

# Caledon Citizen <br>  


GLEN THE PLUMBER 416.565.0201
FREE Thursday, May 25, $2023 \quad$ Volume 43, Issue 21


Brampton Mayor Patrick Brown, Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Steve Clark, Caledon Mayor Annette Groves, and Mississauga Mayor Bonnie Crombie are pictured the May 18 press conference where it was announced the Region of Peel would be dissolved.

## Dissolution of Peel Region"not a move we wanted," says Groves

## BYZACHARY ROMAN

Caledon, Brampton, and Mississauga will no longer form the Region of Peel.
At a press conference held on May 18 Ontario's Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Steve Clark announced Premie Doug Ford's Progressive Conservative government was tabling legislation to dissolve the Region of Peel
The move came just days after Ford said he was "always for an independent Mississauga" at a press conference held there
The legislation that's dissolving Peel is


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called the Hazel McCallion Act, a nod to the Clark said the move to dissolve Peel will late Mississauga mayor McCallion's long-held help its three municipalities grow, specifically desire to have Mississauga be an independent when it comes to building homes. He said the city. Ford has said even before he was elected, dissolution will be done fairly and ensure stahe promised McCallion he'd make Mississau- $\quad$ bility for Peel's residents.
ga independent. "Our objective... is to ensure these municiPeel will be officially dissolved on January palities have the tools that they need to support , 2025, and a five-person transition board is future population and housing growth in the going to be appointed by the government to years to come, to reduce duplication, to lower handle the transition. the cost of government, and speed up the de"The board would make recommendations livery of high-quality services to the taxpayers on actions our government can take to help of these three communities," said Clark. the transition proceed smoothly and it would provide a wide range of advice..." said Clark. Continued on Page 7


SPRING PLANTING - The James Bolton Public School community got their hands dirty on Saturday, laying the groundwork for a garden they can call their own. For more, see Page 10.
PHOTO BY ZACHARY ROMAN


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## A2 caledon citizen | may 25, 2023

## Caledon Council "disavows" MZO request on industrial park development

Caledon Council has distanced itself from a request made by former mayor Allan Thompson for a Ministerial Zoning Order (MZO) for an industrial park development in the last term. At Caledon Council's May 23 meeting, Ward 3 Councillor Doug Maskell brought forward a motion to ask the Province for the revocation of the MZO issued for a 502-acre industrial park development; and, disavow the actions Thompson took to get the MZO in question issued.
In January 2022, the Rice Group requested that Council apply for a MZO from Ontario Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs Steve Clark for its proposed industrial park between Torbram and Airport roads, north of Mayfield Road.
This request was referred to Town staff, so they could bring additional information back o Council at a future meeting. However, before the request was brought back to Council,
the MZO for the development was granted by Clark on September 9, 2022
It was later discovered that on July 22,2022 personally wrote a letter to Clark asking for the MZO.
"When then-Mayor Allan Thompson draftd and delivered his letter to Minister Clark with his personal request for this MZO, he circumvented established Council practices and undermined the people's confidence in the po litical process," said Maskell.
Maskell said while some might say it's too ate, and that the MZO is already in effect, publicly repudiating Thompson's actions would show that the current Caledon Council is committed to transparency and accountability. Maskell said Clark should revoke the MZO because neither Caledon Council nor Town of Caledon staff provided support for it
"Council must... protect the residents of Torbram Road whose property values and quality of life have been significantly affected

