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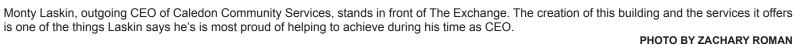
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Thursday, February 16, 2023

Volume 43, Issue 7





Laskin stepping down as CEO of **Caledon Community Services:** "A joyful ride"

Laskin's last day on the job will be April 28

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

The head of Caledon's largest non-profit will be leaving his post after more than decade-anda-half of working to help those in need in the community.

Monty Laskin, CEO of Caledon Community Services (CCS), will be stepping down from his job on April 28. He gave a long period of notice in order to ensure a seamless transition to whoever will be the organization's next CEO.

CCS' Operating Budget more than doubled in size during Laskin's tenure as CEO, and a plethora of new services were added to CCS' catalogue.

Before coming to CCS, Laskin worked for Ontario's Ministry of the Attorney General, where he had a chance to see the province make important decisions on what they were going to prioritize. Specifically, his work was with Ontario Victim Services, so Laskin got to see the work of and be inspired by hundreds of different non-profit organizations across the

Prior to working in government, Laskin worked for various community organizations in Toronto, where he did, and still, lives.

"After a while in government, I wanted to return to community where my heart is," said Laskin. He explained that his predecessor, former CCS CEO Susan Cameron, gave him a call and let him know she was stepping down and that he should interview for the position. Laskin said Cameron was a fantastic CEO and built a strong foundation for CCS.

Continued on Page 17



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Free menstrual products now available at Town of Caledon facilities

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

Caledon has taken a step towards addressing period poverty.

On February 8, the Town announced it was now offering free menstrual products at Town-operated facilities.

"Dispensers providing free tampons and pads can be found in many washrooms across the municipality," said the Town of Caledon in a statement. "Need one? Take one."

The move is in support of "The Red

Mvmnt", a youth-led non-profit that's focused on advancing sustainable menstrual equity across the Greater Toronto Area.

In the Town's announcement, Mayor Annette Groves explained Canadian women spend over \$6,000 on menstrual products in their lifetime, which is a financial obstacle for many. Groves said offering free products in Town facilities is one way to provide period poverty relief.

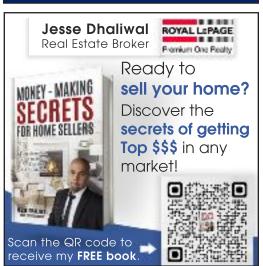
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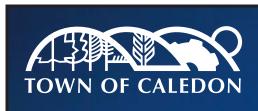




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Peel sends letter to province expressing concern about removal of Greenbelt lands

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

Peel Councillors are concerned with the provincial government removing land from the Greenbelt.

Ontario's Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing recently amended the Greenbelt Plan, Greenbelt area boundary regulation, and Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan. In doing this, it removed 3,000 hectares of Greenbelt land in 15 areas outside of Peel Region. At the same time, the Ministry added 3,800 hectares to the Greenbelt, also outside of Peel Region.

While the Ministry's move did not directly impact Peel, the Region's Councillors are still concerned about the precedent the move sets. At Regional Council's February 9 meeting, Council passed on consent a recommendation to send a letter to the Ministry "communicating the importance of permanently protecting the Greenbelt." Peel Councillors first instructed Region of Peel staff to write the letter at their January 12 meeting.

The Greenbelt was formally established in 2005 to protect water, natural areas,

and agricultural lands. The Greenbelt Plan states that it "identifies where urbanization should not occur in order to provide permanent protection to the agricultural land base and the ecological and

hydrological features, areas and functions occurring on this landscape."

According to the province, the reason it changed the Greenbelt Plan was to accommodate growth and support the building of

"The Province has indicated the lands would result in the construction of approximately 50,000 or more new homes with the expectation that planning approvals would be significantly advanced in 2023 and construction would begin by no later than 2025," reads a Region of Peel staff report. "The Province indicates that if these conditions are not met, the government will begin the process to return the properties back to the Greenbelt."

According to a February 2022 report from the Ontario Housing Affordability Task Force, a shortage of land is not the root cause of Ontario's housing issues. The report states land is available in existing built-up areas and developed land outside of the Greenbelt.

As reported in The Narwhal, Victor Doyle, a former provincial planner who helped implement the Greenbelt, said many briefing notes were written that land swaps were not envisioned for the Green-

"The argument that you could take land out, particularly along the southern edge, and add it on the outer edge as they're proposing would mean in the fullness of time, the Greenbelt will migrate. It'll end up in northern Simcoe County if this pattern is continued," said Doyle in a November 8, 2022 article written by Emma McIntosh.

In the Region of Peel's letter to Steve Clark, Ontario's Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Regional Chair Nando Iannicca said Peel has "significant concern with the Province's recent decision to amend the Greenbelt Plan."

Iannicca's letter says that removing previously protected lands undermines the integrity and permanence that was intended for the Greenbelt. He said the protected Greenbelt lands provide crucial ecosystem functions like reducing greenhouse gases and mitigating impacts of downstream flooding.

"Allowing for development in the Greenbelt encourages urban sprawl and inefficient development patterns. This type of growth is discouraged through the Province's own policies in the Planning Act, Provincial Policy Statement, Growth Plan and Greenbelt Plan," said Iannicca. "The Province has not provided evidence to support the conclusion that Greenbelt lands are required for housing develop-

While Iannicca noted Peel shares the province's commitment to increase housing supply and affordability, it does not approve of removal of lands from the protected Greenbelt area to reach that goal.

Iannica said Peel "strongly recommends that the Province take a comprehensive approach to identifying the most appropriate lands for housing based on an integrated consideration of environmental, economic and social criteria and comprehensive analysis."

Caledon Townhall Players bringing "Jenny's House of Joy" to the stage beginning Thursday

Play is by renowned Canadian playwright Norm Foster

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

The Caledon Townhall Players' latest performance will bring the Wild West to

Beginning on February 17, performances of "Jenny's House of Joy" will begin at the Old Caledon Township Hall in Caledon Village. Jenny's House of Joy is a comedy written by well-known and loved Canadian playwright Norm Foster.

"Jenny runs the best little house of ill-repute in her corner of the old Wild West in the 1800s... this witty comedy (is) about the oldest profession and making ends meet," reads the play's description.

Rose Brown is directing the play, her first time directing with The Caledon Townhall Players (CTHP).

Brown has performed in a few CTHP plays before, and directed and performed in numerous other community theatres. She and the rest of the CTHP team have been working hard to bring Jenny's House of Joy to life.

Without giving away too much, Brown shared some information about the play's





setting and its interesting cast.

The play is set in 1851 in Baxter Springs,

Jenny runs a brothel, her house of joy, where she takes in women who have nowhere else to go and are willing to do the world's oldest profession to make ends meet: sex work.

Jenny began her working life as a sex worker before realizing she had the brains and savviness to run her own brothel. Then there's Francis, the "experienced one"

who's been working for Jenny for a long ally enthusiastic and have been willing to time. The next character is Anita — who do whatever it takes to portray these charbegan working for Jenny because she was acters and bring them to life. bored — and has big dreams of moving up in society.

The next character is Natalie, who's there are some poignant scenes as well." brand-new at the job. She came to Jenny's wants to know why.

Brown said all the actors have been re- dience.

"They're all having a lot of fun with this," said Brown. "It's not just a comedy,

When Brown first read the script for Jenbecause she was escaping an abusive re- ny's House of Joy, she knew she wanted to lationship. Finally, there's Clara, whose do it because it was risqué and would be a husband paid a visit to the brothel, and she lot of fun. Due to the play's subject matter, it is naturally geared towards an adult au-

> The play takes place in the sitting room of Jenny's House of Joy, where the ladies await their clients. The play is unique in that it's an all-women cast; at no point is a man on stage.

> There are many options for people looking to attend a performance of Jenny's House of Joy. Performances will take place on February 17, 18, 24, and 25 at 8:15 p.m. with the February 18 and 25 performances being dinner theatres. There will also be 2:15 p.m. matinee performances on February 18 and 25.

> Tickets for all performances are now available online at caledontownhallplayers.com, and for more information those interested can call 519-927-5460.

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Caledon educator championing inclusion for Sikh boys with "The Patka Box"

Rosey Kaur wants to bring diversity to the forefront in the community

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

A patka is a head covering worn by Sikh boys that's an important part of their faith.

However, many people do not know very much about the patka, even though in Peel schools there are many students wearing

A Caledon woman is trying to change that with her new educational tool, "The Patka Box."

Rosey Kaur is an educator in Valleywood, where she runs a Montessori-based school called Concept1 Learning Centre. She also runs a business, Early Concepts, where she hand-makes early-learning materials for

Kaur's latest creation, The Patka Box, is useful for all ages. Here's what you'll find inside each one: two patkas, two wooden patka crafts, a story about the patka, a comprehensive guide on what the patka represents, a step-by-step tutorial on how to tie the patka, and information on the significance of wearing a patka.

The idea to create the patka box came to Kaur after she received a call from a teacher friend. The friend had a Sikh boy in her dents have a chance to see what the patka class, and his patka had come undone and feels like. he was crying. Kaur instructed her teacher friend on how to tie the patka via a video faith, it should never be touched when it's call, and once she was done, she realized how beneficial an educational resource touch a patka on its own, Kaur said it satabout the patka would be.

"I started to think... what can I do?" said Kaur. "Maybe this was a calling for me."

Kaur said 500 patka boxes are being created right now, and that the response to wearing a patka. them has been amazing.

box from teachers and schools not only lo- ing more educational boxes. For example, cally, but across the country and even in the the next box she makes might be about the US and UK. Kaur said in the Sikh commu- hijab. A Sikh herself, Kaur said diversity is



nity some parents who did not previously about including everyone. know how to tie a patka are learning now.

