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FREE Thursday, January 6, 2022 Volume 42, Issue 1



WINTERFEST @ HOME – On Sunday, January 2, Councillor Tony Rosa and Mayor Allan Thompson, left, joined Ryan Giles (Supervisor, Community Support) and Meaghan Murphy (Administrator, Community Development) to help ring in the New Year by handing out Winterfest@home kits. These kits came as the Town pivoted its Winterfest programming to at-home packages featuring crafts, activities, and more. Although in-person programming had to be scrapped, there is still plenty of outdoor fun, including skating, to be had this season. For more, visit caledon.ca/en/living-here/winterfest.aspx.

PHOTO BY SANDRA SHARPE

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Chamber concerned with lack of plan and support for small business with Ontario moving back to Stage 2

BY ROB PAUL

With the Omicron variant leading to Ontario seeing record highs in COVID-19 cases, the Provincial Government announced new restrictions that went into effect Wednesday, January 4, at midnight.

The new measures in place will have a direct impact on businesses across the province with many of the restrictions leading to either closures or reduce capacity limits.

Among the new measures that will directly impact business are closing indoor dining at restaurants, bars and other food or drink establishments.

ishments.

Outdoor dining with restrictions, takeout, drive through and delivery is permitted; retail settings, including shopping malls, permitted at 50 per cent capacity. For shopping malls, physical distancing will be required in line-ups, loitering will not be permitted, and food courts will be required to close; personal care services permitted at 50 per cent capacity and other restrictions; restricting the sale of alcohol after 10 p.m. and the consumption of alcohol on-premise in businesses or settings after 11 p.m. with delivery and takeout; closing indoor sport and recreational fitness facilities including gyms,

In a statement, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce voiced its concerns with the lack of plan and continued long-term impacts moving back into Stage 2 will have on local businesses across the province.

"We recognize that public health and a healthy economy are intrinsically linked; however, sweeping new restrictions—impacting employers, workers, and families—unaccompanied by immediate and commensurate supports is unacceptable nearly two years into the pandemic," said Rocco Rossi, President of the Ontario Chamber of Commerce.

Continued on Page 5

NEW YEAR. NEW BENEFITS.

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Visit Caledon encourages buy local, stay local

BY ROB PAUL

Caledon has launched a new tourism website (visitcaledon.ca) optimized for mobile devices, highlighting local businesses, destinations and unique experiences.

"We have so many great tourism businesses here: a wide variety of outdoor recreation opportunities, scenic landscapes and parks, as well as a diverse collection of villages with unique places to eat, stay and shop," said Mayor Allan Thompson. "Our new website is a stunning visual representation

of Caledon's best. I invite everyone to check out the activities and trip ideas for the holiday season and beyond."

The site emphasizes Caledon's renowned outdoor destinations and activities with newly-commissioned video and photography.

It features several experiences by themes, from dining, agri-tourism and outdoor adventure to arts, heritage, cycling, golf, and more. Local businesses are featured prominently on the site, with direct links to owner websites.

Continued on Page 3

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Caledon Public Library launches new programming, new catalogue for 2022

BY ROB PAUL

Caledon Public Library (CPL) has been a key resource in the community, especially throughout the COVID-19 pandemic with virtual programming they’ve continued to offer residents of all ages.

Though CPL was preparing to return to some in-person programming to start 2022, the new COVID-19 measures in place have caused them to pivot to all-virtual to start the year. But the library branches will remain open at limited capacity.

“We’re fortunate that we’ve actually had capacity limits in place and never actually expanded,” said Mary Maw, CPL Communications and Community Development Manager. “We were never over 50 per cent capacity in any branches, so right now we’re reducing hours by taking away the Mondays in our two larger branches—Bolton and Southfield Village. Other than that, we’ll be moving forward with the capacity limits. The problem right now for us is having adequate staff to deliver services just because we’ve seen other businesses losing staff due to COVID cases; we have a contingency plan in place if that happens and we’ll rotate closing branches to have enough staff if we need to. But right now we’re very fortunate.”

There’s no shortage of programming this winter with CPL.

There will be a variety of kid and teen virtual programming sessions that including STEM-based programs, along with Forest of Reading, Teen Book Boxes, Elizabeth Scavetta Teen Writing Workshop and Lecture Series, Teen Café, and virtual class visits.

For Adults, there will be an Indigenous programming series, programming for nature enthusiasts, a caregiver stress and burnout session, Holiday Money Hangover session, a craft club, and multiple digital information sessions.

“What we had hoped was to start slowly introducing in-person programming with limited capacity, but we’ve pulled those back and we’re back to virtual programming,” Maw said. “We do have a nice wealth of virtual programs and there’s something for all ages. We’re really glad we’re still able to serve the community and our staff have really become experts at the virtual programming. We’re adapting everything we planned to virtual and we’re happy we’re still able to serve our customers. We serve all ages, and we really try to give a variety for everyone. You can’t be everything to everybody, but we really try hard.”

When developing the programming, vir-

tual and in-person, Maw explains that it’s all based on what they hear and see from the community in order to offer the most sought-after options.

“We’re developing an even more formal programming strategy in 2022,” she said. “We really look at what’s happening in the community, and we watch the trends and ask for feedback. With every program we run, we ask participants to fill out an evaluation form to let us know what they’d like to see. We are always customer-driven as opposed to us making decisions alone. We also can see through the trends in our catalogue what people are interested in and that really helps us develop programs that connect to our community. We started doing things where if we offer a workshop, we’ll also provide a list of resources the library has if people want more information about it.”

Just before Christmas, CPL launched a new, mobile-friendly catalogue through Biblicommons.

The catalogue will offer smarter searching, better browsing and improved personal features that allow you to create personal reviews, build lists, and share your favourite reads with the Caledon community.

“We’re really fortunate to belong to the Ontario Library Consortium. We were able to launch this brand-new catalogue that we’re really excited about,” said Maw. “It’s more interactive, it’s more engaging and people can chat with other people all over. You can rate the books and make comments and create your own reading lists. It’s a wonderfully engaging tool that our customers are going to love. It’s a lot more user friendly too and has natural language like the way you search on Google. Our staff are very excited too because now they can create staff lists using it. If we do a program, they can create a book list through the catalogue that coincides with the program. Timing is everything because right now with people at home again this launched just in time for them to delve into it and stay engaged. To be totally engaged in it you have to create a customer profile and we just launched it December 21, and we’ve already had around 980 people already create profiles. It’s very exciting.”

With 2021 now wrapped up, it wasn’t the easiest year for CPL, but the programming never stopped as it aimed to use its services to help the people of Caledon stay engaged through tough times, and Maw says that’s all thanks to the staff.

“We have to say kudos to our staff because at every turn our staff rose to the challenge,” she said. “Our customers really appreciated



CPL staff, including those at the Albion-Bolton branch, have been integral in pivoting programming.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

the situation too and understood there were so many challenges. Every time you think you think you’re moving forward in one direction, something happens, and you have to pivot. Our staff did a remarkable job, and our customers were so thankful for that.”

Now with 2022 here, it’s going to be a huge year for CPL with a handful of branches set to finish up renovations and expansions.

“It’s quite an exciting year for us, even working within the limitations of COVID,” she said. “Currently, our Albion Bolton Branch is under renovation and we’re expecting to open that branch back up completed this spring—the end of April or May. We received a grant for our Southfields Village Branch so we’re going to have a reading garden there and we’ll do sales there and have furniture out there to do outdoor programming in that space—that should be by spring. We also received a grant for our Margaret Dunn Valleywood Branch to become a makerspace and small business centre.

“The Caledon East Branch is also moving to the new Caledon East Complex and a makerspace will be there as well. 2022 for CPL is incredibly exciting with so many things coming forward and when things get better with the pandemic it will be great.”

For more information on the programming CPL offers and how to get involved, visit caledon.library.on.ca/.

To access the new catalogue system at CPL, visit caledon.bibliocommons.com.

Public meeting to be held January 17 regarding Torbram Road

BY ROB PAUL

On January 17, at 7 p.m., there will be a public meeting regarding 12245 Torbram Road.

The meeting will be held virtually.

The session is focused on the proposed Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment, and Draft Plan of Subdivision applications.

Input from residents will help inform and shape the plan.

An applicant (Rice Commercial Group on behalf of Tullamore Industrial GP Limited) has applied for an Official Plan Amendment to expand the settlement boundary and re-designate the lands from Prime Agricultural Area and Environmental Policy

Area to Prestige Industrial, General Industrial and Environmental Policy Area.

The proposed Draft Plan of Subdivision seeks to facilitate the development of an industrial park consisting of five industrial blocks, a future development block, a stormwater management pond, environmental block, and internal streets.

In total, the development is planned to include 12 industrial, warehouse and distribution buildings, with a total area of approximately 458,475 metres (4,934,983.83 feet).

For more information regarding the public meeting and to sign-up for the meeting, visit calendar.caledon.ca/default/Detail/2022-01-17-1900-Public-Meeting-12245-Torbram-Road.

CORRECTION

In our December 23, 2021 edition, the front page photo featured an incorrect credit. The image was taken by Janelle Intveldt. We regret the error.

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joy-filled New Year!

Bolton Mills

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*Pictures taken prior to Covid-19.

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“When life hands you lemons... you can still take control of your future!” by Jennifer Wilson, LIFE for Youth Program

Prior to participating in the LIFE for Youth Program, I could feel myself slipping into depression. I had completed my university degree, the hardest four years of my life, and I was determined to excel, put in the work and make a difference.

After university was when I was supposed to be active, industrious and energetic, but what a shock it was to graduate into a pandemic, moving back in with parents to save money, not finding a job and not being or feeling valued in the workforce.

I was supposed to be doing ‘something,’ not living at home with my parents. Graduation was supposed to feel like a big accomplishment, a time that I could pat myself on the back and tell myself ‘you’re doing great.’ This really impacted my mental health because it reminded me of my previous lazy self—the version of me I tried so hard to get away from. The version that doesn’t allow me to dream big.

With many meaningful activities and social interactions being taken away due to COVID-19, I began thinking over and over (and over) about the uncertain future. If I spent four years of my life putting in the most effort I ever had, only to end up laying in my bed feeling depressed, lonely, and unmotivated, then what is the point in even trying?

Well if there’s something that a virus with spikey points all over taught me, it’s that everyone is in this together and the LIFE for Youth Program offered at Caledon Community Services (CCS) was a great reminder of just that. Life will always be uncertain, occasionally throwing you a curveball, or two. As youth, we can either do nothing, allowing the external pressures to control our lives or we can take whatever state we are in and turn it into something better. We can reach out for support, connect with others, and most importantly, feel motivated and happy once again.

The LIFE for Youth program has been a bridge towards building that strength. It has allowed me to engage in a self-confidence restoration process and effective goal setting, and seek out opportunities that will help me reach my goals – something I am truly grateful for. I am also so thankful for the experience I gained at my external placement in my field of environmental studies with Eco-Caledon; an organization whose mission is to enhance and protect Caledon’s environment and reverse global warming.

