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FREE Thursday, January 5, 2023 Volume 43, Issue 1



PHOTO COURTESY OF HEADWATERS

First baby born at Headwaters in 2023 is Marco Andre of Bolton

Parents Marina and Marco welcomed their first child on January 1

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

Caledon's New Year's baby has been born, and it's a boy.

On January 1, at 4:26 a.m., parents Marina and Marco welcomed their first child into the world at Headwaters Health Care Centre in Orangeville.

Marina and Marco, who are originally from

Mexico, live in Bolton and named their son Marco Andre.

Marco Andre was born weighing 6 pounds, 13 ounces and Headwaters congratulated the family on a great way to start 2023.

In a media release announcing Marco Andre's birth, Headwaters Health Care Centre Director of Communications and Stakeholder Relations Jennifer Hamilton said there were over 900 babies born at Headwaters in 2022.

Four obstetricians work at Headwaters and there are clinics adjacent to the hospital.

Midwife-attended hospital births are available at Headwaters, as midwives registered with Midwives of Headwater Hills can work

alongside Headwaters' obstetrical team of physicians and nurses to offer them.

Hamilton explained every piece of hospital equipment Headwaters doctors and nurses use is funded by community donations through the Headwaters Health Care Foundation.

"Thanks to the generosity of our local community, this includes new equipment for the obstetrical program," said Hamilton.

The 2022 New Year's baby at Headwaters was Ilyas Idris Malik, who was born at 1:11 a.m. on January 1 of that year. Back in 2021, the New Year's baby at Headwaters was Tristan Derek Peter Edwards, born at 6:02 a.m. on the first day of that year.

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Town proposes 3.68% tax hike ahead of Budget talks

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

Caledon Council will soon be discussing the Town's 2023 budget.

On January 10, at 2:30 p.m., Town of Caledon staff will present their proposed 2023 Budget for the Town to Council at its General Committee meeting.

Caledon residents are welcome to attend this meeting in person at Town Hall in Caledon East, or virtually on the Town of Caledon's website.

The proposed budget was made available for the public to view on January 4, and a highlight from the document is the proposed property tax increase of 3.68 per cent for Caledon residents.

The Budget is divided into two sections, Operating and Capital. The Operating budget includes background information about the Town, the Town's budget process, financial policies, proposed changes in service levels, and operating budget changes by department.

Continued on Page 6

Rob Payne
Financial Advisor

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Cassie’s Place looking to grow with community support in 2023

“Some see the disabilities but Cassie’s Place sees the abilities”

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

Cassie’s Place is a home away from home for individuals with differing abilities.

It was founded in 2019 by Victoria Street, whose daughter Cassandra was born with epilepsy and a developmental disability.

Street said Cassandra had participated in many programs before, and while service was good, she found the programs just weren’t quite right for her. So, Street took matters into her own hands.

Cassie’s Place, named after Cassandra, provides numerous programs for individuals with disabilities. There’s the well-loved day program and summer camp, as well as a weekly bowling league and online activities like cooking and crafting classes.

The official mission of Cassie’s Place is “to inspire individuals with “disABILITIES to live more independently by recognizing, respecting and building on their gifts and abilities through advocacy, empowerment and education.”

“In the Cassie’s Place motto, the word abilities is highlighted in disabilities because “some see the disabilities but Cassie’s Place sees the abilities.”

When Cassie’s Place began, it served five individuals and was located in Shelburne. Now, over 20 individuals attend its day program — now located in Southfields Village in Caledon — and other activities like the Cassie’s Place bowling league are attended by even more individuals.

The Cassie’s Place volunteer team has grown over the years, too, and in addition to Street, Joe Sassine, Tara Wilson, and Michelle Milani form Cassie’s Place’s leadership. Sassine and Wilson handle social media and finances, while Street and Milani handle the day-to-day operation of Cassie’s Place.

“None of us have a PhD or letters behind our name. We’re just moms and dads that want much more for our children and to be able to offer that service to other parents as well,” said



Cassie’s Place provides numerous well-loved programs and services for individuals of differing abilities.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Street. “The four of us are extremely passionate. We’re very protective of our participants.”

Everyone who attends Cassie’s Place becomes part of the Cassie’s Place family. Street explained at Cassie’s Place there’s a poster on the wall of every participant and a write-up about them.

“I don’t care if they come one day a week or five days a week, it doesn’t matter. They’re part of our family,” said Street. “When anyone enters our home, they see our Cassie’s Place family.”

Sassine said all of the volunteers want to ensure Cassie’s Place stays strong for the sake of their kids and kids in the future so they have a home away from home.

“This year is going to be the year that I want to put lots of effort into getting some sponsorship and fundraising going,” said Sassine. “The main purpose will be to buy our own place.”

Street noted another fundraising goal of Cas-

sie’s Place is to buy their own vehicle for transportation, as in the summer participants love to travel around for day trips to places like the zoo and Niagara Falls.

Right now, Cassie’s Place leases a home at 107 Deer Ridge Trail in Southfields Village to run its programs out of. While it may seem unique that Cassie’s Place is run out of a home rather than a commercial building or community centre, it’s a very intentional choice. Street said making the move to a home in Caledon was difficult at first, but she knew it would be beneficial to the Cassie’s Place family.

“I didn’t want (participants) going into a commercial space as to me it feels like it’s more institutional. My objective was to find an actual home where we can convert bedrooms and things like that,” said Street. “For example, the master bedroom, we’ve converted into an activity room. We have another that’s an education room, another one for a quiet space, and one for an office.”

On the main floor of Cassie’s Place are more activity rooms, used for popular activities like yoga. Then there’s the big kitchen, which is critical as the independence individuals gain from cooking and baking is a key part of Cassie’s Place.

Street said all of Cassie’s Place’s programs are made to be intellectually stimulating and allow participants to flourish. No matter what level someone is at, they will be accommodated so they can participate and boost their self-worth and self-confidence.

When individuals with differing abilities age out of the school system, the opportunities for them to attend programs to learn and socialize drastically decreases. This unfortunate fact is one of the many reasons Cassie’s Place was created. Socialization is extremely important for anyone, a lesson learned the hard way during the COVID-19 pandemic’s worst days. Cassie’s Place was founded not long before the pandemic began, and it’s because of the pandemic that its online programs were created.

Street and Milani would meet with their daughters for lunch in a parking lot during the pandemic, each sitting in their own cars. While they were fortunate enough to be able to meet, they knew people were missing their friends, and it was during those lunchtime chats where the online programs were conceived.

They now continue to run every Thursday evening, and feature activities like bingo for

number recognition, crafting for fine motor skills, and movie and paint nights. There’s also a virtual cooking program that runs one Tuesday a month, and Cassie’s Place creates packages for participants with everything they need to make a delicious meal at home. Participants need only to pay a fee to cover the cost of the food. On that note, Cassie’s Place is completely not-for-profit and run by volunteers, and only collects fees for any program to cover costs.

Street said with more fundraising and sponsorships Cassie’s Place will be able to offer even more programs. One of the favourite programs currently offered is the bowling league, which has over 30 participants. In addition to the league, Cassie’s Place bowlers enter mainstream bowling tournaments against mainstream bowlers and have made it to provincial games.

“I’m all about inclusion into the mainstream for our participants, I don’t want them put into a corner,” said Street. “These people are in our community, they’re part of our community, they make up our community and they contribute to our community.”


Street and Sassine hope to forge a partnership with the Town of Caledon in 2023, as they say it would be beneficial for both parties.

Street said one cannot compare one disability to another as they are never the same, even if a diagnosis is the same. She said each individual is different and Cassie’s Place strives to cater to everyone no matter where they are at. Street said it is a lot of work, but absolutely rewarding — she loves what she does.

“We had an individual at our program... he barely spoke,” said Street. “Since coming to our program, his parents contacted us and said he’s a completely different person. He’ll ask how we are in the morning... ask if he can have a cup of coffee, then go and make coffee with another peer.”

Street said at Cassie’s Place the goal is to help each individual participant reach their best potential. Sassine said it’s a place where everyone can feel safe, be treated equally, and be involved. Those looking to get involved with Cassie’s Place — whether it’s as a participant, volunteer, donor, or sponsor — can visit cassies.place online, call 647-220-4232, or search for Cassie’s Place on Facebook and Instagram.

Detailed information about Cassie’s Place’s programs and services can also be found on its website.



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Public Notice

Notice of intention to adopt a Budget and to amend by-laws fixing fees and charges

The Council of the Regional Municipality of Peel is providing notice that it intends to adopt the 2023 Regional Operating and Capital Budgets, and to amend by-laws fixing fees and charges for Regional services. This includes fees and charges for the use of Peel water, wastewater, sewer, and waste management systems, and any increases, additions, deletions or changes to the Fees By-law.

The Regional Council Budget meeting(s) are open to the public and residents may attend. The meeting will also be live streamed on [peelregion.ca](https://www.peelregion.ca). Copies of the 2023 Regional Operating and Capital Budgets will be available at [peelregion.ca/budget](https://www.peelregion.ca/budget) as of January 5, 2023.

Any person or organization wishing to make representation to Regional Council should email their submission or request to delegate to the Office of the Regional Clerk at regional.clerk@peelregion.ca or call 905-791-7800, ext. 4465.