Two patkas are included in the box so stu-

Since the patka is a religious article of on someone's head. By allowing kids to isfies their curiosity as some just want to know what it feels like. The wooden patka crafts are included so children have a

Kaur said she is all about diversity and in-She's received messages about the patka clusion, and that she's thinking about mak-

"I was raised to love everyone," said Kaur, whose family was the first Punjabi Sikh family to move to Brantford in 1973. Kaur's brothers were the first students in schools there to wear patkas.

April is Sikh heritage month and Kaur is hoping to spread the word about her patka boxes before then.

"I want patkas to be known... bringing inclusivity and diversity into our community is my main focus," said Kaur. "I want to chance to colour and design their own boy bring this into awareness in the community." Those interested in learning more about the patka box and Kaur's work can email concept1learningcentre@gmail.com or direct message @early_concepts on Instagram.

> (TOP) Kaur's patka boxes include a detailed guide on how to tie a patka. (RIGHT) One of Kaur's students proudly wearing his patka. **CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS**



Tim Hortons in conceptual plan for downtown Caledon East property

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

A company is looking to rezone property on Airport Road in Caledon East to permit a one-storey restaurant with a drive-through service facility — and plans, which are subject to change, show it might be a Tim Hor-

Weston Consulting has submitted an official plan amendment and zoning bylaw amendment application to the Town of Caledon on behalf of Ganni Properties Inc. for 16054, 16060, and 16068 Airport Road in Caledon's Ward 3.

According to the Town of Caledon, Ganni Properties wants to permit a "one-storey restaurant with a drivethrough service facility, and two retail/commercial units."

The company wants to change the zoning of the designated properties

from village commercial to "village commercial site-specific exemption" to enable their proposed development.

In 2020, a similar amendment request was submitted by Ganni Properties, and a public meeting about it was held on September 15 of that year where some Caledon East residents expressed their concerns about having a Tim Hortons in town. In June and August of 2022, Ganni Properties submitted a revised amendment request that included 16068 Airport Road, which was not included in the 2020 amendment request.

A Town of Caledon public meeting is being held on February 21 at 7 p.m. to consider Ganni Properties' most recent amendment request, and the public is welcome to attend virtually, send written comments, or show up in person at Town Hall to provide their feedback on the proposed development.

On Monday, Feb. 20, 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. 20, and will reopen on Tuesday, Feb. 21.



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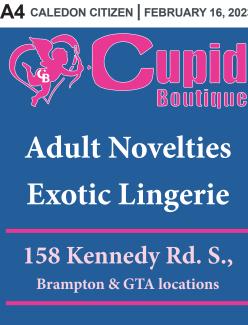
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MP to hold town hall meeting addressing federal firearms legislation

www.cupidboutique.com

BY BRIAN LOCKHART

Legal firearms owners will have their chance to voice an opinion about the controversial federal Bill C-21 during a town hall meeting in Mono.

Bill C-21 is legislation introduced by the federal government that would ban a large number of rifles and shotguns used by hunters and sports shooters.

The Bill immediately came under fire from many groups, including hunting and sporting groups and opposition parties, that said the Bill goes too far and will ban rifles used for target sports and hunting.

Hunting associations have said hunting isn't just a proud Canadian tradition, it's a way of life for communities across this county.

The Liberal government backtracked and is now making changes to the Bill after opposition from groups across the county, including opposition from within the Liberal party that said the sweeping ban went too far.

Dufferin-Caledon MP Kyle Seeback is organizing a Town Hall meeting to discuss the Bill.

The meeting is open to the pub-

The meeting will be held at the Dufferin Northern Peel Anglers & Hunters Association on Tuesday, February 21, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The Association is located at 246147 Dufferin Road 16, in

Seating is limited and on a first come, first serve basis.

SCHOMBERG SHOOTING

Investigators with the York Regional Police #1 District Criminal Investigations Bureau are releasing video and seeking suspects and witnesses following a driveby shooting in the Town of Schomberg.

"On Sunday, February 12, 2023, at approximately 8:40 a.m., police responded to reports of a weapons call after a male was shot on Centre Street between Rebellion Way and Church Street," say Police. "When officers arrived, they located a 65-year-old male victim who has been transported to hospital with serious gunshot injuries.

"The victim had been walking his dog when a car passed him at a high rate of speed on a quiet residential road. The victim gestured at the vehicle. The driver then turned around and drove back to the victim. Multiple gunshots were fired from the vehicle and the man was struck several times."

At least two suspects were in the vehicle, which was a white SUV. They fled the area at a high rate of speed travelling west on Centre Street.

A link to a video showing the suspect vehicle is here: https://youtu.be/1X-Tcn721yE4

The investigation is ongoing.

Investigators are appealing for witnesses to come forward who may have been in the area at the time of the incident and have not yet spoken to police. Investigators are also seeking any video surveillance from the area or anyone that may have captured dashcam video on the roadways.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the #1 District Criminal Investigations Bureau at 1-866-876-5423, ext. 7141, or call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS, or leave an anonymous tip online at www.1800222tips.com.

DOOR-TO-DOOR SCAM WARNING

Ontario's Serious Fraud Office (SFO) is shining a light on a multi-layered doorto-door sales scam, which leaves victims with poor renovations, liens or a mortgage

sales, criminals have not stopped. Those involved in these frauds are persuasive and persistent. They continue to visit the homes of vulnerable individuals and endear themselves, giving the impression they are a friendly helper.

HOW DOES THIS FRAUD UNFOLD?

Fraudsters approach individuals at the door of their home or by phone and use compelling tactics to persuade the homeowner that a new appliance, contract or service is required; something that was never asked for or needed. These have included: air cleaners, air conditioners, air purifiers, duct cleaning, furnaces, water filters, water heaters, water treatment devices or even bundles of these goods and

After the service has been completed or device installed, a few things can happen to make a bad situation even worse.

Whether by phone or in person:

The victim is contacted by someone claiming to be from a law firm offering assistance to exit previously signed contracts, remove possible liens and consolidate incurred debts. Victims are told they may be eligible to receive a grant for a significant amount of money if they agree to exit the contract.

If a grant was offered, the victim is contacted by a home renovation company and is persuaded to sign a contract and speak with a finance company on the phone. They are led to believe this is required to comply with the grant, but it is actually the process to have a mortgage approved on their home.

The funds are then deposited into the victim's bank account, leading the victim to believe they have received the grant, but it is actually funds from the home equity mortgage taken out on their home.

The victim is told not to touch the money, as it must go toward renovations, as well as to the payments they were making for installed equipment.

TIPS TO PROTECT YOURSELF/YOUR LOVED ONES

- Answer your door only if you are expecting an invited guest;
- Do not allow unsolicited visitors into your home;
- Hang up on unsolicited phone calls;
- Never share personal information or copies of any bills or financial statements;
- Do not make a decision on the spot;
- Do not sign blank documents; Take the time to understand what
- you are signing and ask questions;

- Do not answer questions on a phone/ video call if you are being told the answers by someone else (if someone is telling you to answer "yes"/"-
- Check regularly on family or others who might be vulnerable to persuasive and persistent individuals;
- Talk to the bank about a vulnerable loved one to prevent suspicious withdrawals;
- Understand no renovations are free;
- Visit Canada.ca to review green grant opportunities;
- Ask yourself: why has this person offered to help and how do they know your situation;
- Consider checking your credit history online at TransUnion and Equifax;
- Look up your property on the Land Registry Ontario website;
- Install video cameras around your home or video capturing doorbells.

RED FLAGS

- The person visiting you says you have won a class-action lawsuit regarding the installation of your equipment and the money can only be used towards renovations to your home;
- You are told your home is now a "green home" after the installation of some equipment and therefore you qualify for a grant. A condition of the grant is that you can only use the money to do renovations or add more equipment;
- A financial company approaches you, unsolicited, indicating they can help you get out of payments or to consolidate your debt;
- If you are told renovations are free;
- If you do not have input on the renovations a company does or what materials they use
- If you are pressured to have renovations started right away;
- Renovations in these frauds have included: flooring, painting, smart thermostats, vanities, sinks, toilets, showers, kitchens cabinets and insulation. They are often poor quality and are left unfinished.

If you believe you have become a victim of fraud, contact your local police service and the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at 1-888-495-8501 (toll-free) or report online on the Fraud Reporting System (FRS). You can also call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or report the incident online at www. ontariocrimestoppers.ca.

on their homes.

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Latest Headwaters Arts show celebrates overcoming dark times

Dark Into Light on now until March 19 at Alton Mill Arts Centre

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

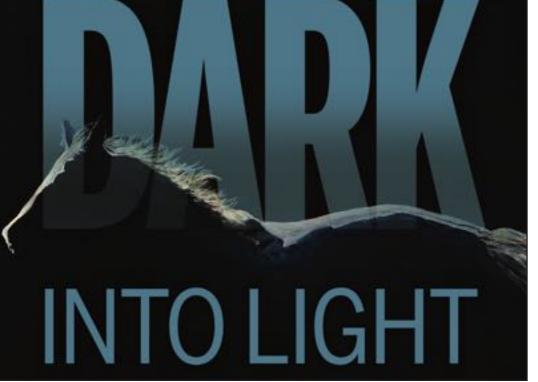
The darkness of Winter can be a strain on many people's mental health and wellbeing.

Headwaters Arts, a non-profit with the mission of promoting the development, appreciation, and enjoyment of all arts in the Hills of Headwaters Region, is now presenting its second members' exhibit of the year: Dark Into Light.

