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Peel Regional Police Chief Nishan Duraippah is the Honorary Chairperson of Tim Hortons Move for Kids' Sake and an avid supporter of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Peel. Last year he got moving by getting on the elliptical.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Move For Kids' Sake aims to raise \$100,000 for local youth programs

BY ROB PAUL

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Peel have long been a strong supporter of youth in the Regional programs that have helped positively impact over 1,800 youth in the community.

Every dollar invested into the agencies programming returns between \$18 and \$23 to society through taxes, higher incomes, volunteerism, and charitable donations.

One of the pillars of its programming for decades has been the Tim Hortons Bowl for Kids' Sake event, which saw community members raise funds for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Peel with the hard work leading up to an evening of bowling.

When the pandemic hit, that meant Big Brothers

Big Sisters of Peel would have to make a change to the event and that's how Move For Kids' Sake came together.

This year's event began February 1 and is running through March 31.

"Basically, what we used to have in this same time frame, which goes back to the beginning of Big Brothers Big Sisters, was our Tim Hortons Bowl for Kids' Sake event," said Lori Plati, Public Relations Manager for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Peel. "That's an event we'd been running within Peel Region since 1968, so a really long time. Over 50 years, we had that event but then, of course, 2020 was the last year we were able to have that in-person event. We had to pivot and look for new ways of doing things and hopefully engaging some

of those same people who participated in our bowling event who so graciously helped us raise very needed funds for our mentoring programs.

"We came up with the idea of Move for Kids' Sake, the whole setup is the same as our bowling events with people registering and collecting pledges before having a fun day of bowling. But we were thinking with everything going on with the pandemic we could pivot to something that encourages people to be healthy and gets them out and moving. This is still pledge-based but now people can pick the activity that they'd like to do, so it's personalized to them, and they can do it as a team with the people within their bubble or they can do it individually."

Continued on Page 13



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TOWN OF CALEDON

TOWN NEWS See Page 7



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EcoFilm Fest to pay tribute to artist and explorer Trépanier

BY ROB PAUL

One of Canada's most renowned artists and filmmakers happened to be a lifelong Caledon resident who championed the community every chance he could.

That was Cory Trépanier.

The 2018 Caledon Walk of Fame inductee lost his battle with cancer in November, and it hit the Caledon community as well as the art community hard.

As a tribute to Trépanier, the Halton Hills

EcoFilm Fest will screen his film, "Into the Arctic: Awakening" on Tuesday, February 22 at the John Elliott Theatre in Georgetown. There will also be a virtual screen available for those not able to attend in-person.

The film focuses on the untamed beauty of the north, where Trépanier travelled to paint the Arctic for over a decade. For nine weeks, he crossed 25,000 kilometres in his mission to bring the beauty of the Arctic to both the canvas and the screen.

Continued on Page 6



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CCS aiming to reach 200-walker milestone for Coldest Night of the Year on February 26

BY ROB PAUL

Each year, communities across Canada gather to walk at dusk of a February night with one common goal: to help the hurt, hungry, and homeless.

Coldest Night of the Year will take place in almost 200 communities on February 26, and, for the third straight year, the residents of Caledon will be able to walk in their own backyards to raise money.

Caledon Community Services (CCS) began the event locally in 2020 just prior to the pandemic, but due to COVID-19, both 2021’s walk and this year’s walk have been virtual. That means participants can plan their own routes and are encouraged to post themselves and their teams on social media using the hashtag #CaledonCNOY22.

So far, there are 149 registered walkers across 33 teams that have raised \$56,114 (which surpassed the original fundraiser goal) with a new fundraiser goal of \$75,000.

“It’s going gangbusters; we’ve got a great response and it’s the last week which traditionally in a peer-to-peer event you get a big upswing in the final days,” said Donna Cragg, CCS’ Director of Communications and Marketing. “We’re hoping to reach the 200-walker mark in this last week. It’s an ambitious goal, but we had 144 or so last year and anything that represents an increase we’ll be really thrilled with. We already surpassed our initial \$50,000 fundraising goal, so we bumped it up and now everything above the original goal we’re extra grateful for.

Though it’s still a relatively new event to Caledon, CCS sees it as a fundraiser that will become a cornerstone of its programming because of the support the community has already put behind it.

“The response in Caledon has been appreciation because people like to get involved in activities that help close to home and it was a national event happening in other communities that people were interested in participating in, but were so happy when it landed in their own community and could participate here,” said Cragg. “It’s only our third year and it’s the type of event that evolves and grows naturally through word of mouth and becomes embedded in the community,” she said. “Each year, we’ve seen an increase in the number of walkers and a lot of people have expressed that although it’s great we’re walking together while apart, they’re looking forward to hopefully next year walking all together.”

CCS has seen firsthand the positive impact

social services can have in the community on families who struggle. They’ve also seen the increased need for fundraiser as substantial as Coldest Night of the Year.

“When you think of Caledon, homelessness is not something that is top of mind, even for those of us who are concerned about our neighbours who are suffering in this pandemic,” said Michelle Veinot, Director of Community Services. “Roaming hillsides, quaint shopping in small villages, gorgeous bike trails, rolling farmland and exciting equestrian events are the more usual pieces of the Caledon landscape that most Caledon residents think about when they consider their blessed community. While those parts of Caledon are indeed in place, contributing to the beauty and good fortune of our community, they mask the hidden and much less attractive features of Caledon, some harsh realities for many who ‘live rough’ in our community.

“It is true that homelessness and precarious housing looks quite different in Caledon than in other parts of the Region of Peel and the GTA. Our community doesn’t have urban sprawl where homelessness is rampant and in view on downtown streets. Our geography is vastly different than that of neighbouring Brampton and Mississauga. But make no mistake about it, Caledon poverty and marginalization from mainstream activities, while disguised, are apparent to anyone looking carefully enough to see it.”

Though Caledon families aren’t necessarily struggling out in the open like in surrounding communities, CCS has seen the unique struggles that contribute to the hungry and homeless in the area.

“With almost no affordable housing in our community, the majority of those we assist are spending well beyond the recommended budget of 30 per cent of their income on housing. All too often they are left with no savings and little to no disposable income to enjoy the community we all call home. Imagine having to make the decision every single month if you should pay your rent or go into arrears by grocery shopping so that your children have lunch at school daily. Or default on your rent because there’s medicine to buy or warm clothing needed or gas for the car or an overdue heating bill. These choices are not about discretionary items. Imagine the immense stress these choices create and the strain on one’s mental health day after day after day.

The Exchange, one of CCS’ community support programs, assists approximately 875 fami-



Residents are pictured participating in the 2020 Coldest Night of the Year event.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

lies and people struggling day to day to maintain safe housing, three healthy meals, and basic needs.

“At the Exchange, we see these stresses in the faces of those we serve. We see families and individuals losing their stable housing regularly. We see families couch surfing from one location to the next. We see people living in their cars, living in campground tents and in hidden forested areas throughout Caledon. We see people unable to establish roots in our community because their housing is so precarious.

“At the Exchange, we see these stresses in the faces of those we serve. We see families and individuals losing their stable housing regularly.

MP no longer supports “Freedom Convoy” protests

BY SAM ODROWSKI

Dufferin–Caledon MP Kyle Seeback has changed his tune with respect to the ongoing “Freedom Convoy” protests in Ottawa, which call for an end to the cross-border vaccine mandate for truckers and all remaining COIVD restrictions.

He said he agrees with the Federal Conservatives’ interim party leader Candice Bergen’s comments last Thursday, February 10, that it’s time for the protestors to go home.

“It really is causing disruptions in Ottawa. There are small businesses that are not opening because of it,” Seeback told the Citizen on Tuesday, February 15.

“The Rideau Centre Mall is not opening because of it. You can argue and say that those are unreasonable choices that are being made [by the businesses to be closed], but those are the choices that are being made. So, small businesses are being hurt. People live in the downtown core are tired of the noise and the disruption.”

Seeback attended the demonstrations in Ottawa on the weekend of January 29-30 and said he was impressed by the amount of people coming together to voice their frustrations with COVID restrictions and lockdowns, voicing his support, but with the protest now in its third week, he says it needs to end.

“I think the protest has gone beyond what I would consider to be useful,” he remarked.

Seeback noted that the Federal Conservatives brought forward a motion on Monday, February 14, asking for the Federal Liberal Government to bring a plan forward to end remaining COVID-19 restrictions, which is what the protestors are pushing for. However, the motion was defeated 185-151.

“We’re going to keep fighting for that,” said Seeback, regarding a plan to lift remaining federal restrictions. “But the disruption that’s being caused, I think has now

We see families couch surfing from one location to the next. We see people living in their cars, living in campground tents and in hidden forested areas throughout Caledon. We see people unable to establish roots in our community because their housing is so precarious. This year we are walking on our own, but we are still walking together in spirit. We walk in the darkness and the bitter February cold, but when our walk is done, we are blessed to return to our homes, warm ourselves, eat a good meal and be safe. It is a good reminder that this good fortune is what many in our Caledon community do not have.”

gone too far. They should go home.”

He added, “If they want to have some people stay and protest on Parliament Hill, I think that’s fine. But to be taking up blocks and blocks and blocks of the downtown core, I think it’s time for that to end.”

With respect to the Emergency Measures Act, which was implemented for the very first time since it was created in 1988, by the Trudeau Government, Seeback said he’s deeply concerned that “the Prime Minister decided to go there, rather than look at other options that are available”.

He said the government should have opened a dialogue with the truckers instead of “pouring gasoline on the fire by using inflammatory language to describe protesters and others”.

With respect to the border blockades, which have largely come to an end across Canada, Seeback said he firmly opposes this style of protest.

“There should absolutely be no blockades of border crossings. This is sort of doing the exact opposite of what protests are supposed to do. This is hurting people. This is hurting businesses. It’s hurting other Canadians, and that should not be what you’re doing when you’re trying to protest something,” he explained.

“I’ve never supported blockading border crossings. I’m glad that they’re being cleared, and it should stop.”

Going forward, Seeback said he and his colleagues will keep pushing the Trudeau Government for a plan to end federal COVID-19 restrictions.

“Canadians are entering the third year of the pandemic. People are tired, people are frustrated. They deserve to know, what are the benchmarks for us getting back to as normal a life as possible? And I think it’s the government’s job to do that,” he remarked.

“Countries around the world are doing it. Provinces are doing it. It’s not an unreasonable request.”

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7PM-8PM

ACCESSING COMMUNITY SERVICES THAT FIT MY FAMILY- PART 2
Communicating our Profile

Presenter:
Andrea Dowell, BA (Hons), BEd, MADS

TUES. MARCH 8, 2022
7PM-8PM

TRANSITION TO SCHOOL
Tools and Tips for a Seamless and Successful Start

Presenter: Ryan Machete
Transitions Facilitator,
Peel District School Board

TUES. MARCH 22, 2022
7PM-8PM

MENTAL HEALTH WORKSHOP
Managing Stress and Mindfulness

Presenter:
Valeria Muniz RSW, BSW

*Let's Get Together is a program which offers supports to parents raising a child with special needs in a safe, confidential and respectful manner that is enhanced by social activities, sharing knowledge and resources, and guest speakers.

