controls a large share of the diamond production in the world.

They started one of the most successful advertising campaigns in the world and convinced people that diamonds are the proper stone for an engagement ring.

They also used the phrase, "It is said you should spend three months' salary on an engagement ring."

The implication in the advertisement was that if you didn't spend that kind of money, you were cheap.

A lot of people bought into that idea. Many guys struggled to come up with that kind of money to buy a ring so their future wife and her family wouldn't think he was too cheap to buy the real thing.

What De Beers didn't tell you was that they, themselves, came up with the three-month rule.

That's a clever way to get people to spend more money on your product – and it worked.

**BRIAN LOCKHART**  
FROM THE SECOND ROW



Diamonds are not an investment. I don't know anyone who bought a diamond and later sold it for a profit.

The wild, wild west did not have a lot of gunfights on the streets. There are only two recorded movie-style gunfights.

One was the gunfight at the OK Coral between the Earps and the Clantons, and the other involved a showdown between Wild Bill Hickok and a local gambler. And that gunfight was more a duel than a gunfight.

Wild Bill was sober, stood sideways, carefully aimed his pistol and shot the man dead at 75 yards.

Many towns actually had an ordinance against firearms within town limits.

Any gun play that took part was usually fuelled by alcohol, and the chance of a bystander being wounded or killed by a stray bullet fired by a drunk cowboy was actually the likely outcome of firing a six-shooter in a crowded saloon.

However, reality doesn't make for a great Western movie.

There are all sorts of historical myths that have been created over time.

Sometimes it's just fun to believe they really happened.

## Today Tuvalu; Tomorrow the world

Some big changes arrive with a bang, but usually they sort of sneak in and you barely notice them at first. Last week's big change saw the creation of the world's first climate-change visas. It's a way of giving potential climate refugees some hope and some dignity, and it would certainly be an improvement on the current migration mess.

In late June all ten thousand residents of the South Pacific Island state of Tuvalu were invited to enter a lottery whose 280 lucky winners will get a special climate-change visa that entitles them to work, study and live in Australia indefinitely. Over 3,000 – almost a third of the population – put down their \$25 to register for a chance to leave.

Tuvalu is actually a nice place to live, although jobs are scarce and the entertainment is limited. The main drawback is

that its nine coral atolls are very low-lying (two are already mostly flooded). They will all be underwater by 2080, or a good deal sooner if sea level rise speeds up as melting Antarctic and Greenland glaciers slide into the sea.

But that's all right: there will be another 280 Australian visas every year, and New Zealand is providing another 75, so everybody should be safely off the islands long before they disappear. Pity about the slow loss of the language and culture as the Tuvaluans are dispersed among populations thousands of times bigger, but at least they will survive.

The Australian government is quite proud of its innovation: "This is the first agreement of its kind anywhere in the world, providing a pathway for mobility with dignity as climate impacts worsen." It's entitled to its little boast, but numbers

matter. The hard truth is that this would not be happening if there were a million Tuvaluans in the same plight.

The key fact in any discussion about climate refugees is that the tropical countries will be hit sooner and harder than those closer to the poles. Yet the countries in the temperate zone created most of the warming, because they industrialized and began emitting greenhouse gases over a century ago.

The blame and the pain are both unequally distributed, and everybody in the poorer countries nearer to the equator knows that. As Atiq Rahman of the Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies put it: "From now on we need to have a system where, for every 10,000 tonnes of carbon you emit, you have to take a Bangladeshi family to live with you."

But that isn't going to happen voluntarily, is it? Yet thirty million Bangladeshi families will be losing their land and their homes to flooding in the coming generation (rising sea levels to the south and great rivers filled with water from melting Himalayan glaciers to the north and west). They have to go somewhere, and nobody will be giving them climate-change visas.

I'm only picking on Bangladesh because it has more articulate scientists than most places. Forty per cent of the planet's human population lives in the tropics, and as many as half of them will be facing situations so dreadful that they will have to move in the next generation.

A few tens of millions will probably have to start moving within the next ten years, and the remaining gates to safe havens

elsewhere will slam shut against them. (They're mostly closed already.) In most cases it will be ugly, and in some places it will be bloody.

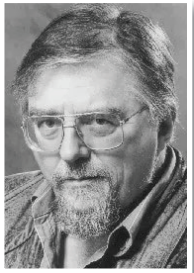
No country is remotely prepared for this. The vast majority have not even acknowledged that it is coming. Even most scientists cling to utterly unrealistic expectations of sudden changes of heart and vastly accelerated decarbonization that will somehow save us at the next-to-last moment.

That's not going to happen. All human history and all current experience tell us that it won't happen. Even if we halved our carbon dioxide and methane emissions next year, crashing the global economy in the process, the momentum of the warming is such that almost nothing would change in the climate forecasts of the next ten years.

The only action that could change that future now (and it doesn't come with a guarantee) is geoengineering to cool the planet. It's only treating the symptoms, of course, but heat is the ultimate cause of all the other climate disasters and it must be kept down while we work as fast as we can at ending our emissions.

Geoengineering (also known as climate repair) is feasible, not impossibly expensive, and probably safe as it largely mimics or expands upon existing atmospheric processes. Introduce it gradually, monitor it closely, and hope it works well, because we are running out of options.

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

# COMMUNITY VOICES

## Monthly Message: Keeping our pets safe, pet friendly businesses in Dufferin

This summer has been one of the warmest I can remember here in Dufferin County. With long stretches of sunshine and soaring temperatures, our community has been buzzing with activity, and I've noticed something heartwarming along the way.

Many local residents are speaking up and taking action to protect our furr-iends in this heat. From sharing safety tips online to spreading awareness about the dangers of



leaving pets in vehicles, it's clear that Dufferin cares deeply about its animals.

As you and your pets get out and enjoy

the season, did you know that our Dufferin Board of Trade Business Directory features a growing list of pet friendly businesses? Whether it's a café with a patio that welcomes dogs, a shop with water bowls and treats ready at the door, or services that go the extra mile for pets, these businesses are helping make our region a more welcoming place for every member of the family — four legged ones included.

Before you head out on your next adventure, take a moment to browse our directory at [dufferinbot.ca](http://dufferinbot.ca) and discover where you and your pets can feel at home. Let's continue to support the businesses that make Dufferin such a special, inclusive community — and let's keep looking out for our pets during these hot summer days.

Stay cool, stay safe, and enjoy all that our beautiful county has to offer this July.

## One of 1,000 campaign at Streams looks to create sustainable funding base

Written By PAULA BROWN  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Streams Community Hub is hoping to address its sustainability and longevity in the local community with a new fundraising campaign.

The youth-art focused charity has launched an extended fundraising campaign called One of 1,000, which looks to stir up 1,000 monthly donors from across Dufferin County to help sustain the charity for future generations.

"What we're trying to achieve is a broad base of support that ensures that we continue to exist in the community. We would hate to find ourselves in a position where this space is no longer accessible to young people because we did not ask our community to get on board," said Juli-Anne James, executive director and co-founder of Streams Community Hub.

According to Streams Community Hub, it takes between \$350,000 and \$400,000 per year to operate their programs and facility, located at 305 Col Phillips Dr., Shelburne.

"At this point in time, if we don't broaden the base of support for the work that we do at Streams, we won't be able to sustain the work," said James.

Streams Community Hub has released examples of what different amounts of donations per month can provide for a child in the community.

A donation of \$10 per month is equivalent to the cost of covering a full semester of after-school arts programming for one child each year; a donation of \$25 per month

funds a scholarship for a full week of camp for one student; \$50 per month provides one full year of weekly arts classes such as theatre, music or visual arts, for a child; and a donation of \$100 per month provides a full year of private music lessons including piano, guitar, vocals or drums, for one young musician.

"There are many donors who will opt to do more than \$10 a month, but we're just asking for a minimum of \$10 a month because we believe that that's an accessible amount for people to sort of throw at us," said James.

James noted that if the organization hits their goal of 1,000 donors at \$10 per month, it will cover roughly one-third of Stream's annual operating budget.

The ultimate goal of the fundraiser is to eventually eliminate the cost and tuition fees of programming for every child who walks into Streams Community Hub.

"Our model at Streams is that we don't turn away any child who wants to be there, so we offer scholarships and subsidies to the program," said James.

Since launching the One of 1,000 campaign in April, Streams Community Hub has been able to garner 91 monthly donors.

"We're almost at the first milestone of 100 monthly donors, which is extremely encouraging," said James. "There is a little bell on my desk that I ring every time I get an email there's a new monthly donor. I ring that bell so that our staff and our facilitators can hear because it's extremely meaningful to us."

Streams hopes to reach its goal of 1,000 monthly donors by October of 2026, which



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**1000 REASONS:** Participants of Streams Community Hub hold up their works of art, handmade pillows, from a program operated at Streams. The youth-focused charity is looking to the community for 1,000 donors, each contributing \$10 a month, to ensure sustainability.

will also mark the 10th anniversary of the art program.

Streams Community Hub launched in the summer of 2017 as a seasonal arts program for youth across Dufferin County, focused on a variety of art disciplines, including visual arts, cooking, music, theatre performance and filming.

After years of running on a seasonal basis and utilizing local schools, Streams announced in July of 2021 that they would be opening their first permanent location, a 3,600 square foot facility.

The new facility meant that Streams was able to provide year-round art programming

for local youth.

"We could have never imagined when we started this organization, just running camps in school, how deep the impact of our presence would have on these young people," said James. "It's not necessarily about them being the next Picasso or stick with the art they participate in, but about the confidence they build, the community they connect to and the core memories they experience that can sometimes make a subtle shift in the trajectory of their life."

For more information about Streams Community Hub or to donate to the One of 1,000 campaign, visit [streamshub.org](http://streamshub.org).

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# Local firefighters receive hands-on training with the Ontario Fire College's mobile unit

Written By PAULA BROWN  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Firefighters in Dufferin County participated in hands-on simulated training to help prepare them for unique scenarios and keep their skills top-notch.

The Ontario Fire College's Mobile Fire Training Unit was stationed at the Shelburne & District Fire Department from July 12 to July 15 as part of a four-day training opportunity for local firefighters.

"We use mutual aid all the time within the County, so for us to bring other departments here and train together is invaluable, especially because live fire training is few and far between," said Shelburne & District Fire Chief Dave Pratt. "When you're on a scene, you know the other departments, so it makes it a lot more harmonious when doing those calls."

The Ontario Fire College Mobile Live Fire Training Unit is a portable simulator that allows for various scenarios in firefighter training. The walls within the unit are movable, allowing the layout of the simulation to change depending which door the firefighters enter through.

The unit utilizes controlled burns with propane to create realistic fire conditions, including flames, heat, and limited visibility due to smoke, which allows firefighters to practice essential skills in a safe and controlled environment.

The first Mobile Live Fire Training Unit was launched in November 2021, followed by a second unit in early 2022. In 2023, the provincial government announced funding for two additional Mobile Live Fire Training Units, which would be utilized to better protect northern communities.

Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones, who served as Solicitor General when the training units were launched, attended the Saturday simulation training session. She was presented with an honorary fire chief's helmet from Chief Pratt and the local fire department.

"It's pretty cool to see it here in Dufferin-Caledon. Being able to transfer how we provide training for firefighter across Ontario, bringing it to their crews, to their departments is a really exciting way to make sure that they have the most up to date, safest training available," said Jones.

While the simulation unit was in Shelburne, the departments planned to run various simulations, such as basic structural firefighting with hose advancement and extinguishing the fire. Other training scenarios included basement fires, second-floor window access and search, and "vent, enter, isolate and search."

"The plan is to make it as realistic as we can," said Pratt.

Pratt told the Free Press that between 60 and 80 local firefighters from departments in Shelburne, Mulmur/Melanchthon, Rosemont, Grand Valley and Orangeville used the mobile facility for training.



PAULA BROWN PHOTO

COUNTY-WIDE TRAINING: Firefighters in Dufferin County had the opportunity to brush up on their training from July 12 to July 15 with the Ontario Fire College Mobile Live Fire Training Unit stationed at the Shelburne & District Fire Department.

# Canadian singer-songwriter Emm Gryner to perform concert at Windrush Estate Winery

Written By PAULA BROWN  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Dufferin County residents have the chance to experience a kaleidoscope of music as three-time Juno nominee and notable Canadian singer-songwriter Emm Gryner kicks off her summer tour.

Gryner will be taking the stage on July 20 at 3 p.m. at Windrush Estate Winery in Palgrave.

"What I do in my show is incorporate my whole story, and there's a lot of fun highlights. I went from living in the middle of nowhere, to having a dream of doing music," Gryner told the Free Press. "The show becomes an interactive experience that I think people really enjoy."

Gryner's music career spans nearly three decades, during which she's released more than 20 studio albums in a gamut of genres, including pop, rock, smooth jazz, and heavy metal.

Not long after establishing herself on the Canadian scene with her hit single "Summerlong", Gryner was invited to join the touring band for David Bowie. She performed on stage with Bowie at Glastonbury 2000 and has graced the stage with the legendary band Def Leppard.

Gryner also pioneered her own path in the music industry as founder of one of Canada's first independent record labels, Dead Daisy Records, releasing her own music alongside other artists, such as Sarah Slean and Royal Wood.

In more recent years, Gryner has taken her talents beyond the stage to share her decades of accumulated wisdom in the music industry as a vocal coach, music business mentor, author and life coach.

Beyond the stage, she collaborated with Canadian astronaut Chris Hadfield to create the first music video filmed in space.

Gryner also released a book titled "The

Healing Power of Singing: Raise Your Voice, Change Your Life."

During this time, she's continued to release genre-bending albums, including: "Only of Earth: Day of Games," a 70s classic rock/80s synth-pop inspired collection in 2017; "Only For You," a smooth jazz album in 2020; and "Business & Pleasure, a groovy ode to yacht-rock in 2023.

"A lot of people are [genre-bending] these days because audiences have become more interested in who the artist is," said Gryner.

Tickets for the show are \$45 and include the concert, pop-up art exhibition by Andie Trepanier, and a reception. Guests under 19 or over 90 can attend for free. A portion of the proceeds raised at the concert will help empower underserved children using the arts at youthLEADarts.com.