If you are between the ages of 15-30, out of school and not currently working, this program could be for you! Visit www.ccs4u.org to learn more and call 905-584-2300 or toll-free 1-833-522-2748 ext. 232 to register and start building your brighter future. Now recruiting for January start date, space is limited!

How Do You See It?

Tell us how you see it.
Mary Falcone, Manager, Youth Program, Caledon Community Services at 905-584-2300 ext. 232 or mfalcone@ccs4u.org

This column is provided free of charge by the Caledon Citizen.

Province reverts back to Stage 2 as COVID cases increase

BY ROB PAUL

As of Wednesday, January 5, Ontario has moved back into Stage 2 of its reopening plan as a result of the Omicron variant of COVID-19.

Due to trends showing increased COVID-19 hospitalizations, the government has temporarily increased measures for at least the next 21 days.

“As we continue with our provincial vaccine booster efforts, we must look at every option to slow the spread of the highly contagious Omicron variant,” said Premier Doug Ford. “Putting these targeted and time-limited measures in place will give us more opportunity to deliver vaccines to all Ontarians and ensure everyone has maximum protection against this virus.”

The increased measures include reducing social gathering limits to five people indoors and 10 people outdoors; closing indoor dining at restaurants, bars and other food or drink establishments; Outdoor dining with restrictions; requiring businesses and organizations to ensure employees work remotely unless the nature of their work requires them to be on-site; limiting capacity at indoor weddings, funerals, and religious services, rites and ceremonies to 50 per cent capacity of the particular room; retail settings, including shopping malls, permitted at 50 per cent capacity; personal care services permitted at 50 per cent capacity and other restrictions; public libraries limited to 50 per cent capacity; closing indoor concert venues, theatres, cinemas, rehearsals; closing indoor sport and recreational fitness facilities including gym.

Due to the Provincial restrictions, the Town of Caledon’s indoor recreation amenities will be temporarily closed and programs and services will be suspended until further notice.

Town Hall will be open for essential in-person services only. To book an appointment, contact Service Caledon 905-584-2272 x7750.

Alongside the restrictions, all publicly funded and private schools will move to remote learning starting January 5 until at least January 17.

“Children will continue to receive live virtual

learning during this period, led by their teacher, with full access to school-based academic and mental health supports,” said Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education. “We will continue to work closely with the Chief Medical Officer of Health to keep our communities safe and ensure that Ontario students get back to in-person learning as soon as possible.”

In Peel, since December 22, there have been 18,748 new cases of COVID-19 to bring the Regions total to 141,551. There have also been seven new deaths since then to bring the total to 1,043.

Since December 22, Caledon has seen 1,063 new cases of COVID-19 to bring the Town total to 6,247 cases. The death total didn’t increase, remaining at 22.

“While the risks for severe illness are lower with Omicron than with the previous variants of concern, it is far more transmissible and hospitalizations are expected to continue to increase, placing greater pressure on our health system,” said Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health.

As Peel continues to push towards stronger vaccine coverage, the Region has administered 2,909,175 total doses of the Vaccine. 1,375,268 individuals have one dose, 1,230,617 have two doses, and 303,290 have received their third dose booster.

In total, 77.7 per cent of Peel residents have two dose coverage and 83.1 per cent have single dose coverage. Of those 12 and older, 89 per cent have both doses and 92.3 per cent have initiated the vaccination process—82 per cent of those five and older have both doses and 87.7 per cent have one dose.

To book a vaccine in the Region of Peel, visit www.peelregion.ca/coronavirus/vaccine/book-appointment. To schedule a third dose booster, visit covid19.ontariohealth.ca/.

To download or print a copy of your proof of vaccination, visit covid-19.ontario.ca/covid-19-vaccine-booking-support#proof-of-vaccination. To learn more about the official QR code system Ontario has implemented and to access yours, visit covid-19.ontario.ca/get-proof/.

Visit Caledon encourages buy local, stay local

Continued from FRONT

The tourism website had been a long time in the making after nearly two years of developing it. The goal is to keep people local while attracting people from other communities to Caledon.

“In early 2020, the Town applied for (and received) partial funding from the Province’s Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) to take our existing tourism website and create a new, more visual and more mobile-friendly tool for visitors to and residents of Caledon,” said Emily Quinton, Caledon’s Officer of Tourism and Culture. “So much has changed in the last few years here—new businesses, greater growth, a greater interest in rural escapes—it was time for a change.

“The project kicked off in early summer 2021 with an ambitious timeline of six months to completion. Launching a new tourism website in the middle of a pandemic required a unique and flexible web platform that would allow us to make changes fairly easily internally so that our visitors can rely on accurate, engaging and seasonally relevant content. One of the reasons we promote vacationing is to help support local businesses. We also strive to promote vacationing in a way that manages volume at peak times, improving the experience for the visitor, residents and businesses.”

The reason the website has become an important priority for the Town is to showcase the different opportunities offered in Caledon and spotlight why people don’t need to travel far to enjoy themselves.

“The desire was to create a website that served the purpose of true destination marketing—compelling visuals and a showcase of Caledon’s businesses in a way that site users could truly picture themselves experiencing, enjoying—and revisiting,” said Quinton. “Using our collection of Caledon’s experiences, places, businesses and attractions, we will continue to develop seasonal and themed articles or ‘trip ideas’ to give visitors vivid ideas of how they could spend their downtime here. We hope it will encourage visitors to stay longer than a day and/or come back more often. The diversity of our visitors is incredible, and our offerings reflect that: it’s an exciting opportunity to work with our businesses and stakeholders to encourage collaboration on itinerary and tour ideas; to wear the different ‘hats’ of our visitors (dog-owners, foodies, art lovers, cyclists, hikers, families); and to help connect them with what we (as residents) already know and love about our town.”

The Town felt this was an idea worth pursuing due to the emphasis on shopping local as well as the recent increase in popularity of Caledon as a place to go both due to the options and the natural beauty.

“Our approach is to be more strategic and mindful of what Caledon gems we are promoting, and when,” Quinton said. This new website is a great opportunity to showcase the incredible breadth of experiences we have here, but to also help divert some of this increase in visitors we’ve seen in the west side villages and hamlets of the Town to some of the more undiscovered parts of Caledon that are equally exquisite and exciting. Having a website that is easy to navigate, can be accessed and explored from the road, and that offers cool ideas about what to do in Caledon was critical in beginning to achieve that.

“Our Town is unique in that we are a collection of

incredible rural and urban villages bound by a massive geographic space at the top of the GTA—communicating that (and providing visitors with ideas about how to navigate Caledon in all of its breadth) is the name of the game with our new website. The interesting and added benefit of creating a site like this is that it isn’t just a resource for outside visitors—it’s a tool we hope locals will use to discover (or rediscover) a little more of their own backyard. Residents of Terra Cotta, for example, discovering Bolton and vice-versa – we want residents to be amazed at what lies just a little beyond their favourite spots! It’s also a way to help drive people from outside communities who may not know what Caledon has and that will in turn help support businesses and get them back on their feet.

“Now, more than ever, it is critical to show residents and visitors to Caledon what our businesses offer,” said Quinton. “The Town’s 2019-2020 Love Local Caledon campaign proved just how supportive our residents are of their local favourites. We know, though, these same businesses also rely heavily on visitor traffic to augment their year-round revenues. In the last several years, we’ve seen far more small businesses open than close in Caledon—a great indicator that there is a demand for incredible things to eat, drink, do and see here. Sharing the stories of those unique (and nearby) experiences with new people to Caledon will help to sustain that diversity of things to do for years to come.”

COVID-19 was, of course, also a factor in the Town wanting to get the website up and running as soon as possible, with an increased need in helping bring economic prosperity to local businesses.

“Caledon has been the backyard playground for the GTA and GTHA for years, and the pandemic (and its subsequent accompanying travel restrictions) resulted in people with the itch to explore to turn to nearby hidden gems to fulfill that need,” Quinton said. “This presented some unique opportunities and challenges for the villages and hamlets of Caledon. It’s a tricky balance between sharing our incredible breweries, cideries, shops, restaurants, trails, historic villages and galleries with a wider audience, and maintaining sustainable visitation for the future of our town. Lucky for us, we can tap into Destination Ontario, TIAO (Tourism Industry Association of Ontario) and Central Counties Tourism (RTO6) to promote our accommodators and experience-based businesses to the right audiences—whether in-region, or across the province.”

With the winter here, the website is currently showcasing the options for those in Caledon and surrounding areas.

“We already know how popular Caledon is as a summer and fall destination, but the exciting thing is that Caledon is just as much a winter paradise as it is the rest of the year,” said Quinton. “Cross-country skiing, spa-visits, snowshoeing, fat-biking, gallery-touring, restaurant and brewery-hopping, skating, walking, shopping—it’s all here for visitors and locals to discover. Winter doesn’t need to be a season we endure—there are a million-and-one reasons to head to our website, make a plan, and jump in the car. We can’t wait to welcome you to our snowy trails, and cozy local spots.”

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team jersey, a mom or dad put **food on**
the table, a family **pay a mortgage**
or a student **pay for college**.

Thanks for shopping local! ♥





CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SHOP WITH A COP
The Caledon OPP was “thrilled” to deliver the Shop with a Cop event once again this year.
“Caledon OPP officers, detachment staff and their families were able to share some Holiday joy with 20 local Caledon families,” say Police. “This year marked the 10th annual Shop with a Cop event, a partnership with the Optimist Club of Caledon. Based on a financial and/or emotional need, families were selected by Caledon Community Services/The Exchange.
“Gifts were purchased by Caledon OPP officers and staff based on a wish list provided by the families. Amongst other giveaways, gifts were wrapped, labeled and delivered (or picked up) to those families selected.”
Caledon OPP would like to acknowledge the generous donations from the following who enhanced the holiday cheer provided in the event:

- Peel Paramedic Union OPSEU L277
- Garden Foods
- Bolton Zehrs
- Caledon Village Association

“In addition to the gift packages provided for each family, The Kitchen at Mono Mills graciously provided full Holiday dinners for the families.”

approximately five large exotic snakes,” say Police.
The investigation is ongoing. Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to contact Caledon OPP at (905) 584-2241 or toll-free at 1-888-310-1122.
You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Peel Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or online at www.peelcrimestoppers.ca. When you contact Crime Stoppers, you stay anonymous, you never have to testify, and you could receive a cash reward of up to \$2,000 upon an arrest.
“Unfortunately, this is not a unique situation in Ontario. Many individuals are operating non-accredited roadside zoos or have exotic animals in private ownership,” said Dolf DeJong, CEO of the Toronto Zoo. “Your Toronto Zoo is proud to be providing expert assistance to the Caledon OPP in their ongoing investigation and strongly condemns the actions taken and complete disregard for the lives of these reptiles.
“We continue to work with the provincial and federal governments to ensure strong regulations are put in place to prevent the private ownership of exotic and endangered animals or the housing of these animals in roadside zoos.”
Animal welfare is regulated in Ontario under the Provincial Animal Welfare Services (PAWS) Act. Visit www.ontario.ca/page/animal-welfare for more information including offences and penalties.