As Ontario reopens, Caledon will host “Boosters before bedtime” vaccine clinic February 20

BY ROB PAUL

As of March 1, the Government of Ontario will no longer require proof of vaccination in any setting and will be lifting capacity limits in all remaining indoor public settings.

The Province also moved into Phase Two of reopening on February 17.

“Given how well Ontario has done in the Omicron wave we are able to fast track our reopening plan,” said Premier Doug Ford. “This is great news and a sign of just how far we’ve come together in our fight against the virus. While we aren’t out of the woods just yet we are moving in the right direction.”

As of February 17, social gathering limits have increased to 50 indoors and 100 outdoors; capacity limits have been removed from restaurants, bars, sports and recreation facilities, and cinemas; and 50 per cent capacity is allowed at sports arenas and concert venues.

As Ontario reopens, Peel is still striving to hit vaccination milestones and after the success of its two recent “Doses after Dark” vaccine clinics, Peel Public Health has announced another special vaccination clinic for residents of Caledon on February 20.

“Boosters before bedtime” will increase access to vaccines in Caledon, with a focus on residents who are unable to get vaccinated during regular clinic hours—it will operate from 1 p.m. until midnight at the Caledon East Community Complex.

The extended clinic hours and walk-in availability will give residents the flexibility to get vaccinated when it is convenient for them. No appointment is needed, and residents can walk-in to get their first, second or booster dose.

Youth 12-17 also have the opportunity to get their booster dose. As well, the clinic will provide first and second doses to children five to 11 years old.

“We recognize that many Peel residents work in jobs where traditional clinic hours don’t align with their personal schedules,” said Dr. Lawrence Loh, Peel Medical Offi-

cer of Health. “The Boosters before bedtime vaccine clinic aims to address this by extending hours to make it easier for residents to come by the clinic and get the vaccine of their choice. With our community reopening cautiously, it’s critical for everyone who is eligible to get vaccinated – that means two doses and a booster. Vaccination continues to remain the cornerstone of protection for our residents against severe outcomes related to COVID-19.”

Vaccine coverage and third booster shots have continued to increase in Peel where 3,225,540 doses have been administered. 1,400,372 individuals have one dose, 1,260,915 have both doses, and 560,737 have received their third dose booster.

The Region now has 80.6 per cent of all residents with two dose coverage and 85.6 per cent with single dose. 91 per cent of those 12 and older are double vaccinated and 93.9 per cent have initiated the vaccination process—85.1 per cent of all eligible residents (5+) have both doses and 90.3 per cent have one.

In Peel, the new weekly COVID-19 cases continue to drop with 1,299 new COVID-19 cases in the last week to bring the total to 172,523. The Region’s death count has now risen to 1,178 with 27 new deaths since last week.

Caledon also saw a decrease in new weekly cases with 64 new cases over the last week to bring the Town total to 7,474. There was also one new death this week with the count rising to 27.

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/.



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YourWaste

On Monday, Feb. 21, there will be no waste collection due to the Family Day holiday. Waste collection will be one day later that week.

All Community Recycling Centres are closed on **Monday, Feb. 21**, and will reopen on **Tuesday, Feb. 22**.



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IMPAIRED DRIVING CHARGES ON SUPER BOWL SUNDAY

Officers from the Caledon Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have charged two drivers with impaired driving on Super Bowl Sunday.

“On February 13, 2022, at approximately 5:12 a.m., officers responded to a vehicle into the ditch in the area of Highway 10 and Beech Grove Side Road in Caledon Village,” say Police. “No injuries were reported. Since the officer suspected that the driver’s abilities were impaired, they were asked to provide a sample of their breath into an Approved Roadside Screening Device. As a result, the driver was arrested for impaired driving and transported to an OPP Detachment where further breath tests were conducted.”

Arveen Gosal, 19, of Shelburne was charged with:

- Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (B.A.C.) over 80 mg

The accused is scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville on May 26, 2022, to answer to the charge.

The charge has not been proven.

“Later that same day at approximately 6:15 p.m., officers responded to a second vehicle into the ditch in the area of Humber Station Road and Healey Road. No injuries were sustained. Due to observations made by the officer, the driver was asked to provide a sample of their breath into an Approved Roadside Screening Device. Consequently, the driver was arrested for impaired driving and transported to a nearby police station where further breath tests were conducted.”

Edoardo Tanel, 54, of Woodbridge was charged with:

- Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (B.A.C.) over 80 mg

The accused is scheduled to appear at the On-

tario Court of Justice in Orangeville on April 28, 2022, to answer to the charges.

The charges have not been proven.

Both vehicles were impounded for seven days and the driver’s licences were suspended for a period of 90 days.

“A leading cause of collisions that occur during the winter months is poor driving, not poor driving conditions. Drivers are reminded that no amount of alcohol or drugs in your system is safe when driving. If you plan on drinking or consuming drugs, plan to not drive. Instead, arrange for a designated driver, take a taxi or public transit, or come up with another plan that takes impaired driving out of the picture.”

SINGLE VEHICLE COLLISION

Officers from the Caledon Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have charged a driver involved in a single motor vehicle collision with impaired driving.

“On February 10, 2022, at approximately 3:17 p.m., the Caledon OPP was alerted of a vehicle hitting a guard rail on Highway 10 in Caledon Village before entering a local gas station,” say Police. “No injuries were reported. Officers at-

tended and formed grounds to arrest the driver for impaired driving and was subsequently transported to the Caledon Detachment where further breath tests were conducted.”

As a result of the investigation, Baljit Chauhan, 38, of Brampton was charged with:

- Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (B.A.C.) over 80 mg
- Operator while impaired

The vehicle was impounded for seven days and the driver’s licence was suspended for a period of 90 days.

The accused is scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville on April 28, 2022, to answer to the charges.

The charges have not been proven.

Caledon OPP would like to remind motorists to make alternate plans to not drive impaired.

- How to spot an impaired driver:
- Quick acceleration or deceleration
- Weaving across the road
- Almost striking an object, curb, or vehicle
- Stopping without a cause or erratic breaking
- Drifting in and out of traffic lanes
- Turning abruptly or illegally

If you suspect an impaired driver, call 911.



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Town to provide resources as it gears up for LDD moth infestations

BY ROB PAUL

LDD moth infestations have long been an issue in the Caledon area and have become more abundant and widespread in recent years, and Town staff, as directed by Council, are proactively managing the 2022 LDD moth infestation on Town property.

“We have invested significant resources in LDD moth management on Town property and action plans are well-underway,” said Mayor Allan Thompson. “While staff will focus on Town property and trees, there is support available for residents. The Town will provide burlap band kits free of charge this spring with instructions on how they work. I urge all residents to do their part in the weeks and months ahead.”

In October 2021, the Town of Caledon appointed an Invasive Species Coordinator to lead the development and implementation of an LDD moth monitoring and management program.

Staff will be ground-spraying Town-owned trees in areas identified with large infestations.

Infestation levels will continue to be monitored along trails and management decisions will be made accordingly and Town staff are monitoring trees across Caledon.

Staff will use the monitoring data to predict the loss of leaves as well as what the 2022 population may look

like. Over 100 monitoring locations have been selected throughout the Town.

The Town will also be implementing an education and awareness campaign to inform property owners what to do and how to manage and prevent infestation on their trees. To help residents, there will also be a burlap giveaway. Burlap bands will be available for pick up at Town Hall, along with information on best practices for installation and use.


The LDD moth will live in many tree species as its host. Some of the more-preferred trees include oak, maple, alder, beech and birch species. There are four life stages of the LDD moth and different ways to prevent their spread at each stage.

What residents can do to deal with LDD moths is scrape egg masses off trees between January and April, scrape off caterpillars and use burlap bands around their trees between May and August, apply a registered biological insecticide with the active ingredient *Bacillus thuringiensis kurstaki* (BTK) between mid-April and June, and set up pheromone traps to trap male moths between July and August.

Together, the Town and residents can work to manage the infestation. Learn how to prevent infestations on private property at each stage by visiting caledon.ca/LDDmoths.

Boosters before bedtime

Vaccine Clinic




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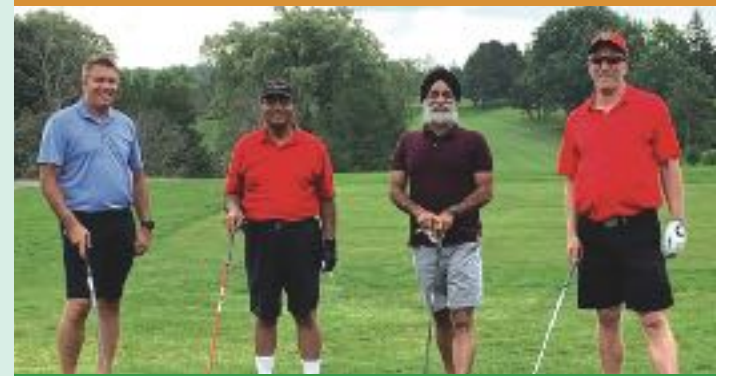
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Caledon Village Pastoral Charge, Knox United Church
Cambium Farms Holiday Market – the Williams Family
Cavalier Transportation Services Inc.
Caven Presbyterian Church
Cheltenham United Church
Chinguacousy Curling Club – Logging a Rock
Chinguacousy Lions Club
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Diamond in the Hills Fashion Show –
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Here when you need us

Film Screening to pay tribute to former Caledon artist and explorer Cory Trépanier

Continued from FRONT

Throughout the film, he explores with Inuit elders and paddles the most northerly canoe route in North America, walks in the footsteps of early explorers John Rae and John Franklin, voyages through the Northwest Passage, and connects deeply with a changing land, to bring it to the eyes of those who may never see it.

“I first came to be in touch with Cory Trépanier in the Fall of 2015,” said Daisy Radigan, Halton Hills EcoFilm Fest convener. “As the film convener, I was scouting to make a playlist of environmental films for the launch of the first season of screenings for the Halton Hills

EcoFilm Fest. Cory’s films of the Arctic met the first of five themes that comprise our film criteria: Climate Change, followed by Food Nutrition and Security, Water Preservation (World Water Day), Earth Care (Earth Day) and Biodiversity (May 22). These themes coordinate with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.”

Trépanier has left a sizeable mark on the art and film community by not only setting lofty goals with his work but achieving them and becoming a trailblazer in his industry. On a more community driven level, Trépanier helped Halton Hills EcoFilm Fest set the tone for the next handful of years as well.

