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## Shop Local, Play Local


Amit Parikh, owner of Real Joyhouse, stands in front of a mural that is particularly emblematic of this new local business, which was opened last week by Mayor Allan Thompson. Parikh hopes Real Joyhouse will become a hub for friends and family to "unplug" and socialize over board games and indoor sports. For more, see Page 5.

PHOTO BY ROB PAUL

It is hard to fathom that in Ontario, in the 21st Century, 40% of indigenous communities have to boil their water to make it safe.

See Page 11 for more details.

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## And they're off! Dufferin-Caledon candidates step up ahead of September 20 election

BY ROB PAUL

Canadians will be heading to the polls September 20 after Prime Minister Justin Trudeau called a federal election on Sunday.

Trudeau and the Liberals were reduced to a minority government in the 2019 election, leading to Trudeau calling an early election to try and regain a majority in the House of Commons.

To call an early election, a Prime Minister can request the governor general dissolve Parliament, and after meeting with Governor General Mary Simon, Trudeau's request was granted.

"Canadians need to choose how we finish the fight against COVID-19 and build back

better, from getting the job done on vaccines to having people's backs all the way to and through the end of this crisis," said the Liberal leader. "The decisions your government makes right now will define the future your kids and grandkids grow up in. So, in this pivotal, consequential moment, who wouldn't want a say? Who wouldn't want their chance to help decide where our country goes from here? Canadians need to choose how we finish the fight against COVID-19 and build back better."

The next fixed election was set for October 2023, now there are under five weeks until the federal election.

The Party Leaders heading into the election are Trudeau (Liberal), Erin O'Toole (Conservative), Jagmeet Singh (NDP), Annamie Paul

(Green), Maxime Bernier (PPC), and Yves-Francois Blanchet (Bloc Quebecois).

O'Toole, the Opposition Party leader, has questioned Trudeau's decision to hold an election given the circumstances with the pandemic.

"We're finally at a point thanks to the efforts of all Canadians who've stayed at home, got tested, got vaccinated, where we can see our loved ones, our friends and our families again," said O'Toole. "We shouldn't be risking that for political games or political gain."

Prior to Trudeau calling for an election, the NDP's Singh criticized the thought of heading to the polls this fall in a letter to the Prime Minister.

Continued on Page 6

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## Journey of Hope showcased local heroes, local talent

BY ROB PAUL

Not everyone has the talent and confidence to get on stage and perform to a crowd of people.

That can be an impossible task for most, but there are those rare humans who live for that moment and thrive in it.

Few have the ability to look down from a stage and see faces staring back at them as they pour their heart and soul into a performance that ultimately leads to the crowd erupting from the passion they just witnessed.

That's what Caledon's Sylvia Kantorowicz aka Sylvia Kay was able to accomplish last Saturday when she performed as part of Bolton's Journey of Hope in celebration of community, frontline workers, and local businesses.

Armed with a mic and keys, Kay performed alongside a band made up of her music teachers Lisa (guitar/backup vocals) and Nick Carione (drums) and cousin Anthony Kotarski (guitar). It was the biggest stage the 16-year-old has ever performed on.

Continued on Page 10

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# First ever men’s homeless shelter opens in Dufferin, serving area

BY SAM ODROWSKI

While services for youth and women facing homelessness have long existed in Dufferin County, there’s been a growing demand for a men’s emergency shelter locally.

Choices Youth Shelter chair Randy Narine, has been working on a solution for men over the past two years and last Monday, August 9, the organization was able to officially open the doors of Orangeville’s first ever men’s shelter.

“I noticed that there was a gap and I’ve been wanting to do something for quite some time,” said Nairne. “I’ve been with Choices for four years now and in the process, I was looking at what’s available in terms of resources to help different groups and I did notice that men have nothing.”

“If it’s a single man with a kid, they have resources, but for a male on his own with nobody, which is common, you don’t have anything. It’s a little frustrating that everybody gets help, then men are supposed to be strong and able to stand on their own, but really, we’re subject to the same emotions and

trials and tribulations as everybody else,” he added.

For the men’s shelter, six beds are set up between two facilities, but only three of the beds are available, as the other three are needed to allow for quarantine if there was ever a COVID-19 outbreak.

Since opening, the beds were filled immediately and many others are on a waiting list with hopes of reprieve in the near future. A study conducted by Dufferin County in May of 2018 counted 44 homeless individuals living in the region at that time.

Choices’ men’s shelter was previously operating as transitional housing for at risk youth up to age 24; however, since the start of COVID-19, Narine said the number of youth accessing Choices’ plummeted.

“With the COVID restrictions, they didn’t want to have to wear a mask, they didn’t want to quarantine, they didn’t want to isolate and I can’t force them to do anything, but I also can’t allow them to be in a shelter and put other people at risk,” Narine explained.

He said Choices Youth Shelter was run-

ning at capacity or near capacity prior to the pandemic, but their numbers took a dive since last March, and now, with no youth at their facilities currently, he decided it was time to open it up to men.

Already having all the appropriate staffing as well as counselling and mental health resources at Choices made the transition possible and significantly less expensive, according to Narine. They also already have charitable status, which can make getting large donations much easier.

“It was already right within the wheelhouse of what we’re doing,” said Narine in reference to operating the men’s shelter. “It’s a lot easier for us to do it than any other organization within Dufferin and it’s just because we’re so closely tied to what a men’s shelter requires for communities.”

“After I made a decision with the board that we’re going to go ahead with this, I had it up and running in less than a week... It’s been a lot of work, but it’s a lot less than if somebody else came and tried to do it from scratch.”

Now the clock is ticking to secure long-term funding at Choices Youth Shelter so the men’s facility can operate past September.

Thanks to a private donor who kicked in \$20,000, Narine said he’s able to operate the shelter until its lease expires at the end of next month, but its future past that date is uncertain.

“I have one month to decide if I’m going to go ahead and keep it going or shut it down,” he noted.

The amount of money needed to cover staffing and all of the necessary infrastructure to run a men’s facility at Choices for a full year is approximately \$200,000 to \$300,000, according to Narine.

He told the Citizen he’s hopeful the County of Dufferin, which receives approximately \$15 million a year from Orangeville, will

be able to find the money in their budget to make the local men’s shelter permanent.

He added that creating the men’s shelter and showing the demand for it locally is more likely to convince the government to fund the project, rather than coming forward and discussing how it would work in theory.

“I’m not one for sitting around talking, I’m more of a field of dreams person. If I see something – let’s just get it done,” he remarked. “I find with a lot of things, especially when you’re asking, say, the County for money, they need to see something.”

After meeting with Orangeville Council’s Men’s Homelessness Committee early last week, Narine said they were very happy to see that something’s been set up and feel a lot further ahead on the issue now.

Orangeville Mayor Sandy Brown, who got the ball rolling on starting the committee in late April, said the funding of Choices’ men’s shelter could be sourced by both the Town of Orangeville and hopefully the County of Dufferin to create a permanent facility.

Mayor Brown told the Citizen other municipalities like Orillia have been able to secure funding from the provincial and federal government as well for their homeless shelter and Orangeville should try to follow along that path.

The University of Guelph is currently doing a needs assessment regarding homelessness in the region, which will be helpful with grant applications.

“I’m very confident that we’ll be able to pull the same kind of purse strings that other cities have and get the necessary resources to solve this problem, once and for all,” Mayor Brown remarked.

However, he noted that the tight timeline of having to secure long-term funding by the end of next month in time for the resigning of the leases at Choices’ two facilities could be a challenge.

“That is awfully short notice. We’re six weeks away from that, but stranger things have happened so let’s hope we can pull something off,” said Mayor Brown.

