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VOL. 1 • ISSUE 7

Friday, September 11, 2026

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NATALIE HAMILTON

Reporter

More residents in Port Hope and Cobourg will be able to include fresh chicken in their meal plans and ultimately on their dinner tables following a grant received by Northumberland Fare Share Food Banks (NFSFB).

NFSFB, which operates a location in Port Hope and Cobourg and serves residents of Northumberland County, recently announced it is a recipient of the Chicken Farmers of Ontario's (CFO) food bank donation program called CFO Cares.

NFSFB, along with officials from CFO, Feed Ontario, and Northumberland-Peterborough South MPP David Piccini, recently gathered at 700 D'Arcy St. in Cobourg to recognize the donation of 1,200 kilograms of local chicken.

"Receiving 1,200 kilograms of Ontario-farmed chicken equates to about 11,000 meals for local residents using our services," Meghan Flindall, NFSFB executive director, told the Independent.

"The impact of that is profound, especially as Maple Leaf packages it for ease of distribution at Ontario food banks. Nutritious proteins like chicken are one of the most in-demand menu items we offer," said Flindall.

The CFO's "CFO Cares: Farmers to Food Banks" donation program aims to ensure that family-farmed,

CONTINUED TO PAGE 9



Paul Eddy – a former 30-year veteran of the Cobourg Police Service – is being remembered for his dedication to service and community. He passed away at age 84. /Cobourg Police Service photo

Paul Eddy 'will be remembered with great respect'

NATALIE HAMILTON

Reporter

Members of the Cobourg Police Service (CPS) joined Paul Eddy's family and friends at a recent celebration of life in Cobourg to honour the force's former deputy police chief.

Eddy passed away on Thursday, Aug. 27 at Ed's House Northumberland Hospice Care Centre in Cobourg.

He was 84 years old.

Eddy dedicated more than 30 years of his life to policing and to serving the Cobourg community, CPS chief Chris Leather told the Independent.

"Throughout his career, he earned the respect of his colleagues and the community through his professionalism, integrity and unwavering commitment to public safety," said Leather.

Eddy officially retired in 1996.

"A career in policing is ultimately about service, and

CONTINUED TO PAGE 3

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Town of Cobourg News

September 11, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

Cobourg Provides Update on Voters List Revision



The Town of Cobourg Legislative Services Division would like to advise that the list of all persons entitled to be electors for the municipal elections in the Town of Cobourg has been prepared by the Municipal Clerk's Office.

All electors should ensure that their names and relevant information are correct on the Voters List. You may verify and check if you are on the Voters List by visiting the Town's new Voter Lookup tool, available at **CobourgVotes.ca/VoterLookup**. Click the "Check You Are On the Voters List" button and fill in the form to confirm, add or update your information.

You may also contact the Clerk's Office in person during regular office hours, and on October 26 from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., 2026, or by contacting us by phone (905-372-4301 ext. 9520) or email (cobourgvotes@cobourg.ca). Please note, the elector will need to provide photo proof of identity and residence.

Please visit CobourgVotes.ca for additional information on the 2026 Municipal Election.

Legislative and Clerk's Office

Victoria Hall, 55 King Street West, Cobourg, ON, K9A 2M2

New Voter Information Centre

In addition to being available at the Clerk's Office, beginning September 15, 2026, Cobourg Election Staff will be available every Tuesday and Thursday until Voting Day (October 26) at the Cobourg Public Library, Records and Archives Office (200 Ontario Street) to answer resident questions and assist with updating to the Voters' List.

Feel free to drop-in and meet with staff on the following dates and times:

- Tuesdays (September 15, 22, 29, and October 6, 13): 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Thursdays (September 17, 24, and October 1, 8, 15): 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Cobourg Election Staff will also be available on the following Saturdays at these locations:

- September 19: 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. | Farmers Market, Experience Cobourg Tourism Hub
- September 26: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. | Cobourg Public Library, Records and Archives Office
- October 3: 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. | Farmers Market, Experience Cobourg Tourism Hub

Voter Instruction Letter



Your Voter Instruction Letter (VIL) will arrive to you in the mail the week of October 5.

Your VIL includes your Personal Identification Number (PIN) and the web address to access the voting portal.

Didn't Receive Your VIL?



If you haven't received your VIL by October 16, please visit Victoria Hall or a Voter Help Centre during their hours of operation with a piece of photo identification including proof of address to make sure you are registered to vote and to receive your PIN.

 Visit **CobourgVotes.ca** to learn more about the Election

Development Division Temporary Location Change

From Monday, September 14 to Thursday, September 17, 2026, Development Division staff will be working out of the Venture13 Innovation and Entrepreneurship Centre, located at 739 D'Arcy Street, instead of Victoria Hall, due to office renovations.

During this time, Development Division staff can be reached in person at Venture13, by phone at 905-372-1005, or by email at planninginfo@cobourg.ca.

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SEPT
23

LEVEL UP! Ontario - Open House
Cobourg Community Centre
750 D'Arcy Street, Cobourg, ON
3 to 7:30 p.m.

SEPT
24

Strikeup: Signature Series - Make Your Mark (Live Viewing Party)
Venture13, 739 D'Arcy St, Cobourg ON
1 to 3 p.m.

For more information, visit: InvestCobourg.ca



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Next Council Meeting

Wednesday, September 23, 2026 at 6 p.m.
calendar.cobourg.ca/council



'A man who understood the true meaning of community'

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

one of the greatest legacies an officer can leave is inspiring others to follow that same path," said Leather. "We are especially proud to see that legacy continue through his grandson Const. Jeremy Eddy, who now carries on his family's tradition of service with the CPS."

Leather said on behalf of the members and staff of the CPS, he extends his "deepest condolences" to Eddy's family, friends, former colleagues and all those who knew the former deputy chief and those who served alongside him.

"His contribution to our community and to the CPS will be remembered with great respect," the chief said.

In a town release, officials also noted that in recognition of his distinguished service, Eddy was awarded the Police Exemplary Service Medal by the Governor General of Canada in 1985 and received the First Bar to the medal in 1996, marking his three decades of service.

Eddy was the beloved husband of his first wife, the late Betty "Boo" Eddy, and his second wife, Cash Eddy, his obituary reads. He was the cherished father of Don (Phyllis) Eddy, Scott (Sharon) Eddy and Wendy Smith and stepfather to Randy (Jenny) Richardson, Dan (Tammy) Richardson and Greg (Wendy) Richardson. He was also the loving grandfather of Jessica (Jeremy Savoie), Jeremy (Jessica Wynn) Eddy, Christine Eddy, Ben (Toriann) Eddy, Dana Smith and Erin Smith, and a great-grandfather to Anna, Oliver, Grayson and Janessa.

His obituary also stated he was the dear brother of Mary Bertin (David) and broth-

er-in-law to Judy Eddy. Eddy was predeceased by his siblings Jim and Pete.

"He will be dearly missed by his cousin Garnett."

In addition, Eddy will be missed by many nieces and nephews.

Town of Cobourg Mayor Lucas Cleveland said "our community has lost a pillar" with Eddy's passing.

"Beyond the badge, Paul was a man who understood the true meaning of community," said Cleveland, in a social media post.

"He didn't just serve Cobourg; he built a legacy of service that became a cornerstone of his family. Seeing his children and grandchildren continue that commitment to our town is a testament to the values Paul lived by every day.

"He showed us all that service isn't just a job – it's a responsibility we owe to one another."

Cleveland said he'll remember Eddy for "the quiet strength" he brought to the community and "the example he set for all of us who strive to make Cobourg a better place. He leaves behind a family who loved him deeply and a town that is better for his presence."

Eddy's celebration of life, which encompassed words of remembrance, occurred on Sunday, Sept. 6, at MacCoubrey Funeral Home in Cobourg.

Cleveland also requested the Town of Cobourg lower its flags to half-staff Sunday in recognition of his lifetime of service during the funeral.

A livestream of the words of remembrance is available on the funeral home's website at www.maccoubrey.com.

Investigation continues after alleged assault in Cobourg

INDEPENDENT STAFF

The Cobourg Police Service says an investigation is continuing into an alleged assault last weekend.

According to police, at about 2:40 a.m. on Sunday, Sept. 6, 2026, an individual showed up at the police station and reported being assaulted in the area of McGill Street and King Street East.

"Through the investigation, officers learned that a verbal interaction escalated, and the individual was struck by an unknown object," said police, adding the individual was then sent to hospital for treatment of their injuries and released.

"Police attended the area and identified several individuals who were present at the time of the incident," said CPS, adding police also secured and processed the scene with help from Durham Regional Police Service's scenes of crime unit.

Police allege they seized evidence, including "a long object" believed to have been used in the assault. However, at press deadline, police said no suspect had been identified.

CPS' criminal investigation bureau is

still investigating, and there were canvassing efforts for witnesses and video footage in the area earlier this week.

"Based on the information currently available at this time, investigators believe this to be an isolated incident, and there is no known ongoing risk to public safety," said police, in a release issued following the alleged incident.

The Independent reached out to CPS following the release and ahead of our print deadline twice for potential updates regarding this investigation, and a spokesperson said there were no further updates for this case at those times.

At press deadline, investigators were continuing to ask anyone with information or video footage from the time of the alleged incident to reach out to Cobourg police at 905-372-6821.

Alternatively, citizens can also submit anonymous tips through Crime Stoppers online (stopcrimehere.ca) or by calling 1-800-222-8477. Tipsters through Crime Stoppers may be eligible for a cash reward and do not have to testify in court.

These were the latest details available at press deadline.



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Connect with the latest municipal information including upcoming meetings, events, and important notices.



Meet the Candidates Running in the 2026 Municipal Election

porthope.ca/candidates

Visit our 'Meet the Candidates' webpage to learn more about the certified candidates. This includes candidate profiles, contact information, links to candidate websites and social media pages, and platform messages (where provided by the candidate). This page offers electors one convenient place to review candidate information, learn about their priorities, and find out how to contact them. The election is next month. Eligible electors can vote online or by telephone from October 16 to October 26.

Hydrant Flushing

porthope.ca/water-and-sewer

The fall Hydrant Maintenance Program is underway on weekdays until October 23. Avoid doing your laundry while the flushing is taking place in your area as rust can occur:

West of Ganaraska River
Morning: 7 a.m. to 12 p.m.
East of Ganaraska River
Afternoon: 12:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Name that Plow!

engage.porthope.ca/name-that-plow

Back by popular demand, submit your most creative snowplow name ideas by September 25.

Volunteer Firefighter Recruitment

porthope.ca/careers

Looking for a way to give back, challenge yourself and make a real impact? Fire & Emergency Services is now accepting applications for Volunteer Firefighters. Be part of a great team that protects and serves our community. Apply before September 18.