“Cory impressed me immediately by

a passion for his art which was magnified exponentially by the context of the Arctic,” Radigan said. “Who, but Cory, would take on the whole Canadian Arctic to explore, take photos, sketch, oil paint—plein air, and film documentaries as well? We set January 27, 2015, for the screening of Into the Arctic II. On the night of the film, in order to introduce Cory, I had researched more about Cory’s adventures and involvements in the community and country, I was duly overwhelmed with Cory’s immeasurable contributions. Cory offered that his daughter, Sydney, 16, create an EcoFilm poster for January 27, 2015. Sydney became our poster maker. What a launch! Cory and Janet arrived with one hun-

dred and fifteen patrons from Caledon, Bolton, Brampton, Orangeville, Campbellville, Erin, Halton Hills and areas. Wow! Not only that, but Cory brought gifts for the audience like light weight flashlights, compass, gear, hiking socks, etc. Cory and Janet won our hearts and ignited our enthusiasm for the Arctic.”

Having not been able to screen Trépanier’s final film due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Radigan said the decision to finally air it was a no-brainer and the perfect way to pay tribute to Trépanier’s lasting impact.

“Flash forward to Fall 2020,” she said. “Cory had a new Arctic film hot off the press, Into the Arctic: Awakening. Unfortunately, COVID restrictions

replaced plans for January 20, 2021. The many, many of us who knew and loved Cory Trépanier were heartbroken by his passing from cancer,” she said. “There was a tremendous outpouring of love and affection for Cory and his family. Cory’s physical absence aches.

“COVID restrictions are being lifted, so now we have the opportunity to honour the memory of Cory on the big screen, ‘in-person’ with his last film.”

Admission to the film is \$10 on-site or online (www.haltonhills.ca/theatre) for adults and \$5 for students. It can also be viewed for free, along with Trépanier’s other works, online through his Youtube channel (www.youtube.com/intotheartcticfilms).

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PUBLIC NOTICE



NOTICE OF APPLICATION

2068 Mayfield Road - Draft Plan of Subdivision

FILE NUMBER: 21T-21003C

This is to inform you that the Town of Caledon has received a Draft Plan of Subdivision Application. Your input and insight will inform and shape plans that meet the needs of our community.

APPLICANT:

Glen Schnarr & Associates on behalf of Mayfield Station Developments Inc.

LOCATION:

2068 Mayfield Road, Part Lot 18, Concession 2 WHS
Ward 2

PROPOSED CHANGES:

The Applicant has applied for a Draft Plan of Subdivision on the subject lands which are generally located at the northeast intersection of Mayfield Road and Chinguacousy Road.

The development proposal contemplates the construction of 551 residential units in various built forms; with a mixture of single-detached dwellings, semi-detached dwellings, rear-lane townhouses and townhouses. The proposal also includes the construction of a mixed-use block at the intersection of Chinguacousy Road and Mayfield Road, along with a Stormwater Management Pond along Mayfield Road. One road connection is proposed along the southerly portion of the subject lands to Mayfield Road and two road connections are proposed along the westerly portion of the subject lands to Chinguacousy Road. Eight roads and 2 laneways are proposed to provide internal connections to the rest of the development. A Walkway is also proposed along Mayfield Road.



LEAD PLANNER:

Sean Kenney
Senior Planner
Development and Design,
Town of Caledon

905.584.2272 x.4199

sean.kenney@caledon.ca

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

For more information about this matter, including information about appeal rights, a copy of the proposed Official Plan Amendment, additional information and material,

please visit www.caledon.ca/notices or contact the Lead Planner at Town Hall from Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

HOW TO STAY INFORMED:

If you wish to be notified of the decision of the Town of Caledon on the proposed Official Plan Amendment, you must make a written request to the Clerk of the Town of Caledon, 6311 Old Church Road, Caledon, ON, L7C 1J6.

ACCESSIBILITY:

If you require an accessibility accommodation to access any materials related to this item in an alternate format please contact Legislative Services by phone at 905-584-2272 x.2366 or via email at legislative.services@caledon.ca. Multi-Tenant Landowners: Please post this notice in a visible location to all residents of the land.

Notice Date: February 17, 2022



6311 Old Church Road
Caledon, ON L7C 1J6
www.caledon.ca
T. 905.584.2272 | 1.888.225.3366 | F. 905.584.4325

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Intention to Designate

TAKE NOTICE that the Town of Caledon intends to designate the following properties as being of cultural heritage value or interest under Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.18:

552 THE GRANGE SIDE ROAD

The property is legally described as PIN: 14267-0056 (LT) – Part of Lot 6, Concession 5 WHS Caledon as in VS320913; Town of Caledon; Regional Municipality of Peel.



The historical or associative value of this 51.36 acre property is its direct association from 1818 to at least 1891 with the Michael Baker and Aaron Teeter families. Baker was both among the first settlers to arrive in Caledon Township and among the first to be of American-German culture. The Teeters also were early settlers of American-German ancestry in Caledon Township and nearby Erin Township.

The design or physical value of this property rests with the c.1870s timber frame bank barn; the laneway; and the Black Walnut tree. The barn is a unique and representative example of a style and type suited to a small acreage farm operation in Ontario. Its gable-roofed, saltbox form is uncommon and likely an adaptation of the larger Pennsylvania-German bank barns with a forebay that provides an overhang. It was built c.1872-1876 by or for farmer-carpenter Alexander Gordon Baker or farmer Aaron Teeter. The foundation's red sandstone quoins are an example of the use of this locally available material and representative of the importance of the sandstone quarrying industry in the southwestern part of Caledon Township at that date. The long laneway between the dwelling and The Grange Sideroad is typical of a traditional farm lane. The Black Walnut tree in the front yard is representative of the pre 1930s period when this nut bearing species was planted on site for harvest as a winter food source.

Contextually, this property is important in defining, maintaining or supporting the rural agricultural character of this area. It is physically, functionally, visually, and historically linked to its surroundings as a 50-acre parcel of land severed in 1869/1872 from the homestead farm of Michael Baker.

16847 HEART LAKE ROAD

The property is legally described as PIN: 14290-0054 (LT) – Part of Lot 8, Concession 3 EHS Caledon, designated as Parts 5, 6, 7 & 8 on Plan 43R17948; subject to CA22210; Town of Caledon; Regional Municipality of Peel.



The historical or associative value of this property is found in its direct association with two early Irish families in Caledon Township, John Davis and George Wilson. The property also has a direct association with a children's summer outdoors camp that operated from 1946 to 1990.

The design or physical value of this property rests with the bank barn as it was reconfigured and enlarged in the 1870s-1880s; with the long laneway running from Heart Lake Road to the barn; and with two remnant camp cabins. The large size of the barn makes it a unique and representative example of a style, type, and construction method involving the reconfiguration of an older agricultural building or buildings to suit the changing needs of a family-owned farming operation. The evolution in its size, framing, openings, siding, and other elements is representative of the continuing adaptive reuse of an agricultural building, in this case, to a 1940s children's camp dormitory and recreation hall, and to a wedding venue after 2006. The two camp cabins reflect the philosophy of the camp/ranch owners to provide a rustic adventure experience. The long laneway has existed since at least 1877 and is a good example of a traditional farm lane.

Contextually, this property is important in defining, maintaining or supporting the rural agricultural character of this area. It is physically, functionally, visually, and historically linked to its surroundings as a 60 acre parcel of land within the original 100 acres of the farmstead.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please contact Heritage staff at heritage@caledon.ca for further information regarding the heritage attributes and cultural heritage value of this property. Any person may, within thirty days of the publication of this notice, serve the Clerk notice of their objection to the proposed designation in accordance with the Ontario Heritage Act, setting out the reason for the objection and all relevant facts.

By email:

Laura Hall
Director, Corporate Services/Town Clerk
laura.hall@caledon.ca

By mail, courier or personal delivery attention:

Laura Hall, Corporate Services/Town Clerk
6311 Old Church Road
Caledon ON L7C 1J6



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News

Subscribe: caledon.ca/enews

Family Day Fun



Recreation centres are open on Family Day, offering a variety of programs for residents to enjoy. Activities include soccer, free swimming, free skating and more! Registration is now open and required for all activities unless otherwise noted. Learn more at caledon.ca/RecPrograms.

Interim Property Taxes are Due



Property tax due dates are

Thursday, March 3 and Thursday, May 5, 2022.

Regular late payment fees apply. Affected by COVID-19? Apply for the COVID-19 Property Tax Payment Program. For more information and payment options: caledon.ca/tax.

Building Permits soon to be online only



Starting April 1, 2022 all building permit applications will be accepted online only. This will help contractors and homeowners get their projects done easier and more cost-effectively. Learn more at caledon.ca/building.

Support for Seniors Month

The Town of Caledon is currently looking for donations and/or sponsorships for Seniors Month in June 2022. If interested, please email adult55@caledon.ca or call 905-584-2272 x. 4106 for more information.



PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF STUDY COMPLETION

Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for the Village of Alton Main street north & Queen street west

The Town of Caledon has completed a Municipal Class Environmental Assessment Study for the reconstruction of Main Street North and Queen Street West in the Village of Alton. The study considered the road improvement to enhance connectivity and visitor accessibility to the Alton Village area.



The project was completed in accordance with Schedule 'C' of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (October 2000, as amended in 2007, 2011 & 2015).

An Environmental Study Report (ESR) documenting the planning process undertaken, details of the study recommendations as well as potential impacts and mitigation measures, has been completed and by this Notice is being placed in the public record for review.

The ESR is available for review for 30 days until March 19, 2022 on the Town's website at: caledon.ca/notices

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and associated restrictions on public gatherings, and in the interest of public health, the ESR will not be made available for review at Town Hall. Alternative formats including hard copies can be made available upon request.

Interested persons may provide written comments to the project team by March 19, 2022. All comments and concerns should be sent directly to the Project Managers listed below.

TOWN OF CALEDON

Shun H. Cheung, P.Eng., PMP
Project Manager, Engineering Services
E-mail: shun.cheung@caledon.ca
6311 Old Church Road
Caledon, ON L7C 1JC

R.V. ANDERSON ASSOCIATES LIMITED

David O'Sullivan, P.Eng., PMP
Project Manager, Principal
Email: dosullivan@rvanderson.com
2001 Sheppard Avenue East, Suite 300,
Toronto, ON M2J 4Z8

In addition, a request may be made to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks for an order requiring a higher level of study (i.e. requiring an individual/comprehensive EA approval before being able to proceed), or that conditions be imposed (e.g. require further studies), only on the grounds that the requested order may prevent, mitigate or remedy adverse impacts on constitutionally protected Aboriginal and treaty rights. Requests on other grounds will not be considered. Requests should include the requester contact information and full name for the ministry.

Requests should specify what kind of order is being requested (request for additional conditions or a request for an individual/comprehensive environmental assessment), how an order may prevent, mitigate or remedy those potential adverse impacts, and any information in support of the statements in the request. This will ensure that the ministry is able to efficiently begin reviewing the request. The request should be sent in writing or by email to:

MINISTER OF THE ENVIRONMENT, CONSERVATION AND PARKS

Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks
777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 2J3
minister.mecp@ontario.ca

DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT BRANCH

Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks
135 St. Clair Ave. W, 1st Floor
Toronto ON, M4V 1P5
EABDirector@ontario.ca

This notice to be published: February 17th & 24th 2022

*Information collected will be used in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record

Half-load Season Starts March 1

Protecting your roads

At this time of year, as frost comes out of the ground, heavy trucks can damage Town roads. To protect our roads during the spring thaw there is an annual half-load season from:

- March 1 to April 30 for hardtop roads*
- March 1 to May 15 for gravel roads*

During this period vehicles making local deliveries are restricted to a maximum of 5 tonnes per axle and no hauling permits are issued.

