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Thursday, March 6, 2014

Volume 33, Issue 10



WELCOMING COMMITTEE FOR OLYMPIAN

Belfountain area residents Fred and Chris Webster, along with friend John Wilson, were ringing the bell and waving the banner last Thursday at Pearson International Airport to welcome their daughter Brittany home from the Sochi Olympic Games, where she competed in cross-country skiing events. Turn to page A11 for more on her Olympic experience.

Photo by Bill Rea

Coming thaw will reveal real extent of ice storm

By Bill Rea

The full impacts from the December ice storm in Caledon are still not yet known, but Town staff are busy dealing with and planning for the clean-up.

Town council Tuesday received three staff delegations aimed at addressing parts of the aftermath.

Public Works Director David Loveridge told councillors one complication is that the exact

impacts from the storm won't be known until after the spring thaw. He said there might still be surprises in the level of damage apparent after the snow melts.

He also said there will be the possibility of flooding in certain areas, such as in and around the Credit River.

"We're concerned about a rapid spring thaw," he remarked.

Loveridge said the top pri-

Change smoke alarm batteries

Clocks go forward this weekend

After the winter we've had, a sure sign of the coming of spring is welcome, and we get



one this weekend. This is the weekend that daylight time starts, so be sure to set all your clocks and other time pieces ahead one hour before going to bed Saturday night.

And it's a very good time to think about home safety, especially when it comes to smoke detectors.

Caledon's Fire Chief David Forfar is urging people to "change your batteries and please make sure you have a carbon monoxide detector in your home."

He said it's important for people to make sure there's at least one alarm on each level of the house, "and if your smoke alarm is over 10-years-old, get a new one."

"It's a simple message that's important to get out," Forfar said. "You're responsible for your own fire safety."

ority will be protecting Town assets, like roads, bridges, culverts and trees. The problems that are already apparent, he said, includes a "deluge of potholes."

As well, he said there's an obligation on the municipality to help residents move forward with trees on their properties that have to be removed.

The program that Loveridge put forward, which council accepted, will include an enhanced pothole maintenance program; entering into arrangements with private contractors for the removal of debris that could impact bridges or culverts, or cause flooding; entering contracts for the removal of debris at roadsides and in parks; negotiating with Peel Region to come up with additional sites for debris disposal; acquiring bags and sand supplies for voluntary sand-bagging in places that might be at risk of flooding; and having the annual tree seedling program offered for free to residents who had to deal with tree damage.

Councillor Richard Whitehead raised concerns about the many long driveways in rural areas of Town, as well as culverts on private properties. Storm water drainage systems on these lands will have to be looked at.

He also had praise for Town staff and the way they have been handling the aftermath

of the storm. Whitehead sits on the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA), and he said staff there recently commented that they wished other municipalities were working as collaboratively as Caledon.

But there's also the concern that much of the Humber River system is in public ownership (unlike the Credit River, much of which is owned privately). He wondered if there had been much discussion of public liability.

Loveridge agreed there are challenges. He said there are some trees in the rivers, and it will take work to get them out before they block the water flows. One problem is with trees upstream that are leaning toward the water. It's hard to get at them now and remove them, so authorities have to wait and see what happens.

Whitehead also suggested Loveridge make sure there's enough stock for the tree program. Loveridge had said there will be a excess of mulch from the chipping of downed trees, but Whitehead pointed out if a lot of trees have to be planted, that extra mulch could be useful.

"You can't plant a tree and walk away from it," he said. "You have to mulch it."

Loveridge said he's been talking to officials at Peel Pub-

See 'Debris' on page A2

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

A directory of what’s happening
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This column is provided as a free public service to non-profit organizations to announce up-coming events. Please contact Bill Rea at the Caledon Citizen at (905) 857-6626 or 1-888-557-6626 if you wish to have an announcement published.

THURSDAY, MARCH 6
Adjustments After Birth Postpartum Support Group meets at Caledon Parent-Child Centre, 150 Queen. St. South, Bolton from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. An inclusive program for families presented by CPCC and Brampton/Caledon Community Living. Come play and connect with other families to explore the various issues that surround parenting a child with special needs. For details, visit www.cp-cc.org or call 905-857-0090.

Bolton Banter Toastmasters meet every first, third and fifth Thursday at the Albion-Bolton Community Centre at 7 p.m. Lose your fear of public speaking and build leadership skills. Everyone welcome. Email info@boltonbanter.org or visit www.boltonbanter.org

FRIDAY, MARCH 7
World Day of Prayer services, composed this year by women in Egypt, will be at 1:30 p.m. at Caven Presbyterian Church, 110 King St. West in Bolton and at 2 p.m. at Caledon East United Church at 6046 Old Church Rd.

SATURDAY, MARCH 8
Is over eating a problem? Overeaters Anonymous meets every Saturday morning at 9 a.m. at Claude Presbyterian Church, 15175 Hurontario St. (Highway 10). For more information, call 416-615-2300.

MONDAY, MARCH 10
Adult computer workshop at the Albion-Bolton branch of Caledon Public Library from 7 to 8:30 p.m. The topic will be Mobile Apps. Learn about downloading apps to mobile devices. Explore apps available for library services, learn how to navigate search for apps and manage setting on your device. Advance registration required. Call the library at 905-857-1400 for more information.

TUESDAY, MARCH 11
Orangeville and District Horticultural Society will hold a general meeting at the Seniors' Centre at 26 Bythia St., Orangeville. There will be refreshments and social at 7, followed by the meeting at 7:30. The topic will be Mason Bees with Julia Kron of Fergus. For more information, go to www.orangevillehort.org

The Peel North Branch of the Retired Women Teachers of Ontario will meet at 11:30 a.m. at the Mandarin Restaurant, 238 Biscayne Cres., in Brampton. All retired women teachers are welcome. RSVP to Karin at 905-796-2146.

Let's Get Together: Sharing the Journey of Parenting a Child with Special Needs at Caledon Parent-Child Centre, 150 Queen. St. South, Bolton from 5:45 to 7:15 p.m. This group is for mothers needing additional support following the birth or adoption of a child. Registration is required. Group and child care are offered free of charge. For details, visit www.cp-cc.org or call 905-857-0090.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12
Lifetree Cafe meets St. James' Church, at 6025 Old Church Rd. in Caledon East. This free venue for

conversation runs from 7 to 8 p.m., and everyone is welcome. Tonight's topic will be Wounded Soldiers - When war comes home. Call 416-579-9977 for more information.

Lectio Divina Meditation Group meets from 11 a.m. to noon. Looking for an escape and rejuvenation? Come and join us for tea and meditation. All are welcome. Located at Bolton United Church at 8 Nancy St.

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Chapter #ON1381 meets every Wednesday from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., at Caledon Central School (Kennedy and Charleston, Caledon village). This non-profit weight loss group meets to learn about nutrition and exercise. Call Barbara at (519) 927-5696.

Caledon East Seniors Club #588 meets every Wednesday at 1:15 p.m. at the Caledon Community Complex, Caledon East. Everyone welcome for an afternoon of friendly euchre and lunch. For more information, call (905) 584-9933 or (905) 857-3352.

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Group meets in Bolton United Church Heritage Hall. Weigh-in from 6:45 to 7:20 p.m.; with the meeting running meeting 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. This non-profit weight loss support group meets every Wednesday. Everyone welcome. Call Ruth at 905-857-3237 or Lorraine at 905-857-1568.

THURSDAY, MARCH 13
The Caledon Horticultural Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Room at Cheltenham Firehall, 14190 Creditview Rd. in Cheltenham. Plants I know and love will be the topic of conversation with Brenda Heenan. The guest fee is \$3.

Adjustments After Birth Postpartum Support Group meets at Caledon Parent-Child Centre, 150 Queen. St. South, Bolton from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. An inclusive program for families presented by CPCC and Brampton/Caledon Community Living. Come play and connect with other families to explore the various issues that surround parenting a child with special needs. For details, visit www.cp-cc.org or call 905-857-0090.

“Has your life been affected by someone else's drinking?” Al-Anon Family Group is for you.” The Bolton group meets Thursdays at 8:30 p.m. at Caven Presbyterian Church (110 King W, Bolton). Call 416-410-3809 or <http://al-anon.alateen.on.ca>

Free HST Information Session, presented by Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) will be from 2 to 4 P.M. at Jobs Caledon, 18 King St. East in Bolton. Aimed at small businesses, CRA will provide an overview of HST, including what is taxable and what is exempt, simplified accounting methods, filing returns, remitting HST and special cases. A question and answer period will follow. For registration, phone 905-584-2300, ext. 200 or email sbec@ccs4u.org.

TUESDAY, MARCH 18
The SouthFields Village Residents Group will hold it's next quarterly public meeting. It will start at 7 p.m. at SouthFields Village Public School.

Bethell Hospice will be holding a volunteer information session from 6 to 8 p.m. To register, contact Louise Stinson at lstinson@bethellhospice.org or 905-838-3534, ext. 2245.

Arrests made in suspicious death

A 44-year-old Brampton man has been charged with manslaughter and committing an indignity to a dead body.

This is in connection with the death of Douglas Brady Bell, 28, of Orangeville. Mr. Ball was found Feb. 22 unconscious in the area of Old School Road and Kennedy Road in Caledon, and he was later pronounced dead in hospital.

Caledon OPP reports the Major Crime Unit, assisted by the detachment Street Crime Unit, uniformed detachment members, the Central Region Emergency Response Team, members of the Central Region Support Team and Peel Regional Police, executed a search warrant at an

Avondale Boulevard residence in Brampton.

Douglas Tavenor was arrested as a result of the on-going investigation, under the direction of Detective Inspector Paul McCrickard of the OPP Criminal Investigation Branch.

Three other Brampton residents, Ralph Terry Maywood, 51, Patrick Egal, 26, and Farnaz Yaghinali, 44, were charged with committing an indignity to a dead body and being an accessory after the fact.

Witnesses or anyone with information are asked to please contact police at 905-584-2241 or the OPP Provincial Communications Centre at 1-888-310-1122.

Learn about proposed seniors' community

A community meeting is being planned for tonight (Thursday) at Caledon Village Place to discuss a proposed seniors lifestyle community.