"Many can't wait for longer days and more sunshine," writes Susan Powell, Headwaters Arts' Board Chair of Communications. "Dark Into Light presents a stunning and visceral visual commentary

There will be an opening reception for Dark Into Light on February 18 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Headwaters Arts gallery at the Alton Mill Arts Centre. The exhibit will then be on display at the gallery until

There will be 40 carefully-selected mixed media.



(and/or experience) of overcoming dark- Agnes Bellegris' "When the Light Shines" is featured in Headwaters Arts' poster for the upcoming Dark Into Light exhibition at the Alton Mill Arts Centre. **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**

Agnes Bellegris is one of the artists whose work will be on display for Dark Into Light.

"With every layer of colour, I bring to pieces of art on display for the exhibit, in life a vibrant and energetic subject... be it mediums such as oil, watercolour, acryl- a beloved pet, an idyllic scene or a vibrant ic, pastels, textiles, wax, alcohol ink, and bouquet, my goal is to impart joy, serenity or perhaps nostalgia in the most positive of

She said she cherishes the interplay between

light and dark, and uses brushes, pallet

knives and her fingers to create her art.

ways," said Bellegris.

Bellegris' piece, entitled "When the light Shines", is going to be exhibited during Dark Into Light.

An artist from Alton, Jaime Nevitt, will have her work shown during Dark Into Light as well.

Nevitt has a strong emotional connection with her piece, "Dark of Night", because of the recent death of her mom. This piece of art from Nevitt is all about transitioning from the darkness of grief to the light of

"It's about survival and continuance, knowing there is light and brightness following darkly-weighted days," said Nevitt of her art. "The Dark of Night represents the blanket of darkness after the storm, when all is quiet. Peace ensues, bringing with it the light."

Those interested in learning more about this upcoming show can visit Headwaters Arts' website, headwatersarts.org, or look for the organization on Instagram and Facebook.

Caledon's first "Seedy Saturday" event happening February 25

Seed exchange, bake and book sales, presentations happening at event

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

Caledon residents can enjoy a day dedicated to environmentally-responsible gardening, great local food, seeds and more later this month.

On February 25, Caledon's first-ever "Seedy Saturday" event is being held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 34 Pine Avenue in Palgrave. The event is a collaboration between the Palgrave United Community Kitchen (PUCK), Caledon Public Library (CPL), and Albion Hills Community Farm.

At the event, there will be a planting station, seed sharing, vendor and community tables, and a cafe. There will also be a Friends of the Caledon Public Library book sale, with books specifically about gardening.

The following presentations will also take place at the event: from 10:30 to 11 a.m. Christopher Bialek will present "Gardening for Pollinators" on behalf of the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority; from 11:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., Julia Dimakos will present "Tea Gardening for Beginners"; from 12:30 to 1 p.m., Jocelyn Molyneux will present on regenerative growing; and from 1:30 to 2 p.m., Caledon Peel District School Board trustee Stan Cameron will present on the Caledon school vegetable garden project.

A big part of Seedy Saturday will, of course, be the seed sharing. Seeds will be available from Glen Echo Nurseries, West Coast Seeds, Davis Farm & Feed, Seeds of Diversity Canada, and the CPL's seed

Karen Hutchinson, president of the Albion Hills Community Farm, explained Seedy Saturday events started in 1990 in British Columbia.

"The idea was people who collect seeds could exchange and learn more about seeds," said Hutchinson. "They (grew) to become a sort of winter festival for gardeners."

Hutchinson said the event being held in late February is perfect as it's a time when gardeners are getting excited about starting seeds.

"It's the time to come together and get inspired for the coming season," Hutchinson.

Of special interest to Caledon gardeners might be sungold tomato seeds from West Coast Seeds, said Hutchinson.

"They are an amazing cherry tomato... they're coveted seeds," she said. "It's an orange cherry tomato that's sweet like no tomorrow."

The Albion Hills Community Farm is bringing some milkweed seeds to Seedy Saturday. Milkweed is the preferred plant of Monarch Butterflies, and is a mustplant for anyone interested in helping out

the pollinators. Hutchinson said she's excited to see all the amazing gardeners in Caledon out at

"It will be a really good mix of devoted people," she said.

Barb Imrie of PUCK said attendees of the event can look forward to freshly-baked pies, including apple pies with apples from a local orchard.

"People are going to find out more about seeds and the organizations in Caledon that are planting good things," said Imrie.



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Denise Grant speaks on the TEDx stage in Caledon last year.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Big lineup of educational and inspirational speakers coming to Caledon for TEDx Talk

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

A Caledon woman is organizing an insightful night of knowledge sharing next month.

On March 11, Denise Grant will bring 18 speakers together for a jam-packed evening of presentations at the Albion Bolton Community Centre.

The event will be part of the TEDx Program, which is affiliated with TED Talks. "TEDx is a grassroots initiative, created in the spirit of TED's overall mission to research and discover 'ideas worth spreading.'... these events are organized by passionate individuals who seek to uncover new ideas and to share the latest research in their local areas that spark conversations in their communities," said the TED organization.

is hoping to do. Grant is an author, having published the book Racism: Rising Above the Discomfort of Difficult Conversations.

She now works with government and business groups to help transform their office cultures for the better. Grant herself did a TEDx talk last year in Caledon, but this time around she's taking an organizer role.

"The event I'm hosting, the theme is 're-imagine potential," said Grant. "We have a lineup of speakers coming from all over the world — some local, too — to share their creative genius. The idea is to put fresh ideas to work on old and new problems."

Grant said public speaking is very empowering and that it's great to listen to other people's stories and

That's exactly what Denise Grant experiences as they're all unique. She said when you put yourself out there you will learn about topics you may not normally find.

> Of the 18 speakers who are presenting, five are local to the Caledon area. She said the event will help to put Caledon on the map in the global TEDx community. Each presentation will be around 10 to 20 minutes depending on the speaker.

> Some of the local presentations will be "The Art of Intentional Decision-Making" by Rishma Walji and "Co-creating a Life Economy" by Sonia Molodecky.

> On March 11, presentations will begin at 5 p.m. and people can purchase tickets or sponsor the event by contacting Grant directly by email at denisegrant@riseoverrace. com or by phone at 416-735-4124.

Town supporting youth-led non-profit, The Red Mymnt, to reduce period poverty

Continued from FRONT

"I'm proud to announce our participation in The Red Mymnt," said Groves.

The United Nations describes period poverty as "the struggle many low-income women and girls face while trying to afford menstrual products."

Period poverty also refers to the increased financial burden placed on women due to the cost of menstrual supplies.

In 2022, Caledon Council approved a staff report that recommended Caledon offer free menstrual products. The report noted the estimated operating costs to offer the products per year would be about \$40,000, if at each dispenser location in Town a product was taken five times a day.

The City of Brampton and City of Mississauga already have free menstrual products available at their Town facilities. Caledon now offering free menstrual products means each Peel municipality is now on board with The Red Mymnt.

Kevin Kyle, Caledon's Manager of Community Facilities, said in the announcement the Town is excited to be supporting The Red Mymnt.

"When all the installations are completed, dispensers will be available providing free products to those in need at 22 Town-operated facilities," said Kyle.

Free menstrual products are now available at the following Town of Caledon facilities: Caledon Centre for Recreation and Wellness, Albion Bolton Community Centre, Mayfield Recreation Complex, Southfields Community Centre, Caledon East Community Complex, Cheltenham Community Room, Lloyd Wilson Centennial Arena, and Inglewood Community Centre.

The Town also plans to install free menstrual product dispensers in park washroom facilities across Town by this Spring.







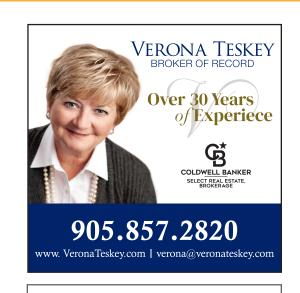




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CALEDON COMMUNITY RECOGNITION AWARDS

Nominate an outstanding citizen who has contributed in an extraordinary way to their community



Nominations are now open for the Caledon Community Recognition Awards program! Awards are given in the following two, broad categories:

- Volunteer Service Awards recognize Caledon residents whose efforts have made significant impact towards the development and advancement of recreational sports, arts and culture, environmental leadership or community and social services.
- Citizen Achievement Awards are designed to recognize Caledon residents who have competed or have been recognized at the Provincial, National or International levels in the areas of sport and arts and culture.

One recipient will be selected for the Community Champion Award, chosen from all nominees by the Selection Committee. This award is based on the significance of their community involvement and years of service!

This is your chance to nominate those individuals or groups who have shown exceptional commitment to their community.

For more details on the award criteria and to nominate a resident today, please visit caledon.ca/communityrecognition. Nominations close on



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

February 19, 2023.

SALE OF LAND BY PUBLIC TENDER

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF CALEDON

Take Notice that tenders are invited for the purchase of the lands described below and will be received until 3:00 p.m. local time on February 23, 2023, at the Town of Caledon Municipal Office, 6311 Old Church Road, Caledon Ontario.

This meeting will be held virtually and in-person. Visit caledon.ca/taxsale to click on the meeting link or call into the meeting to listen to the proceedings at: Phone Number: 1-416-216-5643, Meeting Access Code: 2633 895 9183# or attend in-person at the Town of Caledon Municipal Office, 6311 Old Church Road, Caledon Ontario. Please advise us if you require an accessibility accommodation to participate.

DESCRIPTION OF LANDS:

- 1. Roll No. 21 24 090 007 00638 0000; PIN 14322-0822 (LT); File No. 21-36; Minimum Tender Amount: \$67,056.34
- Roll No. 21 24 030 008 00905 0000; PIN 14273-0272 (LT); File No. 21-46; Minimum Tender Amount: \$22,499,74

Except as follows, the municipality makes no representation regarding the title to, availability of road access, or any other matters relating to the lands to be sold. Responsibility for ascertaining these matters rests with the potential purchasers.