For more information please contact Service Caledon at 905.584.2272 x.7750 or info@caledon.ca.

* Date may change depending on weather.



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Brock’s Banter

Lasting Images

BY BROCK WEIR

When all is said and done, what will be the stories of the pandemic that will stick with you? What will be the images front of mind years from now if and when another new variant appears on our horizon?

Who will be the people that you remember? For the longest time, the stories, images and individuals I thought would stick with me the longest would be the positive ones.

They were the stories that illustrated the best of us; how we came together towards a common cause; how we found new ways of expressing ourselves; and how we took stock of the world that has always been around us, whether it was getting out and exploring our neighbourhoods when our personal spheres had to temporarily contract due to our global health crisis, or putting renewed focus on the importance of shopping local.

It was the story of the former British “Land Girl” who answered the call during the Second World War and, now a nonagenarian, didn’t hesitate to do so once again, mobilizing her community to collect much-needed items for a local food bank.

It was the story of a musically-passionate sibling duo who, once a week, transformed their driveway into a makeshift concert space for their friends and neighbours not only to collect items for that same food bank, but to raise awareness of the plight of frontline heroes like their nurse mom.

It was the story of a student bagpiper who, in an effort to keep his skills intact, decided to take his instrument, love the sound or hate it, onto his porch to perform a few songs every night at 7 p.m., in a show of solidarity with frontline healthcare heroes during shift changes.

It was the story of two sisters, who, as the first COVID summer started to wind to a close, debating back and forth with their parents on whether to return to in-class learning or stick with virtual sessions. But, in between long-running sessions of chin-wags, they took breaks to bring to fruition a crafty idea on how to make masks more comfortable for doctors, nurses, and teachers.

A few months ago, I was sure these would be the abiding images of my mind, this job giving me the privilege of telling their stories, and even preserving them for future generations who might want to take a deep dive into how their forebears coped with a once-in-a-century event.

Yet, here we are: the scenes from Ottawa, Windsor, and numerous other Canadian cities seared into our minds. Those scenes that were beamed around the world inspiring movements of their own in cities around the globe intent on pressuring the powers-that-be to end masks and vaccine mandates – or so they claimed, at least in the beginning.

Don’t get me wrong, I understand the originally stated intent of the effort. We’re all frustrated. We would all like to see this behind us. Collectively, we might have different ideas on how we might get there.

Some might think following public health guidelines in an effort to drive down new cases might be the ticket, along with getting free vaccines to give us a fighting chance against something that is still such an unknown, upping our hand hygiene game, practicing social distancing, and generally practicing a little more consideration towards our fellow human.

Others, it seems, are of the opinion that making a city grind to a halt; welcoming some truly bad actors (a minority, to be sure) with apparent open arms; harassing the workers that are on the job to keep us healthy and safe; taking their kids, when it was once priority number one to get back into in-person learning, out of school for, what, three weeks now to join this cavalcade of “freedom”; and using their own children, many too young to even begin unravelling the complexities of the issue, to form a human chain to block international trade is the better way forward.

Maybe it’s just me, but I still prefer the first path.

At the risk of heaping on another image some might consider negative, one additional story I will remember – and I feel I will have to revisit as the pressure from the “convoys” appears to be pressuring some of our Provincial leaders to expedite an end to our mask mandates – is another mom who was doing her best to shine a light on the good pandemic works being carried out by her children.

Reaching out to us with pride to underscore their idea, she shied away from taking any of the spotlight as I talked to the kids on their patio while she popped her head out the door a few times to interject a detail.

She was one of the people who belong to a group that doesn’t seem to be getting the focus they once did: the immunocompromised.

Her particular condition rendered her unable to get a vaccine, unable to wear a mask without considerable respiratory issues, and, in the second wave of the pandemic, unable to venture too far outside her home, and almost certainly beyond her bubble, back when bubbles were still in fashion.

As we fast forward into the veritable wild west of learning to “live” with COVID now that we appear to be throwing up our hands to essentially give up the fight, how will our most vulnerable be fully able to enjoy their lives, not to mention the freedoms that people in our major cities, and their five-year-olds, are ostensibly fighting for?

Whatever plan we get for this stage of the game, or whether it is no plan at all, I hope people are considerate of those who, as a result, will be unable to participate in society as they once were, perhaps not at all.

Freedom isn’t freedom unless there is freedom for all, and amid the cacophony that is coming out of the capital, that doesn’t seem to be a concept that has truly taken hold, and politicians and law enforcement officials that have been sucked into this unwinnable whirlpool are not excepted.



Salvation lies in traditional home-cooked food

by Mark Pavilons



“Food, in the end, in our own tradition, is something holy. It’s not about nutrients and calories. It’s about sharing. It’s about honesty. It’s about identity.” – Louise Fresco

Humans are obsessed with food. And why shouldn’t we be?

When is the last time you cleaned your plate because the meal was made with magical ingredients – love and tradition?

Ever since we discovered fire and learned to cook, we created the most diverse meals from natural ingredients, those provided by “the gods.”

Some of the food we eat today dates back hundreds, if not thousands of years. From traditional Mexican tacos and Argentinian stuffed pizza, to homemade Italian lasagna and German sauerbraten, flavours are as distinct as dialects.

In many countries around the world, you will find generations of home cooks making magic in make-shift kitchens, using recipes passed down from their ancestors. Combining ingredients native to their region, they create masterpieces, cooking in cauldrons and fire pits. Many are involved in the entire process, from growing and raising, to cooking and serving.

You may find some of the best authentic dishes for a buck or two on any street in any small town throughout Mexico, South America and Asia. From food carts and back doors, to stalls and bicycle baskets, you will discover the heart and soul of our fellow human beings.

Behind the stall, behind each dish, there is a story, dozens of human tales. And that’s very special.

While we maintain many cultural and ethnic traditions in North America, we did ourselves a terrible disservice when fast food took over our lives. We let convenience reign, just to make our lives a bit easier, more convenient. And in this search for expediency, we gave up something much more important than taste: our past.

Walk through any North American suburb and you’d be hard-pressed to find a unique identity, a culture so to speak. Our strip malls and food courts contain token international cuisine, strange concoctions that we’ve become accustomed to and demand.

Doesn’t anyone want sushi made with fresh caught fish? Where can you get tacos made with meat that came out of the pit just an hour ago? How about scratch-made tortillas, biscuits, picarones and a spicy salsa handed down from the Mayans themselves?

Yes, my column does have a common theme. Blame it on Netflix and a couple of documentaries

I watched on street food in Latin America.

Watching these self-taught culinary experts, you will find it’s much more than taste. It’s almost limitless TLC, passion, tradition and pride. They love making people happy with food. They want their customers to leave smiling and full, and coming back for more.

These concepts are foreign to us these days.

When is the last time you witnessed such passion? Has a cook ever come to your table asking about your meal? How many have thanked you for choosing them and said “God bless” on your way out?

Sure, there are such places, including right here, but they’re few and far between.

It’s those places – those entrepreneurs – that you should hold close, cherish and support. Here’s a personal hats-off to Alvaro at Port Soirée.

Throughout these eye-opening documentaries and personal stories, a few themes emerge. All are proud in their region’s history, its abundance and its food. It’s who they are. To them, a meal means family; paying homage to friends and family; having respect for one another. In many of these places, street sales are the only occupation available. But the population base and cheap food prices make it lucrative. From standing-room-only taco stands, to food market booths, incredible dishes come hot, fresh and overflowing.

These days we tend to be a bit reluctant of street food and various food related illnesses. But these people have been serving street food for decades. I can’t wait for a return to street festivals across the GTA this summer.

In some countries around the world, you will find 70- and 80-year-olds, extending their wrinkled hands, offering you their age-old recipes. It’s like a gift from above. It really IS the way grandma made it!

We use what God gave us. We share what He provides. We also share our history, our stories. Why not share it over a bite?

Have you noticed that when you’re gathering for a meal, and you have food in your mouth, nothing else matters at that moment in time? All is good in the world, and all your worries can wait, at least until after dessert.

Think of eating your most favourite dish, tasting each bite. You close your eyes, let the flavours dance on your taste buds and you feel good. Endorphins are released and your brain gives you a sense of euphoria. Researchers discovered that pizza makes us particularly happy!

Thank you, brain! Jean Brillat-Savarin once said: “Tell me what you eat, and I will tell you who you are.”

Think about that for a minute. What meal or type of food describes you, your ancestry, your lineage?

If you come up short, there’s still time for your salvation.

You don’t have to dine out. Buy good food. Call your mom and ask for her favourite recipes. Dig out grandma’s dusty recipe cards. Call your aunt and ask about special family dishes.

Most Boomers know the importance of the family table, the food, the wine, the bread, the laughs, the love. These are hard to find today.

Eat with your hands, let the sauce drip from your mouth, and live!

Our Readers Write

Thank you, community non-profits

So, Ontario is officially celebrating its first ever Non-Profit Appreciation Week now. Very nice! It’s a celebration, and it is recognition, of the important role that non-profits and about 850,000 staff play in building healthy vibrant communities all across Ontario.

We want to take it down a notch and hone in on our beautiful community of Caledon. And then take it down another notch and drill down to our own organization, Caledon Community Services.

We want to thank our amazing and tireless staff for standing tall during a time in our community where new challenges emerged that required creativity, energy and lots of compassion. We know you are tired, the pace has been unrelenting for all of you over many months. We’re encouraged by Caledon’s improved circumstances and the arrival of some warmer weather! We appreciate the importance of 100+ strong CCS staff in our Health, Employment/Settlement and Community Divisions and in

our Communications and Finance Divisions. You are exceptional community service providers and that’s cause for celebration this week.

Caledon is blessed to have developed a beautiful and warm quilt of strong and very capable community service organizations, all of them so deserving of appreciation this week and in the year ahead. So, to them we also send out a large “hurrah!”

And to the Caledon community, we’re only as strong as our weakest link. CCS is grateful your support, it is truly together with community where we do our best work. Please visit us at www.ccs4u.org

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Distributed throughout the Town of Caledon, the Citizen is published Thursdays by Caledon publishing Ltd.
The CALEDON CITIZEN is a member of the Ontario Press Council, an independent body set up by the newspapers of the province to uphold freedom of expression and deal with complaints from readers. The Press Council encourages complainants to first give the newspaper an opportunity to redress their grievances. If not satisfied, they may then write to the Council, enclosing a copy of material that is subject of the complaint, at 80 Gould St., Suite 206, Toronto, ON M5A 4L8.