A conceptual proposal and design for a fully integrated seniors community has been suggested for some 200 acres immediately north of the Giles/Hawthorn Acres subdivisions between Highway 10 and Kennedy Road, about one kilometre north of Charleston Sideroad.

Councillors Richard Paterak and Doug Beffort reported the land owners have presented to the Seniors Advisory Committee of the Town of Caledon a concept of seniors housing, incorporating three phases of housing from individual units to retirement residence to institutional needs on the same campus. The concept is known

as Heather Glenn Seniors Village.

The concept, as presented, addresses the strong need for seniors' accommodation in many forms. There are, however, many hurdles to overcome, including satisfying the Greenbelt Act; how to service the land for water and wastewater; and how to meet the requirements of the Town's Official Plan.

The councillors are anxious to hear what the public thinks of this concept. They added the Heather Glenn group has been invited to make a presentation.

No formal application has been made yet. The meeting will start at 7 p.m.

For more information, contact Paterak at 519-927-5034 or richard.paterak@caledon.ca, or Beffort at 519-927-5365 or doug.beffort@caledon.ca

Debris clean-up still a worry

From page A1

lic Works, and learned that expanding the Region's yard waste program is not a simple as it sounds. The program is driven by the amount of equipment that's available. He added the solution to the problem would be tricky. There could be a program to go street by street collecting storm debris, but that would be costly. There could be a central drop-off point, but many residents aren't equipped to transport trees.

He also stressed that it won't be until spring that they learn exactly how bad things are.

Councillor Nick deBoer said there needs to be some help for people in urban areas to deal with the debris. He suggested summer students, under supervision, could go around with a chipper and deal with it that way. Loveridge said that could be an option, adding there are others.

Loveridge also said the rains last month provided a good test of what might be expected in the thaw. One priority, he pointed out, will be to make sure the catch basins are not plugged to ensure the water has some place to go.

Councillor Allan Thompson brought up the need for communications. Loveridge said there will be a number of media initiatives, involving Twitter, websites, etc. There will also be a central phone number the public can call. He also stressed they will need help from the public. For example, people who find their catch basin is blocked will be helping out if they can clear it themselves, since the Town won't

be able to address them all simultaneously.

Loveridge told Councillor Rob Mezzapelli one of the problem is with so much snow on the ground, it's hard to know exactly where the basins are, although he added keeping them clear is a high priority.

Addressing the sandbags, Loveridge said this would be a good time to secure the sand, even if it means being over supplied.

“Sand is something we can always use,” he said, “so it's not a wasted asset if we don't use it.”

Councillor Richard Paterak said the Town has its own sand pit, but Loveridge wasn't sure the quality would be suitable. He said he would look into whether it could be sourced internally, but he also stressed the need for getting it soon, rather than having to catch up later.

Brian Baird, parks manager and landscape architect for the Town, told Mezzapelli trees that lost major limbs or had large wounds could be in danger of diseases.

He told Councillor Patti Foley there's no exact word on how many of the Town's trees were lost, but he guessed at between 100 and 150.

Council also accepted a report from Caledon Fire and Emergency Services that there be no change to the program for issuing permits for open-air burning when it comes to dealing with debris. They are not allowed in settlement areas, because homes are close together and there could be hazards, including health issues from the resulting smoke.

Councillor Doug Beffort pointed out there are some people in settlement areas living on large lots. He wondered if there could be some program set up as a trial. Fire Chief David Forfar was reluctant to go that route, citing people who might be impacted by smoke. “It might open a real can of worms,” he warned.

DeBoer pointed out this is another factor that re-enforces the need for urban residents to have a simple way of dealing with their debris.

Council also approved a \$200 rebate for low-income seniors and low-income people with disabilities to help with clean-up and the re-establishment of electricity on private property related to the exterior of homes.



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Police concerned about drivers who don't adjust to conditions

Irresponsible motorists who put everyone at risk by failing to adjust their driving behaviour to account for sudden extreme weather conditions were once again responsible for hundreds of crashes and many multi-vehicle collisions in the central and southwestern part of the province last week, according to OPP.

Police maintain the most basic preventative, common sense driving behaviours, which are the key to safe driving under these hazardous road conditions, were absent from most of last Thursday's collisions. This is according to the hundreds of officers who responded to the thousands of calls for service that were received by OPP call centres in Orillia and London.

The basic safe-driving tips continue to be slow down, don't pass and keep distance between vehicles. If you don't need to be on the road, don't travel. If you are on the road, make sure that your full lighting package is on. Your taillights are just as important to be seen by other drivers as your headlights in these kinds of conditions.

"Motorists who drive in these conditions with their 'it won't happen to me attitude' and who continue to drive with reckless disregard for the safety of the other motorists around them and for our officers who have to respond to these calls, fail to take the most basic steps towards prevention of these avoidable collisions," OPP Deputy Commissioner Brad Blair, provincial commander of traffic safety and operational support said Friday. "The result was evident in the road carnage that we witnessed yesterday."

"The media do a fantastic job of partnering with the OPP to help us deliver the message during these storms," Blair added.

"Thanks to their assistance, the public is kept up to date on the major developments and traffic interruptions that are ongoing throughout the day; but what the public doesn't know is the logistics and large number of front-line and support personnel that we need to be engaged and deployed to respond to these thousands of calls during these situations."

OPP report that between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. last Thursday, the Provincial Communications Centres received more than 3,300 calls for service and approximately 646 motor vehicles collisions were reported. There were three fatalities.

Nine OPP vehicles were struck while out at the scene of these collisions. One unattended cruiser was demolished by a dump truck while the officer was out of the vehicle. One officer sustained serious injuries in Perth County when her cruiser was struck from behind while at the scene of a collision.

While police extended their appreciation to those drivers who adjust their driving to the conditions of the roads, they will continue to target those aggressive drivers who do not.



NO INJURIES IN MONDAY HOUSE FIRE

Monday morning's frigid temperatures made things difficult for Caledon firefighters, but they were able to bring this house fire on King Street in Sandhill under control. Caledon Fire and Emergency Services report the 9-1-1 call came in a couple of minutes before 5 a.m. While crews from the Caledon East station were on their way, they were informed that flames could be seen coming through the roof. It was also not clear if anyone was in the house. Upon arrival, the firefighters started an offensive action involving search and rescue, and also set up a rural shuttle operation. As things got worse in the house, crews were forced to withdraw and start a defensive fire attack, utilizing several large handlines to control the fire. The blaze was brought under control at about 8:40 a.m. There were no injuries reported, and the cause of the fire is still under investigation. Damage has been estimated at \$400,000. Crews from the fire stations in Caledon East, Inglewood, Cheltenham, Bolton and Valleywood were involved in fighting this fire, along with Caledon OPP, Hydro One and Peel EMS.

Photo by Bill Rea

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A random draw will be held at the newspaper's office on Friday, March 7, 2014 @ 12noon.
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Federal government marking International Women's Day is this Saturday

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They drive growth, create jobs, and spark innovation. It is fitting then, that International Women's Day 2014 recognizes the contribution of women entrepreneurs and business leaders with the theme: Strong Women. Strong Canada. Canadian Women – Creating Jobs One Business at a Time.

In 2011, women-owned businesses contributed approximately \$148 billion to the Canadian economy. Currently, women-owned businesses employ more than 1.5 million Canadians. When women entrepreneurs succeed, we all succeed.

The government of Canada is committed to supporting women-owned businesses for success. Economic Action Plan 2014 introduced measures to support women entrepreneurs and business leaders, including a commitment to increase mentorship among women business owners. Additional measures in Economic Action Plan 2014 to support the development of small business and

OTTAWA JOURNAL

David Tilson
MP Dufferin-Caledon



financial indicators; and improved board effectiveness. Our government has demonstrated leadership on this issue by working with an Advisory Council of leaders from the private sector to promote the participation of women on corporate boards.

Status of Women Canada's (SWC) initiatives include funding projects that support the economic security and prosperity of Canadian women. Since 2007, SWC has provided more than \$53 million for projects to improve women's economic security and prosperity, including in excess of \$9 million for projects that address women's entrepreneurship.

As we celebrate International Women's Day, I would like to acknowledge all of the women – including women business owners – in Dufferin-Caledon who work hard every day to support our families and enrich our community. The government of Canada is behind you and will continue to enact policies that ensure a solid economy and improved prosperity for women, their families, and all Canadians.

We recognize there is still work to be done to address the gender gap on corporate boards in our country. This imbalance exists in spite of the fact that the business case for closing the gender gap on corporate boards is very strong. In fact, a recent Conference Board of Canada report pointed to the considerable benefits of advancing more women onto corporate boards, including strong financial performance; ability to attract and retain top talent; heightened innovation; enhanced client insight; strong performance on non-

Progress continues to be made toward equality for women in Ontario

By Teresa Piruzza
Minister Responsible
for Women's Issues

International Women's Week is an opportunity for Ontarians to focus on strengthening the role of women in our society.

From March 2 to 8, the spotlight is on women and the advances we have made toward full equality around the world and here in Ontario. This year, the United Nations' theme for International Women's Day March 8 is "Equality for women is progress for all."

During this week, the Ontario Women's Directorate will celebrate the progress women have made through strong leadership. Celebrations will take place in communities across Ontario, with participation from women's groups, secondary schools, post-secondary institutions and businesses.

As Minister Responsible for Women's Issues, I am proud that for 30 years the directorate has played an important role in effecting and influencing change for women here in Ontario. We have worked to champion the achievements and leadership of women across the province. And again this year, we are honouring 106 women and girls through the Leading Women, Leading Girls Recognition Pro-

gram for their contributions to improving the lives of others.

While we can acknowledge with certainty that progress has been made in having a female Premier, barriers remain that prevent more women from becoming leaders. We must work together to tear those barriers down.

Our government believes gender equality and a stronger economy go hand-in-hand. That is why over the past year we have worked toward increasing the representation of women on boards and in senior management positions. Through roundtables across Ontario, we have engaged businesses and community leaders to talk about women's economic empowerment.

And we are seeing more women on boards, in politics and in non-traditional jobs.

Since 2012, more than 300 women have received training in the skilled trades and information technology through our Women In Skilled Trades and Information Technology program. Over the next two years, 600 low-income women will be trained to start and run their own businesses through our Microlending Program.