Upcoming Events or Meetings:

porthope.ca/calendar

SEPT

15

Council Meeting

The next Council meeting takes place Tuesday, September 15 at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers (Town Hall). Please note: this is the final Council Meeting before the Municipal Election. To review the agenda visit: porthope.ca/agenda

SEPT

25

Property Tax Due Date

Payments can be made through our Virtual Town Hall portal, through your bank by phone or online banking, or by cheque, debit, or cash at Town Hall during regular business hours. For more details, visit porthope.ca/tax

Stay Connected: Subscribe to our eNewsletters at porthope.ca/subscribe



EDITORIAL

My memories from Sept. 11, 2001



STEWART GRANT

Publisher

Long before I was in the newspaper business, I still wrote a lot of things down and kept a journal.

Social media was not around yet, but lengthy emails to friends and family were a thing, especially for me living on an island away from home. On Sept. 11, 2001, I was a 27-year-old living in Bermuda and working as a chartered accountant for Marsh, an insurance company. My wife Laurie and I were hosting her parents Gary and Marg, who were visiting us at our island home, and we were relieved that Hurricane Erin, the first Atlantic hurricane of 2001, had passed by Bermuda on Sept. 9 without incident.

On Sept. 11, 2001, my parents, Murray and June, were back home in St. Marys while my sister Lori was living in Norway where she was working in finance with General Electric.

I wrote them the following email on the evening of Sept. 11 as I reflected on the horrific events. I just wanted to share this email to take you back 25 years to the thoughts of a regular guy in his 20s living through this when it happened. It's amazing how when I re-type this email all these years later how the feelings come flooding back.

Sept. 11, 2001, 8:45 a.m. Eastern time, 9:45 am Atlantic time. I was sitting at my desk when Tom White walked by and told me the news – the World Trade Center had been hit by two airplanes. That's where I was when the news came. As my internet was down, I called Laurie at work so I could hear the broadcast from her TV over the phone lines to get more details on this shocking news.

Following our talk, the next wave of news came around – the Pentagon had also been hit. We at Marsh gathered in the meeting room where we watched the unbelievable news come in on ABC and CBS. For the balance of the morning, we silently stood and sat in shock as the pictures came across the screen. Then at about 12, there was a gathering in the training room where we prayed for world peace and had a moment of silence for the dead – about six or seven people got up and prayed aloud. This is when I felt saddest, thinking not only of

those who died today, but also about what this attack may mean on a grander scale.

Like the Challenger explosion in 1986, like the Oklahoma City bombing in 1995, and like the Kennedy assassination in 1963, this unfortunately will forever be a moment captured in time; a moment where everyone knows where they were when it happened.

Somehow though, this is scarier than all the other examples above. This was something out of a movie, something surreal – the first half of Independence Day comes to mind. Hopefully, this is not a sign of things to come. Hopefully, the terrorist actions' which are now common in places like Jerusalem have not permanently found their way into our lives. Hopefully, we do not travel in fear of being in the wrong place at the wrong time. Hopefully, this doesn't start a chain of

events that leads us into World War III.

The amazing thing is, although we are living in Bermuda, Canada, and Norway, we will find that none of us are unaffected by this tragedy.

I probably know people that died today. The Marsh headquarters were in the World Trade Center – floors 95 to 100. Last month, I met in person a couple people from the Marsh N.Y. office, including one woman who I've spoken with on 10-15 occasions and gotten to know. I hope she was out of the office today.

The largest companies in the world have offices in the World Trade Center. Marsh, Deloitte & Touche, and Arthur Anderson are just the ones I know for sure. Some 50,000 or so work in the World Trade Center I've been told, so I'm sure we all know someone who knows someone who was there today.

Once we get over the terrible loss of the people who died, we will be left to deal with the consequences – the emotional impact on the survivor; the impact on the national psyche, and the changes in our lives as a result of this. Travel will definitely be impacted, as we will see increased lines at borders, customs, et cetera, due to increased searches, questioning, et cetera. People of certain races are going to be the subject of constant scrutiny just because of their skin colour – for them it might be very difficult.

Well, I don't know what else to say ... I'm probably not thinking clearly anyway. I just wanted to get in touch with my family today and reflect a bit on what has happened. This is not just another news story that captures our interest for awhile, this is very sadly a day in which we have perhaps seen a significant turning point in world history.

Quote of the Week

"Changing the map obviously doesn't change the world. But correcting a representation that distorts it is already an act of truth."

- French Foreign Minister Jean-Noël Barrot said on X following the United Nations General Assembly's vote on Sept. 4, 2026 to endorse a new Equal Earth world map instead of the traditional Mercator map.

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Funded by the Government of Canada.
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West Northumberland
Independent Guiding Principles

1. Everyone has a story
2. The news should be free for all to enjoy
3. Good news beats bad news
4. A Newspaper should be a community effort (contribute to your local paper!)
5. Newspapers document history
6. Newspapers strengthen communities
7. Advertisers, big or small, should profit from their ads (meaning sensible ad rates)
8. Newspapers should be locally-owned and operated

NHH Foundation announces old Hollywood theme for gala

Tickets on sale Sept. 16, proceeds this year to support breast healthcare



Ticket sales kick-off on Wednesday, Sept. 16 for the Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH) Foundation's 2026 'Singin' in the Rain: Hollywood Style gala.' /NHH Foundation photo

INDEPENDENT STAFF

Residents can help improve local breast healthcare at Northumberland Hills Hospital (NHH) by "Singin' in the Rain."

Ticket sales kick-off on Wednesday, Sept. 16 for the NHH Foundation's 2026 "Singin' in the Rain: Hollywood Style gala."

Money raised from the fundraiser, which is on Saturday, Nov. 7, will support four key investments at the hospital to help modernize breast healthcare for local patients, the foundation has announced.

Earlier this year, organizers announced the gala will take place at the LiUNA Local 183 Lifelong Learning Centre in Cobourg, which is located at 560 Dodge St. The event aims to build on the success of the "elevated cocktail" format introduced in 2025.

"Our dedicated cabinet of volunteers are working to plan an elegant evening for guests, embracing the glam-

our and excitement of old Hollywood," said Rhonda Cunningham, NHH foundation CEO, in a recent release. "While the theme may be timeless, behind it is a very modern vision – bringing the latest equipment and innovations in breast healthcare to our community."

The foundation is looking to modernize NHH's breast health program with equipment including a new 3D mammography unit, an ultrasound machine, a bone mineral density scanner, and wire-free breast tissue localization technology.

"Together, with returning and new gala guests, we will celebrate the elegance of the past while investing in advanced technology for the future," said Cunningham. "These investments will support earlier diagnosis, improved patient comfort, and better outcomes for patients and families facing breast cancer in our community."

Tickets are \$250 per person and will be available online at www.NHHGala.ca starting at 12:30 p.m. Wednesday.

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RAYMOND JAMES®

DATE & TIME:
September 22, 2026
6 p.m - 7 p.m

LOCATION:
Port Hope Library
31 Queen Street Port Hope, Ontario

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WEEKEND QUIZ

By Jake Grant

1. Which animal has fingerprints that are so similar to humans they can confuse forensic investigators?
2. Which country consumes the most chocolate per person each year?
3. What is the largest moon in the Solar System?
4. What is the only continent with no active volcanoes?
5. What is the only metal that is liquid at room temperature?
6. Which famous scientist developed the three laws of motion?
7. What does UN stand for?
8. What was Dolly Parton's middle name?
9. Which animal's egg case is often called a "mermaid's purse"?
10. A tax or duty to be paid on a particular class of imports or exports is known as a ____?

This week's answers are found on pg. 26

Need help navigating the coming election?

SARAH HYATT

Editor/reporter

If you're wondering if you're on the voters' list, about voter instruction letters or in-person voter help centres, here's the latest for Cobourg.

The town's legislative services division has announced its list of all persons entitled to be electors for the upcoming Oct. 26 election has been prepared by the municipal clerk's office.

Town staff are recommending people check they are on the voters' list and ensure names and relevant information are correct.

Staff said people simply have to click on the "check you are on the voters' list" button and fill in the form to confirm, add or update information. Alternatively, residents can contact the legislative and clerk's office at Victoria Hall in-person during regular office hours, and on election day from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Calling the office at 905-372-4301 ext. 9520 or emailing cobourgvotes@cobourg.ca is another option.

However, staff have noted electors will need photo proof of identity and residence.

The town also has a new voter information centre for this election. This will mean in addition to being available at the clerk's office starting Sept. 15, election staff will be available every Tuesday and Thursday leading up to election day at the Cobourg Public Library to answer resident questions and help with updating the voters' list, explained staff.

No appointments are needed – residents can drop-in to meet with staff on Tuesdays – Sept. 15, 22, and 29 and Oct. 6 and 13 – from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. On Thursdays –



The Old Bailey Courtroom at Victoria Hall will serve as one of Cobourg's help centres for the coming election. /Sarah Hyatt photo

Sept. 17 and 24 and Oct. 1, 8 and 25 – the hours will be 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

As for voter instruction letters, staff noted they should start arriving in the mail the week of Oct. 5. These letters contain information such as a personal identification

number (PIN) and the web address to access the voting portal, as well as other important election-related details.

However, while Cobourg is using Internet voting for the 2026 municipal and school board election, there will be in-person voter help centres hosted during the voting period, which opens Oct. 16 at 10 a.m. and goes until Oct. 26 at 8 p.m.

These centres will offer residents a chance to use a secure voting kiosk "with staff support available every step of the way."

People will need to bring their voter instruction letters, noted officials, adding for those who don't receive letters by Oct. 16, they're asked to visit Victoria Hall or a help centre with photo identification that includes proof of address to register and get a PIN.

Voter help centre locations will include the Old Bailey Courtroom at Victoria Hall on Oct. 16 and Oct. 19 to 25 from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Oct. 26/election day from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The library will serve as another location at 200 Ontario St. on Oct. 19 to 23 from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on election day from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Finally, the town is also using the Cobourg Community Centre as a help centre from Oct. 19 to 22 from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on election day from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

If citizens have additional election-related questions, staff said the clerk's department can help and is accessible by calling 905-372-4301 ext. 9520 or emailing cobourgvotes@cobourg.ca. The town's CobourgVotes.ca site also has additional election information.

There is also an online Internet voting demonstration to help residents.

Photography club's 30th anniversary in focus

Club welcomes new members to join; attend Sept. 14 celebration in Cobourg

NATALIE HAMILTON

Reporter

From capturing images of birds in a tranquil Northumberland County provincial park to shooting busy street scenes in downtown Toronto, the Northumberland Photography Club is marking its 30th anniversary this month.

The club, which is around 50-members strong, is gathering for its monthly meeting and milestone celebration on Monday, Sept. 14 at 7 p.m. at the Salvation Army Community Centre in Cobourg, which is located at 59 Ballantine St.

Karen Chalovich, who has been a member of the club for about a decade, said the club is welcoming new and experienced photographers alike to consider a membership and join them at the anniversary event.

"We're going to celebrate that night," said Chalovich.

The evening will encompass slideshows of some of its members' images and also provide a glimpse back through the history of the club over the past three decades.