The Regional Council Budget meeting to commence discussion and consideration of the Regional Operating and Capital Budgets is scheduled for:

Thursday, January 19, 2023 at 9:30 a.m
10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A
5th Floor, Council Chambers
Brampton, ON L6T 4B9

The Budget may be approved in whole or in part at the above-noted Regional Council Budget meeting or any subsequent Regional Council Budget meeting. If the matter is considered at a subsequent Budget meeting of Council, no additional notice will be provided unless Regional Council directs otherwise.

Contacts
Gary Kent
Chief Financial Officer and Commissioner of Corporate Services
905-791-7800 ext. 4759

Aretha Adams
Regional Clerk and Director of Legislative Services
905-791-7800, ext. 4095

Media inquiries
Bethany Lee
Communications Manager
905-791-7800, ext. 8556

Dated this 5th day of January, 2023

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



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Caledon gearing up for Coldest Night of the Year in support of CCS

Winter walk will support those experiencing hurt, hunger and homelessness

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

Fundraising has begun for the annual Coldest Night of the Year walk in Caledon. The Caledon walk is happening for the fourth time on February 25 and is being hosted in support of Caledon Community Services (CCS). The walk in Caledon will be one of many happening across Canada to support charities that help people experiencing hurt, hunger and homelessness. The walk will begin at the Caledon East Community Complex at 4 p.m. when check-in opens. At 5 p.m., there will be opening remarks and an official send off. At 6 p.m., after the walk, a light meal will be served and the event will wrap up by 7 p.m. in the evening. People unable to make it to the February 25 event are still encouraged to fundraise and do their own walk offsite.

Those wanting to get involved with Coldest Night of the Year (CNOY) can create their own fundraising team or join an existing one. Several teams have already registered online to fundraise and participate in the Caledon walk at cnoy.org/location/caledon, such as Dig A Little Deeper Psychotherapy & Counselling, Unifor Local 1285, and Starbucks Bolton. All types of teams are welcome, whether they're a group of residents, a community organization, a business, a faith group, or something else. Donna Cragg, CCS' Director of Communications and Marketing, said the team fundraising aspect of the event makes it really fun. She participates each year with a team of friends from Terra Cotta, and said it's fun to compete against other teams to see who can raise the most money. On the CNOY website, fundraising leaderboards are updated live so people can see how their team stacks up to others. "CCS got involved because CNOY, their focus is on poverty... and Caledon Community Services is the agency in Caledon that is dealing primarily with helping peo-



Caledon Firefighters raised \$14,000 for Coldest Night of the Year in 2022.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ple struggling with the effects of poverty," said Cragg. She said the CNOY walk helps people empathize with those experiencing homelessness as it gets them outside and in the elements at a very cold time of the year. CCS has set a goal of raising \$100,000 from all the teams participating in the walk, and it's a goal Cragg thinks the Caledon community is more than capable of reaching. Walkers who raise \$150 and above (\$75 and above for those under 18) will receive a CNOY toque. Cragg said at last year's walk the Caledon Fire and Emergency Services team was amazing and that their impact on the event inspired others. "People pay attention and they respond... it inspires them to get involved too," said Cragg. The 2023 CNOY walk in Caledon will feature both two and five kilometre routes. Participants are encouraged to bring good waterproof shoes or boots, a water bottle, cell phone, and warm clothes. Along the walk route, there will be signage, route marshals and rest stops. For more information on this year's CNOY walk, interested parties can visit cnoy.org/location/caledon.

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Reg 281.99 ea, up 265/70R17 115H
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ROAD RATED 98.6*

MOTOMASTER

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GOOD SAMARITAN ROBBED

Officers from the Caledon OPP’s Major Crime Unit would like to make residents aware of a robbery that focused on the helping nature of motorists that took place on Olde Base Line Road in the Town of Caledon.

“On Monday, January 2, 2023, at approximately 7:55 p.m. a motorist observed what they thought was a broken-down vehicle and stranded motorist on Olde Base Line Road between Kennedy Road and Highway 10,” say Police. “As the motorist approached, a male moved out into the road and motioned for the motorist to stop. When the motorist stopped two other males approached armed with knives.

“The motorist was robbed of his motor vehicle, a blue 2018 Audi S5L sedan. The motorist was not injured in the confrontation.”

The suspects are described as:

- Light skinned black male, slender build, approximately 5’10” tall, wearing all black

- Black male, medium build, approximately 6’ tall, wearing all black
- Black male, medium build, approximately 6’ tall, wearing all black

The vehicle that was used as a stranded vehicle was an older model black Honda Civic.

Caledon residents and motorists are asked to stay vigilant if they choose to stop to assist a motorist.

“Instead of stopping, residents and motorists can contact the OPP by dialing *OPP (*677) on their mobile phones to report the disabled or suspicious vehicles. Using a mobile device to report issues to the police will not result in a charge for using a hand-held communication device.”

If you have any information about this investigation, please call the Caledon OPP Detachment at (905) 584-2241 or 1-888-310-1122.

You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Peel Crime Stoppers at: 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or online at www.peelcrimestoppers.ca. When you contact Crime Stoppers you stay anonymous, and you never

have to testify.

STOLEN VEHICLE CHARGES FOLLOWING PICKUP AT POLICE DETACHMENT

Members of the Caledon OPP Detachment Community Street Crime Unit (CSCU) recovered a stolen vehicle and seized numerous pieces of stolen property and drugs in the Town of Caledon.

“On Thursday, December 22, 2022, a driver came to pick up a friend from the OPP Caledon Detachment,” say Police. “A member of the Caledon OPP CSCU observed the vehicle and learned that the vehicle had been reported stolen earlier in the month. When officers attempted to stop the vehicle the driver of the stolen vehicle made intentional contact with a police vehicle and attempted to flee. Officers were able to safely stop the vehicle and arrest the driver and occupant.

“Evidence of drug trafficking, and stolen items were recovered from the subject and vehicle.”

As a result of the investigation two suspects were arrested and charged.

Joseph Navarro, 53, from Mississauga has been charged with:

- Possession of a Controlled Substance for the Purpose of Trafficking
- Possession of a Controlled Substance
- Possession of Property Obtained by Crime Over \$5000
- Possession of Property Obtained by Crime Under \$5000
- Flight from Police
- Assault with a Weapon
- Possession of Stolen Identity Document
- Possession of Stolen Credit Card

Trena Parsons, 39, from Fenelon Township has been charged with:

- Possession of a Controlled Substance for the Purpose of Trafficking
- Possession of a Controlled Substance
- Possession of Stolen Identity Document
- Possession of Stolen Credit Card

All accused persons are scheduled to appear in Orangeville Provincial Court in March. The charges have not been proven.

Central Region Traffic Incident Management and Enforcement Team assisted with the investigation.

Airport Road was closed for several hours for the investigation.

Anyone who may have witnessed the collision or who has dash camera footage is asked to contact the OPP Caledon Detachment at (905) 584-2241.

PROPERTY RECOVERED

Officers from the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Caledon Community Street Crime Unit (CSCU) executed a search warrant at a residence in the Town of Caledon resulting in the recovery of stolen property.

“In November 2022, Caledon CSCU began an investigation into possible stolen vehicles being stored at an address in Caledon,” say Police. “In December 2022, several thefts from motor vehicles were reported in Caledon. Suspects made purchases using credit cards stolen from the thefts from motor vehicles. CSCU investigated and determined that the suspect vehicle matched a vehicle CSCU had observed at the property in Caledon suspected of containing stolen vehicles.

“On December 29, 2022 CSCU officers executed a search warrant at a residence on Mount Hope Road in Caledon. CSCU recovered stolen items that were taken during thefts from vehicles as well as a replica firearm. CSCU also recovered a stolen vehicle located on the property.”

Rachel McCartney, 34, from Caledon, has been charged with:

- Fail to comply with Release Order - X2
- Possession of Property Obtained by Crime Over \$5000
- Possession of Property Obtained by Crime Under \$5000 - X4
- Possession of Stolen Identity Document
- Possession of Stolen Credit Card
- Possession of Break-In Instruments
- Drive Under Suspension
- Deface License Plate
- Use Plate Not Authorized for Vehicle


The charges have not been proven.

“Caledon residents are reminded not to leave wallets, credit cards or other pieces of banking or identification in their unattended vehicles.”


Anyone with information regarding this crime is asked to contact the Caledon OPP Detachment at (905) 584-2241 or toll free at 1-888-310-1122.


You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Peel Crime Stoppers at: 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or online at www.peelcrimestoppers.ca. When you contact Crime Stoppers you stay anonymous, you never have to testify, and you could receive a cash reward of up to \$2,000 upon an arrest.


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SERIOUS COLLISION

Officers from the Caledon OPP are investigating a serious motor vehicle collision that occurred on Airport Road in Caledon East, in the Town of Caledon.

“On Thursday, December 29, 2022 at approximately 6:00 a.m., officers responded to the report of a motor vehicle collision near the intersection of Airport Road and Leamster Trail,” say Police. “The driver was transported to a trauma centre with serious injuries.”