Three decades after the creation of the Ontario Women's Directorate, there is visible progress and we will continue to work

towards full equality for women.

I encourage everyone to take part in community activities to celebrate this

year's International Women's Week. When we strengthen equality for women, we all become stronger.



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY PROCLAIMED

This coming Saturday (March 8) is International Women's Day. Mayor Marolyn Morrison signed the proclamation at Tuesday's Town council meeting, marking the day as "the global date connecting all women around the world and inspiring them to achieve their full potential." Morrison was joined by Shelly Sargent and Adriana Roche of the Women's Day Committee at Family Transition Place for the proclamation. Councillors Gord McClure, Doug Beffort, Richard Paterak, Rob Mezzapelli, Allan Thompson, Richard Whitehead, Patti Foley and Nick deBoer were on hand too.

Photo by Bill Rea

Silence from our leaders



NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Claire Hoy

It's almost too terrible to repeat here, particularly in a family newspaper.

But, incredibly, it seems that people strolling into some downtown Montreal businesses are greeted by sales clerks uttering "Bonjour-Hi."

The slippery slope if there ever was one.

And if that's not bad enough – and it's hard to believe that it isn't – a woman who owns a boutique in Chelsea, Que. – a town evenly split between Anglophones and Francophones – actually posted some English words on her Facebook.

Where will it end? Well, if Quebec's rapidly anti-English Parti Quebecois wins a majority in the next election – as it likely will – they plan to toughen their bigoted language laws even more.

The language police have already warned boutique owner Eva Cooper – who, like all her staff, is fluently bilingual – to edit the English from her Facebook or face legal and financial sanctions from the Office quebecois de la langue française.

And Diane De Courcy, Quebec's minister responsible for French Language, told a business group last week that there is "an unacceptable slide into institutional bilingualism" in Quebec businesses, citing the apparently heinous use of "Bonjour-Hi" as a case in point. Even worse, she said, this backdoor use of English words by Quebecers is "not only in Montreal..."

She went on to say that it's a wonderful thing if individuals want to learn different languages like English, Spanish, Mandarin and Arabic in their private lives, but institutions in Quebec and businesses must operate strictly in French.

"There is a difference with what is institutional and it must be without mercy," she said.

If you think this is just one rogue cabinet minister shooting off her mouth, think again. You'll recall how thrilled we all were when the two Montreal sisters Chloe and Justine Dufour-Lapointe won gold and silver medals at the Sochi Olympics. A picture of them celebrating, waving their red and white Canadian Olympics/HBC mitts in the air, was apparently too much to take for Pierre Duchesne, Quebec's minister of higher education, who re-tweeted the picture after digitally replacing those offensive red and white mitts with blue and white mitts featuring the fleur-de-lis.

Then there was the congratulatory message from Quebec Premier Pauline Marois

herself, congratulating the men's hockey team for winning the gold medal.

"My sincerest congratulations to the men's hockey team, who won the gold medal at the Sochi Winter Olympics, she said, pointedly avoiding the dreaded word "Canada," while making special mention only of the four Quebec-born members of the team.

Then, of course, there's the ongoing hearings over the PQ law to ban most forms of individual religion in the public. No more hijabs or crosses or skull caps to offend the sensibilities of Quebecers.

On top of all that, they're now saying they intend to rewrite all their school history books to make sure that Quebec children are schooled in the separatist propaganda, which views Canadian history as an endless series of insults against Quebec and its legitimate aspirations.

And so it goes, one very public insult after another from these haters, and barely a peep is heard from the entire cowardly political class.

Not a word from Prime Minister Stephen Harper. Nada from NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair and Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau, both born and raised Quebecers themselves. Nothing from Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne, or for that matter any other premier or opposition leader that I've been able to discover searching the internet.

Imagine if a political leader in any other province groused about the use of the odd French word in business or commerce. All hell would break loose. Every human rights commission in the country would be on full alert. Newspapers would be churning out special editions on the horrors of linguistic bigotry raising its ugly head.

But when Quebec does it – over and over and over again – we hear only the sound of silence.

Granted, as a minority linguistic and cultural group living in a largely English North America, Quebecers do have cause to protect their position in a way that the rest of us don't. Fair enough.

It's one thing to promote your own culture, it's another thing to criminalize the use of one of Canada's so-called "official" languages.

Mind you, unlike the rest of Canada, Quebec has only one "official" language, i.e. French. Imagine the outrage if any other province tried to eliminate the use of French.

Yet Quebec can go on insulting the rest of us, spreading their anti-English bigotry, with absolute impunity, and with the knowledge that every single political leader in this country lacks the courage to speak up.

No wonder they keep doing it. Who's going to stop them?

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LILY DOUGLAS

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to the Council, enclosing a
copy of material that is the
subject of the complaint, at
80 Gould St., Suite 206,
Toronto, ON M5A 4L8.

Editorial

Concentrate on
driving

Ontario Provincial Police are about to start a campaign next week aimed at raising awareness and enforcement of distracted driving.

This is in light of recent statistics that indicate people who text or talk on hand-held devices while at the wheel are responsible for more traffic fatalities than probably most of us suspected.

According to a release issued by OPP earlier this week, 2013 saw 78 people killed in mishaps they investigated which were related to distracted driving. That’s substantially more than the 57 people who died in cashes involving impaired driving and 44 in speed-related incidents. Granted, these statistics only involve incidents investigated by OPP, but the numbers are a little too hard to shrug off.

We live in a society of very busy people, and the idea of trying to save time by performing extra tasks while driving can certainly be tempting. But there is very little tempting about being involved in an accident in which someone is killed.

“When you consider the overall impact of these 78 fatalities last year and the 325 other distracted driving victims who have died since 2010, the number of people these irresponsible drivers have had a profound and devastating impact on is in the thousands,” OPP Deputy Commissioner Brad Blair, commander of traffic safety and operational support, said. “Everyone, from the victims’ families and friends to the police officers who attend these horrific collision scenes and have to notify next-of-kin, knows the emotional impact of one life lost to this senseless driving behavior trickles down to so many people who, sadly, through experience, know how badly this behaviour needs to stop.”

It’s hard to argue against that, isn’t it?

Our Readers Write

Learn of emerald ash borer

Millions of ash trees across Ontario have already been lost to the destructive pest, emerald ash borer (EAB).

EAB was discovered and confirmed by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency in Caledon in the south hill of Bolton area in the summer of 2012. The Town-owned urban street tree inventory totals approximately 6,500 trees. Of those, approximately 1,100 are Ash trees. Many more ash trees are on private property and in woodlands across Caledon. Untreated, infested trees will generally die in two to three years.

Many people don’t know if they have any ash trees in their neighbourhood or yard.

Please join the Bolton and District Horticultural Society at its monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. March 18 at the Albion-Bolton Community Centre to get more information about this devastating pest. Guest fees are waived for this meeting. Guests please RSVP to bolton@gardenontario.org

The speakers are from LEAF (Local Enhancement and Appreciation of Forests) a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the protection and improvement of the urban forest. They will provide information about identifying ash trees and understanding what options are available. The goal of the meeting is to empower residents to take action in their own communities through treatment of existing healthy ash trees and planting of new trees.

The Town of Caledon removed and replaced approximately 50 EAB infested Town-owned street trees in the south hill of Bolton area in 2012 and has treated approximately 220 large, mature Town-owned ash trees in the north hill. More details about the Town’s EAB action plan will be shared at the meeting.

Brenda Heenan,
BDHS Program Director

Liberals support veterans

I am pleased to advise letter writer Craig Honey in his Feb. 20 letter to the Caledon Citizen that the Liberal Party of Canada is in full agreement with his sentiment to support our veterans.

At the recent 2014 Liberal Biennial Convention, we in fact passed with a unanimous vote (there were about 3,000 delegates present) Resolution 33 — A Social Covenant with Canadian Veterans, which was one of the priority resolutions set for the party by the grassroot delegates. In summary, this resolution stated that a future Liberal government “. . . will live up to our country’s sacred obligation to care for veterans and their families throughout their lives by allowing them to maintain a quality of life that is worthy of the sacrifices that they have made for Canada.”

Interestingly, this Liberal policy resolution, developed over the last year, passed shortly after the Conservative government was criticized by veterans for closing, as a cost-saving measure, nine regional offices that support veterans while government documents, recently obtained by the Globe and Mail, revealed increased spending by 116 per cent from 2008-09 to 2012-13 for Minister’s Regional Offices to support visiting (political) government cabinet ministers. The number of these Ministers Regional Offices grew from 12 to 17 in that period with the new Yellowknife office alone (with one full-time and one part-time employee) costing \$821,443 to set up. Must be really nice furniture!

George denHaan,
Director Communications,
Dufferin-Caledon Federal Liberal Association

It happened today

For years, many in the United States and Canada got their daily helping of news from him, particularly when it came to coverage of the space program.

Called by many “the most trusted man in America,” it’s been said (never confirmed) that President Lyndon Johnson realized he had lost the support of Middle America when he lost Walter Cronkite.

Cronkite’s last broadcast as the anchor on the CBS Evening News took place this day, March 6, 1981.