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by this MZO," said Maskell. "This motion is for... the residents of Caledon who trust we are acting in their best interests.
Ward 5 Councillor Tony Rosa said he applauded Councillor Maskell for bringing forward his motion.
"The actions taken by former Mayor Allan Thompson, he acted alone, and he shouldn't have at that time. I really don't respect that process," said Rosa. "To go down this road, what is it going to cost our taxpayers?"
Rosa said he thinks revoking the MZO is battle that Caledon isn't going to win and expressed worry at spending Town resources only to lose in the end.
Maskell said all he's really asking for is the cost of a stamp to send a letter to Clark asking him to revoke the MZO; that he knows as a municipality Caledon can't stop an MZO. He said there's precedent of an MZO being revoked as it recently happened in Pickering. "I'm not implying at all that I want the Town to fight this MZO or take it to court," said Mas-
kell.
Regional Councillor, Wards 1, 2, and 3 Christina Early thanked Maskell for bringing forward his motion. She said she doesn't think there's a single member of Caledon's Council that condones Thompson seeking an MZO in isolation.
However, Early said the MZO is for lands that are part of Peel's settlement area boundary expansion and are now deemed to be employment lands.
Early asked Mayor Annette Groves what would happen if the MZO was revoked.
"We're getting the blame and having to take the hit for this," said Groves, noting she spoke to Region of Peel staff to get an understanding of what would happen to the subject lands if the MZO was revoked.
"The lands subject to the Rice MZO are now included as part of the urban area in the approved Regional Official Plan," said Groves, reading from an email sent to her by Region of Peel staff. "The MZO... identifies the uses permitted on the land... if the MZO was revoked the lands would still be included in the urban area."
Groves said this is key as even if Clark revoked the MZO, Caledon would still have to deal with the Rice Group's application. Groves said if Caledon has to have heavy industrial developments, the Tullamore area is the most suitable area for them.
"The residents who are impacted by this development... we need to make sure that we work with those residents so that we can mitigate some of those impacts," said Groves, noting she attended a meeting with affected residents and the Rice Group
She said it went well and dialogue is ongoing between the two parties.
Groves said in Caledon's housing pledge that it was mandated to submit to the Province, it asked that the Province issue no more MZOs in Caledon.
"I've never been in support of MZOs, however, this one, I believe we're a little too late. these lands are within those urban boundaies... they're still going to move forward with development," said Groves.
Maskell said the principle of his motion is key, and that Caledon could be setting a precedent for other municipalities
Ward 2 Councillor Dave Sheen said he couldn't support Maskell's motion because he believes parts of it are based on inaccurate information. He said Thompson's letter asking for the MZO speaks for itself, before reading an excerpt from it:
"While Town Council has paused on advanc ing applications until the official plan is complete, I feel that having this application wait for that work to be completed may deter the
applicant to move this significant opportunity for economic and job growth to another community," read Sheen from Thompson's letter. I am personally asking that you consider, as Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, using your legislative authority to advance this project by issuing a Minister's Zoning Order. By doing so, I believe the Town, Region, and Province will realize
outlined in this letter
Sheen said he doesn't believe Thompson overstepped any ethical or legal boundaries, and that Thompson didn't try to pretend he was speaking on behalf of Council. He said it was clear Thompson was speaking for himself. Sheen said Thompson did not break Council's Code of Conduct.
"If the residents of Caledon want to complain about the MZO, they should be complaining to Minister Clark," said Sheen. "Ultimately it's his decision... a letter from residents in Caledon can probably do more than a letter from this Town Council.
Sheen said Caledon should be looking ahead, not back, and "what's been done has been done.
"Development is going to displace people, and the Town of Caledon is looking ahead to decades of development and growth," said Sheen. "This kind of displacement and upset is going to continue, but that's part of what development means."
Rosa said Council needs to implement policies so that something similar requests for an MZO aren't able to happen again.
Maskell said he'd be willing to make an amendment to his motion and cut it into two pieces: the first being the portion where Council could disavow Thompson's request, and the second being the portion where Council would vote on asking Clark to revoke the MZO. Council then began discussing the first half of the split motion, which was: "Now therefore be it resolved that the current Council disavow and repudiate the action taken, in July 2022, by former Mayor Allan Thompson, relating to the MZO filed on lands known municipally as 12245 Torbram Road by reaffirming its commitment to abide by the Code of Conduct for Members of Council."
Sheen said he would not support the motion because all it accomplishes is sullying the reputation of Thompson, and that it goes without saying that Council will follow its code of conduct.
Groves said she would support the motion because the former mayor's actions put Council in a very difficult position. She said Thompson gave her a copy of the letter he wrote to Clark on his last day in office
"It wasn't the right thing to do," said Groves. Council voted in favor of disavowing and repudiating Thompson's actions with regards to the MZO, with Councillors Nick de Boer, Mario Russo, and Sheen opposed. Mayor Groves and Councillors Rosa, Maskell, Cosimo Napoli, and Early were the votes in favour. Councillor Lynn Kiernan was absent from the meeting.
Council voted against sending a letter to Clark asking him to revoke the MZO, with only Maskell voting in favour.
A public meeting about the development is set for June 13 at 7 p.m. at Caledon's Town Hall in Caledon East. Residents can also join the public meeting online on the Town's website.
Groves said she encourages people to come out to the meeting and have their voices heard. Those interested in being notified about the Rice Group development as it moves forward can send an email to planning@caledon.ca. Written comments and questions about the development can also be sent to this email addevelop
dress.