Collision Reconstructionists from the OPP

Continued on Page 5

The CitizenCROSSWORD

Solution in CLASSIFIEDS

1	2	3					4	5	6					
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CLUES ACROSS

1. Basics

4. Swiss river

7. Constrictor snake

8. Building occupied by monks

10. Discount

12. Deal a blow to

13. Relating to the ear

14. Thyrotropin

16. Loud, unpleasant noise

17. Large intestines

19. Move with a curving trajectory

20. Witnesses

21. You need both to live

25. Dash

26. Network

27. Dig

29. C. European river

30. Supplement with difficulty

31. Corporate executive

32. Carroll

39. No variation

41. Airborne (abbr.)

42. “Heidi” author

43. Affirmative

44. Pie _ _ _ mode

45. W. Asian country

46. Grotesque or bizarre

48. Delicacy (archaic)

49. Textile

50. Denial

51. Electronic data processing

52. Attempt

CLUES DOWN

1. Engulf

2. Waterside hotel

3. Printed cotton fabric

4. Defensive nuclear weapon

5. One who follows the rules

6. Lace up once more

8. Fire byproduct

9. Hankerings

11. Outer

14. One-time aerospace firm

15. Seafood

18. Commercial leader

19. Epoxy hardener (abbr.)

20. Samoan monetary unit

22. Type of gland

23. Arrest

24. Check

27. Past participle of be

28. Alias

29. A major division of geological time

31. Kids programming channel (abbr.)

32. Joked

33. Helps little firms

34. Roman numeral

50

35. Impressive in size or scope

36. Domineering

37. A person who delivers a speech

38. One after 89

39. Young hawk

40. The scene of any event or action

44. A team’s best pitcher

47. Integrated data processing

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

IMPAIRED DRIVING CHARGES

Officers from the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Caledon Detachment say they are appreciative of members of the public who assisted with reporting impaired drivers leading to the arrest of several motorists in the Town of Caledon.

“On Monday, December 26, at approximately 5:50 a.m. officers were dispatched to the area of Charleston Side Road and McLaren Drive for a vehicle that had been involved in a collision and left the scene,” say Police. “When officers arrived, the vehicle had been left on the side of the road and the driver fled into the surrounding area. Officers were able to locate and arrest the driver, who after further investigation found to be impaired by drug.”

Melissa Hamilton, 39, from Orangeville has been charged with:

- Impaired Operation of a Motor Vehicle – Drug
- Fail to Remain at Collision

The charges have not been proven.

“Later on Monday evening, at approximately 9:00 p.m., officers were dispatched to a vehicle in a ditch near Mississauga Road and Old School Road. The driver, who was located a short time later and arrested, had left the scene of the collision.”

Diljot Bajwa, 18, from Brampton has been charged with:

- Operate a Motor Vehicle with over 80mgs of alcohol
- Fail to Remain at Collision
- Young Driver - Blood Alcohol Concentration above Zero
- Drive with Liquor Readily Available

The charges have not been proven.

“On Wednesday, December 28, 2022, at approximately 5:40 a.m. a motorist observed a severely damaged motor vehicle that had been in a motor vehicle collision and continued to drive Heartlake Road near Mayfield Road. Police stopped the vehicle and arrested the driver.”

Shubert Singh, 21, from Brampton, has been charged with:

- Impaired Operation of a Motor Vehicle – Alcohol
- Operate a Motor Vehicle with Over 80mgs of Alcohol

The charges have not been proven.

“Caledon OPP would like to thank the motorists that recognized something was amiss and contacted the police. Taking the time to report impaired driving saves lives.”

“On Friday, December 30, 2022 at approximately 11:47 a.m. officers were dispatched to a residence on Alderbrook Court in Caledon for the report of a vehicle into a house. There were no injuries in the collision and the house was deemed to still be structurally sound.”

Sharlene Brown, 37, from Caledon, has been

charged with:

- Refuse to Comply with Demand for Breath Sample

The charge has not been proven.

“On Saturday, December 31, 2022 at approximately 6:55 a.m. officers attended the scene of a single vehicle collision near the intersection on Chinguacousy Road near Mayfield Road,” say Police. “When officers arrived the driver of the vehicle showed signs of impairment was arrested.”

Divjot Brar, 21, has been charged with:

- Impaired Operation of a Motor Vehicle
- Operate a Vehicle with Over 80mgs of Alcohol in Blood

The charges have not been proven.

“Later on Saturday evening, at approximately 10:45 p.m., officers were dispatched to a single vehicle collision near the intersection of Healey Road and Innis Lake Road. The driver of the vehicle was injured in the collision and transported to hospital where officers continued the investigation.”

Asfand Yar, 28, from Caledon, has been charged with:

- Impaired Operation of a Motor Vehicle

The charge has not been proven.

“On Friday, December 30, 2022 at approximately 11:00 p.m. a member of the Caledon community observed what they believed to be an impaired driver in the area of McPherson Road and called police. Officers were able to locate and stop the motor vehicle a short time later. The driver showed signs of impairment and was arrested at the scene. The driver was transported back to the Caledon Detachment where breath samples were taken. The driver registered breath sample readings over 4 times the legal limit. The legal limit for alcohol in a person’s body is 80 milligrams in Ontario.”

As a result of the investigation a 40-year-old resident from Caledon has been charged with:

- Impaired Operation of a Motor Vehicle
- Operate a Vehicle with Over 80mgs of Alcohol

The accused is scheduled to appear in Orangeville Provincial Court in March 2023.

The charges have not been proven.

“Caledon OPP would like to thank the witnesses who contacted the police. Taking the time to report impaired driving saves lives.

“In this day and age of rode-sharing there is no reason to drive impaired. If you don’t have a ride-share app, call a taxi, phone a friend or make arrangements for close accommodations.

The OPP Caledon Detachment would like to encourage motorists to report potential impaired drivers. Motorists can call 911, or *OPP (*677) on their mobile device and be put in contact with an emergency dispatcher. Using a mobile device to report a potential impaired driver will not result in a charge for using a hand-held communication device.”



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Proposed 2023 Caledon budget increase would mean 3.68 per cent property tax hike

Continued from FRONT

The capital budget contains information on the Town’s capital projects and how they are proposed to be funded.

In creating the 2023 Operating budget, Town staff started with the approved 2022 balanced budget, with \$121.5 million in revenues and expenditures.

“From this starting point, staff adjust expenses and revenues based on projections for items impacted by the consumer price index (CPI) and other items affected by non-CPI factors such as annualization of expenses...” reads the budget document.

Unavoidable budget increases are operating items approved by Council in 2022 or previous years that will impact the 2023 budget. The proposed 2023 budget has \$3,037,081 in unavoidable budget increases.

There is a projected decrease of \$1,139,805 in the Town’s Operating budget — for both expenses and revenues — overall for 2023.

The Town will see \$2,253,824 in assessment growth in 2023, which comes mainly from taxes levied on new homes and businesses. This revenue will be split between the Town’s operating and capital budgets.

The Town’s Capital budget is composed of the purchase and construction of tangible assets such as roads and bridges, as well as one-time expenses like studies. Town staff are proposing a \$77.9 million capital investment from the Town in 2023, of which a main source of funding is tax levy funding.

“A portion of property taxes collected is allocated to the Town’s capital program as a sustainable, consistent source of funding for both repair/maintenance/replacement

of aging infrastructure and purchase/construction of new infrastructure to support growth,” reads the budget document.

“The Town owns approximately half a billion dollars of infrastructure, such as Recreational Centres, Libraries, Fire Stations, Roads, Fleet Vehicles, (and) Fitness Equipment.”

A survey of Caledon residents on the proposed 2023 Caledon budget closed on January 3. An online question-and-answer portal about the budget is currently open on the Town’s civic engagement website, haveyoursaycaledon.ca. This question-and-answer portal will be open until February 20.

As mentioned above, Caledon Council will be presented the proposed 2023 budget on January 10. Council will then deliberate on the budget at a February 14 general committee meeting, before undertaking final considerations and a vote on the budget on February 28.

“Council ultimately makes the decision on spending and the resulting impact on the tax rate,” notes the budget document. “During budget discussions, Council may direct staff to replace projects proposed to be funded with unfunded projects, remove projects proposed to be funded altogether, and/or add unfunded projects to the proposed funded list. The Council discussion and decisions will result in the overall tax impact and tax increase required to deliver the service levels and capital program approved by Council.”

Overall, Caledon’s proposed operating budget increase for 2023 is \$4,907,776, and its proposed capital budget increase is \$456,000. However, after taking into account the \$2,253,824 of assessment growth, the proposed net increase of Caledon’s overall budget is \$3,110,452. This number is the reason for the proposed 3.68 per cent property tax increase.

Once the Region of Peel and Education portions of the tax bill are known to Town staff, an update with the estimated overall tax increase to Caledon residents will be provided to Council and Caledon residents.



Caledon’s Town Crier is pictured welcoming residents to Winterfest pre-pandemic.

FILE PHOTO

Annual Winterfest event happening this Sunday

Free skating, swimming and more at Mayfield Recreation Complex January 8

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

Caledon residents will soon be able to enjoy a free, family-friendly day of fun at the Mayfield Recreation Complex.

From 1 to 4 p.m. on January 8, the Town of Caledon will host its Winterfest event for the nineteenth time. Residents should make sure to bring their skates, as there will be free skating at the Mayfield rink. Residents should bring their bathing suits too as there will be free swimming at the Mayfield pool too. There will be free refreshments for those who work up an appetite swimming and skating, as well as additional games and activities for kids.