Tickets for the concert can be purchased online at windrushestatewinery.com or by calling 905-729-7600.



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*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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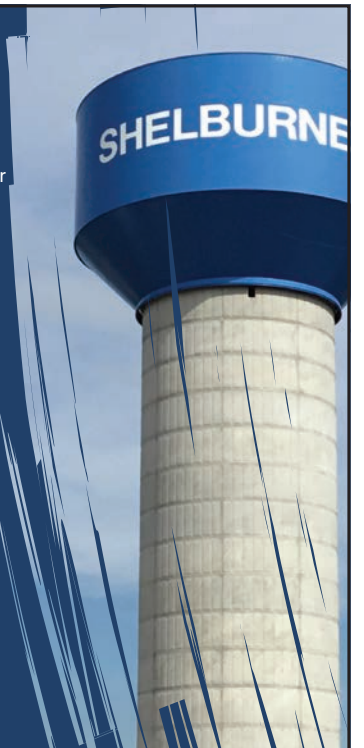
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# SPORTS

## Baysox continue to lead North Dufferin Baseball League's senior division

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

The Owen Sound Baysox continue to lead the North Dufferin Baseball League (NBDL) with first place in the standings after 16 games.

With a 14-2 record, the Baysox are six points ahead of the second-place New Lowell Knights. The Owen Sound team is on a six-game winning streak and hasn't lost a game since June 1.

The Baysox are the defending Strother Cup champions, having won the cup last season.

New Lowell has an 11-4 record at the end of the weekend and 22 points, which puts them in second place.

In the number three spot, the Ivy Rangers are doing well with a 10-5-1 record and 21 points so far for the season.

They are followed by the Lisle Astros, who are banking on a 9-7-1 record.

In the middle of the pack this year, the Bolton Brewers, Midland Mariners, Creemore Padres, and Barrie Angels are separated by five points. Bolton has 19, Midland has 17, and Creemore and Barrie each have 15 points.

Rounding out the field, the Orillia Majors are in ninth place, followed by the Clarksburg Blues, Mansfield Cubs, and the Caledon Cardinals.

There's going to be a wild effort from the bottom teams this year as they try to gain some wins to make the 8th seed playoff spot.

Caledon can't make the playoffs even if they win all the games they have left on the schedule. Mansfield would have to win their remaining games and hope the other lower seed teams lose all of theirs, so it isn't likely that Mansfield will be in the playoffs this year.

Clarksburg has a slim chance, but is unlikely to make the eighth playoff seed.



BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

**READY FOR THE CATCH:** Mansfield Cubs shortstop Shane Walker looks for the throw to second base while Midland Mariners runner Will Coulson slides into the base during a game in Mansfield on Sunday, July 13. The North Dufferin Baseball League (NBDL) season is now half over, with the standings starting to show definite leaders.

The Mansfield Cubs had a double-header against the Midland Mariners on Sunday, July 13, on the diamond in Mansfield.

It was a hot day with both games played under a blazing sun.

Game One of the double-header resulted in a 1-1 tie.

The Mariners got the upper hand in the second game of the afternoon with a 10-5 win.

The Cubs played their final home game of the regular season on Wednesday, July 16.

Results were not available at press time. The NBDL regular season wraps up on July 27, before going into the playoffs.



BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

**ACTION PACKED:** A bowler delivers the ball during Shelburne Cricket Club action at KTH Park in Shelburne on Sunday, July 13. The Shelburne Cricket Club hosts games every Sunday during the summer.

## Phoenix and Mavericks meet for Game Two of Dufferin Cricket Club series

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

Dufferin Cricket Club action pitted the Phoenix against the Mavericks for Game Two of a best-of-seven series at KTH Park in Shelburne on Sunday, July 13.

The Phoenix won the toss and took the first strike in Sunday's game.

The Mavericks struck with the very first ball bowled by Sarthak Patel, who had Keyur Patel clean bowled for a duck.

Mohnish Pathan then joined Shivam, and the two combined for a second wicket partnership of 50 runs before Mohnish was run out by Sarpreet for a well-played 34, comprising of four-fours and one-six.

Shivam soon followed after scoring a run and a ball 20 with two fours and one six.

From there, it was a steady fall of wickets, and Amit Modi was the only other batsman who got to double figures, scoring 16, with the Phoenix eventually finishing on a modest 109 for eight off their allotted 20 overs.

Extras were the other main contributor with 22.

Bowling for the Mavericks, skipper Deepak Thakur took two wickets for 25 runs off his quota of four overs while Sarthak, Varinder and Sarpreet chipped in with one wicket each.

When it was their turn to bat, the Mavericks' batsmen found runs hard to get due to some very disciplined bowling from Phoenix captain Onkar Sharan and Amit Modi.

The Mavericks were soon in trouble, losing their first two wickets in the third over, bowled by Onkar with only 11 runs on the board.

Opening batsman Siddarth was then joined by Sarthak Patel, who once again top scored with 27, and the two tried to repair the early damage, putting on 46 runs for the third wicket before Onkar broke their threatening partnership by getting the wicket of Siddarth for 16.

Wickets then fell in quick succession with the introduction of RV Manshahia into the attack, and the Mavericks folded for 95 all out in 18.4 overs. Extras contributed 28.

The series is now tied at one game each with Game Three coming up on Sunday, July 20, at 8 a.m.

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**ATHLETE OF THE WEEK**

### DANTE HURTAULT

Playing soccer for almost his entire life, U13 Shelburne Thunder soccer player Dante Hurtault brings a lot of skill and experience to his team.

"I like the fun of playing the sport and playing with my friends," Dante said of why he likes playing the game. "It's a worldwide sport and and it's a fun sport to play."

Coming back from an injury was the biggest challenge for Dante this year after being injured during a practice and being sidelined for several weeks.

Dante is the leading scorer on his team averaging almost two goals per game this season.

**TEAM: MANSFIELD CUBS U15 AA**  
**POSITION: SHELBURNE THUNDER U13 SOCCER**

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**2024 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 W/T CREW 4X4**



STK# B12460 • 23,859 KM • 5.3L V8, 10-SPEED AUTOMATIC, 3.23 AXLE, 5.8FT BOX, CLOTH BENCH SEAT, TOW PACKAGE, POWER GROUP, AIR CONDITIONING, CHEVROLET INFOTAINMENT 3, 17 INCH WHEELS, ANDROID AUTO/APPLE CARPLAY, REAR CAMERA, W/T FLEET CONVENIENCE PACKAGE, CHEVROLET SAFETY ASSIST, TOW PACKAGE!

**\$169** WEEKLY + HST  
84 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA  
**\$50,912** +HST/LIC  
\$0 DOWN  
**5.49%** O.A.C.  
C.O.B \$10,435

**2024 BUICK ENVISTA ST**



STK# B12558 • 36,555 KM • 1.2L TURBO 3-CYLINDER, 6-SPEED AUTOMATIC, HEATED LEATHER, HEATED WHEEL, REMOTE START, POWER SEAT, POWER WINDOWS/LOCKS/MIRRORS, REAR CAMERA, PARK ASSIST, FORWARD COLLISION ALERT, LANE DEPARTURE, CLIMATE CONTROL, BUICK INTELLILINK, 18 INCH BLACK ALLOYS, CONFIDENCE PKG 1 & 2!

**\$99** WEEKLY + HST  
84 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA  
**\$29,912** +HST/LIC  
\$0 DOWN  
**5.49%** O.A.C.  
C.O.B \$6,131

**2023 BUICK ENCORE GX SELECT AWD**



STK# B12572 • 26,145 KM • 1.3L TURBO 3-CYLINDER, 9-SPEED AUTOMATIC, PANORAMIC SUNROOF, HEATED VINYL/CLOTH BUCKETS, REMOTE START, POWER SEAT, REAR CAMERA, PARK ASSIST, FORWARD COLLISION ALERT, LANE DEPARTURE, DRIVER CONFIDENCE, DUAL ZONE CLIMATE CONTROL, BUICK INTELLILINK, 18 INCH ALLOYS, POWER LIFTGATE!

**\$106** WEEKLY + HST  
84 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA  
**\$31,912** +HST/LIC  
\$0 DOWN  
**5.49%** O.A.C.  
C.O.B \$6,541

**2024 CHEVROLET BLAZER RS AWD**



STK# B12445 • 20,621 KM • 3.6L V6, 9-SPEED AUTOMATIC, 5-PASSENGER, NAV, PANORAMIC SUNROOF, HEATED/COOLED LEATHER, HEATED WHEEL, HEATED 2ND ROW, REMOTE START, DUAL-ZONE A/C, 21 INCH BLACK/MACHINED ALLOYS, ADAPTIVE CRUISE, PARK ASSIST, POWER LIFTGATE, CHEVROLET'S MYLINK, SURROUND VIEW CAMERA, TRAILERING PKG!

**\$172** WEEKLY + HST  
84 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA  
**\$51,912** +HST/LIC  
\$0 DOWN  
**5.49%** O.A.C.  
C.O.B \$10,640

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\*30 days or 2,500 km (whichever comes first), without damage. Limitations apply. See CPO Warranty Booklet for details.

**2023 CHEVROLET SUBURBAN LT 4X4**



STK# B12423 • 35,224 KM • 5.3L V8, 10-SPEED AUTOMATIC, GOOGLE INFOTAINMENT, TRI ZONE A/C, 20-INCH ALLOYS, 8-PASSENGER, HEATED LEATHER, HEATED WHEEL, HEATED 2ND ROW, TRI-ZONE CLIMATE, REMOTE START, FRONT/REAR PARK ASSIST, SURROUND CAMERA, CHEVROLET LUXURY PACKAGE, PANORAMIC SUNROOF, POWER LIFTGATE!

**\$265** WEEKLY + HST  
84 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA  
**\$79,912** +HST/LIC  
\$0 DOWN  
**5.49%** O.A.C.  
C.O.B \$16,378

**2023 CHEVROLET BOLT EV 1LT**



STK# B12503 • 45,623 KM • 1LT, 150KW ELECTRIC, 200HP, CVT, UP TO 416KM ON A CHARGE, HEATED CLOTH BUCKETS, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, CLIMATE CONTROL, REMOTE START, HD REAR CAMERA, CHEVROLET SAFETY ASSIST, INTELLIBeam, FORWARD COLLISION, LANE CHANGE ALERT, REAR CROSS TRAFFIC, PARK ASSIST, LANE KEEP ASSIST, FRONT PEDESTRIAN BRAKING!

**\$109** WEEKLY + HST  
84 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA  
**\$32,712** +HST/LIC  
\$0 DOWN  
**5.49%** O.A.C.  
C.O.B \$6,705

**2022 CHEVROLET EQUINOX RS AWD**



STK# B12611 • 62,608 KM • 1.5L TURBO 4-CYLINDER, 6-SPEED AUTOMATIC, CHEVROLET INFOTAINMENT 3, NAVIGATION, HEATED LEATHER BUCKETS, HEATED WHEEL, DUAL ZONE CLIMATE, PANORAMIC SUNROOF, 19 INCH ALLOYS, REMOTE START, REAR CAMERA, BOSE, HID HEADLIGHTS, ADAPTIVE CRUISE, ADVANCED SAFETY PACKAGE, POWER LIFTGATE!

**\$106** WEEKLY + HST  
84 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA  
**\$31,912** +HST/LIC  
\$0 DOWN  
**5.49%** O.A.C.  
C.O.B \$6,541

**2023 GMC SIERRA 1500 SLE CREW 4X4**



STK# B12573 • 87,529 KM • KODIAK, 5.3L V8, 10-SPEED AUTOMATIC, 3.23 AXLE, 5.8FT BOX, AUTOTRAC 4WD, GOOGLE RADIO, HEATED CLOTH BENCH, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, REMOTE START, POWER GROUP, DUAL ZONE CLIMATE, INTELLILINK, TOW PACKAGE, REAR CAMERA, 18 INCH ALLOYS!

**\$172** WEEKLY + HST  
84 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA  
**\$51,812** +HST/LIC  
\$0 DOWN  
**5.49%** O.A.C.  
C.O.B \$10,619

**2022 CHEVROLET MALIBU LT REDLINE**



STK# B12580 • 112 KM • 1.5L TURBO 4-CYLINDER, CVT, MYLINK, DUAL-ZONE CLIMATE CONTROL, HEATED LEATHER BUCKETS, PANORAMIC SUNROOF, 19 INCH BLACK ALLOYS, REAR CAMERA, REMOTE START, DRIVER CONFIDENCE PKG I & II, REAR PARK ASSIST, REAR CROSS TRAFFIC, BLIND SPOT!

**\$113** WEEKLY + HST  
84 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA  
**\$33,912** +HST/LIC  
\$0 DOWN  
**5.49%** O.A.C.  
C.O.B \$6,951

**2025 CHEVROLET EQUINOX ACTIV AWD**



STK# B12506 • 22,652 KM • 1.5L TURBO 4-CYLINDER, 9-SPEED AUTOMATIC, AWD, HEATED/COOLED LEATHER/SUEDE BUCKETS, HEATED WHEEL, HEATED 2ND ROW, DUAL ZONE CLIMATE, 17 INCH DARK ALLOYS, REMOTE START, POWER LIFTGATE, CHEVROLET INFOTAINMENT 3, SURROUND CAMERA, REAR PARK ASSIST, SAFETY AND TECHNOLOGY PACKAGE, CONVENIENCE PACKAGE 3, ADAPTIVE CRUISE!

**\$148** WEEKLY + HST  
84 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA  
**\$44,512** +HST/LIC  
\$0 DOWN  
**5.49%** O.A.C.  
C.O.B \$9,123

**2023 GMC SIERRA 1500 SLE CREW 4X4**



STK# B12428 • 68,397 KM • KODIAK, 5.3L V8, 10-SPEED AUTOMATIC, 3.23 AXLE, 5.8FT BOX, AUTOTRAC 4WD, GOOGLE RADIO, HEATED CLOTH BENCH, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, REMOTE START, POWER GROUP, DUAL ZONE CLIMATE, INTELLILINK, TOW PACKAGE, REAR CAMERA, 17 INCH ALLOYS!