Caledon Citizen **WEBPOLL**
www.caledoncitizen.com

Results from last week’s poll:
**Now that the Sochi Olympics are over,
are you satisfied with Canada’s performance
at the Games?**

a) Yes 100%

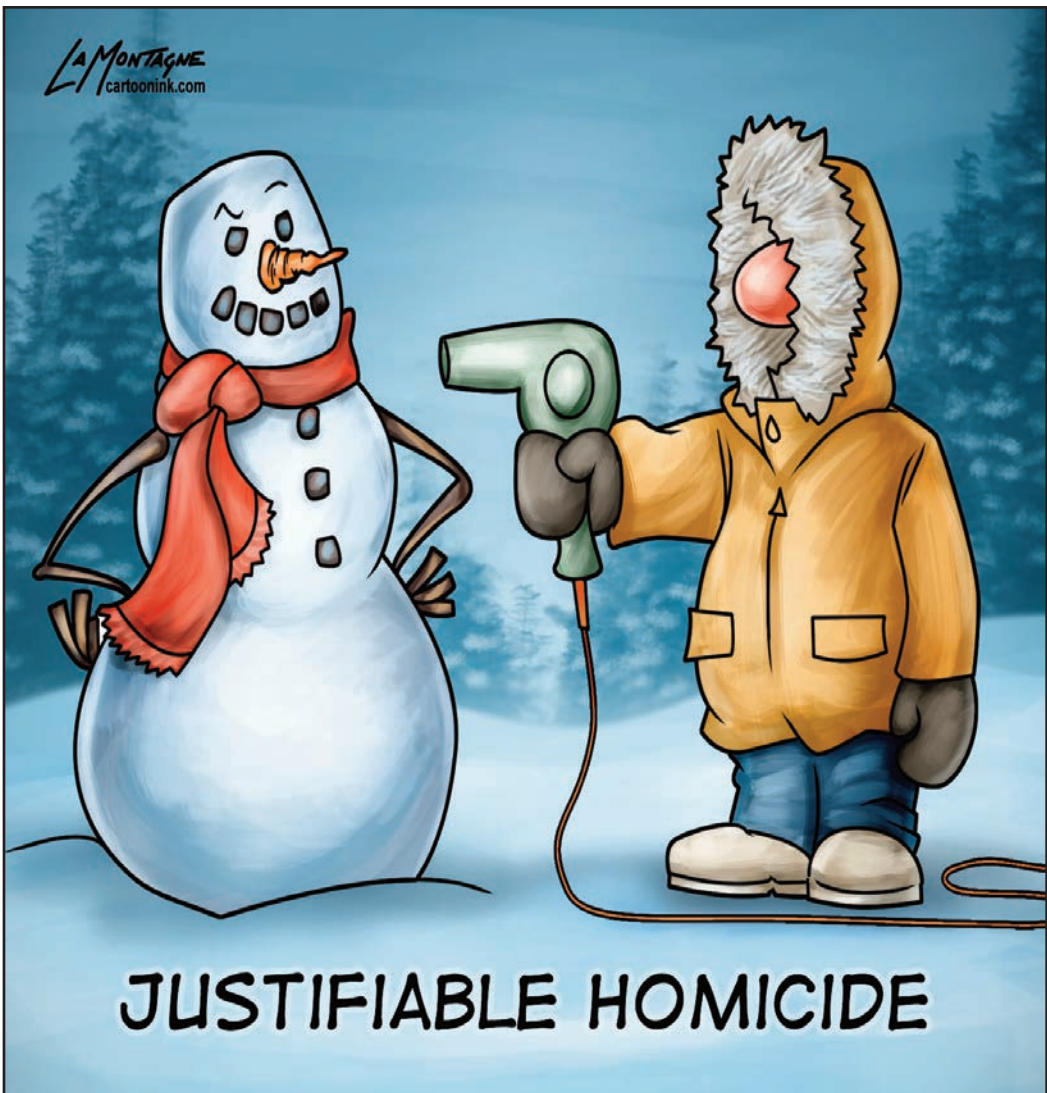
b) No 0%

Did you contribute
to an RRSP for
the 2013 tax year?

a) Yes
b) No

So go to the website
and cast a vote!

The results of this poll are in no way considered to be valid or infallible.



Give me ranked ballots

There was an item that I stumbled across in the news last week.

Truth is, I was a little surprised that it didn’t get more play in the media.

Scarborough — Guildwood MPP Mitzie Hunter, a Liberal, has put forth a private member’s bill that could impact on future municipal elections in Toronto. The bill, if passed (and I suspect it won’t be), would see ranked ballots used. The concept is actually known by a couple of names. The term I’ve come to be used to is “preferential ballots.” But as Bill Shakespeare astutely observed some centuries ago, “What’s in a name?”

The way it would work is people who are going in to vote in an election would mark their first choice, as well as second and third choice.

We’ll hypothetically say there are five candidates in the running for mayor, and work on the assumption that none of the five emerge with 50 per cent of the vote, meaning no clear majority.

The candidate who’s bringing up the rear would be tossed from the running, and the second-choice votes on that person’s ballots would be doled out accordingly to the remaining candidates. If there’s still no candidate with a clear majority, then the person in fourth place would be removed from contention, with the second choices on that person’s ballots being distributed, along with the third choices on the first person who go bumped from the race. Eventually, under this concept, someone has to come up with a clear majority.

Like I stated above, Hunter’s bill received little attention from the media, but I decided to follow up on it. I was curious what Dufferin — Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones thought of the idea. While she admitted she was not completely up on this particular piece of legislation (in fairness, the lady does have a lot of other more pressing matters on her agenda), she did raise one issue that had bothered me too; namely that this bill was aimed specifically at Toronto, and presumably at a certain politician.

Although I have limited use for the buffet show that has characterized Toronto politics over the last little while, I very much like what Hunter has in mind. I just wish it were more broader based.

For one thing, why not implement it across the board to all levels of government, including federal. I know Hunter’s not in a position to influence events in Ottawa, but there are more than 300 MPs who are.

The simple fact is I think this idea has a lot going for it.

I have been a fan of preferential ballots for years. I first saw them used in the 1993 federal election at a nomination meeting of the old Reform Party of Canada. It was one of the very few positive things that gang did for Canada — their main accomplishment was giving Jean Chretien an open-ended lease on the Prime Minister’s Office, which I don’t think was anything to brag about.

Granted, the vote-counting process was a long one. If memory serves, there were five candidates seeking the nomination, and it took several hours to pick a winner, with a couple of hundred party members basically sitting around and doing nothing.

I can see more of the same problems if we tried to apply things to a broader election.

For one thing, looking at the federal level, there would be a lot of ridings where the results probably wouldn’t be known for a couple of days, at least. Granted, that would not always be the case. In the last federal election in Dufferin-Caledon, David Tilson got 59 per cent of the vote, meaning that the issue would have been settled that night.

But in the 2011 provincial campaign,



Bill Rea

Jones got 47 per cent, almost 20 percentage points better than Liberal Lori Loway, who finished second. Jones was a little more than 1,000 votes shy of 50 per cent. Libertarian Daniel Kowalewski finished last, and his 250 votes wouldn’t have put anyone over the top, although it stands to reason some of the people who voted for him might have put Jones down as their second or third choice. Karen Gventer was fourth with 5,540 votes. It’s possible that the extra thousand votes Jones needed would have come from people who picked Gventer first, but if not, then enough probably would have come from ballots cast for Green candidate Rob Strang.

Another point that needs to be made is the voter turnout figures have been pretty bad in the last couple of elections. In the 2011 provincial count in this riding, only about 46 per cent made it out to the polls. The figures federally were a bit better; not quite 61 per cent. But in both cases, had all the people who didn’t bother actually got out to vote, it’s possible that the outcomes could have seriously been changed.

So it seems to me that anything that encourages people to get out and vote is a good thing.

There was a time, when I was studying Canadian politics in university that the turnout for federal elections ranged between 70 and 75 per cent. It’s frustrating that people don’t make more of an effort, but it’s also a reality that there’s a reason why they don’t.

I think a big reason is many people believe their votes don’t matter, and the attitude of some of the people we’ve had heading our governments haven’t helped.

As well, it is hard for people who want to vote for a particular party when they know that candidate has very little chance. We’ve each only got one vote, and none of us like to think it’s being wasted.

With preferential ballots, people would be able to exercise more clout with their votes. Hypothetically, a person wanting to vote for a particular party might be reluctant to waste their vote on a candidate who doesn’t have a chance, so many people (myself included occasionally) will hold their nose and pick someone with a fighting chance of winning. Being able to pick three people will enable them to do both.

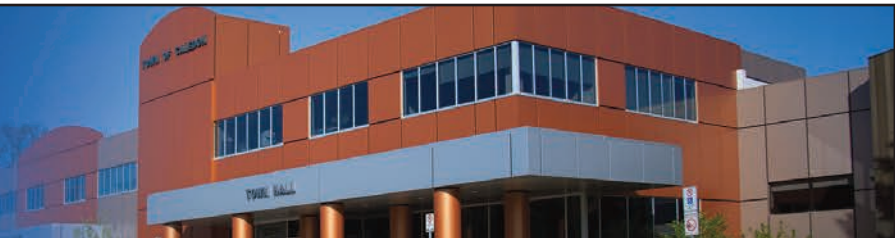
And if we get enough people out to vote for their top-three picks, who knows what that could do with the results. A candidate who has been written off could conceivably sneak through the pack, as the second and third choices are factored in.

Now it is true a system like this would probably be an organizational nightmare, especially the first couple of elections in which it’s practised. I can see it taking ages to count all votes, and then figuring a fair system of deciding which votes go where as candidates are eliminated. And since Hunter wants to start this in Toronto there should be lots of fun. There are 35 people (last I checked) running for mayor of Toronto this year, and plenty of time for more to join the race. While Hunter’s bill would not take effect for this election, the race for Toronto mayor does tend to attract large fields. I wouldn’t want the job of sorting out those ballots.

And the voters would have to be educated too. Right now the system is relatively easy. You go in, vote for one person and you leave. It only takes a couple of minutes. That’s one of the reasons I have trouble understanding why turnouts are so low. It doesn’t take much time. I can’t remember ever having to wait in line more than a minute to vote. But it is true that it’s going to take time to get used to a new system.

But on the positive side of things, if it gets more people involved and produces results that are more satisfactory, then I think we should all be for it.

Town News



Stay Active this March Break

Starting March 10, 2014



March Break Activity Camps



March Break Public Swims



March Break Public Skates

Visit: www.caledon.ca/recreation for detailed information



Spring Programs and Summer Camp Registration Has Started!

Register Online at www.caledon.ca/recreation

Registration is also available in person or by phone. For more information contact your local recreation centre.



Did you know...

Some of the most abused laws on the road today are:

It is illegal to talk, text, type, dial or e-mail using a hand held device when behind the wheel. *Hands free use only!*

Do not pass a school bus in either direction when its red overhead lights are flashing and the stop sign/arm is extended.

Every person in a motor vehicle must be correctly secured in a seat belt or use a child safety seat.

It is illegal and extremely dangerous to drive around or through a railway barrier/gate while it is down.

A driver must carry, and be prepared to surrender three VALID documents - Drivers Licence, Insurance and Vehicle Ownership.