"We've done a lot of outings. We do outings every month so there are always photography outings going on, but we'll also have special items (on Monday)," said Chalovich.

For instance, one highlight will include a reflection from about 30 years ago when the club hosted acclaimed photographer Freeman Patterson.

The club encompasses education as it



The Northumberland Photography Club is welcoming new members interested in taking photos such as this one, along with floral, architecture, event coverage shots and more. / Karen Chalovich photo

brings together amateur shooters and experienced photographers alike, she said.

Club members often enjoy presentations from the portfolios of the seasoned shutterbugs and workshops from them as well. Each monthly meeting spotlights a new speaker and showcases a new theme.

For instance, September will feature a photographer who captures extreme weather images. In October, a speaker who specializes in bird and nature photography will take the stage.

"A lot of the (club's endeavours) tie in

with the environment," noted Chalovich. "When you're out doing photography, you're really seeing what's happening in your environment."

Different themes for the monthly meetings include nature photography, street scenes, landscapes, and more.

There's a wide range of photographic styles that reflect the interests and skills of members – from fine art and florals to architecture and event coverage.

"A lot of this is documenting what's happening around us," said Chalovich.

The subject matter also varies as it depends on the destinations visited through the club's outings.

"There's a wide range of talents – a real variety of different types of photography," noted Chalovich.

For instance, some people specialize in people and portraits while others are interested in landscapes.

"Everybody does something different and your skills develop (over time)," she noted. "People coming in (to the club) can try new things and really learn from the others."

The club meets monthly, usually on the first Monday of the month, and each gathering features slideshows of some of the members' photographs and a guest speaker. Mary Talbot, who focuses on artistic imagery, has been a member of the club since its inception. She has also been a guest speaker and has led Zoom sessions.

Most members use a digital camera, and some people supplement that with their cellphone's camera feature.

There are two Facebook destinations where members share their photos, in addition to the monthly slideshows.

To join the Northumberland Photography Club, the membership fee is \$100 per year prior to the Sept. 14 meeting. It's \$120 per year for those who join after the meeting.

Looking back, Chalovich said, "a lot of organizations don't make it (30 years). We're still vibrant and still interested in photography."

Tackling food insecurity during Hunger Action Month

County encourages residents to donate to local food programs, learn about resources



Food insecurity affects people of all ages and backgrounds, says Northumberland County's Jennifer Glover, community and social services client services manager. /Northumberland County photo



Northumberland County encourages residents to learn about local food assistance programs and services during Hunger Action Month. /Northumberland County photo

NATALIE HAMILTON

Reporter

With a spotlight on food insecurity this month, Northumberland County is encouraging residents to donate to local food programs to help feed those in need.

September is Hunger Action Month.

Northumberland County is inviting residents "to join the fight against food insecurity" by taking small but meaningful actions to support local food programs across the county throughout September.

Hunger Action Month is a national awareness campaign that brings communities together to highlight the factors contributing to food insecurity, encourages public action, and advocates for a future free from hunger and poverty. Throughout September, organizations across Canada work to raise awareness and support food assistance programs that help thousands of individuals and families access nutritious food.

"Food insecurity affects people of all ages and backgrounds, and we continue to see significant demand for local food support services," said Northumberland County's Jennifer Glover, community and social services client services manager.

"Last year, 6,300 individuals accessed food banks across Northumberland, with children and youth accounting for 29 per cent of those served. The county's Food 4 All Warehouse also supported more than 41 student nutrition programs, providing an average of 98,000 meals and snacks each month to more than 5,600 students during the school year.

"Hunger Action Month is a chance to raise awareness, strengthen community connections and remind residents that even small actions can make a meaningful difference."

At the national level, Food Banks Canada supports food banks and raises aware-

ness about food insecurity across the country. In Ontario, this work is led by Feed Ontario. Locally, Northumberland County's Food 4 All Warehouse, alongside 12 community food banks, provides food support services and champions provincial and national efforts to address food insecurity.

The county encourages residents to get involved throughout September by participating in activities that support food security and raise awareness of available resources. Ways to lend a hand include simply learning more about food insecurity in Northumberland by reading the county's "Feed Change Report," which is available on the county's website at northumberland.ca.

The report provides information about local food support systems, including distribution and usage data for food banks and school nutrition programs.

The county is also promoting partic-

ipation in the "30 Ways in 30 Days" challenge, which involves completing one action each day to support food security in Northumberland. Residents can download the challenge calendar from the county's website for more ideas and activities.

Northumberland also asks people to share local food support resources by visiting and promoting FoodHelpNorthumberland.cioc.ca. The website provides access to information about food assistance programs and services available throughout the county.

Donating needed items to local food banks to help meet growing community needs and support neighbours experiencing food insecurity is also a good way to get involved, the county noted.

For more information about Hunger Action Month and ways to get involved, visit Northumberland.ca/HungerActionMonth.



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Protect yourself against mosquito bites: Public health

Three mosquito pools tested positive for West Nile virus

NATALIE HAMILTON

Reporter

Lakelands Public Health is reminding residents about the importance of emptying wheelbarrows and other items that hold standing water where mosquitoes like to breed after three mosquito pools tested positive for the West Nile virus in the region.

The health unit is encouraging residents to protect themselves against mosquito bites by eliminating breeding sites and regularly emptying out items on their property that hold water.

"There have been three mosquito pools that tested positive for the West Nile virus in the Lakelands Public Health region this season," Bernard Mayer, environmental health manager for Lakelands Public Health, shared with the Independent.

"At this time, there have been no human cases of the West Nile virus reported in the Lakelands Public Health region in 2026," he said.

Lakelands Public Health issued a press release recently advising residents that ongoing mosquito surveillance across the region has identified evidence of West Nile virus activity, including most recently mosquitoes testing positive for the virus in the Lindsay area.

While there have not been any human West Nile virus cases in the Lakelands region this year to date, "mosquito activity continues through late summer (and) residents are encouraged to take precautions to protect themselves from mosquito bites," noted officials.

The virus is spread primarily through the bite of an infected mosquito.



Lakelands Public Health is encouraging residents to protect themselves against mosquito bites by eliminating mosquito breeding sites and regularly emptying out items on their property that hold water. /Natalie Hamilton photo

Most people infected with the West Nile virus do not develop symptoms, according to the health unit. However, some people may experience mild flu-like symptoms such as fever, headache, body aches, fatigue, nausea, vomiting or a skin rash. In rare cases, severe illness affecting the brain or nervous system can occur, with older adults and individuals with weakened immune systems at greater risk, noted health unit staff.

"Lakelands Public Health continues to monitor mosquito activity across the region through regular trapping and testing," stated Anne Marie Holt, director of health protection with Lakelands Public

Health.

"The identification of positive mosquito pools serves as an important reminder that residents should take steps to protect themselves from mosquito bites and reduce mosquito breeding sites around their homes."

Lakelands Public Health encourages residents to take precautions, such as dressing appropriately. This includes wearing long sleeves, long pants, socks and light-coloured clothing when outdoors, especially between dusk and dawn when mosquitoes are most active.

The health unit also advises residents to use an insect repellent containing DEET

or icaridin and to follow the manufacturer's directions. Residents should ensure their window and door screens fit tightly and are in good repair to prevent mosquitoes from entering their homes, added public health.

People should also be proactive by cleaning up their yards, the health unit stated.

This includes removing standing water from items including bird baths, flowerpots, buckets, wheelbarrows, old tires, tarps and toys. The health unit recommends cleaning eavestroughs regularly to prevent water accumulation. Residents should also remove thick brush and keep grass and vegetation trimmed.

"While mosquito surveillance helps us understand local West Nile virus activity, a negative trap result does not mean the virus is absent from a community," added Holt. "Everyone should continue taking preventive measures throughout the mosquito season."

For more information about West Nile virus, mosquito bite prevention and reducing mosquito breeding sites, visit LakelandsPH.ca/WNV.

Lakelands Public Health is the public health agency that serves Alderville, Curve Lake and Hiawatha First Nations, the urban Indigenous community, and the counties of Haliburton and Northumberland, as well as the cities of Kawartha Lakes and Peterborough and the County of Peterborough. It was established through the voluntary merger of the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit and Peterborough Public Health.





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'About 11,000 meals for local residents using our services'



Northumberland Fare Share Food Banks (NFSFB), which operates a location in Port Hope and Cobourg and serves residents of Northumberland County, recently announced it is a recipient of the Chicken Farmers of Ontario's (CFO) food bank donation program called CFO Cares. /NFSFB photo

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

high-quality Ontario chicken gets on to the plates of those who need it most, according to a recent press release.

Launched in 2015, the partnership between CFO and Feed Ontario provides chicken farmers across the province with the opportunity to donate up to 300 chickens each year to help ensure food bank fridges remain stocked. The program delivers more than one million fresh-chicken meals to community food banks each year in Ontario.

"We were elated to be a recipient of this program," said Flindall. "It's really difficult for food banks to procure fresh and frozen protein donations as they aren't an item we can accept from the general public due to temperature controls.

"As such, we often rely on purchasing items like chicken in order to distribute them at our food banks. Having a program in place like CFO Cares: Farmers to Food Banks works within our food safe systems and eases some financial burden."

Demands for Fare Share's services continue to rise annually with 1,043 new individuals accessing services

in 2025. Households facing food insecurity "often make tough decisions" about which foods they can afford to purchase, and which items get left behind, which can include proteins like chicken, noted NFSFB.

"We've been operating food banks in both Cobourg and Port Hope for 40 years this June and the demand for our services has never been higher," shared Flindall.

"The trends we are seeing here are very comparable to what is being reported across Canada right now. Demand doubled post-pandemic and (has) continued to rise significantly every year since then.

"Where we see the biggest impact from the rising food and fuel costs is with new individuals accessing our services for the very first time, many who are employed, but can't stretch their paycheques any further to adjust for these rapidly climbing costs," she explained.

NFSFB said the donation helps Fare Share support its mission of alleviating hunger within Northumberland. Flindall hopes the grant will also raise awareness about the state of food insecurity and inspire action.

September is also Hunger Action Month across Canada.

"I am hopeful that seeing a recognition event like this



Northumberland-Peterborough South MPP David Piccini recently took part in an event at 700 D'Arcy St. in Cobourg to celebrate the donation of 1,200 kilograms of local chicken for the Northumberland Fare Share Food Banks. /NFSFB photo

happening in our community inspires future partnerships with industry leaders and local farmers. People are often surprised to find out that food banks aren't government-funded agencies, beyond applying for municipal community grant support, and are completely reliant on community donations and grant funding," explained Flindall.

"With that in mind, creating partnerships like this one between farmers and food banks is vital for ensuring we can remain a sustainable resource for our community as we think ahead to our next 40 years."

For more information about Fare Share and how to support its food banks, visit www.fareshare.ca. People looking to support food purchases for Fare Share food banks can make a donation by e-transfer to donations@fareshare.ca or online at Canada Helps.