**\$179** WEEKLY + HST  
84 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA  
**\$53,912** +HST/LIC  
\$0 DOWN  
**5.49%** O.A.C.  
C.O.B \$11,050

**2021 GMC SIERRA 1500 SLT CREW X31**



STK# 25064A • 94,090 KM • 5.3L V8, 8-SPEED AUTOMATIC, 3.23 AXLE, 5.8FT BOX, AUTOTRAC 4WD, HEATED LEATHER BENCH, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, REMOTE START, POWER GROUP, DUAL ZONE CLIMATE, INTELLILINK, TOW PACKAGE, REAR CAMERA, 18 INCH ALLOYS!

**\$166** WEEKLY + HST  
84 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA  
**\$49,912** +HST/LIC  
\$0 DOWN  
**5.49%** O.A.C.  
C.O.B \$10,230

**2024 GMC TERRAIN DENALI AWD**



STK# B12491 • 6,623 KM • BLACK DIAMOND EDITION, 1.5L TURBO 4-CYLINDER, 9-SPEED AUTOMATIC, AWD, NAV, PANORAMIC SUNROOF, HEATED/COOLED LEATHER BUCKETS, HEATED WHEEL, DUAL ZONE CLIMATE, 19 INCH DARK ALLOYS, REMOTE START, POWER LIFTGATE, INTELLILINK, REAR CAMERA, REAR PARK ASSIST, GMC PRO SAFETY PLUS, ADAPTIVE CRUISE!

**\$146** WEEKLY + HST  
84 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA  
**\$43,912** +HST/LIC  
\$0 DOWN  
**5.49%** O.A.C.  
C.O.B \$9,000



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AUCTIONS



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- PRESENTS -

## JUL 25TH – CANVAS, CARVINGS & KEEPSAKES

Kidd Family Auctions is proud to present a visual feast - a collection full of vibrant oils, delicate watercolours, hand-carved figures, and eye-catching jewelry. This sale also features a standout original oil by renowned Canadian wildlife artist Christine Marshall.

**Lots begin closing at 5pm on Jul 25th.**

Come preview this catalog on auction day from 10am-4pm, or call for an appointment on another day.

Pickup & preview at our Home Office Base 438280 4th Line, Melancthon.

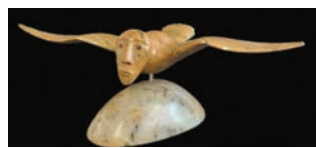
**Features:** Original Framed Oil on Canvas specifically "Gentle Moments - Harp Seals" by Christine Marshall; "Red Cedar" by Glen Loates; "Forest" by John William Beatty; along with an array of artwork - from watercolours to framed prints - featuring artists such as Dorothy Parsons; Robert Bateman; Robert G. Kemp and more; Indigenous Stone Carvings; Framed Lithographs and Stonecuts by artists such as Joe Adlaka Aculiak; Temela Nalenik; Alice Akamak; Pudlo Pudlat; Joe Talirunili and more; Cedar & Bark Baskets; Decorative Brass Easels; 14K/18K Gold-Plated and Sterling Silver Jewelry - many with Lab-Created Gemstones; Wrist Watches & Pocket Watches and more.

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HELP WANTED



## NOW HIRING

Ice River Sustainable Solutions is currently looking for three (3) Electromechanics to join our team. You will be working at our Ice River Springs facility at 108 Prentice Drive, Shelburne, ON, L9V 3N5.

**Position Summary:**

As an Electromechanic, you will combine your knowledge of electrical and electronic systems with mechanical technology to operate electromechanical equipment. The electro mechanic will operate and maintain industrial equipment and ensure efficiency during manufacturing. Follow safe operating procedures, support safety programs and policies to protect personal safety, company property, the environment, and the safety of team members.

This is a permanent, 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 \$36.07 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.
- 3-5 years in troubleshooting and repairing electro-mechanical systems and machinery preferred, in a packaging or manufacturing environment.
- Experience working with Krones machinery.
- Proficiency in electronic testing equipment and tools.
- Solid understanding of mechanical systems and components.
- Excellent problem-solving skills with high attention to detail.
- Ability to read blueprints and technical diagrams and interpret schematics correctly.
- Experience working with preventive maintenance software.
- 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/2477>

Interested candidates please send a copy of your resume and cover letter to [cstewart@icriversprings.com](mailto:cstewart@icriversprings.com) or write to:

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



## NOW HIRING

Blue Mountain Plastics Inc. is currently looking for one (1) Press Operator – Blown Film, Printing press operator to join our team. You will be working at our Blue Mountain Plastics Extrusion facility, located at 485387 30 Side Rd, Shelburne, ON L9V 3N5.

**Position Summary:**

The Press Operator – Blown Film (BMPE) plays a critical role in our manufacturing process. This role is responsible for the efficient operation and maintenance of blown film press equipment used to produce high-quality plastic film products. You will set up and monitor machines, adjust settings, ensure product quality, and troubleshoot production issues to keep everything running safely and efficiently. This position requires technical knowledge, mechanical aptitude, and a strong commitment to safety and quality.

This is a permanent, 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 \$22.84-29.87 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 with some post secondary education as this position requires the ability to read and understand technical instructions.
- 3 years of previous manufacturing experience as a press operator in plastics film production is required.
- Set up and operate blown film press machinery based on production specifications.
- Adjust machine settings (temperature, speed, pressure) to ensure optimal film quality.
- Conduct regular quality inspections and make corrective adjustments as needed.
- Load raw materials and ensure continuous supply throughout production.
- Identify and resolve mechanical and operational issues in real time.
- Monitor and optimize production efficiency and reduce waste.
- Follow all safety protocols and report any safety concerns immediately.
- Perform daily and routine equipment cleaning and maintenance.
- Keep accurate records of production activities, machine performance, and downtime.

To view a comprehensive overview of the position, please go to <https://jobs.dayforcehcm.com/en-US/irss/CANDIDATEPORTAL/jobs/2431>

Interested candidates please send a copy of your resume and cover letter to [cstewart@icriversprings.com](mailto:cstewart@icriversprings.com) or write to:

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

DECKS

## DECKS

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### CLEAR THE CLUTTER!

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FOR RENT

QUIET BASEMENT APARTMENT FOR RENT in Shelburne. Single person only. No pets. No smoking. Available mid July. \$1100 per month. Text only 647-608-5706.

EVENTS

**Centre Dufferin - New Horizons Seniors Club**  
**A day in Niagara** on Wednesday, August 27, 2025  
 Price includes luxury motorcoach transportation, lunch, visit to floral show – house, visit to butterfly conservatory, wine tour & tasting at Chateau des charmeds.  
 Departs CDRC, Fiddle Park Lane, Shelburne at 8:45am.  
 Departs Grand Valley Community Centre, 90 Main Street North at 9:15am.  
 Call Diane Vanderkolk at 905-460-7548 for more information and price.



### Annual Pork BBQ

Trinity Centennial United Church

4903 2nd Concession, Toronto, Rosemont at Hwy 89

**Saturday, July 19, 2025**  
 from 4:00 to 6:30 pm

Delicious smoked pork chop, apple sauce, baked potato, baked beans, coleslaw and choice of pie for dessert.  
**Adults \$25; Children 6-12 years \$15; Under 6 - free**

Take out available.

(Bring your own container or \$1 for a take out container)

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# CLASSIFIEDS

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OBITUARY

## KEITH MICKS

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the peaceful passing of Keith Micks on July 7, 2025, at Dufferin Oaks in Shelburne, surrounded by the love of his family.

Born in Sunnidale Township to Norman and Florence Micks, Keith lived a life of deep devotion to family, community, and service. He was predeceased by his beloved wife Ruth (née Tupling), with whom he shared a life built on love and compassion.

Keith was the proud father of Craig (Marina), Cary, Chris (Josey), the late Carol (Scott) Funston, Cindy (Barry) White, and Connie Lee Prince. He was a cherished grandfather to Jeremy, Stacy, Jason, Tabatha, Jody, Erin, Kori, Adam, Catlin, Cody, Brittany, Michelle, Sirinity, Trinity, and Gabriel. He leaves behind a lasting legacy in his 26 great-grandchildren and 4 great-great-grandchildren.

He is survived by his brother Lloyd (Sandy) and was predeceased by his siblings Gordon (Georgina) and Joan (Robert) Weatherall.

Keith served as a firefighter for over 30 years, dedicating himself to the safety and well-being of others. His commitment to community was evident in his role as a Mulmur Township Councillor and as a foster parent for more than 35 years, opening his home and heart to countless children.

Family was the heart of Keith's world. He treasured every moment spent with those he loved and was a true role model — humble, dependable, and kind. He had a passion for hockey, a deep connection to the land, and always considered himself a farmer at heart. Keith's life was one of purpose and generosity, and he will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

A private service will be held in Creemore. Interment at Honeywood Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Honeywood Arena in his memory. Friends may visit Keith's online Book of Memories at www.fawcettfuneralhomes.com



OBITUARY

## MURRAY LEWIS IRWIN

Peacefully at home with family by his side, in the loving arms of his wife Ruth (nee Littlejohns) on Saturday, July 12, 2025 at the age of 91. Predeceased by his first wife Joyce (nee Lyons) on June 7, 2012. Proud father of Bruce (Dianne). Devoted grandfather of Adam (Kylara) and Emily (Chris) and great-grandfather of Nicholas and Maverick. Dear brother-in-law of Lynda (Willis) Lepard, Lois (the late Walter) Lyons, Dennis (Carol) Lyons, Carol (Tom) Beatty and David (Wendy) Littlejohns. Predeceased by his parents Lewis and Mildred, sister Lola (Marshall) Andrew, and brother Orval (Kay).



He will be missed by many nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews. Murray will be dearly missed by all his family, friends and his musical circle. His love and passion for sharing his music will be remembered by all.

A private family interment will take place at Shelburne Cemetery. A Celebration of Life will be held in the Warrior's Hall of the Royal Canadian Legion, 203 William Street, Shelburne on Saturday, July 19, 2025 from 2-5 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Lung Association, Southlake Health Foundation or the charity of your choice would be appreciated. Online condolences and donations may be placed at www.jackandthompsonfuneralhome.com



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## NOT RECEIVING THE SHELBURNE FREE PRESS?

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

Pick up a copy of the newspaper at one of these following locations.

Shelburne Free Press Office, 109 Adeline Street, Shelburne

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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FENECHDESIGNS PHOTOS

**ROCKING OUT:** Shelburne hosted its third concert for its Fridays in the Park series at Jack Downing Park on July 11, featuring the Canadian Celtic rock band, Mudmen. They performed their original music along with covers of popular songs, like Spirit of the West's "Home for a Rest." The event also featured a local vendors market, face painting, balloon twisting and a Magical Wicked Experience. The next Friday in the Park event is slated for July 25 and the final one will take place on Aug. 29.



## Shelburne Public Library shares upcoming events and recommended read of the week

### Upcoming Events

Summer Reading 2025 is upon us. People of all ages can still register now on Beanstack for their respective Summer Reading Challenges. Questions on how to get started? Give the Shelburne Public Library a call at 519-925-2168 or email frontdesk@shelburnelibrary.ca.

On Aug. 10, Authors in the Hills of Mulmur will take place. The event is an afternoon of history, mystery and mayhem, with authors Kath Jonathon (The Resistance

Painter), Bianca Marais (A Most Puzzling Murder), and Sue Hincenbergs (The Retirement Plan). Tickets are \$40 and available at BookLore in Orangeville, the Shelburne Public Library, and the Township of Mulmur office. The Shelburne Public Library can accept cash or e-transfers as payment.

### Recommended read

**"On Isabella Street" by Genevieve Graham:** Set in Toronto in 1967, the book explores the lives of two young women with different backgrounds, attitudes, and

aptitudes, living in an exciting but confusing time – the most extreme counter-culture movement the modern world has ever seen. They have little in common except for the place they both call home: an apartment building on Isabella Street.

**Why Rose recommends it:** "On Isabella Street" is perhaps one of the most moving books I've read in a while. While there are many characters you will come to love, Marion and Sassy are our main protagonists. They are two seemingly opposite women

living in an apartment building on Isabella Street in Toronto; Marion is a mental health professional fighting deinstitutionalization, and Sassy is a folksinger who comes from a very privileged family.

Set against the backdrop of major social change in Canada's 1960's, Marion and Sassy come to lean on each other for support, as they stand up for the differing causes they believe in. This would be a great choice for anyone who enjoyed The Women by Kristin Hannah.