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BREAK AND ENTER
Members of the Dufferin OPP are currently investigating a break and enter at an Orangeville business.
“On Sunday January 2, 2022, Dufferin OPP attended a business on Broadway in the Town of Orangeville for the report of a break and enter,” say Police. “The complainant told police that sometime between 2:00pm December 31, 2021, and the morning of January 2, 2022, someone smashed the front door of the business to gain entry. While inside, the thief stole a sum of money. There is no suspect description at this time.”
Dufferin OPP is asking business owners in area of Broadway and Diane Drive in the Town of Orangeville to check their security cameras for any suspicious activity.
If you have any information or video surveillance footage in relation to this theft, please call the Dufferin OPP Detachment at 519-942-1711 or 1-888-310-1122.
You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or submit your information online at ontariocrimestoppers.ca.

The Citizen **CROSSWORD**

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62			63		64			65				66	
67		68									69		
	70							71					

CLUES ACROSS
1. Struck firmly
6. Shirt part
12. Nevertheless
16. Article
17. Adornment
18. Educator’s helper
19. Healthcare pro
20. Atomic number
28
21. Extinct flightless bird
22. Mystic syllable
23. College sports decision maker (abbr.)
24. Edible mushrooms
26. Venerable English monk
28. Surrounded by
30. Forming fractional numbers from 4 onwards
31. Eastern France river
32. Short cry or yelp
34. Brew
35. Ornamental box
37. In a way, surfaced

CLUES DOWN
39. Attired
40. Peculation
41. Netted
43. It shows you paid (abbr.)
44. Payroll firm
45. Antidiuretic hormone
47. Japanese classical theater
48. The first two
50. Ancient burial chamber
52. Type of card
54. Expression of sorrow or pity
56. Hectoliter
57. Morning
59. NYC subway dweller
60. Law enforcement
61. Sodium
62. Elevated subway
63. Facility where wild animals are kept
66. Integrated circuit
67. Seaman’s tool
70. Drink to
71. Small group

Solution in CLASSIFIEDS
1. Poem
2. Everest is one (abbr.)
3. Olympic legend Jesse
4. Portable tent
5. When you hope to get there
6. Unwavering
7. Back muscle
8. Within
9. Excessive fluid accumulation in tissues
10. Six
11. Involved as a necessary part
12. 2002 Liotta, Patric film
13. Living thing
14. Type of gin
15. Moved around in pursuit of fun
25. Makes light bulbs
26. Story of one’s life
27. Small island in a river
29. A type of bliss
31. Genus of large herons
33. A way to make dry
36. One’s grandmother
38. Vocal style
39. Pronunciation mark
41. American Indian chief or leader
42. Insecticide
43. Go bad
46. Capital of Zimbabwe
47. Polish river
49. Cast out
51. People of India and Sri Lanka
53. Cleaning fabrics
54. Very skilled
55. Pouches
58. Restaurant must-have
60. Native Americans from Arizona
64. Remaining after all deductions
65. Fleece
68. Dorm official
69. It cools your home

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

Chamber concerned with lack of plan and support for small business with Ontario moving back to Stage 2

Continued from FRONT

“We need a comprehensive plan that ties restrictions to clear, data-based metrics so that employers, workers, and families can plan ahead. We are all are doing our part. Now, government needs to do their part. What additional steps does the government plan to take over the next 21 days and beyond? Newly imposed public health measures intended to control the spread of the Omicron variant should always be met with immediate, commensurate and targeted relief, particularly for small businesses, many of whom cannot afford any further reduction in revenue.”

With many businesses expecting potential new measures this week, Caledon Chamber of Commerce President Anthony Caputo says they didn’t see them being this extreme and expected any restrictions to coincide with a re-opening plan.

“Businesses all over Ontario are really pissed off right now,” said Caputo. “Everyone feels that although the Omicron variant is very contagious and spreads like wildfire, it’s not as deadly and it’s more like getting a regular common cold than anything else. We know that they want to keep ICU levels down and that they’ve gone up dramatically over the past weekend, that matters, but from the very beginning they said kids’ immune systems are much stronger, and they withstand the COVID virus much better than the elderly, and so why aren’t they in school right now?”

“Closing schools leads to the justification of closing businesses, and business wise, we need to learn how to adapt rather than taking the easy way out. Gyms should not be closed; they should be at 50 per cent capacity rather than completely shut down.”

With many restaurants being hit hard over the last 22 months, the return of indoor dining was huge for revenue, but Caputo worries that to have it taken away again could put many owners in a hole they can’t climb out of with no clear end date.

“I’m at least glad it happened at this time of the year because usually during this time of the year people are paying off their bills and not really going to restaurants as frequently. But at the same time, any revenue stream that’s taken away from any type of business, especially when they’ve been held

back for the past two years, is always going to have a dramatic impact on them. They’ve been going through this for two years already and there’s no end in sight. There will be a lot of restaurants who this time around won’t reopen again coming out of this because there’s no point.”

According to Caputo, many local businesses are concerned that even when measures are lessened, it will happen again because that’s been the trend thus far. He says there’s always something always in the way and many businesses are tired of the constant reset.

“Of course, everyone is worried it will continue because I don’t think the government—at all levels—has learned how to pivot and adapt,” said Caputo. “Moving backwards is the easy way out and, unfortunately, the easy way out it is going to hurt our economy dramatically.”

With the province reverting back to Stage 2, businesses fear that being one step away from Stage 1 could lead to a lockdown in the near future, and even for retailers coming off Christmas, Caputo doesn’t know if local retailers can survive with competition from big box stores and e-commerce.

“It’s good that it’s happening now rather than before the holidays, but this is still going to be a hit for every business owner’s income for the next month or so while we’re in this stage. You can only survive so long on e-commerce as a local retailer and with takeout for restaurants, you really still need the in-person aspect of the business to really turn a profit. Right now, most businesses are lucky if they’re breaking even. Obviously, it’s different for corporations, they’re still thriving, but small business I truly feel really bad for them because this isn’t easy. This is a shock to them and it’s another kick to the gut. They don’t see a light at the end of the tunnel right now.”

The move back to Stage 2 is especially concerning in Caputo’s eyes if the government doesn’t plan to announce support for businesses to stay on their feet over the next month.

“When it comes to the support aspect, the first two times around, there were grants and wage subsidies, and those types of things,” he said. “But my worry is that I haven’t heard anything in that realm quite

yet. There hasn’t been much regarding how the government is going to help business, especially small businesses survive the next couple months. Everyone still has rent to pay, and they all have utilities they need to pay, and I haven’t seen anything substantial that will really push them through these times.”

As for the Chamber, Caputo is always working to recruit businesses to expand to Caledon, but the uncertainty around COVID has made the task more and more difficult with it being too risky for local businesses to make big moves during these times.

“I’ve had many conversations with very successful mom-and-pop businesses that I would personally love to see come into Caledon,” he said. “Everyone is willing to sit down and listen to what we have to offer, and they all want to expand and they all want to grow their businesses, but the fact of the matter is that with these continued

restrictions, they’re not going to make any moves. Now, when it comes to corporations, they’ll still make moves to help themselves and they’re still going to come to Caledon to benefit from all the perks the town has to offer. But when it comes to smaller businesses, it’s harder, especially if it’s a restaurant or retail store and you know you’ll be closed for a third of the year.

“Is it really feasible for those types of businesses to expand or even open up right now? I would have to agree with them when they say no. Don’t get me wrong, corporations have paid their dues and they’ve been successful, and you can’t fault them for being successful, but at the same time, we have to focus on small business and get them the help to survive. We need to actually be supporting small local businesses and get them help because we need to start growing smaller businesses. If we don’t have small local businesses, we’re in trouble.”



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EDUCATION WITH BALANCE

Brock’s Banter

Don’t discount sources of comfort and joy

BY BROCK WEIR

It would be too easy to begin the year on a bum note.

As we still grapple with a global health crisis, it feels like we’re becoming overwhelmed in not just a new wave of the virus, but a tsunami. It also feels like many of the powers-that-be who have been tasked with guiding us through to the other side are throwing up their hands.

The latest phase of this plan is if you’re not high risk or immunocompromised and exhibit any of the symptoms that have been drilled into us since March of 2020 to simply assume you have the dreaded COVID and isolate accordingly. Formal testing is at its limit – as is, it seems, formal proof that you have what so many of us have been dreading.

And none of that pesky isolation for 10 days. New year, new approach: five days is enough. After all, you have a job to get back to and employers want you back on the floor.

No accurate numbers of how many active cases are still out there. No accounting for how many cases might be in our school settings. No accurate data made public to make it clear whether or not we’re flattening the curve.

Given what we’ve all been going through, musing further on this feeling of being set collectively adrift is almost like grabbing low-hanging fruit.

For my first column of the year, I often like to take inspiration from the Queen’s Christmas Message. Speaking solely for myself, I often find some of the themes it touches, grounded by a life of experience, stick with me throughout the year. This was certainly the case in 2021 with her poignant, morale-boosting words that were sparked by the pandemic, and it was certainly the case this year. But the words that really struck a chord with me were related to something rather unexpected.

“His sense of service, intellectual curiosity, and capacity to squeeze fun out of any situation were all irrepressible,” the Queen said, reflecting on her late husband, the Duke of Edinburgh. “We felt his presence as we, like millions around the world, readied ourselves for Christmas. While COVID again means we can’t celebrate quite as we may have wished, we can still enjoy the many happy traditions. Be it the singing of carols, as long as the tune is well known; decorating the tree; giving and receiving presents; or watching a favourite film where we already know the ending, it’s no surprise that families so often treasure their Christmas routines.”

Personally, I think individuals and families treasure their traditions and routines well beyond the holiday season, and routines don’t have to be synonymous with dull.

Life consists of final partings as well as first meetings, indeed, but in many cases these are purely happenstance. We don’t know when they might happen, we don’t know what they will consist of, and we don’t know when that final parting might come, let alone how to prepare for any of these eventualities and inevitabilities. Tradition, however you define and form it, helps to foster a degree of stability in between.

A favourite film, or a book or television show for that matter, where we already know the ending is a source of both fun and comfort.

When so much of our lives are uncertain, opening up a book we live and re-discovering the stories that swept us away to worlds old and new; becoming engrossed in a film you’ve seen enough times to quote along with the actors;

or, when you’ve had a tough day, flipping on the TV or logging into a streaming service and laughing just as hard at the jokes you already know and love as if you’re just seeing them for the first time.... Well, all of that is an oasis of calm, serenity, and mental recalibration when you need a break, however temporary, from wading through an almost-unending sea of uncertainty.