Town announces return of Experience Cobourg's Ghost Walks

NATALIE HAMILTON

Reporter

Things will start getting creepy in Cobourg at nightfall next month.

The Town of Cobourg's community services division has announced the return of Experience Cobourg's Ghost Walks. Online ticket sales opened on Tuesday, Sept. 7 at 9 a.m.

"This October, brave the dark and uncover the chilling secrets hidden in Cobourg's oldest streets, where eerie tales, legendary figures and haunted landmarks await," said organizers, in a recent release.

The 2026 installment features a "freshly reimagined route" featuring never-before-told stops and stories.

Tours run Fridays throughout October – with extra nights during the week of Halloween – and run for about two hours. The tours start at Henley Arcade, which is located at 48 A King St. W.

Walks will be happening during the following dates and times:

- Friday, Oct. 2 at 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.
- Friday, Oct. 9 at 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.
- Friday, Oct. 16 at 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.
- Friday, Oct. 23 at 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.
- Wednesday, Oct. 28 at 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.
- Thursday, Oct. 29 at 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.
- Friday, Oct. 30 at 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.
- Saturday, Oct. 31 at 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.

This is a walking tour and rain or shine event. However, in the event of extreme weather, the tour will be cancelled and all ticket holders for that evening will be contacted. Parental guidance is advised, noted the town.

Tickets are priced at \$15 (HST included) and are available through the Experience Cobourg box office at tickets.cobourg.ca or by calling 1-855-372-2210.

For more information, visit ExperienceCobourg.ca/GhostWalks.

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POLICE BRIEFS

OPP long-weekend rundown: More than 270 charges laid

INDEPENDENT STAFF

With more than 270 charges laid under proactive traffic enforcement efforts alone and then several alleged impaired driving incidents, the Labour Day long-weekend marked another busy one for Northumberland OPP.

Here's your latest OPP rundown:

THREE-VEHICLE CRASH LEADS TO CHARGES:

On Sept. 4, 2026, at about 8:10 a.m., emergency crews responded to a reported three-vehicle crash at the intersection of County Road 2 and Lawson Settlement Road in the Municipality of Brighton. One driver was sent to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries, added police.

During the investigation, officers said they initiated a parallel impaired driving probe, which resulted in an individual taken into custody.

"There were no serious injuries reported among the occupants of the other vehicles involved," said OPP.

As a result of the investigation, police said an 18-year-old Prince Edward County man was charged with operation while impaired – alcohol and drugs, operation while impaired – blood alcohol concentration (80 plus) and novice driver – B.A.C. (blood alcohol concentration) above zero.

TRAFFIC COMPLAINT LEADS TO IMPAIRED DRIVING PROBE:



Speeding and stunt driving continues to be a major concern on local roads, with 181 speeding charges alone laid over the Labour Day long-weekend. /OPP photo

On Sept. 5, at about 1 p.m., officers said they responded to a traffic complaint about a vehicle reportedly unable to maintain its lane on County Road 30 in the Brighton area.

Police said they found a vehicle matching the description provided by the caller and attended to the well-being of the driver.

During the response, officers again initiated a parallel impaired operation investigation, which resulted in a motorist taken into custody. A 29-year-old Oakville man was charged with failure or refusal to comply with a demand, reported police.

CITIZEN TIP HELPS POLICE:

On Sept. 5, shortly after 1 a.m., officers said they received a report about a possible impaired driver in the area of Bridge Street West in the Municipality of Trent Hills.

Police said they located a pick-up truck matching the description provided and initiated an impaired driving investigation, which resulted in an arrest.

The accused is a 55-year-old Campbellford man who was charged with failure or refusal to comply with a demand.

All of the accused in the above unrelated incidents are due in Cobourg court in

October, reported OPP.

Police noted that all individuals charged with impaired driving also receive a 90-day licence suspension and vehicles are impounded for seven days.

OPP continues to ask citizens to report suspected impaired driving by calling 911. Anonymous tips can also be submitted to Crime Stoppers by calling 1-800-222-8477.

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT:

Throughout the Labour Day long-weekend, Northumberland OPP reported laying a total of 274 charges through proactive enforcement efforts.

Speeding continues to top concerns, with 181 charges laid, while there were three distracted driving incidents and seven seatbelt violations, said police.

There was also one stunt driving incident on Sept. 7 at about 10 p.m. According to OPP, while officers were conducting speed enforcement in the County Road 22 Township of Alnwick/Haldimand area, they clocked a vehicle at 152 km/h in an 80 km/h zone.

The vehicle was stopped and the accused driver – a 21-year-old Cobourg man – was charged with drive motor vehicle – perform stunt – excessive speed. In addition to a being dish out a future court date, the driver received a 30-day licence suspension, and the vehicle was impounded for 14 days, reported OPP.

None of the charges in the above separate incidents have been proven in court.

Cobourg man charged after alleged dog bite incident

'The dog is currently in quarantine, and the municipal law enforcement investigation is ongoing'

INDEPENDENT STAFF

Cobourg police say a local man has been charged after an alleged dog bite incident, and the dog involved is in quarantine.

According to the Cobourg Police Service, back on Sept. 1, 2026, at about 12:30 p.m., police responded to the Elgin Street West and William Street area after receiving a report that a dog had bitten an adult.

"The victim was transported to hospital

for treatment of their injuries," said police, who did not specify the extent of injuries.

Through investigation, police said they identified the dog's owner and determined "there had been previous documented incidents involving the animal."

As a result of the probe, on Sept. 3, police said a 57-year-old Cobourg man was arrested and charged with criminal negligence causing bodily harm.

This charge has not been proven in court.

Initially, after confirming the charge at the end of last week, police reported officers and municipal law enforcement were continuing to attempt to locate the dog, which was described as "a large white dogo Argentino" breed.

Police had also put out a call for the public's help at this time, asking if people seen the dog around to reach out to the service – but urged people not to approach the animal and maintain a safe distance.

On Tuesday, Sept. 8, the service issued

an update on its investigation, noting the dog was found by police over the weekend (on Sept. 5) and then turned over to municipal law enforcement.

"The dog is currently in quarantine, and the municipal law enforcement investigation is ongoing," said police, on Tuesday, while thanking the public for its help with their investigation.

No other details were available at press deadline.

Careless driving charge laid after Port Hope crash

INDEPENDENT STAFF

The Port Hope Police Service says an investigation into a crash involving a vehicle and motorized wheelchair last month has wrapped and a careless driving

charge has been laid.

According to police, the crash happened on Aug. 13, 2026, and involved a vehicle and motorized wheelchair in the Jocelyn and Cavan streets area, with both travelling eastbound on Jocelyn Street.

The operator of the wheelchair was sent to hospital with minor injuries, reported police.

On Sept. 4, the service said their investigation has concluded with the driver of the vehicle charged with careless driving

under the Highway Traffic Act.

This charge has not been proven in court.

No other details were released by police.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT GRANTHAVEN.COM

OPP warns public about emerging fraud scams

NATALIE HAMILTON

Reporter

Police are reminding residents to be vigilant and protect themselves against online and telephone scams as fraudsters are “constantly adapting their methods” in their attempts to obtain money and personal information.

Northumberland OPP said police have received reports of various scams, including suspected artificial intelligence (AI)-generated phone calls, fraudulent investment opportunities, online marketplace scams, phone upgrade scams, and fake prize notifications.

In one recent incident, a resident received a phone call believed to have been made using AI-generated voice technology to solicit donations for ongoing wildfire relief efforts, noted OPP.

“The caller appeared convincing and created a sense of urgency in an attempt to obtain money,” said police, adding fortunately, no financial loss was reported.

“Fraudsters are constantly adapting their methods to gain the trust of victims and obtain personal information,

banking details or money. Residents are encouraged to be cautious of unsolicited communications, regardless of how legitimate they may appear.”

Common scams that have been reported include AI-generated phone scams. Criminals can use artificial intelligence to create realistic voices or messages that sound trustworthy. They may claim to represent charities, government agencies or financial institutions. Always verify the legitimacy of the caller before providing information or making a payment, cautioned OPP.

Another common scam type is a phone upgrade scam. Victims may receive calls, emails or text messages claiming they qualify for a device upgrade or special offer.

“Fraudsters often request account credentials, payment information or verification codes. Contact your service provider directly using official contact information to verify any offers,” stressed OPP.

Police also cautioned residents to be leery of online marketplace scams.

“When buying or selling items online, beware of buyers or sellers who pressure

you to complete transactions quickly, request payment through unusual methods or refuse to meet in person. Never send money for items you have not received.”

Another type of scam to be mindful of is the investment-related scam. Fraudulent investment opportunities often promise high returns with little or no risk, said OPP. These scams may involve cryptocurrency, stocks, real estate or other ventures.

“If an investment opportunity sounds too good to be true, it likely is.”

In addition, police are encouraging residents to be suspicious of the fake prize or contest winner scams. Victims may be notified that they have won a prize from a well-known retailer or organization.

“Fraudsters often arrange to deliver a cheque and then request banking information to verify the winner or facilitate payment.”

Legitimate contests do not require winners to provide banking information to receive a prize, noted OPP.

Police said these additional tips can help residents:

- Never provide personal, financial or

banking information to unsolicited callers, emails or text messages.

- Verify requests independently using official contact information.

- Be cautious of high-pressure tactics and urgent requests for money.

- Never click links or open attachments from unknown senders.

- Discuss suspicious communications with a trusted family member or friend before acting.

Anyone who believes they have been a victim of fraud should contact their local police service and report the incident to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre (CAFC) by calling 1-888-495-8501 or visiting www.antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca.

Residents are encouraged to continue reporting fraud attempts, even if no money is lost. Information reported to police and the CAFC helps identify emerging trends and protect others in our communities.

“If you suspect fraud, hang up, slow down, verify and report,” added OPP.

OPP urging drivers to slow down after stunt driving incidents

NATALIE HAMILTON

Reporter

Northumberland OPP is urging drivers to slow down and abandon aggressive driving habits after officers recently laid stunt driving charges in a trio of separate incidents on Hwy. 401.

Northumberland OPP is reminding motorists that speeding and aggressive driving continue to pose significant risks on Ontario roadways.

“Speeding and aggressive driving are dangerous behaviors that increase the risk of serious collisions and place all road users at risk,” Northumberland OPP stated, in a recent release.

Under Ontario law, stunt driving includes travelling 40 km/h or more above the posted speed limit on roads where the speed limit is less than 80 km/h, 50 km/h or more above the posted speed limit on roads where the speed limit is 80 km/h or higher, or 150 km/h or more anywhere in the province, regardless of the posted speed limit.

Northumberland OPP has reported investigating several incidents in mid-to-late August related to stunt driving, including one in the Municipality of Brighton.

In the one alleged incident, officers said they were conducting traffic enforcement on Hwy. 401 when they stopped a vehicle travelling westbound at 178 km/h. As a result of the investigation, police said a 30-year-old Pickering man was charged with drive motor vehicle – per-

form stunt – excessive speed, and careless driving.