*Shelburne*  
**CHURCH DIRECTORY**

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Sunday Services - 9:45am Lord's Supper  
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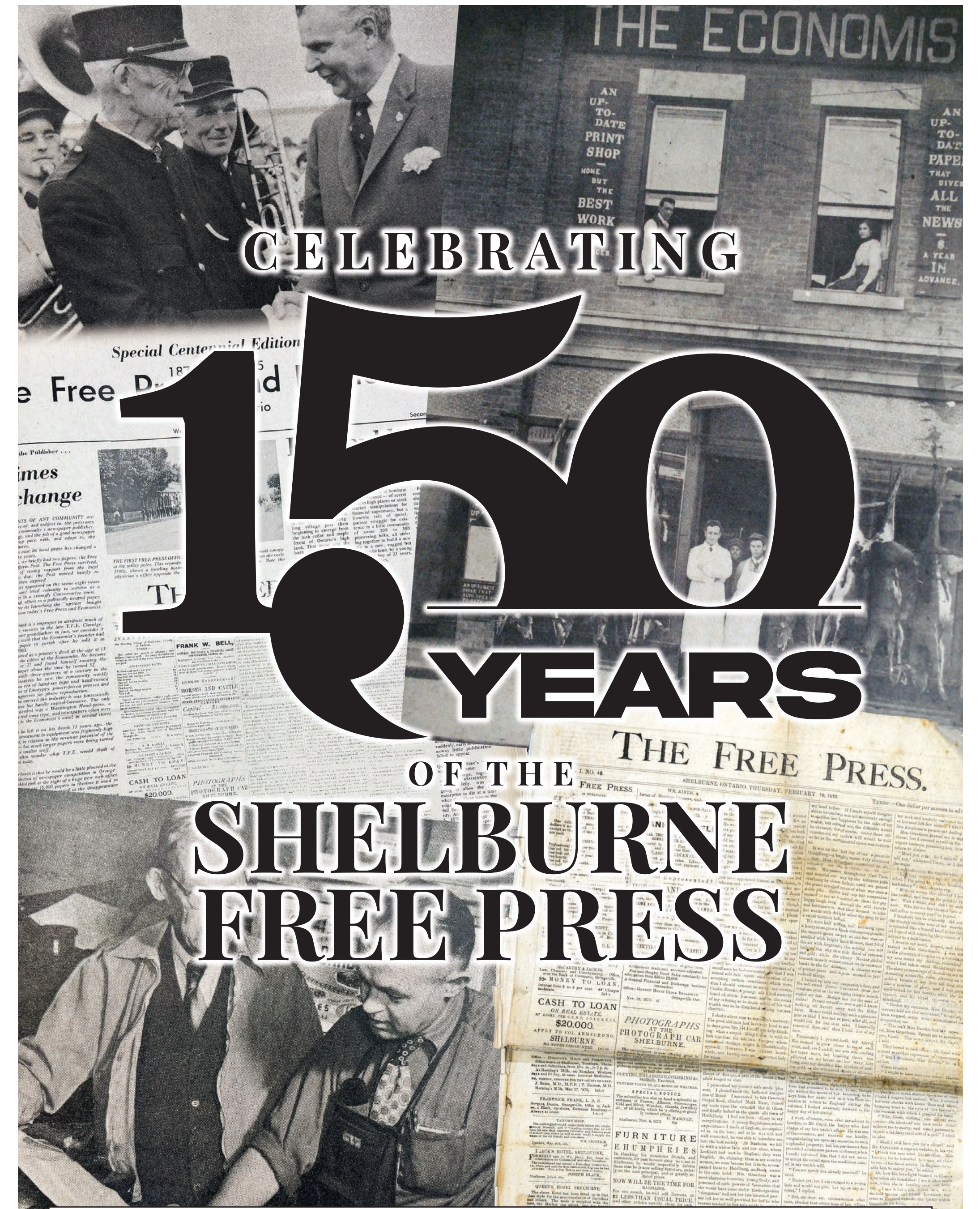
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We at the Shelburne Free Press would like to thank the community for its continued support through the decades. Please note that when you pick up the newspaper, week after week, you support a longstanding local business whose goal is to keep you informed. Without community newspapers like the Shelburne Free Press, there would be few outlets to capture and record the history of our wonderful little town. In addition to our readers, the Shelburne Free Press owes its success to the many advertisers and community partners who have enabled us to remain strong after 150 years in the community. As we turn the page and head into the Free Press's next chapter, our goal is to continue upholding our life-long commitment to fair, transparent and accurate journalism, while sharing the stories that matter most to Shelburne residents. While we don't know what the future will bring, we look forward to sharing our next chapter with you and continuing our legacy of local news. Thank you for being a part of our story.

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# Local voices, lasting impact: Shelburne Free Press marks 150 years of keeping the community informed

By Paula Brown

"The history of a community is the story of its people," writes John Rose in "A History of Shelburne."

As we celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Shelburne Free Press, we would like to take a moment to share the history of the people who founded our newspaper and how we have continued to bring community-focused stories to our readers.

"Local newspapers are so important because they document the everyday of smaller communities. Having these celebrations of small communities and all of the things that make small communities wonderful, captured for us in a newspaper, like the Shelburne Free Press, is so valuable to keep the community connected to each other," said Jasmine Proteau, manager of the Museum of Dufferin. "There are some real gems about individual people and circumstances that would never make a national newspaper. They would never go on the national or international stage because it's such a microcosm of what's going on here."

Through the Town of Shelburne's history, there have been three newspapers: the Shelburne Free Press, the Shelburne Economist and the Dufferin Standard.

The oldest of the three newspapers is the Shelburne Free Press, which commenced as a weekly publication in the spring of 1875 under the proprietorship of George Raines.

Raines, who was originally from Oakville, Ont., became a newspaper publisher following a seven-year apprenticeship that started with the Orangeville Sun in 1867 and ended with the Orangeville Advertiser in 1874. Raines purchased the Orangeville Advertiser that same year, and shortly afterwards moved the newspaper to Shelburne due to competition with the Sun newspaper.

Just three short years into production, issues of the Shelburne Free Press stopped appearing, and the number of missing issues is unknown to this day.

Unwilling to see the business fail, Raines, with the assistance of William Jelly, brought in a new and experienced editor, James Cameron, in 1878. At the same time, a group of 19 Shelburne citizens

formed a shared syndicate to create the Shelburne Printing and Publishing Company.

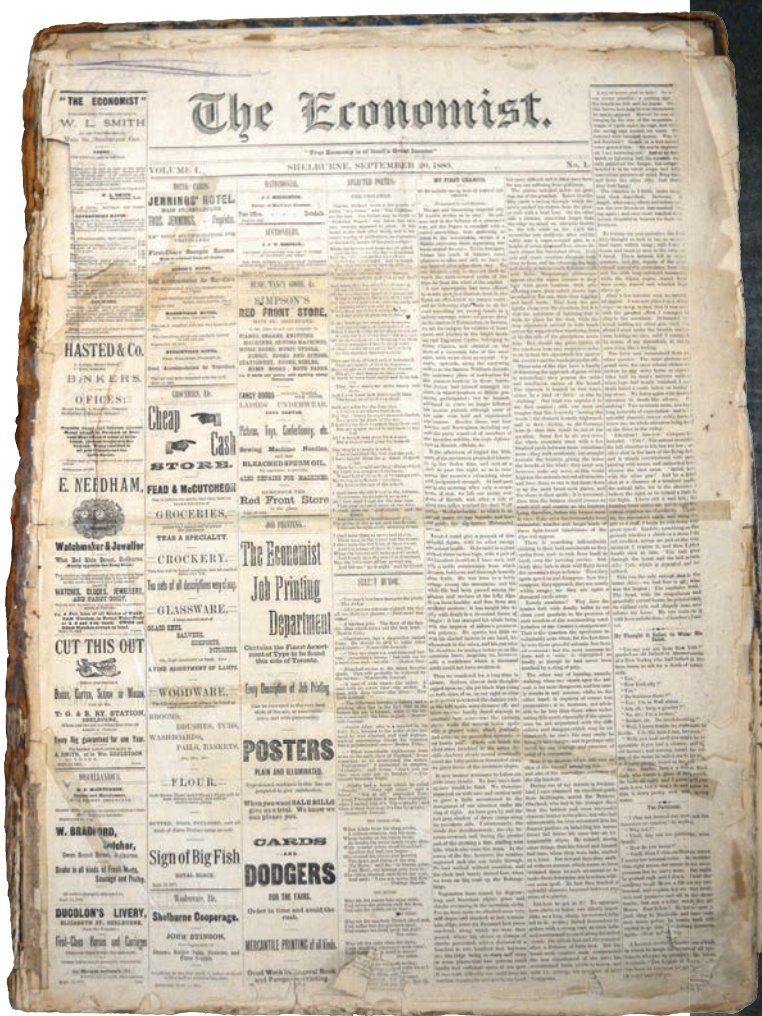
The Shelburne Free Press would be operated by the Shelburne Printing and Publishing Company for the next 15 years, under the leadership of editors James Cameron, Fredrick H. Thompson and Robert Lee Mortimer.

Robert Lee Mortimer, a resident of Honeywood and former principal of the Shelburne Public School, became the editor of the Shelburne Free Press in 1889 and bought the Shelburne Printing and Publishing Company outright in 1893. Mortimer continued publishing the Shelburne Free Press until his death in 1919.

While the Shelburne Free Press was the first newspaper to go into production in the local community, the Shelburne Economist was the last paper, with its first issue published in September of 1883.

The weekly paper was originally started by brothers W.L. and H.T. Smith, but was sold in 1903 to Thomas Fredrick Ernest Claridge or affectionately shortened to T.F.E.

T.F.E. Claridge was the youngest of eight children born into the Claridge family. He received his primary education at the Shelburne Public School and graduated from Shelburne Continuation School with honours in 1889. At the age of 15, he



**THE HILL BLOCK - 1906:** In left window — Hubert (Bert) Claridge, in right window — Myrtle Thompson, later, Mrs. Vic Olander. In doorway left — William Rowan, butcher. (This image was printed in the May 7, 1975 edition of the Free Press and Economist, Centennial Edition.)

joined the Shelburne Economist in the role of "printer's devil," which is considered a step below apprentice.

Over the years, he became foreman for the Shelburne Economist's printing shop and eventually purchased the newspaper in 1903.

Following the death of Shelburne Free Press editor Robert Lee Mortimer in 1919, his widow, Sarah Mortimer, took up the job of running the Free Press. She held the role until she signed an agreement with T.F.E. Claridge, owner of the Shelburne Economist, in 1928 to amalgamate the two rival newspapers.

From then on, the local newspaper officially became known as the Shelburne Free Press and Economist.

The Shelburne Free Press remained in the Claridge family for 86 years, with T. F. E.'s son, Frederick M. Claridge,

eventually taking on the role of editor and publisher.

Thomas Claridge, founder of the Orangeville Citizen and grandson of T.F.E. Claridge, was the last family member of the Claridges to own and operate the local paper.

In 2014, the Shelburne Free Press was purchased by London Publishing Corp. London Publishing Corp also owns several other newspapers in the region, including the Orangeville Citizen, New Tecumseth Times, Caledon Citizen, King Weekly Sentinel, and the Auroran.

"Without newspapers like the Shelburne Free Press, stories about our community would go underreported. As a citizen, I really need that level of micro coverage in order to be fully informed," said Neil Orford, founder of the Canadian Historical Education Services, which operates out of



**EARLY DAYS:** One of the earliest editions of the Free Press was printed on Feb. 10, 1876, (right) and is currently preserved at the Museum of Dufferin Mulmur. Pictured above, the Shelburne Economist's first edition was printed Sept. 20, 1883. The Free Press and Shelburne Economist amalgamated in April 5, 1928.



**CHECKING THE COPY:** T.F.E. Claridge, late publisher of The Free Press and Economist, discusses a make-up problem with son Fred as press time nears on an issue of the FP&E in January, 1956. The "copy" they are examining is a Shelburne Co-op ad. Today, the lead-alloy type has been replaced by photo-composition processes and make-up is done on layout tables. Photo courtesy The Globe and Mail. (This image was printed in the May 7, 1975 edition of the Free Press and Economist.)

The Shelburne Free Press would like to extend a special thank you to the Museum of Dufferin (MoD), the Shelburne Public Library and the Town of Shelburne's Arts, Culture and Heritage Committee for providing invaluable information and research as we mark our 150th anniversary.

The generous contributions made by these organizations greatly assisted the Free Press in producing a special section that not only celebrates the newspaper's legacy but also honours the rich history of our community. We are deeply grateful for their historical insights, ongoing support, and unwavering commitment to preserving the stories that shaped who we are over the last 150 years. As we reflect on our past, we look forward to continuing our reputation as a trusted voice in the community for future generations.



Dufferin County. "The value of what the Shelburne Free Press does has increased over time, as other newspapers have disappeared and other channels of communication have disappeared to social media."

The Shelburne Free Press newspaper is published weekly on Thursdays, with articles also available online at [www.shelburnefreepress.ca](http://www.shelburnefreepress.ca).



**MYSTERY PICTURE:** This picture has hung around the FP&E office for so many years no one knows all of the characters portraying life in a nineteenth-century newspaper shop. However, it is known that the "boss (seated) is T.F.E. Claridge, then about 30 and editor of the Shelburne Economist. To his left is his brother Hubert (Bert) Claridge. The other portrayals are undoubtedly those of a "city editor" and "printer's devil." Any idea as to the actors? (This image was printed in the May 7, 1975 edition of the Free Press and Economist, Centennial Edition.)

**JOINING FORCES:** The Shelburne Free Press and Economist (right) published its first edition of the paper on April 5, 1928 after amalgamating the Free Press and Shelburne Economist. The amalgamation happened after T.F.E. Claridge, then editor of the Shelburne Economist, bought the newspaper out and combined it with the Free Press.



**The Economist Block 1894**

The village of Shelburne was just entering upon the greatest building boom of its youthful existence when, on August 29, 1883, the young brothers, W.L. and H.T. Smith, fresh from their father's printing shop in Markham, began installation of their printing equipment in John Jelly's Main Street West, then still under construction, and began to assemble their first issue of "The Shelburne Economist," namesake of their father, Matthew Smith's Markham Economist. Two weeks later, on September 13, their first issue was on the street. John Jelly, to honour the first tenants to occupy his new building, immediately named it, The Economist Block.



**MULTI-GENERATIONAL JOURNALISTS:** T.F.E. Claridge (left), his son Thomas Claridge (centre), and grandson Alan Claridge review newspaper content at the Shelburne Free Press in the mid 1970s. Fred owned the Shelburne Free Press and Economist before selling it to Thomas in 1972. Alan held several roles at the newspapers Thomas owned over the years, such as editor, reporter and general manager.

A Message From

# Kyle Seeback, M.P.

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# Timeless treasures: The Shelburne Free Press reflects on the community's oldest institutions

By Paula Brown

To celebrate 150 years of keeping the community informed, Shelburne Free Press is taking a look at some of the other businesses, buildings, institutions and groups that have also stood the test of time.

## Jelly's Tavern

One of the oldest and most well-known businesses to exist in the Town of Shelburne is Jelly's Tavern.

William Jelly, known as the "Father of Shelburne," having founded the town in 1860, entered the bushes from Bowling Green in 1864 to begin the task of clearing the future site of the British Canadian Hotel, as he reportedly called it.

The hotel opened in September of 1865 and officially became known as Jelly's Tavern.

In 1870, the establishment was sold to George Murray, who renamed the tavern to The Shelburne House and operated the hotel until 1873. Murray turned the operation of The Shelburne House over to his former competitor, "Joe" Black, who went on to rename the institution, Black's Tavern.

As the years went on, the hotel originally known as Jelly's Tavern went through a "musical chairs" exchange in ownership and names. The last connection to the hotel ended in 1955.

## Shelburne Town Hall

Shelburne's Town Hall and opera house, Grace Tipling Hall, have sat at the heart of the community's downtown for more than 140 years.