One of those islands of comfort for me were the collective works left behind by the iconic Betty White when she took her final bow on New Year’s Eve, just a few weeks shy of completing her remarkable one-hundredth year.

I don’t ever remember not being a fan of hers. Some of my earliest memories are sitting down with my family to watch The Golden Girls in the latter half of its first run on television, the series being one of the few shows our entire family could agree on.

From there, I worked my way backwards to her side-splitting turn on The Mary Tyler Moore Show, back further to her once-hard-to-find works from the earliest days of the medium, all the while looking forward to wherever she might pop up next. Of course, in the last couple of decades, those pop-ups came with an ever-increasing frequency that belied her age.

Although I never had the chance to meet her, I did, however, purely by chance, find her on the other end of my phone receiver one night in 2010.

In a fundraiser to benefit autism research, comedian Jon Stewart hosted a telethon featuring a bevy of celebrities operating the phones. For a donation to the cause, you had the chance to get through to one celebrity on the 20-strong panel. My donation made, I was on hold for about 30 minutes just hoping I would get through to someone I would have something to say to, after all, I think it’s fair to say that we all would have more to say to the likes of Tom Hanks and George Clooney than the guy from the Dos Equis beer commercials!

But my mind was focused on Betty, who was gamely wielding a couple of phone lines. Through sheer luck, a short while later, there was that unmistakable, “Hello?” on the other end. Then there was a pause. Followed by a, “Hello, this is Betty White!”

In my awe, I momentarily forgot that conversation was a two-player game and was struck silent. After her prompt, all I could utter was a “I know!” followed by about 90 seconds blathering on about all she meant to me. I don’t remember exactly what I said, but recall the phrase “Thank you!” coming out of my mouth far too many times to count.

Did I make a fool of myself? Maybe, but as we start a New Year without her I am sure glad I had the chance to thank her for the impact she had not only on me, but the world.

It might sound inconsequential in the grand scheme of things, but celebrating the people, places and, in some cases, things that bring us joy in a time where it sometimes feels we’re sputtering collectively from one challenge to the next, it is very consequential in giving us a smile, comfort, and even joyous predictability.

As it looks like the light at the end of the COVID tunnel will continue to dim before it blazes bright again, we need these kinds of things – and let’s be thankful for Betty White and the immortal legacy of laughter and joy she leaves us. I know where I will be turning back to her work more and more through whatever COVID throws at us next, and well beyond.



We have to unite and focus on our common goal

by Mark Pavilons



The learning never ends. We’ve dined, drank and hopefully “did good” over the holiday break.

But now it’s back to business as usual. Or, as “usual” as can be in these weird times.

Say what you will about the current point in history, but things are far from boring.

I believe we all have to maintain a certain focus, in order to see those goals that, right now, seem just out of reach. But in a couple of months, as the snow melts, the dawn of a new spring will hopefully be brilliant. Difficult roads, it’s been said, often lead to amazing destinations.

And it’s something that we all have to work towards. That includes each and every citizen and our elected officials. James Garfield once said that all free governments are managed by the combined wisdom and folly of the people. So true.

It’s okay to stumble a little bit now and then, as the past year or so has demonstrated.

We’ve already been through Plans A, B and C, but there are plenty of other letters in the alphabet!

I think most of us have also learned a lot in the past couple of years. We’ve learned about our fragile economy, some unique viewpoints of our fellow citizens and we really learned how to be patient. We’ve become resilient, flexible and adaptable.

I hope our communal level of compassion has risen as well. We’ve seen how people come together in a crisis, whether it’s at a local vaccination clinic, staging virtual community events, or supporting local businesses.

While many of our fellow residents have had to pivot, and make 180-degree turns in their lives, we must all keep our eye on the prize, so to speak.

That prize is momentum, pride, fortitude and reclaiming joy. It’s finding the light and passing it along to others.

When everything has fallen out of place, we have to fight to put the puzzle back together again.

I’m reminded of Winston Churchill’s famous sentiment: “If you are going through hell, keep going.”

Martin Luther King Jr. said the ultimate measure of a person is where they stand during times of challenge and controversy.

We’ve seen the division in the past few months, and we’ve seen the inequity around the globe. But we’ve also seen an unusual sense of togetherness and commitment to society. The majority

have stepped up and done what’s right.

The lesson here is not in taking one for the rest of the team, but in our willingness to fight together. We may not be able to beat this bug completely, but we’re trying.

I can’t remember a time in recent history when the entire country – or the entire planet – has worked together for a common goal. Yes, a lot of it was born out of fear and ignorance, but nevertheless we pulled together.

My faith in humanity has been bolstered by the hard work and dedication of my fellow human beings. From front-line health care workers, politicians and policy-makers, to the media, average citizens and small business owners, we found common ground. That’s really remarkable these days.

Quotable quotes and platitudes aside, we must all decide for ourselves what we want to see in the coming months, and year ahead.

Do we want more of the same, or do we want to rise above, achieve more and cherish that proverbial ounce of prevention? We can’t emerge triumphant if we all scurry off in different directions. We have to walk, or run, together, in perfect harmony and unison.

The skills and qualities we’ve gained out of necessity can serve us well. Our newfound knowledge can apply to our personal and family lives. Every piece of valuable knowledge can be put to good use. Undoubtedly, we counted our blessings over the holidays. Our good fortune shouldn’t be recognized just once a year, but on a daily basis. I think if we all did more of that, it would put a spring in our steps.

We should shy away from conflict and needless confrontations, in society and in our own homes. Let’s vow to be the fire extinguishers of those annoying spot fires that erupt. Let’s think twice, maybe even three times, before we blather on.

I think many of us have learned a little more about perspective. While we still may be not fully comfortable walking in other people’s shoes, we can at least recognize the challenges people have faced. We shouldn’t be quick to judge, and we should maybe give others the benefit of the doubt.

Or at least be patient. We don’t know just how much our fellow men and woman have been through. We can’t fathom their losses or suffering.

We’ve been inundated with information, misinformation and stressed out by it all.

Now, more than ever, it’s important to stop missing “those moments.” There are hundreds of moments each day, and many are special. Don’t wait for them – when one comes along, snatch it up!

And go out of your way to be tolerant and just a little more courteous.

Put aside our petty differences and vow to learn more about others. I’ve joined my daughter in reading about world religions for her high school course. I find it not only fascinating, all religions are more similar than we think.

We are all human beings, children of God. Let’s try to act like it in 2022!

Our Readers Write

Voters need to consider options ahead of June’s Provincial election

In the 2018 provincial election in Dufferin Caledon, Progressive Conservative candidate Sylvia Jones emerged victorious with 29,702 or 53.08 per cent of the votes cast. But the combined vote for the other party candidates was just over 26,000. (According to Wikipedia figures.

The close vote count needs to be emphasized as the clock winds down to the June provincial election, one of the most important in Ontario’s history.

Residents of this riding can either choose to endorse or reject the dubious record of the Doug Ford Conservative Government. Unlike its erratic, if not shambolic, handling of the COVID crisis, (including its shameful restriction of salary

increases to overworked nurses to one per cent), it has been highly disciplined in ramming through its pro-sprawl, pro-developer, and anti-environment agenda.

Just some examples includes it promotion of the environmentally destructive and economically ruinous Highway 413 and the Bradford Bypass, its undermining of the decision-making powers of conservation authorities, and the excessive—hatchet like—use of non-democratic Ministerial Zoning Orders (MZOs) which allow development projects to proceed without any input or challenges by residents who might be negatively impacted by those projects.

Continued on Page 13

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It's a new year

Yes, it's a new year. Although there's no logical reason why the new year starts in January. It's just an arbitrary date on the calendar. We're just at the same point in the planet's journey that we were last year at the same time.

Ancient calendar makers could have picked any month to start the new year and the result would have been exactly the same. It would have been nice if they chose August 1 so you could celebrate outdoors without having to dress for sub-zero temperatures.

For some reason, the changing of the year makes people decide to resolve some issues in their own life – called resolutions.

Most of the goals people set for themselves are attainable. However, most of those goals are never achieved.

Just ask the people who run fitness centre – they make their bank on people who sign up for the gym, have a rousing two sessions of a high intensity workout, then put the next one off for a day, then two days, then a week. Before you know it, it's been six months since you've been on a treadmill, but the gym still has your money.

There is a list of the top ten most common New

Year's resolutions. Whether it is completely accurate is debatable, but it sounds pretty close to the usual resolutions you hear people make.

On top of the list is "get more exercise." Well, see the above and maybe save yourself a few bucks by working out at home to start and see how that goes.

Number two on the list is "lose weight." How often do you actually know of someone that has had a noticeable and healthy weight loss? Probably not often, although it does happen.

The third top resolution is "get organized." I'm not really sure what that is supposed to mean.

In what way are you supposed to organize? Is your life that much of a mess already? Or does it mean, organize your sock and underwear drawer or do your grocery shopping every Thursday at 2:43 p.m.?

Learning a new skill or hobby is on the list. This one I can understand. If your evenings revolve around turning on the television or watching Netflix, it's probably time to come up with a better way to spend your time.

"Live life to the fullest," comes in at number five. That sounds like a fun one, but it's actually pretty difficult for most people. After you spend the day at work, you rush home to make dinner for the kids,

then clean up and get ready for the next day.

Living life to the fullest means, Monday night tap dancing lessons, Tuesday night at the Open Mic night playing your kazoo, Wednesday nights at your favourite pub, Thursday nights at origami class, and whatever fun activities you have.

That all sounds like living life to the fullest, but it can be a little unrealistic for most people.

Number six on the list is to spend less money and save more. Good luck with that. With the current rate of inflation, we'll all be lucky to break even this year.

Putting out your smoke and giving up the habit is also on the list. Yes, this is doable, but can be very difficult. For men, I believe the motivating factor can be a certain woman of your dreams who tells you she just can't be with a person who smokes. That might make you butt out.

Spending more time with family and friends is on the list. Shouldn't you already be doing that?

Who else are you going to socialize with?

Going on vacation and travelling always makes the list. In current times, however, this is one you might want to save until next year. Going on a cruise sounds like fun, but do you really

want to get on board a giant enclosed place with several thousand germly strangers and risk a nightmare floating vacation when a new virus is brought on board?

At the bottom of the list is "read more." This must have been placed there by the request of the Followers and Supporters of the Dewey Decimal System Society.

If you're not an avid reader now, you won't be curling up with a good book in front of the fireplace any time soon.

It's interesting to note that "quit drinking" or "drink less" did not make the top ten. Judging from the amount of business beer and liquor stores do on any single day, I don't think too many people want to give up their suds or corn liquor.

If you do have some resolutions in mind, congratulations on at least making some goals for the year ahead.

The challenge is to stick with them and carry them through – good luck!