He noted that he’ll be speaking with fellow Town Councillors and County Councillors this week about securing funding for the men’s shelter.

“I think there’s some sympathetic councillors out there that would support steering some money into this, and that’s my hope. That’s the short-term goal, get some funding in place,” Mayor Brown told the Citizen.

In addition to government funding, Narine noted that fundraising is going to be essential to make the shelter successful.

“We definitely need a lot of help and this is a community project. We’re doing this for the community and if the community doesn’t stand behind us in this – it will fail,” he said.

In speaking with Narine, he noted that an important distinction between Chocies’ men’s shelter and ones in the GTA is the level of security and safety for its patrons.

“Right now, a lot of the GTA shelters are dangerous and a lot of homeless men don’t even want to go to them,” he said. “They feel safer on the streets.”

Most shelters in the GTA operate with all of the beds together in one communal area, so issues of theft and disagreements among patrons leading to violence are common place.

Choices’ men’s shelter operates much differently, as everyone staying there has their own room and privacy. Men accessing the shelter can also get assistance with finding a job or proper rehabilitation for addiction and mental health issues.

“Choices itself, with the youth, has a very good track record and I want to take that same model and pass that along to men,” noted Narine.

Continued on Page 13

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# Bolton’s Real Joyhouse aims to be the hub to unplug and socialize over board games and indoor sports



Real Joyhouse owner Amit Parikh hosted his business’ grand opening last week and was joined by Mayor Allan Thompson. **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**

BY ROB PAUL

Last week Real Joyhouse held its official grand opening—which included a visit from Mayor Allan Thompson—to celebrate bringing a different type of entertainment opportunity to residents in Caledon.

Located at 14 McEwan Drive West in Bolton, Real Joyhouse is a game parlour with various board games and activities, foosball, pool, table tennis, and food for patrons. The idea behind the business is to provide people a getaway from the stress of the world while engaging in fun social activities with friends and family.

The 2,800 square foot building is the first game centre of its kind in Caledon and owner Amit Parikh is hoping it can become a hub for those looking to take a break from their screens and interact with others from the community over some fun games and food.

The idea for Real Joyhouse was a concept Parikh had been thinking about for a while, but he turned it into a reality when the pandemic led to him being out of work.

“I was an I.T. infrastructure manager for 30 years

and because of COVID I was laid off last year,” he said. “I always had something in my mind for many years, that I wanted to do something different. I wanted to do something that would be innovative, and people would benefit from.”

After noticing the love for board game cafes in larger centres, Parikh thought he could take that idea and combine it with the classic indoor sports that have long been a part of the bar scene.

He wanted to give people options to keep them busy having fun with friends and family while also providing food fan favourites like nachos and pizza. He hopes to soon be serving beer too.

“I’m very fond of indoor sports and music, and I have a 23-year-old and 15-year-old daughter, and they go to board game cafes,” he said. “I’ve been doing some groundwork for a couple years, checking out different places and some places will be a board game cafe and others will have a pool table area, but nobody has everything under one roof. When I go with my daughters to play board games, it’s nice to play for an hour or two, but then sometimes you want to go play something else. That’s why I thought, why not combine these concepts and add a food option and I’m also going to get a

liquor license so I can serve beer. My whole idea is to have food and all the games so when groups of people come here, everyone has something to do.”

A business like this doesn’t just come together overnight, Parikh had long wanted to run a business that could become a mainstay in a community and help people decompress and unplug from the pressure of life.

“I like to say it’s the three M’s: motto, message, and money. The motto is to give happiness and joy to all the people—it doesn’t matter what age group, what community, or what nationality they belong to, it’s for all human beings,” he said. “The message is, in today’s stressful world we’re spending so much time on phones and on screens, but I want to help people find a little bit of balance. I’m not against spending time on screens, I’m not saying don’t do it—it’s part of life, we have to have technology—but at the same time, it’s important to find balance.”

“We have to spend a couple of hours in this kind of setting where we’re focused on indoor game activities listening to music and playing indoor sports—that puts relief on your mind. Down the road for the future, people might find they have increased mental stress if they’re spending so much time on their phones without balance. That’s why this is a small initiative on my end to try and do something different that could be helpful to people.”

At the same time, it generates revenue because I want to spread this so the most amount of people can benefit from it. If more people come here, it will encourage me to expand the business. That’s the whole plan.”

In the modern world, it has become increasingly difficult to truly spend time with one another and Parikh thinks a place like Real Joyhouse will give those in the Caledon community a place to go and socialize in the purest of ways.

“My whole tagline is, ‘stay connected, feel happy,’” he said. “We are losing connection and interaction. You could be in touch with someone in the U.K., but not know your neighbour or you don’t spend quality time with your family. That’s the force behind the idea, spend quality time with your own people.”

Although he’s not from Caledon, Parikh thought Bolton would be the perfect place for Real Joyhouse because it’s got the wholesome community feel that a business like his needs to thrive, but is in a big enough centre that there will be an appetite for

the services they provide.

“I’m from Brampton, and I was trying to find a place that’s not over-developed or underdeveloped,” he said. “I found this area in Bolton and there’s not really a place like this in Caledon. You can find board game cafes in Brampton and Mississauga, but not here in Caledon and I wanted to have a big space. So, there was a few reasons why I chose this area in Caledon. It took me about four months to implement the whole site here, but now it’s finally ready.”

Having officially launched in July 2020—but not officially opening due to the pandemic—Parikh knows it’s going to be a slow process spreading the word about Real Joyhouse, but he’s optimistic that once people start coming, they won’t stop.

“Right now, I’m working on digital marketing and other ways to attract people because people like the idea,” he said. “When people come here, they give it five stars on Google, but it’s going to take time because it’s a new idea and so many people don’t know about it so it will take time. On top of that, there’s COVID. I’m giving it the best I can give and hoping for the best. Now it’s up to people to come because if they come once they’ll definitely come again and recommend it to other people. That’s why I tell people they have to come here and feel the enjoyment because they’ll want to tell others to do the same once they feel the energy. The whole message is to give that happiness to others. I want to be the place for parties, gatherings, corporate events, and youth events because you can book the whole place for a few hours and have it just for your group to enjoy.”

Depending on how things go, Parikh would consider opening other locations, but he says it’s a wait and see game for now.

“Once it grows, I may think of expanding to another location, but let’s see,” he said. “It’s too early right now, people may like it, but they still have to show up. There are three keys to grow through marketing: reach the maximum number of people, allow people to get adjust to the idea and the business, and the most important thing is that people need to show up. It’s going to take time; it starts with people coming and having a good time and then telling others. I just want it to be there for everybody in Caledon to have a great time.”

For more information on Real Joyhouse, visit [realjoyhouse.com](http://realjoyhouse.com).



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# On heels of federal election, Mayor and Council identify key issues they hope to see addressed

BY ROB PAUL

On Sunday, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau called a federal election with the vote slated for Monday, September 20.

In Dufferin-Caledon, the MP candidates announced to this point are incumbent Kyle Seeback (Conservative Party), Lisa Post (Liberal), Jenni Le Forestier (Green Party), and Brian Frazer (People’s Party of Canada).

As the campaigning gets underway over the next five weeks, Mayor Allan Thompson and Town Council have identified several key election issues that would impact Caledon that they

hope to see addressed at the Federal level.

“Federal government plays an important role in the day-to-day role of our municipalities,” said Thompson. “The key items we would like to see addressed are affordable housing—advance policies and programs that expedite a full range of affordable and diverse housing options; broadband—facilitate the expansion of affordable, reliable high-speed internet to all areas through allocation of broadband investments and make it more feasible for service providers to serve rural areas; infrastructure—invest in climate resilient infrastructure, active transportation and public transit systems

such as a Caledon GO Rail Transit Line; climate change—provide legislative and monetary support for municipal action on climate change adaptation and mitigation; COVID-19—support comprehensive post-covid economic recovery.”