## Asparagus \& Wild Leeks Are Here!

Hanging Baskets \& Patio Potis Rose Bushes, Feris Perrenials

Bolton high school robotics team celebrates successful season at banquet


Humberview Secondary
School's Alpha Dogs went
to world championships this year
BY ZACHARY ROMAN
Local high school students made CaleLocal high school students made Cale-
don proud at a world championship robotics competition this year
The Alpha Dogs are a FIRST robotics Team from Humberview Secondary School team from Humberview Secondary School
in Bolton. FIRST stands for "For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technoloand Ry .
gy".
The team designed and built an impressive
The team designed and built an impressive
robot for competitions this year, which led robot for competitions this year, which led
them to win their division at the Provincial them to win their division at the Provincial
championships. This earned them a spot at championships. This earned them a
the world championships in Houston. the world championships in Houston. After a great showing at the world championships, the Alpha Dogs held a banquet at Humberview on May 18 to celebrate their
season and thank their mentors and sponsors. season and thank their mentors and sponsors. At the banquet, attendees were served dinner and watched recap videos from the Alpha Dogs media team, which documented
the team's journey over the past school year Then, several mentors and Alpha Dogs members spoke to those in attendance and To end the night, the Alpha demonstrations of their robot that impressed the crowd. the crowd.
Speakers thanked Alpha Dogs alumni who played a big part in the Dogs' season his year. There was also a special thank you for current Grade 12 Alpha Dogs, some of whom have been on the tean for years, and will be
lives.
The senior students thanked their mentors, said their time on the Alpha Dogs was amazing and they wouldn't be where they were if it weren't for them. The senior students explained there's so much background work ime, and effort put in by Alpha Dogs menors and that they were really appreciative of he way they transformed their high school experience. David Hilgendorff is a teacher at Humberview and a leading mentor for the Alpha Dogs robotics team. He surprised the team at the banquet with special custom world championship lanyards for their medals to
replace the plain ones. eplace the plain ones.
If you're not familiar with the Alpha Dogs
or missed the Citizen's first article on the

PHOTO BY ZACHARY ROMAN

## eam this year, read on to learn more

 On the first Saturday of every January, FIRST robotics teams around the world are given a challenge, then have six weeks to design and build a robot that will be able to meet this challenge and be better and faster at it than other robots in competition it than other robots in competition The challenge given to robotics teams thisyear was to build a robot that could pick up year was to build a robot that could pick up
and place a pilon onto a pole, and be able to and place a pilon onto a pole, and be able to pick up and place a cube into a box. It also an a bery nimble and be able to bal a platform that moved like a seesaw. Hilgendorff said the Alpha Dogs excelled his year because the robot they made was not only great at picking up and using both game pieces, but it was reliable too. The Alha Dogs were very good at being diligent in checking over their robot and diagnosing any potential problems with it.
The Ontario FIRST robotics provincial championships were held in Hamilton this year, from April 5 to 8. The Alpha Dogs won the division they were placed in with a reord of 15-2-0.
This earned them a place in the world championships, which were held in Houston, Texas from April 19 to 22.
At the FIRST robotics world championships, the Alpha Dogs had a 10-5-0 record. There were 940 teams from around the world
competing at the world championships. "It's definitely the best season for our team ever, it was pretty exciting," said Hilgendorff. "We can hold our hands high knowing that we competed with the best in the world." The Alpha Dogs have been competing for ten years now, and are very thankful for their sponsors. For more information about the A1 spon Dogs, their sponsors, and to see the team in action, those interested can visit 4946 ca


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## DRUG TRAFFICKING investigation

Members of the Caledon Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have laid charges in connection to a drug trafficking investigation.
"Earlier this year, the Caledon OPP Community Street Crime Unit (CSCU) entered into a drug trafficking investigaion," say Police. "It led investigators to author a search warrant for various locaBarrie. On May 17,2023, the Caledon CSCU with the assistance of OPP Canine Peel Regional Police Canine the Barrie Peel Regional Police Canine, the Barrie Dufferin, Nottawasaga, Muskoks Oril Da, Southern Georgian Bay and City of lia, Sourh Georgan Bay, and City of
As a result, Joel Clarke, 28, of Brap on, was charged with