Caledon Mayor Annette Groves will be at Winterfest, and she will bring with her members of Caledon Council.

Groves said Winterfest is always a great day for the community and a chance for Council and residents to get to know each other. There will also be local service agencies and non-profits attending the event, and residents can find out more about what is offered in their community.

Winterfest is always held in Caledon on the first Sunday of the New Year, and is a partnership between the Town of Caledon’s recreation department and Mayor’s office.

There will be a welcome address from Groves and Council that will take place at 2 p.m. and from 2:30 to 3:15 p.m. the Town is bringing in a magician to perform for the kids.

This year’s Winterfest event marks a return to in-person celebrations after a pause due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Mayfield Recreation Complex is located at 12087 Bramalea Rd.

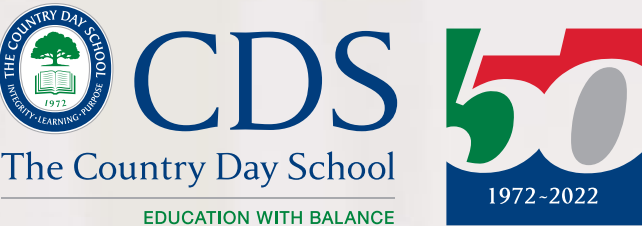
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January 21st
@ 10am

Ward 3 Councillor Doug Maskell hopeful for 2023 in Caledon



Doug Maskell is serving his first term as Caledon’s Ward 3 Councillor.

PHOTO BY ZACHARY ROMAN

Maskell says Caledon’s budget is the first important Council task this year

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

Ward 3 Councillor Doug Maskell was one of four councillors elected to serve Caledon residents for the first time in Caledon’s most recent election.

Maskell ran a self-funded election campaign in 2022, culminating in a win by almost 250 votes over his closest competition on October 24, election night.

Maskell said he remembers deciding to stay at home with family on that night to watch the numbers roll in. He said it was a kind of nerve-wracking evening, especially when the online system that showed election results crashed for a while. However, when all was said and done and Maskell found out he was elected, he said it was quite humbling.

“Everything I’d been working for, for basically a year, actually came to fruition. It was pretty emotional,” said Maskell. “It wasn’t really until the next day when I woke up that it really sunk in.”

It was then that Maskell felt humbled again, knowing so many people had put their trust in him to look out for their best interests by voting

for him over the other candidates.

Maskell said he tried to run a campaign where he wasn’t hiding anything from anybody, taking strong positions on issues. For example, Maskell took a firm stance against Highway 413, said he’d seek to reverse the 24.5 per cent councillor pay increase approved by the previous Caledon council, and advocated for automated speed enforcement units in community safety zones.

This information and more was all readily available on Maskell’s website. Maskell said when collecting his lawn signs from supporters after the election, many people told him they voted for him because of the information they found there. Maskell said even when he and a resident would not share the same view on an issue, he’d encourage them to check out his campaign materials and see what they did agree on.

“We don’t need to agree on everything, right?” said Maskell.

After being elected, Councillors begin attending various orientation sessions where they begin to learn all about what it means to be a councillor. Maskell said the sessions were a great opportunity to network with the Town of Caledon’s senior leadership team from different departments.

“Those training sessions were incredibly invaluable,” said Maskell. “When I walked away from that and into the first meeting, I found a lot more confidence.”

One of the first meetings of Caledon’s current Council was on December 6, 2022, where items like the Caledon OPP budget, Town of Caledon Aquatic Leadership Program, and Celebrate

Caledon changes were discussed. Maskell said many items discussed at the meeting were in motion from the previous Council.

Maskell said some people think a Councillor can walk into the Town offices and begin changing laws, but that is not the case. He said it’s important to realize Town staff are experts in their fields.

“They’re the chief engineer, the chief planner for a reason,” said Maskell. “You have to represent your constituents but also respect the fact that these are professionals.”

During Councillor orientation, Maskell said it was valuable to receive advice from Councillors who were re-elected, be it to their same position or to a new position. Maskell said the most important piece of advice he received was to not be afraid of asking questions — while still making sure you’re doing your homework.

“If there’s things that can be dealt with prior to a meeting, get them dealt with,” said Maskell. “Don’t waste the public’s time because you’re not doing your work.”

Maskell is coming to politics from the world of education, as this school year will be his last in a 30-plus year career as an educator. He said training to be a Councillor reminds him of training to be a teacher, as you can train all you want, but need first-hand experience to know what it’s like. Maskell said he thinks there will be many transferable skills from his teaching career, as he’s spent his whole life communicating with people, processing information, and delivering it in a meaningful way.

Something that’s surprised Maskell about being a Councillor is the recognition factor; that people will see him on the street and say hello because he is now a public figure. He’s experienced that a little before when he was the head of the guidance department at Humberview Secondary School.

“I’d be at the Foodland and a parent would say, ‘Oh, can I talk to you about this for a second?’,” said Maskell. “I’m sure it will be the same thing (as a councillor). I’m going to be at Howard the Butcher and someone will say ‘Hey, can I talk to you?’.” Maskell said one of the benefits of living in a small town is that you can meet people you know on the street and talk.

Beginning this month, Caledon Council will deliberate on the Town’s 2023 budget. A survey where residents were encouraged to offer their input on what they’d like to prioritize in the budget closed on January 3. Maskell said with high inflation and unanticipated impacts coming from the provincial government’s Bill 23, Caledon’s

budget will be a complex document.

“It’s going to be a time where we really have to look at what kind of resources we have as a Town right now,” said Maskell. “We have a lot of money that’s been banked for development projects that have been on the books for a while now. So, it might be important to maybe go back and look at some of those projects... maybe if we need to transfer some of those funds to ensure we don’t get a massive tax increase.”

Maskell said the province’s Bill 23 came out of the blue and will have drastic impacts on the Town of Caledon. Caledon Council met for an emergency meeting on November 25, 2022, and formally announced its opposition to the bill, which was passed just days later.

While Maskell said it’s hard to estimate what the Town’s 2023 budget will look like until it’s presented to Council and the public, he knows the Town can’t pass off the burden of inflation onto taxpayers. He said it’s critical that Caledon doesn’t tax its residents out of the Town.

Maskell said Budget time is the right time to look into reversing the pay increase for Caledon’s Mayor and Council. He said he’s hoping it’s one of the first things Council does in this New Year, as it will be a public and transparent way to gain people’s trust — especially since he and some others campaigned on the promise. While the raise to Councillors’ pay is a drop in the bucket in the grand scheme of Caledon’s budget, Maskell said it’s a very symbolic drop in the bucket.

“I really believe the decision should have been deferred to us,” said Maskell. “If you’re increasing everyone’s taxes... and giving yourself a 25 per cent raise, it doesn’t look very good.”

Looking ahead to 2023, Maskell said he’s hoping for a progressive and cooperative year of Council. He’s hoping everyone will work together to represent the best interests of Caledon residents and not become factionalized.

“The people elected us to work together and not work for special interests or our own interests,” said Maskell. “I’m hoping we can get that salary increase reversed, that the budget is a good one and respects the taxpayer... and that we can get some kind of position from the Town against the 413.”

He added that he wants to work to get better internet access to residents and businesses all across Caledon.

“As long as everyone keeps trying their best, we’re going to be OK,” said Maskell. “You always have to come back to, ‘Why am I in this chair?’ It’s not for me, it’s for the residents.”

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Celebration

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caledon.ca/Winterfest2023
or call 905.584.2272 x.7327



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Help our Operations team keep the streets cleared of ice and snow so that we can all travel safely this holiday season!

Remove your vehicles from the road and from blocking sidewalks during winter operations (salting, sanding, plowing) and avoid being ticketed or towed!

These winter parking restrictions are in effect from November 1 until April 30.

Visit caledon.ca/winterparking for details.



BROCK WEIR
BROCK'S BANTER

Shining a light into 2023

It's a good thing we've had the last three years to pivot in ways we've never had to before – because we all need a little bit more flexibility at this time of year.

Looking back at the last few days of the year that was, I was glad to have been able to metaphorically tuck and roll, brace for impact, and recalculate trajectory over the holidays.

Despite the best laid plans most of us had for the holiday season, a winter wallop forced some to be a bit more flexible than we had anticipated – to various degrees of frustration, anger, and disappointment.

As Mother Nature unleashed her wrath, many of us were left looking for ways to stage a Great Christmas Redo – as was the case with my family.

As I alluded to in my last column, these days of newly-minted Christmas past were shaping up to be the busiest in a good long while, certainly since the last holiday of the “before times.” The dash was set to begin December 23 with an overnight up north, before a sprint to southwestern Ontario on the night of Christmas Eve, and then a running leap to Aurora on Boxing Day morning before a grand finale in Etobicoke. At the eleventh hour, the vague threat of weather nixed any travel plans on December 23 and plans quickly pivoted to condensing the northern dash, a family dinner, and a southwestern sprint in a narrower-than-it-sounds 12-hour window. Somehow the first leg of the trip was pretty uneventful, the meal was delicious, and the warm-and-fuzzies of the first round of family reunions quickly bubbled to the surface.