Thompson thinks the Federal Government has done a good job focusing on some of the issues that he and Council have prioritized in recent years and hopes that there will continue to be decisions made on funding that will positively impact Caledon.

“There has been progress on several issues such as broadband internet, but we continue to push for the funding to be allocated as quickly as possible to see connections made,” he said. “We have also seen increased infrastructure spending to municipalities through the federal gas tax, which is appreciated, a commitment to affordable childcare, and a robust climate change plan.”

For government at the municipal level to be at its best, it needs to work in unison with the federal level and receive support to improve growing communities, says Thompson. Over the coming weeks, Thompson and Council will consider the ramifications on Caledon of each

party winning the election.

“Legislative and funding actions taken by the Federal Government can have a significant impact on municipal governments,” he said. “As the federal election campaign unfolds, and the respective parties release their platforms, we will continue to review proposed policies considering the evolving needs of Caledon.”


As COVID-19 continues to make its impact felt on Canada, Thompson thinks it’s as important as ever for each level of government to be on the same page and work together, especially in terms of economic recovery.

“The federal government is an important funding partner, as is the province,” he said. “It is important that all three levels of government work together on local solutions. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, for example, the Town of Caledon has been working with all orders of government to ensure public health and safety as well as social and economic response and recovery. As our focus shifts towards post-pandemic recovery and growth, Caledon will continue to pursue a collaborative approach to government relations.”

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\*All images were taken prior to Covid-19.







Confirmed candidates for Dufferin-Caledon so far include (left) Conservative Kyle Seeback, (middle) Liberal Lisa Post, and (right) Green Jenni Le Forestier.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

## Local candidates step up ahead of September election

Continued from FRONT

“The pandemic isn’t over,” wrote Singh. “Calling an election is selfish. PM Trudeau can bring his Ministers back from the pre-campaign trail, recall the House and get to work. I’ve written him reminding him that the New Democrats are ready to return to Parliament and keep fighting for Canadians.”

With the election right around the corner, four MP candidates have been announced thus far for Dufferin-Caledon. Incumbent Kyle Seeback represents the Conservatives with Lisa Post (Liberal), Jenni Le Forestier (Green), and Brian Frazer (PPC)—the NDP has yet to name a candidate in the riding. Russ Emo will be representing the Christian Heritage Party.

In the last federal election in 2019, Seeback won with 42 per cent of the vote beating Liberal Michele Fisher (33 per cent), NDP Allison Brown (11.6 per cent), Green Stefan Wiesen (10.6 per cent), PPC Chad Ransom (2.2 per cent), and Emo (0.5 per cent).

Seeback took over as MP in Dufferin-Caledon for Conservative MP David Tilson who had been MP since 2004 when the riding was created.

“Canadians don’t want an (election), Justin Trudeau does, so be it,” said Seeback in a statement. “I’ve kept every promise I made, and I’ve worked hard to represent Dufferin- Caledon over the last two years. It’ll be my honour to serve again as your voice in Ottawa.”

Post was acclaimed as the Liberal candidate in April and serves as a member of Orangeville Town Council.


“It’s official, Parliament has been dissolved and a very busy 36 days are upon us before we head to the polls on September 20,” Post wrote in a statement.


Le Forestier is a known environmental activist in the Caledon area and was announced as the Green Party’s MP candidate in August.

“If I can get the 18 to 35 vote I will consider the campaign a success,” wrote Le Forestier in a statement. “They know what is at stake. It’s their future. A few new Green MPs can get more action in Ottawa than a whole row of backbenchers. I want to be one of them.”

Frazer is a Caledon resident who works in Bolton and previously spent time as his father Keith’s campaign manager in Dufferin-Caledon.

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# Conservative, Liberal candidates outline priorities in first week of campaign

BY ROB PAUL

With Prime Minister Justin Trudeau calling an early election Sunday, Canadians have under five weeks until they’ll be heading to the polls on September 20.

In Dufferin-Caledon there are five confirmed MP candidates at this point with incumbent Kyle Seeback running for re-election for the Conservative Party, Lisa Post representing the Liberals, Jenni Le Forestier running for the Green Party, Brian Frazer for the People’s Party of Canada, and Russ Emo is the Christian Heritage Party’s candidate. The NDP have not yet named a candidate for the riding.

During the 2019 election, the Conservative’s and Liberal’s accounted for 51,497 votes—75 per cent—of the 68,616 valid votes casted.

In the 2019 federal election, Seeback was elected to represent Dufferin-Caledon for the first time after the Conservative’s had David Tilson win the riding in five straight elections dating back to the creation of the riding in 2004.

Prior to running in the Dufferin-Caledon riding in 2019, Seeback had previously served as MP for Brampton West from 2011 to 2015. In the 2015 federal election, Seeback ran for MP in Brampton South receiving 35 per cent of the vote but falling short of winning the riding—MP Sonia Sidhu was elected in 2015 and re-elected in 2019.

Some of Seeback’s main focuses while representing Dufferin-Caledon have been rural infrastructure, protecting the environment, freedom of speech, advocating for affordable housing, and fighting for better broadband.

“The problem of affordable and reliable internet has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic for rural Canada, including, Dufferin-Caledon, as more families rely on this service to operate their businesses, communicate with loved ones, complete schoolwork, and to stay informed,” stated Seeback. “I aggressively pushed for action by the Liberal government and Internet Service Providers.”

In 2021, Seeback founded the Dufferin-Caledon Multicultural Award Committee to help show his commitment to the importance of inclusivity and diversity in community.

Since the pandemic began, he has also prioritized economic recovery by meeting with local Legions, farmers, and small business owners.

“Legions all across Canada, including those in Dufferin-Caledon, were severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, as they struggled to keep their doors open,” Seeback stated. “The Liberal government was slow to act. I raised this issue here in the riding and in Ottawa, which resulted in a phenomenal outpouring of support from our community. After many months of pressure, the government also finally provided support to the Orangeville and Alton Legions. Small businesses have been particularly hard hit by the pandemic. I’ve listened to and also met with Dufferin-Caledon business owners during my Small Business Tour. I shared their concerns with the Liberal government, while also pressing the government to improve their COVID-19 response measures.”

Post was acclaimed as the Liberal candidate for Dufferin-Caledon in April and has been serving as an Orangeville Town Councillor since 2018. In her role as a councillor, she has advocated for the community as Chair of the Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee, the Cultural Plan Task Force, and the newly established Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee, and she also serves as the Vice Chair of the Library Board.

Her main commitments as a representative of the community include growing the middle class, supporting small business, protecting the environment, and building a more inclusive future.

Post is involved in community organizations as a volunteer and has dedicated herself to supporting diversity and inclusion in Dufferin-Caledon. She’s a founding organizer for Dufferin County’s first Pride Festival, Celebrate Your Awesome.

With the impact the pandemic has had on the economy, Post hopes to be a voice in Ottawa for those in need and believes the federal government has to do everything possible to help the country rebound and put people first.

For more information about Conservative candidate Kyle Seeback, visit [www.kyleseeback.com](http://www.kyleseeback.com), and for more information about Liberal candidate Lisa Post, visit [lisapost.liberal.ca](http://lisapost.liberal.ca).



Conservative candidate Kyle Seeback, Left, and Liberal candidate Lisa Post are among the individuals rapidly filling Dufferin-Caledon’s ballot ahead of the September 20 Federal election.

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Brock’s Banter

Back on the trail

BY BROCK WEIR

It wasn’t all that long ago when I was standing on a makeshift wooden box, left teetering on one foot, such was the room left on top of it as more and more people joined me.

