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Caledon Pride organizer Jules Bertola and their partner Hailey Tsolakis at the Caledon Pride booth. PHOTO BY LOUCAS LOUCAIDES/WONDERSCOPE MEDIA GROUP

## Successful family picnic event kicks off Pride Month

Caledon Pride and IDEA Caledon came together to host June 2 event

BY ZACHARY ROMAN  
LOCAL JOURNALISM  
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Sunday.

On June 2, Caledon Pride and IDEA Caledon came together to host a Pride family picnic event at Caledon East Park. It featured live music, vendors and activities, and food and drinks, and was a day where many community partners came together.

Jules Bertola, an organizer with Caledon Pride, said the picnic event was a great success. They said what was originally planned as a small picnic event soon became “a full-on Pride fest.”

Bertola said it was a testament to the amount of people and organizations in the Caledon community that want the opportunity to be visible and show their support for Pride Month, which is celebrated each June.

“Pride should be accessible and it should be in your backyard,” said Bertola. “All of the partners here today that have worked with us, we couldn’t be more thankful for their time and resources.”

Continued on Page A8

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## Province announces new elementary school in Mayfield West

BY ZACHARY ROMAN  
LOCAL JOURNALISM  
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Construction on a new elementary school in Mayfield West will begin in 2025.

On May 31, Ontario’s Minister of Education Stephen Lecce visited Alloa Public School to announce construction on a \$32 million elementary school would begin in 2025, with a targeted completion date of 2027.

Lecce was joined for the announcement by other dignitaries, including Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones, Caledon’s Peel District School Board (PDSB) trustee Stan Cameron, PDSB director of education Rashmi Swarup, Caledon’s Regional Councillor for Wards 1, 2 and 3 Christina Early, and Caledon’s Ward 2 Councillor Dave Sheen.

Continued on Page A3

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# Peel District School Board hosts first-ever powwow

## Powwow held at Maawnjiding Wiingushkeng Centre for Indigenous Excellence and Land Based Learning

BY ZACHARY ROMAN  
LOCAL JOURNALISM  
INITIATIVE REPORTER

A powwow was held in Caledon last Friday.

On May 31, the Peel District School Board (PDSB) held its first ever powwow at the Maawnjiding Wiingushkeng Centre for Indigenous Excellence and Land Based Learning, which is located at the intersection of King Street and Mississauga Road.

The PDSB's Indigenous Education team, and a powwow committee that included community partners, began planning for the powwow in January.

Indigenous students from the PDSB and Upper Grand, Wellington Catholic, Dufferin-Peel Catholic, and Halton district school boards all attended the powwow. Non-Indigenous students from various

PDSB high schools who are in First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Studies courses also attended the event to learn about Indigenous cultures.

Nicole Reynolds, the PDSB's Coordinating Vice Principal of Indigenous Education, explained the theme for the powwow was "Honouring our Youth".

"Everything that we do here is for the youth because we recognize their right to reclaim who they are as Indigenous peoples... this powwow is a space for them to be able to share their songs and their teachings — or learn their songs and their teachings. It's a place where they're able to connect with community," said Reynolds. "It's something that the education system originally took away from them, so the fact that the education system is creating space for them to reclaim who they are is pretty significant."



Crowds enjoyed watching demonstrations of different Indigenous dance styles at the PDSB's powwow on May 31.

PHOTO BY ZACHARY ROMAN

Reynolds said the PDSB welcomed 11 community partners to the powwow to share their teachings in areas like traditional storytelling, lacrosse and beading. Students were able to drop in and learn in a traditional way.

"This powwow seems to be a success, people came and they were dancing, when I walked out and I saw the bleachers full of people it was so emotional for me because all that hard work came together," said Reynolds. "It sparked the fire to do it again."

At 11 a.m. on May 31, there was a grand entry held at the powwow. During this time, Indigenous students and staff, danc-

ers, community partners, and senior PDSB staff all walked in.

Reynolds said this was her favourite part of the day. She explained having members of senior PDSB staff there was important as it shows the importance of the partnership required to provide opportunities for Indigenous students. It's a partnership she hopes to see continue.

"It was the hard work of the Indigenous Education Team and the guidance of the community that we serve that made this a success," said Reynolds. "As soon as the first canopy popped up it brought the powwow to life and it was really exciting to see."

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# Construction on Mayfield West school set for 2025



Satpaul Singh Johal, Vice-Chair of the PDSB; Jaspal Gill, Associate Director and Chief Operating Officer of the PDSB; Caledon Regional Councillor Christina Early; PDSB Director of Education Rashmi Swarup; Ontario Minister of Education Stephen Lecce; Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones; Caledon's PDSB Trustee Stan Cameron; Caledon Ward 2 Councillor Dave Sheen; and Alvin Au, Superintendent for Caledon schools on the PDSB at the announcement of a new elementary school in Mayfield West. PHOTO BY ZACHARY ROMAN

Continued from FRONT

Lecce said he was proud to announce the new school and said his government has been taking many steps to build schools rapidly. He said the new school is a great investment in the Caledon community.

"We are on a roll, we're doing this together and this couldn't have been done if we didn't have a partner in Caledon and in caucus who believes firmly in public education," said Lecce.

Jones said the new school will make a positive impact on kids in the area and make sure kids have an amazing place to learn and prepare for adulthood. She said Lecce is a tireless advocate for education and young students in Ontario.

Swarup said she was thrilled to mark another milestone in Caledon.

"On behalf of the Peel District School Board, I want to express my sincere gratitude to the Government of Ontario for contributing to the growth of this thriving community, to this new school build," said Swarup. "I can't stress enough how incredible this news is for the students and parents of the flourishing Mayfield West community."

The new school will create space for

850 students from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8.

"With this new school, Peel students will have access to a learning environment that nurtures creativity, collaboration, critical thinking, well-being, and excellence in all learning areas... this building will also include affordable childcare space for families," said Swarup.

Swarup said she and the Caledon community look forward to the day they can celebrate the opening of the school.

Cameron said the new school will serve the area west of Highway 10, east of Chinguacousy Road, north of Mayfield Road, and south of greenbelt lands in Caledon.

"This is a very exciting time not just for the Peel board but for the Town of Caledon... the small villages we have here are going to be very well-served by this announcement," said Cameron. "Thank you, Minister Lecce and Dufferin-Caledon MPP Jones for this funding approval and announcement today... creating a new school here will be welcome news for our children, families and staff. The important inclusion of child care spaces for infants, toddlers and preschool children will measurably help many of our families."

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### RESIDENTIAL SHOOTING ARRESTS

Police have charged two individuals in relation to residential shootings.

“Project Midnight, a joint Peel Regional Police (PRP) and Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) investigation, began when police identified a connection between three residential shootings in the City of Brampton, a homicide in the City of Mississauga and a double homicide in the Town of Caledon in November 2023,” say Police.

As a result of the investigation, Corey Denton, 34, from Scarborough, was arrested on March 21, 2024, and charged with the following Criminal Code of Canada (CC) and Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA) offences:

- Possession of a Loaded Restricted Weapon, as per section 95(1) CC - three counts;
- Knowledge of Unauthorized Possession of Firearm, as per section 92(1) CC - three counts;
- Unauthorized Possession of a Restricted Firearm, as per section 91(1) CC - three counts;
- Discharge Firearm with Intent, as per section 244(1) CC - two counts;
- Possession for the Purpose, Schedule I Cocaine as per section 5(2) CDSA - two counts.

The charges have not been proven.

On May 22, 2024, Jasvir Gill, 37, from Vandreuil-Dorion, Quebec, was arrested and charged with the following CC offences:

- Possession of a Loaded Prohibited or Restricted Firearm, as per section 95(1) - two counts;
- Knowledge of Unauthorized Possession of Firearm, as per section 92(1) - two counts;
- Unauthorized Possession of Firearm, as per section 91(1) - two counts;
- Discharge Firearm with Intent, as per section 244(1) - two counts;
- Possession Property Obtained by Crime, as per section 354(1)(A) - two counts;
- Possession Of Firearm, Etc. Contrary To Order, as per section 117.01(1) - two counts;
- Breach Of Probation, as per section 733.1(1) - two counts.



# Caledon 911

The charges have not been proven. Court dates are pending for both accused. “This investigation, led by the PRP Homicide Bureau and the OPP Criminal Investigation Branch, remains ongoing, with assistance from Caledon OPP Detachment Major Crime Unit, OPP and PRP Forensic Identification Services and in conjunction with the Office of the Chief Coroner, Ontario Forensic Pathology Service and the Centre of Forensic Sciences.”

Police are urging anyone with information about any these incidents to call the dedicated tip line at 1-833-941-5570. Anonymous tips can be shared by contacting Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or online at [ontariocrimestoppers.ca](http://ontariocrimestoppers.ca).

### IMPAIRED CHARGES

Officers from the Caledon Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have charged a driver with impaired operation by drugs.

“On May 29, 2024, shortly before 9:00 p.m., Caledon OPP responded to a traffic complaint in the area of Airport Road and Mayfield Road, in the Town of Caledon,” say Police. “Officers located the vehicle. During the investigation, grounds were formed that the driver’s ability to operate a motor vehicle was impaired by drugs.”

As a result, Tarsem Padda, 36, of no fixed address, was charged with:

- Operation while impaired
- The accused is scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville on June 18, 2024, to answer to the charge.

The charge has not been proven. “Whether a driver is impaired by alcohol or drugs, impaired is impaired, and impaired driving is dangerous regardless of the source of impairment,” say Police. “If you suspect a driver has consumed drugs and/or alcohol, please call 911 immediately. The phone call may save a life.”

For more information, visit [www.ontario.ca/page/impaired-driving](http://www.ontario.ca/page/impaired-driving).

### STUNT DRIVING CHARGES

Officers from the Caledon Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have charged a driver with stunt driving and impaired operation.