The building was constructed in 1882 with the plans drawn by town clerk Francis G. Dunbar, who also designed the Orangeville Town Hall in 1879. The brick used to build the Town Hall was manufactured at the Shelburne Brick Yards, and the stone was mined from a quarry just east of town.

The Fire Hall and bell tower portion of the Town Hall were later additions to the building, erected in 1888.

Grace Tipling Hall, the opera house located on the top floor of the Town Hall, was used as the central space for travelling professional show troupes and was where the first movie in Shelburne was shown in 1926.

The building was restored and renovated in the late 1990s.

Grace Tipling Hall and Town Hall are located at 203 Main St. E., Shelburne.

## Shelburne Public Library

The construction of the Shelburne Public Library, located at 201 Owen Sound St., dates back almost 115 years. The idea of building a public library in the community was first brought up in January 1911, and by June that same year, construction of the building was underway with the financial assistance of the Carnegie Library Foundation.

The Shelburne Free Press's very own T.F.E. Claridge was an instrumental member of a seven-person committee that helped negotiate with the Carnegie Library Foundation for financial assistance. He subsequently went on to serve as a regular member of the library board for 23 years.

In 2002, the Shelburne Public Library received a grant from the federal and provincial governments called the SuperBuild Grant worth nearly \$600,000. The grant made it possible for the library to be rebuilt at twice its original size and become wheelchair accessible with the installation of an elevator.

Dedicated fundraisers and donors from the community also helped raise an additional \$300,000 to support the upgrades.

A renovation and expansion of the public library was completed in 2004.

The Shelburne Public Library is located at 201 Owen Sound St., Shelburne.

## St. Paul's Anglican Church

Before shuttering its doors to the community in January 2024, St. Paul's Anglican Church had more than 150 years of history in Shelburne.

The history of St. Paul's Anglican Church began well before the church's construction, with the first Anglican worship services held monthly in a small log hall in Melancthon as early as 1855.

Construction of the first St. Paul's Anglican Church began in the summer of 1874 and was finished by Christmas of the same year. The first service was held on Jan. 17, 1875, led by Rev. J.J. Morton, with planks used to seat the congregation and a borrowed organ.

The local Anglican church received its first resident rector in Rev. James Smythe in 1878, but the position was quickly left vacant following his death in 1879.

Discussions were held in 1910 with the idea of building a new and bigger church in the same spot as the original. The St. Paul's Anglican Church that sits in Shel-



**FINAL INSPECTION:** Capt. Harold Ritz, right, inspects B Flight, 164 Squadron, for the final time at the change of command at the Shelburne air cadets last week. With him is Lieut. Cliff Johnson. (This image was printed in the October 8, 1980 edition of the Free Press and Economist.)

burne to this day was constructed and completed in 1913.

In January 1929, a fire broke out in the church's furnace room, and the church sustained damage from smoke and water, but fire insurance allowed for repairs and replacement.

During Canada's Centennial year (1967), the Shelburne parish and Dundalk church were amalgamated.

The Shelburne congregation celebrated St. Paul's Anglican Church's 150th anniversary in 2023. Since its inception, the local Anglican church has seen over 30 reverends oversee the congregation.

Considered one of Shelburne's founding churches, St. Paul's Anglican Church held its last congregation on Jan. 21, 2024.

## Shelburne Memorials

Funeral and burial services are considered one of the oldest practices, so it's seemingly appropriate that Shelburne Memorials is the community's second oldest running business. Originally established in 1888, Shelburne Memorial has been owned and operated by the McBride family since 1991.

McBride purchased the business in 1991, having no previous training or knowledge in the making of cemetery monuments and instead learned the trade on the job.

While Shelburne Memorials' head office and manufacturing space is located

in Shelburne, the business has expanded to consist of 15 locations in Central Ontario, including Huntsville, Wiarton, Georgetown, and Orangeville.

Following McBride's retirement in 2021, Shelburne Memorial was taken over by his children – Michelle Thompson, Annisa Prins, and Brian McBride.

Shelburne Memorials is located at 709 Industrial Rd., Shelburne.

## Shelburne Legion

The Shelburne Legion, Branch 220, has been a staple in the local community for nearly 95 years. The legion was established in Shelburne in 1931 by a group of local veterans as a way to come together. The numbering of the legion branches is based on the order in which they were established, meaning the local branch is the 220th Royal Canadian Legion to open in Canada.

The cenotaph that sits outside Town Hall is one of the earliest projects spearheaded by local veterans and showcases its early community-focused mentality.

In early 1919, proposals were made by the Great War Veterans Association, known now as the Royal Canada Legion, to raise a memorial honouring individuals from the area who did not return home from the First World War. The conversation piqued the interest of municipal officials and Dufferin County Council, and Shel-

## WHAT WAS HAPPENING IN 1875?

By Sam Odrowski

Lots of key events happened in Canada and around the world during the year the Shelburne Free Press was founded.

To help date our newspaper and give readers an idea of the significant events that occurred at the time of the Shelburne Free Press's inception, here is a list of what was happening in 1875.

**March 1:** In Toronto, the Hospital for Sick Children was founded

**March 3:** The first recorded indoor hockey game occurred at the Victoria Skating Rink in Montreal, Que.

**March 11:** Jennie Kidd Trout became the first

woman in Canada to practice as a licensed medical doctor. However, Emily Stowe practiced without a license since 1867. Trout was the only woman in Canada to practice with a license until July 1880, when Stowe also became a licensed medical doctor.

**April 5:** The Supreme Court of Canada was established.

**May 20:** The Metre Convention was signed in Paris, France, which established the International Bureau of Weights and Measures. This led to the creation of the metric system, which Canada adopted 100 years later, on April 1, 1975.

**June 1:** To mark the construction of the Lake Superior to Manitoba section of the Canadian Pacific Railway, a sod-turning ceremony was held near Fort William, now known as Thunder Bay, Ont. The rail-

way's construction was a significant move towards connecting Canada from coast to coast.

**Sept. 26:** During a pilgrims' march to St. Michael's Cathedral's bishop's palace, the first of the violent Jubilee Riots occurred. The riots saw an outbreak of Protestant-Catholic sectarian violence in Toronto related to the Jubilee year declared by Pope Pius XI. The violence happened during a series of religious pilgrimages by Catholics.

**Dec. 17:** Violent bread riots took over Montreal as its residents faced massive unemployment and hunger due to an economic depression. Hundreds of unemployed labourers marched to Montreal's City Hall, where they demanded work or food from the government. Vandalism and looting took over as rioters targeted bakeries and warehouses.

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L'ORÉAL

burne became one of three municipalities to receive \$3,300 for a memorial.

In 1922, an order was placed with the John Fleck Monument Company of Shelburne to commission the cenotaph, and on June 4, 1923, the monument was unveiled by Mrs. E.J. McComb, whose son, Rev. T. Allan McComb, died overseas.

Located at 203 William St., the building that houses the Shelburne Legion was originally built as a curling rink in 1926, but was taken over by the Great War Veterans Association in 1931.

Today, the Shelburne Legion has nearly 300 members and is led by President Dan Sample.

The Shelburne Legion is located at 203 William St., Shelburne.

**Shelburne Rotary Club**

The Rotary Club of Shelburne was established on April 22, 1938.

Jack Aiken, the first president of the Rotary Club of Orangeville, was instrumental in bringing the chapter to the community. It is reported that less than a week after announcing his plans to bring the Rotary to Shelburne, he was able to sign up 24 men to the organization.

Over the years, the Rotary Club of Shelburne has put "Service Above Self" to help support projects within the community, including the Santa Claus Parade, Fiddle Fest, and reforming the Shelburne Legion Hall.

The Rotary Club of Shelburne supports annual charitable projects, such as the Backpack Program and the Christmas Hampers. The organization was a leader in the construction of the Splash Pad at Greenwood Park, raising \$300,000 towards the project, and also a large donor to the Shelburne Food Bank's Food Rescue Van.

Today, the Rotary Club of Shelburne has 15 members.

**Shelburne Scouts**

The 1st Shelburne Scouts Group hit a significant milestone in 2024, as it celebrated 100 years of scouting in the local community.

Established in early 1924, there is limited historical information about the formation of the 1st Shelburne Scouts Group and its formative years, with the loss of paper documents and members eventually leaving the program. Most of the informa-

tion that is known about the 1st Shelburne Scouts Group is from the last four decades and comes from the stories of previous Scout Leaders and members.

The mission of Scouts Canada is to help prepare participating youth to become well-rounded citizens and individuals in their community.

The collage features several advertisements:
 

- CO-OP FOOD CENTRE:** "The neighborly store that gives you QUALITY SERVICE SAVINGS". Deals include Pork Chops (89¢/lb), Pork Roast (89¢/lb), Pork Shoulder (85¢/lb), Cottage Rolls (89¢/lb), Slab Bacon (89¢/lb), Beef Stakettes (59¢/lb), Weiners (69¢/lb), Mustard (39¢), Cookies (39¢), Fish & Chips (59¢), Tomato Juice (59¢), Ice Cream (59¢), Orange Crystals (59¢), Vassell's (59¢), Spag (59¢), IGA Beans with Pork (59¢), Facial Tissue (2 for 88¢), IGA Spaghetti (3 for 88¢), Sylvania Light Bulbs (2 for 88¢), Choice French Fries (3 for 88¢), Whole Kernel Corn (33¢), Navel Oranges (89¢), and a Special Purchase for a Hollywood Bed Ensemble (\$89.99).
- MATTRESS SALE:** "QUILT TOP MATTRESS OR BOX SPRING \$49.99".
- HOFSTEDER FURNITURE & APPLIANCE:** "110-112 Main Street - Shelburne 975-3442".

Local youth in the program experience a variety of outdoor activities, including hiking and camping, while also learning skills such as how to start fires, build shelters, identify fauna and flora, track animals, use compasses, and how to survive if you're stuck in the wild.

In 2024, the 1st Shelburne Scouts Group had roughly 15 youth participate in its programming.

**KTH Shelburne**

With just over 25 years in the community, KTH Shelburne Manufacturing is still a fairly new business, but has also become the largest employer in Dufferin County.

KTH Parts Manufacturing Inc. established its Canadian subsidiary, KTH Shelburne Manufacturing in December of 1996. The plant, located at 300 2nd Line in Shelburne, officially started producing automotive frames in July 1998.

KTH began as a welding operation with 54 employees and a building with 100,000 sq. ft., but quickly grew in need of an expansion. In the December of their first year of operation, KTH Shelburne almost double the number of frames they were building in a single day and in 1999 they added a 2500 Ton Transfer press that enabled them to make some of the part they were welding.

As welding capacity increased to match Honda's expansion in Alliston, the local plant added more presses. Since the construction of the original building in April 1997, KTH Shelburne has had seven plant expansions.

For every fifth anniversary KTH Shelburne passes, a dedication is made by the company to the community.

At five years, it was a donation to the Shelburne Public Library; at 10 years to Stevenson Memorial Hospital; at 15 years a donation to Headwaters Hospital; and for their 20th anniversary they planted a cherry orchard at KTH Park, where the company has a baseball diamond and soccer field.

According to the Dufferin Board of Trade, KTH Shelburne Manufacturing Inc. is the largest employer in Dufferin County with more than 80 per cent of the workforce residing in the Shelburne, Dundalk and Orangeville areas.

**Crewson Insurance**

It takes a lot of work to have a small business succeed for multiple decades, and Crewson Insurance had done it for a total of 40 years.

The local insurance company, located at 110 Adeline St. in Shelburne, celebrated four decades of business back in March.

Ed and Wendy Crewson opened Crewson Insurance in 1985; after buying Delmar Bates Insurance, a small farm-focused brokerage located on Main Street in Shelburne. At the time, Crewson Insurance was a two-person business with Ed going door-to-door to get more customers and Wendy managing the office and money.

The Crewsons experienced their first big claim just 90 days after opening their business when a tornado ripped through the Dufferin County community on May 31, 1985.

By the end of their first year of business, Crewson Insurance doubled in size and brought on their first employees: Steve Gallagher and Sherry Robinson.

In 2001, Crewson Insurance expanded to two offices with a second branch opening in Wasaga Beach. Two decades later, Crewson Insurance once again expanded after acquiring Padfield-Nelson Insurance in Mount Forest.

What started out as a two-person company in 1985 has since grown to 27 employees and three office locations spanning Dufferin, Simcoe and Wellington Counties.

**Dufferin Mutual**

Dufferin Mutual, one of Shelburne's longest-standing businesses, is celebrating 130 years of serving the community this year.

Founded in 1895 as a farm mutual, the company is still entirely owned by its policyholders and has its headquarters in Shelburne, at 802 Main St. E., Unit #4.

Dufferin Mutual offers farm, home, property, automobile, commercial and liability insurance protection to over 5,000 policyholders.

The company is committed to the community, having operated out of Shelburne for the 130 years it has existed.

Dufferin Mutual provides insurance through independent brokers who operate throughout South-Central Ontario.

Originally called Dufferin Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company, the name was later changed to better reflect its evolution into offering more types of insurance.

The company was founded by local farmers who had difficulty finding fire insurance for their farms.

This resulted in generations of policyholders receiving protection through Dufferin Mutual.

**CARAVAGGIO I.D.A. SHELBURNE**  
 Your trusted pharmacy located in the heart of Shelburne.  
 With a commitment to providing top-notch customer service and expert pharmaceutical care, Caravaggio I.D.A. Drugs is your go-to destination for all your health and wellness needs.  
**Happy Anniversary**  
 to the Shelburne Free Press on their milestone and their continued dedication to keeping our community informed.  
 Your Community Pharmacy Working Hard To Help You!  
**128 Main St E, Shelburne**  
**519-925-2729**

**Congratulations**  
 Dr Magder on serving the Shelburne community for **50 YEARS**  
 Shelburne will shortly have another dentist when Dr. Gary Magder sets up his office at 161 Main Street, above the law office. Gary has spent the summer working at the Alliston Dental Clinic after graduating from the University of Toronto Dental School last April.  
 As seen in the SHELBURNE FREE PRESS June 1975.  
 Your journey to a brighter smile starts here.  
**Main Street FAMILY DENTAL**  
 Call 519-925-6991 to book your appointment. Emergencies and new patients always welcome.  
**167 Main Street W, Unit 101**  
**mainstreetdental.ca**

# Dufferin-Caledon politicians celebrate 150 years of the Free Press

Submitted by Kyle Seeback, M.P.