In another incident, officers said they stopped a vehicle travelling 165 km/h on Hwy. 401 westbound in the Township of Cramahe. Police said they charged a 24-year-old man from Scarborough with drive motor vehicle – perform stunt – excessive speed.

Meanwhile, in another incident on Hwy. 401 in Brighton, police said they stopped a vehicle after allegedly clocking it at 158 km/h in the eastbound lanes. As a result, police said a 19-year-old London man was charged with drive motor vehicle – perform stunt – excessive speed.

In all three occurrences, the drivers’ licences were suspended for 30 days, and the vehicles were impounded for 14 days, noted OPP.

“Excessive speed reduces a driver’s ability to react to changing road conditions, increases stopping distances, and significantly raises the risk of serious injury or death in a collision,” explained OPP. “Motorists are urged to obey posted speed limits, drive according to road and weather conditions, and make safe choices behind the wheel.”

Whether travelling across town or along Ontario’s highways, Northumberland OPP reminds motorists that safe driving habits save lives.

OPP is urging all motorists to slow down, leave adequate space between vehicles, remain focused on the road and move over for emergency vehicles and roadside workers who are carrying out their duties in potentially hazardous conditions.



Northumberland OPP is calling on all drivers to slow down following recent incidents of motorists allegedly travelling at excessive speeds on Hwy. 401. /OPP photo

Arrests made after disturbance, shoplifting calls

INDEPENDENT STAFF

Two separate incidents at Cobourg businesses have resulted in arrests.

On Sept. 3, 2026, at about 10:30 a.m., police said they responded to a business in the Spring and King streets area after receiving a shoplifting in-progress call.

“It was reported that an individual at a self-checkout paid for a small amount

of merchandise but placed a significant quantity of unpaid merchandise in her bag,” said the Cobourg Police Service.

As a result of the investigation, police said a 28-year-old Cobourg woman was charged with theft under \$5,000.

The accused was released on an undertaking and will appear in court at a later date, reported police.

On Sept. 3, at about 11:50 a.m., police

also said they responded to an unrelated disturbance call at a business in the King Street West area.

Staff reported that an individual attended the business, became agitated after speaking with staff and then allegedly threw merchandise and damaged a window before leaving the area.

Police said the suspect was found a short distance away.

As a result of the probe, a 37-year-old Cobourg woman was charged with mischief under \$5,000 and failure to comply with a probation order. The accused was released on an undertaking with a future court date, added police.

None of the charges in the above unrelated calls have been proven in court.

'Longer-than-anticipated delivery times for required equipment'

Traffic signal construction update for Cobourg intersections

SARAH HYATT

Editor/reporter

Some traffic signal construction-related work is taking longer than expected in Cobourg.

"The new traffic signals at the intersections will not be operational for the start of the school year as originally anticipated due to longer-than-anticipated delivery times for required equipment," said the Town of Cobourg's public works and engineering division, in a public notice issued last Friday, Sept. 4 (which was past the Independent's print deadline for last week's edition that came out on Sept. 4.)

As previously reported, the town had planned work in the intersection areas of Elgin Street East and D'Arcy Street, University Avenue East and D'Arcy Street, and Division Street and University Avenue. Officials earlier expressed hopes that some work around Elgin and D'Arcy and University Avenue East and D'Arcy would wrap up before the start of school but noted some work would continue into mid-November.

The D'Arcy and Elgin Street East construction project is also being co-ordinated in partnership with Northumberland

County.

While the majority of physical construction at both the D'Arcy Street intersections has been completed, town staff said the remainder of the work is continuing with traffic control measures in place to help maintain safe traffic and pedestrian movement. No lane restrictions will also be permitted during peak periods of 7 to 9 a.m. and 3 to 6 p.m., added officials.

In terms of specifics, for the Elgin Street East and D'Arcy Street project, installation and restoration work continues. The remaining work focuses primarily on electrical connections, testing and final adjustments, noted staff.

For the University Avenue East and D'Arcy Street project, installation also continues with some additional signal equipment arriving soon (the latest information at press deadline), while other equipment is expected to arrive in early October, said the town.

The town also continues to work with contractor and utility providers to complete remaining work and bring new signals into operation as soon as possible, added staff.

Meanwhile, upgrades to the Division Street and University Avenue project are moving along and still expected to be



The Town of Cobourg says some work is taking longer than anticipated surrounding traffic signal construction. /Sarah Hyatt photo

completed by mid-November.

As previously reported, the two D'Arcy Street projects centre around construction of new traffic signals, while the Division and University Avenue project was described as upgrade work to existing signals. Weather also plays a factor in these projects.

Work started back in mid-July and follows completion of a 2024 traffic study identifying the need for infrastructure improvements at the three locations.

Town staff are thanking residents for their patience and co-operation while work continues.

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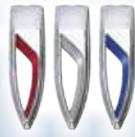
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Volunteers needed to help shape Port Hope's future

Applications being accepted now for several boards, committees for next council term

SARAH HYATT

Editor/reporter

If you're looking for a way to get involved with the community or give back through volunteering, the Municipality of Port Hope wants to hear from you.

"We are seeking representatives from the community to serve on some of our local boards and quasi-judicial committees," explained municipal staff. "These groups play an important role in local governance by supporting decision-making and providing advice and recommendations to council (and supporting staff work plans at times)."

The time spent isn't just about helping to strengthen the current community but also shaping Port Hope's future and making a positive difference, noted municipal officials.

Several of Port Hope's boards and committees include a mix of citizens and council and staff representatives, all with the goal of combining knowledge, experience, ideas and perspectives, explained staff.

For these volunteer-based positions, they're also a chance for residents to

share their skills, ideas and talents while meeting new people, providing input on strategic direction, and helping government respond to community issues and priorities, stated the municipality.

Currently, there are reported openings under the committee of adjustment, the Port Hope Heritage Business Improvement Area/HBIA, Port Hope Police Services Board, Port Hope Public Library Board, and property standards appeal committee. Recruitment for these posts is for new the 2026-30 council term – and there's also a vacancy on the Civic Awards advisory committee.

However, there are some eligibility requirements, such as volunteers must be ratepayers or a resident of Port Hope, at least 18 years old and can't be a municipal employee.

More information, including around requirements, some remuneration where applicable for select few boards and committees, application details and more on the openings, is accessible via porthope.ca.

Applications for all of the above vacancies close on Nov. 6, 2026, with the exception of the HBIA posting on Oct. 19.



The Municipality of Port Hope is calling on residents interested in volunteering their time and talents to serve on several committees and boards ahead of the next council term, including through Port Hope HBIA, which is meant to serve as the voice of the downtown business community, and improve and promote the heritage business district. /Sarah Hyatt photo

Port Hope launches hydrant flushing initiative

Hydrant maintenance program underway weekdays from Sept. 8 until Oct. 23

INDEPENDENT STAFF

The Municipality of Port Hope is rolling out its hydrant flushing initiative.

The hydrant maintenance program started on weekdays as of Sept. 8 and will continue until Oct. 23.

"This important upkeep ensures adequate water flow and pressure is available throughout the urban area of the community," noted municipal staff, in a recent release.

The Municipality of Port Hope is asking residents to note when the hydrant flushing is taking place in their area and to avoid doing laundry as water may be at lower pressure than normal and rust may occur. If residents experience discoloured water, officials said they should flush a cold water tap for five to 10 minutes.

If discolouration continues, call the municipality at 905-885-8760 or send an email and an operator will investigate, staff noted. Residents can also use the "report an issue" tool and select "water service issue" on the website at <https://www.porthope.ca/en/index.aspx>.

The hydrant flushing schedule for the

west side of Ganaraska River is Monday to Friday from 7 a.m. to noon.

The schedule for the east side of Ganaraska River is Monday to Friday from 12:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Port Hope's hydrants are painted different colours – blue, green, orange and red – to represent the amount of flow coming from each hydrant. The fire department relies on those colours to determine how much water can be taken per minute, explained staff.

Changes to infrastructure can affect the flow of each hydrant, noted staff.

Staff will be performing flow testing on about 125 hydrants. Once the flow tests are completed, the hydrants will be repainted if necessary. This project is set to take four years with a quarter of the urban area hydrants tested each year, added staff.

Crews will also be adding reflective ear markers to hydrants. This can be seen in many surrounding municipalities. Staff said this increases the visibility of the hydrants for firefighters during low-light conditions.



The Municipality of Port Hope's hydrant maintenance program will run on weekdays until Oct. 23. /Natalie Hamilton photo

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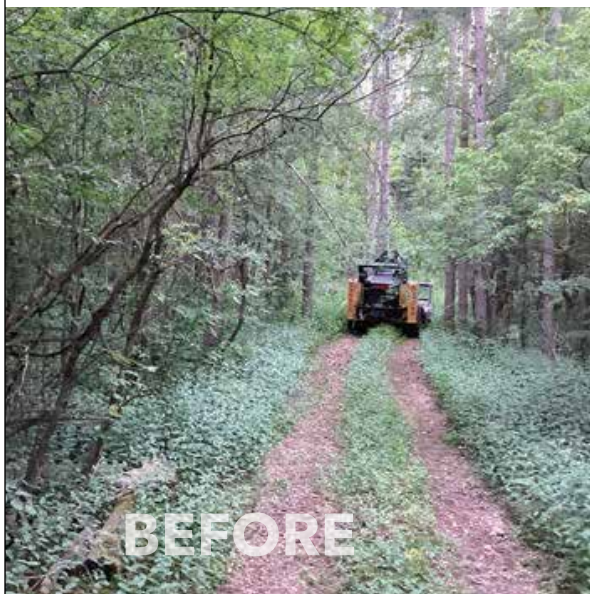




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Port Hope's 'Name that Snowplow' contest returns

Contest shines light on roads team's efforts to keep Port Hope safe

SARAH HYATT

Editor/reporter

You may have just finished prepping the kids for the start of school and might not want to believe it, but old man winter will make his return soon enough.

And the Municipality of Port Hope is calling on residents to help give winter heroes a boost ahead of the season with the return of its "Name that Snowplow" contest.

Last year, the municipality launched its first-ever community contest to name two of its plows. "Plowie McPlowFace" and "The Big Leplowski" became familiar sights on local roads throughout a historic winter season.

"Following an overwhelming response to the inaugural contest, we are once again inviting the community to showcase its creativity, humour and civic pride by helping name two snowplows for the upcoming winter season," the municipality recently announced.

And if this coming winter is anything like the last, these plows and their operators will be out in force.

The region's last winter featured several historic snowfalls and ice storms that walloped communities across the county, prompting significant weather declarations, shutdowns, and more. There were multiple reports of snowfalls exceeding 20 centimetres – sometimes back-to-back. Reports in neighbouring regions to the east (with more accurate weather station records) got up to nearly 40 centimetres over just one weekend on one occasion.