“On June 1, 2024, just after 12:00 p.m., an officer was conducting speed enforcement on Charleston Sideroad, near Kevinwood Drive, in the Town of Caledon,” say Police. “At that time, a vehicle was observed traveling at a high rate a speed and led to a traffic stop. During the investigation, grounds were formed that the driver’s ability to operation a motor vehicle was impaired by alcohol and was subsequently arrested.”

Michael Grandin, 31, of Mississauga, was charged with:

- Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus);
- Operation while impaired – alcohol;
- Drive motor vehicle - perform stunt;
- Speeding.

The accused is scheduled to attend the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville on June 20, 2024, to answer to the charges.

The charges have not been proven.

“Speeding and impaired driving is a dangerous mixture,” say Police. “Drivers continue to take chances. The OPP remains committed to taking alcohol/drug-impaired drivers off our roads through enforcement and public education. Drivers are reminded that no amount of alcohol or drugs in your system is safe when driving. If you suspect that someone is driving while impaired, it is important to call 9-1-1 to report it.”

For more information, visit [www.ontario.ca/page/impaired-driving](http://www.ontario.ca/page/impaired-driving).

### ATV SAFETY WEEK

“Members of the Dufferin OPP Detachment would like to wish all off-road enthusiast a safe and joyful riding season. We would also encourage everyone to review some off-road vehicle safety tips.”

When riding on-road or off-road, drivers and passengers must wear an approved motorcycle helmet, securely fastened under the chin with a chin strap.

#### Drivers:

For on-road riding, a driver must:

- be at least 16 years old;
- hold at least a valid G2 or M2 licence;
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- carry the ORV’s registration permit or a true copy.

#### Passengers:

For on-road riding, a passenger on an ORV:

- must be at least 8 years old;
- must wear a seat belt or use foot rests, when applicable;
- Passengers are not permitted on off-road motorcycles (ORMs);
- There are no restrictions for passengers when off-road.

#### Before a trip:

- get proper training by taking an ORV safety course;
- know your ORV and read its operator’s manual;
- do a pre-ride inspection and check oil gas and other fluid levels, lights, brakes, tire pressure;
- let someone know where you’re going and when you expect to return
- check with your local municipality to see if they have a bylaw permitting you to ride on roads

#### When you are riding:

- always ride according to the trail, road and weather conditions;
- use extreme caution when turning, crossing, climbing and descending hills;
- drive sober - it’s illegal to drive while impaired by alcohol or drugs;
- ride in designated areas only;
- respect the environment and keep noise levels low.

Members of the Dufferin Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police are committed to public safety, delivering proactive and innovative policing in partnership with our communities. Officers value your contribution to building safe communities. If you have information about suspected unlawful activity, please contact the OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or visit Crime Stoppers at: [www.crimestoppersdm.com](http://www.crimestoppersdm.com) or call 1-800-822-8477 (TIPS).

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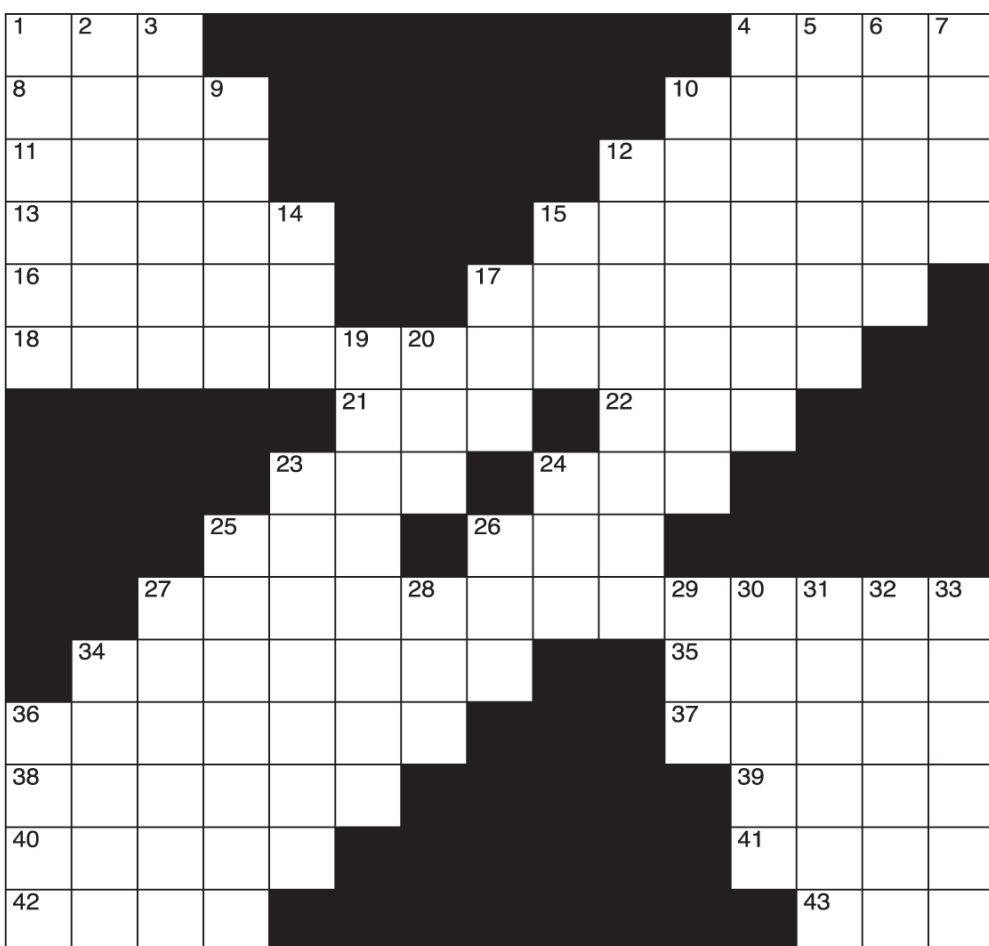
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- Something free
- Ancient Egyptian deity
- Set-like mathematical categories
- Top-quality
- Expansive
- Seizure
- People with congenital absence of pigment
- Gains
- Mocked online
- Clint’s son
- Body part
- Humor
- Code number

#### CLUES DOWN

- French river
- Nestlings
- Induces vomiting
- A place to eat
- Partner in the air
- Offered one’s take
- Nobel-winning French biologist
- Farm animals
- Prevent from growing
- Sensationalist periodical
- Soft-bodied beetle
- Very fast airplane
- Imaginative creation
- Recipe
- Evoked a response
- Shiny yellow minerals
- Make illegal
- U.S. military branch
- River in France and Belgium
- A woman of refinement
- Male child
- Type of medication
- German city
- Animal disease
- Mediterranean dietary staple
- Sneak out
- Radioactivity unit
- Performs on stage

*No one has more self-confidence than the person who does a crossword puzzle with a pen.*

# Hike for Bethell Hospice Raises Over \$245,000



IN SUPPORT OF BETHELL HOSPICE FOUNDATION



Thank You Everyone for Your Support!

Thank you to all hikers, sponsors, donors, volunteers and student participants for your belief in the importance of Bethell Hospice in our community. We are very grateful for your support.

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STUDENT HIKE FOR BETHELL HOSPICE



2025 Hike for Bethell Hospice  
Save the Date: Sunday, May 4, 2025

Visit [foundation.bethellhospice.org](http://foundation.bethellhospice.org) to learn more about Bethell Hospice Foundation.



Here when you need us



# Caledon celebrates Italian heritage

Downtown Bolton came alive on Saturday, June 1 for Italian Heritage Day, which was well-attended and a great success.

PHOTOS BY ENZA LUCIVERO



**THEATRE ORANGEVILLE**  
 AN ADD-ON CONCERT PRESENTATION  
**LEISA WAY'S OPRY Gold**  
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 Hits of the Queens and Kings of Country Music!  
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**HOCKEY NIGHT**  
in Dufferin-Caledon

IN SUPPORT OF

**HEADWATERS**  
Health Care Foundation

*Presented By*

Hockey Night in Dufferin-Caledon, organized by Member of Parliament Kyle Seeback, is back! August 14<sup>th</sup> 2024 at Teen Ranch (20682 Hurontario Street Caledon). Every dollar raised will go towards a cutting-edge MRI machine and other ways to enhance diagnostic capabilities at our hospital! HNDC 2024 will be another great game of hockey featuring top NHL talent like Doug Gilmour, Darcy Tucker, Aaron Downey and Mike Krushelnyski. Last year \$115,000 was raised, and the goal this year is to raise \$150,000!

**GAME DAY AND RAFFLE TICKETS** can be purchased NOW by visiting [www.hockeynightdc.ca/buy-tickets](http://www.hockeynightdc.ca/buy-tickets)  
 Game day tickets will be available for \$15 each or 4 tickets for \$50.  
 Raffle tickets can be purchased for \$20 each or 7 tickets for \$100.

**Three lucky winners will have the opportunity to win one of the following raffle prizes:**

1. Two Economy Class return tickets for travel to any Air Canada scheduled destination. Value - \$5800
2. Two Tickets to a 2025 Toronto Maple Leafs Game paired with one night stay in a Deluxe Tower Suite at the One King West in Toronto. Value - \$730.76
3. Four Tickets to Ed Mirvish's Rumours of Fleetwood Mac at the Princess of Wales Theatre in Toronto on August 24th, 2024. Value - \$518

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Raffle License: M753482



**PUBLIC NOTICE**

# NOTICE OF THE PASSING OF DEVELOPMENT CHARGES BY-LAWS BY THE TOWN OF CALEDON

**TAKE NOTICE** that the Council of the Town of Caledon passed Development Charge By-laws No. 2024-042 and 2024-043 on the 21st day of May, 2024, under Section 2 of the Development Charges Act, 1997.