Statistics for Caledon "3 to 1" ratio - Speeding is the largest traffic violation and "failure" to produce documents (insurance, licence, etc.)

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Are your Smoke Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Alarms more than 10 years old?

Caledon Fire and Emergency Services have seen an increase in responses to residential smoke and carbon monoxide alarms. Caledon Fire is urging all residents to ensure their alarms are in good working condition and to replace them if they are more than 10 years old, or sooner by manufacturer's instructions. Smoke and carbon monoxide alarms should be maintained on a regular basis.

On March 9, 2014 as we move into Day Light Savings Time and we change the clocks, residents are reminded to change their alarm batteries at the same time. Batteries should be replaced twice annually.

Other Safety Reminders:

- Test alarms monthly and replace them after 10 years whether they are battery operated or run on electrical power.
- Battery powered alarms can be replaced with battery alarms.
- Electrical powered alarms must be replaced with electrically powered alarms. It is also suggested that those alarms have a battery backup in the event of a power outage.

The law requires a smoke alarm on every storey of your home and outside of the bedrooms.

Caledon Fire Service would like to remind residents to check for working smoke alarms and to have a family escape plan. To download a Home Escape Planning Grid, go to www.caledon.ca/fire or for more information contact us at 905.584.2272 x.4303.

Request for Tender

2014-10

Kennedy Road Bridge No. 2 Replacement, Watermain Construction and Willoughby Road Bridge Rehabilitation

Closing: March 20, 2014, 2:00 p.m. local time

The Town of Caledon's Requests for Tenders, Proposals and other public solicitation documents will be advertised and available for electronic download from the Bidding.com bid portal at www.bidding.com/caledon or may be obtained from the Town of Caledon, 6311 Old Church Road, Caledon Ontario L7C 1J6, Corporate Services Department, Purchasing & Risk Management Division, Lower Level.

Interim Property Tax Bills have been mailed

The Interim property tax due dates are:

Thursday, March 6, 2014 and Thursday, May 1, 2014

Taxpayers are responsible for the payment of property taxes by the due date. Failure to receive a tax bill does not excuse a taxpayer from responsibility for payment nor relieve the taxpayer from liability to pay penalties and interest.

Please contact the Town at 905.584.2272 x.7750 before the due date if you do not have a copy of your 2014 Interim property tax bill.

Late payment charges will be applied one day following the due date and on the first day of each following month that property taxes are outstanding.

To sign up for pre-authorized payments (PAP), please visit:

www.caledon.ca/tax

Notice of Passing of By-Law

TAKE NOTICE that the Council for The Corporation of the Town of Caledon has passed a by-law to designate the following property as being of cultural heritage value or interest under Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.18:

Former Caledon Ski Cabin, 16590 Hurontario Street

Part Lot 6, Concession 1 WHS being Part 1 on Plan 43R-31272; Town of Caledon; Regional Municipality of Peel

Call for Community Green Fund Applications

The Town of Caledon invites local Caledon, not-for-profit or volunteer groups to submit a funding application to the Town's Community Green Fund. Community Green Fund projects must have a clear environmental focus; engage the community; outline clear and specific results; provide measurable results and support the Town's environmental policies. Maximum funding requests are \$5,000.

The application deadline is March 28, 2014.

For project funding, only a letter of intent is due at this time.

The required letter of intent template and other application material is posted on the Town's website at www.caledon.ca/greenfund

Groups are strongly encouraged to contact the Town's Energy and Environment Section at 905.584.2272 or via environment@caledon.ca to discuss your project ideas.

Community Consultation for The Village of Bolton Heritage Conservation District Study – Presentation of Draft Report

You are invited to attend a community consultation meeting on March 25, 2014, at which ERA Architects will present the draft Village of Bolton Heritage Conservation District Study Report and solicit community feedback.

What is the Village of Bolton HCD Study Report?

The draft Village of Bolton HCD Study Report identifies and evaluates the cultural heritage value of the Study Area, assesses whether the Study Area, or a portion therein, merits designation under Part V of the Ontario Heritage Act, and recommends a proposed HCD boundary, as well as identifying other planning tools that may help to conserve the cultural heritage value of the Study Area.

How can I get a copy of the draft report?

The draft Village of Bolton HCD Study Report will be available on the Town of Caledon website (caledon.ca/BoltonHCD) as of March 10, and hard copies will be available upon request.

What is the format of the meeting?

The purpose of the meeting is to present the draft Village of Bolton HCD Study Report and to get your feedback. The formal presentation will begin at 7 p.m., however, the hall will be open from 6:30 pm to allow for a public review of display boards.

When and where is the meeting?

The community consultation meeting is to be held:

Date: Tuesday, March 25, 2014
Time: 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (presentation starts at 7:00 p.m.)
Location: Albion-Bolton Community Centre, Hall B
150 Queen Street South, Bolton L7E 1E3

For additional information, please contact:

Sally Drummond
Heritage Resource Officer
6311 Old Church Road, Caledon, Ontario, L7C 1J6
(905) 584-2272 x. 4243
sally.drummond@caledon.ca

The Town wants your input on our Environmental Strategic Plan.

If you weren't able to attend our public session on February 25, here is your chance to comment on our actions (or even suggest new ones!) at <http://allourideas.org/environmentcaledon>



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Arts & Entertainment



Something for everyone over March break at PAMA

For those who are looking for something fun for the kids to do during March break, the Peel Art Gallery, Museum and Archives (PAMA) has a number of activities for all ages.

Each day, PAMA is offering instructor-led drop-in activities, free with admission. Families can make and take home creative projects inspired by some of PAMA's Museum and Art Gallery exhibitions.

Drop-in activities are available during the weekends before and after the break (March 8 and 9, and 15 and 16) from 1 to 5 p.m. During the weekdays (March 10 to 14), activities will be available from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Come out March 8 and 9 and dive into the world of black and white art with a program called Positive and Negative. Inspired by the Leonard Hutchinson exhibition in the Art Gallery, visitors will create

fun positive and negative silhouettes.

March 10, create landscapes with acrylic paint on canvas with inspiration provided by The Tree exhibition. Early settlers had creative and artistic ways of making everyday objects. Visit the Museum classroom to make objects with inspiration from Peel history.

March 11, create your own wordless story using simple printmaking techniques. This activity is inspired by George Walker's The Mysterious Death of Tom Thomson exhibition.

And have you ever wondered if there are fossils in Peel? Learn more fun facts about Peel's natural history.

March 12, construct your own superhero costume, inspired by the True Patriot: The Next Generation of Canadian Superheroes exhibition.

Also, build your own town and discover why the early settlers chose Peel to build

their community.

March 13, create your own storyboard with simple printmaking techniques inspired by the George Walker exhibition, The Mysterious Death of Tom Thomson.

There will also be the opportunity to make your own crazy quilt, inspired by quilts on display in the Peel Gallery.

March 14, participants will be able to ask themselves if they could have super powers, what would they be? They will be able to design their own superhero, inspired by the True Patriot: The Next Generation of Canadian Superheroes exhibition.

Also, design your own pierced tin pattern, inspired by lanterns in the Museum collection.

March 15 and 16 there will be the From Sheep to Wool program.

Do you ever wonder how things are made? Early settlers made everything

by hand; even their clothes. This Museum drop-in family activity will lead you through the process of turning sheep's wool into yarn. Families will be able try their hands at carding and spinning wool.

Admission to PAMA is \$4.50 for adults, \$3.50 for students and seniors, and \$10 for families of two adults and up to five children and students.

PAMA is a place to explore and learn about Peel's culture and heritage, as well as use conversation, questions and stories to help make new and fascinating connections to the surrounding community. Throughout the year, PAMA offers a variety of workshops and programs for all ages, families and adults. With so many different programs to choose from, PAMA has something for everyone.

Operated by the Region of Peel, PAMA is at 9 Wellington St. E. in Brampton. Visit pama.peelregion.ca to learn more.

Great Expectations closing this weekend at Theatre Orangeville

By Constance Scrafield

We had the chance to sit down with two of the cast of four for Theatre Orangeville's production of Great Expectations to discuss the history of this new work and their association with it for its life so far.

When Great Expectations premiered at the Talk is Free Theatre in Barrie, the cast only got their scripts the first day of

their 12-day rehearsal schedule because Richard Ouzounian, who had written the adaptation, was still fine-tuning the work.

Said Justin Goodhand, who plays the lead role of Pip, "I had pneumonia at the beginning, but I had a good time. I read the book as soon as Richard called me. It was a pleasure doing the play. I've worked in Barrie since, but people really love this show."

Carson Nattrass, who came from Winnipeg to act in the performance, told us, "Richard was Artistic Director of the Manitoba Theatre Centre and he gave my Aunt Tracy (Doll) her start. He wanted to be sure to work and launch two members of a family — two generations. So, he cast me in this production. For me, in my career, I'm glad I got to work with him. This is our third time doing this play, but it is unusual to bring an actor from Winnipeg to a country theatre — there just isn't the budget for it."

Great Expectations, which runs to

March 9, is, like any other new production, somewhat a work in progress and yet as solid and ready to be enjoyed as any classic. Of course, Dickens' tremendous story is a classic and, as with all great writing, it is as relevant to the present day as it was in his time.

Of the language Dickens' used and the dialogue he gave his characters, Nattrass commented, "It is a gift for me because I grew up with television and the length of the sentences is quite joyous. It's like the Olympics for actors."

"I had a teacher who said that art consists of concealing art," Justin Goodhand remarked. "This show is tremendously satisfying — it's nice when (theatre) companies take a risk."

The basis of the tale Great Expectations is about a boy who calls himself Pip, a childhood abbreviation of his full name — Philip Pirrip. "My family name being Pirrip and my Christian name Philip, my infant tongue could make of both names nothing longer or more explicit than Pip. So, I called myself Pip, and came to be called Pip."

Raised "by hand" by his sister, Mrs. Joe Gargery, and "by hand" is meant a slap wherever and whenever seems appropriate to a lady who is free about slapping,

as though she were of the philosophy that a rough upbringing will create a strong character, young Pip's life is a sequence of strange and amazing people who make unusual demands of him and from who he either learns or benefits from the acquaintance. The story tells of his eventual adoption by a benefactor who sends him to school and makes a gentleman of him. What befalls in his adulthood is a continuance of twists and unexpected turns.