Since 1875, the Shelburne Free Press has kept Shelburne and Dufferin County informed, connected, and engaged. You've reported on the stories that matter, celebrated our successes, and held people accountable when it counted. This is the gold standard of trusted local journalism.

The job of local and independent media is more important than ever given the explosion of social media reporters that do not have to follow journalistic standards.

Congratulations to everyone who has worked there and contributed to its success and here's to another 150 years of trusted local journalism.

Submitted by Sylvia Jones, M.P.P.

Congratulations to the Shelburne Free Press on 150 memorable years of sharing the stories that make Dufferin County a wonderful place to live, work, and raise a family.

The Shelburne Free Press has been a part of our local news for many in Dufferin County, keeping us up to date on everything from Town Council meetings to exciting achievements in local sports, or promoting the many wonderful events happening in our area. Community newspapers, like the Shelburne Free Press, are the heartbeat of communities across the province.

Community newspapers serve as a platform to allow community members to share

their opinions and achievements, giving everyone the opportunity to contribute to our local dialogue. They support our community's local businesses through advertising and promoting their products and services. Most importantly, our local newspapers build connection, engagement, and a sense of community.

As we move towards a more digitized world, local newspapers have proved resilient, adapting and continuing to be a voice for community organizations, small businesses, and so much more through new platforms.

The Shelburne Free Press would not be possible without the journalists who keep it going. Over the last 150 years, many members of our community have published their

work on the Shelburne Free Press' pages. From op-eds, letters to the editors, local news, cultural and sporting highlights, to celebrating school graduations, our journalists have captured the pride and opportunity in our community for the last 150 years.

A staple in our community, the Shelburne Free Press has been keeping families informed about what is happening locally, provincially, and beyond. There is no doubt that local newspapers will continue to evolve with the world we live in, and I know they will continue to play a pivotal role in our community for years to come.

Congratulations again to the Shelburne Free Press on a remarkable 150 years. I wish you many more.

**THE FP&E PRINTERS**



George Esley runs the linotype while Reed Needles proofs copy. The linotype, built in 1936, used to print news copy for the whole newspaper.

100 years ago, Shelburne got its first weekly newspaper and with it a "byproduct industry" which continues to this day, a commercial printing service.

Times have changed, and with it the commercial printing industry. In the last century the presses were all hand-operated, the type was all hand-set.

Today, FP&E Printing boasts the latest in printing techniques, ranging from high-quality photocopying to the traditional "letterpress" process, with automatic presses to speed our work, improve upon quality and lower your cost.

For many years "job printing" was done only one or two days a week, "between papers." Today, K. Reed Needles and George Esley devote their full time to providing the Shelburne area with a fast, efficient and economical printing service.

New equipment on order will permit us to offer even lower prices for some types of printing.

Whatever your printing needs may be, try us out—

**FP&E PRINTING**  
K. Reed Needles and George Esley, printers, 211 Main Street East, Shelburne 925-2831  
—FREE QUOTATIONS ON ANY PRINTING JOB—

**BOWMANS**

The Ford Motor Company first established a dealership in Shelburne with an arrangement with Wyck Brett in 1911. The Brett held the dealership for 40 years. Cecil Rinn was the Ford dealer through the fifties and Nelson Earl was the Ford man through the sixties.

Gerry Bowman bought the business in 1971 and continues to sell a product that has been sold in Shelburne since 1911 — the Ford car.



**The New Ford Coupe**

An entirely new body design of remarkable beauty as well as practical utility in the distinguished feature of the new Ford Coupe. We salute the Free Press and Economist on its Centennial Issue and wish you many more years of publication.


Gerry Bowman

**CONGRATULATIONS**  
to the F.P. & E.  
from  
**HAZEL'S LADIES WEAR**  
for reaching  
100 years  
of publication



PRETTY DRESS FOR MANY OCCASIONS

1514 Main St. 925-3747



Henry Matthews' left is working on a 1927 Chevrolet. At right, is his mechanic Jack Patterson.


Alex Matthews bought the Gallagher Farm Machinery building across from the Queen's Hotel in 1919. After his death in 1932 his brother Henry took over the business and in 1946, moved Matthews Motors to the old Flour Mill property on East Main Street.

One of the oldest businesses in town still operating under the same family name, Matthews Motors salutes the F.P.&E. on its 100th Birthday.

**Matthews Motors**  
514 Main St. 925-3747

The **FOUR**  
Seasons may come and go but over the years,  
**MEN**  
Women and children all still appreciate the hospitality and friendly service at the Shelburne I.G.A. The passing of 100 years has not  
**KILLED**  
the idea that service and a commitment to involvement  
**in the**  
community are an important part of doing business in Shelburne. We would like to join in the  
**RUSH**  
to congratulate the FP&E on its 100th birthday and to wish it many more.

**ALF KNIGHT AND THE STAFF AT THE I.G.A.**



Based on an ad in the Free Press in the 1880s

## REMEMBER WHEN...

The advertisements shown here were published in the May 7, 1975 edition of the Free Press and Economist Centennial Edition. The following ads show the evolution of newspaper advertising over the last 50 years.

**UCCO**



William G. Richardson  
We've been doing business in Shelburne since 1916 but our business goes back a long time before that.

The first toy food and wood workshop in Shelburne was established by William G. Richardson in 1916. In 1946 the business was sold to S.F.M. O'Flynn and is continued to operate under the same family name until 1966.

In this year, a group of progressive local business united to form the Shelburne Co-operative Association and purchased the United Co-operatives of Ontario.

S.F.M. O'Flynn  
Since then we have expanded our business to include a grocery, hardware, fuel supply, and provision business in addition to the original wood and toy business.

"We open our arms to business that is significant and we congratulate the Free Press and Economist on its Centennial Issue."

Nelson Earl  
and the U.C.O. of the I.C.P.

**Shelburne Kinsmen Club**



The Shelburne Kinsmen Club began in 1889 serving the Community's Greater Need. Although recently established, we recognize the value of long service and involvement in the community and congratulate the FP&E on its Centennial Issue.

Much of the material in this Centennial Issue was found in The History of Shelburne, written by John Ross and published by the Kinsmen Club. This volume is the result of long and painstaking research and will ensure that the people and events that shaped the present-day Shelburne will not pass from our memories.

(Available through the Kinsmen Club)


Shelburne Kinsmen

The Pro Hardware Store has been owned and operated by Bill Walker since 1962. But the business he purchased was established when Main Street was still a primitive trail through the bush in the 1870s.

It's history, included the Shelburne Free Press of history in the 1880s, the year of the century "People's Hardware" and 18 years under the direction of Col. F.G.B. Phillips.

Our business has been around since Vol. 1 No. 1 of the Free Press and we're glad to have made it this far with you.

Congratulations to the F.P.&E.



Bill Walker, Pro Hardware  
120 Main E. 925-3144

**CONGRATULATIONS**  
to the Free Press & Economist on surviving your first one hundred years.  
Jog into the next hundred with "COUGAR" & "NORTH STAR" joggers  
from  
**HALBERT SHOES**

127 Main W 925-3037



**Shelburne Foodland**  
would like to congratulate the  
**Shelburne Free Press on their 150th Anniversary**

**FOODLAND**  
Fresh food. Friendly neighbours.

**824 Ojibway Rd, SHELburne**  
Hours: Monday to Sunday 6a.m. to 10p.m.

# A brief history of William Jelly, Founding Father of Shelburne

By Alex Sher

William Jelly was born in 1835 to Irish immigrant John Jelly near Elizabethtown in Upper Canada, in a place later referred to as Brockville, Ont.

It is largely believed that Shelburne is the result of Melancton Township's construction of the Toronto Sydenham Road in the 1940s, enticing settlers and promoting growth.

Jelly lived in Amaranth Township and Wellington County before settling at West Lot 1, Concession 2, where he took up half the property in 1864. While many reference Jelly as a farmer turned businessman, others concede he was still growing something – the Town of Shelburne.

Caravaggio's Pharmacy is the very location where William Jelly built the timber-framed William's British Canadian Hotel, which opened in 1865. It was locally known as the Jelly Hotel.

Only coming to own the property in 1870, Jelly and his three brothers seemed to thrive, buying land while promoting growth and development. It was at this

time, within a year of the hotel opening, that Jelly became the first postmaster of a post office named "Shelburne" by members of Canadian Parliament after the Earl of Shelburne. At that time, the post office was conveniently located in the hotel. Later, in 1870, Jelly sold the hotel, which then became known as Shelburne House.

Jelly was convinced the village of Shelburne would prosper as the expected arrival of the Toronto, Bruce and Grey Railway was certain to ensure Shelburne's growth. Jelly took particular interest in surveying the village. And thrive it did!

When the village of Shelburne was incorporated in 1879, William Jelly was elected Reeve and remained in the role for 14 years, through several elections. Also elected to the Ontario Legislative Assembly, Jelly represented Dufferin as a Conservative.

Jelly enjoyed a two-year political career serving on the council for Melancton Township and Grey County. Though Jelly took a brief pause from politics from 1893–1897, he was convinced by locals to serve again, which he did until he died in 1900.

Jelly was survived by his wife, Bessie and his daughter Adeline.

William Jelly is widely considered one of the very first businessmen in Shelburne and was a witness to his little, thriving village growing to 1,000 people. He saw Main Street evolve from wooden storefronts to brick, and Shelburne quickly became a manufacturing centre.

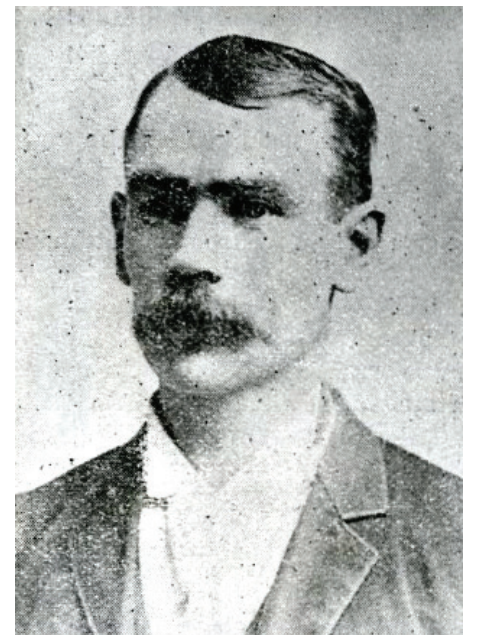
In 1977, Shelburne became a town, and today, the population continues to grow.

Jelly's hard work, political commitment and dedication to seeing Shelburne thrive brought the community together on June 14, 2014, for an unveiling of his statue in Jack Downing Park.

The 28th Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, David C. Onley, representing Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, attended the ceremony. He was joined by then Dufferin-Caledon MP David Tilson, Dufferin County Warden Bill Hill, Shelburne Mayor Ed Crewson and CAO John Telfer.

The statue stands today as a symbol of Jelly's commitment to the town.

(This article was originally published in the Shelburne Free Press in 2014)



**FOUNDER:** Known as the "Father of Shelburne," William Jelly was one of the first businessmen in the community and directly oversaw its growth as reeve from the year it was founded, 1879, until 1893. From 1893 to 1897, Jelly took a break from politics, but returned to serve again until his death in 1900.

## Shelburne Free Press: 150 years of serving community with heart and headlines

By Laura Camilleri, Archivist  
Museum of Dufferin

In an era dominated by digital media giants and fleeting online news, small community newspapers remain a vital thread in the fabric of local life. Among these is the *Shelburne Free Press*, which this year celebrates an extraordinary 150 years in publication. The *Free Press* has long been more than a source of news—it's a cornerstone of community identity.

The *Shelburne Free Press* was originally founded in 1875 by George Raines. Just eight years later, in 1883, a second paper, *The Economist*, was established by W.L. Smith who sold to T.F.E. Claridge in 1903. For decades, these two newspapers chronicled the lives of Shelburne's residents, businesses and organizations. In 1928, the *Economist* purchased the *Free Press*, joining forces to become the *Shelburne Free Press & Economist*. The Claridge family, first T.F.E., then his son Fred, would operate the newspaper for over 100 years. In 2014,

the publication returned to its roots and adopted its current name, the *Shelburne Free Press*.

Small newspapers like the *Free Press* play a unique and irreplaceable role. They offer in-depth, hyper-local coverage that larger outlets overlook. They provide a platform for community voices, celebrate local successes, and hold local institutions accountable. In a town like Shelburne, they are a mirror and a megaphone, reflecting the town's character and amplifying its concerns. *The Free Press* has chronicled the stories of generations—births, weddings, milestones, fall fairs, Fiddle Contests, council meetings, school achievements, and the passing of local legends. It has been a reliable witness to the town's growth and evolution.

The impact of the *Shelburne Free Press* extends beyond its pages. It supports local businesses through advertising, offers young writers and photographers a place to grow, and fosters civic engagement by keeping residents informed and connected.



As the *Shelburne Free Press* marks its sesquicentennial, it stands as a proud testament to the enduring power of local journalism. In Shelburne and beyond, it reminds

us that community newspapers are not relics of the past—they are living, vital institutions that keep the heart of small-town life beating strong.

**SHELBURNE**  
HOME HARDWARE BUILDING CENTRE

**CELEBRATING**  
**40 YEARS**  
**IN SHELBURNE**

**Congratulations Shelburne Free Press!**  
**150 YEARS**

Keeping our community informed and connected!

Next month,  
we're celebrating a milestone of our own,  
and we'd love for you to join us!

1985
2025

Join us for the official lumber cutting ceremony  
**... AUGUST 7TH AT 11AM SHARP ...**

PLUS don't miss our  
**4-Day Sale August 7th – 10th**  
Hundreds of items with HOT deals  
you won't want to miss!