**AND TAKE NOTICE** that any person or organization may appeal to the Ontario Land Tribunal under Section 14 of the Act, in respect of the Development Charges By-law, by filing with the Clerk of the Town of Caledon on or before Tuesday, July 2nd, 2024, a notice of appeal setting out the objection to the By-law and the reasons supporting the objection. Appeals filed with the Office of the Clerk at 6311 Old Church Rd Caledon ON L7C 1J6, will be accepted on or before Tuesday, July 2nd, 2024. A provincial processing fee will be payable to the Town of Caledon Clerk's Office with the appeal application. The appellant is advised to contact the Ontario Land Tribunal to access required forms and applicable Provincial fees.

The charges in the aforementioned by-laws will apply to all new residential and non-residential development, subject to certain terms, conditions and limited exemptions as identified therein. Schedule 1 below set out the development charge rates applicable throughout the geographic boundary of the Town of Caledon and therefore a map has not been provided. Development charges are imposed on the development of all lands located within the geographic boundary of the Town of Caledon including Fire Protection, Parks & Recreation, Library, By-law Enforcement, Development-Related Studies, and Services Related to a Highway: Operations and Roads & Related.

**Schedule 1 – Residential and Non-Residential Development Charge Rates under By-law 2024-042 & 2024-043**

	Residential Charge by Unit Type					Non-Residential Charge per m <sup>2</sup>
	Singles & Semis	Apartments (>70m <sup>2</sup> )	Small Units (70m <sup>2</sup> or less)	Other Residential Dwellings	Special Care / Special Needs Unit	
Total Municipal Wide Services (excl. Roads)	\$31,382	\$21,576	\$12,663	\$28,450	\$8,624	\$34.87
Services Related to a Highway: Roads & Related	\$26,464	\$18,195	\$10,678	\$23,992	\$7,272	\$75.46
<b>Total All Services</b>	<b>\$57,846</b>	<b>\$39,771</b>	<b>\$23,341</b>	<b>\$52,442</b>	<b>\$15,896</b>	<b>\$110.33</b>

**Note: 1 square metre = 10.761 square feet.**

The development charges imposed under the By-laws come into effect on the 30th day of May, 2024. Copies of the complete Development Charge By-laws are available for examination during regular business hours (weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) in the offices of the municipality located at, and on the website at [www.caledon.ca](http://www.caledon.ca).

For further information, please contact the Clerk's Office at 905-584-2272.

Dated at the Town of Caledon, 23 May, 2024

Robert Cummings  
Town of Caledon  
6311 Old Church Rd Caledon ON L7C 1J6



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Caledon, ON L7C 1J6  
[caledon.ca](http://caledon.ca)  
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## Caledon Fire and Emergency Services is looking to hire volunteer firefighters paid-on-call

Why become a volunteer firefighter? You join a team, give back to your community, learn new skills, and more! Plus, volunteers are paid for their time when responding to a call.

Interested? In order to apply, you must attend one of our mandatory information sessions. Visit [caledon.ca/fire-recruitment](http://caledon.ca/fire-recruitment) for more details and to get started!



## Explore volunteer opportunities and discover the benefits of community involvement

July 3 | 2-4 p.m. | Alton Community Centre and Library  
Registration required by June 28.  
Need a free ride? Call Caledon Community Services at 905-951-2300 x221.  
For complete details, visit [caledon.ca/adult55](http://caledon.ca/adult55).



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# NEWS

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# Caledon Day

CALEDON EAST COMMUNITY COMPLEX

## JUNE 15 | 2-10 P.M.

Join us for Caledon Day, a family fun event with activities for kids, local vendors, musical acts, fireworks, food, and more!

**HEADLINER** [caledon.ca/caledonday](http://caledon.ca/caledonday)

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Spring / Summer 2024

# Recreation CALEDON

**Summer Registration Opens:**

Jun. 12 at 7 a.m. (residents)  
Jun. 19 at 7 a.m. (non-residents)

Programs, aquatics, fitness classes and so much more.  
Camp registration is already open!

See our Recreation Guide for details!

Find your fit at [caledon.ca/recreation](http://caledon.ca/recreation)



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**Katie Koebel,**  
Audiologist & Senior Manager, Audiology



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# Bolton Rotary raises funds to donate medical training mannequins to Ukraine

BY ZACHARY ROMAN  
LOCAL JOURNALISM  
INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Rotary Club of Bolton is helping to provide much-needed medical supplies in Ukraine.

A few years ago, Bolton Rotary received a presentation from Kevin Leach. Leach is a former Bolton resident who has been living in Ukraine since 2018. He runs Project Volya, a non-profit initiative that works to bring medical supplies where they are most needed.

Bolton Rotary was very impressed with Leach's presentation and began working to fundraise for Project Volya, and presented him with a cheque for \$10,000. When Bolton Rotary saw all the good their money had done, the club knew it wanted to take its support for Project Volya Ukraine to the next level.

Bolton Rotary member Tunde Obatolu explained the club began a new fundraising campaign for Project Volya with a goal of getting matching donations from its local Rotary district (7080) and Rotary International.

As part of the new campaign, a needs assessment was conducted in Ukraine by Project Volya which found that medical training mannequins were a much-needed item. Medical training mannequins are not cheap, but they're very important to use in teaching those providing lifesaving care in Ukraine as Russia's inva-

sion rages on.

"What will be critical, and very much appreciated, is medical training mannequins," said Obatolu.

Initially, Bolton Rotary thought it could raise enough money for five mannequins, but soon found through donations from the community and other Rotary clubs it had enough for seven.

Bolton Rotary raised around \$30,000, and with matching donations from District 7080 and Rotary International, a total grant of \$88,000 for training mannequins will be awarded to Project Volya.

Rotary member Karen Fast explained Bolton Rotary saw the training mannequins as a way to provide sustainable assistance to Ukrainian caregivers.

"Specialized training mannequins will allow them to hone their skills in carrying out a number of procedures in a repeatable training environment," said Fast.

Obatolu said Project Volya will be responsible for distributing and maintaining the medical training mannequins once they are in Ukraine.

"Volya will be tasked with ensuring the medical mannequins are utilized in different areas of the conflict to provide training," said Obatolu. "I have to credit Kevin because it's a real sacrifice he's been making."

Those interested in learning more about Project Volya can visit [projectvolya.ca](http://projectvolya.ca).



Naach for Fun, an Indo-Canadian dance organization that builds community through the art of dance, entertained picnickers with a great performance.

PHOTO BY LOUCAS LOUCAIDES/WONDERSCOPE MEDIA GROUP

## Caledon Pride and IDEA Caledon came together to host June 2 event

Continued from FRONT

Bertola first started Caledon Pride in 2019 when they were an intern with Caledon Community Services. There was great support for the group right away and despite a slowdown caused by the pandemic, Caledon Pride has continued to grow and support the local 2SLGBTQIA+ community.

"You shouldn't have to leave your community, you

shouldn't have to struggle in your community to find inclusivity and acceptance," said Bertola.

Bertola said their favourite part of the picnic event was meeting people from all the different community organizations that came.

"I have just been really touched by the generosity of people willing to put their time and resources into this event," said Bertola.

Caledon Pride is hosting

another event during Pride Month. At 5 p.m. on June 20 at GoodLot Farmstead Brewing, Caledon Pride will host "Queers and Beers".

It's going to be a laid-back social event with board games, live music, and of course, craft beer.

"It focuses on bringing people together, celebrating local business, and sustainability," said Bertola. "It's a good way for people to come out and meet each other."

## Caledon Area Families for Inclusion to hold summer barbeque event

BY ZACHARY ROMAN  
LOCAL JOURNALISM  
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Caledon residents are invited to a day of family fun this summer.

From 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on July 14, Caledon Area Families for Inclusion (CAFFI) is hosting a barbeque party at Albion Hills Conservation Park.

The event will be held rain or shine in the Old Lakeview area of the park, and attendees will be able to enjoy games, food, music, swimming, and meeting new friends.

To register for the event and pre-pay for food, those interested can visit CAFFI's new website, [cafficonnect.ca](http://cafficonnect.ca). CAFFI is also on Facebook and Instagram.

CAFFI is a group that advocates for children and adults with disabilities in Caledon.

CAFFI coordinator Tina Liscio explained last year CAFFI applied for and received a grant from Community Living Ontario. It's been using the grant to hold various workshops on topics like housing and finance, and is using the last of the grant funding for the upcoming barbeque.

"It's open to all... anybody that wants to be included," said Liscio. "We've rented a gazebo and some picnic benches, we're going to have a barbeque and some games and have a nice day, people can chat and

enjoy themselves."

So far, 35 people have registered for the event and CAFFI expects more will be registering soon.

"It's a good number and hopefully it grows...we want to spread the word," said Liscio. "If CAFFI can grow, ultimately our loved ones can have a better network, better services and a stronger voice behind them."

Liscio noted since the event is being held in Albion Hills Conservation Park, there's so much for families to do.

"It's so beautiful, there's the swimming pool, there's trails," she said. "We're looking forward to it."

CAFFI coordinator Mike Brunetto said the barbeque is a great chance for families who may not be attending events in the community to come out and have a good time while meeting new people.

"This is an opportunity for people to feel welcomed," said Brunetto. "There's a lot of restrictions on programs in general... some are age-specific and some you have to have certain abilities to participate... but when you come out to the park there are no restrictions, you just come out and enjoy."

Brunetto said CAFFI is looking forward to welcoming everyone to the barbeque.

"Barbeques are meant to bring people together," he said. "We're trying to reach out to people."



Orangeville Mayor Lisa Post, Caledon Regional Councillor Mario Russo, Golf Canada CEO Laurence Applebaum, Caledon Mayor Annette Groves, TPC Toronto at Osprey Valley President Chris Humeniuk, Caledon Ward 2 Councillor Dave Sheen, and Caledon Ward 1 Councillor Lynn Kiernan stand next to the RBC Canadian Open Trophy after a press conference confirming the 2025 RBC Canadian Open will be held in Caledon.