GENERAL MANAGER
Zach Shoub
zach@lpcmedia.ca
EDITOR
Brock Weir
brock@lpcmedia.ca

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR
Mary Speck admin@caledoncitizen.com
REPORTERS
Rob Paul
rob@lpcmedia.ca

MOTORING
Heather Erwin
heather@caledoncitizen.com
SPORTS
Robert Belardi
robert@lpcmedia.ca

DISPLAY ADVERTISING
Erin Luckett
erin@lpcmedia.ca
Vicki Meisner
vicki@lpcmedia.ca
Rick Sargent
rick@lpcmedia.ca

PRODUCTION
John Speziali



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Why “F” Words Matter

Before your collective minds head to the gutter most of the “F” words I am talking about today are words that CAN appear in a family newspaper.

In fact, “family” is one of the words I’d like to talk about; along with “friends” and yes, that other word that starts with an “F” – and rhymes with truck. In a shift away from all the controversy of late and in honour of the upcoming Family Day weekend, today I’d love to talk about why “F” words matter so very much.

If these past two and half years have shown us anything at all, I would hope that it’s the importance of family and/or our friends. In a world in which we are becoming increasingly divided – and the most recent “freedom convoys” highlighting the ugly underbelly of the racism that exists in our country – it’s becoming more and more clear that our loved ones are almost always the people we rely on most to provide the love, support and encouragement we need to get through yet another day.

When our freedoms were first curtailed (and freedom is another “F” word we should talk about) almost all of us willingly embraced the lockdowns as an opportunity to protect our family and friends from an unknown virus and its consequences.

As a direct result, many families spent significant

time together, bonding over old-time entertainment like building puzzles, playing family board games and sharing popcorn during movie nights. People found new and creative ways to still meet with their network of friends in parking lots and parks or by going for long, socially distanced walks, knowing that we all needed a safe place to vent, commiserate and support each other outside of the confines of family. Even those amongst us who had to work every day throughout this pandemic knew they could rely on their friends or family for whatever they needed whether that was groceries dropped at their doorstep, a phone call or zoom call to boost their spirits or pitching in to make meals, share resources (remember when yeast was hard to find?) and whatever else was needed to get us through.

Just lately however, I feel like we have forgotten the values that once united us. We’ve already forgotten the fear (these being two more significant “F” words) that both forced us behind closed doors but also united us as a community. We now throw around the “F” word “freedom” as an excuse to warrant the inexcusable; like closing down entire cities and borders, something that simply curtails the freedoms of everyone else other than those partying in the streets of our nation’s capital. Freedom, by the way, doesn’t

mean however we personally define it (your version or my version) but rather is generally understood to mean “the ability to move or act freely;” “an absence of undue restrictions,” or that “something is free if it can change easily and is not constrained in its present state.”

So, yes, we have the right to believe what we believe and even to protest when we feel those beliefs are at risk. What we don’t have the right to do is curtail the freedom of others as we do so. We’ve talked about this before; freedom in a democratic society also requires us to be free in a way that works towards, and supports, the greater good. We need to harken back to the days when we all understood that a temporary restriction of our individual freedoms was for the greater good of our family and friends because at the end of the day it’s our family and friends that matter most.

Which brings me back to my original thoughts on “F” words. This Family Day weekend now that we CAN (largely because we acted as one to defeat, or at least diminish, the pandemic) make sure to get out and enjoy some precious family time together. Whether you are blood-related or your friends are your “family” of choice, it’s time to gather and celebrate all the good that comes with still having family

and friends around to celebrate with!

Don’t forget about your senior loved ones who, in many ways have suffered in isolation more so than the rest of us. Plan a family related activity that in our great Caledon community might mean anything from skating on our many rinks and ponds, hiking along the Caledon Trailway, cross-country skiing through Albion Hills or visiting the Forks of the Credit Provincial Park. Shop at local independent stores and support the artisans at the Alton Mills Art Centre or grab a treat, coffee or meal at one of the many fabulous dining establishments scattered throughout our towns and villages. Restrictions are lifting just in time for the long weekend and the beauty of Caledon is that it offers something for every family and on any budget. Embrace the idea of reconnecting again with what got us through this mess in the first place, your family and your friends.

As for that other “F” word that rhymes with truck – let’s be honest, sometimes when you drop something heavy on your toe – there’s simply no other word that fits. That’s all we have to say about that!



SHERALYN ROMAN
TALK CALEDON

Is Rome burning?

For the most part, I have never been highly critical of the federal government, no matter which political party is running the show.

I figure they have a job to do, and, for the most part, they keep the country running and do a reasonably good job of it.

However, I am losing confidence in the current situation as we have a crisis looming in several areas that affects all of us, and which the feds seem to be either ignoring or can’t get a handle on – and if they don’t, the problems are only going to get worse, and it’s common folk like you and me who will be paying the price.

The current trucker’s protests seem to be a rather polarizing event across the country. People seem to be either for them, or against them, and there doesn’t seem to be much middle ground or room for discussion.

When the protest arrived in Ottawa, it caused a lot of grief in the downtown core of the city. I can understand why people living in the area were frustrated.

The protest was directed squarely at the federal government and should have received a response.

The only response from the PM was issued state-

ments – and none of them related to why the protesters where there in the first place.

While several thousand people gathered in front of Parliament, the PM hid out at his cottage instead of facing the situation head-on.

His response included using a bunch of buzzwords to describe the protesters, when in fact, none of the actions he described were obvious as any part of the protest. His response to the protest sounded more like something that would come from a high school kid who just finished a social studies class taught by a social warrior who keeps a list of buzz words at hand and ready to use if anyone disagrees with them.

This situation displayed a total lack of leadership when taking charge and facing the problem should have been a priority.

This lack of leadership extends to a few other ongoing concerns.

We have a definite housing crisis – especially in Southern Ontario.

With the price of home going over \$1 million in many areas, a lot of first-time buyers are seeing their chance of home ownership disappearing. It is lack of supply and too much demand that is driving the cost

up.

No one should have to pay \$1 million for a place to live. Even if you have saved up a good down payment you will still be living under the pressure of a huge mortgage.

Interest rates are currently low, but all it would take is a blip on the radar to force interest rates higher and many of those million-dollar house owners would simply not be able to afford their homes any more.

Many experts say that the interest rates will not climb, but experts don’t have access to a crystal ball.

The demand for housing is only going to increase as more and more people move to the country.

It is now predicted that it will be at least another 15 years before the market starts to balance itself, and that is a conservative estimate.

In the meantime, many people cannot afford to live in their own hometown because they can’t afford to buy a house on the same street they grew up on.

The federal government needs to get a better plan in place regarding immigration, because throwing the doors wide open means all those people need a place to live when housing simply is not available.

Some will say this is “anti” immigrant – it’s not. It’s

common sense.

Every public building, every theatre, every restaurant, and even elevators have a capacity limit for a reason.

But when it comes to immigration, those capacity rules don’t apply.

The price of gasoline and other fuels is now rising out of control with no end in sight.

Those rising prices translate directly to your bottom line. You pay more to go to work, while your pay cheque stagnates.

Those rising fuel costs translate directly to the food you put on your table and the cost of consumer goods.

The government apparently does not care, and is not worried about the inflation this is causing.

The feds have to get a handle on these situations and spend less time on their Twitter account complaining about protesters from afar.

When there’s a fire, you have to act.

You can’t just sit at the edge of town and watch everything go up in flames.



BRIAN LOCKHART
FROM THE SECOND ROW

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Mayor Allan Thompson



 A great day to celebrate the bonds and joy we share together.



Headwaters Arts opens ‘unearthing beauty’ exhibit



Caledon artists Iris Ranieri, Kayla Jackson, and Patty Maher are among the 10 artists who contributed to the exhibit..

BY ROB PAUL

Headwaters Arts’ doors are open for its latest exhibit “unearthing beauty,” which launched February 9 and will run until March 20 at the Alton Mill Art Centre.

Wednesdays through Sundays (and holiday Mondays), the exhibit will be open to patrons who wish to engross themselves in art that depicts what it is that brings pleasure to one’s mind, spirit, and senses.

After putting a call out to artists, the result is a vivid, strong, and eclectic selection of over 30 works by 10 artists showcasing their talents, personal choices in subject matter, and interpretation of what “unearths beauty.”

Nancy MacNabb, Bhavna Bhatnagar, Patty Maher, Mary Perkins, Jill Birks, Iris Ranieri, Deb Menken, Kayla Jackson, Marnie Cooke, and Sophie Vertigan make up the artist who produced the works in a variety of mediums and styles including clay, photography, mixed media, graphite, acrylic and oil painting. Three of the artists hail from the Caledon area in Jackson, Maher, and Ranieri.

“Through it all I have unearthed the beauty of

playing with paint, experimenting with colours and discovering new tools,” said acrylic painter Deb Menken. “These are the things that truly bring me joy in art making.”

“My self-portraits help me restore my life by slowing down the world and focusing on the simple beauty of nature,” said painter Sophie Vertigan.

With the new year here, this is the second show that Headwaters Arts has put together in 2022 thus far and the theme is what has led to such a unique set of pieces throughout the gallery.

“The planning into 2022, we looked at having about four or five Headwaters artist member shows and so the gallery committee at the end of 2021 put their heads together to throw around themes and ideas for show proposals,” said Sue Powell, Headwaters Arts Chair of Marketing. “As a result, this is our second members show this year and the overarching theme is ‘unearthing beauty.’ Many of the themes across our calls for entry are pretty wide-open with a general focus and this one was drawing upon artists to submit works that focus on what brings them joy. Ultimately, I sense with this show, it’s extra-interesting because of the range of works—that’s what you hope for

when you put out a call, that the theme triggers a reaction that leads to a diverse set of artworks.”

If not for COVID-19, there would have been an official show opening that would allow for the artists to connect with show-goers but that’s been one of the biggest differences for Headwaters Arts throughout the pandemic.

“Typically, we would have an opening reception with the artists in the gallery during the first week of the exhibit’s opening, and that hasn’t happened,” said Powell. “That connection to meet the artists while seeing their work hasn’t happened in really the last two years and that’s where we’ve kind of lost something. But, so far, the key thing for us is to continue to showcase artists’ work because they’re still creating. It should get a little easier and I think for those that visit the gallery find it to be a comfortable and safe experience. We’ll see how things go for future shows and see how the public feels as we return to a more normal experience.”

Despite the difficulties that come with showcasing artwork as a result of the pandemic, Headwaters Arts has implemented a way to allow people to have a similar experience from the comfort of their homes.

“Over the last year, it’s been up and down with restrictions and capacity limits,” said Powell. “It’s impacted, but we obviously wanted to continue hanging the show while recognizing we won’t have a huge amount of visitors so one of the things we’ve done through the Trillium grant was purchase a 3D virtual touring camera as part of the funding. It’s been great because we actually have a link to view shows virtually and it’s intrigued a lot of people. With art, you can look online and see work on the website, but it doesn’t give you a full sense of the piece you’re looking at.

“People buy art online generally want to see it and the virtual tour has given us a better option for those who can’t come. The virtual 3D tour lets people safety sit at home and see the gallery and the mill and see the work. When capacity allows more people to come out to the gallery, it still gives those who aren’t comfortable an option.”