There was electricity in the air to be sure, but many of us would have preferred to be elsewhere as we waited for a Federal leader to show up to this converted plaza unit.

The media were left with this one little island amid the teeming sea of humanity below as we waited for the man of the hour(s): a party leader making a sweep of the area during a heated election campaign.

Those of us who had cameras, notebooks and other tools of the trade in hand, were kept our places on the wooden box which, which was almost miraculously not buckling under the collective weight of eight to ten others.

We weren’t looking to be elsewhere because of campaign fatigue or any personal opinion of the leader we were waiting for. Rather, it was Thanksgiving Sunday and, if my situation was reflective of the others, family dinner was getting cold in Eto-bicoke.

Delayed by nearly 90 minutes and counting after said leader was mobbed in a community just to the north, the family had started regularly checking in, but certainly not by phone. The energized din in the room wouldn’t allow that. Texts were the order of the day, responses to which were particularly perilous when you’re in a situation where the merest brush of an elbow ran the risk of sparking a crowd surfing situation.

But, the leader eventually arrived, did what leaders are expected to do, revved up the crowd with their talking points, shook too many hands to count, posed for more selfies in a few minutes than most of us have since the advent of that social media art form, and hopped back on the bus once again – probably to some turkey takeout on board as the rest of us raced to waiting dinner tables.

Although that campaign was just about two months ago, it seems like a world away. And, in many respects, it was; but here we are, once again in election mode, one which promises to be unlike any other.

We all know the world has changed significantly since Justin Trudeau’s majority government was swept away by the electorate in favour of a minority. As such, we have been living under the threat or promise (depending on your viewpoint) of a snap election for, well, let’s be generous and say the last 21 months.

In that time, there has been no shortage of sabre rattling.

The Conservative opposition changed leaders from Andrew Scheer to Erin O’Toole after a hotly contested race. The Greens followed suit, replacing long-time leader Elizabeth May with Annamie Paul.

The cast was in place for any eventuality and then...crickets. That is not to say that there was necessarily silence; on the contrary, it seemed that just about every third vote that came up in the House of Commons over the last year or so was transformed into a confidence matter with the Prime Minister daring any of the other parties to blink.

Those crickets? Maybe it’s more accurate to liken it to the sound of air spluttering out of the nozzle-end of a balloon as it all came to naught.

Whether it was a matter of strategy, COVID-19, or simply the lengthy hunt to find a new Governor General following the resignation of Julie Payette, it was ultimately left to the Prime Minister to stroll up to Rideau Hall on Sunday and ask for the dissolution of Parliament. No confidence vote required.

Many of us have dreaded it since the spring of 2020, but here it is: a Federal election in the middle of a global pandemic.

Had the election been called a couple of months ago, some of what we would have seen in the lead-up to election day itself would have been more or less “business as usual” but now our candidates – and their supporters – are once again pounding the pavement while they – and us – are staring down the barrel of a fourth wave.

In the two days since Governor General Mary Simon dropped the writ, the campaigns themselves appear to be a mix of the old and new, with Trudeau making more traditional campaign stops and meeting supporters mask to mask, while O’Toole spent Days 1 and 2 meeting virtually with thousands of supporters across the country.

If the number of daily new cases of COVID-19 continues on its upward trajectory, as medical experts feel it will, candidates vying to be our next Members of Parliament and Prime Minister will need to have multiple paths on the table in order to connect with voters.

O’Toole has taken this approach right out of the gate, something which may hold him in good stead should our public health crisis turn upside down.

Regardless of the uncertainty ahead of us, however, connecting with voters is what they will have to – and it is incumbent on voters to connect with the individuals hoping to represent their interests in Ottawa as well.

Thankfully, in our highly connected and potentially contagious world, it is no longer necessary to head out to an all-candidates meeting in order to engage with the names destined to be on our ballots. Nor is it necessary to open the door to whichever smiling face might be on the other side.

But as much as it is necessary for candidates to get their views and platform planks to the electorate it is necessary as well for voters to make an informed decision and pick the candidate that will best represent their interests in Ottawa and the Party they feel best reflects their worldview. (And if these two factors align, that decision is made so much easier)

Over the next few weeks, I hope you will pay attention, stay engaged, and make an informed decision for the future of this country, whatever the future might ultimately hold.

As for covering the campaign for this newspaper, given public health restrictions, I don’t see balancing on one foot on top of a box with eight to ten of my closest colleagues in the middle of 300 people standing shoulder to shoulder in my particular deck of cards.

And I’ll count that as a personal win.



Celebrating with lefties on Friday the 13th!

by Mark Pavilons



An international recognition day came and went last week, in a double-header of mystique and superstition

Friday, August 13, was International Left-Handers Day. The August 13 day was created by the UK’s Left-Handers Club.

I have embraced my right brain and celebrated my left-handedness. I always notice when someone I encounter is a lefty, and smile as I find another member of this prestigious and limited club.

There are only 708 million lefties on the planet or maybe 9% of the population.

While today our clan often goes unnoticed, we were criticized, even killed throughout history.

In my early school days, teachers often insisted that all students, including left-handers, learn to write with their right hand. Teachers thought that students would have an easier time if they were not “different” from right-handed writers. Some thought that using the left hand was just a bad habit. Some even slapped or punished left-handed kids who had trouble!

They tried this on me and my mom was adamant that I remain “special” and just as I was. Thanks mom!

Going back a couple of hundred years and lefties were considered in league with Lucifer himself. Some say the Prince of Darkness is a lefty, too.

The Latin word for left is “sinister” and in French, you can call me “gauche.”

There’s no scientific evidence as to what causes people like me to be special and extra smart and creative.

Me and my fellow southpaws have “a symmetrical brain,” meaning that the left and right portions of their brain are shaped alike. Right-handers often have an asymmetrical brain.

I have found that being different does have its disadvantages. More often than not, people poke fun at us for being clumsy and not being able to operate a can opener, scissors or other gadgets.

In 1998, Burger King poked fun at our clan, saying they developed a “left-handed Whopper.”

Friday the 13th was also a strange and fun holiday for some.

Here in Ontario, motorcycle enthusiast flock to Port Dover, for an even that typically draws thousands of participants. This year’s event was scaled back due to the pandemic.

I’m a fan of horror and the supernatural, but never thought much about the legends surrounding Friday the 13th.

It typically occurs up to three times a year, but for 2021, this was the only one.

The next one is May, 13, 2022.

The fear of the number 13 and the fear of Friday likely occurred in the late 1800s. For Norse and Marvel lovers, Loki wasn’t invited to dinner with 12 Norse gods, but he showed up anyway and caused quite a ruckus.

One of my favourite historic groups – the Knights Templar – were among thousands of religious orders who were rounded up on Friday, October 13, 1307. Many were arrested for blasphemy at the command of France’s King Philip IV. Many were later tortured, coerced into making false confessions, and executed.

When the knights were burned at the stake in Paris, the order’s leader, Jacques de Molay, cried out, “God knows who is wrong and has sinned. Soon, a calamity will occur to those who have condemned us to death.” The holy warrior’s curse and wrongful death put a hex on Friday the 13th through the ages.

The Last Supper was attended by 13 people, Christ and his 12 disciples. The number 13 is associated with the 13th disciple, Judas Iscariot, who betrayed Christ who was then arrested by Roman soldiers and crucified on Good Friday.

It doesn’t really matter if there’s any rhyme or reason to it. According to surveys, some 60 million people world-wide still fear this day. Some refused to leave their house, dine out, conduct business or carry out any major decision.

Many hotels don’t have a 13th floor, but several do in Vegas. If your hotel does have a 13th floor, management is more than happy to move you.