Dickens' analysis of people rings so true and those same people still live among us and are us, whether the language has changed or not. To be fair, Dickens' English is not at all mysterious; it is not an impenetrable British dialect. It is simply more ornate than our current fashion of short cut clichés and monosyllabic abbreviated words. His use of language is full-some, exciting and very interesting.

Nattrass encouraged everyone to come: "The best actors, best writing — it'll surprise people — it's funny, moving. There's nothing to be intimidated. You'll see yourself in it and someone you know."

"Yes," agreed Goodhand, "come and listen to a great story."

Tickets are available at the Box Office, 519-942-3423 and online www.theatreorangeville.ca

Rant Maggie Rant at Claude

Rant Maggie Rant will be performing in a parlour concert March 16 at Claude Church.

The group provides a fusion of world influences from Celtic nations and eastern Canada..

The concert will start at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20 online at www.ticketscene.ca or \$25 at the door.

Claude Church is at 15175 Hurontario St., south of Olde Base Line Road.

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Showtimes for Friday March 7 to Thursday March 13

300: RISE OF AN EMPIRE 3D (18A) (BRUTAL VIOLENCE,GORY SCENES,SEXUAL CONTENT) NO PASSES, STADIUM SEATING, REALD 3D FRI 6:30, 9:15; SAT-THURS 12:45, 6:30, 9:15

MR. PEABODY & SHERMAN 3D (G) (CARTOON/ANIMATION ACTION) DIGITAL 3D, DOLBY STEREO DIGITAL, STADIUM SEATING FRI 6:20, 9:00; SAT-THURS 12:50, 6:20, 9:00

NON-STOP (PG) (VIOLENCE,LANGUAGE MAY OFFEND,NOT RECOMMENDED FOR CHILDREN) DIGITAL PRESENTATION, STADIUM SEATING FRI 6:50, 9:30; SAT-THURS 12:40, 3:40, 6:50, 9:30

ROBOCOP (PG) (VIOLENCE,LANGUAGE MAY OFFEND) DIGITAL PRESENTATION, STADIUM SEATING FRI 6:40; SAT-SUN 12:30, 3:10, 6:40; MON-THURS 6:40, 9:45

THE MONUMENTS MEN (PG) (TOBACCO USE,LANGUAGE MAY OFFEND) DIGITAL PRESENTATION, STADIUM SEATING FRI-SUN 9:45

THE NUT JOB (PG) (CARTOON/ANIMATION ACTION,VIOLENCE) DIGITAL PRESENTATION, STADIUM SEATING, TOONIE MATINEE MON-THURS 12:30, 3:10

POMPEII (PG) (VIOLENCE) DIGITAL PRESENTATION, STADIUM SEATING FRI,MON-THURS 6:15, 9:10; SAT-SUN 12:20, 3:00, 6:15, 9:10

SON OF GOD (PG) (MATURE THEME) DIGITAL PRESENTATION, STADIUM SEATING FRI 6:25, 9:40; SAT-THURS 12:15, 3:20, 6:25, 9:40

THE LEGO MOVIE 3D (G) STADIUM SEATING, REALD 3D FRI 7:00, 9:20; SAT-WED 1:00, 7:00, 9:20; THURS 1:00, 7:00

300: RISE OF AN EMPIRE (18A) (SEXUAL CONTENT,BRUTAL VIOLENCE,GORY SCENES) DIGITAL PRESENTATION, NO PASSES, STADIUM SEATING SAT-THURS 3:45

MR. PEABODY & SHERMAN (G) (CARTOON/ANIMATION ACTION) DIGITAL PRESENTATION, STADIUM SEATING SAT-THURS 3:30

THE LEGO MOVIE (G) DIGITAL PRESENTATION, STADIUM SEATING SAT-THURS 3:35

THE HUNGER GAMES: CATCHING FIRE (PG) (NOT REC. FOR YOUNG CHILDREN,VIOLENCE,FRIGHTENING SCENES) DIGITAL PRESENTATION, STADIUM SEATING, TOONIE MATINEE MON-THURS 3:00

WALKING WITH DINOSAURS (PG) (SOME SCARY SCENES) DIGITAL PRESENTATION, STADIUM SEATING, TOONIE MATINEE MON-THURS 12:20

NEED FOR SPEED 3D (PG) (VIOLENCE,LANGUAGE MAY OFFEND) NO PASSES, STADIUM SEATING, REALD 3D THURS 9:20

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No shortage of pancakes in Caledon this week



Whether they're for breakfast, lunch or dinner, pancakes were in abundant supply this week throughout Caledon. The Alton Scouting Association were putting on a big feed at the local Legion Hall Tuesday night. Carson Burke and Sean Sweeney of the 1st Alton Cubs were helping to serve at the Legion hall.



Jenna Figueroa of the 1st Inglewood Brownies, along with Guides Abbey Kennedy and April McDonald were helping to serve the crowds at Knox United Church in Caledon village.
Photos by Bill Rea



Mayfield United Church hosted their annual Pancake Supper Tuesday. Wesley Speirs, 2, and his cousin Charlie, 3, were eating heartily at the Brampton Fairgrounds.



John Carley was making sure the sausage was cooked at St. James' Anglican Church in Caledon East.



People at Trinity Anglican Church in Campbell's Cross sat down to a special Pancake Breakfast after their morning service Sunday. Roy Laneroute was busy at the grill in the kitchen.



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Register for You & Your Baby

Registration is open for the You & Your Baby Program at Caledon Parent-Child Centre (CPCC).

This is a free 10-week parent education series for first-time moms with babies under six months. This program provides information, support, socialization and referrals for new mothers.

To register, call CPCC at 905-857-0090 by March 21. The program begins March 31.

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ACROSS

1. In line
5. Scale
10. Covered with foliage
15. Daddy
16. Spokes
17. Country club worker
18. Load
19. Coral-landmass chain
20. Large ducks
21. Tousele
23. Weeping
25. Whole ball of ____
26. Pitch
27. Shade provider
30. Hunting hound
34. Focus
36. Colorful carp
37. Measuring device
38. Welsh herder

39. At the end
41. Spring bloom
42. Singe
43. Fashion
45. Doll's cry
46. Craftsperson
48. Granny
52. Van or skirt
54. Handbag
55. Religious picture
56. Groom
59. Beach
61. Mackerel
62. Mauna ____
63. The outdoors
65. Lead sulfide
66. At any rate
67. Say it isn't so
68. Dance step
69. Get up

DOWN

1. Footless creature
2. Hindu queen
3. Literary work
4. Bathe
5. Necktie
6. Type of paint
7. Graven image
8. Wire measure


9. Beef jerky
10. Hideout
11. Circular current
12. Summer refresher
13. Douglas ____ (tree)
14. Okay
17. Discontinue
22. Jug
24. Approximate
26. Province
27. Enlarge
28. Skipper's diary
29. Actress Farrow
30. Hat's edge
31. Personal atmosphere
32. Marginal
33. "____ Street"
34. Cold-weather garment
35. Spit
38. Name
40. Degrading
42. Metal container
44. Billfold item
47. Irritated
49. Feel a dull pain
50. Midday
51. Small forest-buffalo
53. Resting place
56. Single thickness
57. Fish eggs
58. Ingest
60. Ten times ten
61. Flying stinger
64. Conform
65. Hose holder
68. Old-fashioned
69. "Mine eyes have ____"
70. Sandwich filler
71. Beep
72. Not present
73. Skin opening
74. Dreadful
75. Sincere
76. Swab
77. "Roses ____ Red"
78. Cousins, e.g.
80. Metallic rock

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Solution on page A12

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Former councillor Sinclair running to be next mayor of Caledon

Former Peel Regional councillor and long-time community activist Ian Sinclair filed nomination papers Monday to run for mayor of Caledon in this fall's municipal election.

Sinclair served for nine years (1994 to 3003) as both an area and Regional councillor for Ward 1. He chaired many major policy committees, including the Caledon Community Resource Study supporting adoption of Caledon's OPA 161 Mineral Aggregate Policies.

"I have always taken on complex official plan policy challenges, worked closely with professional staff and affected residents to see projects through to approval," Sinclair said.

Sinclair was a director and president of the former Caledon Ratepayers Association from 1979 to 1986, when the association achieved the first Caledon Official Plan policies for mineral aggregates that resulted in improved notification to residents.

"The province came in and ordered the Town to identify vast areas of Caledon exclusively for aggregate strip mining without notifying existing landowners," he observed. "The members of the Caledon Ratepayers Association fought the Province off. You don't always have to accept whatever the provincial government of the day dictates."

Addressing current issues, Sinclair said he's become concerned with the Town's

budget process and the substantial annual tax increases that have resulted in a cumulative doubling of Town taxes over the last 10 years.

"The doubling of property tax rates in Caledon is unacceptable," he said. "This is creating an unfair burden for our residents currently dealing with private sector wage freezes and for our seniors on fixed incomes."

Sinclair also pointed out what he called the illogical spending priorities demonstrated by the current Town council.

"We have underfunded road and bridge infrastructure needs, with some road closures lasting years, but the Town has spent many millions on a major equestrian show venue," he commented. "Spending priorities in Caledon do not reflect our core mandates."

He also charged the Town budget process is uncoordinated, with various important statements on debt, capital reserves, operations, etc. all produced at different times.

"A Caledon taxpayer should be able to read town budget and financial statements on one or two pages," he said.

A major concern he cited is the lack of political representation on major proposals affecting health, safety, property values and surrounding communities. He charged residents impacted by major developments don't learn until years after that the Town has been meeting with in-

dustry and its consultants, only to find that council and staff have already made a decision prior to seeking any public input.

"Public meetings have turned into just an exercise council feels obligated to endure," Sinclair remarked. "Their decisions have already been made to approve the project. They do not appear interested in listening to the legitimate concerns of the residents."

Gravel strip mines, major distribution warehouses, heavy goods haul routes, and significant growth planning policies rise in the public space as "done deals," he added.

"Residents must be carefully listened to as they are the most affected by major land use changes and know most about their surroundings. Attitudes need upgrading," he commented.

As an example, he cited a public information meeting in Caledon East for the Canadian Tire Distribution complex where a moderator was hired by the Town. He said the moderator pointed to an OPP officer standing at the back of the room and repeated three times, if anyone acted in a way he did not agree with, they would be removed.