The second leg of the trip was much of the same – until it wasn't.

Catching the train in Barrie for Toronto was pretty easy, as was catching the subway to connect with a further two GO Buses to Kitchener. But things shifted quickly on the last round with near invisibility driving into the university city.

Arriving at the Kitchener GO about an hour later than scheduled, I'll freely admit to being a bit cranky. Being on the go for what was, by then, 15 or 16 hours through all manner of weather, I wanted to call it a day as quickly as possible. But the final taxi connection had other ideas.

With some further time to kill in the wee hours of Christmas morning, it seemed logical to actually go inside the station to warm up.

At which point any crankiness I had quickly evaporated.

The station's waiting room was full of tired travellers who had scrambled to catch a 7.15 p.m. train to get back home to celebrate the holidays, a train which had by then been delayed until 2.37 that morning.

There were grumbles from the travellers to be sure, but as I watched some of them wrap themselves up in coats and clothes from their suitcases to rest their weary heads on cheerily-wrapped gifts that, had their plans gone off without a hitch, would have already been opened by their child, partner, parent, it certainly put the marathon to merriment I'd just experienced into perspective.

All in all, we had it pretty easy. The weather held off when it needed to and the connections were largely on time to get us where we needed to go. Compared to people just waiting for the chance to head in the direction of Toronto, there was plenty to be grateful for and the wait for the last taxi didn't seem so bad – and I decided then and there to simply go with the flow for whatever nature and fate had planned for the days that followed.

The sheer determination of people in the

station determined to be with loved ones on that very special day was the overriding image of Christmas Eve for me. In the Christmas favourite “Love Actually”, Hugh Grant waxes lyrically about the arrivals gate at Heathrow Airport – but, at Christmas 2022, there was something to be said about the departures lobby at the Kitchener GO.

On Christmas Day itself, I was grateful to have been able to wake up in a warm bed and partake in at least one tradition that is inextricably part of my holidays: taking a 10-minute pause to hear from the Monarch.

Not only is it a great opportunity to take a bit of a breather amid the hubbub, I found the thoughts shared by Queen Elizabeth II, and now King Charles III, help set the tone for the year ahead – and this year was no exception.

Speaking of his late mother's faith, the King said her “belief in the power of that light [in O Little Town of Bethlehem] was an essential part of her faith in God, but also her faith in people.”

“It is a belief in the extraordinary ability of each person to touch with goodness and compassion the lives of others and to share a light in the world around them. This is the essence of our community, and the very foundation of our society. We see it in the selfless dedication of our armed forces and emergency services, who work so tirelessly to keep us all safe...we see it in our health and social care professionals, our teachers, and indeed all those working in public service whose skill and commitment are at the heart of our communities. And at this time of great anxiety and hardship, be it for those around the world facing conflict, famine, or natural disaster, or for those at home finding ways to pay their bills to keep their families fed and warm, we see it in the humanity of people throughout our nations and the Commonwealth, who so readily respond to the plight of others.

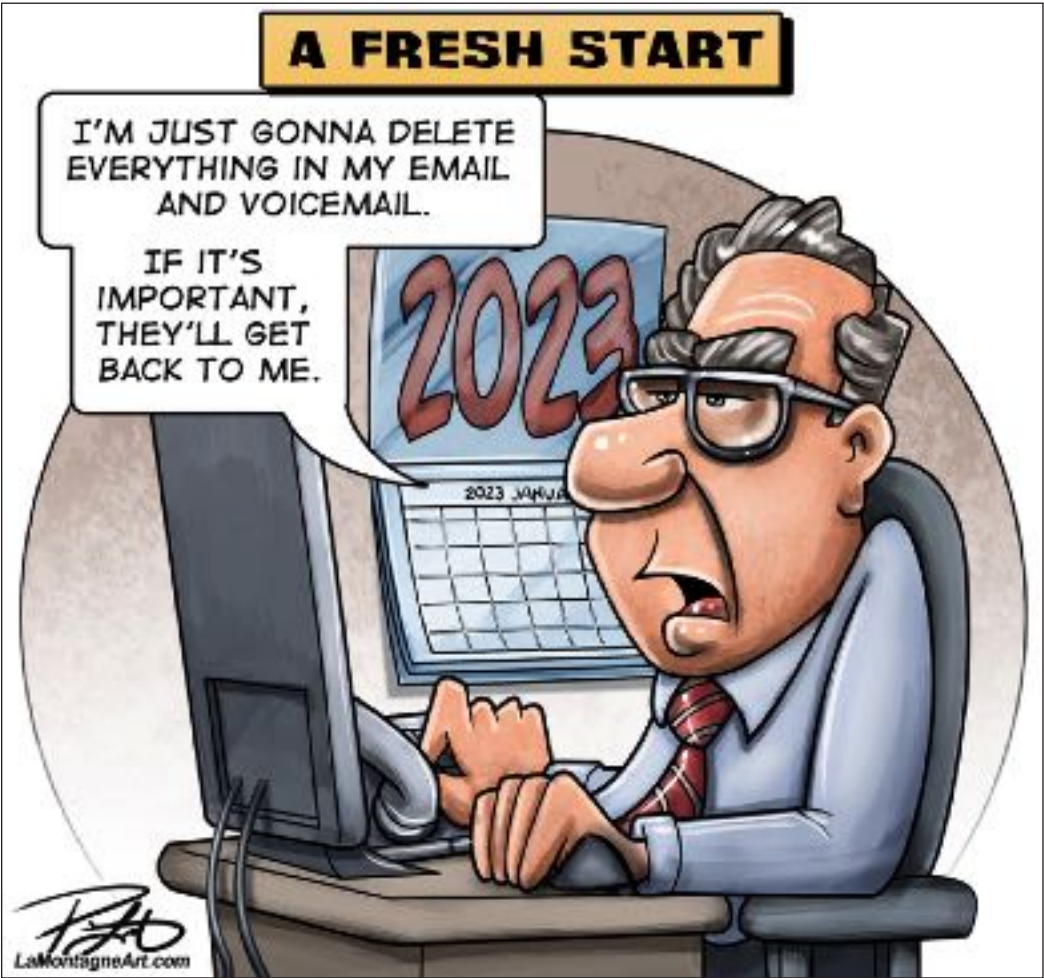
“I particularly want to pay tribute to all those wonderfully kind people who so generously give food or donations, or that most precious commodity of all, their time, to support those around them in greatest need. Together with the many charitable organizations, which do such extraordinary work in the most difficult circumstances, our churches, synagogues, mosques, temples, and gurdwaras have once again united in feeding the hungry, providing love and support throughout the year. Such heartfelt solidarity is the most inspiring expression of loving our neighbour as ourself.

“While Christmas is of course a Christian celebration, the power of light overcoming darkness is celebrated across the boundaries of faith and belief. So whatever faith you have, or whether you have none, it is in this life-giving light and with the true humility that lies in our service to others, that I believe we can find hope for the future.”

In a world which feels more and more divided with each passing year, I too believe we can foster hope for the future in looking out for one another and finding new, renewed, and creative ways we can add to the light over the next 12 months and beyond.

If one can afford it, it could be a simple donation to the local food bank or the charity of choice. For those whose resources are stretched thin due to inflation and other challenges, it can just be an allocation of time, something of which we all have a bit to spare.

But there's an option that requires no resources and little time: renewing the respect we have traditionally shown to the tireless people who work day in and day out to keep us safe, keep us healthy, and educate the leaders of tomorrow.



Contemplating the “little things”

by Mark Pavilons



new “plants” in 2023. I did a little crying myself last year, so I'm really hoping this year will be much better.

Maybe we need to cast aside negativity and ill will, in favour of some peace and compassion.

Sure, we say these things and toss them around like candy. But do they stick, or sink in?

Is our resolution to spread positive energy like our promise for a new fitness regime, only to be abandoned a few weeks in?

As “deep healing frequencies” play in the background on my computer at work, my mind wanders, trying to focus.

It lands on something, then the phone rings, emails rush in and texts appear on my phone.

Mostly “little picture” things. Some annoyances, and some legitimate concerns. And all the while, those pesky thoughts of trepidation and health matters floating around my brain.

All the whipped shortbread cookies in the world won't solve these problems. But they do help! Thanks, Kim!

I think 2023 will be a year of growth, both personally and as a whole. Predictions are the economy is bouncing back in many sectors and life will surpass the pre-COVID levels.

That's good. It's a shadow, a sticky second skin that we all need to shed.

But the wounds, well, they linger.

We've run into some mental health issues during the pandemic, and we're trying everything to help those around us. Some are old wounds, some are new ones.

I urge everyone to extend a hand of kindness. If you know of someone who may be going through more than they can handle, please reach out.

When you see something beautiful in someone, tell them!

I'm not a genius, philosopher or soothsayer. I'm just a scribe, a storyteller of sorts.

I try to share what I've learned over the decades, in the hopes it may shed some light on things.

With light, there is always hope.

And that's what I try to keep in mind. Let the world rush madly about outside our windows.

Accept the hectic pace, but react to it with a sense of calm.

Help others. Help yourself.

My friends, let's all vow to make 2023 a year unlike any other. Let's work to build more bridges, do better work and be slightly better versions of ourselves. If our lights shine brighter, we can help others see in the dark!