As you may be aware, quite a few of today’s skyscrapers and hotels don’t have 13th floors or a room 13.

More than 60 million people worldwide have a phobia of Friday the 13th to varying degrees.

Friggatriskaidkaphobia is a combination of Friday (for a Norse god) and fear of 13.

On the flip side, in some countries, Friday the 13th is considered lucky.

In some Hispanic countries, Tuesday the 13th is the unlucky one. In fact, the title of the 1980 American horror classic Friday the 13th was changed to Martes 13 (“Tuesday the 13th”) for Spanish-speaking audiences.

One of the best horror writers of all time, Stephen King, is not a fan of Friday the 13th at all.

Franklin Roosevelt had such an irrational fear of Friday the 13th that he would avoid traveling on Fridays. Jack the Ripper claimed his final victim on Friday the 13th in 1888.

While I didn’t receive any gifts last Friday, I also didn’t walk under any ladders. I didn’t mark the day in any way, shape or form.

I wish I had. It would have been quite the party – a bunch of “sinister” lefties, wearing black robes, eating cake with 13 candles!

Maybe next year!

Submit your

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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## File This Under...

In today's edition of random rumblings from a concerned citizen, we offer up a series of considerations you may wish to file away for future reference. They include categories such as, "Things That Didn't Need To Happen" and "First World Problems." There will, of course, also be random references to "Ongoing Tragedies," "The World is on Fire," and probably some local Caledon-related content too. You might want to pour yourself your beverage of choice before reading about just what a sorry state we currently find ourselves in.

Things that didn't need to happen include an election and the fourth wave of COVID-19. Seriously Justin Trudeau, is now really the time to plunge Canadians into a snap election in an attempt to secure a majority for your government? This is nothing but hubris and a blatant attempt to grab more power – all during what appears to be the continuation, perhaps even escalation, of a never-ending global pandemic. This election comes what cost? Well, actually we can answer that. Projected to cost Canadians approximately \$610 million for a mere 36 days of campaigning during a time when maintaining social distance is still an imperative is frankly, unconscionable. We are only just beginning to pick ourselves up and dust ourselves off from the physical, social and economic impact of lockdowns and when you are nowhere near the end of your original elected mandate we question your true motivation.

As for this fourth wave of COVID, I have to

wonder if it really needed to happen? In the end, whether by plan or happenstance, it seems our vaccination rollout has gone reasonably well and we've had an excellent compliance rate. Thank you to all of you who rolled up your sleeves! However, there is still plenty of room to improve and without such improvement, particularly amongst young adults, the refusal to obtain a readily available and free vaccine continues to put us all at risk. As well, without a mandate to vaccinate health care professionals, including PSWs who work in long term care facilities or our education workers – for their own and the students protection – a fourth wave was inevitable. I'm not really trying to single out just these two groups, but to afford the greatest amount of protection to the greatest number of people – mandatory vaccination of at least these folks will certainly help. Many universities are already taking a stand in this regard, as are some hospitals. Let's make it province-wide.

Under the category of First World Problems, I'm still on a rant about vaccinations. It occurs to me that only in wealthier, industrialized nations where access to medical care is easy, would we then have the nerve to refuse it. It's kind of right up there with refusing to vote when you live in a democracy. In developed nations (we really shouldn't be referring to countries as first and third world anymore) many of us have the luxury of refusing to take our responsibilities to our country and our fellow citizens seriously because

any potential risks are mitigated by the very fact that we live in a developed nation.

Were we to find ourselves running for our lives across the tarmac in a country overrun by insurgents, the right to vote would suddenly have so much more importance. If it looked as though our entire village was at risk of COVID-19 and intubation, oxygen and even basic medications were not affordable or accessible – I somehow doubt we'd refuse a vaccination that would prevent our imminent demise. These are examples of developed nations privilege – refusing what others would consider a privilege to participate in.

Speaking of running for their lives, what an unspeakable tragedy to befall the people of Afghanistan, with scenes eerily reminiscent of 1975 and the fall of Saigon. Mad dashes and scrambles to board US aircraft evacuating the capital city of Kabul leave us heartbroken. Desperate people will do desperate things, even attempting to cling to an aircraft as it hurtles down the runway. What happens next in this unfolding tragedy will no doubt have an impact for generations to come. Even more heartbreaking than seeing people literally running for their lives is the thought of the fate of women and girls left behind under Taliban rule with nowhere to run.

Here at home, some Canadians are facing their own kind of Dante's Inferno as towns across BC and First Nations Reserves right here in Northern Ontario are being evacuated and/or wiped out by raging wildfires. We've addressed climate

change realities in a previous article, so I won't belabour it here but certainly nothing has changed recently and in some areas, has only gotten worse.

The world is literally on fire – will we ever learn?

Finally, as for local news – here's some good news – it's been a little quiet around Caledon and any noise you may have heard recently likely emanated from such community events as the weekend of live music organized by Annette Groves and friends, or the criss-crossing of Caledon by the Mayor and local Councillors to present awards to a number of our local citizens.

Perhaps you also heard the sweet sounds of laughter at this cheerful time of year when sunflowers are in full bloom at Davis Family Farms and Campbell's Cross Farm. As for me, after "filing" this story, under threat of an imminent deadline and with all manner of heavy thoughts sifting through my weary brain, I'm about to pour myself MY beverage of choice – usually filed under "Things that make me happy, or at least dull the pain" – also known as Red Wine.

*\*At time of submission an announcement was scheduled to take place on the issue of mandatory vaccinations for education and/or health care workers. Let's hope the Ford government has decided to do the right thing!*



**SHERALYN ROMAN**  
TALK CALEDON

## My gun shoots Timbits

There must be an election coming up in the near future.

In fact, the politically paid advertisements starting turning up on radio several weeks before it was rumoured that the P.M. was going to call an election in an attempt to secure a majority in parliament.

Once again, the federal Liberals are using their "gun control" thing as an attempt to convince their voters in the large urban centres to cast a vote for the red.

Fair enough – I don't blame them for that – that's what politics is all about.

This version of their "gun control" thing however, is incorrect on many levels.

For starters, they say in the ad they are going to ban "assault weapons."

Here's the thing – ALL guns are assault weapons - they are designed to fire a lethal projectile at a high velocity – they aren't designed to throw donuts and toss Timbits.

The term "assault weapon" was made up by some journalist in the U.S. Other journalists liked the sound of it and the phrase became part of the public lexicon.

Ask a military person if they use an "assault rifle" and they will tell you they use their standard issue

"rifle."

Many people associated the term "assault rifle" with weapons that are designed to deliver rapid fire. Rapid, as in a 20 or 30 round magazine that will fire all of it's rounds in a matter of seconds.

I agree – we don't need those in society.

But rapid fire weapons are already prohibited in Canada, and semi-automatic rifles are pinned to five rounds.

Exactly what is the government planning to ban if those weapons are already on the list?

The latest round of rifles placed on the prohibited list include names like AR-15, the M14, and SIG Sauer SIG MPX.

Apparently they have scary names and a scary appearance because anyone who knows anything about firearms will tell you those models are no more dangerous than any other rifle.

The radio ad claims that "many people feel threatened in their own community" and live in fear of gun violence.

Which community are they speaking about? I've lived in several cities and never once heard of anyone being afraid of gun violence.

If people are living in fear of gun violence, it is because they are living in one or two communities in

the country that host the gang members who flout society's laws and illegally carry unlicensed, and illegal weapons for nefarious purposes.

There are over 2 million registered gun owner in Canada, who have upward of 20 million firearms in their possession.

A check with Statistics Canada reveals that firearm related violent crimes represent only 3 per cent of all violent crimes in the country.