BRIAN LOCKHART
FROM THE SECOND ROW

Nothing NEW This New Year

Like so many of you I'm sure, I was looking forward to a new year with anticipation. Perhaps this would finally be the year we escaped the clutches of COVID and could begin actively participating in life again.

Alas, as December dragged along and Omicron numbers rose, (frighteningly so) any hope for a "new" beginning to this New Year faded fast. Like Jeff Probst might have said on an episode of Survivor, the departing message from 2021 was "Sorry folks, got nothing for ya – head back to camp." The problem? Even the "camp" is on fire.

Once again, and perhaps unsurprisingly, we've been left high and dry by both the provincial and federal government. While I am the first to agree that everyone deserves a break over the holidays, the virtual disappearance of leadership when our country is now staring down yet another variant - and one that is literally running rampant with exponential growth exceeding 15,000+, is quite simply, unacceptable.

Ontario parents and teachers were left playing a guessing game about when – or if – school would start. Daycares were left out of any discussions altogether and there's now mounting evidence that while Omicron itself might be "mild," it's not always true and hospital case counts are on the increase. As for healthcare workers, nurses have been begging for help (and fair pay by the way) from day one and are

now falling victim to COVID at the same rates as the general public. Hospitals are experiencing Code Orange status meaning no adequate staff for the sheer volume of patients. We are on fire and there is no one left to put out the flames.

To say that those who are hospitalized have comorbidities is adding insult to injury. This could be someone with an autoimmune disease that's either in remission or managed well by drugs but who is otherwise healthy. It could be a child with disability or a senior who is in reasonably good health but has to be careful due to a heart condition. Do these people deserve to be hospitalized or worse? Will their loss be counted as Covid related or simply dismissed as a result of their "comorbidity?"

We've been watching the numbers rise since well before the Christmas break and I think it's outrageous that no cabinet meeting took place to even begin discussions about potential closures until this past Sunday afternoon. Parents trying to plan for a new year and a return to work and school should not have been left guessing through Sunday night and into Monday morning. Businesses should not have been left hanging about whether they can open or not. Let's say I'm a restaurant owner. Do I order food for the coming week and watch it spoil? Let's say I am a teacher. Do I plan for online learning or in class? Will I be allowed to wear an N95 mask or not? Doug Ford

said it took him mere "seconds" to make his decision based on available information. That information has been available for WEEKS! Further closures are bad enough but guessing when, how or even if they will happen adds unnecessary angst and if, during a purported 5 hour cabinet meeting it took only seconds to make the decision to return to lockdown, we all could have been spared this unnecessary waiting game.

I cannot imagine being a parent having to cope with all of this. I cannot imagine being a teacher and not having access to the basic means of protecting oneself from this virus – like N95s and filters. I cannot imagine having to live through another lockdown because we are ALL, every single one of us sick to death of lockdowns but I'm pretty sure none of you are literally looking to get to "sick...to death" from COVID.

I want Wine Spot to stay open because I had an amazing experience there and the Espresso Martini is fantastic. I want Forster's Book Garden and the Caledon Public Library to stay open to feed my book addiction and I'm sure each of you has a favourite you too wish to stay open.

However, without some kind of circuit breaker (as the media has taken to calling it) to stop the rapid transmission of what has finally been acknowledged as an airborne disease, we can't hope to move on in any kind of a permanent way. The

US hasn't shut down anything and it's easy to see what's happening there.

It's safe to say there's not much "new" about this new year.

Our Premier continues to gauge public reaction from behind the scenes waiting until the "eleventh hour" before making an appearance to deliver measures that are too little, too late.

As a leader, we expect more. It's not always pleasant being the Premier but being the Premier means you take responsibility for both the good and the bad. Step up. Own it. Leadership demands a leader that is out front, visible and LEADING, not someone who disappears for over three weeks while case counts climb to previously unimaginable levels.

We were afraid to go out this time last year when numbers were just 1,000 or so and now we're regularly seeing numbers well in excess of 10,000! Vaccinations help but we need a Premier who does more than acting like a TV host who has virtually nothing for us and heading "back to camp" for lockdown is, I as previously stated, too little too late.

Yup – nothing new going on here in 2022. Happy New Year indeed.



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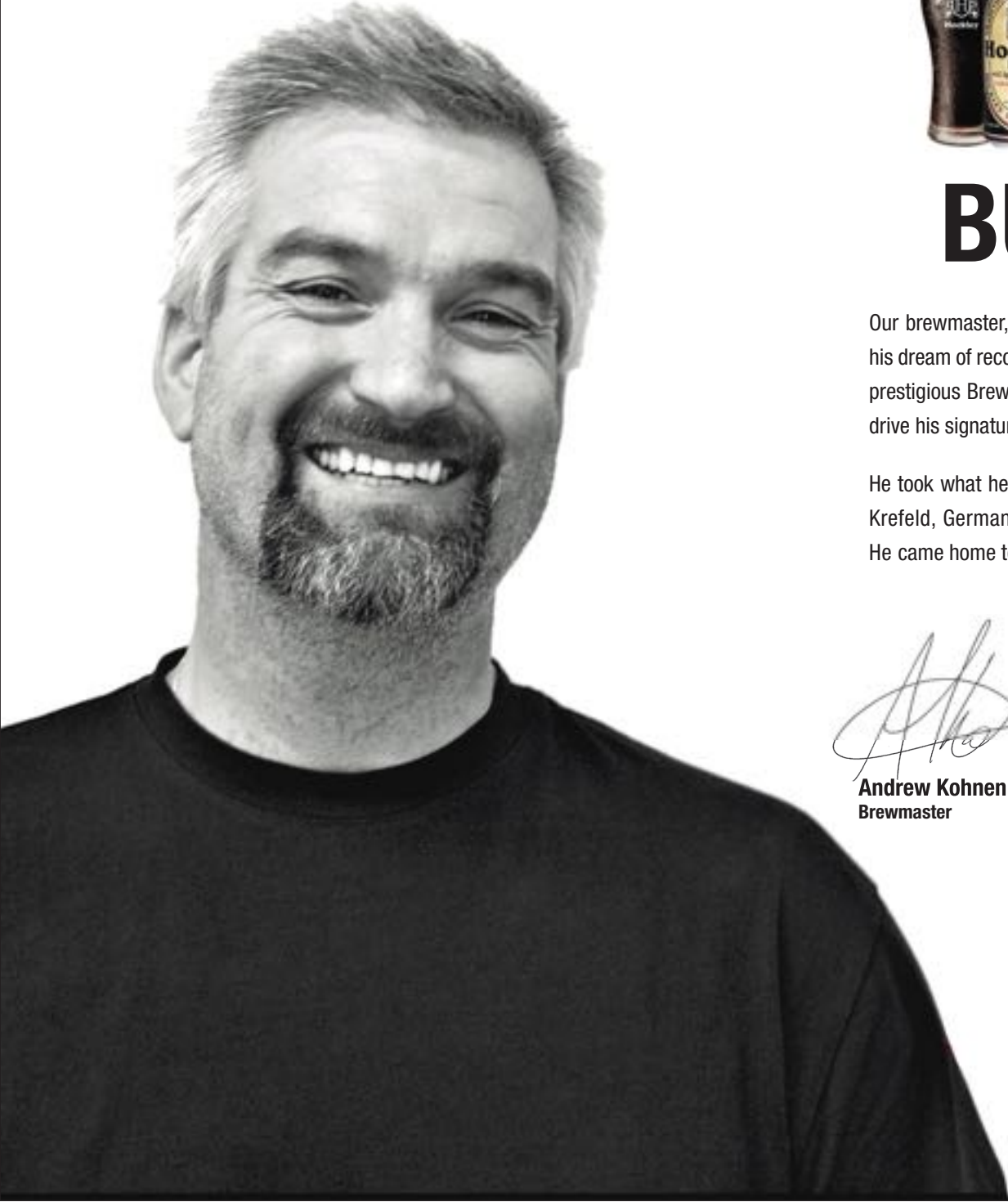
He took what he could from there and ventured to Scotland, Cornwall, and ultimately to Krefeld, Germany, working in the same brewery that had belonged to his ancestors. He came home to Canada for Hockley.

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Robert’s Rant: Lorenzo Insigne signing shows Toronto FC fighting to be the face of the MLS again

BY ROBERT BELARDI
OPINION

When Sebastian Giovinco was in town, Toronto FC ran the MLS. At that time, when you thought of Major League Soccer, you immediately thought of Toronto. The Reds went to two consecutive MLS Cup Finals at BMO Field in 2016 and 2017, winning once.

When Giovinco left the club in 2019, despite returning to the MLS Cup Final one more time, the club was simply not the same. There was an energy that seemed to have dissipated.

When the club was rumoured this past fall to have been seriously interested in Napoli winger Lorenzo Insigne, I thought it was all completely bogus. Why would Insigne at the prime of his career and coming off a European championship with Italy, come to Toronto?

And when the 30-year-old Partenopei forward officially agreed to an MLS record five-and-a-half-year deal worth \$13 million USD and \$5.1 million USD in add-ons, I was baffled. I couldn’t believe what I had read. With Insigne’s contract expiring at Napoli, the 5-foot-4 winger will be in Toronto next summer.

In the aftermath of digesting the latest spectacle, it all began making sense to me from both the club and the player point of views. Let’s take a look.

Through Toronto FC’s Eyes

We all know Toronto FC have not had a popular name since Sebastian Giovinco left town. But this past summer, I believe Toronto FC executives were reminded how an Italian player can impact this club once again.

Fans of Italian descent celebrated all over Canada as Italy defeated England on penalties to capture their second Euro cup in history. So why not prioritize an Italian player to come here? Fans need to be back in the

stands this summer. Last season was filled with struggle and empty seats. Bringing Insigne to Toronto would be the best addition the club has ever had and one that would cement Toronto’s place at the top of the MLS for years to come.

And in the club’s eyes, one Italian isn’t enough. Rumour has it, The Reds are targeting Insigne’s compatriot and Euro 2020 champion Andrea Belotti. The club is also looking at 35-year-old Genoa left back Domenico Criscito and according to Football Italia, he will be coming to Toronto in June.

Through Insigne’s Eyes

Coming to Toronto, Insigne has reportedly been promised a home and a vehicle along with his deal according to Tribal Football. Of course, Insigne will be coming to a city where it won’t be difficult to find places to speak his native tongue. There are sentiments all across the city that will remind him at home. Surely, it will not be an upheaval to get acclimated with the city and the lifestyle over here.

As Insigne prepares to come to Toronto FC, he is most certainly coming for the money. Napoli, which is not exactly one of Italy’s most lucrative football clubs, cannot pay their hometown boy the salary Toronto FC is willing to fork out.

When his name is stationed beside the headline as the MLS’ highest paid player ever how could you say no? Just as Marlon Brando said in The Godfather, you have to make him an offer he can’t refuse. Insigne most definitely could not refuse.