"Caledon residents are now routinely treated curtly and often with derision when speaking up at public meetings," Sinclair said.

"No one has to agree entirely with others, but respect must be the norm," he added. "Police threats are simply outrageous."

Sinclair stated he has the education, professional background and broad, hands-on experience, having served on Town and Regional councils, as well as a board member of the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority and Commissioner of the Niagara Escarpment Commission to be an effective chair of council. He is known for his skill in seeking consensus among councillors and senior staff. His 35 years of activism in the Caledon community on environmental issues demonstrates his commitment to effectively serve the people of Caledon as mayor.

Sinclair said he views his chances of election as "pretty good."

He observed that he is well-known in the community.

"I have some support in each ward," he added. "I know the issues right across town."

Johanna Downey wants council seat

By Bill Rea

Lifelong Caledon resident Johanna Downey is getting ready to experience the political arena.

She has registered to seek the Regional council seat for Ward 2.

This will be her first time seeking elected office.

Her trade is design architecture, but she said she's been doing a refocus in her life, and friends suggested she seek the council seat.

"Why not put my focus in my own community," she said. "It seems like a good challenge; an exciting challenge."

Downey said she grew up in Caledon and has seen the changes and developments that have taken place in Ward 2.

"I have gained insightful knowledge from those who have spent generations in Caledon, as well as the growing number of

those who have just settled in," she commented. "My drive stems from a combination of rural roots and an urban perspective."

"I see the upcoming election as an opportunity to contribute to positive change, yet maintain balance within Caledon," she added. "I believe that this is the key to strengthening and building the community."

Downey said she has been involved in a number of activities in the community, including Caledon Parent-Child Centre and the Caledon East Revitalization Committee.

"I enjoy being local," she said. "I enjoy taking part in the events that are happening in the community."

Downey was talking confidently about her chances in the coming campaign.

"I think I've got a lot to offer," she said.

March break fun in planned at CPCC

Parents and children alike can enjoy some much-needed March break fun at the Caledon Parent-Child Centre (CPCC) from March 10 to 14.

The week will feature interactive and engaging activities with daily themes. Experience the magical land of Pirates, Princesses and Dragons; have "Zoo"bles of Fun checking out the animal wonders of the world with the Amazing Rainforest

(mornings only), experience "Jammin' Across Caledon" and join a Creative Play Lunch Date Friday.

Daily sign-in is required. Some groups may be limited. Programs are free, but there may be a small fee for lunch materials Friday.

For a complete schedule and detailed program descriptions, visit www.cp-cc.org or call 905-857-0090.

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Brittany Webster is home from the Sochi Olympic Games

By Bill Rea

She may have made it to the Olympics by what she called the “milk-run route.”

But Belfountain area native Brittany Webster acquitted herself well when it counted in the cross-country skiing events. Although she didn’t win any medals, she was the top Canadian in the 30-kilometre and Classic competitions.

“I was really happy,” she declared shortly after arriving at Pearson International Airport last Thursday. She was greeted by a welcoming party, which included her parents Fred and Chris Webster.

Webster had been in line to compete in the 2010 Games, but a sudden illness put her out. So she was glad to get the other chance.

“It was really nice to be just out there,” she declared. “It was the most spectacular experience I’ve ever had in my life.”

There was much to be impressed with the Games were run.

“The organization was just impeccable,” she said, adding security was evident, but “it really wasn’t that strenuous.”

“I felt completely safe the entire time,” she added.

The only disadvantage she noted was it took an hour to get to the racing site, meaning two hours of travel, which cut into practice time.

Weather conditions created some complications too. Webster said she was racing in 15-degree temperatures, which is not what she was expecting. It made the

snow heavy, which made things tough on the racers.

“There were a lot more crashes than usual,” she said, adding the courses were well put together, with a lot of hills to get up.

“There is a lot of climbing on the cross-country courses,” she said. “That was definitely challenging.”

Webster said she will have a couple of

weeks at home, then it will be off to Newfoundland for the Canadian Nationals, followed by a trip to Alaska for the U.S. Nationals.

And seeking a spot on the team for the 2018 games in Pyeongchang, South Korea has not been ruled out.

“I’m considering it,” she said. “As an athlete, you’ve got to take it year-by-year.”



Olympian Brittany Webster seemed surprised at the welcoming committee that was on hand to greet her at Peason International Airport.



Chris and Fred Webster flanked their daughter Brittany behind the Olympic flag.

Stars qualify 25 swimmers for Regionals

The Dorado Stars sent 25 qualified swimmers to the Central Region Short Course Championships and these athletes brought home a fabulous 49 top-15 finishes.

Head Coach Courtney Desjardins is proud of the number of first-time qualifiers who could attend this level of meet for the Stars. She commented that “the goal was to swim to our very best potential and to continually build upon our identity within the community of Ontario swimming.”

The Stars accomplished just that with their strong races.

Desjardins noted that the Stars, “stood tall on the blocks and at the blow of the whistle they dug deep, found their inner strength and raced hard against the top teams in Ontario, showing that they were able to compete at every level of competitive swimming.”

In Milton, the 13-and-under groups produced 27 of the top-15 finishes from Sahaej Arora, Rhiannon Krauter, Bailey Miller, Martin Naipaul, Madison Noonan, and Allison Stoehr. In Markham, the 13-and-over groups raced for 22 of the top-15 finishes, which came from Sanjam Arora, Kira Eggengoor, Chloe Noguera, Matteo Paniccia and Kiara Seow.

Additionally, five Stars swimmers contributed to the above races, claiming several podium finishes and earning their way to the next level of meet for their age groups — Winter Festivals or Junior Provincials. Congratulations to Joshua Maas,

Alexandra Marculescu, Jordan McAuley, Angelique Singh, Aran Pourawal and Ashley Riddall. Two athletes, Aran and Angelique, won the High Point Award for their respective age group.

Desjardins was happy with the swimmers positive work ethic and results so far this season and is beginning to gear up training for the Stars long course season where these athletes swim races in 50-metre pools.

For information about the Stars, contact team manager Carmen Desjardins at 905-846-6213.



Swimmer Aran Pourawal is seen leading a team cheer.



ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



Name:
HANNAH
DRENNAN
School:
MAYFIELD
SECONDARY
SCHOOL



Name:
MEGHAN OGRAM
School:
ROBERT F. HALL
CATHOLIC
SECONDARY
SCHOOL

This Grade 11 student is the vice on the school's mixed curling team, which got off to an undefeated start to the season and is getting ready for ROPSSAA. She's also been inspired by the success of the Canadian women in the Olympics. “It was great,” she said. “I was so excited.” The 16-year-old lives in Mono Mills with her parents Stefanie Kalan and Terry McPhee.

This 14-year-old has been helping out the school's varsity volleyball team as a setter. Away from school, she plays rep volleyball with ACTS Elites Volleyball Club in Orangeville. She also likes playing beach volleyball in the summer. The Grade 9 student lives in Caledon East with her parents Terry and Sheila Ogram.



Name:
DANIEL FALCONE
School:
ST. MICHAEL
CATHOLIC
SECONDARY
SCHOOL



Name:
EMMA CHAN
School:
HUMBERVIEW
SECONDARY
SCHOOL

This Grade 10 student has been the vice in the school's mixed curling team, which is off to an undefeated start this season. He's also a member of the school's ski club. In the community, he plays in the house leagues of Caledon Minor Hockey and the Bolton Wanderers' Soccer Club. The 15-year-old lives in Bolton with his parents Marg and Mike Falcone.

This 15-year-old was a power on the junior girls' volley ball team, which finished third in its division. She's also hoping to make contributions in the spring as shortstop on the softball team. In the community, she plays with the Peel Selects Volley Ball Club in Brampton and softball with the Bramalea Slam. The Grade 10 student lives in Bolton with her parents William Chan and Wendy Jenkins.



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LIMITED TIME OFFER

Minor bantam Hawks have tough week with five games

By Brian Lockhart
Minor hockey is wrapping up the season with a final push to get the playoffs over.
The Caledon Hawks minor bantam AE team are right in the middle of a tough week as they are scheduled to play five games over six days going into the final playoff schedule in Tri-County round-robin action.



The Caledon Hawks minor bantam AE team took on the Flyers from Orangeville during Tri-County playoff action at Caledon East arena. Minor hockey is going into the final week of playoffs. The Hawks had to settle for a loss in this game when the Orangeville squad scored late in the third period to take the game.

Photo by Brian Lockhart

The minor bantams met the Orangeville Flyers in game three of their Tri-County schedule at Caledon East arena Sunday. It was a tense game that saw the first two periods go scoreless, as both teams turned it up a notch in a bid to advance in the playoffs.
The Hawks played a solid defensive game and kept the Flyers to the outside. It wasn't until the third period that either team could score, Caledon's Paton Dorval.
"Right now, we a 0-3 with three games left," Observed Hawks' head coach Guy Dorval after Sunday's game. "Hopefully it goes our way and we make it 3-3 at the end of Thursday. We'll be playing five games in six days, as of last night. There's been a change with the schedule, including some cancelled games, now they've got to get them all done by the 6th. It's tough, but these will do well this way."
After playing two periods with no score, both teams caught some breaks and managed to capitalize on opportunities in front of the net.
"The goalies were really good on both ends," Coach Dorval said. "There just weren't a lot of great opportunities to bury it. We're very strong on defence and we were playing a very defensive game. We try to keep them to the outside so they don't get a lot of shots in. That's the way we play — we're good that way. We're not winning games, but we brought our 'goals-against' down."
The game was tied at three late in the final frame, when a slick play across the net by the Orangeville team gave them the tie breaker.
The Hawks fought back in the final few minutes and came dangerously close on a couple of plays, but they couldn't find the back of the net to score and had to settle for the loss.
The minor bantam team will be back on home ice in Caledon tonight (Thursday), when the will host the Milton Winterhawks at Mayfield Arena.



NOVICES NOTCH PLAYOFF WIN

The Caledon Hawks novice AA team took on the squad from Centre Wellington during Sunday playoff action at Caledon East. Minor hockey playoffs are in full swing around the region. The Hawks came out on top in this game, leaving the ice with a 4-3 win over the visitors.