And remember, we're not alone.

Cloistered in my office, there are days when I have limited human interaction. I look forward to virtual Council meetings, messages from contacts and photos submitted by residents of fun-filled events.

If you really think about it, there are many things in the course of a day that can make you smile. Cherish those, and toss the rest!

I have to eat better, exercise and drink more water. I have no choice.

Yes, there may be some challenges ahead for me this year, but if I keep thinking about those “little things,” my journey will be more tolerable.

If you need a bit of my flame, take it – I'm happy to share! Maybe you will return the favour one day.

All the best in 2023!

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EDITOR**

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Resolutions

I’ve never understood the hoopla about celebrating the New Year.

The start of a New Year could really be any arbitrary date on the calendar. It just means we are back at the same spot in the solar system that we were one year ago, and that happens every single day.

Prior to 1752, New Year’s was March 25 in North America and some other countries. The switch to the Gregorian calendar in that year moved the date to January 1.

That being so, it has become custom to celebrate the fact that you have to buy a new calendar to hang on the wall.

The pandemic squashed most parties, especially the big ones, for the last couple of years, but I would imagine things were full throttle again this year.

The problem with New Year’s Eve parties is you have to wait until midnight until you can yell “Happy New Year,” kiss the person you’re with, and sing Auld Lang Syne, Although I’m sure singing the song isn’t in much fashion these days because no one seems to know the words past the first two lines.

If you have to wait until midnight, you’ve got to fill the time leading up to the noise makers, bells, and fireworks.

This year we went bowling. It never even occurred to me to spend New Year’s Eve trying to replicate a scene from the movie King Pin, but a friend of mine had the idea and she booked a lane for 9:00 p.m.

To my surprise, the bowling alley was packed with people having a fun night out to wait out the time until midnight.

Our group had a lot of fun. I haven’t bowled in years, and for one woman in our group, it was her first time in a bowling alley. We had quite a few gutter balls before we got some momentum going.

Every time someone bowled a strike or spare, we blew noise makers. Since we were all rookies, that quickly became blowing a noisemaker if someone managed to knock down more than one pin.

The entire bowling alley was filled with a sense of revelry and some rather dazzling outfits. It was a good time.

The other tradition that comes with the New Year, is the making of resolutions. Good luck with that.

You can make a resolution any time of year, but for some reason, January 1, is the traditional time to change your life’s habits.

According to surveys, there is a consistent top ten list of resolutions people make every year.

Exercise more – is a big one. The gym’s love this one. It means every year a new group of people arrive and pay a fee to get fit. It usually starts well, but then you put it off one day, then two days, then you realize you haven’t been to the gym in month, but they still have your money.

Along with exercise, losing weight is popular on the list. That is of course, achievable, but it takes determination and discipline.

Many people decide to learn a new skill or hobby. This is definitely achievable if you can find something that you really take an interest in and enjoy doing.

Saving more money is always on the list. With the current rate of inflation, this is going to be a tough one this year. Maybe keeping an eye out for sales and not spending money on frivolous things might be a better option.

Many people list “living life to the fullest” as a goal for the New Year. This is an admirable goal.

However, if you find yourself watching the same TV show every week at the same time, you’re probably slipping back into routine, and not achieving that goal.

Quitting smoking, travelling more, and reading more, also make the top ten.

If you’re going to make a resolution, you probably will benefit by setting realistic goals.

In one report, 35 per cent of people admitted they had unrealistic goals when making a plan. Around the same number admitted they did not keep track of their progress, and around 23 per cent said they simply forgot about their goals.

Ten per cent of respondents said they simply made too many resolutions to keep up with them all.

If you decide to make some changes in your life for the New Year, good for you. It’s just matter of determination and carry through to achieve your goals.

Have a happy and prosperous New Year.

BRIAN LOCKHART
FROM THE SECOND ROW



Happy New Year

Have you made any resolutions to begin this new year? Will you be scrambling to buy the “perfect” organizing tote box that will finally be the answer to all of your organizing dreams? How about the usual suspects like resolving to lose weight and get in shape, or resolving to drink less or quit smoking? (Does anyone actually still smoke?) If you haven’t, or frankly even if you have, it’s not too late to make some adaptations to your resolutions and the kinds of changes I propose might require that you have the steeliest resolve of all.

What SHOULD you resolve to do in 2023? How about ignoring all that silly pressure to “do” or “be” and resolving instead to simply be KIND.

Seriously, think about it. No one should even be thinking of resolutions until they are at least 30 years old, in my humble opinion. Kids should just be kids and teens have enough emotional and hormonal angst to deal with, without the added pressure of “failing” at some arbitrary resolution that society dictates we make every January 1.

In your 20s you are building on your education, your career and maybe even your family

and you are too busy to resolve to “do better.” Then along come the 30s and 40s and with them perhaps an extra pound or 12, the kids keeping you too busy to spend enough time with your in-laws and maybe your house isn’t quite as tidy as it used to be. “I’m going to get more organized,” you scream into the void as you voraciously consume social media “influencers” who show us all the “right” ways to live our lives, parent our children AND stay fit, cook healthy and follow a 7-step cleansing routine every single night. You haven’t changed, only your outlook has. The person you worked hard to become, the teen that worked through all that angst and the young adult that worked hard to succeed at their chosen career is still inside you. The person who loves their parents, or a treasured friend is still inside you. In other words - what makes you YOU is still within you and, unless you are a truly horrible, awful person, what about you needs to change that badly?

Don’t let guilt be the arbiter of your conscience. Don’t let that inner voice, guided by fear of not being whatever society’s version of “perfect” is this year, be the one that you listen to. Guilt is manufactured as a way of controlling

or influencing your behaviour. Religions make you feel guilt. Mothers are the masters of guilt but so too is big business. If you feel guilty for not being perfectly organized or the perfect body size, or buying your kid the latest phone, there’s a manufacturer that can sell you all manner of “cures.” If you feel guilty because the neighbour next door takes her kids to 5 after school activities while you barely get to one on time, someone else on Facebook will then post a picture of their “perfect” life just to make you feel doubly bad.


All of which is to simply say if you want to make a resolution, make one that is easy to succeed at and which will benefit us all. Simply resolve to be nice. Let’s return to the common courtesy that existed (to some degree anyway) prior to the pandemic. I don’t ever recall seeing a sign at a store prior to 2020 that said “verbal or physical abuse of our employees will not be tolerated.” Silly debates about whether a man should hold open a door for a woman or vice versa are ridiculous – hold the damn door open for whoever is behind you and/or who has their hands full. Say thank you when someone does it for you. Kindness costs you nothing. It makes

you feel good inside and it makes the receiver smile and even if they don’t, who cares? As the old saying goes, you have no idea what battles other people are privately waging and whether they respond to you with kindness in return or not, when you are kind there is a pretty good chance you’ve just helped make someone’s day a little bit easier.

I acknowledge that we all could likely use a little bit of fine tuning, if for no other reason than to be healthy; emotionally, mentally and physically. My inner voice is often my own worst enemy. Arising from the arbitrary demand that we resolve to do better each January 1, however, is not the way we should go about making positive changes in our lives. As I said earlier, you worked darn hard to become who you are and that has to count for something. Why try so hard to change? By making just one simple resolution – to be kind – you might find you are a whole lot kinder to yourself too and perhaps then realize, a change isn’t really necessary after all.


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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CDS Student committed to play D1 hockey in Providence

BY ROBERT BELARDI

In her youth, Hannah Clarke was always ready for competition. She was never one to ever back down from a challenge, even if that meant going up against her brother, Caleb, and his friends. “We used to and still do play a lot of sports with and against each other. Mini-sticks, shinny, basketball, tennis, to name a few,” said Hannah. They have a rink at the cottage and she grew up playing with Caleb, her boy cousins and her brothers’ friends. They just never treated her any different. They used to put pads on her and always threw her in net. And, they never let up on the slap shot. They never treated her like a little sister or a little cousin, they treated her like one of them. Subsequently, that’s what happened. She ended up trying to beat them at everything! Having developed a love for hockey at the age of four thanks to her father and her brother, Clarke had a pre-emptive goal. It was always, to be better than Caleb and the two of them – both in their own rights – propelled each other to be better. Clarke began her playing career with the Richmond Hill Stars. Playing with the boys was optimal in the beginning because it was close to home. Here, she de-

veloped life-long friends. When she finally switched over to the girl’s league with the Central York Hockey Association in Aurora, it was clear to herself the differences and benefits of playing hockey with the boys. “Playing boys hockey for her U10 And U12 years under the direction of Chris Torkoff made me a lot more physical I guess and strong. Maybe a little bit faster? I think that was the main difference,” Clarke said. Clarke wasn’t just a competitor that solely focused on one sport in her youth. Since Grade Five at The Country Day School (CDS), she was involved in volleyball, soccer, hockey, track and field and, most recently, power-lifting. Over her time at CDS, she has earned many athletes of the year awards and many MVP trophies to boot; most recently qualifying for three events at OFSAA Track & Field. Just two years ago, Clarke joined the junior hockey program at CYGHA. A highly versatile defenceman and a talented skater, Clarke was garnering attention from post-secondary schools despite shutdowns and closures. Once everything opened back up last year, the provincial tournament came around offering a chance for scouts to attend. The CYGHA Panthers ended up finishing fourth and Clarke also

made Team Ontario and will be competing in the Canada Winter Games in PEI in late February. Throughout this process, she made contact with Providence. “When Providence reached out, we went and visited. The facilities there are super nice, the hockey program is really good, and the coaches are really nice. It seemed like a great fit,” Clarke said. “It’s a nice school, with amazing sports facilities and about 4,000 students. Being on campus reminds me of CDS. When Clarke committed to Providence College and to their Health Science program, her brother Caleb was extremely proud and she thanks her brother who continues to push her to be better until this day. Clarke will aim to play professional women’s hockey one day and aspires to coach the game in the future after that. She wants to give back to the game that gave her so much and to be a mentor for young girls in the future wanting to follow the same path. Clarke is grateful for all of the opportunities that she has received through the coaches at the Central York Panther; Doug Lunney, Brit-tany Crago and Steve Dempsey. Clarke is currently in grade 12 and will be graduating CDS in 2023.