But surely, Insigne understands this will complicate his international career with his country. Coming to Toronto will also come with another price. But this might be one that Insigne is ready to live with.

Because he is now halfway across the world and with qualifying matches happening throughout the MLS season, Insigne might



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

also be saying to his family and fans that his days with the Italian national team are at an end. Unless Italy has something to say about it, then yes, that will become a different story. The Italian national team does not have a winger that can also supplement the #10 role on the pitch. Losing Insigne on the team will be tough to replace.

Also coming to Toronto might mean that Insigne understands his time in European football is over because of his height.

At 5-foot-4, players that are this size tend not to have a long-life span. Insigne is an incredible talent but unfortunately, he is no

Messi or Maradona. Giovinco could most definitely advocate for the same thing.

When he comes to Major League Soccer next year, he will undoubtedly, spearhead Toronto FC into another direction. With The Reds also signing Bob Bradley as their new head coach, the club is preparing to become a dynasty team once again. And management is seeking Italian players once again to do it.

The Naples, Italy native has made north of 300 appearances with his boyhood club in the Serie A. He helped lead Napoli to a Coppa Italia victory in a shootout over Juventus in 2020.

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Councillor Groves has found success by putting community first

BY ROB PAUL

Since she was first elected as Bolton’s Regional Councillor in 2000, Annette Groves has dedicated her time to being the voice of the people.

The longtime Bolton resident has been a key cog in many of the events run in Bolton over the last two decades and she hopes to continue to champion initiatives such as Che’s Place, the Bolton Farmers’ Market, and the re-establishment of Bolton Midnight Madness.

Groves initially wanted to become a Councillor over 20 years ago to help make positive change in Bolton and, since then, she’s only been inspired to work harder to bring the community she loves everything it needs to thrive.

“The only thing that motivated me to run for Council was my drive to help the community and be a voice for them,” she said. “I look at myself as conduit between bureaucracy, government, and the people.”

Caledon, and more specifically Bolton, is where Groves calls home, it’s where she has raised a family and she knows what it can offer to those who live in it. That’s why she is always looking to improve it and bring the families in it the events and resources they need to live their best lives.

“I’ve lived in Bolton for 26 years and in Caledon East before that, so I’ve been here for about 30 years total,” she said. “Bolton is somewhere my son was born and raised and he’s now 20 years old. It’s a wonderful community and, quite frankly, Caledon is just a beautiful place and Bolton has been the hub of Caledon. Throughout my years I’ve been very active in volunteering with different community groups and organizations, and it’s been such a great place to live and raise a family. As a leader, I always want to make it better and make it so that families here are happy and enjoying the beauty of the community.”

Although she’s accomplished a lot, there are a few things in Groves time on Council she says she is most proud of. She’s adamant that none of them would have happened without strong community partners.

“If I look back, I’m going back years now, one of the accomplishments that has been really great for the community and that I’m proud of is the Goodfellow medical building,” she said. “It was great to have a state-of-the-art medical building. I think the doctors approached me back in 2006 and I was happy to work with them and Ross Goodfellow. We were able to get that building built and right next to it is the movie theatre and that whole area there has grown and served the community well. Healthcare is a very important thing, we need to keep our residents healthy physically, mentally, and socially, and that building has served the community well.

“Working with Ross Goodfellow and Ross Gray,

we were able to also get the addition to the Caledon Centre for the Scouts and the Guides because they never had a home. They had to move from place to place and it was just very difficult for those volunteers to be moving around constantly. Having a generous \$1 million donation from Ross Goodfellow was very helpful and that’s been a great achievement and a really good thing for the community to get the Scouts and Guides their own home.”

Building relationships with residents and groups is of the upmost importance to Groves as a Councillor because, at the end of the day, she says nothing gets done alone and being a Councillor is about uniting your community as a team for a cause to benefit everyone.

“Another thing I’m so proud of are the community events I’ve been able to be a part of brining to Bolton and organizing alongside some of our community groups. Midnight Madness was something that’s been around for over 40 years in our community, and I was happy to bring it back, but I couldn’t do that all by myself because an event like that takes dollars and everything you do, you do it as a team. I’ve had a very successful group of volunteers in the Bolton Community Crew and working with them has been so important. Thanks to the time they’ve volunteered, we’ve been able to have some very successful events.

“I also really enjoy working with the Shop with a Cop Program. I’ve been able to raise funds for that program. The OPP has been great running [it] for families and children at Christmastime who may not be fortunate financially. We take them and shop with them at Walmart and they’re able to enjoy Christmas. We also had the Bolton Kinmen generously donate the gazebo for the leash-free park so that when families go to the park, they have a place to get out of the rain and sun and just sit and socialize. There’s the track and turf field over at Humberview Secondary School and that was done in partnership with the school board and trustee Stan Cameron was instrumental in getting that done. We’ve heard a lot from the community over the years that we needed a running track and that was great to get. The years that I have spent on Council have been great, I look back in the community and I see what we’ve been able to achieve, and I don’t achieve those things by myself because I couldn’t.”

Groves already has big plans for 2022, starting with ensuring the land donation from Bryon and Catherine Wilson goes towards a future healthcare facility and that Bolton gets an indoor athletic facility to ultimately help drive more money into the economy.

“I’m really appreciative of the Wilson land donation of 20 acres, that’s been something I’ve been working on for a long time and I’m happy to see it finally coming to fruition,” she said. “Now, my advocacy will begin with fundraising for the urgent care



COUNCILLOR GROVES

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

centre and working with Regional staff on building some affordable seniors housing—a senior village in that area. It’s been a huge achievement for the community and it’s a big win for Caledon, because healthcare services are challenging right now with the shortage of nurses and doctors and concerns with our hospitals being filled up. The pandemic has made everything a lot tougher, so having an urgent care centre in Bolton will be great for everyone. This isn’t just for Bolton; it will serve all of Caledon because I don’t think we’ll be getting a hospital anytime soon and this is the next best thing. It’s so important for the community.

“Also, in the budget I managed to get an indoor facility through, and we’ll partner up with Mayfield Secondary School. It’s going to be a great partnership and great for the community because then people won’t need to drive out of the community, they can stay here, and we’ll run tournaments here. That allows us to bring people in from other communities to spend their dollars in Bolton or Caledon, rather than us leaving to spend in other communities. We will be able to support our own community even more through this and that’s something the soccer clubs have been asking about for many years. I didn’t do it by myself, I worked with Caledon Soccer and our staff in the recreation department has been instrumental in getting this done.”

After years on Council, Groves notes that the most important aspect of being a Councillor is understanding that your constituents come first and being the voice for them in council meetings is why they elected you. That’s led her to credit the residents as the main reason she believes she’s found so much success representing Bolton.

“You’ve got to listen to the people, and I think that’s what makes a good Councillor, someone who listens to the people, someone who actually cares about the community, and basically you’ve got to be in the trenches with the people—you can’t sit in the ivory tower and expect to know what’s going on,” she said.

“You need to be out there with your residents and be part of the community. I enjoy doing what I do, it’s challenging at times, but everything in life has its challenges and you’ve just got to learn how to work through those challenges. I think over the years I’ve managed to do quite a bit for Bolton and the people, but I’ve been so successful because of this community and its willingness to comes together during crisis or when there’s a need. Nothing was achieved alone, it’s always a group effort and that’s what makes this community so special. We have so many volunteers here and people who give tirelessly and quite frankly, that’s what has made me a successful Councillor: it’s the people that I work with who support the community.”

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OBITUARIES

WARREN, Eileen Theresa (née McGeough)

After a lifetime of generosity and courage, surrounded by the love of her family on Tuesday, December 28, 2021. A dedicated nurse, confidant and maker of late-night steaks, Eileen was diagnosed with ovarian cancer just six weeks ago and her passing leaves a hole in the hearts of many. Beloved wife of the late William (Rick) Warren (2017). Adored Mom of Michelle (Brad Smart) and Peter (Dawn Moffatt). Proud and cherished Gramma of Finleigh, Ruarie, Teaghan and Peyton. The second youngest of eight children born to Peter and Agnes McGeough, Eileen is loved and remembered by her brothers and sisters, as well as nieces, nephews, extended relatives and dear friends in Canada, Ireland and England. Born and raised in Co. Donegal, Eileen took great pride in being Irish. A talented artist with an affinity for chemistry, she moved to Belfast in the late 1960s to pursue an education in nursing. It was there that she met Rick at a dance hall. The two married in 1970 and at just 22, she moved to Canada. Here, Eileen nursed at various hospitals in Toronto before she and Rick started a family and, in 1975, settled in Orangeville. She was a charge nurse at Avalon Care Centre for more than 20 years, retiring to look after her husband, following his head injury and battle with lymphoma. That was Eileen, a giver in every sense of the word. She often said her greatest pride and joy was raising her children, who feel so fortunate to have had her as a Mom and friend. She happily spoiled her grandchildren, not just with presents (although her gift giving was legendary and they could never leave her house without finding \$20 hidden in their pockets), but also her stories about growing up in Ireland and her steadfast support for everything they did in life. Eileen will be remembered for her great courage, quiet ways, that mischievous smile, her roasted potatoes, inspiring fits of giggles and the way she could make people feel so loved. Due to COVID, a Private Funeral Service was held at *Dods & McNair Funeral Home, Chapel & Reception Centre*, 21 First St., Orangeville, on Wednesday, January 5, 2022 at 2:30 p.m. It will be Webcast so that family and friends may attend virtually. Eileen supported many charities and the family encourages you to make a memorial donation to the organization closest to your heart. A tree will be planted in memory of Eileen in the Dods & McNair Memorial Forest at the Island Lake Conservation Area, Orangeville. Condolences may be offered to the family at www.dodsandmcnair.com



DUNN, Jean Ashley (nee Ashley)

Passed away peacefully at Bethell House Hospice on Saturday, December 25, 2021 at the age of 79. Beloved wife of the late Ray Dunn. Lovingly remembered by her sister Mary (John) Thorndyke. Jean will also be greatly missed by her many family, friends, Colleagues and Aynsley. In Jean's memory, donations made to the Caledon Seniors Centre would be appreciated by the family. Donations may be made by calling Dods & McNair funeral home - 519-941-1392. A tree will be planted in memory of Jean in the Dods & McNair Memorial Forest at the Island Lake Conservation Area, Orangeville. Condolences may be offered to the family at www.dodsandmcnair.com

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OBITUARIES

BRYAN DAVID THWAITES (1985-2021)

On December 22, 2021 Bryan David Thwaites, formerly of Orangeville, died suddenly.

Bryan leaves behind his father David Thwaites, his mother Wendy Balicki and his brother, Matt, together with many extended family including his grandmother Carol Koeslag. He was predeceased by his brother Michael (2008) and his grandparents George Thwaites, Peter Koeslag and Graham and Marie Willan.

Donations in memory of Bryan may be made to Inn from the Cold, Newmarket or the Blue Door Shelter, Newmarket.