Photo by Brian Lockhart

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League to hold AGM

The North Dufferin Baseball League will hold its annual general meeting for the 2014 season March 9 at the Lisle branch of the Royal Canadian Legion.
As part of the event, a lunch and awards presentation of the 2013 season will start at noon, followed by the meeting at 1 p.m. The league offers both a junior and senior division with teams from Dufferin and Simcoe Counties, as well as Peel and York Regions.
Information is available at www.ndbl.ca or by contacting secretary Scott Anderson at 705-424-0769 or secretary@ndbl.ca

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MEMORIAM

MAINS, Bruce

In loving memory of my husband who passed away March 12, 2003.

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I do it everyday
Missing you is a heartache
That never goes away.

**Love you
Linda & Bandit**

CARD OF THANKS

LARGE, Victor E.

The family of the late Victor E. Large would like to thank family and friends for their expressions of sympathy in cards, donations, food, flowers and phone calls. A special thank you to Dr. Silvia Chong, nurse Sharon Kendall, all emergency room staff and ambulance attendants at Headwaters Health Care Centre and to the wonderful staff of surgeons and nurses at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre (cardiovascular intensive care unit), to the Orangeville Legion Branch 233 for their service, to Mayor Robb Adams, members of council and staff at the Orangeville Town Hall, to the Warden, council and staff at the county of Dufferin, to Reverend Peter Scott of St. Mark's Anglican Church for his care and compassion and his beautiful service, the Reverend Kent Ward for his reading, the pianist Pam Claridge, the soloist Nancy Claridge, and to Terry and Abby and staff at Dods and McNair Funeral Home for their compassion and care.

Alvina Greene, Jim, Brenda & family, Bob, Joan & family, Kathy & family and Linda

"Hath he not sent me to the men who sit on the wall that they may eat their own dung, and drink their own piss with you?"
(II Kings 18:27)

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DEATHS

ANDERSON, Robert (Bob) Shepherd
May 11, 1943 - February 28, 2014
Of Parry Sound, Ontario passed away suddenly in Ormond Beach, Florida in his 71st year. Pre-deceased by Charles and Margaret Anderson. As a 34 year retired Superintendent and veteran of Toronto Emergency Medical Services, our dad will be remembered as a great man of the highest integrity who was patient, understanding and supportive with a strong passion for family, friendship and life. He will forever remain in the hearts and thoughts of the many lives he touched. Our dad is sadly missed with loving kindness by sons Roy (Katarina), Gordon (Dil), Gregory (Tricia) and Larry (Nadia) Anderson and daughters Eveline (Heather) and Mairead Traxler. Fondly remembered by sister Nancy (Ken Kratky), brother David (Sue), grandchildren Alexander, Ethan, Ewan and Kimberley Anderson and Natalie Traxler. Dad will fondly remain in the hearts of Anne Anderson (Ian), Delfina Traxler, Colton and Karina De Gooyer and many nieces, nephews and family.

Family and friends will be received at the Bolton United Church on Saturday, March 8, 2014 at 2:00 pm with a Celebration of Life to follow at 2:30 pm. Arrangements by Egan Funeral Home, Bolton (905-857-2213). Donations may be made to the Bolton United Church, 8 Nancy Street, Bolton L7E 1C7. Condolences for the family may be offered at www.EganFuneralHome.com

DEATHS

CHRISTIESON, Nancy (Annie Scott)
September 19, 1922 – February 23, 2014
It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Nancy (Annie Scott) Christieson (nee Mac Gregor), in her 91st year on Sunday, February 23, 2014.

She is dearly missed by daughters Mary, Rochelle (Greg) and son Paul (Amy), and her grandchildren Dione, Andrea, Ryan (deceased), Ainsley, Shayna, Cassi, Keegan and great grand children, Jonah, Cameron and Dylan. Beloved sister of Janet, David, Archie, and Agnes (all pre-deceased).

The family will receive their friends at the Egan Funeral Home, 203 Queen Street S. (Hwy. 50), Bolton (905-857-2213) on Sunday, March 30 from 12 noon until time of a celebration of life at one o'clock. Private family interment at a later date.

If desired in lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Sick Kids Foundation, 525 University Avenue, 14th Floor, Toronto M5G 2L3 or Caledon Community Services, 18 King Street East, Bolton L7E 1E8; causes close to Nancy's heart.

Condolences for the family may be offered at www.EganFuneralHome.com

DEATHS

WEBB, Rita Anne
Peacefully at Headwaters Health Care Centre, Orangeville on Monday, February 24, 2014, Rita Webb, of Bolton, in her 64th year, beloved wife of Ron Webb. Loving mother of Kevin, Lesley and her fiancé Mike. Dear sister of Lindell and Ron. Fondly remembered by her nieces and nephews.

The family received their friends at the Egan Funeral Home, 203 Queen Street S., Bolton, Saturday afternoon 1 – 4 o'clock and on Sunday, March 2 from one o'clock until time of memorial service at 2 o'clock. If desired, memorial donations may be made to the Headwaters Health Care Centre Foundation, 100 Rolling Hills Drive, Orangeville, L9W 4X9. Condolences for the family may be offered at www.EganFuneralHome.com

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Family Transition Place launches Umbrella of Hope campaign

By Tabitha Wells
With hopes that spring is on its way and International Women’s Day just around the corner, Family Transition Place recently launched their new fundraising campaign, the Umbrella of Hope.

The campaign follows its highly successful predecessor, the Purple Scarf, which sold out quickly and had high demand around the area.
“Traditionally, every year with International Women’s Day, we’ve had something that we’ve used as a fundraiser at the

event,” explained Manager of Development and Community Relations Stacey Tarrant. “We’ve had necklaces, bracelets, and other items. With the popularity of the Purple Scarf Campaign, we wanted to kick something off and we thought it would be a perfect idea with spring coming up.”

Part of the reason umbrellas were selected as the item to sell this year was due to their practicality as people prepare for spring, and the idea that they can be used as presents for others.

“They make a great gift for a friend or for Mother’s Day,” said Tarrant. “They’re practical. One great thing about the umbrellas is that they are great quality and were sourced from a Canadian supplier that uses eco-friendly screen printing, so we feel really good about the whole project.”

The purpose of the umbrellas is that they act as a strong reminder of the hope that institutions such as FTP provide to women and children transitioning to a life free of abuse. They also help broadcast the message that each person carrying an um-

brella will not remain silent about abuse or the need to stop it.

The proceeds from the umbrellas will go to Family Transition, allowing them to continue operating and providing their services locally, Tarrant explained.

“The funds from the campaign will help provide revenue for us to put directly into running our programs and services, which are directed at helping women and children transition into a life free from abuse,” she said.

According to Tarrant, the group has high hopes for the sales of the umbrellas this year.

“I think that based on history that the umbrellas will be well received,” she said. “The International Women’s Day committee members were thrilled. The staff is also very excited about it, so I anticipate it will be well-received.”

The Umbrellas of Hope are available for purchase directly through Family Transition place, or through local businesses Off Broadway Boutique on Mill Street and Shoe Kat Shoo on Broadway.

Post-traumatic stress disorder to be discussed at Lifetree Café

The impact of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) will be explored at Lifetree Café this coming Wednesday (March 12).

The program, entitled Wounded Warriors: When War Comes Home, will explore post-traumatic stress disorder in the lives of military veterans and provide helpful resources and strategies for coping with PTSD.

“This program will focus on men and women returning from military service, but post-traumatic stress disorder also affects civilians,” Lifetree representative Craig Cable said. “This program will be helpful for anyone who has experienced trauma.”

The program will feature the filmed story of a veteran who saw his buddy

killed in combat. His return to civilian life was disrupted by lingering mental distress, violent tendencies, and relationship problems. He eventually found hope and stability.

The program will run from 7 to 8 p.m. Admission will be free. Snacks and beverages will be available.

Lifetree Café is at St. James’ Anglican Church, 6025 Old Church Rd., in Caledon East.

Lifetree Café is a place where people gather for conversation about life and faith in a casual coffeehouse-type setting.

Questions may be directed to Mark Tiller at 905-584-8506 or mark.lifetree@gmail.com

Ranked ballots proposed for Toronto

By Bill Rea

A Liberal MPP has introduced a private member’s bill at Queen’s Park to have ranked ballots used in municipal elections in Toronto.

Scarborough-Guildwood MPP Mitzie Hunter put forth the idea, but Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones doesn’t seem too impressed.

Jones told the Citizen Friday she was aware of the bill, but had not studied it in detail.

Ranked ballots (sometimes known as preferential ballots) allow voters to pick their top three choices election day. If no candidate has a clear majority, the one in last place is dropped from the race, and the ballots cast for that person are studied to see who the second choice was, and those votes are distributed accordingly. The process continues until one candidate has at least 50 per cent of the vote.

The plan is this would not take effect in this year’s election, but subsequently.

“Toronto City council has asked for this,” Hunter was quoted in the media as saying. “As the MPP for Scarborough-Guildwood and someone who has worked on this issue in the past, I am thrilled to be bringing it to the floor of the Legislature. My goal is to see the City, the Province and the public working together to advance this issue and to get it right. I am looking forward to input from my colleagues on all sides of the House.”

Jones said she was puzzled that this proposal would apply just to Toronto.

She said her suspicious side was wondering if this was aimed at dealing with a particular politician in a particular municipality, “which is not good law making,” she commented.

Jones added she has a philosophic problem with passing laws for one municipality and not all of them.

“I don’t know how you would ever justify it,” she remarked. “Reactionary laws are often not the best way to approach things.”

World Day of Prayer is Friday

Services are going to be held tomorrow (Friday) for World Day of Prayer.

This year’s service has been composed by women in Egypt, under the theme “Streams in the desert.”

The Bolton service will start at 1:30 p.m. at Caven Presbyterian Church at 110 King St. West, and will involve participants from Holy Family Catholic Church, Bolton United Church, Christ Church Anglican and Palgrave United Church.

There will also be a service at Caledon East United Church staring at 2 p.m. It will involve participants from Salem and Sandhill United Churches, St. James’ Anglican Church, St. Cornelius Church and St. John’s Church Albion.

Caledon East United is at 6046 Old Church Rd.

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