TPC TORONTO AT OSPREY VALLEY PHOTO

# Mayor says Caledon ready to welcome RBC Canadian Open

BY ZACHARY ROMAN  
LOCAL JOURNALISM  
INITIATIVE REPORTER

TPC Toronto at Osprey Valley will host the 2025 RBC Canadian Open.

On June 4, Caledon Mayor Annette Groves, Golf Canada CEO Laurence Applebaum, and TPC Toronto at Osprey Valley president Chris Humeniuk held a press conference at Osprey Valley's main clubhouse to discuss the news, which was first announced on May 21.

Groves said Caledon is honoured to be the host town of the Canadian Open next year.

"We're looking forward to welcoming visitors from across Canada and internationally to our town," she said. "Hosting the Canadian Open here will shine a spotlight on Alton, Caledon's picturesque arts and cultural hub... it will also showcase the Caledon community overall, bringing economic benefits to our local businesses."

Groves said local businesses such as restaurants, bed and breakfasts and hotels will especially benefit from the Canadian Open. She said jobs will be created to support the event.

"I would like to thank Osprey

Valley for their continued investment in Caledon and congratulate them for bringing this incredible vision to life," said Groves. "The newly-expanded golf course, clubhouse and accommodations are a major investment in our local tourism economy and it will make it difficult for the Canadian Open to want to be anywhere else."

Applebaum said it's great to finally announce the 2025 RBC Canadian Open will be held at Osprey Valley. He said Osprey Valley's golf courses and its facilities are incredible.

"My hat is off to the entire team for what has been built... you have assembled an amazing staff, they will do an incredible job representing the club, the organization, and the Town," said Applebaum.

Osprey Valley's North Course was recently redesigned by architect Ian Andrew — with consultation from the PGA Tour — to make it challenging enough for the world's best players.

The North Course will be the course on which the Canadian Open will be played. Osprey Valley has two other golf courses on the property, and all three of its courses can be played by the public.

Applebaum said Golf Canada's entire staff, board of directors, and partners are so happy to be bringing the Canadian Open to TPC Toronto at Osprey Valley.

"It'll be one of the most amazing things to ever come to this area," he said.

Applebaum also noted TPC Toronto at Osprey Valley's renovations will include a community putting course that will be free and publicly accessible.

"It will be an opportunity for people to come out there and really enjoy all of the benefits," he said.

Humeniuk said his family has long had a vision to make the Osprey Valley property one of Canada's great golf destinations.

"It's been thrilling and exhausting, a very busy time getting us to this point. It has been wonderful to see our new amenities coming to life this month," said Humeniuk.

He said the PGA Tour has been an amazing partner and that getting the tour's validation was a great feeling.

"I never would have dreamed of hosting the RBC Canadian Open on our property and here we are today talking about it," said Humeniuk. "It's such an incredible, exciting time."

# "Where the Wild Things Are" exhibition on now at Alton Mill Arts Centre

BY ZACHARY ROMAN  
LOCAL JOURNALISM  
INITIATIVE REPORTER

A local arts non-profit has a wild new exhibition on display.

Headwaters Arts is now exhibiting its fourth members' show of 2024, "Where the Wild Things Are", in its gallery at the Alton Mill Arts Centre.

Sue Powell, Headwaters Arts marketing lead, said it's a colourful and exploratory exhibition that

showcases the untamed side of its 26 artists' minds.

"The walls and displays are filled with an eclectic and unique selection of artwork," said Powell.

Kirk Szmon, a Palgrave resident, has his piece "Red Fox" on display at the exhibition.

"As a nature lover, I often take walks in the woods or sit quietly watching the creatures that happen to cross my property," he said. "It is the wild places and their inhabitants

that compel me to try and capture in my art their simple moments as they go about their individual lives. It is a privilege when they let me in."

An opening reception for the exhibition was held on June 1 where guests were able to meet the artists and chat about their artwork.

Where the Wild Things Are will be on display in Headwaters Arts' gallery until July 1. The gallery is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday to Sunday.

# COMMUNITY events

This column is provided as a free public service to non-profit organizations to announce up-coming events. Please contact the Caledon Citizen by calling (905) 857-6626 or emailing [admin@caledoncitizen.com](mailto:admin@caledoncitizen.com) if you wish to have an announcement published.

**TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) ON 1344 Bolton – Real People, Real Weight Loss** is a non-profit group. We meet weekly on Wed. evenings in the basement of Bolton United Church. Weigh-ins are 6:00-6:30 followed by a meeting. The initial annual fee incl. a bi-monthly magazine and starter kit is \$59, and monthly dues are \$20. Today is the best day to make changes to your lifestyle! If you have weight to lose and/or want to improve your health, we can help! We promote healthy eating and support the efforts of all our members, and your first meeting is free. Come join us. For more information call Marion at 905-857-5191 or see [www.tops.org](http://www.tops.org). Online memberships are also available.

The Bolton Al-Anon Group has recently moved the regular meeting location to the Bolton United Church at 8 Nancy Street (across from Bolton Post Office). We still meet every Thursday at 8:30 pm. We welcome anyone who is/ or has been affected by someone who has problem with alcohol. If you have any questions please come any Thursday evening or email: [boltonalananon@gmail.com](mailto:boltonalananon@gmail.com).

Caledon Church of Canada. Every Sunday morning @ 10 am. Monday prayer meeting @ 7 pm. Resources: Prayer counselling, Baby/child dedication, Visit the sick, Wedding Services, Food bank and more! For all your pastoral services: 647-891-9400 • [caledoncoc@gmail.com](mailto:caledoncoc@gmail.com) Location: 34 Nixon Rd., Bolton

Trunk Sale/Garage Sale/Bake Sale Saturday June 15th, 2024 9 am – 1 pm Prospective Vendors – Contact Larry Proctor - \$25/table [Theproctorslarry@gmail.com](mailto:Theproctorslarry@gmail.com) Caledon East United Church 6046 Old Church Rd.

Caledon Concert Band presents: Asian Inspirations: Anime, Video Games and Fold Music Caledon Hills Fellowship Baptist Church 16595 Airport Rd., Caledon East Sunday June 23rd, 2024 at 2 pm Tickets available at the door. \$20 for adults. \$15 for high school students/seniors. Children are free. See our Facebook page, Instagram or website for more details. [www.Caledonconcertband.ca](http://www.Caledonconcertband.ca)



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**BROCK WEIR**  
BROCK'S BANTER

## Good start to a busy month

Summer is just around the corner and, ready to herald the season-to-be's appearance on horizon, is the sense that we're all in a rush to get there.

Don't get me wrong, this isn't necessarily the bad kind of rushing, but year after year around this time there feels to be a particular sense of urgency to get as much done as humanly possible before people apparently scatter the moment the solstice – and the school year – is in the rear-view mirror.

It's hardly a new phenomenon.

In many of our communities there is a prevailing school of thought if you're looking to reach the greatest number of people who might be interested in a community event, a municipal survey, or to provide value input on just about anything, it needs to be done before June 21, or before Canada Day at the very latest.

The idea is that most people in our communities go away for the summer, whether to their cottage or other climes. To my mind, this line of thinking is a bit outmoded due to the explosion of young families around here setting down their first roots and less likely to have a bolthole elsewhere to call their own. Additionally, in today's economic climate, there are likely fewer and fewer people who have the means to get away to a lake or another picturesque setting on a regular basis compared to previous generations.

So, as it stands, community events are coming fast and furious, with weekends packed to the proverbial gills. It sometimes feels overwhelming and harder to keep up with each passing year – but keep up we must as many of these events and observances are very important for both our collective consciousness and our sense of community.

Over the last couple of weeks, we have seen hikes for hospices, gatherings to shine a light on maladies such as Alzheimer's other forms of dementia, and in the days ahead we will have large-scale events that highlight the importance of mental health, particularly for our youth; occasions that will showcase the remarkable talent that resides within so many of our residents; and observances that will shine a light on the history of our Indigenous peoples.

Some of these events foster a sense of community for individuals who might not feel as included as they should be on a day-to-day basis, and so was the weekend that was.

On Saturday and Sunday, I had the opportunity to attend two events that are particular favourites on my calendar each and every year. First up was the Aurora Public Library's annual Drag King Story Hour. Well, speaking in the most technical of terms, it was their inaugural Drag King event after several years of hosting Drag Queens both local and from within the GTHA. Queen or King, they come armed with a veritable library of inclusive children's lit – chosen to show kids that wherever they might be in their lives, and whatever their life experiences, there is always a place for them in the towns and cities they call home and within families and communities that love them.

The first few iterations of this event within Aurora were particularly well-received, but coming out of the pandemic were the subject of a small trickle of backlash, a small but no less significant pushback that crept in from larger communities.

As such, organizers can't be faulted for bringing in police to keep an eye on the proceedings, and this year was no exception. Nor was this year an exception to the feeling I had of having to be there extra early in or-

der to be on hand for – and ahead of – any disturbances.

While this year's turnout was slightly down from years past, I am so glad to say the joy that lit up the Magna Room on Saturday morning as Gustav settled in with his chosen books was just as high as ever – and the grand total of protestors who turned out to mar the occasion was a blessed zero.

The following day brought the annual Aurora Street Festival hosted by the local Chamber of Commerce. By all appearances, it was back at full speed after trying to regain the remarkable momentum it enjoyed prior to the Global Pandemic.

Tens of thousands of people filled Yonge Street taking in more than 500 booths of products and services ranging from the conventional to the weird and wonderful, food from just about every part of the world, and music and entertainment to suit just about every taste.

What struck me, however, aside from the sheer volume of people filling the streets, was the number of people I saw waving Pride flags and wearing Progress Pride flags close to their hearts in the form of stickers in the shape of, well, hearts.