Old man winter swooped in earlier than normal with a lashing in early December and there several notable extreme weather events in January. Overall, the season felt longer, too, translating to a lot of hours



Port Hope's 'Name that Snowplow' contest has returned, offering residents the chance to name two plows ahead of the coming winter season. These were last year's picks. /Municipality of Port Hope photos

for those tasked with cleanup during and in the aftermath of these storms.

Whatever winter brings later this year, one thing is certain: Port Hope snowplow operators are tasked with tackling snow-clearing operations around-the-clock, and crews will be out again in all the harsh conditions to keep the community safe and moving, noted officials.

And while the goal of this is a fun contest involving the community, it should

also serve as a heartfelt boost for front-line staffers and helps highlight the critical efforts of the local roads team.

"Let's give these winter heroes the spotlight they deserve," said the municipality, while issuing a call for the community's participation.

Municipal staff said name submissions will be accepted until Sept. 25.

"Submissions can be inspired by puns, local landmarks or famous figures, and

residents are encouraged to try working in words like snow, plow or blizzard," explained municipal staff, noting engage.porthope.ca/name-that-plow has more information. "Be creative (and) just remember to keep it short, catchy, fun and appropriate."

The dedicated webpage is also where residents can make their submissions.

After Sept. 25, the roads team will be tasked with narrowing entries down to a shortlist of the top names. From Oct. 27 to Nov. 6, residents will also have a chance to weigh in and cast their votes for their favourites, said staff.

Winners will be announced the week of Nov. 23, "with the champions earning full bragging rights and a photo opportunity alongside their newly-named plow."

Port Hope has tandem axle salter/snowplow units, a larger grader, a sidewalk machine and pick-up trucks with plows and salters, which all hit the roads during winter. About 15 operators (almost divided equally between the urban and rural areas) are charged with using this equipment to clean and maintain more than 681 lane-kilometres of roads, noted staff.

According to the municipality, this is the equivalent of driving from Toronto to Montreal or from Port Hope to Sudbury. Normally, that's a seven-eight-hour drive at 90-100 km/h, but snowplow drivers can't go at that speed in wintry conditions while plowing and salting – and sometimes have to go over the same stretch several times if the snow keeps coming, explained staff.

In a works and engineering year-in-review by the numbers report in 2025, staff detailed there were 4,500 to 5,000 hours' worth of winter maintenance recorded, which included sidewalk clearing, sanding, salting, plowing, night patrol and snow removal.

Fun at the art gallery



Left: Maia Ibrahim, 5, of Cobourg, spent two hours creating the artwork surrounding her at an Art Gallery of Northumberland family art lab event. Right: Maia shows off her favourite piece created at the event. /Tim Burgess photos

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SPORTS

Port Hope Panthers' new head coach 'excited to get the season underway'

Panthers' home opener Saturday at Jack Burger Sports Complex

ALAN RIVETT

Sports correspondent

Brand new to the Port Hope Panthers' bench and entering his first-ever coaching gig within the Ontario Junior Hockey League East's Tod Division, new head coach Drew Allenby is optimistic he can mold a roster of mostly rookie players into a team that plays with fire and consistency.

And, following an abbreviated pre-season (the Panthers played its sole exhibition in Frankford against the Huskies on Thursday night after our press deadline), the Panthers are headed headlong into its regular season and home opener against the Amherstview Jets at the Jack Burger Sports Complex on Saturday, Sept. 12 at 7:30 p.m.

The lack of a longer pre-season schedule notwithstanding, Allenby is confident his young Panthers are ready to go for the 2026-27 season.

"Yes, I'm very excited to get the season underway," said Allenby, a Courtice resident hired in late June taking over from former coach/general manager Corey Beer, who's now the head coach of the Ontario Junior Hockey League's Pickering Panthers. "I'm very excited about the group of players that we have, and the talent and the work ethic that I've seen so far.

"A hard-working team can go as far as they want to go with the right structure and the right determination and the right confidence. We'll get the season going and see where we are and we'll always be evaluating and seeing what we need to teach and what we need to work on to make sure that we're as competitive as we can be."

Allenby is under no illusions it's going to take some time and patience to truly get the best out of his young team, but he wants to see improvement throughout the regular season that will hopefully culminate in the Panthers being in the thick of the playoff hunt.

"Yes, I am very excited about the prospects for this team, and you know it's going to be a process and a journey ... It's gonna be a tough season because I think there are a few teams (in the Tod Division) that were already preset. But I'm more than confident we're going to be competing with everyone and come playoffs, I think we'll be ready to go," explained Allenby.

Allenby comes to the Panthers with 13 years of coaching experience in minor hockey all the way up to the AAA level. With his son Caeden joining the Panthers last year, he decided to throw his hat in the ring for the head coaching position and was the successful candidate.



Drew Allenby is the Port Hope Panthers' new head coach. /Photo submitted by Drew Allenby

Allenby said he'll be leaning heavily on several returnees including forwards Colby Hercia, Caeden Allenby, Ethan Baker, Mike Hatfield, Liam Barker and Jacob Bone, Jack Bogay and Avery Palmieri.

In an active off-season, the Panthers have brought in a host of players including Riley Press, Carson Perry, Eddie Shaw, Ben Laird (via trade), Jordan Smith, Silas Faux, Jack Duncan, Gavin Trick, Carson Stolte, and Kaeden McArthur, who joins the Panthers from the Northern Ontario Junior Hockey League where he amassed more than 200 points during his career there, including 74 points last year with the Timmins Rock.

The Panthers will see two young goaltenders making their junior debuts this season. Allenby said Reese Deline and Jaxson McQuade may be new to the league, but both are talented puckstoppers who he's counting on to adapt quickly to the higher level of competition.

"We're excited about them ... I like their style of play, but it's just going to be a little bit of a change for them playing against this level (of competition). The talent, the work ethic and the attitude is there to play at this level, so I'm excited to see how they do," said Allenby.

Allenby also noted that although the roster is pretty much set for Saturday's league/home opener, the club is still on the lookout for a few more players who could help the team.

"There's still a few tweaks," he said. "I think you'll see we have some room to move, to bring in a few other players if need be. But for the most part, it's set.

"We're still probably hoping to get one or two (players) on the back-end and

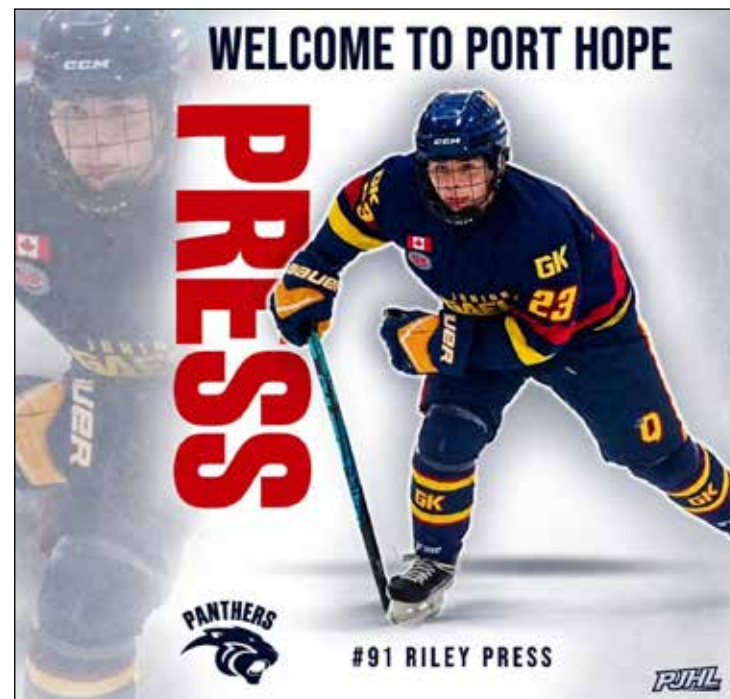
maybe one more up-front."

As for how the league shapes up this season, Allenby said he expects the eight-team Tod Division to be led by the Frankford Huskies.

"I think (they were) strong last year, and I think they've built on that, so I believe they're going to be probably the strongest competition, and then probably looking at Napanee next. I'm not sure about Lakefield."

Although a fast start to the season would be fantastic, Allenby is counting on his players to play the right way and develop some consistency throughout the season.

"I would like to get off to a good start, but my main goal is playing the game



The Panthers have announced hometown forward Riley Press will be part of the team's 2026-27 lineup. /Port Hope Panthers' Facebook photo

right and being consistent in our play, so we don't just get off to a fast start, but we get off (to a) consistent start ... I think that will develop as we see how these kids play in game situations."

Allenby will be joined on the bench by assistant coaches Kyle Giroux, Travis Mercer and goalie coach Matt Barbara.

Next Saturday, Sept. 19, the Panthers host the Napanee Raiders at 7:30 p.m.

Eric Thompson has been announced as the Panthers' game day and community co-ordinator, the club announced on its Facebook site. A long-time Port Hope resident, Thompson said his goal is to "bring Port Hope together around the Panthers and make this the community hockey team that Port Hope deserves."

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Port Hope Challenger Baseball end of season fun



Bernie Daynes, the originator and announcer of the Port Hope Challenger Baseball league, is seen here at the Challengers' end of season game. The league started in 2019 to provide players with cognitive, intellectual, developmental, and/or physical mobility challenges the chance to play ball. The league had three levels and 56 kids this year.



Organizer Nicole Brown was on hand for end of season play advocating for volunteers and more players for the 2027 season.



Intermediate player Chloe throws the ball to second base after catching a fly ball.



The end of game group photo for the Port Hope Challenger Baseball intermediates and Cobourg Legion Minor Softball U13 team. /Tim Burgess photos

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After 4 years of engineering study, 6 years in heavy industry (Algoma Steel), 4 years of dental school, 1 year at Sunnybrook Hospital and 41 years of private practice in Port Hope, it is time for a change. Dr. Cameron Crawford and Dr. Oren Behar have purchased the dental practice and the building.

I will be leaving the practice on August 31. Dr. Andrew Cooper will be providing dental treatment going forward.

Dr. Crawford and Dr. Behar are the custodians of the dental records. They may be reached at the current address of the practice. The telephone number will remain the same.

Dental Staff will remain the same as before, with the exception of the new receptionist, Darlene.

I would like to thank all of you for your support over the years and hope that I have been able to provide for your dental needs in a safe, comfortable environment at reasonable cost.

Yours very truly,
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Walkway lighting construction underway at Baltimore park

Township of Hamilton urges resident to exercise caution in park, trail areas



Construction is underway to add walkway lighting at the Ballimore Recreation Centre Park at 23 Community Centre Rd. /Township of Hamilton photo

INDEPENDENT STAFF

Construction of walkway lighting is officially underway at the Baltimore Recreation Centre Park, says the Township of Hamilton.

"Contractors are now onsite and have officially started the installation of new walkway lighting around the trail in the park," reads a recent a public notice.

According to township staff, the work is expected to take a couple weeks to complete.