This sale is governed by the Municipal Act, 2001 and the Municipal Tax Sales Rules made under that Act. A full copy of the tax sale advertisement and further information about this matter is available on line at **ontariotaxsales.ca** and/or caledon.ca/taxsale or you may contact Tanya Baird, Senior Clerk, Revenue Finance Department, The Corporation of the Town of Caledon, Caledon ON L7C 1J6, Telephone: (905) 584-2272 Ext. 4110, Email: tanya.baird@caledon.ca.



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







Approval of the proposed 2023 Budget is set for February 28, 2023 Council meeting at 7 p.m.

You can watch in-person in the Council Chamber at Town Hall or remotely. To ask a question in-person or virtually complete the participation form. For full details, visit caledon.ca/agenda.

Information about the 2023 Budget can be found on HaveYourSayCaledon.ca.

Interim Property Taxes are Due

Property tax due dates are Thursday. March 2 and Thursday, May 4, 2023.

Regular late payment fees apply.

For payment options visit: caledon.ca/tax.

Family Day Activities **FEBRUARY 20**

For more details and a full schedule of our Family Day activities visit: caledon.ca/familyday

Take a pawse and tell us your thoughts

Town of Caledon is seeking your input on Animal Services

The Town of Caledon is reviewing its Animal Services department's programs and services. The review will help to meet new customer service demands and facility space requirements for our growing community.

The survey can be found at Have Your Say Caledon.ca until March 17, 2023





Caledon Senior of the Year Award 2023

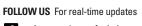
Nominations close on February 24, 2023 at 4:30 p.m.

This annual award is given by the Town to an outstanding senior who, after age 65, enriches the social, cultural or civic life of the community. For details on eligibility and how to nominate a deserving Caledon resident visit caledon.ca/adult55.



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BROCK WEIR BROCK'S BANTER

Standing Up and Standing Out

framing themselves, for who they aren't rather than who they are.

they are not or what they oppose, rather than with a now-former staffer. what they're for or, once again, who they are.

sometimes joke to friends that the key to a continued war against the unhoused and the successful relationship these days, unlike in remarkable decision against funding emerdays of yore, is to have more common dislikes than likes as that will save both time and a lot winter. of hurt and disappointment further down the road. And, for better or worse (worse, trust the Office of the Mayor not to in any way be me), social media is better at whittling down tarnished and not to see the city government potential suitors and suitresses (I looked it put itself through a prolonged period of conup) than the best advertised dating services troversy arising out of this error of judgement that claim to have finally nailed down the per- on my part, especially in light of the challengfect romantic formula after millennia. What a es we face as a city," he told reporters while time to be alive!

But as much as I joke about it, I still think there's some kernel of truth in it.

Tuesday night, how disappointing it must while I have let them and my family down in have been if, after things were going oh-sowell you found out you and your dining com- honoured by the opportunity to serve the peopanion had opposing views over vaccines or, heaven forbid, find out your date blames the incumbent Prime Minister on everything itive difference for the city that I truly love, from their hangnail to the Halifax Explosion... well, where do you go from there?

of this column.

When Justin Trudeau was tapped to lead for party members who weren't swayed by

By the time he won his first mandate from the Canadian people just over two years lat- not a laurel upon which anyone should rest. er, voters who neither bled "Liberal red" nor were likely to be starstruck simply shrugged, come more commonplace to tout what we ar-"Well, he's better than Stephen Harper."

Two Provincial elections ago, the Progressive Conservatives swept into majority power at Queen's Park after running a campaign vious fact that he's not Justin Trudeau. focusing squarely on then-premier Kathleen Wynne, seeming to attribute all of the Prov- score that he's not a once or future Liberal. ince's ills to her and the previous years of Liberal government under Dalton McGuinty, Liberal leader to whip up support by remindunder whom she served.

to take away anything from Doug Ford or get down to it, need to have a sure sense of any of the PC leadership candidates who ran who they are, what they stand for, and what alongside him - the Progressive Conserva- they hope their legacy might be. It might be tives likely could have run seemingly anyone an uncomfortable process, but we'll be the against Wynne to victory.

Despite not being in power for nearly four years by the time last year's Provincial Election rolled around, it felt like the Progressive mer Mississauga mayor were a testament to Conservatives were still running on the idea that Doug Ford was not Wynne, and that his candidates did not serve under Wynne, with about the same weight as their own four-year record at the helm – and there were indeed some achievements to tout!

I'm not sure if that's more of a statement on Wynne or what they hoped would be their legacy in the event Ontario voters threw things

back to the Liberals or the NDP. The stories, and therefore the legacies, of against.

In these days of extremely polarized views, Trudeau and Ford are yet to be written, but we're all too often in my view bombarded to their supporters they each have a number with cases of people being lionized, or even of accomplishments under their belts that can provide a decent foundation for a legacy well beyond not being Stephen Harper or Kathleen Similarly, and particularly in the age of so- Wynne, but what of John Tory, the Toronto cial media, even more try to identify them- Mayor who announced his resignation last selves and form an identity based on what Friday night after admitting to a relationship

The announcement came after a less-than-As I'm writing this on Valentine's Day, I stellar few weeks at City Hall, in particular its gency warming shelters 24/7 in the middle of

> "I think it is important as I always have for announcing his resignation.

Later in the same speech, he added: "I want to thank the people of Toronto for trusting me If you happened to have a blind date on as mayor. It has been the job of a lifetime and this instance, I have nonetheless been deeply ple of this wonderful city and I believe I did some good for the city, that I did make a posparticularly during the pandemic."

While Tory might truly love Toronto, and You go directly back to the original point he did indeed manage the City of Toronto well during the height of the pandemic (and, yes, this is yet another gentle reminder that the the Federal Liberals ten years ago this year, pandemic is not over), and while he did make a positive difference at the helm, much of his then-bright and reasonably unblemished the assessment from Toronto's talking heads star-wattage were won over by the fact that he since the surprise announcement praised Tory was, basically, not his predecessor Stephane for... well, for not being his controversial predecessor.

That, in itself, is a sad state of affairs and

In these extremely divisive times, it's been't rather than what we are. It's not enough for a politician like Pierre Poilievre to win the hearts and minds of people by touting the ob-

Nor is it enough for Doug Ford to under-

Nor will it be enough for the next Ontario ing voters that they're not Doug Ford.

The tactic worked to an extent that – not Our leaders, and all of us when you really

And it's not hard to find a good blueprint. Love her or not, the eulogies given to forthe venerable leader having a true sense of herself and the city she fostered.

Also look to our community leaders at large whose work is rightly taking centre-stage during Black History Month

The persons leading these valuable community commemorations and fostering community connections not only have strong senses of self, but are very clear what they're fighting for rather than just what they're fighting

Our Readers Write

"Welcome Back Doug Ford Party" set

party with the purpose of voicing opposition ernment's truly awful polices such as Highto the Doug Ford Conservative agenda? Then way 413, the attack on the Greenbelt, the neucircle Saturday, February 25 in your calentering of conservation authorities, and a long dar and attend the Welcome Back Party at list of other issues, such as capping nurses Queen's Park from approximately 11 a.m. to and overworked medical workers pay to one 1 p.m. that day. It's been timed to coincide per cent per annum under Bill 124. with the opening of the Legislature earlier

belt Guardians with the active support of a ing. A website has been created to publicize broad-based coalition of environmentalists, the party and will be updated as more details teachers, nurses, trade unions, CUPE, and are ironed out. Here is the official website other organizations and individuals who are www.welcomebackdoug.com. alarmed at the direction Doug Ford is leading this province in. The motto is I HEED - Indigenous peoples, Health, Education, the Environment and Democracy.

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Zach Shoub

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EDITOR

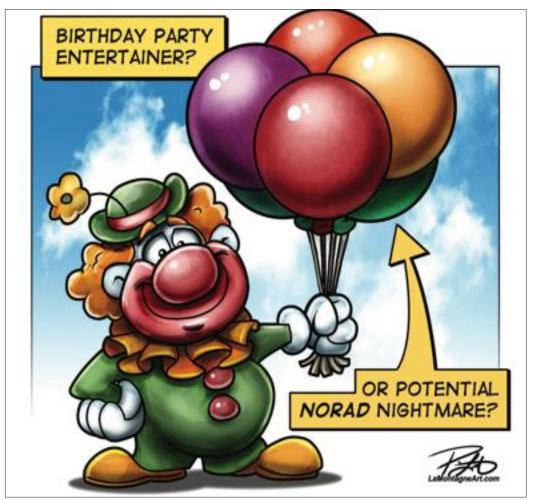
Brock Weir

brock@lpcmedia.ca

GENERAL MANAGER

Want to attend a party—a family friendly
Its purpose to voice opposition to this gov-

Although this is very much a protest, the organizers stress it will also very much a fun-This event is being spearheaded the Green- filled occasion with music, singing, and danc-



Kindness is something we have in abundance



"Kindness in words creates confidence. Kindness in thinking creates profoundness. Kindness in giving creates love." - Lao Tzu

We are at a tipping point in society today.

After years of doom and gloom, and lingering pain, we need a guiding light, a ray of sunshine.

Mental health issues are at an all-time high among all age groups. And so is personal debt. There are more awful soundbites each day

than good news stories. Often, it's hard to help ourselves. But that

shouldn't stop us from helping others. A kind word, gesture, smile and nod may

make someone's day. It could mean all the difference in the world. The other day I received an anonymous photo

in the mail. It was a picture of sign in the shape of a penguin, at a lakeside park. On the penguin it read: "Smiling is contagious, send a smile out into the world today!"