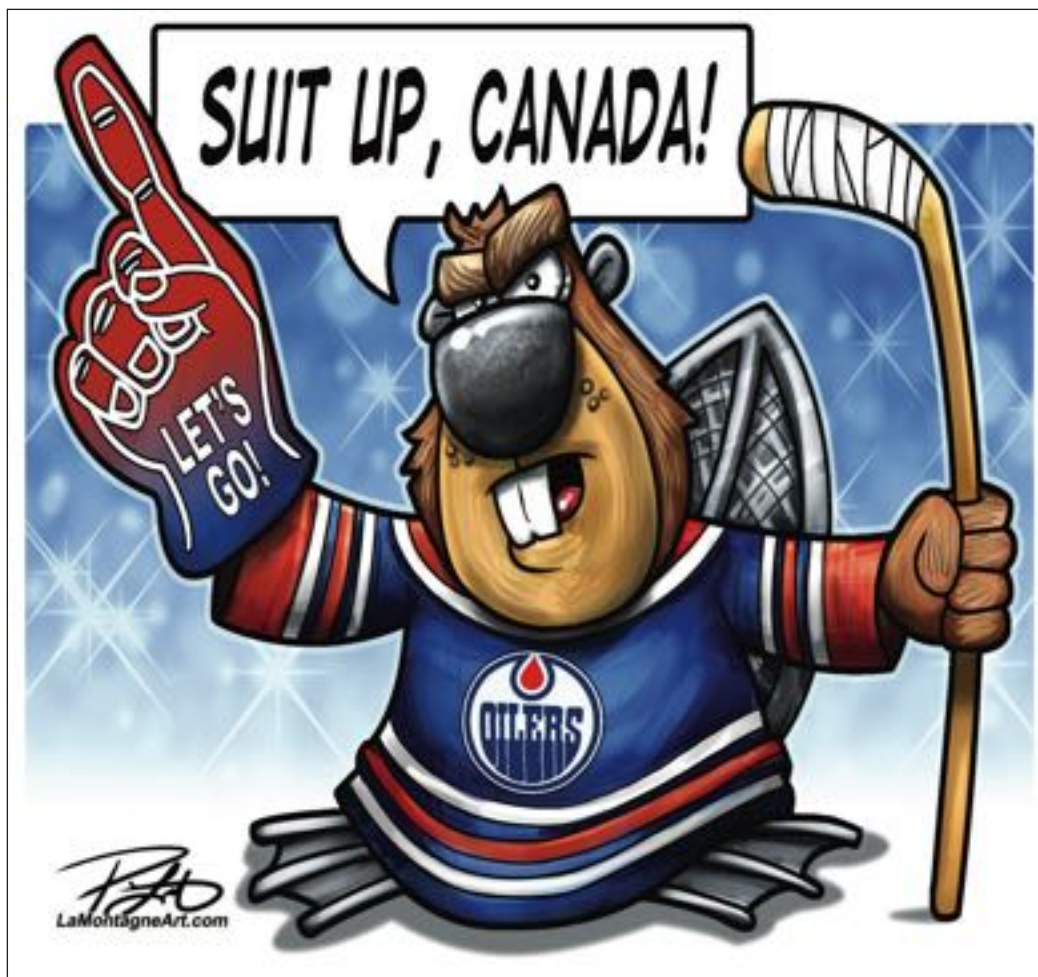
It was a sight I don't recall seeing in the more than 10 years I have been covering this event.

It might be foolish to think that these two instances are a sign that a corner has been turned after several post-pandemic years of ramped up hate speech and discrimination against the 2SLGBTQIA+ community writ large, and towards the Trans and Gender-Diverse community in particular, but these signs of solidarity certainly left me feeling more positive at the time of this writing on Monday morning than the slight trepidation I felt Friday night.

One can only hope the myriad activities that are planned to mark Pride Month for the balance of June are received with similar warmth and acceptance.

"Celebrating Pride Month has never been more important than it is right now," says Pflag York Region president Tristan Coolman. "Decades ago, our community members, parents, and allies were persecuted, threatened, became social pariahs, assaulted, and even murdered for simply trying to be who they are and defend their loved ones. Pride Month is about honouring this history. Honouring the folks who threw the first bricks at Stonewall, who marched down the streets of Toronto, Montreal, and Vancouver; resisting the cultural norms of their time. We honour the parents in New York, Los Angeles, Toronto and many other cities big and small who were the amongst first allies to organize and start organizations like pflag.

"Our queer elders showed up for us in the streets, they defiantly lived openly and faced acts of discrimination many of us can't fathom and their allies were there supporting them along the way. Today, we need our community and especially our allies to show up and reengage once again. Join a workshop, put a sign on your lawn, in your window, and show our community just how much real support there is for transgender and gender-diverse people in our communities. We all owe it to our elders, to their legacy to meet the moment and continue the fight and it is everyone's responsibility to ask themselves how they will respond to this call to action. You must ask yourself, how will future generations judge your actions, today."



## Waiting in worry is an unhealthy pastime

by Mark Pavilons



Worry is like a worm eating the best parts of your favourite, freshly picked apple.

He is satisfied, you are not.

When we humans exchange pleasantries, we often wish someone good health. Without that, happiness is fleeting, maybe even non-existent.

When you get bad news – the worst of the worst – you get that weird warm rush from head to gut. Then a hollowness follows, an unusual empty feeling despite enjoying that muffin an hour or so ago. I've felt it more times than I care to remember.

I've been plagued with worry most of my life. From social interactions in high school; college tests and exams; interviews, the list goes on.

Worry is likely the worst of human qualities – a lot of wasted energy and angst.

When I was young, I could never picture myself later in life – married with kids, graying and eventually bouncing grandkids on arthritic knees.

And yet, my bride was the most beautiful thing on earth on our wedding day. She still is.

We decided to have a family and while babies are born every day, each comes with plenty of worry. In fact, parental worry never ends.

Our "kids" are now adults – 26, 23 and 18. I still lose sleep thinking about their physical and mental health, and their futures in this crazy world.

I also laid several family members to rest, one before her time. Tears were shed but there are always more in reserve.

It's been 14 years since I said farewell to my mom. I sometimes dream of her, my dad and my sister. But these nocturnal kaleidoscopes seldom offer much in the way of miracles, messages or secrets. They never explain the meaning of life or how to eliminate worry. Some believe these are important "visits" from the hereafter.

A recent dream had me reciting a rather long poem, that turned into a badly sang song. The gist of it was a message to those assembled around me: "it was always meant to be me. It had to be me."

This sentiment puzzled me and stuck in my head like so many of those musical earworms. What does it mean and why did those very words emerge from my stary night thoughts?

We look at things from the inside out, from our own personal vantage point. We are always in our own driver's seat, accelerating, braking, turning and swerving. Alas, in dreams, no matter how hard I press the gas, I can't seem to make the light ahead in time.

We are all inside our own heads. Mine is somewhat complicated. Picture one of those kids toys – the push mower (Corn Popper) with the balls inside a clear dome that bounce around as the gizmo operates. While there was a time I found this amusing, it's now just a jumble of thoughts and emotions, all disjointed and colliding with one another.

We all wrestle with our mortality at one point,

usually when confronted with an illness.

Ok, cancer isn't necessarily a death sentence, but the journey requires everything you have and more. It requires skills, technology and knowledge of medical practitioners. We place our faith in them that they know exactly what to do and how to "cure" us. For anyone who watches TV medical dramas, you realize they are just people with human frailties themselves. But they do have procedures, plans, meds, scans and all sorts of invasive and non-invasive measures to try.

Together we have hope.

While I have hope, worry tends to overshadow all things bright. Call me a skeptic or doomster, but I tend to expect the worst. I figure that way, if the outcome is positive, great. If it's just what I expect, I'm not surprised.

That's not the healthiest approach to things. And I'm paying for it in terms of anxiety and reflux.

My cancer journey is beginning anew. A recent PET scan found more prostate cancer. With this newest challenge, "Mr. Worry Wart" is in constant high gear.

I met just yesterday (Wednesday) with my new oncologist, to presumably plan another treatment, this one including chemotherapy. With chemo, I suppose it's a case of "no pain, no gain."

Am I capable of fighting this battle? I'm not sure I was properly trained and I have no Jedi Master or Sensei to prepare me for what's to come. When will I know the tide has turned, either way?

I supposed a highly skilled group of individuals will help me along this road. I'm sure they've seen hundreds – maybe thousands – of faces, the visages of the young, middle aged and old, all scarred from battle. Hopefully they sent throngs of them home to enjoy a full life. But what of the others?

And, of course, my family and wife will be there supporting me.

But I can't help but wonder and worry.

Everyone is different, I'm reminded.

I looked at the full moon in the early evening sky recently and I pondered the cosmic forces that keep it in place. It's in the perfect spot.

What's keeping me from being in the right spot?

I'm finding it harder to make sense of it all. I know answers are elusive and perhaps that's the purpose of our journey here on earth – to uncover new solutions and suffer through new experiences.

Money, car repair bills, even the taste of food; they all lack substance, meaning. I'm getting tired wrestling with my thoughts, and no tag-team partner waiting in the wings. Nothing seems important in the big picture, nothing but health.

Is that our purpose, to swallow those "jagged little pills," as Alanis put it? And back to my odd dream – "it was always me." Does that mean I was always meant to travel this road, one that it was laid out expressly for me?

I suppose I will find out. After all, I will need several more chapters to complete this book of mine. The longer the better!

Here's to all the cancer sufferers out there, may your worry be lifted and your remaining years be filled with newfound joy and all the colours of the rainbow.

I am reminded of the children's tale. There once was a little engine who thought he could do it. He did.

I think I can, too. I have to.