According to these statistics you should be more afraid of your neighbour's baseball bat, golf club, or punching skills than his firearm.

The same statistics reveal that gang related firearm crimes have doubled since 2013.

Do you see the connection here?

There was a shooting in a mall in Mississauga this past week. That incident was a disgraceful disregard for society and could have easily ended with an innocent person being killed.

The shooters, of course, should have their firearms license immediately suspended or revoked and at the minimum, should be charged with "careless use of a firearm."

Except authorities have not made an arrest and the shooters did not possess any kind of firearm license or legally own their weapons.

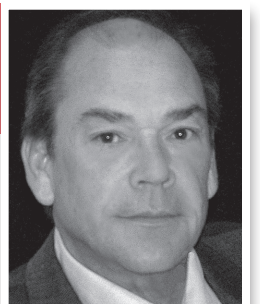
If the government wants to impress the population by reducing gun violence, they should do so by going after the source, not by persecuting individuals who follow the law and attempting to seize their property.

The laws themselves and the courts don't help the situation. Ask a member of the Toronto Police, how often they arrest a gang member on a gun charge only to see the same violent person on the street the next day. And many are repeat offenders.

Do a google search on world leaders who attempted to systematically disarm the population. The photos that appear will most likely be people that you have thought of as 'evil' world leaders.

If the government wants to squash gun violence they have to go after the source of that violence and punish the perpetrators.

Going after legal and law-abiding gun owners by outlawing their property creates a situation that not only infringes on a person's freedom it turns law abiding people into criminals simply by owning property.



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# Musician Sylvia Kay credits community support in Caledon for her success as an artist



Sylvia Kay (left) performed at Bolton’s Journey of Hope alongside guitarist Anthony Kotarski (right), guitarist and backup vocalist Lisa Carione (middle), and drummer Nick Carione (back).

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Continued from FRONT

“It definitely was a little nerve-racking,” she said. “But once we got up there, it was the most amazing thing. It was made easier by having the band with me, they’re like family.”

The chance to perform at the Journey of Hope was a surprise to Kay when she reached out to Bruno Vecchio, founder of VEC Entertainment, and he had an opportunity to perform live waiting for her.

“I met Bruno at church when I was 11, and the first time I played he was impressed, which was a massive compliment,” she says. “He talked to my parents after, and he said to give VEC a call when I turn 16—once I was a little older and my voice had developed.

“I called him about a month ago and he said, ‘I’m throwing a Hail Mary and I’m putting you on stage. I haven’t heard you sing in five years, but I’m putting you on stage, good luck.’ I was like, ‘Okay, no pressure.’ But it ended up going very well and that’s how I got thrown into Bolton’s Journey of Hope.”

Being so young, music has been a passion of Kay’s pretty much her entire life, but if not for her family moving to Caledon

and her parents encouraging her to find a hobby, it might not have played out this way.

“Music has always been awesome to me, and it’s been my crutch for forever,” she said. “I’ve been playing for about 11 years; it’s been a good chunk of my life and I’ve been singing since I was about eight. It was actually my parents who pushed me to do it. They really wanted me when I was five to get into just any activity. I was so sick and tired of them pestering me about it and we were driving past INKey Music School (in Caledon East) after just moving here and I said that I wanted to play the piano just to shut them up!

“So, they put me in classes, and I hated it at first, but Lisa Carione—who has been my teacher for the last 10 years—was pretty adamant about learning things that I was passionate about, learning pop and stuff that’s fun as well as technique and that got me into it.”

Playing music for fun is one thing, but performing for others is a whole other animal. Kay credits her chance to perform at church over the years for helping her overcome the nerves that go hand-in-hand with the performing to an audience.

“Father Bob (Glynn)—who’s at St. John

the Evangelist—was super supportive,” she said. “I was really young—I was 11 when I started playing at church—and I was petrified, I had the worst stage fright, but he was kind of the one that pushed me and gave me so many opportunities and I’m really grateful to him for that.”

Being a lover of music, Kay is always looking to expand her repertoire. For her, music is all about expression and that can come out in many different ways and sounds. Though piano is her main musical outlet, she doesn’t want to pigeonhole herself into one genre with one instrument.

“I definitely try to stay away from putting a specific label on myself,” she said. “I don’t want to be known as just a pop girl or just a country girl, I want that freedom to express how I feel the way I feel it needs to be expressed. I play the guitar—it’s not my main instrument, but I love to incorporate it into my music. I started violin at one point which is really hard and I kind of shied away from it, but I do want to go back to it because it’s a gorgeous instrument. It’s definitely one of the hardest, but I always want to learn more.”

The song-writing process for Kay isn’t like following the same formula over and over, because her music is so emotional

and passionate, when she feels the need to express herself the song begins to come together.

“It’s definitely different every time. I don’t think I have one specific process, but it’s kind of just capturing a feeling and being a vessel for that emotion,” she said. “Sometimes it starts with a melody and sometimes it starts with a lyric, and it usually just pops into my head, and I escalate on that. I’ve written about 15 to 20 that I have in a binder at home. But it really is different every time—when they come to me, they come to me.”

Like most musicians, Kay has drawn inspiration from others. She credits Taylor Swift as her biggest influence and most aligns with singer/songwriters who are driven by emotion.

“I love pop and folk,” she said. “I love Taylor Swift, everyone that knows me pretty much knows I’m a big fan of hers, and I love Lauren Daigle. People that really connect to their music, I think that’s the thing that draws me to certain musicians, you can feel their connection to their music.”

As for how far Kay will go with music, she prefers not to spend too much time pondering that and would rather live in the moment.

Music is her getaway and to look at it through the lens of something she has to do would take away from her love of getting to do it.

“It’s more of a passion and I would love to minor in it, but I don’t think I’d major in it because I want to keep those two worlds separate and make sure I continue to enjoy music,” she said. “I don’t want anything leaked into my love for music and causing me to feel differently. Music is my life; I’d love to take it further. My main goal is to inspire people through my music and if I can do that, then I’d say I achieved everything I wanted to.”

The nurturing a musician needs to reach their potential is immeasurable, but Kay is thankful every day that she ended up in Caledon where she’s been able to see her true artistic potential thanks to the support she has received.

“This community is amazing,” she said. “I’ve lived in other cities before, but this is home, and it always will be. The people here are so nice and so supportive, I can’t imagine living anywhere else, the people here are amazing.”

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PUBLIC NOTICE

HAVE YOUR SAY

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

8186 King Street | Proposed Zoning By-law Amendment

FILE NUMBER(S): RZ 2016-0014 RELATED FILE NUMBERS: SPA 2016-0063

A Public Meeting will be held to consider a proposed Zoning By-law Amendment. Your input and insight will inform and shape plans that meet the needs of our community.

Due to continuing efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19 and to protect individuals, Town Hall will not be open to the public to attend Public Meetings until further notice. These meetings will be held electronically.

Meeting Date: September 14, 2021  
Public Meeting Start Time: 7:00 p.m.

To listen to the Meeting (but not participate), you may call 1-833-311-4101, Meeting Access Code: 132 868 0624#.

Members of the public are welcome to participate via phone or WebEx Meeting upon request. For more information on how to participate, please visit [caledon.ca/notices](https://caledon.ca/notices) or contact the Planning Department. Please note that there are deadlines by which the request to participate need to be made.

You can also ask questions or provide comments by:

- Submitting written correspondence to [agenda@caledon.ca](mailto:agenda@caledon.ca) and [planning@caledon.ca](mailto:planning@caledon.ca) for consideration during the Public Meeting. Please note that written comments will form part of the public record.
- Contacting Planning staff or the Lead Planner during office hours by phone or email.
- Booking an appointment to visit Town Hall to speak with Planning staff. Visit [caledon.ca/development](https://caledon.ca/development) for more information.