It worked. I smiled. Okay, I was a little surprised, but I can understand the fully appreciate the gesture.

It's meaningful on several levels. Someone took the time to print off the photo, stick in an

oversized envelope and drop it in the mail. That's effort! And for that I thank you, whoever you are. Right back at you!

We refer to these as random acts of kindness, but I'd like to encourage their use, so they're no longer "random," but become part of our everyday routine.

I come across dozens of cute and meaningful sayings on the Internet each day. Some are great, and others I jot down, and keep a growing list. Some I used here on this page in the paper. They're meant to not only evoke thought, but perhaps make someone smile. And boy do we need more of those.

you should compliment someone if you see something special in them.

I often tell total strangers they sport a cool pression is wonderful and if it makes me smile, I like to tell them.

My wife finds my conversations with strangers a bit odd, but hey, I'm just sharing the

I've been watching videos online recently that depict purposeful acts of kindness. They But it's not insurmountable or out of our reach. range from helping the homeless to rewarding **DAN O'REILLY** kindness. Many are from social influencers who CALEDON raise money from followers and pass it along to the world!

by Mark Pavilons

those who need it most.

I'm amazed at how gestures, even tiny ones, are received with wide eyes, smiles and joy. A \$5 donation to a Nigerian labourer is welcomed with bright eyes, smiles and hugs. Giving strangers gift cards and covering people's groceries is met with confusion, then amazement, then total appreciation.

Some YouTubers ask strangers what makes them happy or what message they would like to share with the world. Many tell the viewers to be kind, compassionate and share love. Many of the homeless recipients turn around and share their new-found bounty with another. They praise the Lord.

And many are just thankful that someone stopped to say hello, to recognize their very ex-

That's both sad and great at the same time. Some online influencers I follow just ask people if they can sit down and chat. They're

almost always welcome to join and share. We don't need free laptops or \$100 bills to feel good. While helpful, we don't require windfalls to be grateful or feel special.

Of course, there are those who are a bit apprehensive when strangers approach. Good Samaritans are sometimes viewed with a suspect-

I say to hell with it. Cut through the clouds and negativity and spread some joy.

My ultimate desire, should I win the lottery or become wealthy, is to go on a mission, and help everyone I encounter. From handing out ridiculous tips to fast food employees to building "tiny homes" for the homeless, I'd want to

For those who are approaching, or in, retirement, they need something to do. After working our entire lives, what's next?

Yes, some of us have to continue working. Others volunteer to fill the hours. Some are lucky enough to stretch their long legs on sandy

But if you're lucky enough, and in good health, to enjoy a long retirement, why not give

As I mentioned, if I was blessed with mountains cash, I'd be quick to set up a foundation of some sort and get to work spreading goodwill here at home and abroad. I'd form a team of like-minded adults and youth and create another avenue of change.

There's no glamour in this, or recognition. I see it as a civic duty, a responsibility to others. When I see how others live and struggle in I read one of those quotes recently that says horrible conditions, it breaks my heart. When I know that a pair of shoes is worth more than a car, I am motivated to pitch in.

I accompanied my son on a school mission to look or have fantastic hair or tattoos. Self-ex- the Dominican a few years back, assisting Haitian field workers. I didn't necessarily feel sorry for them, but I wanted to run into those very fields, roll up my sleeves and work alongside them. Admittedly, I wouldn't last more than an hour in those conditions.

> The need may be huge, even overwhelming. There are so many ways to help.

And it all starts with sending a smile out into

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Weather Balloons

In 1947, something strange happened near Roswell, New Mexico.

An object of debatable origin fell out of the sky floating unchallenged through the airways. and landed or crashed in the desert.

Early reports suggested it was a "flying saucer," but those reports were quickly withdrawn.

The term "flying saucer" was originally coined the same year as the Roswell incident, when someone saw a strange object in the sky and referred to it as being "saucer shaped," to the media, and the phrase was born.

While reports started going around about this mysterious object in the desert, the U.S. military failures? That's a civilian agency that handles experiment. those things. Even so, once the military was in-

The military finally announced that the down object was in fact, a weather balloon.

Ah, the weather balloon – the foil for many conspiracies over the years.

temperatures because for several decades, UFO to the east coast of North America.

sightings and other phenomenon seen in the skies were always attributed to another weather balloon

I guess it never occurred to anyone that hav- up. ing a large balloon bobbing about in open space would be a hazard to aircraft. Even if they did go to heights above which most aircraft can fly, they still have to come down at some point.

they go where the wind takes them.

I'm not sure if weather balloons are still used. With Doppler radar and satellites that can map they posed a hazard to aircraft – at least that's the continent? weather systems over a huge area, sending up a got involved, which itself is curious, because balloon seems a little old school unless the local what does the military have to do with aviation Scouts, Cadets, or science club is having a fun

Weather balloons are back in the news with the volved, that just heightened the public's curiosity. discovery of a couple of strange floating objects - one on the east coast and another on the west.

It was quickly determined they were of Chinese

The Chinese claimed it was a weather balloon Apparently at one time, there must have been that was blown off course. That must have been thousands of these things floating around the one rather strong wind to take a functioning balsky taking barometric readings and high-altitude loon with functioning electronics from Shanghai

FROM THE SECOND ROW Experts say a relatively low altitude balloon ron. can observe a lot closer and see more details than

It will take no time at all to determine what the century balloon captured and what it was looking at once in their spying techthe debris is collected and analyzed.

The question is, what are the Chinese up to? be noted that it does point out some obvious er-Balloons have no method of directing their path They must have known a spy balloon would be rors on our part. detected and eliminated.

> official version. The unofficial version is we don't want Chinese balloons spying on us.

sounds. Air to air missiles are designed to hit the hare. Apparently, these balloons were drifting a fast flying object, not a static target bobbing along for some time before someone noticed they around in the wind.

As for using bullets, you can't just shoot something down when it's flying over land. The bullets cussions about this at the next NORAD command used will fall to the ground, and you don't want meeting. spent 20mm shells landing on your house. The debris from a falling object is also a risk to the

And just as I'm writing this, it was announced another object has been shot down over Lake Hu- to watch for a while.

BRIAN LOCKHART

a satellite image taken from a few hundred miles ing to note the Chinese are using mid 20th technology niques, it should also

How could a spy balloon go undetected by It was decided to shoot both balloons down as NORAD until it made its way to the centre of the

While NORAD is watching radar for super sonic ballistic missiles and high-speed military Shooting down a balloon isn't as easy as it aircraft, they missed the tortoise that was racing were even there.

I'm pretty sure there's going to be some dis-

While the middle of Lake Huron isn't exactly a good place to spy on technology, industry or military installations, at the least the guys in some secret office in China had a nice travelogue video

The Trouble with Tim

be a few people around who still remember him, eitown," in a small and largely residential village, should ther personally or professionally. I hear he was a pretty be. good hockey player back in the day. That his name is now ubiquitous with a donut chain has, I believe, very little to do with him. It was his partner Ron Joyce who initiated the unparalleled growth of Tim Hortons after the man himself passed away in a car crash. Tim's or Timmies, as it is affectionately known, is now "Canada's largest quick-serving restaurant chain," with well over 5,000 locations across at least 15 countries. So, what's the trouble with Tim? Locally, the trouble is with where Tim (Hortons that is) wants to go next.

Caledon used to be a picturesque collection of towns, villages and hamlets that together made us a tourist destination as well as a pretty place to live. Growth is inevitable, of course, for any community in Ontario and particularly here in Caledon as we have been provincially mandated to expand exponentially over the next 30 years. With growth comes change and with change comes increased traffic....and with traffic, a drive through) happening right alongside it. Trucks apparently also comes the need for coffee. But change parked on either side of Airport Rd. as they duck in for or no change, do we REALLY need accessibility to a a quick coffee fix, delivery vehicles maneuvering in the Tim Hortons coffee on every streetcorner? Caledon parking lot and long lines of idling cars are each a rec-East residents are currently facing down a proposal to ipe for a traffic disaster. Both road and sidewalk safety on Airport Rd., just north of the intersection of Old the area and plenty of children walking to and from. Church. The ice cream shop will disappear - and - I combined with the amount of bus traffic too, kids and both existing residents and those who are to come. Do only fuel the needs of those just passing through.

Tim might have been a nice guy. There may even would argue, so too will the essence of what a "down-teen's safety is also at risk.

At the moment, the amount of truck traffic throughout Caledon is frighteningly awful. Just a few years ago a dump truck barrelled into the bank at the corner of King and Highway 50, the "four corners" of downtown Bolton, located in a valley and which now, as a result, is protected to some degree by improved traffic calming measures and the Emil Kolb By-pass. Caledon East is similarly located in a valley but traffic calming and a by-pass seem unlikely. With 18 wheelers regularly barrelling through the area, or alternatively, getting stuck trying to get up the hills on either side of town during snowstorms, adding a Tim's to the equation won't help. Increased residential housing has also resulted in more traffic through the area and an already awkward intersection, fronted on one side by the LCBO, will almost assuredly only get worse with the proposed construction of a Tim Hortons (including

While logistics and safety should be the paramount Tim Hortons to the mix? issues, another very real risk is the loss of that "feeling" that the downtown core of Caledon East offers. The needs to ask itself some reason people want to move to, and live in, a place like difficult questions. What Caledon East is precisely because it offers that quaint is the added value of a downtown feeling.