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**GENERAL MANAGER**  
Zach Shoub  
zach@lpcmedia.ca

**EDITOR**  
Brock Weir  
brock@lpcmedia.ca

**CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR**  
Mary Speck  
admin@caledoncitizen.com

**REPORTERS**  
Zachary Roman  
zachary@lpcmedia.ca

**MOTORING**  
Heather Erwin  
heather@caledoncitizen.com

**SPORTS**  
Jim Stewart  
jim@lpcmedia.ca

**DISPLAY ADVERTISING**  
Erin Lockett  
erin@lpcmedia.ca

Vicki Meisner  
vicki@lpcmedia.ca

Melinda Crake  
melinda@lpcmedia.ca

**PRODUCTION**  
John Speziali

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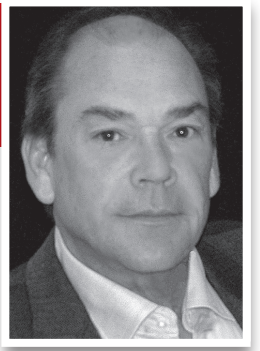
# Caledon Citizen

## Is it real?

Is it live, or is it Memorex?  
 If you remember that slogan, you're probably a certain age.  
 It was a slogan used by the Memorex company aimed at demonstrating the quality of their cassette recording tapes.  
 This was at a time when cassette tapes went from being of mediocre quality and not very popular, to a tape of high quality suitable for good listening on a stereo system.  
 Although I'm pretty sure you could tell the difference between a live saxophone and one being played back after a recording, it was a good advertising strategy that let the public know that recordings on tape were using a new and better technology.  
 Technology has moved forward at an ever-increasing rate over the past couple of decades.  
 However, the predictions from old movies and science-fictions TV shows and movies were off the mark on a lot of things.  
 By the 1990s, they predicted flying cars, robot butlers, and a jet pack in the garage for personal transportation.  
 I wouldn't mind a robot butler, but a lot of people can't drive a car on a regular street in a respectable manner. I don't think taking to the air with your

neighbours would be safe.  
 For some reason, domed cities of the future were popular. It looked kind of cool, but no one ever explained why you would want a glass dome over your city.  
 They did get some things right. Everyone now has a small "Beam me up Scottie" hand-held device, which actually does more than the Star Trek version.  
 The one thing that old sci-fi buffs predicted that came true, is artificial intelligence. However, they predicted it would be in the form of a humanoid who would speak to you, not the current AI that is shaping up.  
 I received a recommended video on my YouTube feed about car crashes. You've probably seen the dash-cam videos of car accident on a street or highway.  
 The first crash appeared to be video-taped from an overpass, showing a car crossing the centre line and hitting another vehicle head on, before careening into a third car. I thought for sure, there would be fatalities.  
 The second video was equally horrendous.  
 It was the third video, where I finally caught on. It was a Dodge Hellcat involved in a police chase.  
 The Hellcat made a sudden super tight turn, and took off at a speed not even a Hellcat could achieve.

## BRIAN LOCKHART FROM THE SECOND ROW



I went back over the videos again, and realized none of them were real. They were all computer generated. But they were that good, to fool me the first time.  
 This technology has made its way into film with some pretty spectacular results.  
 If I was movie actor, I would be worried about getting work in the future.  
 I saw some portraits, in the photographic sense, of people in different parts of the world. Except the people didn't exist. They were created by AI based on suggestions only.  
 It won't be long until film makers start to use AI to create actors for their movies.  
 An AI created actor, would produce the exact person the producer wants for a role without having to do auditions. It will produce the exact emotions the director wants from the actor, and they will do it in one take.  
 Why pay an A-list actor \$20 million to be in a movie when you can create something that will do an even better job?  
 It's a strange thought to think that in the future that beautiful actress you saw in a movie may not even be real.  
 I recently released my second novel on Amazon.

During the actual publishing phase, you have to answer a question asking if your book content or cover has been created by AI.  
 I'm not sure what happens if you answer "yes" to that question. I guess you don't get full credit for authoring a book.  
 There are now programs that use AI to write for you. You only have to enter information about the topic, and the program writes it for you.  
 Apparently students love it. But if you're caught using AI to write an essay, do you fail because you didn't complete the assignment all on your own?  
 AI software companies are now booming as the industry moves into the next phase of having computers think for you.  
 There's a lot of good that can happen with this technology.  
 However, how would you feel, if you found out that 20-minute conversation you just had with a person on a help-line at your bank, was nothing more than a computer-generated voice offering you advice?

## When Community Speaks

Recently, a series of community meetings have taken place on topics that include proposed MZOs, much needed traffic calming measures and concerns being raised around bylaw infractions. Presumably unintentional, the irony of the Town listening to resident traffic concerns while discussing MZOs is not lost on me. Lest you've forgotten, the proposed MZOs would bring 12 new developments to Caledon with over 35,000 new homes being built, all without necessarily giving full and due consideration to good planning. Meanwhile, the traffic (and bylaw) concerns being expressed by the community suggest that mayhem and dangerous roads are already endemic. Do we really want to add to the chaos by slamming through legislation that will result in yet more poorly planned roads and subdivisions?  
 Let's start with Southfields, a community of 15,000 that has only two exits, one of which involves a roundabout, is a single lane in each direction, and passes directly in front of a school. Promised future exits haven't yet, or never will, materialize. Dangerous intersections abound along Kennedy Road and residents are clamoring for traffic calming measures and state that bylaw enforcement is desperately

needed. Residents were told that "traffic calming evolves over time" and we'll agree mistakes in poor planning can't be fixed overnight but how long will they take and at what cost to human life? What such mistakes do provide us with however, is a template on what NOT to do when it comes to planning future communities of the size and scale of Southfields and I question whether good planning will happen at all under a "12 MZOs passed all at the same time" scenario.  
 To be fair, at the Southfields meeting I was encouraged to hear that plans are in place to address a key intersection used by some of our most vulnerable populations, area seniors and local elementary school students, but still question why it took a personal meeting with the Mayor and her planning team, followed by a very vocal community meeting, to get those plans in place. I hope that the promised traffic lights, whether in the budget or not, will happen sooner than later. I was encouraged that the Mayor, Councillors and Town staff were all on hand to hear from the community and that the OPP were also in the room shedding light on worrisome statistics about the current state of traffic across Caledon.

## SHERALYN ROMAN TALK CALEDON



In fact, the OPP statistics are quite concerning. To date this year, Caledon OPP have already laid 12,000 charges under the Highway Traffic Act! That means over approximately 150 days, an average of 80 traffic offenses per day are occurring and that number necessarily only represents those that are caught! People going through red lights is "at a record high" and in just one night in May, five impaired driving charges were laid. (See my concerns about driving impaired from last week's column.) To me, once again, such numbers suggest that if Caledon proceeds with adding the 35,000 homes our Mayor wants to add, additional traffic mayhem is sure to ensue without proper planning in place.  
 Valleywood is another community heavily impacted by traffic that has only gotten worse in the last few years. Worse off than even Southfields, it has only one way in and out and every time there is an accident (happening with increasing frequency) residents often find themselves unable to exit or enter their community. With the 410 dumping directly onto Valleywood Blvd, much of the traffic heading south into Brampton misuses this exit by illegally turning one left turn lane into two, or

by heading into Valleywood and making dangerous u-turns at two separate intersections. With rapidly increasing housing builds in Mayfield West II happening, and the eventual connection of Tim Manley Ave and Valleywood Blvd., one might reasonably anticipate this current traffic nightmare will only get worse.  
 Finally, Bolton and Highway 50 traffic chaos is, I would suggest, at an all-time high. The truck traffic, container yards and trucking yards are making the drive not only pretty much intolerable, but perhaps one might say, even bad for one's health. The stress and anxiety experienced by those simply trying to commute to and from work alongside hundreds of transport trucks is likely leaving some residents with untold physical consequences. But sure, let's build more homes along the corridor and cross our fingers it all works out. By the way, as an aside, are any of these 12 proposed MZO developments affordable housing? Asking for all the young adults in Caledon currently living in their parents' basements.

## Canada's living standards continue to erode

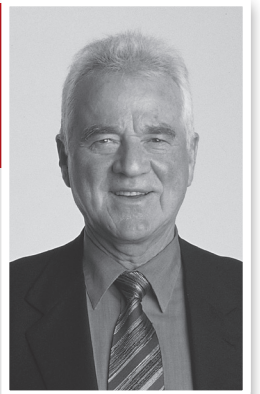
You don't need an economic study to tell you that prices have skyrocketed the past few years.  
 Any Canadian who buys groceries, fills up the gas tank, or pays rent knows that inflation has taken a big bite out of their take-home pay.  
 The same goes with our crumbling standard of living.  
 Canadians can sense that it's deteriorating in a number of ways: stagnant wages, fewer job opportunities, higher taxes, mounting debt and less money to pay the bills.  
 Even still, a new study released several weeks ago by the Fraser Institute confirmed what most Canadians already knew in their bones: our living standards are dropping.  
 The Fraser study revealed that Canadians' GDP per person – a measuring stick for gauging the income of a country's citizens – has been tumbling for the past four years. According to the think tank, we're stuck in one of the steepest and longest declines in living standards over the last four decades – and it could get even worse in the years ahead.  
 Numbeo, the world's largest cost-of-living database, recently released their latest Quality of Life Index by Country that looks at measures such as purchasing power, health care, safety, pollution and traffic commuting. According to the 2024 Index, Canada now sits 33rd in the world, well behind countries such as Lithuania, Slovenia and Portugal.