**See you there!**  
Keep in touch - follow us on social media!

**Shelburne Home Hardware Building Centre**

**725 Steeles St, Shelburne, ON, L9V 3M7 • 519-925-3991**

**Congratulations to the**  
**Shelburne Free Press**  
**on your Milestone of 150 years**  
**and Economist**

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110 Centennial Rd Shelburne . 40 Main St W Dundalk

McCarthy Realty Team is Home Town Proud, Supporting Local

# Newspaper history recounted by late FP&E Publisher

The following article is the text of a speech that the Free Press's early owner, "T.F.E.," gave to the Shelburne Rotary Club 35 years ago. The occasion was his required "classification talk." The speech has been edited for clarity.

I am supposed to talk about "Newspapers — Past and Present." It is a pretty big subject to try to do anything with in the time we are supposed to take in these talks.

Untold centuries of slow progress passed before the birth of the first newspaper was possible.

If instead of being born in this age, we had been born way back down IN the ages before the first form of writing — picture writing and hieroglyphics — had been started, I wonder if any of us would have helped in the birth of even picture writing.

From picture writing and hieroglyphics followed the slow growth of alphabets. On stone and marble and on clay tablets and (with the Anglo-Saxon) even on smooth ash boughs, man left his story — before there came the evolution of the written word on parchment. Gold, bronze, tin, leaden plates, ivory, wax, and leather are among the materials on which ancient historical and diplomatic records were inscribed. Then there were the papyrus rolls of Egypt. In Europe, calfskin and other skin materials were used for books in the olden days.

## Paper

Before there could be newspapers, there had to be paper. Paper in its first forms saw its birth long before the invention of printing, although even paper is but a youngster as earthly things go. The first use of paper was, of course, as a writing material, and its origin and history are involved in much obscurity. While it is claimed that it has its origin in China around 200 B.C., in any event, it was known only in the East until the beginning of the 8th century, and paper in Europe first made its appearance in those countries closest to the Orient. The manufacture of paper in Europe was first established in Spain. At first, the paper was entirely made by hand (from vegetable fibres).

The first paper-making machine was invented in 1798. It is only 112 years since the first paper-making machine was put into use on this continent. And it is only 85 years since wood-fibre was first used for this purpose.

Paper was at first used only for writing purposes. Even books were entirely in writing. In the Middle Ages, only priests and learned men knew how to write, for even the highest nobles could not write their own names. The nobles who signed the Magna Carta affixed only their marks. The oldest epistle in the British Archives is one penned by the Bishop of London, 731 A.D.

Shakespeare, in 1623, in one of his plays, put this speech into the mouth of Jake Cade: "Thou has most traitorously corrupted the youth of the realm in erecting a grammar school; and whereas, before, our forefathers had no other books but the score and the tally, thou has caused printing to be used, and, contrary, to the King, his crown and dignity, hast built a paper mill."

## Books

Printed books came before newspapers. These books were printed from engraved wooden blocks. And when movable types were invented, they were first used for printing books.

Sometime in the 1500s, Gutenberg, in Germany, made the first use of movable types in printing his bible.

## The First Journalists

Leading up to the publication of newspapers were newsletters, and the first English journalists were the writers of these newsletters. These journalists were originally the dependents of great men, each employed in keeping his own master or patron well informed, during his absence from the royal court, of all that transpired there. This duty at length grew into a calling. The writer had his periodical subscription list, and, instead of writing a single letter, wrote as many letters as he had customers. This was in the 1500s.

## First English Newspaper

And it was three of these writers of newsletters — Nathaniel Butler, Nicholas Bourne and Thomas Archer, who, in May 1622, issued the first copy of the first English printed newspaper, The Weekly News. Germany beat England to it by six or seven years, and France was nine years behind England. For a lengthy period, only news appeared in the newspapers. Editorials and leading articles did not have their birth until the period 1704-1740.

The first newspapers were all weeklies. 1696 saw the first thrice-a-week newspapers. 1704 saw the birth of the first English daily newspaper, but it was many years later before daily newspapers began to grow in real stature. The London Times dates from 1785-88 and in the early 1800s made the first use of power (steam) for running newspaper presses.

## In the States

Boston, in 1689, was the first American city to have a newspaper. It was 18 years before then that Sir William Berkeley, Governor of Virginia, had piously exclaimed: "Thank God we have neither free school nor printing press, and I hope any not have for a hundred years to come." Maybe the Boston fellows hadn't heard about Sir Billy.

The first issue of the Pennsylvania Gazette of Philadelphia may be of interest to you. Dated December 14, 1728, it contains a paragraph which shows how fast news travelled in those days:

"We have little news of consequence at present, the English Prints being generally stuffed with robberies, cheats, fires, murders, bankruptcies, promotions of some and hangings of others; nor can we expect much better till the vessels arrive in the Spring, when we hope to inform our reader what has been doing in the Court and Cabinet, in the Parliament-House as well as the Sessions-House."

The editor also intimates that the American world and the European are hit by Dr. Wild's lines:

"We are all seized by the Athenian itch; News and New Things do the whole world bewitch."

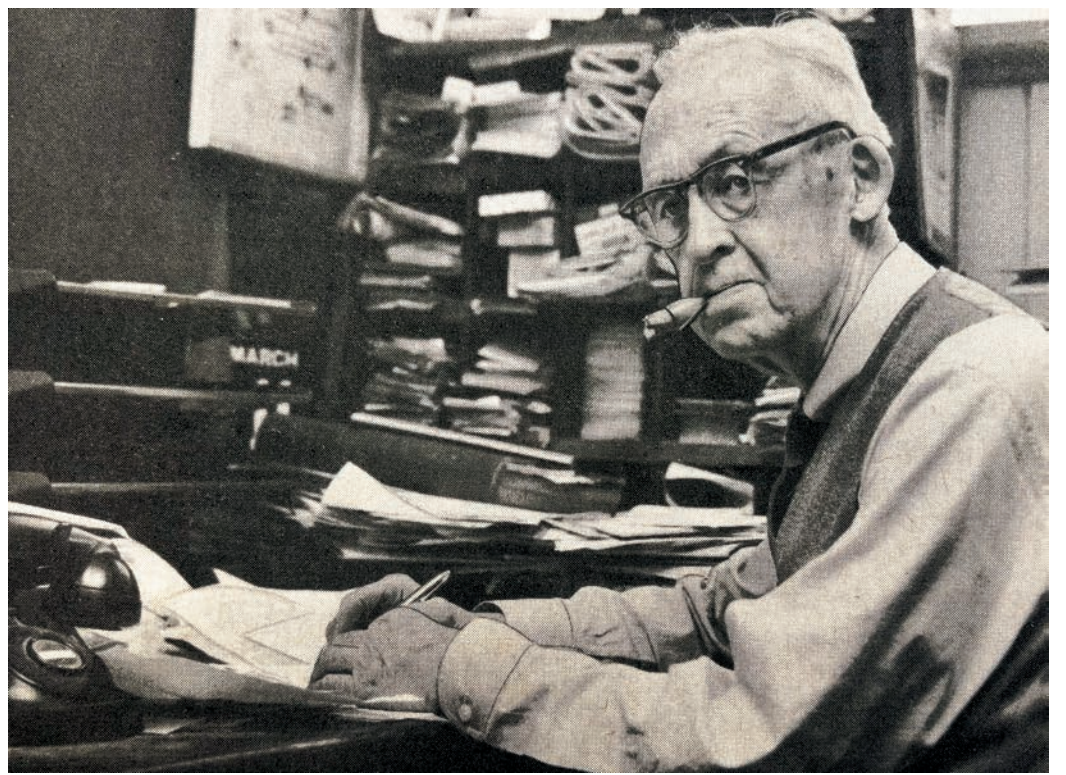
New York had eight daily papers in 1820, but their combined daily circulation was only 10,800, only two of them having as large a circulation as 2,000.

## In Canada

The first copy of the first Canadian newspaper, the Halifax Gazette, was issued at Halifax, N.S., under the date of March 23, 1752.

It was a sheet 8.5 by 15 inches, printed on both sides. If you had time to look closely, you would find the first page is given to foreign news "by the last papers from London by way of Boston," and that while the Gazette was dated March 23, 1752, the items are dated from Sept. 18, 1751, to Jan. 3, 1752.

It may surprise you to hear that in 1786,



**FAMILIAR SCENE:** This was the scene that greeted visitors to The Free Press and Economist for a third of a century. Cigar (usually unlit) in mouth and pen in hand, T.F.E. Claridge edited the paper, handled the books and chatted with the public when he wasn't busy leading the old town band. This picture was taken March 11, 1956, by a Toronto Telegraph photographer as part of an illustrated feature on Shelburne. Note that at the time Shelburne lacked dial telephones. The FP&E number for years was 14. (This image was printed in the May 7, 1975 edition of the Free Press and Economist.)

there were three papers published in Shelburne. But it was at Shelburne, N.S. which was at about that time a very flourishing spot.

The first paper in English in Quebec was printed by a Frenchman and the first paper in Ontario was published by a French-Canadian Louis Roy.

This paper was the Upper Canada Gazette or American Oracle, issued at Niagara in 1793. Niagara was then the seat of government in Upper Canada. When the seat of government was moved to York (now Toronto) in 1799, the Gazette moved with it.

And it was in Toronto, in the issue before Christmas, 1801, that the editor of the Gazette complained:

"It is much to be lamented that communication between Niagara and this town is so irregular and infrequent. Opportunities now do not often occur of receiving the American papers form our correspondents and thereby prevents us from laying before our readers the state of politics in Europe."

Niagara was still the avenue of intelligence from the outer world, and the entry point of commerce for York, and the dependence of little York upon its rival was manifested about this time in the forlorn aspect of the Gazette, which had run short of paper and was reduced to using blue wrapping paper for six weeks in the winter while navigation was closed.

## Toronto's First Daily

The first daily in Toronto was the Telegraph, which appeared in July 1840, the first issue being a sheet of four pages, about six by eight inches.

It was nine years later that that, and but 90 years ago (1849) that Reuter began the operation in Paris, by way of a pigeon service and the telegraph, of the first news-transmitting agency. At first, the then all-powerful London Times would have nothing to do with Reuters' new-fangled idea. Now, of course, news-collecting agencies cover the globe.

## In Politics

While newspapermen in Canada have not largely as a class gone into politics to a greater extent than writing political editorials, for which they never (public opinion to the contrary notwithstanding) got very

much of a chance at Governmental "feed-bags," yet, looming large in Canada's political annals we find such names as Hon. Joseph Howe, Nova Scotia's statesman and journalist; William Lyon Mackenzie, leader of the rebellion he afterwards regretted; Hon. George Brown, founder of the Toronto Globe and one of the Fathers of Confederation; Sir Mackenzie Bowell, of the Belleville Intelligencer, Prime Minister of Canada in 1895-96; and General Sir Sam Hughes, a Canadian minister of Militia — probably Canada's most colourful Minister of Militia.

## Editors of Prominence

Among newspapermen who have loomed large in the life of Toronto, to take that city as only one illustration of change that I believe fairly represents conditions in other Canadian cities, we find not so many years back such outstanding men as E.E. Sheppard, of the old Toronto news, later founder of Saturday Night; Billy McLean of the Toronto World; John Ross Robertson of the Telegram; Sir John Willison of the Globe and later of the Evening News, who as a young chap clerked in a store in the Mansfield area.

Today, how many are there who can name the chief editors of the Toronto papers? We know more about Gordon Sinclair and Greg Clark.

## Other changes

There are other changes. The majority of men who broke into the daily newspaper game in those days were their own chief editorial writers.

But now we find the Southams owning a chain of dailies.

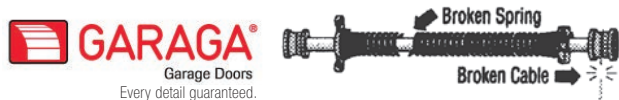
Sir Joseph Flavelle set the example of a rich man buying daily as a toy when he purchased the Toronto News from E.E. Sheppard and took over Willison from the Globe. After getting tired of throwing money into a sinkhole, however, he threw up the sponge.

Then, after the Riordan interests had become tired of losing money with the Mail-Empire, millionaire Killam took over. Millionaire William Wright's taking over the Mail-Empire and the Globe to form the Globe and Mail was made possible because millionaire Killam of the Mail-Empire and the Jaffray interests of the Globe were each tired of losing propositions.

Continued on Page B10

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# The history and legacy of two Shelburne-based community events

## Shelburne District Fair

With nearly 160 years of history, the Shelburne Fall Fair is the longest-standing event in the community.

The first meetings to organize an agricultural society in the community were held in September of 1867 at resident John Mason's Tavern in Masonville. The newly established organization was named the Melancthon Agricultural Society, with John Mills, then township clerk for Melancthon, elected as the first president.

The inaugural fall fair was held on the roadside in Masonville in October of 1868 as a one-day event.

The fair would expand to a two-day event in the mid-1880s, when it moved to the farm of George Charters, which also served as the grounds of the Shelburne Turf (horse racing).

tending the fair in 1958.

Over the years, the Shelburne Fall Fair has been known under many monikers, including the Melancthon Agricultural Society, the Dufferin Central Fair and the Shelburne District Fair.

The Shelburne District Agricultural Society celebrated the 150th anniversary of the local fall fair in 2017 with a "Pioneer Way to Modern Days" theme, celebrating the history of the long-standing event.

The Shelburne District Agricultural Society continues to host the fall fair at the Shelburne Fairgrounds, located at 377 William Street, on the second weekend following Labour Day.

## Shelburne Fiddle Fest

After being in the community for more than a decade, the Rotary Club of Shelburne began looking for a project that would involve and benefit the community and, hopefully, would become an annual event.

For several months and meetings, a number of ideas were brought forward from street dances to amateur contests, but one subject persistently stood out – an old-time fiddle contest.

Thus, the establishment of the Canadian Open Old Time Fiddlers' Contest.

The first event was held in 1951 and featured over 150 amateur and professional

fiddlers with competitions in various categories, including open, novelty, duet, and age-based divisions.

In his book "History of Shelburne," John Rose reported that contests poured in from all corners of the country to take part in the inaugural event. He noted that many of the prize winners went on to have successful careers in entertainment.

Fiddle legend, Scott Woods, known as "The Fergus Fiddler" and "The Flippin'

Fiddler," has close ties to the Shelburne community through the Olde Time Fiddle Contest. His great-grandfather was an original top-three finalist in the Olde Time Fiddle Contest, and his father also competed in the local fiddle contest. Woods himself began competing in the contest in 1979 and continued through to 2004.