Psalm 23:1 “The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.”

Revelation 21: 4 “And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes, there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying and there shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.”

Online condolences may be made at www.imfunerals.com

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NICHOLLS, John Henry

September 24 1951 - December 23 2021

Peacefully at Headwaters Health Care Centre on Thursday, December 23, 2021 at the age of 70. Beloved father of Leah Amber Ortiz (Phil) and Jonathan Nicholls. Cherished grandfather of Daniel, Joshua and Chloe Ortiz. Remembered by his brother David Nicholls (Anne) and his sisters Mary Bresett (Victor) and Joan Crake. Predeceased by his parents John & Janet Nicholls. Uncle of Thomas, Genny, Nathan, Alexandra, Danelle, Jessica & Jeremy. John will also be greatly missed by other relatives and many friends. Private Family Arrangements entrusted to *Dods & McNair Funeral Home Chapel & Reception Centre*, Orangeville. A tree will be planted in memory of John in the Dods & McNair Memorial Forest at the Island Lake Conservation Area, Orangeville. Condolences may be offered to the family at www.dodsandmcnair.com



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OBITUARIES

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PAUL GERALD EGAN

Owner of Egan Funeral Home, Bolton

Licensed Funeral Director since 1961

Initiated True Blue Lodge No. 98 A.F. & A.M. (1967)

R. W. Bro. and Past Master True Blue Lodge No. 98 A.F. & A.M. (1978)

Elected District Deputy Grand Master of Toronto District 7 (1982)

Treasurer of True Blue Lodge (1989 - 2021)

Secretary-Treasurer, Laurel Hill Cemetery

Past Treasurer, Bolton United Church



Dad so gently passed away at Mackenzie Health, Richmond Hill, on Sunday, January 2, 2022, at the age of 80 years. Paul is survived by his wife of 57 years, Lynne Egan. Devoted and proud father of John (deceased 1965), Heather, Elaine and Kimberley. Dedicated grandfather of Siobhan, Kurtis, Cameron, Madeline and Harrison. Cherished brother of Lois and Tom (deceased) Heppell, Dwight (deceased) and Joanne Egan, Deborah and Hal Brook. Predeceased by his parents Bill and Frances Egan. Paul cherished his time at Albert College in Belleville for his high school years. There, he was captain of both the football team, the swim team and developed a love of studying and team sports. He loved sharing many memories of his fun and sneaky times at Albert College. After graduating from Albert College, Paul was so dedicated to becoming a funeral director he even turned down the CFL when they tried to recruit him. His most cherished friendship from his Albert College days was with his roommate, David Smith. This friendship lead Paul and Lynne to travel many parts of the world to visit Dave. Paul Egan devoted his life to serving his community by following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather. He was committed to bringing comfort to those suffering a loss whether they occurred day or night, weekends or holidays. He took great pride in our family business and inspired everyone to put service above self; whether he was vacuuming the carpets, helping to park cars or arranging flowers so they would be just right, he would do anything to help those who were suffering in their darkest days. He was a pillar and cornerstone of knowledge. Paul would make time to speak to anyone who needed him and his calm, quiet approach to any problem - in this, he would help to solve it quickly. He treated everyone who passed through the Funeral Home doors like they were his own family and served each and every person with the utmost respect, kindness and attention to detail. He spoke very rarely of his own difficulties, always inquiring how everyone else was doing. Even facing declining health did not deter him from inquiring about each and every family under the care of the funeral home and asking how he could contribute. His absence will leave a mark on the hearts of his countless friends, colleagues as well as the Egan Funeral Home team whom he always included as family. He relished the simple things in life; coffee with friends, a good joke, a delicious dinner at Wishbone Restaurant and watching a Sunday night football game. Paul was so selfless, no matter what he was doing in his personal life, if a family in need required his assistance, he would quietly put on his suit and help the family in need. On his beloved yearly trips to Cape Cod, he would end each day by calling the funeral home, asking for the phone numbers of families we were serving, in order to personally offer his sympathy and reassurance. While on the Cape, Dad enjoyed morning coffee at Chatham Cookware leaving his American porch friends a taste of Canadian coffee after he travelled home as well as the Chatham Band Shell was a favourite spot for him every Friday night balanced with a couple of weeknights at the Chatham baseball diamond where scouts were always present finding players to move up to the major leagues. While on the Cape, a nightly adventure for Paul would be to the Chatham lighthouse with an ice cream in hand. These were such special times of making memories. He loved his wife, adored his girls, cherished his siblings and got tremendous joy from watching his grandchildren grow. His beloved dogs were gleefully spoiled and followed him everywhere. The outpouring of love already received from our community will sustain his family in the dark and difficult days ahead, but his passion for service excellence will live on. First and foremost, Paul Egan was our Dad. He was the one to hold our hands when we were children and his hand was always warm. He was the one who threw us up in the air whether he was on land or in a pool and always caught us after the rush of tickles in our bellies. He was the one who held us until we could breathe again after crying so hard over any traumatic event in our lives. Dad was always so proud of his three girls. Dad mentored us, guided us and loved us in his very quiet, special way. He was a true gentle man, through and through. Due to current health concerns, our family will keep their families and friends safe and will have a private funeral service at the family funeral home, Egan Funeral Home, Bolton on Friday, January 7, at 2 o'clock. Please visit our funeral home website at www.EganFuneralHome.com to view the service through life streaming. Private interment in the family plot at Laurel Hill Cemetery, Bolton. If desired, memorial donations may be made to Bethell Hospice Foundation, P.O. Box 75, Inglewood L7C 3L6 or True Blue Lodge, c/o Nicholas Brooksbank, 15505 Centreville Creek Road, Caledon L7C 3C3. Condolences for the family may be offered at www.EganFuneralHome.com

IN MEMORIAM

GEORGE HOWARD WALTON (1932-2021) “His Life Lived”



He was known to Family and Friends as Howard. Howard was My Dad.

Howard was born south of Palgrave in the same farmhouse where his paternal grandparents had settled in the 1870s.

He barely knew his father Emerson Walton who died in 1937. Following his father's death, his mother Ethel (known as Dee Gee), moved the family, Howard, and older sister Doris to Palgrave. Dad said that during the Depression his mother would feed men who would appear at their door after hitching a ride on the freight trains that went through town. He also mentioned seeing Farley Mowat at Gibson's Garage.

Dad spent most of his 88+ years living and working in the area around Palgrave, Ontario, and the Humber River. At the age of 17, he started at The Woodbridge Advertiser (a weekly farm newspaper in Palgrave) as a typesetter and pressman. Ivan Lavery, Dad's employer described him as a faithful and devoted employee. When Ivan died, Howard took over the business. I was 15 when I started working with my Dad at the newspaper where I recorded subscriptions and classified ads. He gave me my work ethic and taught me the difference between Jersey and Hereford cattle. My Dad sold the newspaper in 1982. The newspaper is still being published. After selling the newspaper he opened The Printery Antique Shop.

Dad married Laura Ray from Kleinburg in 1956. Daughters Valerie and Deborah followed. Deborah's son, Alexander Howard Simpson was his only grandchild. In the early 60's my parents bought me a Shetland pony that we named Trigger. Later Deborah added Duke and Cricket to the stable. In August 1966, his mother, Brother-in-Law Rae Matson, and oldest Niece Deanna were killed in an automotive collision. His Sister and Niece's Husband Murray Bradley survived. Cheryl, his younger Niece, was safe at home.

Mom and Dad had never been on an airplane, instead our family went on camping trips in Ontario, Quebec, the Maritimes, and the Northeastern U.S. Dad was a member of Palgrave United Church and he played euchre at the Palgrave Orange Hall and the Caledon Seniors' Centre. He served on Palgrave's Morningside Cemetery Board of Directors with Bob Gibson, Jack Gibson, and Norval Patterson. Dad passed away at home on January 6, 2021. On September 25, 2021, he was buried in Morningside Cemetery, Palgrave, where he is now at rest with Family and Friends nearby.

Dad loved to talk to people, people he knew for years, and others he had just met. He listened, laughed, and remembered their stories. Just like Dad, I talk to everyone because I learned from the best. Thank you to all of Dad's Family and Friends for picking up their telephones when he called, plus the times when they called him. He just loved to talk.

*Missing you always,
Laura, Valerie, Deborah & Alexander*

- Valerie Walton is Howard's Daughter

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Forks of the Credit continues to raise awareness of quarry's impact

BY ROB PAUL

Last month, the Forks of the Credit Preservation Group hosted a Caledon Christmas Market in Alton with over 30 vendors.

It was a way to raise money for the ongoing battle against the proposed Votorantim Cimentos (St. Marys) mega blasting quarry, and was just one initiative that will help them keep momentum into 2022.

The proposed quarry is expected to be over 80-feet deep and up to 800 acres in size over the next 50 years in Caledon which will impact residents through noise, truck traffic, and water.

To help stop the quarry from moving forward, the Forks of the Credit Preservation Group has been fundraising and raising awareness throughout the community.

Diane Boyd, a member of the group, helped to lead the charge on the Christmas market and was ecstatic with the turnout.

“It was well above our expectations; we did not expect to make the kind of money we did,” said Boyd. “The vendors were very pleased. Apparently, it was one of the best markets they’ve participated in, and I think we had over 400 people the first day. We raised almost \$8,500 after expenses. I was hoping we’d raise \$5,000; we did a big community yard sale in the summer and had a silent auction and raised over \$11,000. Quarries are expensive to fight, especially when you’re fighting a huge corporation like the one that owns St. Marys Cement.”

With the success of the market, Boyd is hopeful the Forks of the Credit Preservation Group will host more community events to fundraise.

“It was a great experience and a real group effort,” she said. “It really brought our little community together because new people jumped in and helped, and we had a lot of support from Alton—the West Caledon Aggregate Group was very instrumental. I think we’ll be doing a lot more events. My idea for the next one is a spring fling—similar to what Bethell Hospice does with the Diamond in the Hills—a ladies’ lunch with fashion shows and speakers and big-ticket items on the auction and raffles.”

Knowing how difficult the battle with Votorantim Cimentos will be, continuing to inform those in Caledon of the impacts of the quarry is a must to help drum up more financial support.

“It’s going to take a lot more fundraising, but with two events we’ve already raised around \$20,000,” Boyd said. “We’re excited about how well attended it was and how involved people were, and we had an info table talking about the proposed quarry and

we got a lot more people signed up for our mailing list so we can get the word out as to how serious this really is for Caledon.”

As for where things currently stand in stopping the quarry, Forks of the Credit Preservation Group President David Sylvester says they’ve teamed up with other community groups and are now in the process of meeting with the Town and Region.

“We’re still awaiting the formal application from Votorantim Cimentos, also known as St. Marys,” he said. “In their last public communications, they said the application will be coming sometime in 2022. In the meantime, we are doing our best with municipal and regional Councillors and planners. We’ve been working with the Town of Caledon planning department; we have an upcoming meeting to review their Official Plan Review details because we would like to see some of the policies strengthened to offer better protection for water and natural resources.