To view the virtual 3D tour of the unearthing beauty exhibit, visit tours.headwatersarts.org/tours/n04amAWBZ. To purchase artwork from the show, visit headwatersarts.org.

ecoCaledon to provide tips on “How to Eat to Save the Planet” through workshop series

BY ROB PAUL

As the climate crisis continues to be a focal point across the country, provincially, and in Caledon, groups like ecoCaledon have become increasingly important for residents to understand how they can help make a difference for the future.

ecoCaledon is a local not-for-profit organization that has been in Caledon for over 25 years with the main focus being on engaging residents on environmental issues and getting them more involved in sustainability and education.

“We want to help them change their behaviours, not only for them to make choices that are better for themselves but better for the planet,” Lucrezia Chiappetta, ecoCaledon Director of Education.

To help residents learn, ecoCaledon is running an online Food and Climate: How to Eat to Save the Planet workshop. The series is made up of four workshops with the first, “the Big Picture”, taking place February 26, followed by “From Farm to Fork” on March 26, “Planetary Health Diet” on April 23, and “What’s the Big Deal About Food Loss and Waste” on May 28.

“Over the last couple of years, we’ve become involved in this global movement called Project Drawdown,” said Chiappetta. “[It is a] comprehensive list of 100+ solutions that can help stop where we’re at now with climate change and actually draw it down from this point on. Within those solutions, we’ve discovered that eight of the top 20 solutions have to do with food and because actions around food are something we can do at home and quickly we’ve decided to start this workshop series. Also, within ecoCaledon we’ve developed a sub-committee focused specifically on food and we call ourselves ‘Gratitude for Food Caledon.’”

Groups like ecoCaledon and other environmental groups aim to give residents the information they need to make a positive change in an easy to understand and digestible way so that they can take it in and do something to help.

“We’ve taken out the part of the individual having to go out and do all this research because let’s face it, climate change is a huge issue that impacts every aspect of our lives and there are so many groups out there doing things,” said Chiappetta. “We’ve tried to make it as easy and fun as possible and we’ve broken it down into the four parts with the first being the ‘Big Picture’ to really give participants an overview of how food is linked to climate change. Ideally a lot of our work is more solution-based and this first workshop will probably have a little more discussion around the bad news because you do have to give people the picture of reality. But we’ll then introduce

the top three solutions that people can work on to help combat climate change. Then the following three workshops will focus on those three solutions in more detail. As of right now we’ve got about 30 registered participants and registration is still open.”

Knowing everybody has different capacities to get involved, the idea behind the workshop series is to give people the tools to understand that no matter their capacity they can make a difference.

“We’re trying to give them actual solutions and actions that they can be taking at home as individuals or as a family and then actions that they can take within their close group of friends and family, actions they can take in the community, and actions that they can take that will impact society on a more global scale,” Chiappetta said. “If it’s something as simple as helping you to reduce your food waste by giving you the top tips to do that, then that’s fine. But if you’re looking to get more involved in your community and becoming part of an organization like ecoCaledon then that opportunity is there as well. Or maybe you’re somebody who only has the time to sign petition and vote with your dollar by making choice at the grocery store, we’re giving you those options as well. Everything matters. We all have a role to play in tackling

climate change. No one can do everything, but when everyone does something, our actions add up to increase momentum for positive change.”

Aside from the workshop series, ecoCaledon has a few different community programs coming up for people to learn more about climate change and how they can help.

“We’ve got a repair café coming up,” Chiappetta said. “It’s a trend that started in Europe around the idea of repairing rather than discarding our items and that can cover anything from clothing to ceramics to electronics. The idea is to bring local ‘fixers’ in who want to offer their services free of charge and then people can bring in items that need repair. Not only can they get their items repaired but they can actually learn from the fixers as well—that’s coming up in the spring. Then in partnership with the Electric Vehicle Society of Caledon, we’re planning a day all around sustainable transportation and that will be happening probably sometime in late June. We’ll hopefully have electric vehicles on display and be doing some test driving and having conversations around how transportation ties into the whole solution piece.”

For more information on ecoCaledon or to register for the workshops, visit ecocalledon.org/.

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Caledon SC U14 boys bring home indoor Ontario cup

BY ROBERT BELARDI

There’s nothing more grueling in soccer than penalty kicks.

That’s what it was going to take to decide a winner between Caledon SC and Toronto Cherry Beach Red Wolves. It was all going to come down to the spot and it was going to come down to who made the first error.

For Caledon, the first three spot kicks had gone in. Dominic Prempeh, Mats Olsson and Hiren Mistry had done their jobs. Then along came #99 for Cherry Beach. Caledon SC goalkeeper Justin Merola, read him like a book and dove to his left-hand side to make the stop.

Remi Emini sealed the next penalty for Caledon. It was up to Cherry Beach’s #8 to keep the opposition alive.

“He put it high, off the crossbar. It was just a crazy experience, getting an opportunity to play in this tournament and actually coming through winning our games and showing what we’re capable of,” Merola said.

“I give thanks to my coaches. Coach Mike (Knight), coach Jeremy (Dixon), coach Marc-ais (Branch) and coach Emmanuel (Prempeh). They were always great coaches. They helped us throughout the whole tournament. Taught us what we know now and the team too. Great team. Love playing with them. Have great bonds with them. Crazy experience overall.”

Caledon SC were crowned champions of the 2022 Ontario Indoor Cup.

The tournament took place between last Saturday and Sunday.

Caledon SC won all three of their games on Saturday and, of course, won both of their tilts on Sunday. The club scored 14 goals forward with only two against. A wonderful feat and a score differential worthy of a championship team.

Each game prior to the final consisted of two, 20-minute halves. The final consisted of 25-minute halves.

Over the course of this tough tournament and up against some excellent clubs, this experience was a learning curve for both the players and the coaches. There were plenty of obstacles to deal with, especially the match format of the whole tournament.

“Some of the challenges the boys faced in this tournament is five-versus-five or six-versus-five, they’ve never played a competition like that. They’ve never played a small game like this before,” said assistant coach Emmanuel Prempeh.

“Myself and a couple of the other coaches, have coached older age groups so we have had that experience. We had two teams, one of our teams already played in the Ontario Cup (last summer) and were eliminated. But, the experience those players gained, they were able to share that with the other team. The experience



Justin Merola (in yellow) lifts the trophy with his teammates as Caledon SC U14 boys win their first Ontario Indoor Cup in their young careers. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

that us coaches gained after that first round, we were also able to make some adjustments even as simple as having the boys stretch after every game.”

This victory marks the first Ontario Cup for the U14 boys coaching staff and players. Moving forward, the group is looking into the Umbro Top Rated Showcase although nothing is confirmed. The club is also looking into potentially bringing the boys down to New Jersey for a tournament.

The Citizen, sends their congratulations to the rest of the group: Markus John Nasato, Stephen Hall, Abhijeet Singh Kaler, Michael Foti, Noah Cserti, Darnell Green, Tejveer Singh Sohal, Joshua Vargas and Justin Knight.

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Flato Developments shares plans for new development

BY PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Flato Developments gave Shelburne community members an early glimpse into their plans for a new development located on the west end of town earlier this week.

The Markham-based developer, hosted a community engagement event at the Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex (CDRC) on Tuesday evening, February 15, to gain feedback on conceptual plans for the first phase of development.

“At Flato, we believe in building complete communities and we can only build complete communities while we are discussing,” said Flato CEO, Shakir Rehmatullah. “We take the feedback and comments, and bring it back to the drawing. We go back to our consulting team, architects, planners, engineers, and then we try to see what we can do that would improve the plan and what would cater to the needs of the Shelburne community.”

The first phase of the proposed development, located along Hwy. 89 and 4th Line, is part of a larger future development of just over 38 hectares of land by Flato. The development’s first phase consists of a seniors’ housing building with up to 93 rental units as well as a commercial plaza.

The Town of Shelburne has been facing a lack of available and affordable housing for seniors within the community for some time.

Deputy Mayor Steve Anderson has previously noted how Council learned about the senior living issue during their campaigning four years ago.

“Our seniors need to be able to have a space where they can call home and feel comfortable. Many of our seniors are looking to downsize in properties and it’s becoming harder and harder to find affordable spaces, that also accommodate their needs,” said Anderson at Flato’s event.

The Shelburne senior housing development presented on Tuesday is similar to one currently under construction by Flato Development in Dundalk, known as Edgewood Suites. Shelburne Town Council originally received the conceptual vision for phase one of the development in October of 2020.

Amenities part of the proposed senior building in town include a gym, yoga and wellness centre, a library, media room, outdoor patio with gazebos, faith room, private vegetable garden, open concept floor plans with wide hallways and balconies for accessibility, visitor parking, concierge, and parkette.

“Seeing these plans is really encouraging. [Flato] in the early days asked what the needs of the community were and one of the big needs Council expressed was housing suitable for seniors. They certainly haven’t disappointed...[it] is exactly what we’ve asked for,” said Shelburne Mayor Wade Mills.

The community engagement event was a casual affair with attendees reading about Flato’s plans for municipal servicing, environmental assessments and community involvement.

Two local residents who spoke with the Free Press said they attended the event to gain clarity on where the building is being built and specifics of what is proposed.

“We were definitely interested, but more that we thought maybe it was a condo that you could purchase. We also didn’t realize it was marketed toward seniors, but seeing the amenities and good location, we think it’s great.”

Set in the early steps of development there is not yet a time line for when the housing will be constructed or the cost of rent.



Flato Development held a community engagement meeting at the Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex on Tuesday to receive feedback from community members on conceptual plans for their first phase of development. The developer’s first phase of development included a senior housing building and a commercial plaza located on the west end of town (Pictured left to right: Shelburne CAO Denyse Morrissey, Mayor Wade Mills, Flato CEO Shakir Rehmatullah, Councillor Lynda Buffet, and Deputy Mayor Steve Anderson)



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Move For Kids’ Sake aims to raise \$100,000 for local youth programs

Continued from FRONT

The fundraiser is a big part of keeping the support programs that Big Brothers Big Sisters of Peel offer, and they’ve never been more important than during the pandemic with the struggles youth have dealt with over the last two years as a result.

“The idea is just to sign up, decide what activity you’ll do, hopefully recruit some friends and family to be on your team, set a goal that you’d like to achieve, and get out there and collect donations,” Plati said. “It can be anything they want to do and the whole idea is that it’s benefiting that person’s own physical and mental health and getting them active while at the same time supporting mental health of young people in the community that they live by allowing us to have the funds necessary to ensure we have mentors who are meeting with our youth. Even though it’s primarily virtual right now, it’s such a necessary thing to have them meet with mentors during the pandemic when they’re feeling more isolated. Youth are having more anxiety with all the change in their lives so having the stability of having a mentor has really been a great support for many of them these last few years.”

The flexibility and creativity that Move For Kids’ Sake gives participants has been a bright positive that came out of a less than ideal situation for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Peel, but it’s ultimately been a blessing in disguise throughout the pandemic.