During this time, staff are asking residents to use caution in the park and trail areas and follow posted construction signage and directions.

"We're excited to see this project underway and look forward to the new lighting to provide a safer, more enjoyable trail for everyone to use," said the township, while thanking residents for their patience and co-operation while the work is tackled.

Officials noted further updates will be provided as needed.

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New \$75K playground proposed in Camborne



A new \$75,000 playground development is being proposed, and residents can have their say at an open-house event on Sept. 15 at the historic Old Camborne School House property. / Township of Hamilton photo

SARAH HYATT

Editor/reporter

The Township of Hamilton is calling on families and residents to weigh in with ideas for a new playground at an upcoming event at the Old Camborne School House.

With hopes of gathering residents and even kids' feedback, the township's community consultation phase for the proposed project is officially underway.

"As the project takes shape, we want to hear from the people who will use it most – especially local kids," said the township, while announcing the upcoming drop-in style open-house event where people will be able to do just this.

The playground project with a \$75,000 budget at the historic schoolhouse property is being half funded through an Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) grant and the other half through the township's

accessibility reserve, CAO Brian Gilmer told the Independent. The budget covers the structure and accessible surface, he added.

Originally, the hope was to have installation as early as this fall before the ground freezes, but Gilmer noted spring 2027 is more likely at this time for installation and is ultimately dependent on supplier availability.

The open-house event is set for next Tuesday, Sept. 15 at the Old Camborne School House, which is located next to Camborne Park at 3441 Albert's Alley. People can drop in on Tuesday between 4 and 6 p.m. to learn more about proposed playground concepts and have their say.

"Children are encouraged to attend with their parents, guardians or caregivers and share their ideas about the equipment, features and activities they would like to see," said township staff.



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Community Grant Applications Open

The Township of Hamilton's Community Grant Program provides financial assistance to eligible local organizations and community groups who provide programs or services that enhance quality of life, encourage participation, and contribute to the overall well-being of our community.

Organizations are encouraged to review the program guidelines to determine which funding opportunity best suits their initiative. Projects should be consistent with one or more of Township's Strategic Priorities.



Applications are open until October 2, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.

For eligibility and application information, visit
hamiltontownship.ca/community-grants

Looking to stay active this fall?

Registration is now open for the Township of Hamilton's adult recreation programs. With opportunities to build strength, improve flexibility and balance, learn new skills, or simply enjoy some time in the community. Programs are designed to be accessible and affordable, with options for a range of interests and abilities.

Visit the Township's website, or scan the QR code to view current program offerings, schedules, locations and fees. Register today and make recreation part of your fall routine!



Calling all Kids! Help Us Choose Camborne's new Playground!



The Township of Hamilton is planning a proposed new playground at the Old Camborne Schoolhouse, with funding provided through an Ontario Trillium grant, and we want to hear from the community, especially the kids who will be using it!

Children and families are invited to drop in, share their ideas and tell us what they would like to see in the new playground. Proposed concepts will be available to view, and we want you to help us decide!

Join us Tuesday, September 15 at the Old Camborne School House, 3441 Albert's Alley. Drop in anytime between 4:00 and 6:00 p.m. and help us imagine what the new playground could be.

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COLUMNS

‘Head Space’: Your imagination is an incredible piece of equipment



BRANDON W. HAHN

Independent columnist

This column is on worry.

With worry, because I inherited it from my “Mum” who was a master of worry and worst-case scenarios, I can provide almost textbook coping for it.

My toolbox is full of ways to combat worry. The best one is something I gleaned online a few moons ago: “Worry is an in-

credible waste of imagination.”

In fact, worry might be the worst waste of imagination.

It’s also an incredible waste of time and energy. And worry is boring. So boring it can keep you from doing your favourite things. So boring it can bring your thoughts to a stalemate because you can’t think about anything else.

It can take over your entire fragile, sensitive mind.

My Mum could immediately come up with a scenario to worry about whenever I was about to go conquer my world, so to speak. I’d be heading out the door ready to do something positive and she could hand me six reasons why it might end in disaster.

She gave me all her worries

because she loved me.

Unfortunately, I inherited some of them, too.

It’s funny because I once heard my doctor say: “If you were my son, I’d worry about you too.”

That was an incredibly grounding experience.

And it is nice to know someone cares enough to spend precious time imagining ways somebody might hurt me, kill me or sabotage my efforts while I’m out chasing the almighty buck or doing my best to influence someone’s life in a positive way.

Thanks, everybody.

Simply thinking of worry as a waste of imagination helps me cope with the idea that Mercury is perpetually in retrograde around me.

I’m constantly trying to calm

my mind, invoke inner peace and put my “hot thoughts” in their place. Worry is premium fuel for negative thinking.

So be gentle with your thoughts.

Instead of automatically going to the worst-case scenario, try the best-case scenario.

Instead of imagining yourself getting hit by a bus while you’re out pounding the pavement, what if you imagined that everything went your way?

What if the meeting goes great? What if they say yes?

What if the cheque comes? What if the phone rings with good news?

Manifest is kind of a buzzword these days, but there’s something useful underneath it. What we spend our time thinking about

affects how we experience our lives.

So instead of feeding worry, feed possibility. And instead of worry, try its much more interesting cousin: Anticipation.

Start looking for pleasant surprises. Expect that something good might happen today. Give your imagination something better to do than manufacture disasters that haven’t happened.

Your imagination is an incredible piece of equipment.

Don’t waste the whole thing worrying.

Give it a better job.

Brandon W. Hahn is a podcaster, screenwriter and mental health advocate. He hosts Snackable Mental Health on YouTube and writes about the strange business of being human.

‘Around the Oval’: The market is worth the trip



KELSEY JIBB

Independent columnist

Ask most people why they go to the farmers’ market and they’ll say it’s for the tomatoes, sourdough bread or whatever’s fresh and in season that week.

Food seems like an obvious reason enough. But spend an hour walking around the “Oval” and you’ll realize that most of what makes a Saturday morning feel the way it does isn’t something you put in your bag.

Vendors have usually been at the market since sunrise, comparing weather and helping each other pitch tents before the first eager shoppers arrive. Vendors see the same faces every week and start keeping track: Who’s expanding next season, who has a new baby, and who had a rough season and could use a little extra encouragement.

And that same familiarity

spills over to everyone else at the market, too.

Regulars know from word-of-mouth exactly which stall to hit for the first sweet corn. A stranger stops to compliment the bouquet of flowers you’re carrying (and asks which booth you found them). A friend who spots you a few paces away gives up their spot in line just to catch up for a few minutes.

New faces get pointed in the right direction by whoever’s standing nearby, all while a musician’s set drifts across the Oval under it all. And alongside the produce, baked goods and handmade treasures, you’ll usually

find a local group or two set up with a table of their own for a fundraiser, petition or a sign-up sheet for something happening locally worth knowing about.

Being in community with people in practice means feeling invited to linger in the same place long enough that strangers become friends. The Cobourg Farmers’ Market has been a part of this rhythm since 1839 when gathering here wasn’t optional.

It was how this community fed each other and stayed connected. The market still works in very much the same way as it always has – show up and you’ll get caught up. If you’re new to

the area or have lived here your whole life and just wanted to feel more connected with the people around you, the market is worth the trip.

The Cobourg Farmers’ Market summer season runs from May to October. Find us every Saturday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Rotary Harbourfront Park in downtown Cobourg.

Kelsey Jibb is the marketing co-ordinator for the Cobourg Farmers’ Market where she manages the market’s social media presence, weekly newsletters, and community outreach.

‘Sustainability Corner’: No poverty



SIMON CHORLEY

Independent columnist

Welcome to Sustainability Corner where each week we will look at a global issue making a local impact.

These issues are based on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, which were set by gov-

ernments, including Canada, in 2015, with the aim of achieving them by 2030. The aim is not to provide all the answers, but to spark constructive conversations about our role in addressing these challenges.

Week 1: No Poverty.

Growing up in East Africa, I witnessed poverty firsthand. But I didn’t expect to see it across homes in England or on streets in Canada. And I certainly didn’t expect to see it in Northumberland County, which has been home to my family and I for the last 13 years.

Extreme poverty is defined internationally as surviving on less than \$3 a day US and has

declined significantly around the world in recent decades. However, in 2026, the United Nations reports that 826 million people – or one in 10 people worldwide – were living in extreme poverty. If current trends continue, nine per cent of the world’s population will still live in extreme poverty by 2030.

In Canada, Statistics Canada reports that 11 per cent of Canadians – or about 4.5 million people – live below the poverty line. This is the percentage of people who cannot afford the cost of a specific basket of goods and services in their community, including food, clothing and footwear, transportation, shelter and

other expenses. In Ontario, this rises to 12.5 per cent of the population, but in Northumberland this drops to 8.7 per cent. That might not sound like a lot, but it’s still nearly one in 10 people in our community.

While the Ontario government is increasing the general minimum wage from \$17.60 to \$17.95 an hour on Oct. 1, there is still a gap between this and the hourly wage that people are believed to need to cover their basic expenses and participate in their community, which the Ontario Living Wage Network put at \$22.20 for Northumberland County.

The factors that contribute to

poverty in our community are many and complex, and we’ll get into those in more detail in the coming weeks. But the key takeaway for this week is that as we focus on local situations and solutions, let’s not forget the long-term global and national contexts we find ourselves in, which can be just as important as the current geopolitical events we are experiencing.

Simon Chorley is a Cobourg resident and a human rights and sustainability consultant. He has previously worked at a human rights charity tackling human trafficking, and for the United Nations. Connect with him on LinkedIn.

COLUMNS

‘The Mason Line’: A modest proposal



PAUL NICHOLAS MASON

Independent columnist

My wife and I visited the Shaw and Stratford Festivals this summer with our oldest grandchild. She found the experience magical.

Walking through Stratford and Niagara-on-the-Lake made it clear how much the two festivals have contributed to their towns' prosperity and beauty. The shops and restaurants were buzzing, the parks were gorgeous, and the streets were clean.

This got me thinking about Cobourg and Port Hope. Our communities are already beautiful

in places, but they face real economic challenges. It's dismaying to see so many empty storefronts, particularly in Cobourg. It would help to have something in the area that brings more customers to our businesses, more employment for local people, more revenue for our towns and real cultural enrichment.

I have a modest proposal.

We already have the two major festivals in Ontario – to say nothing of the Blyth Festival and the many theatre companies in cities and towns across the province, including, of course, the Capitol Theatre in Port Hope. East of Toronto, we have nothing on the scale of Shaw and Stratford, but a summer theatre program competing directly with those festivals would face significant headwinds.

Cobourg and Port Hope, though, are roughly as close to Toronto as Shaw and Stratford. It's a doable drive, unlike the wonderful theatre in Gananoque,

for example.

What if we created a Northumberland Hills Music Festival to take place in the fall? What if we organized it like the big theatre festivals?

The acting company at Shaw numbers between 70 and 100 people each season, and the festival employs 600 people in total. The Stratford Festival has more than 100 actors and employs nearly 1,000 people.