You can walk to Gabe's for an espresso or a fantastic dessert. You can pick up a bottle of wine and pop into the butcher shop for fresh veggies, cheese and some meat for a special dinner. The Four Corner's bakery and is it worth the costs of driving other businesses out has a hot table that has your breakfast, lunch or dinner covered and unique grocery items to take home lost due to an accident? too. There is easy access to the trail system that runs throughout Caledon and walkers, bike riders and others often make Caledon East their destination on purpose, stopping at the downtown core for a treat before chaos any less of a reality. A meeting is being held on continuing on their way. These local businesses are the heart of a downtown location like Caledon East. Tom's idents and business owners should make their concerns for breakfast, It's Roxie's, for great shopping, you can known. This isn't about halting progress, or the growth even visit the dentist, a doctor, an accountant, get your of Caledon East but rather, about protecting those who hair done or your car examined, not to mention the already live there, those that own businesses in town various other restaurants and businesses that complete and anyone who chose this location as their future the area. At the top of one hill we have groceries and home, based at least in part on its downtown, friendly more, and at the other, a great place to dine or gather "feeling." It's hard to describe but easy to destroy and convert three existing lots into a Tim Hortons location, is sure to be compromised and with three schools in on the patio, or even get married! Caledon East is busy the problem with Tim (specifically Tim Hortons that is) enough and there are enough businesses to support is that it won't really fuel the local economy but rather,

we really need to add a

The Town Council Tim Hortons in this loca-

tion? What are the traffic impacts? WHO is the proposed location really serving, residents or folks simply passing through town? What is the potential revenue of town, traffic chaos or worse, the cost of a life or lives

Traffic in the area is already problematic and I don't think there is a traffic study in the world that would predict a drive through coffee shop would make such February 21 at 7 p.m. at Town Council Chambers. Res-

SHERALYN ROMAN TALK CALEDON



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Ojibway Elder Garry Sault to present historical teachings in Caledon

Sault visiting Southfields Village Branch of Caledon Public Library

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

The historical teachings of Wampum and Paper Treaties will be discussed at an upcoming presentation in Town.

On February 25 at 1 p.m., Ojibway Elder Garry Sault will visit the Southfields Village Branch of the Caledon Public Library (CPL) for a presentation on treaties.

Sault is a member of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and his people signed over 20 pre-confederation treaties with the Crown, which cover most of the Golden Horseshoe.

People can register to attend Sault's presentation in person on the CPL's website. They can also register to attend it virtually on Zoom. Important to note is

the presentation will not be recorded for future viewing.

Sault told the Citizen at his presentation you'll learn about history you won't find anyplace else.

"I did the research so that I would know what happened to my people in the past," said Sault, noting there's a lack of understanding around treaties in general.

Sault said Wampum Belts and what they represent are very important.

Sault has done presentations in many places before such as Burlington, Oakville, and Brampton. He said it's so critical for people to learn about treaties so they will know their responsibilities towards the people that first occupied the land they now live on.

"They made treaties with us. They made promises... as the years went by, they stopped doing the things that were set out in the treaties," said Sault.

Sault's presentation is part of the CPL's Indigenous series, and the CPL thanks the Brampton and Caledon Community Foundation for its funding support of the series

Caledon Day returning to Caledon East this year

Canadian rock band The Sheepdogs to headline event

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

After cancellations due to the pandemic, and then a changed location and date, Caledon Day is returning to its usual time and place this year.

This Father's Day weekend, on June 17, Caledon Day will take place at the Caledon East Community Complex.

Caledon Day began back in 2008, and over the years the musical headliner has always been a major draw to the event. In 2023, Juno Award-winning rock band The Sheepdogs will be headlining Caledon Day, bringing their classic rock-influenced music to Town.

Caledon Day this year is going to feature a beer and cider tent, great food, fireworks, and, of course, arts, crafts and games for kids and their families.

The Town of Caledon will be announcing more about the event as it draws nearer.

In a media release announcing the event, Mayor Annette Groves said the Town is excited to bring Caledon Day back to its usual time and location.

"I encourage everyone to save the date and come on out for this fun, family-friendly celebration," said Groves.

The Town of Caledon is looking for parties interested in sponsoring this year's Caledon Day, and those interested can visit the Town's website. Vendors will be welcomed too, though applications are not yet open.

Town of Caledon staff recommended the move back to the Caledon East Community Complex at Council's December 6, 2022 meeting. A report with the recommendation was submitted by Jessica Stovin, Caledon's Manager of Community Recreation.

It was approved on consent at the December 6 meeting and received final approval at the Town's December 13 Council meeting.

Stovin's report noted Caledon Day's biggest draw is the musical headliner, who is often a Canadian rock legend. The report said Town staff would like to leverage the return to Caledon East to explore a higher-calibre of Canadian headliners, and the plan has worked — The Sheepdogs were the first unsigned band to ever make the cover of Rolling Stone magazine and are one of Canada's most successful bands. They have nearly 400,000 monthly listeners on the music-streaming platform Spotify

Caledon Community Services (CCS) will once again be hosting their annual cycling fundraiser, Velocity, in conjunction with Caledon Day on June 17. The ride will start from Town Hall that day, and its goal is to raise money for Caledon Seniors so they can enjoy a fulfilling and engaged lifestyle.

Early bird registration is already open for the event, and teams and individuals interested in signing up to fundraise can already do so.

Last year, Velocity was a great success as cyclists participating in the event surpassed CCS' fundraising goal of \$50,000, raising almost \$58,000. Riders of all ages and skill levels participated in the event, and chose from routes of 10, 25, 50, or 100 kilometres in length.

COMMUNITY COMMUNITY COMMUNITY

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:

Call – 647-891-9400

Email: caledoncoc@gmail.com Location: 34 Nixon Rd., Bolton

The Peel Regional Aquarium Club (PRAC) welcomes new members! Do you have a fish tank or are interested in keeping fish, shrimp, snails or live plants? Join us monthly to learn more about the hobby, get

tips from other hobbyists and participate in our mini monthly auctions! We meet in person on the third Wednesday of every month at 7pm. Please see our website for more details on speakers and location. www.peelaquariumclub.org

We encourage those attending to bring items to sell in our mini monthly auctions and a fish/plant or other aquatic species to show in our monthly bowl shows. This is great practise in learning how to show fish and practise judging as is done in the larger competitions. Join us in person!

Pancake and Sausage Supper. Tuesday Feb. 21st. 5:30 - 7:00.

St. John's Church hall - 3907 Hwy. 9 Caledon. 3 km east of hwy 10.

Adults \$10, 12 and under \$5, family rate \$25. Call 519-941-1950 for tickets.

The next Bolton Kin Toonie Sale is on Saturday, March 4 from 10 am to 1 pm in the President's building at the Bolton Fairgrounds. Check it out at www. boltonkin.com/toonie-sale.

Bolton United Church
Friday February 24, 2023
Free Community Event
Let's Talk ... Black History
Online via Zoom (see website for link)
6 pm Dinner via Zoom
7 pm Guest Speaker followed by discussion
For more information call 905-857-2516 or
e-mail office@boltonunitedchurch.com
www.boltonunitedchurch.com

Headwaters hospital seeking board members

BY PAULA BROWN

LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Headwaters Health Care Centre (HHCC) is looking for applicants who reside in the area to join their volunteer board of directors.

As a member of the board of directors, candidates will provide governance oversight and monitoring of the health centre's performance goals. Directors are also accountable for giving feedback and guidance to the CEO and serve as a link between the health centre and the communities Headwaters Health Care Centre serves.

The board is seeking candidates with diverse representation, both in experience such as finance, legal, clinical, and health system as well as background. They also strive for inclusivity to reflect the perspective of the community they serve.

Applicants will be looked at for having strong communication skills with the ability to listen and raise questions constructively, personal and professional integrity

when dealing with diverse perspectives and ideas, and the time and support to commit to the community hospital.

Board members, both incoming and current, will have access to further education and development opportunities in health care governance through the Ontario Hospital Association and other organizations via seminars, webinars, presentations, reading and special projects. Directors are expected to devote 10 to 15 hours per year to health care governance development.

As a part of HHCC's board of directors, members are expected to participate in board meetings (about three hours per month, excluding summer months), belong to at least one committee, attend two-hour monthly/bi-monthly committee meetings (excluding summer months), including preparation in advance of all meetings, and support the Headwaters Health Care Foundation.

Those interested in joining the volunteer board of directors can send an expression of interest to info@headwatershealth. ca by 9 a.m. on March 31.

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February 10, 2023





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REPORTON BUSINESS 2022 SHOOK CANADA'S TOP WEALTH ADVISORS

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Caledon Citizen's Student-Athlete of the Week:

Hall Wolfpack running back Roy Van der Veen signs Letter of Intent with the University of Waterloo Warriors

BY JIM STEWART

It's been a big week for Robert F. Hall CSS running back Roy Van der Veen.

Not only was the Grand Valley resident selected as The Caledon Citizen's Student-Athlete of the Week, but he also signed his letter of intent to play football for the Waterloo Warriors of the OUA.

In a signing ceremony in Hall CSS's cafeteria on Friday, Van der Veen's Varsity Football coach Jonathan Beresford praised his running back's "football IQ, toughness, skill, selflessness, and accountability. [Roy's) ability to teach our younger athletes gained [him]the utmost respect from his teammates."

Coach Beresford also lauded Van der Veen's qualities as "hard-working, always-improving, focused" student at Robert F. Hall.

Although Coach Beresford stopped short of describing Van der Veen as the "strong, silent type", he was impressed with "how hard Roy worked day in and day out in

practice, in games, and in the classroom for five years. How Roy led a whole football team without saying a single word, but through his consistently positive actions."

The veteran Wolfpack football coach highlighted key performance moments demonstrated by his versatile team leader: "I think throughout the playoff run towards the championship, Roy played Offence, Defense, and Special Teams. Every team scouted and game-planned to stop him, but he was still able to impose his will with his physical playing style."