“If someone’s a runner, for every \$20 that’s donated to them they’re going to run a kilometre or someone who wants to get in better shape could do a pushup for every dollar donated to them,” said Plati. “It’s whatever they want to do. We have one girl that is snowshoeing for all her donations, one person is jumping rope, another is rowing. We’ve let people know that they can either choose to save up until they’ve reached their goal and do their activity all at once—so some people may end up running 25 kilometres at the end—or they can choose to do more of a daily activity, like committing to 100 pushups every day until the end of March. We also encourage people to take photos and videos and make it fun by sharing them with the people who are supporting them and to share it with us so we can highlight it on our social media. We’ve had hilarious things happen in the past; one of our Big Brothers set the goal of reaching \$1,000 to eat three chili peppers and another Big Brother videoed himself bench-pressing his girlfriend. The whole thing is to get people out having fun in a safe way for a needed support for our agency to keep it going.”

Despite last year being a pivot to the virtual fundraiser, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Peel was able to reach a big fundraising milestone.

“It was great; we were so happy with the results and had a lot of participants—we raised over \$60,000, which is great for a first-time event,” Plati said. “We had great participation from Peel Regional Police, who have always been our strongest supporter. We had the Town of Caledon involved and a lot of people within our agency were involved—like our Big and Little Sister of the Year were climbing staircases for every donation they got. It was inspiring to see so many people posting the things they were doing and seeing the money they were raising. It was a great overall experience and a lot of other agencies in Ontario did the same event, we had about 10 different agencies we worked with to develop the event.”

Given the success of the virtual event, when the pandemic allows for the in-person fundrais-

er to resume, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Peel plans to keep the Move For Kids’ Sake aspect of it along with the night of bowling.

“Our hope this year was to do a bit of a hybrid with the event so if you wanted to come out and bowl you could bowl, or if you wanted to do a virtual activity you could but then with what happened during December, we decided to go with 100 per cent virtual,” Plati said. “But the idea going forward will be to allow for virtual if they want to because it’s a great way for people

who aren’t into bowling to support us and have fun. It gives people who are active, and community minded the chance to be involved in it on their own time and the people who love to get out and be with other people can come out and bowl with us. That’s the goal long-term, have it hybrid and allow people to get active in whatever way they want to.”

As for a fundraising goal this year, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Peel have set their sights high with the success of last year.

“Our goal is very adventurous this year: we’re shooting for \$100,000 this year and we’re working with York Region as well, so we figure we have a bigger area with more people involved so we have increased our goal,” said Plati. “We’re pretty confident that now that it’s in its second year and people had such a great time last year that we’re going to reach that goal.”

To register and donate to Move For Kids’ Sake, visit www.bbbspeelyork.ca.



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POLISCHUK, Ruth Eileen nee Murray

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Ruth on February 11, 2022 with her children by her side at Headwaters Health Care Centre. Ruth is reunited in Heaven with her husband, Wm. Polischuk, her parents, Beatrice and Edward Murray and her sister, Anne Lawson. Loved dearly by her children, Debbie White (Ron Heenan), David Polischuk and Tonya Kerr. Proud grandmother to Ethan Kerr. Cherished by her brother, Jim Murray (MaryJane). Ruth will be fondly remembered by her niece Jennifer Murray and family and by her nephew Benjamin Murray.



Ruth was born on November 27, 1936 in Erin, Ontario and lived most of her life in the Orangeville area. Our heartfelt thanks to the medical staff at HHCC for their compassion and support during a difficult time and for keeping her comfortable and pain free. Thank you to the staff at the Avalon Care Centre for keeping Mom safe during her stay with them.

A graveside service and celebration of life will take place in the spring. Date to be determined. If so desired, donations in memory of Ruth may be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada.

Online condolences may be made at www.imfunerals.com
In Memoriam Funeral Services Inc. has been given the honour to serve the Polischuk Family.

TILSON, Emilia Colette

On February 9, 2022 Emilia Tilson passed away peacefully at her home with her family by her side, after a short but hard fought battle with cancer. She has left behind her daughter Josephine (9), her three sons, Carlyle (12), Augustus (15), Theodore (17), her loving husband Ryan De Groot, as well as her dog Brodie and a hen house of chickens. She is survived by her mother Lory Whittemore, her father Alan Tilson and wife Charlotte Bernard, her sisters Rebecca McFadden, Hannah McFadden, Emma Tilson, Maya Tilson, Adele Bernard, brother Jack Ramshaw and step-mother Karen Ramshaw.

She was a midwife practicing with the Midwives of Headwater Hills. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Doctors Without Borders. For non-monetary donations - Emilia was an advocate for blood donation. If you are able please give blood. Condolences may be offered to the family at www.dodsandmcnair.com

FITZPATRICK, Mary-Ann Faith (nee Engstrom)

Passed away peacefully at Headwaters Heath Care Centre on Monday, February 14, 2022 at the age of 74. Beloved wife of Jim Fitzpatrick (pre-deceased). Loving mother of Daniel and his wife Alexandria Brackett. Adored grandmother to Marilyn, Lauren and John. Deeply missed by her treasured friend of over 50 years Diana Vernon. Mary-Ann will be missed by other relatives and close friends.

Mary-Ann was one of the strongest people you'd ever meet. She always spoke of her health issues as a journey and never complained. Her dream was to be able to dance again, so we are sure that she's got her dancing shoes on and is dancing away. A huge thank you to the team of Doctors and the wonderful Nursing staff in the E-wing at Headwaters Heath Care Centre who went beyond expected to make her final days as comfortable as possible. Private Family Arrangements entrusted to Dods & McNair Funeral Home, Chapel & Reception Centre, Orangeville. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to Headwaters Health Care Centre or the Canadian Cancer Society.

A tree will be planted in memory of Mary-Ann 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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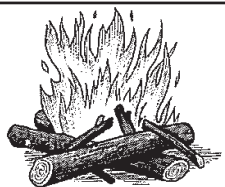
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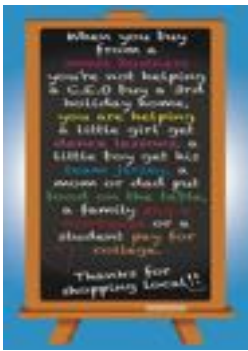
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Andrea Stoddart – Secretary-Treasurer

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Councillor Early emphasizes smart growth and planning for Caledon’s future

BY ROB PAUL

Diving into the world of municipal politics isn’t necessarily every Councillor’s calling from Day One, but Ward 2 Area Councillor Christina Early found herself wanting to do more for the community after years in the business world.

That led Early to run for Caledon Council in 2018 and achieve the goal of giving back to the Town she raised her family in, while bringing a unique view to Council given her business acumen.

“I had a pretty nice career before I started into municipal politics and worked pretty hard in that career—it was always retail Pharma—and I worked my way up to several executive positions,” she said. “I always knew on the day that I would retire, because I knew I wouldn’t be there until 70, that I wouldn’t be able to sit idly at home and I knew I wanted to get out in the community.

“The driving factor was never really politics, it was always getting out in the community and meeting some people and making a difference; I knew I wanted to volunteer in a series of Wards. That was the force and when I first got elected, I was still working a bit and then did an early retirement. I’m very happy that I did that because the learning curve has been quite incredible, specifically because of the many different issues Caledon faces.”

Not originally from Caledon, Early found herself wanting to raise a family in the Town because of its similarities to where she was raised and its strong community which ultimately drove her to want to get involved after she retired.

“I grew up in rural Ottawa, but it’s funny because it was literally the same as where I’m living now after I married my husband,” she said. “The back of us was cornfields, the front of us was Greenbelt with trails, and so when I met my husband 27 years ago, it was a very natural fit in Caledon. He’s a multi-generational farmer and through the 27 years we’ve raised two girls and community has always been there for us. When I was raising the girls, I was either working or it was extracurriculars—I volunteered at the school but couldn’t volunteer on boards because of my job.

“For me, community was everything because we’re a 4-H family, and now I just want to give back. Now I’m fortunate to sit on the Caledon Community Service (CCS) board, the library board, the Ontario Health Team as a rep for CCS for Dufferin-Caledon, and I’ve been able to really take a good look at some of our social services. It’s becoming a real driving passion of mine to ensure we have some solid integration with those social services as we continue to grow as a municipality.”

Representing the residents of such a large ward has led to Early focusing on plenty of different issues over the years because of the diverse areas and settings that are within her constituency.

“I remember when I was knocking on doors in Ward 2 and people would ask me to tell them what my platform is, and I would say, ‘Let me first tell you what Ward 2 is all about,’” she said. “Ward 2 to me is the closest ward to mim-



Councillor Christina Early
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

icking greater Caledon. It’s got small villages, rural residential areas, a large farming community, we have small businesses, we have those urbanized areas in Southfields and Mayfield West, and we’re the fastest growing Ward.

“When you think about accomplishments, we had the traffic calming measures that had to go on, you were dealing with different associations, you were dealing with agricultural issues, and you were dealing with a lot of truck traffic, which was significant for our residents. And also, you were dealing with the issue of illegal trucking and it’s prevalent throughout Caledon.”

The issue of illegal trucking has become a bigger problem because Caledon covers such a vast amount of land and working on the problem is one of the initiatives Early is and will continue to champion going forward.

“With the trucking issue, that’s consumed a great deal of my time because people are so concerned. People are concerned about the road state and their safety. There are 2,000 trucking companies through Peel and I don’t think this problem is going to go away in the short term. We’re really going to need to continue as a municipality to find solutions and we need to have dedicated depot space in conjunction with a solid set of by-laws. The by-laws will be huge because they need to be enforced and they need to be enforced fairly. I think this is a huge task for Caledon because we’re the one municipality that has a lot of land left and we’re so close to the GTA, so, of course this is where trucks are going to try and hide and park.”

In Early’s opinion, the most important aspect of being on Council and representing a wide range of residents is to be able to connect and build relationships with them to hear and understand the issues that are most important to them, and that all starts by ensuring they feel comfortable reaching out.

“I love working with the community and residents, it’s been my greatest passion,” she said. “I have tried to take all my old business skills and put it into this political world. I’m never going to be comfortable as a politician, but

I’m really comfortable looking at things strategically and when you’re in business you’re getting back to your customers very quickly. I look at our residents as my customers so when they call, I get back promptly and they often say, ‘I can’t believe you took my call and responded so quickly.’ For me, I really love the people and conversations. Some politicians may be emotional and take things to heart, for me at this stage of the game, I just try to enjoy every moment and the people I meet and the contributions I get to bring to the table. Your background plays a role in how you look at things and so I look at things from a strategic business standpoint and everybody brings something different to the table and that’s what helps the team connect.”

Those relationships with the residents don’t only allow Early to hear from them, but also to learn from them and have a better idea of how to achieve the goals the community is most passionate about.

“It’s everything, it’s absolutely everything,” she said of relationships with residents. “I don’t know one thing that would trump it. Even on Sunday morning I had a resident call me about an issue and we talked it through and sometimes when you talk it through you recognize how much you’ve learned over the years and we were able to work through the issue. Without the residents calling you and without the contributions from them, you don’t form the learning and don’t understand what the community wants.”