Of course, you don't begin there. You begin modestly and mindfully – but you need a guiding vision. Here's the vision for Year 10.

There would be one major musical because that alone would draw people from the GTA, Peterborough, Trenton, Belleville, and Kingston. That's the feature. Let's say that in the tenth-anniversary season it would be Jesus Christ Superstar or A Little Night Music, or Chelsea Hotel: The Songs of Leonard Cohen. They're all brilliant.

There would also be a light opera, and I'm thinking of H.M.S. Pinafore. We need a revival of Gilbert and Sullivan! Both musicals would play at the new theatre in Cobourg.

But here's where things begin to look very different from Shaw and Stratford because the rest of the offerings would all be musical, each offered three times a week.

In year 10 there would be a Concert of Black Spirituals – “Swing Low, Sweet Chariot,” “Wade in the Water,” “Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child,” – plus, many lesser-known but equally beautiful numbers.

There would also be a Concert of Inuit Throat Singing. Some venues have paired this music with electronic dance music.

There would also be Hip-Hop events, perhaps with some spoken-word poetry.

There would be Art Song Recitals — Lieder, mélodie, and English/American song. This

would cater to fans of classical music broadly speaking, but I imagine, whimsically perhaps, someone attending an art song recital in the afternoon and a hip-hop event in the evening.

And there would be a Solo Piano Concert featuring a well-known performer with a following in the classical world. And a Chamber Orchestra Concert. It would be impractical for the festival to field a full-scale orchestra, but the 15 musicians of a chamber orchestra would also provide the music for the two musicals.

So there you have it: Eight different offerings, all playing three times a week, requiring roughly 70 performers and directly employing, say 350 local people.

And I have a candidate for the festival's first artistic director.

Paul Mason is a voice-, film- and television-actor, and the author of six novels, most recently To Our Graves and Sackville House.



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BACK TO SCHOOL

R L A K L X B S L B O L R X R M B B C S U A K I S
S B L W H K D C R A Y O N S I Y L P L I H X I K F
K E S B P Z Z R S E I L S K H V E X F H B B H J F
O R V C Z D E K O D L Q V F T F R H X A M H O L O
O A J H H L H R I T N C B U D Y G B C C F B M R G
B S R M U O P J N G A K K B C X R K T T O D E E U
P E W R J N O G X S T N W N V Y P G E R K D W C M
M R I Q V D H L P G C I N L P A K X A Q K R O E Z
H A E H G Z N F F D K R G O C E A V C W M T R S S
V U N Q S B X R K T E D X K T P U Q H B U S K S M
V Y G M Z E O E M F X D V X W E V L E R H W V X U
G N S C I S S O R S Q N Q S S S B G R P R W Y G W
T R W D V Q L D D G M J R A V K N O I O G S H F L
N L A E O B V E X B J N N O L P G H O V Z N K J P
T X W I H F F F C L A S S R O O M D F K O L G U V
H P Z H Q Z I V T Q Y Q L F T N M M A I X I N N W
A X Z E N X H N N G G A G R I T J O M V M B L H T
L P C Q L K F E J T N W Z M B X T M I K C R J F S
M P M T V F R J J B Q H K Z P A N O M U X A Q T P
Z I K H U J W H Y B C J Y F L J I Y O U E R D J U
E J A W A S K F Q N H T G S S D N E I R F Y W I U
E B K T D G A J U U R L H W B B Y V K S J E K U J
O K Y Y O N T L N V T B A F X B W Z N S A J G N H
I C H R Y C B Z U C Z W K V T L B W B D I Y W D G
R N O V Z P E N C I L A V D B S N E M N P O I A R

- School
- Teacher
- Pencil
- Backpack
- Books
- Classroom
- Homework
- Friends
- Recess
- Lunch
- Eraser
- Crayons
- Notebook
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Library
- Bus

Riddles

I get shorter every time you use me, but I can help you write a very long story. What am I?
A pencil

I have a spine but no bones, pages but no feet, and I can take you places without moving. What am I?
A book

I have a face and two hands, but I can’t clap. In a classroom, I can tell you when it’s time to leave. What am I?
A clock

I can be full of letters without being a letter. I can be opened, closed, and carried around all day. What am I?
A backpack

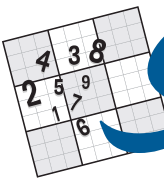
I have many lines but I’m not a poem. I can help make sure your lines are straight. What am I?
A ruler

I’m made to disappear, but the better I do my job, the smaller I become. What am I?
An eraser

I have a lot of keys, but I can’t open a single door. You might use me to write your homework. What am I?
A keyboard

I’m given before I’m taken, and I can tell a teacher exactly how much you know. What am I?
An answer

I’m always in front of you in class, but you can’t see me unless you look up. I can be covered in answers, questions, or drawings. What am I?
The board



Sudoku

4	6	5	9	7		2		
			6	4			7	9
7					2	5		6
3	5					1		4
2			5		6		8	
					1	6	3	
		4		9	7			1
5	1		2		4			8
	8	7		5			6	

Solutions on pg. 26

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5. Mercury
6. Sir Isaac Newton
7. United Nations
8. Rebecca
9. Shark
10. Tariff

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4	6	5	9	7	8	2	1	3
1	3	2	6	4	5	8	7	9
7	9	8	3	1	2	5	4	6
3	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	4
2	4	1	5	3	6	9	8	7
8	7	9	4	2	1	6	3	5
6	2	4	8	9	7	3	5	1
5	1	3	2	6	4	7	9	8
9	8	7	1	5	3	4	6	2

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GRANT HAVEN MEDIA

T4T WALK TO END SUICIDE

Saturday, Sept. 12 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Meet by the Cobourg Yacht Club yard area on Hibernia Street.

GOOD VIBRATIONS DRUM CIRCLE

Starts Sept. 17 at Trinity United Church in Cobourg and runs Thursdays starting at 7 p.m.
All hand drummers are welcome: Djembe, frame drum, Dundun, and bongo.
Come join a warm, welcoming group.

No drumming experience needed. Extra drums are available to use.

RUN SALMON RUN

Sunday, Sept. 13 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
This weekend marks the Ontario Street Theatre's fifth Run Salmon Run festival offering free fun along both sides of the river from Walton Street to the Rotary Footbridge.
While celebrating the annual salmon migration in the Ganaraska River, the event also features educational activities, vendors, live music and entertainment and displays.

A road closure will be in place to accommodate the festivities along Walton from Mill to Queen streets from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Public parking will not be permitted inside the closed section.

OKTOBERFEST

Happening Oct. 16 at Victoria Hall. Event starts at 6:15 p.m. with the tapping of a keg, then continues upstairs in the ballroom with German music, food, dancing, and a silent auction, all in support of Victoria Hall Volunteers. Tickets are \$75, which includes entertainment and dinner. There is a cash bar.

GRANT HAVEN MEDIA

West Northumberland
Independent

PICK UP LOCATIONS

*Subject to change based on availability

COBOURG

Best Western Plus Cobourg Inn & Convention Centre

Black Cat

Burnham Family Farm Market

Campbells Convenience

Canadian Tire

Centennial Pool (outdoor season)

Circle K

Cobourg Community Centre

Cobourg Public Library

Convenience K

David's NOFRILLS Cobourg

Foodland Cobourg

Giant Tiger

Just Brew It!

Justin's Pet Store

Kawartha Vision Care

Metro

Millstone Bread

Mucho Burrito Fresh Mexican Grill

Northumberland Central Chamber Of Commerce

Northumberland County Main Office

Northumberland Hills Hospital

Northumberland Mall

Northumberland United Way

Office of Philip Lawrence MP

Prep Food Co

Readers' Nook

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 133

Shoppers Drug Mart

Staples

Ten Thousand Villages

The Buttermilk Cafe

The Market & Smør

The Town of Cobourg - Victoria Hall

The Whispering Oak

Tim Hortons (Division St)

Tim Hortons (Elgin St W)

Tim Hortons (King St E)

Tim Hortons (William St)

Venture13

Victoria Hall

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Gilmer's Home Hardware Building Centre

Happenstance Bakery & Coffee Roastery

Jack Burger Sports Complex

Lakelands Public Health

Mapleleaf Smokeland Variety

Milly's Market

Municipality of Port Hope

Northumberland Arts Gallery and Shop

Port Hope Super Convenience

Pharmasave Port Hope

Port Hope & District Chamber of Commerce

Port Hope Diner

Port Hope Public Library

Queenies Bake Shop

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 30

Shoppers Drug Mart

Super Stop Convenience

The Pulse Cafe & Eatery

Town Park Recreation Centre

Victoria Convenience

Village Variety Coffee Shop

Youth Wellness Hub

TOWNSHIP OF HAMILTON

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OBITUARY

Fydirchuk



"Arthur 'Art' Fydirchuk
July 4, 1938 - September 4, 2026

Art passed peacefully in his sleep on Friday, September 4th, 2026, at Northumberland Hills Hospital in his 88th year with his loving wife by his side.

He leaves behind Sylvia,

his wife of 61 years, his two children Laura and Jeff (Amanda), and his four grandchildren Miranda, Samantha (Dustin), Melissa, Allison (Deyn). He was predeceased by his parents William and Nettie Fydirchuk.

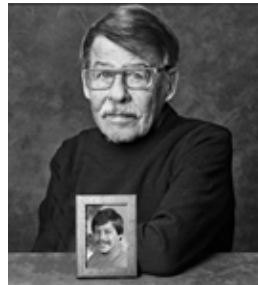
He was a loving brother to Matilda (Nick) Wingie, brothers-in-law Ernie (Irma) Kalinovich, Nestor (Olesia) Kalinowich, and William (Margaret) Kalinowich.

He is also lovingly remembered by many nieces, nephews, cousins and their families.

Art was a hard worker for 32 years at General Motors. After retirement his true passion was woodworking. He spent years in his shop building furniture which will be treasured for years to come by his children and grandchildren. He also volunteered his time in the community. He enjoyed many different activities and hobbies with his wife and family."

OBITUARY

Steel



Bruce Steel

April 26, 1949 – September 5, 2026

On September 5th, 2026 in Cobourg, at the age of 77.

Beloved husband of Karen for 53 years. Loving father of Alison (Brad) and Graeme (Grace).

Proud Grumpa of Curtis

(Cassie), and step-Grumpa of Quin, Miles and Samuel. Brother of Catherine.

Remembered by his many friends, students and colleagues in Northumberland County and surrounding area schools, where he was a passionate educator for 30+ years.

A celebration of Bruce's life will be held on Sunday September 27th, 2026 in the MacCoubrey Funeral Home Reception Centre 30 King St. E., Cobourg from 1 to 4 pm, with memories shared at 1:30 pm.

Anyone wishing to make a donation, may do so to the Charles H. Best Diabetes Centre or the Peterborough Regional Health Centre.

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Tuesday / Thursday: 4:15 | 7:15



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