APPLICANT:

Robert Russell Planning Consultants Inc. on behalf of 2473903 Ontario Inc.

LOCATION:

8186 King Street

PROPOSED CHANGES:

To amend the Zoning By-law for the subject lands from Agricultural (A1) to Serviced Industrial Exception XXX (MS-XXX) and Environmental Policy Area 1 Zone Exception XXX (EPA1-XXX) to permit the development of a Contractor's Facility, Business Office and Accessory Open Storage Area.

LEAD PLANNER:

Adam Wendland, Community Development Planner  
905.584.2272 x. 4024  
[adam.wendland@caledon.ca](mailto:adam.wendland@caledon.ca)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

For more information about this matter, including information about appeal rights, a copy of the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment, additional information and material, please visit [caledon.ca/notices](https://caledon.ca/notices) or contact the Lead Planner at Town Hall from Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

ACCESSIBILITY:

If you require an accessibility accommodation to attend or participate in this Public Meeting, or to access any materials related to this item in an alternate format please contact Legislative Services by phone at 905-584-2272 x.2366 or via email at [legislativeservices@caledon.ca](mailto:legislativeservices@caledon.ca). Requests should be submitted at least 10 days before the Public Meeting.

Multi-Tenant Landowners: Please post this notice in a visible location to all residents of the land.

Notice Date: August 19, 2021



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# Rotary Club teams up with Water First for fundraiser helping Indigenous communities



BY ROB PAUL

The thought of not having easy access to drinking water is not something many Ontarians have to consider. It is, however, a problem for many Indigenous communities in Ontario.

In Ontario, 40 per cent of Indigenous communities have to boil their water to make it safe, and that didn't sit right with the Rotary Club of Bolton.

After learning about Water First and the programs they offer, the Rotary Club wanted to get involved.

The Rotary Club of Bolton, in collaboration with Water First, will be running a matching fundraiser up to \$4,000 that will lead any community donation to being quadrupled. The funds will be directed to Water First's Drinking Water Internship, a 15-month paid position that hires and trains young Indigenous adults for careers as water operators.

Water First was founded in 2009 to bring drinking water resources to rural schools in Uganda.

In 2012 the organization began working with Indigenous communities in Canada to provide training on operations and maintenance of water system. In 2016, they dedicated the organization to working exclusively with Indigenous communities.

Rotary's involvement began when Club Service Director David Kostynyk brought in a guest speaker from Water First.

"My job with the Club is to bring in potential guest speakers on things that will interest our members," he said. "We bring them in to discuss things at our business meetings and we had Dianne Dance come in. She came in and talked to us about this program and we said, 'Okay, well why don't we earmark \$4,000 for this program?' Then we thought we could go to the community to get \$4,000

in donations.

"So basically, if someone donates \$100, we will turn around and match it so now it's \$200. Then through Rotary International, there's an international grant that will once again double the money. So, a \$100 donation turns into \$400. This then goes towards the Water First program to educate an Indigenous person on how to actually operate the facility."

Kostynyk looked at the situation and couldn't fathom that the problem isn't the tools being unavailable for Indigenous communities to have access to clean water, but it's the lack of proper training for them to operate water treatment facilities.

The intern program being run by Water First not only teaches a member of an Indigenous community in need of clean water how to operate treatment facilities, but it gives them a stake in the program too.

"Through the program at Water First—an NGO based out of Creemore—they've developed an intern program where the Indigenous community members select someone and they basically go to school to become a water treatment facilitator," Kostynyk said. "The good thing is, it's not free for them. It's basically 66 per cent organizationally funded and 33 per cent of the money for the training comes from the Indigenous community—so they actually have a buy-in."

The Rotary Club of Bolton unanimously agreed that this would be the perfect fundraiser to run to lend a helping hand to those in need.

"It was kind of a no-brainer," said Kostynyk. "Imagine going to your tap and wanting to get a drink of water, putting it into a pot and now you've got to boil it for 10 minutes, and it's 40 per cent of all the Indigenous communities in Ontario that have to deal with this. It's crazy. It's appalling. If it were one or two per

cent or even 10 per cent then okay, but it's 40 per cent."

Working with Water First on this fundraiser made a lot of sense for the Rotary Club of Bolton who saw it not only as a chance to help those in need, but an opportunity to raise awareness of the struggles that Indigenous communities still deal with today.

"It also creates jobs for the people there," said Kostynyk. "That will be a paid position when the person graduates from the internship."

To donate to the Rotary Club of Bolton's Water First fundraiser, visit [boltonrotary.ca](http://boltonrotary.ca).



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**It is hard to fathom that in Ontario, in the 21st Century, 40% of indigenous communities have to boil their water to make it safe. We are not here to point fingers nor lay the blame, we want to help address the problem.**


**The Rotary Club of Bolton is inviting you to help these indigenous communities.**



**We will match local donations up to \$4,000. These donations will be matched by Rotary International. So your \$25 charitable donation will become \$100.**

**These funds will be directed to Water First Training & Education Inc's Drinking Water Internship, a 15 month paid internship that hires and trains young indigenous adults for careers as water operators.**

**For details on the program please see Water First - <http://waterfirst.ngo/>**

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# CDS grad Goodrow to bring Stanley Cup home next Thursday

BY ROBERT BELARDI

New York Rangers forward Barclay Goodrow, a former student at King’s Country Day School, will be bringing the Stanley Cup to Machell Park in his hometown of Aurora on August 26.

Goodrow, who has twice won the Stanley Cup with the Tampa Bay Lightning over the past two seasons, will bring the cup home for the first time since St. Louis Blues centre Robert Thomas did three years back.

This marks the third consecutive year an Aurora resident has lifted the illustrious trophy and Mayor Tom Mrakas says this is significant for the Town.

“This is a great way for the Town to come together and celebrate something as we have been cooped up and stuck at home and trying to work through this pandemic,” he said. “We didn’t get to celebrate last year when Barclay won and I think we’ll be able to celebrate more because he’s won it back-to-back.

“Now I think we’ll be able to celebrate more because he’s won it back-to-back. It’s a phenomenal feat as we know it because it doesn’t happen often in sports and to be a part of a team that was able to achieve that two years in a row it’s incredible. It’s something that all of us in Aurora are very proud of.”

Celebrating with Barclay for the second consecutive year are his parents John and Janice Goodrow.

The Goodrows, who travelled to the bubble in Edmonton last year and along with only six other parents from the Tampa Bay Lightning, had the pleasure of celebrating the victory in the dressing room.

This past year, the Goodrows travelled down to Tampa Bay to see the Lightning defeat the Montreal Canadiens in Game Five and lift the trophy



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## Men’s homeless shelter opens

Continued from Page 2

“At the end of the day, I’d hate to see one of the GTA shelters set up here and that’s just because they don’t give the men what they really need and it doesn’t actually solve the problem. It just creates a bigger problem.”

While many of those who struggle with homelessness are also battling drug addiction and mental health issues, Narine said it’s important to note that there’s a growing number of people being pushed out of their homes due to the pandemic.

“Lately, since COVID started, I’ve been noticing a lot of the issues we’re running into is just COVID related,” Narine said. “There’s a lot of people that are making decent money and they’re struggling to get by. That’s a common story I’ve been hearing a lot lately.”

Having almost been homeless himself many years ago when he was in his 20s, Narine said he has a passion for helping people who are unhoused.

“I feel like everybody’s just one decision away from being homeless,” he remarked.

Going forward, Choices is in need of donations from the community to assist in the operation of its men’s shelter. Donations of food, clothing, furniture, toiletries, and basic necessities can be dropped off to 59 Townline, which is also Choices’ intake site for those looking to access their services.