The connections go beyond the residents too, said Early. They’re needed with fellow councillors as well to make sure everyone is on the same page as they build for the future. She says this is particularly important for Caledon going forward with the expected growth boom.

“[Caledon being in lockstep is] going to become extremely important because we’re growing up, by 2051 we’ll have 300,000 residents with 125,000 jobs,” she said. “That means that in the next two terms of Council there will be a lot of work done and we have to ensure we have the collaboration and are headed in the right direction. We have to put some business expert standards into our municipal service programs and we have to ensure we take that collaborative business approach. With that growth we have to do this strategically and I think all members of Council will have to be very responsible to understand what Future Caledon is going to look like in the next three decades. It’s imperative each Councillor understands their role and responsibility in shaping Future Caledon.

“You don’t want someone sitting independently because there’s too much work to do. If there’s anything that has the greatest nagging at me its how are we going to ensure that we shape Caledon in the right way and balance growth with responsibilities and commitments to the environmental leadership. We have a huge initiative to make sure our current residents are well cared for while building our communities for future residents and ensure we have the jobs, and we want to make sure the 80 per cent of Caledon that is green stays green and is protected as we become environmental leaders.”

One of the main focuses for Early going forward will be the continued development of social services in both Ward 2 and Caledon as it grows, she references other municipalities being hindered by not prioritizing services before their expected growth.

“In Southfields Village, we have a community centre where we started a hub program. What that means is we have CCS, Caledon Parent-Child, the library, Punjabi Health—we have a number of social services,” she said. “To me it’s the infancy and the next drive point for me is to ensure as we build out each community that our community centre has space. We need to talk about the needs of each community and what social services each community needs and build on the community hub. For example, we have the Exchange in Bolton but that’s a 25-minute drive, and we have a big geography in Caledon that needs to be accounted for with social services. We need to be proactive in regards to the services that Caledon residents require and that won’t be an easy task. It takes funding and collaboration between the municipality, the Region, and the Province. I’m the alternate for Regional meetings so I see the challenges that Mississauga and Brampton are going through because they developed much earlier and it’s tougher to go backwards to find the funding and create the infrastructure for the needed social services.”

The other big focal point for Early is smart planning, both in Ward 2 as it develops and throughout Caledon as Council works to approve the Future Caledon Official Plan that will set the stage for the next three decades in the Town.

“The other thing is we’re building out Mayfield West 2,” she said. “In my mind, as we buildout Mayfield West 2, we need to think about the green spaces, community centres, and ensure we’re building a sustainable community. I was very proud this year that Council passed the Resilient Climate Action Plan. It’s very robust and we want to be forward-thinking and be carbon neutral by 2051 and ensure we have high development standards. We recently delegated to the ministers during ROMA to talk about putting our money where our mouth is from all levels of government as we talk about sustainable communities. It’s going to require dollars and years but if we don’t start focusing on sustainable and environmentally friendly communities now then we’ll have a problem.

“We also have to realize we need to develop for the people who are coming to Caledon and do it responsibly and ensure our developers are building for the future of Caledon because we’re going to be the envy of other municipalities. It should be a privilege to develop in Caledon and so we shouldn’t jump the gun and allow anyone to develop here; there should be a process with high standards that emphasizes the environment. You have to do what’s right for the future and that’s why the next two terms are so important. We have a land mass that equals Mississauga and Brampton and only 20 per cent of our mass will be developed while 80 per cent remains protected. That’s the most important message that people need to hear.”

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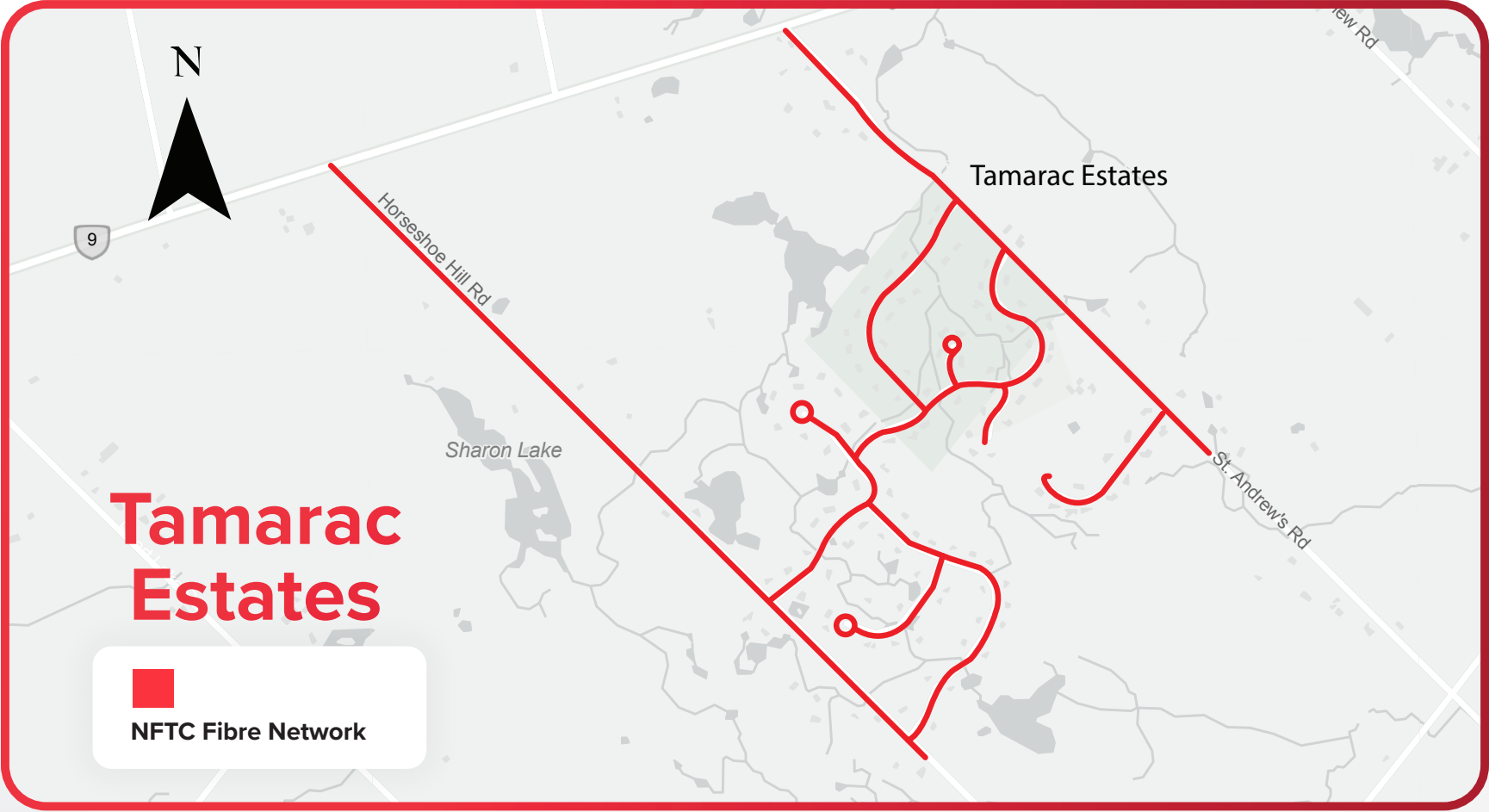
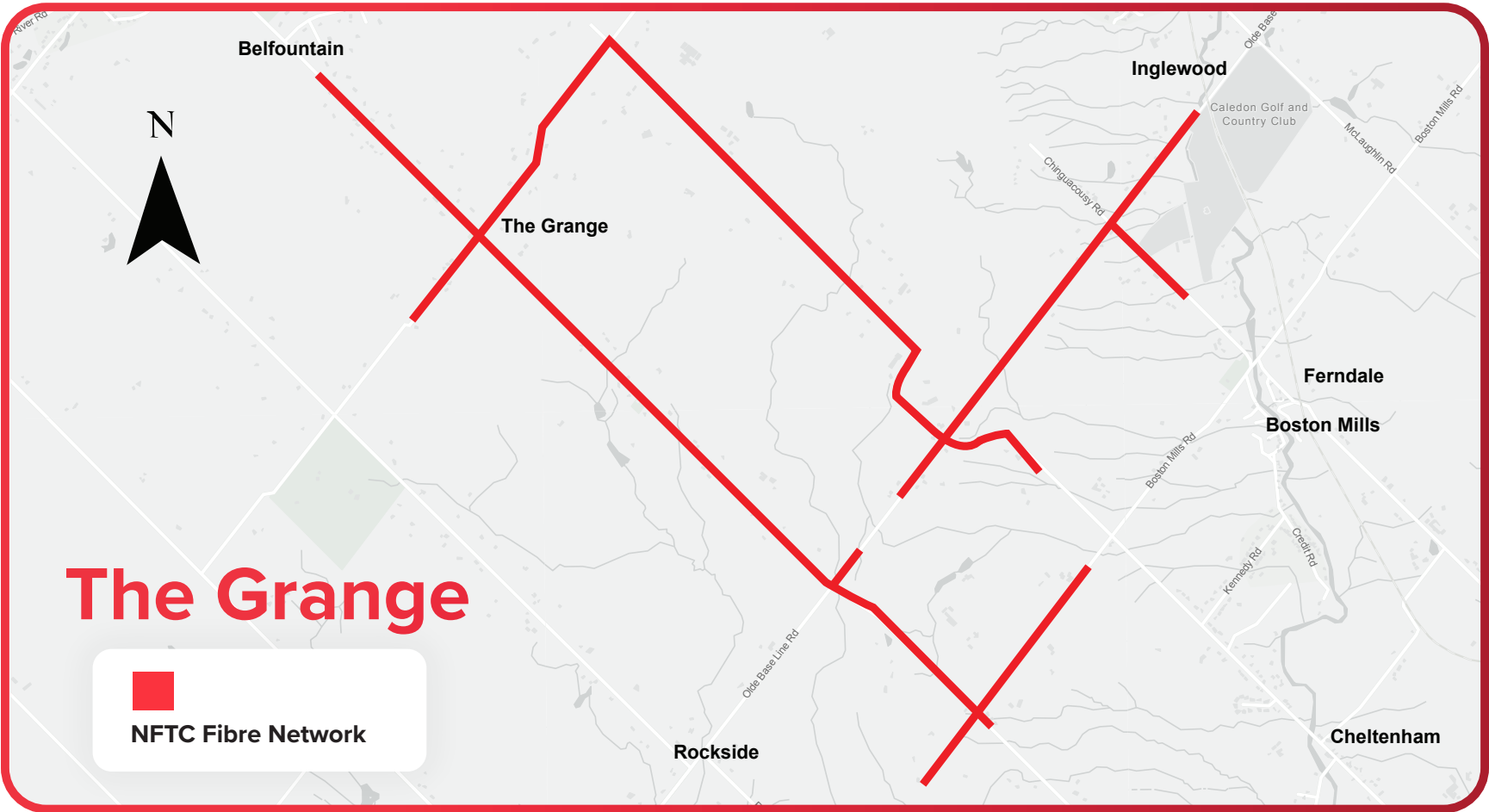
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