“Water is one of the most vulnerable elements with a massive quarry like this, which excavates below the water table. We’re doing the same thing with the Region of Peel. We’ve partnered with eight other community groups in West Caledon and created a collective of groups called the West Caledon Aggregate Group. As a whole we’re spearheading the effort with the Town and Regional planners.”

As they work with the Town and Region, the group is now gearing up for a campaign to continue to inform people not just in Caledon, but across Ontario says Sylvester.

“We have regular meetings every other week and we’re planning strategy; we’ve just hired a campaign organizer and we’ve hired a planner,” he said. “The fundraising is absolutely vital; we’ll probably end up spending hundreds of thousands of dollars. Those are the sort of numbers campaigns like ours have to deal with if it’s a long-term battle that last year’s because an environmental assessment in the short-term is unlikely. Fundraisers and public events also serve to heighten the awareness of these issues within the community. It’s great to generate funds at things like the Christmas market, but it’s also important we spend time with them and explain the issues and register on our website. These fundraisers do more than just make money.”

Once more clear details come out about the quarry in 2022, Sylvester expects an uptick in concern from the Caledon community, because right now there’s a lack of public information on what’s to come.

“When the application is formally submitted in 2022, I think that will be an enormous wake-up call for the community because the reality of this



Prior to the holidays, the Forks of the Credit Preservation Group held a Christmas Market to raise funds to advocate against quarry plans. **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**

will really hit home,” he said. “If people didn’t know before, once the application is submitted, all the details that aren’t yet public will be spelled out with the parameters being explicitly described in the application. That will generate a big impact in the community, there will be heightened awareness. Additionally, we’re trying to reach a broader

audience, tourism is a growing industry and thousands of visitors from the GTA come to Forks of the Credit Provincial Park, the Credit River, the Bruce Trail, and all these other wonderful local assets. So, we’re doing our best to inform and educate these people from the GTA about the impact of this quarry.”

Our Readers Write

Continued from Page 6

Tossing out this government will require difficult decisions by party supporters of all stripes, but especially by fiscally conservative, but pro-environment moderate Conservatives. Hopefully they are dismayed, if not disgusted, with this government’s record and will consider changing allegiances, at least for this election

The question that needs to be asked is: “Who would they vote for?” Possibly Liberal? It is highly unlikely, if not downright improbable, they would vote NDP.

And that is something the New Democratic Party needs to be cognizant of. It should concentrate its limited resources on regions it has a clear shot of taking, such as Windsor, Oshawa, Brampton, and a few strategic downtown To-


ronto seats, and not field a candidate in Dufferin Caledon, which has not a chance of winning. Doing so will only split the vote and allow the Conservatives to recapture the riding.

Liberals, New Democrats, Greens, and moderate Conservatives must bury their differences and work together (at least for this election). If they don’t, Doug Ford’s Conservatives, with the help of their developer friends and its hard core base will come up the middle and be reelected.

If that happens, he will be free to continue with objective of handing this province over to the developers. Ontario may never recover.

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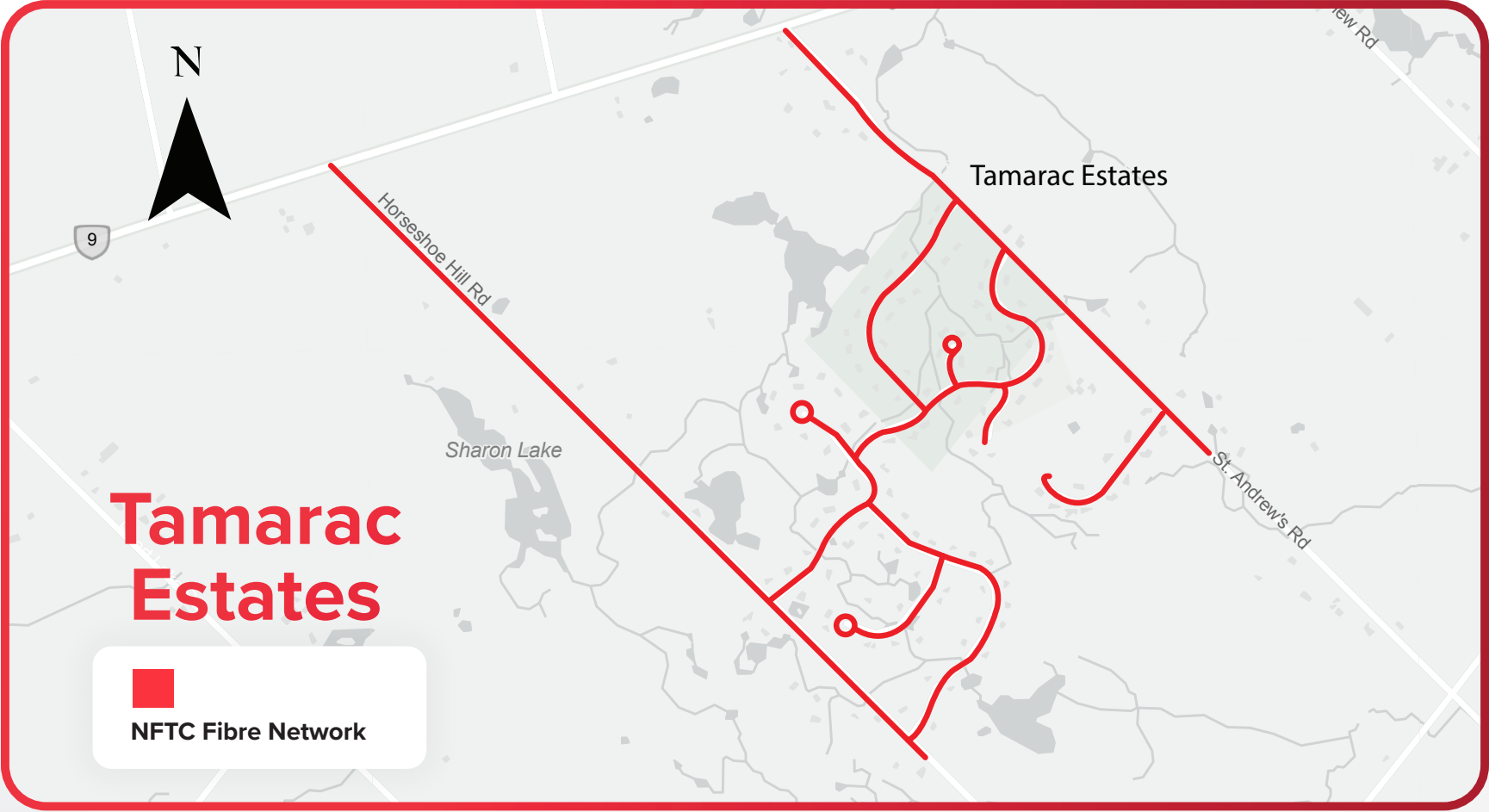
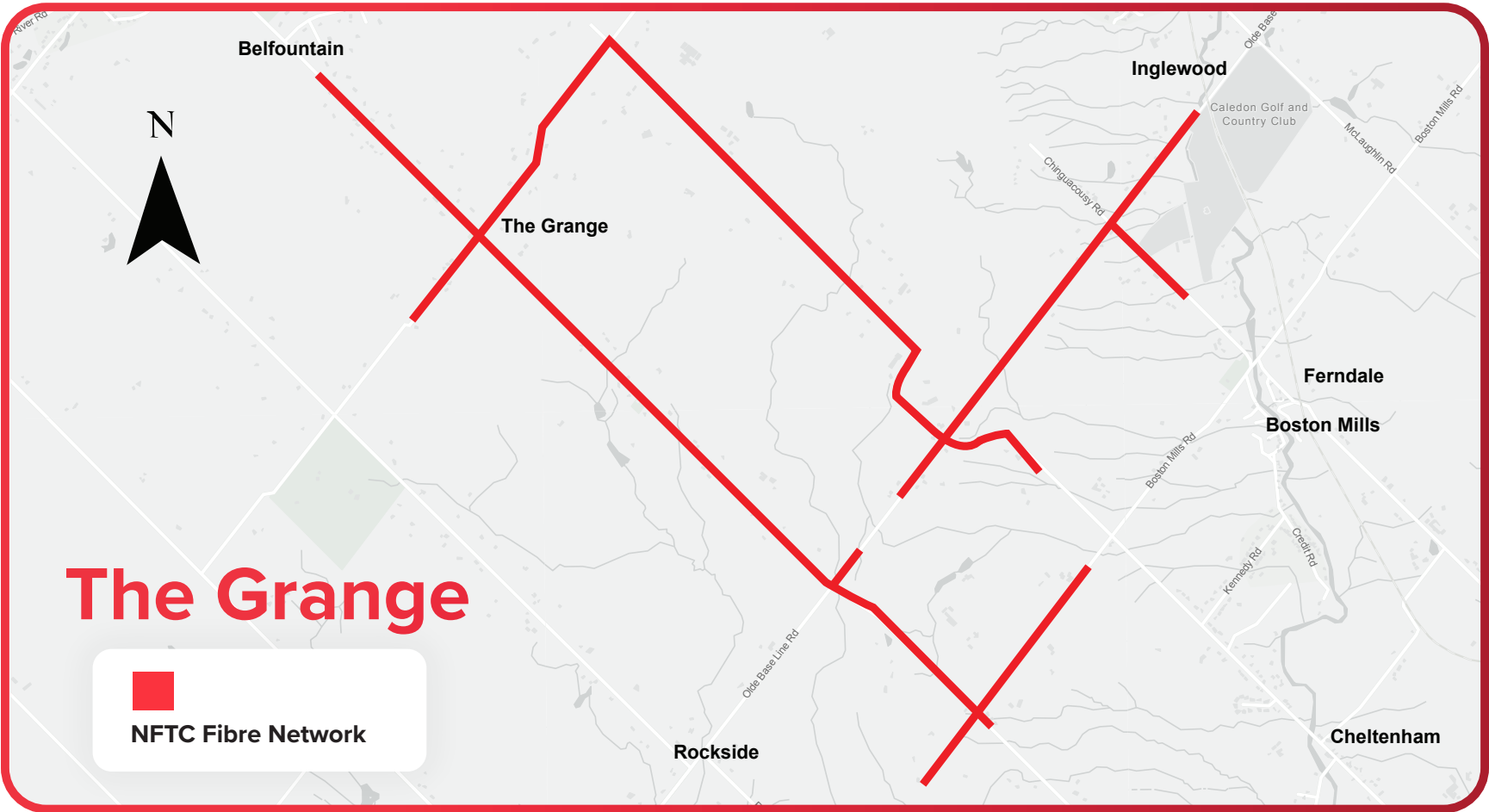
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