In 2016, the fiddle contest was renamed the Heritage Music Festival to reflect a broader range of musical and cultural activities beyond fiddling.

The event experienced significant challenges in the early 2020s due to the global COVID-19 pandemic and reduced attendance.

The Rotary Club of Shelburne made the decision not to continue with the event in 2023, ending the festival's more than 70 years of history.



**SWEET SOUNDS:** Bill Armstrong, right, executive of the CBC presents the championship trophy to Rudy Meeks at the close of the 25th Anniversary Old Tyme Fiddle Contest on Saturday night. (This image was printed in the August 13, 1975 edition of the Free Press and Economist.)



**ALL NIGHT LONG:** The stage was jammed at 7:30 a.m. Saturday morning for the traditional fiddlers jamboree at the end of the playdowns. A good crowd was still on hand and still in good spirits. A few couples formed a square in the audience and one or two couples cleared away chairs for a polka session. (This image was printed in the August 13, 1975 edition of the Free Press and Economist.)

In 1888, Simon Jelly, the older brother of William Jelly and one of the original family members to settle in town, gave 16 acres of his farm, which to this day serves as the location for the Shelburne Fairgrounds.

The Shelburne Fall Fair has had its fair share of sensational moments, such as John Jelly displaying and demonstrating the first "talking machine," known as a gramophone, with a 10-cent admission, and Prime Minister John Diefenbaker at-



**FLASH BACK:** Shelburne Fair Grounds — about 1910. Note the wooden fence in the infield and the absence of the horse stable (the present stable was erected in 1916). That old wooden judges stand was replaced in 1958 on the occasion of a visit to the Fair, the Prime Minister of Canada, The Rt. Hon. John George Diefenbaker. Those rotting seats seen in the right hand corner were erected by John Jelly in 1887, for the 24th of May Celebrations of the 50th year of the reign of Queen Victoria. (This image was printed in the September 10, 1975 edition of the Free Press and Economist.)

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## Shelburne PRIMARY EYECARE

Shelburne Primary Eye Care Celebrates 20 years with Amy and welcomes new team members Dr. Grewal and Satya.

Shelburne Primary Eye Care is proud to celebrate a very special milestone—20 incredible years with our team member, Amy!

The entire staff gathered to honour Amy's two decades of dedicated service. Known for her warmth, professionalism, and unwavering commitment to our patients, Amy has been a cornerstone of the clinic since the very beginning. Her presence has made a lasting impact on both patients and staff, and we are truly grateful for all she brings to our team.

As part of the celebration, the team posed for a commemorative photo—surrounded by cake, laughter, and heartfelt memories.

We're also excited to welcome two new additions to our team. **Dr. Grewal**, who joins us as an optometrist, brings fresh expertise and energy to our growing practice. **Satya**, our new optometric assistant, adds enthusiasm and a dedication to patient care that aligns perfectly with our clinic values.

At Shelburne Primary Eye Care, we are proud to offer a **holistic approach to eye care, with a strong focus on primary care, vision therapy, and ocular surface disease management.** We remain committed to providing exceptional, personalized care to every patient who walks through our doors.

**Congratulations to Amy—and a warm welcome to Dr. Grewal and Satya! We're excited for all that the future holds.**

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# A METEORITE: Lands in Dufferin County, bursts with a sound as of booming canon and, naturally, excites much interest

For our 150th anniversary we'd like to reflect back on some of the significant stories that happened in the community, such as the time a meteorite struck Dufferin County.

The following article ran in the Aug. 18, 1904 edition of the Shelburne Economist.

A few minutes after eight o'clock Saturday evening last the people of this section who happened to be out of doors at the time were startled by a strange flash, as of long continued lightning, followed by a booming as of the discharge of heavy artillery.

The cause of the unusual sight and sounds was a meteorite, which had taken a notion to visit this earth of ours and was so specially attracted by the beauties of Dufferin County that it decided to make its resting place here.

The sky being overcast with clouds a good view of the descent of the phenomenon was not obtainable at Shelburne. Farther north, however a full view was to be had of it, and spectators describe it as having exploded while high up in the air, the pieces flying in all directions. It was this bursting that caused the sounds as of artillery fire.

Only one piece of the strange visitor has, so far as we have heard at time of writing been found. It is a 14-pound chunk which struck the ground within a couple of feet of the verandah on the residence of John Shields, about three miles from Shelburne and Horning's Mills, spattering earth up against the side of the house and imbed-

ding itself to the depth of 18 inches.

The stone was dug out of the ground on Monday morning and brought to town, and it has since been on exhibition in the window of Jelly and White's hardware store, where it has been viewed by a whole shoal of people.

Many are the theories that have been heard advanced as to the origin of the phenomenon. One theory credits a waterspout with bringing it up from the bottom of the sea and carrying it up into the air to wander around. Another gives a volcano credit. Some refuse to believe that it fell at all, saying it is a stone that was struck by lightning.

However, as meteorites are by no means a new thing, and so many saw this one fall, and so many more who did not see it fall saw the light it cast and heard the detonation made when it burst, there would seem to be no occasion to call in questioning its genuineness.

Many have seen meteorites in their passage before (notably what is known as the Collingwood one, several years ago), but we have not beard of any in this section who before had the privilege of seeing or hearing one burst.

Although the terms comet and meteor are often confused by those of us who are not of a scientific turn of mind, there is a wide difference between them.

A comet is defined as "a heavenly body consisting of a coma surrounding a bright star-like nucleus, with a nebulous train or tail, often of great length." Comets, so the scientists tell us, move about the sun in very eccentric or parabolic orbits, often coming

from immense stellar distances and visiting our system but once. Some, however, revolve round the sun in regular periods, ranging from three or four years to hundreds of years.

A meteor is defined as a "sudden luminous phenomenon, as of a star or bright body in rapid motion through the air, produced by a small mass of matter from celestial spaces striking the air with planetary velocity, and suffering heating, dissipation, or combustion: when not very brilliant, called a shooting star." It has been calculated that the average number of meteors which traverse the atmosphere daily, and which are large enough to be visible to the naked eye on a dark clear night, is no less than 7,500,000. The meteor also leaves a bright tail or trail like the comet. Several varieties of meteorites are known: 1—Metallic nickeliferous iron, exhibiting, when polished and etched, the peculiar crystalline markings called Widmannstättian figures; 2—A spongy

mass of iron containing olivite and other minerals in its vesicles; 3—A stony mass with disseminated particles of iron; 4—A stony mass without iron.

Meteorites usually show a pitted surface with a fused crust, caused by the heat developed in their rapid passage through the earth's atmosphere.

Oliver W. Huntington, writing in 1893, said: "From prehistoric times down to 1893 we have a record of about 520 meteorites, of which number 142 fell within the territory of the United States, 37 of which were seen to fall."



FROM THE SKY: Museum of Dufferin Archives Collection P-3476 E5 Meteorite, Residence of John Shields, Melancthon, 1904.

Tait, in his "Recent Advances," lecture ten, says: "A great astronomical discovery of modern times is, that meteorites, the so-called falling stars..... follow a perfectly definite path in space, and that this track is in each case the path of a known comet."

A not unnatural assumption would be that the meteorites that reach the earth are chunks of matter that break away from the tails of comets and, in striking out for "fresh worlds- to conquer" run up against our own planet.

## The history of newspapers

Continued from Page B8

### With the Weeklies

Changed conditions have also been responsible for a great number of amalgamations that have taken place among the weekly newspapers.

When the Free Press and later the Economist were established in Shelburne, and if still a third plant had been put in, the combined cost of the three plants would not have been more than the cost of one

machine in the Free Press and Economist plant — the Linotype machine.

### Newspaper troubles

Of course, the newspaper game, like all others, is full of troubles. One of them is the typographical error.

Verily, there is more joy among 999 with the discovery of a typographical error than there is with one who will say, "well, that's a pretty good paper this week."

If I had the time, I suppose I could quote

a barrel of typographical errors, but I will only note a couple of recent ones.

Not so long ago, a paper down in Missouri had this one:

"James Wilson, Jr., takes the cake, musically, around these parts. He can make a piano talk, twirls a couple of mean sticks on a snare drum and also plays a B-flat corset pretty well."

And it was when the King and Queen were here that the Vancouver Sun, describing the Royal Visit civic luncheon in

that city, under the sub-head Resplendent Waiters, referred to the "red-livered Royal Butlers."

Possibly the saddest typographical error that stands out in my memory happened at the Mail-Empire a number of years ago. It was in the account of a fast and furious hockey game. The reporter had told of a goalie having to face a veritable avalanche of shots on goal.

And the typewriter got an "i" instead of an "o" in "shots."

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# The people behind the pages

A lot of work goes into producing a fresh edition of the Shelburne Free Press week after week.

It takes several people, working in various roles, to get the paper to our readers each Thursday.

As we celebrate our 150th edition of the Shelburne Free Press, we'd like to take some time to introduce the people behind the scenes who make it possible.

## Douglas Rowe

As the general manager of the Shelburne Free Press, Doug oversees the operations of the newspaper. While he's worked in similar roles within the newspaper industry for over 30 years, he became the general manager of the Shelburne Free Press in 2017. Doug oversees several other newspapers in Ontario and provides dynamic leadership to his team. Outside of Doug's work life, he's known as a grill master, always trying out new sauces and rubs. He even owns his own small BBQ sauce business with his wife Kris. Doug also enjoys spending time with his daughter Ashley, who runs a business of her own, The New Leaf Collective, which is focused on digital marketing.

## Sam Odrowski

Sam joined the Shelburne Free Press team as editor in 2020. He spends his days writing, editing and assigning stories to reporters. Originally from Port Perry, Ont., he studied journalism at Durham College in Oshawa and graduated in 2017. Sam completed an internship with the Scugog Standard as part of his education and was hired on as a reporter. He worked there for just under a year before moving nearly 1,600 kilometres away from his home to work at the Fort Frances Times in North-western Ontario. Sam worked for the Fort Frances Times from 2018 to 2020 as a reporter, before relocating closer to home to work a reporting position at the New Tecumseth Times. He worked there for several months before being promoted to his current position as the editor of the Shelburne Free Press and Orangeville Citizen. In 2022, he also became editor for the New Tecumseth Times. Sam has a passion for community news and enjoys sharing positive stories with his readers. When

he isn't tied up preparing for each week's newspaper, he enjoys playing tennis and is a volunteer with Durham College's Journalism Program Advisory Committee as chair. Sam also owns Dufferin DJs, a local DJ company that provides sound, lighting and MCing services for corporate events, celebrations and weddings.

## Janine Taylor

Janine is the production manager of the Shelburne Free Press and creative director of Our Routes Magazine. She joined the Free Press team in October 2023 and brings over 20 years of experience to the role. Much of Janine's day is spent making advertisements, laying out content on the pages of the Free Press, and bringing fresh ideas to the team. She graduated from Sheridan College's Illustration and Design program in 2002 and began working in the newspaper industry shortly after. Since then, she's never looked back and has held many roles related to newspaper production over the last 21 years. When she's not busy designing the latest edition of the newspaper, she enjoys playing women's softball and giving back to the community by fundraising for local charities. Janine and her partner also has a two-year-old Havanese dog, Walter, who keeps their hands full outside of the office.

## Debbie Freeman

The Shelburne Free Press's office and sales manager, Debbie Freeman, has been with the newspaper since 2013. She's the first face people see when they walk into the office, or the first voice they hear when calling the newspaper. Much of Debbie's days are focused on selling advertising and maintaining client relationships. She also spends her Thursdays taking care of distribution for the Shelburne Free Press, ensuring the paper reaches readers across the community. Whether she's assisting a local business in promoting its services or helping a reader sign up for deliveries, her focus is on serving the community. When Debbie's out of the office, she spends her time volunteering with the Shelburne Legion and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Dufferin and District. She also enjoys horseback riding, swimming in her backyard pool and going camping with her family.



**THE PEOPLE:** The Shelburne Free Press wouldn't be what it is today without its spectacular team. Back row, from left, is Douglas Rowe (general manager), Janine Taylor (production manager), Paula Brown (general reporter), Brian Lockhart (sports reporter). The front row, from left, is Carolyn Dennis (billing clerk), Sam Odrowski (editor) and Debbie Freeman (office and sales manager).

## Paula Brown

Paula is a full-time reporter and photographer with the Shelburne Free Press and Orangeville Citizen. She covers a wide range of topics, including municipal politics, arts, the environment, human interest, health, crime and court news. A lifelong resident of Orangeville, Paula joined the Orangeville Citizen in 2019 as an intern while completing her journalism degree. Following a three-month internship, she joined the Citizen team as a freelance reporter covering crime and courts. In 2020, Paula graduated with an Honours Bachelor of Journalism from Humber College and became a full-time reporter at the Shelburne Free Press. This past June, she marked five years with the Free Press and Orangeville Citizen. Outside of Paula's work with the Free Press, she's an avid baseball player and a member of a local reading club.

25 years in the newspaper industry, she is committed to supporting the creation of community news. When Carolyn's not busy taking care of accounts receivable, she enjoys spending time with her three children and nine grandchildren.

## Brian Lockhart

Brian is a columnist and sports reporter for the Shelburne Free Press, first joining the team in 2010. He brings 23 years of journalism experience to the role and contributes to the Orangeville Citizen's sports page each week while working as a full-time reporter for the New Tecumseth Times. Brian has a strong passion for his work and enjoys meeting people in the different communities he reports on. Over the years, he has written or photographed just about everything you can imagine. In his spare time, Brian enjoys photography, producing videos, and making or recording music. He is also a script writer with one play already produced and another coming to the stage in the fall. Brian also enjoys spending time with his daughter and family. He can occasionally be found at the Woodbine Racetrack, where he can predict a winner almost 20 per cent of the time.

## Carolyn Dennis

Carolyn holds many titles within the Shelburne Free Press's family of newspapers, first joining the Orangeville Citizen in 1999 as classifieds manager. At the Shelburne Free Press, she takes care of invoicing and helps to create a cheerful working environment for its employees. With over

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