Just over a decade ago, Canada ranked #5 in the world.  
 But rarely does anyone ever ask the question: exactly why are our living standards and quality of life dropping? And what's more, what can we do to stop it?  
 One reason they're dropping is that we've abandoned the real economy – the economy where you make things – in favour of the paper-shuffling financial economy, where wealth is traded and managed.  
 Another reason is that we've forgotten that in today's global economy, we're engaged in economic warfare with countries who are hungrier and shrewder. These countries have well developed economic strategies to make their major businesses or national champions the dominant players in key industries like pharmaceuticals, airlines and automotive. These more aggressive competitors are taking jobs from Canadians and crushing our industries one by one.  
 The best example of a country with this sort of strategic approach is China, the world's newest industrial giant.  
 I've always been a big believer that a company should locate a portion of its manufacturing operations in the various markets where its products are sold. But many Western companies are only manufacturing in China so they can ship products back into their home markets in order to make higher

profits, and in the process, they're eroding the economy of the country where they're headquartered. It's a formula for national economic suicide.  
 The global economy is spinning faster and faster with each passing year, which is why Canada needs to find new and better ways to remain globally competitive. Jobs are the most precious commodity in the world, and in an effort to raise the living standards of their people, countries everywhere are fighting tooth and nail to lure investments – and the jobs that go with them – to their shores.  
 It's baffling to me that we don't have a national economic strategy that seeks to build on our strengths in various key industries and turn our immense natural resources into value-added products that can be sold to consumers around the world.  
 Another major factor for our economic decline – the one most often overlooked – is that our government has become bloated and top-heavy, and it's draining the country's wealth to meet the payrolls of massive bureaucracies in Ottawa, the provinces and many of our cities.  
 Our governments are too big, too intrusive, and too expensive. Businesses and taxpayers are paying for that overhead through steep taxes, and that in turn makes us increasingly uncompetitive on a global scale.  
 There are many other reasons for why our living standards are falling, including chronic underinvest-

ment in product R&D by our biggest companies, a troubling lack of technically skilled trades training and education, and a repressive tax-and-regulatory environment that is stifling entrepreneurship and keeping many Canadian start-ups from growing and expanding.  
 But many of these problems can be fixed by adopting an Economic Charter of Rights. The Charter would put more money in the pockets of Canadians through profit sharing, straighten out our tax system, put the brakes on out-of-control government spending, and cut the red tape that has hamstringing our businesses.  
 Countries that apply these sound economic principles will prosper. Those that do not are destined to get left in the dust.  
 To learn more about how an economic charter could help restore our living standards, contact [info@economiccharter.ca](mailto:info@economiccharter.ca).  
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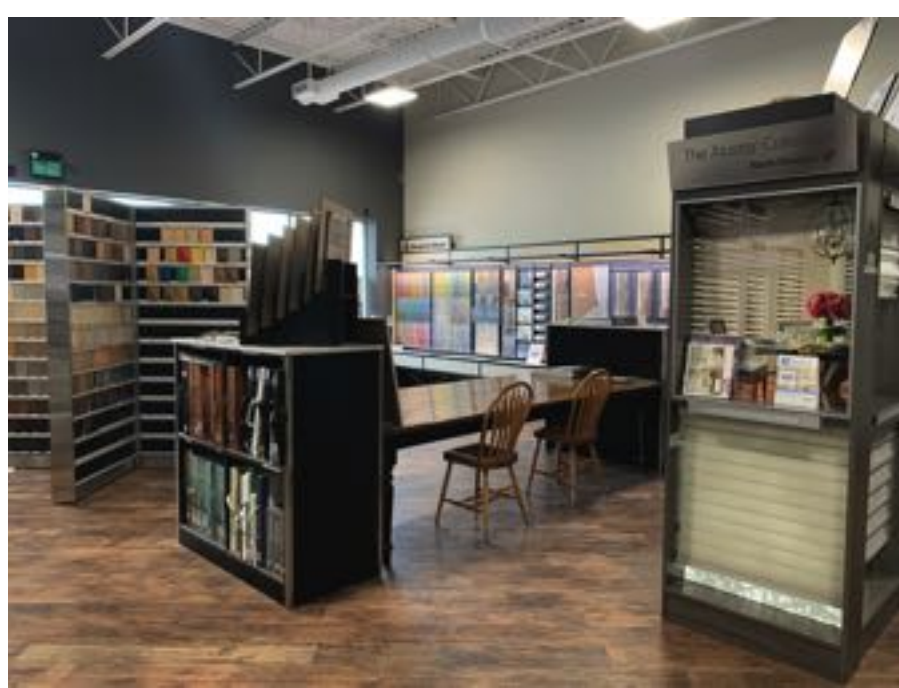
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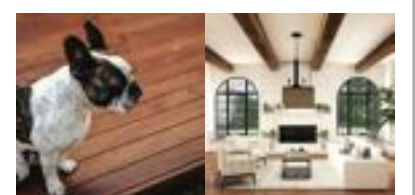
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## Caledon Senior Hockey League celebrates 50th season of competition and camaraderie



Scenes from the CSHL's 50th anniversary gala.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BY JIM STEWART

Mike Gasparini, Bill Moyer, and Dave Shoalts are gathered for a hot beverage and chinwag at Tim Hortons in Bolton—just down the hill from the arena that holds most of the Caledon Senior Hockey League's best on-ice memories.

From the outset of our Tuesday afternoon meeting, it's evident that this easy-going and engaging triumvirate is feeling festive.

After celebrating Season 50 with over 135 guests at its Annual Banquet at Caesar's Centre in early-May, it's apparent to all gathered that these CSHL stalwarts are experiencing the lingering effects of a good party and a gathering of kindred souls.

Shoalts, the retired, award-winning Globe & Mail sports reporter and author of Hockey Fight in Canada, served as Emcee of the gala event.

Gasparini, a CSHL legend who has skated in all 50 of the league's seasons, offered an ironic,

good-natured dig at Shoalts: "Other than the Emcee, it was a great night and it was nicely done. Each guest received a gift, each female guest received a rose, and we had a great prize table."

The last original CSHL player reflected on his half-century of experiences.

"What I've enjoyed most about these banquets and the league is the social aspect. I'm going to miss playing. We've had so many personalities in the league over the years—some completely nuts, but, in 50 years, I only witnessed one real fight."

Moyer, a CHSL regular for 36 years and the organization's Vice President, also praised Shoalts's mic work on May 3 as well as the joys of league membership.

"It was a professional event. We had excellent emcee work and there was so much respect for all who were assembled. I can't believe how much I've enjoyed playing in the league. It's competitive; then we go and have a beer togeth-

er. Chuck's Roadhouse has become our place to go to after the games. It's one of the few local places that stay open late on Monday nights."

The CHSL VP reflected fondly on the years during which the league's players would "enjoy their post-game beer at Aldo Buccioni's Pizzeria on Chapel Street for over 20 seasons."

"Aldo was not only a generous business owner, but he was a goalie in our league. He'd give us wings and beer for \$10."

Moyer also praised the league's sponsors, especially "the longest continuous sponsor, which is Fines Ford Lincoln. Bob Fines has sponsored teams for a long time."

Other sponsors in the venerable six-team league include King Collision Centre in Nobleton, Jiffy Lube, MVS Design, Heart Lake Insurance Brokers Inc, and Rutherford Global Logistics.

It's evident that Shoalts appreciates the nostalgic remarks made by league veterans like Gasparini and Moyer.

The retired journalist coordinates communications for the CSHL and promotes the 84-player league through social events.

"We've even revived the league's Annual Golf Tournament at Glen Eagle. I hosted it this year and we sent four foursomes on to the course with a nice post-round gathering."

All three CSHL veterans point to the tireless work of 49-year player and administrator John Castellucci who missed our Tim Hortons' meeting due to some nagging post-operative complications. Shoalts notes that their colleague has been a significant organizer of the league's Annual Banquet over the years, including this year's 50th Anniversary party.

"John Castellucci does so much. He takes care

of the sweaters and serves as our Treasurer. He secured so many of the Banquet prizes for the prize table. John started skating in the league in 1975 and we still hold our player selection draft in John's basement. This year, another notable thing that John did was bring back the Dick Flood Award named after a much-liked CSHL competitor who died on the ice in the 1990s. The new trophy was awarded to the league's 'Best Guy' and shows the values that are important to the Caledon Senior Hockey League."

Shoalts also pitches the league during our conversation and explains that, "We're looking for players 45 years or older to roster our six-team league for the 2024-25 season."

"It's been a six-team league from the very beginning and our teams have a maximum of fourteen players including the goalie. If local players are interested in joining the CSHL, contact our President Rich Petrie or our Vice President Bill Moyer. Their emails are richpetrie2232@gmail.com or north1892@gmail.com."

Gasparini looks fondly towards the prospective new arrivals for the 2024-25 season and sees the value of having kept the league going for five decades.

"We've created the league for them. As usual, we'll be playing out of the Bolton Arena up on the hill on Highway 50."

The old arena on the hill is surely a home away from home for these three Caledon Senior Hockey League vets.

It's evident from their fun-loving banter at Tim Hortons that the lives of Mike Gasparini, Bill Moyer, and Dave Shoalts—as well as their esteemed colleague John Castellucci—are better due to the decades of competition and camaraderie they've experienced through the CSHL.

## Brewers' six-game winning streak ends with 8-7 loss to Knights

BY JIM STEWART

The Bolton Brewers' impressive six-game winning streak, during which they outscored NDBL opponents 74-15, was halted on Sunday by their nemesis: the New Lowell Knights.

Last season's Strother Cup combatants squared off in their first meeting of the young season and the 2023 NDBL champs eked out an 8-7 win over the Brewers at the North Lowell Recreation Complex.

The Brewers' lineup stayed red hot top to bottom and churned out 14 hits versus the Knights.

Two-spot hitter Ben Sterritt went 4 for 4 with 3 RBI. Lead-off man Brett Chater, 3-spot hitter Mike Wallace, and 8-spot hitter Nate Drury collected 2 knocks and one RBI each.

In the see-saw battle, the Knights took a 2-0 lead after one inning, but the Brewers struck back to tie the game at the top of the second.

New Lowell reclaimed the lead with two runs at the bottom of three, but the visitors responded with three at the top of four to lead 5-4. However, the champs roared back to plate four runs during the home half of the sixth to generate a three-run margin over their Senior Division rivals.

The Brewers' two-run rally stalled at the top of seven and the hometown Knights—not unlike a pesky mosquito—drew first blood in 2024 between the two premier

clubs in the loop.