The proof of Van der Veen's efficacy is in the team numbers and Coach Beresford delineated a stats line that was truly im-

"Roy won 22 games out of 24 games played, with two championships in three seasons (COVID took away his Grade 11 and 12 seasons). It was never about yards, 'how many touches,' or TDs; it was about helping the team win!"

On Friday afternoon, Van der Veen's teammates, coaching staff, family mem-



Flanked by his parents and UW Associate Head Coach Darrell Adams, Hall CCS Running Back Roy Van der Veen signs his letter of intent to play for the Warriors.. **PHOTO BY JIM STEWART**

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bers, and representatives from the Uniwork on and off the field.

Van der Veen will attend the University of Waterloo-St. Jerome's College in September and will be pursuing an Honours Bachelor of Arts degree in Business. UW Warriors' Associate Head Coach and Recruiting Coordinator Darrell Adams beour offensive schemes" as "a coachable student-athlete" who is as "advertised by Coach Beresford."

Coach Adams knows the pressure felt by freshman football players entering the OUA, but he believes "Roy will compete for a position in our backfield and on our special teams."

"He'll also play when he's ready."

Prior to the signing ceremony attended by over 100 teammates, coaches, students, and family members in Robert F. Hall CSS's cafeteria on Friday afternoon, Roy took time from his studies and training to answer our interview questions:

The Caledon Citizen: What qualities did you demonstrate in your sports season to earn Student-Athlete of the Week honors?

Roy Van der Veen: I tried my best to be a leader. Although I'm quiet, I demonstrated being a leader by going 100% in reps during practice and giving it my all in games.

The Caledon Citizen: What were your key statistics and performance moments from the 2022-23 season that you are most

Roy Van der Veen: The game that I was most proud of was the semi-finals game. Although I did not pass my personal best for yards or touchdowns, it was the coldest and hardest game of the year. We had to earn each yard and first down as we played on the muddy field.

The Caledon Citizen: In addition to versity of Waterloo Warriors flanked Van your high school sports team(s), what othder Veen in photos that celebrated his hard er community teams do you play for and at

> Roy Van der Veen: Outside of school, I play for the North Halton Tide during the summer; they are in tier two.

The Caledon Citizen: How would you describe yourself as a student at Robert F lieves the Wolfpack running back will "fit Hall? To which sports teams and clubs do you belong? Honor Roll?

> Roy Van der Veen: As an R.F. Hall student, I am very quiet. I come to class and get my work done. I am also on the track team – doing shotput in the spring.

> The Caledon Citizen: What are your post-secondary plans regarding prospective academic/athletic destinations?

> Roy Van der Veen: My post-secondary plans are to go to Waterloo University taking their Honours Arts and Business program. I will also be playing for their football team.

> The Caledon Citizen: Who is your role model in terms of the person you admire

> Roy Van der Veen: The people I admire the most are my parents. They are the most hard-working people I know. They started with nothing back in Holland and now they own a successful business. I learned from them that hard work can get you very far in life.

> The Caledon Citizen: How do you feel about being selected as The Caledon Citizen's Student-Athlete of the Week?

> Roy Van der Veen: It's a big honour to be selected for Athlete of the Week as it shows what my coaches see in me.

> If you are a community or high school coach who would like to nominate a Caledon-based student-athlete for The Caledon Citizen's Student Athlete of the Week, please email me at jim@lpcmedia.ca.

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Looking for fun things to do on **Family Day?**

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- Caledon Centre for Recreation and Wellness
- Caledon East Community Complex
- Lloyd Wilson Centennial Arena
- Southfields Community Centre

Come out and enjoy skating, shinny, swimming, pickleball, arts and crafts, and much more!

John Clarkson Park Skate Loop

Skate for free at the ribbon cutting ceremony for the John Clarkson Skate Loop at 2 p.m.

There will also be free skating at outdoor rinks. Visit caledon.ca/skating for a list of outdoor rinks currently open for use.

For more details and a full schedule of our Family Day activities visit:

caledon.ca/familyday







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Warm wishes on Family Day

Mayor Annette Groves and Members of Town Council



For information on the Town's many Family Day activities visit caledon.ca/familyday.





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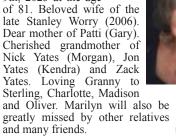
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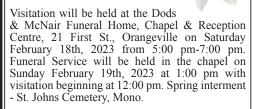


OBITUARIES

WORRY, MARILYN DIANE (NEE JEMMETT)

Peacefully at Headwaters Care Health Centre, February Orangeville on 9th, 2023 at the age of 81. Beloved wife of the late Stanley Worry (2006). Dear mother of Patti (Gary). Cherished grandmother of Nick Yates (Morgan), Jon Yates (Kendra) and Zack Yates. Loving Granny to Sterling, Charlotte, Madison





A tree will be planted in memory of Marilyn in the Dods & McNair Memorial Forest at the Island Lake Conservation Area, Orangeville. 21st Annual Dedication Service will be held on Sunday September 10, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. Condolences may be offered to the family at www.

dodsandmenair.com

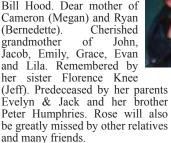
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OBITUARIES

HOOD, ROSE (NEE HUMPHRIES)

Suddenly at Headwaters Health Care Centre. Orangeville on Tuesday February 14th, 2023 at the age of 70. Beloved wife of Bill Hood. Dear mother of Cameron (Megan) and Ryan (Bernedette). grandmother of John. Jacob, Emily, Grace, Evan and Lila. Remembered by



Memorial visitation will be held at the Dods & McNair Funeral Home, Chapel & Reception Centre, 21 First St., Orangeville on Monday February 20th, 2023 from 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm. Memorial donations to your local OSPCA or the Scott Mission would be appreciated by the family.

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

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Form 6 Sale of Land by Public Tender Municipal Act, 2001 Ontario Regulation 181/03 Municipal Tax Sales Rules

From: The Corporation of The Township of Amaranth Name of Municipality or Board

Take Notice that tenders are invited for the purchase of the land(s) described below and will be received until 3:00 p.m. local time on March 23 , 2023 at 374028 6th Line, Amaranth, ON L9W 0M6

The tenders will then be opened in public on the same day at

3:00 pm, The Township of Amaranth Municipal office, Amaranth, ON

Time and Place

Description of land(s): (provide the street address and municipality in which the land is located, or if there is no street address, the location of the land; and, the property identifier number (PIN) assigned to the land in Ontario's land registration system) LRO #7 - PIN 34042-0043 (LT), Part Lots 1 & 2, Plan 9A, as in MF89145; s/t Debts as in MF19128; Amaranth

Minimum tender amount (set out the cancellation price as of the first day of advertising): \$20,650.08

Tenders must be submitted in the prescribed form and must be accompanied by a deposit of at least 20 per cent of the tender amount, which deposit shall be made by way of a certified cheque/bank draft/money order payable to the municipality (or board).

Except as follows, the municipality makes no representation regarding the title to or any other matters relating to the land(s) to be sold. Responsibility for ascertaining these matters rests with the potential purchasers.

If applicable, please check the following box:

The land(s) does(do) not include mobile homes situate on the land(s).

This sale is governed by the Municipal Act, 2001 and the Municipal Tax Sales Rules made under that Act. The successful purchaser will be required to pay the amount tendered plus accumulated taxes and any taxes that may be applicable, such as a land transfer tax.

The municipality has no obligation to provide vacant possession to the successful purchaser. According to the last returned assessment roll, the assessed value of the land is \$40,000.00

A copy of the prescribed form of tender is available on the website of the Government of Ontario Central Forms Repository under the listing for the Ministry of Municipal Affairs.

For further information regarding this sale contact: (provide contact information for the municipality or board, such as address, email address, telephone number and contact name(s))

Note: This document need not be registered.

Kidd Family

Auctions

we're here to chat.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs

Form 6 Sale of Land by Public Tender Municipal Act, 2001 Ontario Regulation 181/03 Municipal Tax Sales Rules

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The tenders will then be opened in public on the same day at

3:00 pm, The Township of Amaranth Munici al office, Amaranth, ON Time and Place

Description of land(s): (provide the street address and municipality in which the land is located, or if there is no street address, the location of the land; and, the property identifier number (PIN) assigned to the land in Ontario's land registration system)

LRO #7 - PIN 34042-0072 (LT), Lot 15, Plan 329, s/t MF207940; s/t MF186563; Amaranth Minimum tender amount (set out the cancellation price as of the first day of advertising): \$43,323.72

Tenders must be submitted in the prescribed form and must be accompanied by a deposit of at least 20 per cent of the tender amount, which deposit shall be made by way of a certified cheque/bank draft/money order payable to the municipality (or board).

Except as follows, the municipality makes no representation regarding the title to or any other matters relating to the land(s) to be sold. Responsibility for ascertaining these matters rests with the potential purchasers.

If applicable, please check the following box:

8 Russell Hill Road, Amaranth

The land(s) does(do) not include mobile homes situate on the land(s)

This sale is governed by the Municipal Act, 2001 and the Municipal Tax Sales Rules made under that Act. The successful rchaser will be required to pay the amount tendered plus accumulated taxes and any taxes that may be applicable, such as a land transfer tax.