Nominations for Kraft Hockeyville 2023 are open to support Canada’s most passionate hockey communities

Communities from coast-to-coast will compete for the chance to host an NHL preseason game and receive \$250,000 in arena upgrades

Kraft Heinz, in partnership with the National Hockey League (NHL) and the National Hockey League Players’ Association (NHLPA), has announced that nominations are open for Kraft Hockeyville 2023. Nominations will close February 19 at 11:59 p.m. ET. Since launching 17 years ago, Kraft Hockeyville has awarded \$4.5 million to 93 communities to address the growing costs associated with aging sports and recreation infrastructure in Canada. This year, former NHL defenseman P.K. Subban joins the program’s ongoing efforts to fuel the passion and pride of hockey cities and towns from coast-to-coast. Subban’s storied career in hockey and his legacy of giving back makes him the perfect program ambassador. “I had a passion for the game from the moment my mom and dad first put a stick in my hand, and that passion grew every time I laced up my skates at my local arena,” said P.K. Subban. “It’s that ability to fuel the passion of players and fans that shows the huge impact the game has at the community level. I’m thrilled to partner with Kraft Hockeyville to continue to grow that impact by helping make the game more accessible. Everyone deserves an opportunity to play Canada’s game.” During the program’s nomination period, proud hockey cities and towns can share their unique stories, highlighting their connection to the game and local arenas. These stories have helped form the legacy of Kraft Hockeyville, which was exemplified most recently by last year’s winner Sydney, Nova Scotia. The community is determined to accommodate a sharp increase in girls’ participation in hockey by empowering them with the access to ice-time they need to grow their love of the game – all thanks to Kraft Hockeyville. “We are proud of our longstanding support of communities and arenas in need. That has been the hallmark of Kraft Hockeyville from day one,” says Adam Butler, President, Kraft Heinz Canada. “We know that hockey brings communities together. Our commitment to support the sport at a local level by championing participation helps make the game better for all.” The 2023 grand prize winner will have an opportunity to host an NHL preseason game and receive \$250,000 to be used towards arena upgrades, as well as the coveted title of Kraft Hockeyville 2023. This year’s winner and each of the three-runner-up communities will also receive \$10,000 in brand new hockey equipment to help more children play the game, courtesy of the NHLPA Goals & Dreams fund. Visit KraftHockeyville.ca for complete contest rules and program details.

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COMMUNITY events

This column is provided as a free public service to non-profit organizations to announce up-coming events. Please contact the Caledon Citizen by calling (905) 857-6626 if you wish to have an announcement published.

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

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

Caledon Church of Canada. Every Sunday morning @ 10 am. Monday prayer meeting @ 7 pm. Resources: Prayer counselling, Baby/child dedication, Visit the sick, Wedding Services, Food bank and more! For all your pastoral services:

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MILLER, LLOYD

Peacefully at Dufferin Oaks, Shelburne on Saturday, December 31, 2022 at the age of 88. Beloved Husband of Marion Evans (2017). Dear father of Judy Yack (Ron 2004) and the late Katherine Lillian Miller (1978). Cherished grandfather of Kristina Yack. Remembered by his sister Carol. Predeceased by his sister Marlene, his brother and his parents Lillian & C. Miller.



Memorial Visitation will be held at the *Dods & McNair Funeral Home, Chapel & Reception Centre*, 21 First St., Orangeville on January 7th, 2023 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Memorial donations to the Canadian Cancer Society or a charity of your choice would be appreciated by the family.

Condolences may be offered to the family at www.dodsandmcnair.com

LUTTRELL, JOHN CARL

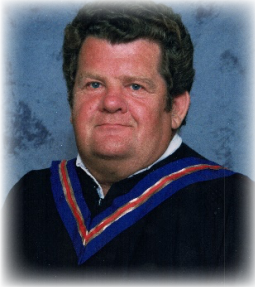
Carl passed peacefully at his home on Friday, December 23, 2022 at age 79 . Beloved husband of Anne Luttrell. Loving father of Terry (Brenda) and Karen Luttrell (2019). Dear grandfather of Ryley. Celebration of Carl's Life will be held on January 3rd, 2023 from 2:00 - 4:00 pm. at the *Dods & McNeil Funeral Home, Chapel & Reception Centre*, First St. Orangeville. If you wish, donations in Carl's memory may be made to the Park Foundation. Sincere thanks to nursing team, Comfort Keepers staff at Montgomery Village.



Condolences may be offered to the family at
www.dodsandmcnair.com

**BENEDICT LEO
PALUBISKI/PALUBETSKIE**
APRIL 14, 1948 – DECEMBER 10, 2022

Ben passed away peacefully on December 10th, 2022 at the Shelburne Long Term Residence at the age of 74 years, with his loving wife Bonnie June (nee Thompson) by his side. He will be greatly missed by his 3 loving sons, Steven (predeceased), John & David.



Loving son to parents Genevieve & Leo Palubiski (predeceased), loving brother to Robert, Florian, Thomas, Albert & Janet (predeceased). He will missed by sisters and brothers, Ursula (Tom), Basil (Annette), Vincent (Marg), Isadore, Margaret, Gregory (Kim), Christopher and their families. Also missed by his in-laws June & Robert Thompson (predeceased), Donald (Marj), Brenda (Bruce), Betty Ann (Allan), Thomas (Cindy) and families.

Ben was born on April 14, 1948 to parents Genevieve & Leo Palubiski, in Renfrew, Ontario. He was the oldest of his siblings. Ben and his family lived in many areas including Killaloe, Burke's Falls, Amaranth, Orangeville & Laurel. He met and fell in love with his wife of 50 years, Bonnie June, with whom he had 3 beautiful sons. He worked for Nortel for 30 years before retiring. Once retired, Ben and Bonnie lived in Bonnechere, ON where they opened a Chip Bus called Bonnechere Bonnie's which they successfully ran for 11 years. Ben was also a volunteer driver for Renfrew Family & Children's Services, and both Bonnie and Ben fostered several children throughout those years.

Ben had many passions including working as a Scout Leader in Orangeville and Laurel area, fishing and gardening. He will be sadly missed by all the families and friends that he made along the way.

At Ben's wishes, cremation has already taken place. Donations in Ben's memory can be made to the Heart & Stroke Foundation.

Online condolences may be made at www.imfuenrals.com

In Memoriam Funeral Services Inc. has been given the honour to serve the Palubiski Family.

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We thank all applicants, but only those selected for interviews will be contacted.

PUZZLE SOLUTION

[illegible]

SMITH, DONALD MACKENZIE

It is with deep sorrow that the family of Donald Mackenzie Smith, a resident of Welland, Ontario announces his passing on Monday December 19, 2022. Born August 21, 1941, Don was the son of the late Mackenzie and Muriel Smith.



Don, also known affectionately as Gibby, will be deeply missed by Jackie, his wife and soulmate of 57 years. He was the cherished and loving father to Greg (Jane) and Kevin (Sarah). Don adored his grandchildren Miles, Eleanor, Willa, and Greta. He was a beloved big brother to Ken (Joyce) and Dave (Christine).

Don was a graduate of the University of Western Ontario and received his Chartered Accountant designation with the firm Clarkson and Gordon. Don spent the early years of his career as an executive in the food and beverage industry before becoming a partner at Wedgbury, Smith and Bonebakker in Bolton, Ontario. Deeply devoted to his community, he volunteered on the Board of Directors of the Headwaters Tourism Association, the Headwaters Health Care Centre in Orangeville and served as President of the Caledon Chamber of Commerce.

Don was passionate about sports. He was an active member of the Alpine Ski Club and an avid golfer. He loved selecting his NFL football picks each week and watching live sporting events. Some of his happiest times were spent traveling with Jackie and summers at the cottage.

Don will be remembered for his huge heart, endless generosity, and dedication to his family and friends.

We want to thank the doctors and staff at Juravinski, Welland and Port Colborne hospitals for their outstanding care and compassion. We extend our special gratitude to Dr. Woodland for his kindness and exemplary support.

A memorial service will be held on January 6 at the Vineland Chapel of Tallman Funeral Homes, 3277 King St., Vineland at 2pm. Additionally family and friends are gathering on Thursday, January 5 from 5-7pm at the chapel.