Prior to their first loss of the season, the Brewers defeated the Barrie Angels 7-1 at North Hill Park on Thursday night to complete a pristine 6-0 record in May.

Mateo Strothers earned the complete game victory by striking out eight Angels.

The Brewers led 6-1 after five innings. Bolton's offence was bolstered by Sterritt and Jack Lammar with two hits each. Chris Fafalios drove in two runs to ground the Angels. Chater, Lammar, Arim Juarez, and Dalton Cooke collected one RBI each in the victory over Barrie.

Prior to the dismantling of the Angels, the Brewers swept a Sunday doubleheader from the Cubs in Mansfield. Player-Head Coach Mike Wallace spearheaded an 11-5 victory with 3 hits, 4 RBI, and 3 runs scored.

Chater continued his torrid 2024 season by collecting three more hits, including a home run, and the shortstop plated three times. The Brewers used a six-run third inning to subdue the home team. Jack Lammar pitched seven innings to earn the complete game W. He struck out 5, but yielded 3 homeruns to the Cubs.

Chater went 3 for 4 with 2 RBI and 2 runs scored to pace the Brewers to its 9-3 win over Mansfield in the first game of the twin bill. Marco DiRoma and Mario Accardo chipped in 3 hits each to back Nick Fiorocci's complete game on the bump. Fiorocci scattered 6 hits and struck out 9

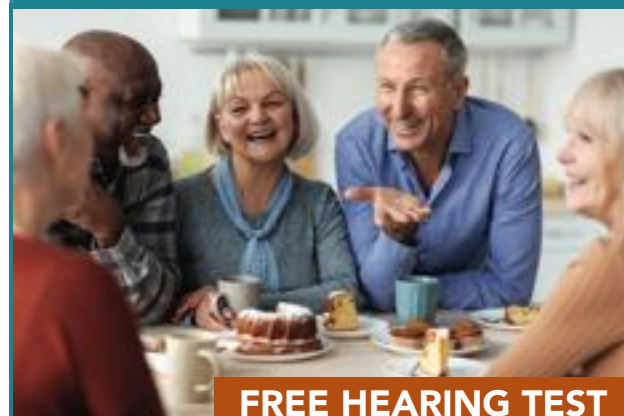
Cubs. Bolton exploded for eight runs in the second inning to set the tone for the doubleheader versus their hosts.

After the setback to the first-place

Knights (6-1-2), the second-place Brewers (6-1-0) look to get back to their winning ways versus the Midland Mariners on Thursday, June 6 at 7.30 at North Hill Park.

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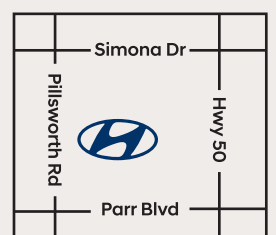


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OBITUARIES

### LESLIE ARTHUR GIDNEY

Suddenly, on Thursday, May 30, 2024, Les Gidney, at the age of 59 years, beloved son of Lionel and Kathleen. Dear brother of Kathryn and her husband Tim. Cherished uncle of Nicole. The family will receive their friends at the Egan Funeral Home, 203 Queen Street South (Hwy. 50), Bolton (905-857-2213) on Friday, June 7 from 12:30 p.m. until time of funeral service in the chapel at 1:30 p.m. Following a reception at the funeral home, interment will be held at Providence Cemetery, Caledon East. Condolences for the family may be offered at [www.EganFuneralHome.com](http://www.EganFuneralHome.com)



### RONALD BRUCE CAMERON

Peacefully at home, with family by his side, on Friday, May 31, 2024, Ronald Bruce Cameron, in his 87th year, beloved husband of 66 years of Lynda (née Watson). Loving father of Brenda (Terry), Doug (Debbie), and Dave (Natasha). Cherished grandfather of Dave (Candace), Tanya (Chris), Shannon, Lauren, Scott, Leslie, and Eric. Proud great-grandfather of Kyla, Cameron, Hailey, and Brianna. Dear brother of the late Wayne Cameron. Respecting Ron's wishes cremation has taken place. Condolences for the family may be offered at [www.EganFuneralHome.com](http://www.EganFuneralHome.com)



IN MEMORIAM

### BETTY ELLEN CARTWRIGHT

JANUARY 25, 1938 - APRIL 29, 2024

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Betty Ellen Cartwright on April 29, 2024, at the age of 86.



Betty was a beloved and devoted wife, mother, nana, great-nana, sister, and friend. She passed away peacefully in the presence of her loving family who cared for her in her final days.

Betty is predeceased by her beloved husband (Maynard) and by her cherished daughter, Wanda (Steve). Betty leaves behind a legacy of love through her grandchildren, Shannon (Troy) and Trevor (Mindy), who will forever hold her memory close to their hearts. Betty's great-grandchildren, Oaklie, Shelby, Briar, and Kingsley will grow up with the beautiful stories and cherished memories of their great-nana. Betty will also be missed dearly by her sisters, Margaret, Christine, Vera, and brother-in-law Barrie.

Betty's family extends their heartfelt gratitude to all who have offered their support and condolences during this 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 the Cartwright Family.

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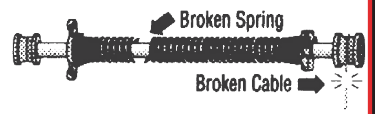
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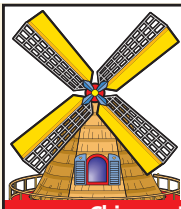
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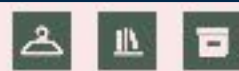
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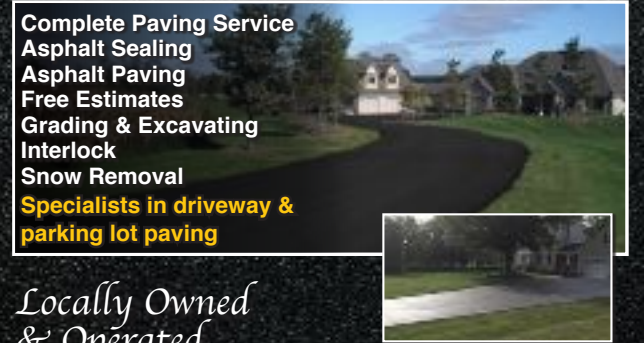
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# Challenger Baseball Program launches Opening Day at Bolton Camp Jays Care Diamond

BY JIM STEWART

In ideal Spring conditions, the CMBA's Challenger Baseball Program celebrated its Opening Day at the Bolton Camp Jays Care Diamond on Saturday.

The specialty diamond, which was opened in 2018 due to the combined efforts of the Jays Care Foundation, the Town of Caledon, the CMBA, and the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, was populated with 44 players, 20 on-field youth volunteers, and 10 on-field adult volunteers much to the delight of organizers Jackie Thornton and Fabi Tempio-Hillier.

According to Thornton, the aims of the specialized program for physically, mentally, and emotionally-challenged youngsters were on display on the Jays Care Diamond.

"The Challenger's four goals for our participants are courage, connection, independence, and physical activity. It was great to see the kids demonstrating these on and off the field."

Tempio-Hillier echoed Thornton's assessment.

"The connections on the field are huge. It's nice to see families during the Challenger season. It's also nice to see the kids playing who might not otherwise have these sports opportunities."

Tempio-Hillier is also an ardent proponent of the program because it hits close to home.

"My 16-year-old son, Seguin Hillier, has been in Challenger since it started in 2016. He loves the connections and has developed independence through his baseball experiences. Families come from as far away as Barrie, Richmond Hill, and Brampton for these on-field experiences for their children."

Thornton added that "the best part of today's event is to see the connection and the participation."

"As well, it's satisfying to see the CMBA players in our program volunteering and helping us as buddies. To see their support of the kids in the Challenger Program is great to see. This year, we have the most players we've ever had in the program."

As a parent-volunteer, Tempio-Hillier expressed her gratitude: "Our children don't get as many

opportunities to participate in organized sports. For my son, Seguin, this is his baseball team. This is their team—the kids count on it. It's wonderful to see the kids' progression."

It was, indeed, heartwarming to see 44 participants embracing the game of baseball and connecting to the CMBA's on-field buddies. The supportive, multi-station environment was clearly meeting the individualized needs of all who took the field on Saturday at the Bolton Camp Jays Care Diamond.



PHOTO BY JIM STEWART

# Bolton Chess Fans to host history-themed tournament

BY ZACHARY ROMAN  
LOCAL JOURNALISM  
INITIATIVE REPORTER

A local group of chess enthusiasts are inviting the community to their upcoming tournament.

On June 14, Bolton Chess Fans will host a history-themed chess tournament at Coffee Time in Bolton. Registration opens half an hour before the tournament start at 6 p.m. and all are welcome to attend.

Bolton Chess Fans was started in January of 2023 to bring the game of chess to the Caledon community and provide a place for players of all ages and skill levels to enjoy the game together.

Dmitry Maznichenko of Bolton Chess Fans said the group meets twice a week, on Mondays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. and Fridays from 7:30 to 11 p.m. "We start chess night with a short lesson, followed by social play," said Maznichenko. "We try to get people to meet new people, new players, and on a monthly basis we host these tournaments."

Maznichenko said the tournaments held by Bolton Chess Fans touch base on the lessons from chess nights, and formalize the game. He said it's great for young chess players who are starting to enter the world of competition.

"Kids that are playing chess tournaments within their school and the school boards, they have more exposure to that and more preparation for those kinds of events," he said.

On World Chess Day, July 20, Bolton Chess Fans will participate in a world record attempt organized by the International Chess Federation.

"The International Chess Federation is going to be attempting a new world record for the most number of people playing chess on the same day... we'll be participating in that attempt," said Maznichenko. "We'll record our games and submit our results to the organization, and they'll tally up the (games from around the world) and come up with the number."

Bolton Chess Fans is active online, with a website and Facebook and Instagram accounts. To get involved, Maznichenko encourages anyone interested to reach out on one of those platforms.

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