The municipality has no obligation to provide vacant possession to the successful purchaser

According to the last returned assessment roll, the assessed value of the land is \$ 332,000.00

A copy of the prescribed form of tender is available on the website of the Government of Ontario Central Forms Repository under

For further information regarding this sale contact: (provide contact information for the municipality or board, such as address, email address, telephone number and contact name(s))

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is here by given that the Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of The Orangeville Area Forest Lawn Cemetery Company (Formerly Forest Lawn Cemetery Company) will be held in the office of The Orangeville Area Forest Lawn Cemetery Compa-Mono, ON at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, February 28, Neil White - President

NOTE: All owners of two or more grave lots are shareholders (each lot representing one share) and are entitled to attend and vote at such meeting either in person or by proxy for an owner who is a shareholder

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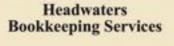
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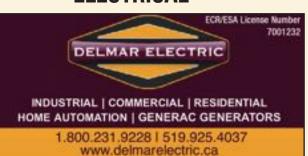
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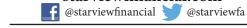


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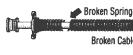
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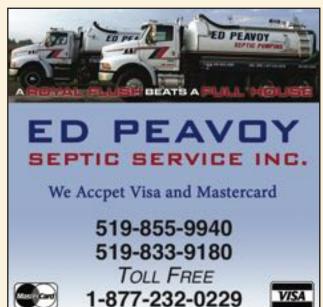
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Monty Laskin stepping down as CEO of Caledon Community Services

Continued from FRONT

Prior to getting the job at CCS, Laskin actually didn't know a lot about Caledon, the place in which he'd become a key figure in the coming years. In his job interview preparations back in 2006, Laskin remembers thinking CCS was an amazing opportunity to get involved in all kinds of different sectors; and, that CCS was becoming a real go-to organization in Caledon.

Laskin said he saw opportunities to add settlement services, youth services and employment services to name a few, all of which CCS now offers.

"It's been such a joyful ride to watch the community grow and watch CCS grow alongside it, in ways that in 2006, I couldn't have imagined," said Laskin. "Any growth of a community organization requires an exceptionally hard-working staff team and a community that wants to come together and make things happen."

A team performance is always required, said Laskin, explaining that launching new services always requires capital and sustainable funding. He said CCS always has to put itself forward in a way that proves it has the capacity to do its charitable work and that the work will have the intended positive impacts on residents in the community.

Laskin said he's always thought it is CCS' role to bring forward the perspectives and needs of people that use CCS' services to Council and other non-profits in the community. He said working together to ensure their needs aren't forgotten amongst competing priorities in a growing community is key.

Something Laskin is really proud of working on in his time in CCS is developing an extremely strong and passionate staff. With a strong staff group, Laskin said much more can get done for the community.

"My team... are all people that I just love going into battle with, planning and brainstorming," said Laskin. "Figuring out what we need and how we can get it... it's been the most satisfying to watch them grow and grow alongside them."

Another item Laskin is particularly proud of is the planning and building of The Exchange in Bolton.

"It's been a real game-changer for the community because it's provided a hub, a safe, welcoming and really attractive place for all people of Caledon to come to," said Laskin. Whether it's for food support, a yoga class, or a cooking class, different people go to the exchange for different things and that was the goal.

Before The Exchange existed, CCS delivered food support by handing out pre-packed food hampers out of a closet. It was a necessary service, but the organization knew it didn't match its vision and that a better model could be created.

Laskin said all kinds of things came together over an 18-month period to make The Exchange a reality: a generous builder, generous architect, generous people and more. Now, The Exchange receives over 12,000 visits a year. Laskin noted the need for food support in Caledon has more than doubled from this time last year, as well as the fact there's often mornings when The Exchange opens and there are people waiting outside who have lived rough the night before.

"It is unquestionable that (The Exchange) is serving a really important purpose," said Laskin.

"Hardship in life is never about one thing... when you're challenged in one way, it often creates other kinds of challenges. So, the value of someone coming for food is that a caseworker can learn really quickly: "What's going on here? How did this evolve for you? And what are you missing right now, to secure some independence and a life that you want to live?""

Laskin said CCS can then make all kinds of referrals internally to help someone, whether it's assisting them with job support, health issues, transportation, mental health or something else.

"I think that's why (CCS has) become such a diamond in this community," said Laskin.

For whoever will be CCS' next CEO, Laskin said his advice would be that they should rely on the skills and passion that got them the job. The other thing he said is that the new CEO will be able to rely on CCS' amazing staff while they spend time getting to know CCS and Caledon.

Laskin said one of the most important things he did in his first year on the job was really get to know the "heart of Caledon." Former board chairs and members were key in helping Laskin do this.

Laskin is always quick to credit the "exceptional" people of Caledon who spend their time on events, committees, programs, and everything else CCS does that needs volunteers. He also credits other organizations in Caledon like service clubs, faith groups, schools, and others that he said have been a pleasure to work with over the years.

"Over 17 years, I've learned so much, and I've had so many opportunities to do things that have brought me a lot of joy in my life," said Laskin. He said the next CEO will have a chance to set the vision for the next decade and make important choices as Caledon continues to grow — an enticing offer for someone looking to provide leadership in community development.

Laskin said Caledon is seeing significant growth in more diverse demographics and that there's opportunities for CCS to get even more involved in settlement services for newcomers.

"It's important for Caledon to welcome (diversity) in word and in deed," said Laskin.

Also important to note in the coming years is the number of "newly-vulnerable" people who were hit hard by the pandemic and need support for the first time to make ends meet.

Oftentimes these are families where parents have jobs and it's still not enough to be sustainable.

"On matters of poverty, CCS has to remain strong," said Laskin. "It is the only organization in Caledon that has a specific mandate on poverty reduction."

Finally, Laskin said a needs assessment done by CCS last year indicates that people are using the services offered by CCS and that they should all be continued. Sustaining the services' operation in an economy where costs are rising significantly will be an important task.

January 31 is when CCS' Board of Directors officially announced Laskin would be stepping down on April 28, and they did so with a media release. In the release, Board Chair Wanda Buote said Laskin provided visionary leadership during his tenure as CEO.

"On behalf of the Board of Directors and our entire organization, I want to extend our deepest gratitude to Monty for his leadership, commit-

"Hardship in life is never about one thing... ment to excellence for CCS and for Caledon and when you're challenged in one way, it often creates other kinds of challenges. So, the value of of our organization," said Buote.

The statement said Laskin is leaving CCS positioned well to meet the growing needs of Caledon and that he developed strong relationships with "all levels of government, the United Way of Greater Toronto, foundations, private donors and generous Caledon businesses and residents which will serve the agency well into the future."

CCS' Board of Directors has established a hiring plan and engaged an executive search firm to undergo a rigorous search for CCS' next CEO.

Buote said Laskin's pursuit of excellence at CCS has made the organization strong for the years to come.

"Please join me in extending to Monty all good wishes in the way ahead and continued successes as he embraces new opportunities in this next chapter of his career," said Buote.

Great Backyard Bird Count Provides Global Purpose on February 17-20

BY JIM STEWART

It's a busy time of year for The Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Birds Canada, and the National Audubon Society

On February 17, 18, 19, and 20, these three esteemed conservation organizations will be encouraging nature lovers across the world to watch birds in their backyards or other favorite settings and report their findings.

The Great Backyard Bird Count is an annual event that invites participants to take a break from their hectic lives and count the birds. It provides a welcome break from the winter blahs often associated with February and is a perfect activity for Family Day 2023. However, the main reason February is chosen is that most birds around the world have not begun their spring migration and the international bird population is at its most stationary.

Kristen Martyn, who is the owner of Wild Birds Unlimited, is a local proponent of the Great Backyard Bird Count and related conservation measures to protect avian populations. Kristen took time from her busy schedule of caring for her newborn twins, managing her store, and being a conservation activist to respond to our interview questions:

The Caledon Citizen: How can local residents participate in the Great Backyard Bird Count 2023?

Kristen Martyn: Participation is easy and free. All you need to do is identify and count the birds you see in your yard (or any other location you wish) for at least 15 mins February 17-20, 2023. You can participate on all days or whichever day(s) you are available to do so. After your count is complete, you upload your results on eBird (registration is free). If you are new to bird identification, the Merlin Bird ID app is a great tool. If you have participated in the count before, you can upload your results

on the eBird Mobile app or on eBird. org. For more information on how to participate in the Great Backyard Bird Count, visit birdcount.org

The Caledon Citizen: Why is the Bird Count an important event that local residents should care about?

Kristen Martyn: By participating in the Great Backyard Bird Count, you are participating in the world's largest biodiversity-related community science project. Your information becomes part of an extensive database that is analyzed by scientists to better understand important trends in bird populations, range expansions, habitat changes, and shifts in migration patterns. Tragically, recent studies have shown that we have lost 2.9 billion birds in North America since 1970. Participating in community science projects is an easy way for anyone to take action and help

The Caledon Citizen: Any words of encouragement to aspiring birders as the Big Day arrives?

Kristen Martyn: Absolutely! If you are new to bird identification and bird watching, this is a great event to get you started. The birding community is so welcoming, and we encourage all skill levels to participate. If you need help with bird ID feel free to visit us in store, send an email or post on our social communities. We would be more than happy to help and there are also many other online groups and resources to assist you as well. This is the perfect event to get kids interested in the nature in their own backyards. So, I would strongly encourage parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, teachers, community leaders, and others to invite children to participate with them and to get them involved. Lastly, remember that birds really need our help and with as little as 15 minutes of your time, you can directly assist with bird conservation! Is there any better motivation than that?! Happy counting everyone!

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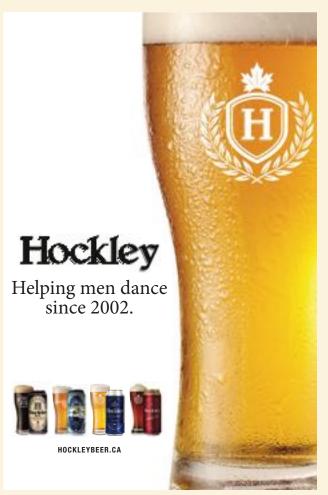








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