To view the Live Stream Memorial Service please visit Don's obituary page at tallmanfuneralhomes.ca at the time of the service.

The family invites those who wish to express sympathy to consider donations to the Juravinski Cancer Centre Foundation in Hamilton or a donation to the charity of their choice in Don's name.

Online condolences at tallmanfuneralhomes.ca.

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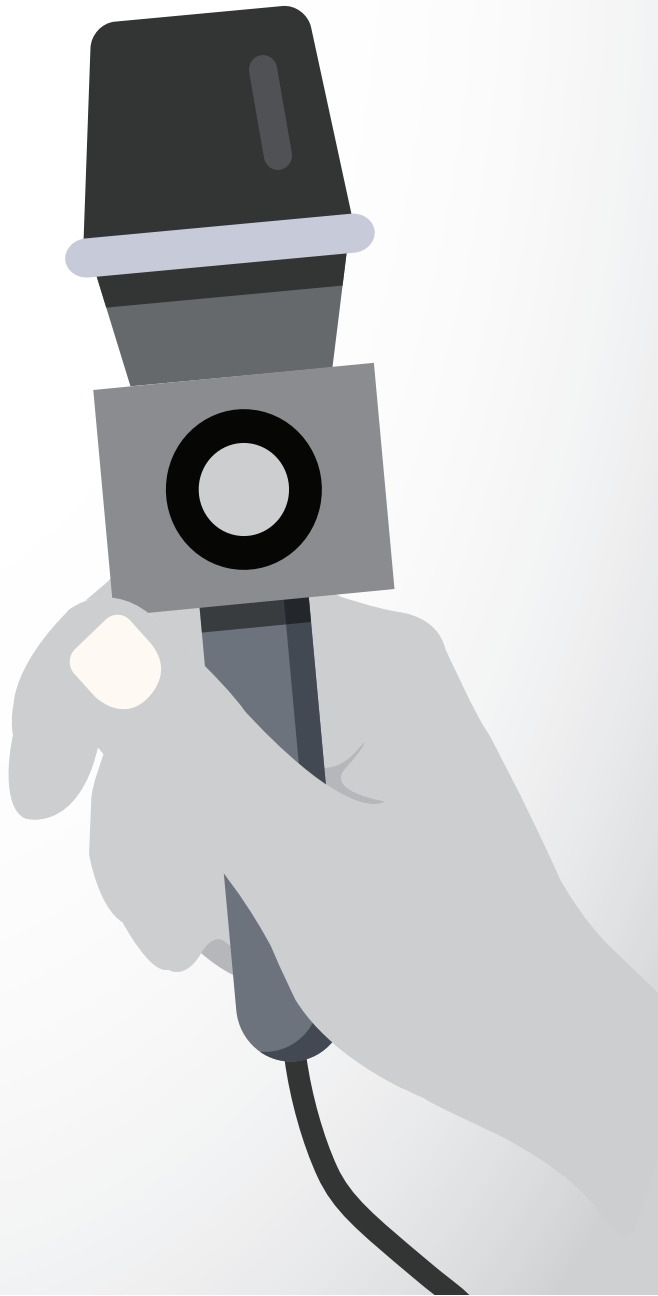
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Alzheimer’s Awareness Month

Bolton hearing clinic warns of greater risk for dementia with untreated hearing loss

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

Canadians are encouraged to learn about the stark impact dementia has on Canadians during the month of January.

Each January, the Alzheimer Society of Canada supports and leads Alzheimer’s awareness month. The society hopes that by understanding what people with dementia experience every day, people will gain a greater empathy and awareness for those afflicted with the disease.

“Awareness is the first step to fighting stigma, reinforcing human rights and pushing for policy change, as well as other actions that can lift up Canadians living with dementia,” according to the Alzheimer Society of Canada. “Please support Alzheimer’s Awareness Month. It’s an easy start to helping your fellow Canadians who are living with this serious disease.”

There are a number of ways people can show their support, and one is by talking about Alzheimer’s awareness month on social media. The Alzheimer Society has a plethora of tools and information on its website that people can use to spread the word.

Another is to connect with your local Alzheimer society — there are local societies in Peel and Dufferin County. People are also encouraged to learn more about dementia, especially by listening to the stories of people with lived experience.



According to the Alzheimer Society of Canada, there were 597,000 people in Canada living with dementia as of 2020.

By 2030, that number is expected to increase to nearly one million. One in five Canadians has experience caring for someone living with dementia, and in 2020, 61.8 per cent of those living with dementia were women.

Surveys show that 87 per cent of caregivers wish more people understood the realities of caring for someone with dementia.

A Bolton hearing clinic issued a press release for Alzheimer’s awareness month sharing research that points towards untreated hearing loss as a possible risk for developing dementia.

While how hearing loss increases the risk of dementia isn’t fully understood yet, researchers suggest untreated hearing loss increases the load on the brain by redirecting sounds to puzzle-solving and memory parts of the brain rather than speech interpretation

sections of the brain. According to Wendy Moore of Hear Well Be Well, a 2020 study suggested the brain may stop using those areas usually engaged with interpreting sound, leading to those areas shrinking or degenerating.

John Tiede, hearing instrument specialist and co-CEO of Hear Well Be Well hearing health clinics, said changes to hearing can be gradual so people don’t often notice them. In light of the research showing the connection between hearing loss and dementia, Tiede is encouraging people to get their hearing tested.

Drop by for a drop-in program at the Caledon Public Library this January

Library offering numerous different programs to start the new year

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

January can be a slow time of the year after the holidays, but there’s still lots going on and lots planned at Caledon Public Library branches across Caledon.

There’s a number of drop-in programs that are continuing in 2023, and one such program that’s been gaining popularity is “Knit and Knatter.” No previous experience is necessary for this crafty drop-in pro-

gram, and it’s a great place to learn from those experienced with all things yarn — just bring your supplies to one of the participating library branches for a weekly meeting.

Knit and Knatter is held on Tuesdays at the Caledon East branch at 6:30 p.m.; on Wednesdays at the Albion Bolton and Alton branches at 6:30 and 7 p.m. respectively; on Thursdays at the Caledon Village branch at 6:30 p.m.; and on Fridays at the Southfields Village branch at 12 p.m.

Megan Renkema, Caledon Public Library’s (CPL) Manager of Information Services, said Knit and Knatter is bringing different generations together, as younger knitters who have recently taken up the art are chatting with and learning from seasoned veterans.

“Quite often you’ll see somebody who’s in their early 20s sitting and chatting with someone older,” said Renkema. “It’s a really nice diverse group and it transcends the ages — there’s something for everybody.”

The CPL brings out books that may be of interest to Knit and Knatter participants, and they can also make use of the CPL’s online database called Creativebug which has many tutorials for knitting and other crafts.

“It’s an ongoing program that we’ve been offering for years... it’s for people that love any sort of knitting and crocheting to come together and share their craft and their tips,” said Renkema. “We’ve got some very active groups who come and really enjoy the time and the space where they can get together.”

Renkema said the sort of inter-generational learning that goes on at Knit and Knatter is really important, and it’s encouraged at other CPL drop-in programs like Writers’ Ink.

Run and facilitated by members, it’s a space where people can share their creative writing and receive tips and support from other writers in the community. It runs at the Alton branch on the first Wednesday of each month from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. and at the Albion Bolton branch from 7 to 8:30 p.m. every first and third Monday of each month.

“It’s the same thing — you know, you might have an 18-year-old who’s just starting their writing journey who’s coming and sitting with people who are maybe published already,” said Renkema. “Alton also has an art club and we’re starting one in Bolton, too, which we’re hoping is going to be the same thing.”

Renkema said a great part about the drop in programs is there’s no commitment so you can try a program out with no stress. She added it’s great too because it’s no big deal if you miss a week of a program.

Looking ahead to the future, Renkema said an important event coming

up in February is “Historical Teachings with Elder Garry Sault.” It’s happening on February 25 at 1 p.m. at the Southfields Village branch of the CPL. It will also be streamed live on Zoom, but note it will not be recorded for future viewing — you’ll need to attend this event live.

The event is part of CPL’s Indigenous Series, and Sault will be presenting to attendees on the historical teachings of Wampum and Paper treaties.

CPL’s profile on the event explains that Sault is an Ojibwe Elder from the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation.


“His people signed over 20 pre-confederation treaties with the Crown which cover most of the Golden Horseshoe,” reads the profile.

Renkema said CPL is very excited to be hosting Sault, as he was originally scheduled to come last November but had to cancel due to a personal emergency.

“It’s a really important program for us, the library and the community,” said Renkema. “What (Sault) has to share is going to be really valuable.”




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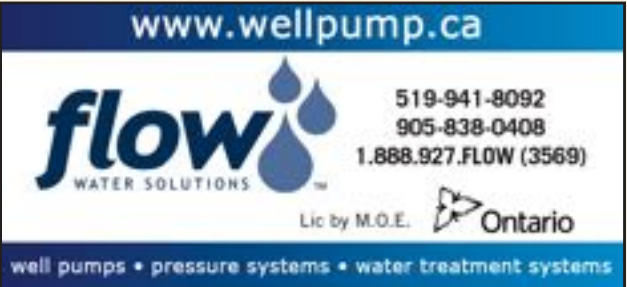
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