Narine said he’s seen an uptick in donations since announcing the opening of the men’s shelter last week and is very grateful for all of the community’s support so far.

Once restrictions surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic ease, the organization will be looking for volunteers.

To learn more about Choices’ visit their website: [sites.google.com/choicesyouthshelter.info/choices-youth-shelter](https://sites.google.com/choicesyouthshelter.info/choices-youth-shelter) or call 519-940-5687.

once again. They also attended the boat parade.

And the more John thought about it, all the more reason how special it will be to bring the cup to the Town of Aurora.

“The more we think about Barclay’s day winning the Stanley Cup and the celebration, we realize how special that trophy is to many people,” he says. “It’s fantastic for Barclay to be able to share it with the minor league boys and girls who are playing in Aurora now, share it with former teammates of his from Aurora, from Brampton

and North Bay, and other players who he played against in the league,” John said.

“It’s going to be special to have all those people plus family, friends and others down in Aurora that we haven’t met. We know they will be at Machell for the celebration.”

Both Mayor Mrakas and Mr. Goodrow touched on the impact this will have on young hockey players in the community. They said that players in the community should know that anything is possible.

And, for a player like Goodrow, who went undrafted, any route is possible to enter the NHL and as long as you work hard, you will be successful.

For those who wish to attend, you should arrive at Machell Park at no later than 11:15 a.m. There will be a process to enter the area and representatives from the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame will be speaking at 12 noon.

Barclay Goodrow is expected to bring the cup to the park around 1 p.m.

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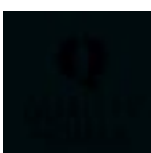
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#### Required Knowledge:

- Post-Secondary education in the form of a community college diploma (2 or 3 years) focused on construction engineering technology, architectural engineering technology or a related field.
- 2 years of relevant experience in Municipal Building Department preferred.
- CBCO or BCQ Certification required or able to obtain.
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We thank all applicants for their interest. Only those applicants selected for further consideration will be contacted. Wellington North is an equal opportunity employer. Accommodation for disabilities will be provided, upon request, to support participation in all aspects of the recruitment process. Personal information in relation to the recruitment and hiring process is collected under the authority outlined in the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

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**ARE YOU A WOMAN** living with abuse? For safety, emergency shelter, and counselling call Family Transition Place, (519)941-HELP or 1-800-265-9178.

**FOR INFORMATION** regarding **HEART and STROKE**, call Dori Ebel (519) 941-1865 or 1-800-360-1557.

**IF YOU** or a **FAMILY MEMBER** are struggling with gambling, Gamblers Anonymous is there to HELP. Call: 1(855) 222-5542 or visit [www.gatoronto.ca](http://www.gatoronto.ca).

**ALZHEIMER SUPPORT GROUPS** meet monthly for spousal & family support. Call (519) 941-1221.

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**OBITUARIES**

### SAWYER, Joan and Harold

Friends and family are welcome to join in a Celebration Service for the late Joan Sawyer and Harold Sawyer which will take place at Compass Community Church, 246289 Hockley Valley Rd., Mono, on Saturday, September 11, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. Jay Wagstaff will be officiating the service. Condolences may be offered to the family at [www.dodsandmcnair.com](http://www.dodsandmcnair.com)



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**OBITUARIES**

### HUNTER, Marion Ruth

Passed away peacefully at Headwater Hospital, in Orangeville on August 15, 2021 in her 92nd year. Marion is reunited in Heaven with her loving husband Gordon Hunter. She will be forever missed by her children, Paul (Carol), Lynda (Roger Hilts 2020), Carl (Ruth), Darlene (Jim Hayter) and Dianne (Hugh Ivanitz). Proud grandmother of, 10 and great-grandmother to 14. Marion will be fondly remembered by her 8 siblings. She will be held dear in the hearts of her family, relatives, and many friends. In lieu of flowers, if so desired, donations in memory of Marion may be made to the Headwaters Hospital Foundation. Visitation will take place at the In Memoriam Funeral Home (28 Main St., North, Grand Valley) on Thursday August 19th, 2021, from 1-4 pm. Graveside Service will take place on Friday August 20th, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. at the Hanover Cemetery. Marion's Family thanks all family and friends for their love and support during this most difficult time. Online condolences may be made at [www.imfunerals.com](http://www.imfunerals.com) In Memoriam Funeral Services Inc. has been given the honour to serve Marion's Family.



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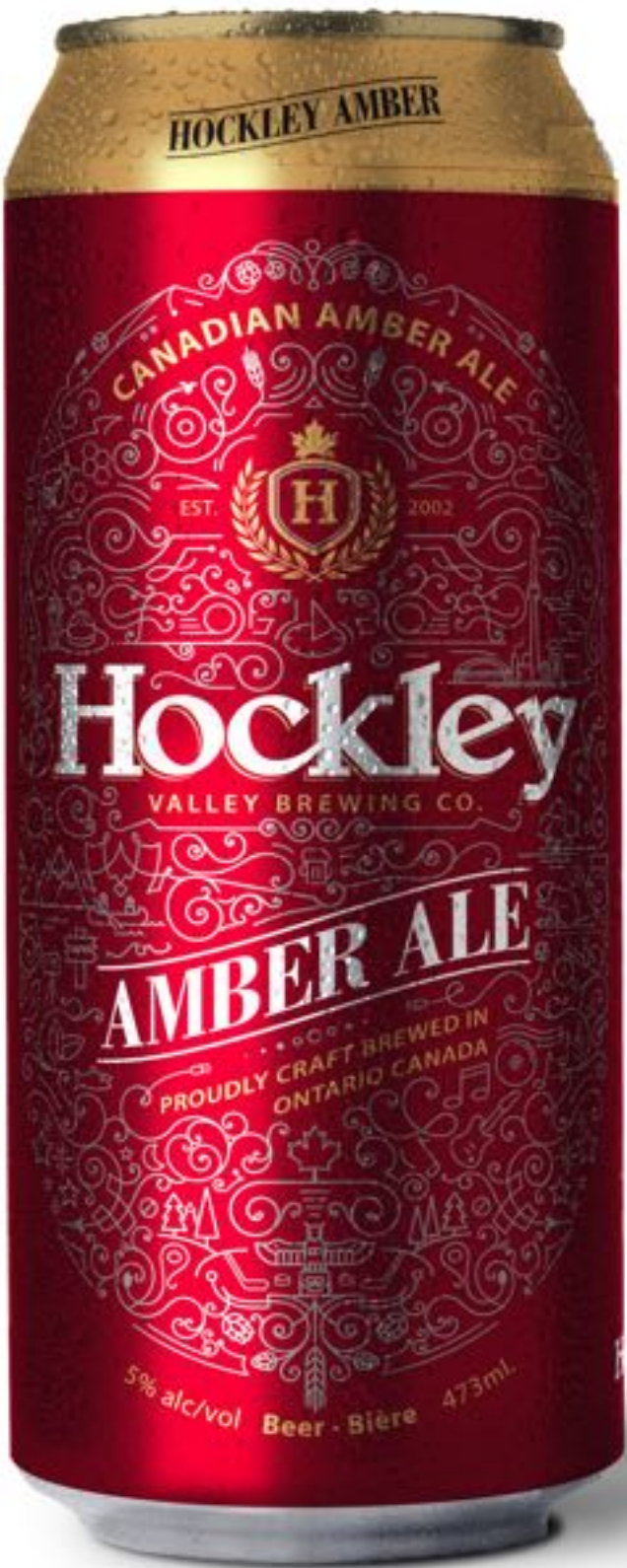
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