Possession of a Schedule I Sub stance for the Purpose of Trafficking - Fentanyl
Possession of a Schedule I Sub
tance - Cocain
Possession of Prohibited Device or
Ammunition
Unauthorized Possession of Re stricted Firearm
Possession of a Restricted Firearm
with ammunition
Knowledge of Unauthorized Posses-
sion of Firearm
Fail to Comply with Release Order four counts
The accused was held for a Bail Hearing The charges have not been proven.
Bianca Brown 26, of Woodbridge, was harged with:

Possession of a Schedule I Sub-
stance for the Purpose of Trafficking - Fentanyl
Possession of a Schedule I Substance for the Purpose of Trafficking - Percocet
Possession of Proceeds of Property Obtained by Crime Under $\$ 5000$ The accused is scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Brampton on June 5, 2023, to answer to the charges. The charges have not been proven
The following items were seized:
A quantity of Purple Fentanyl, Co-
caine, and Percocet pills
Browning High-Power 9 mm semi-automatic pistol
$1 \times 9 \mathrm{~mm}$ bullet
$3 \times$ pistol magazine (1 prohibited

high capacity)
Bundled Canadian Currency
Other evidence of drug trafficking
If you suspect illegal activity in your eighbourhood call 1-888-310-1122 You an also provide information anymous ly by contacting Peel Crime Stoppers 1 -800-222-TIPS (8477) or online peelcrimestoppers. When you www. peelcrimestoppers.ca. When you contact rime Stoppers you stay anonymous, and

## MISCHIEF INVESTIGATION

Members of the Caledon Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are investigating a mischief incident on Highway 10 .
"Just before 5:00 a.m. on May 21, 2023, Caledon OPP responded to a report of a shooting on Highway 10, in the Town of Caledon," say Police. "During the invesigation, it was determined that a gray Subaru Impreza was traveling southbound on Highway 10 near King Street shortly before $4: 00$ a.m., when it was approached by a black SUV. At that time, three consecvehicle was believed to be last seen taking ehicle was believed to be last seen taking South. The victim pulled over a short time South. The victim pulled over a short time ater to inspect their vehicle. The damage pellets from BB gun. No injuries were pustained as a result of this incident."
The investigation is ongoing. If have information or dashcam footage f the area around that time, please call fie area around that time, please call information anonymously by contacting Peel Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS 8477) or online at www peelcrimestop pers.ca. When you contact Crime Stoptopyou stay anonymous, and youm Stoppers you stay anonymous, and you never have

## ROAD SAFETY WEEK CHARGES

21 people have already lost their lives in 2023 on Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) patrolled roadways in Central Region.
"During the Canada Road Safety Week campaign, officers in Central Region completed 2,710 traffic stops and laid 2,534 traffic-related charges focused on driving behaviours that contribute to injury and death on our roads.
Canada Road Safety Week (May 16-22, 2023) aims to increase compliance with
safe driving measures in order to save
lives. Its focus is on behaviours that put drivers, passengers, pedestrians and other vulnerable road users at risk, including the "big four" contributing factors for injury and death on our roads: impaired driving, distracted driving, speed or aggressive driving and lack of seatbelt use
During Canada Road Safety Week, following charges were laid in Central Region:

Speeding - 1,234
Stunt/racing - 37
Seatbelt - 79
Seatbelt - 79
Distracted driving - 33
Distracted driving
Impaired - 45
Impaired - 45
Careless driving - 23
Careless driving - 23
Drive while prohibited
Drive while prohibited -
Other charges - 1,072
Driver's licence suspensions - 13
Motorists are asked to prioritize safety on our roads by slowing down, driving safely and cautiously, wearing a seatbelt and never driving impaired.

## ARRESTS IN LABOUR human trafficking case

Police have arrested four individuals in a labour human trafficking investigation that had links to Ontario, Alberta and Quebec.
"The investigation, named Project FOXTROT, began on February 13, 2023, when Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) members received information of suspected labour trafficking involving foreign nationals from Mexico who were being exploited," say Police. "The victims were recruited online and promised work permits and good paying employment in Canada.
"The victims were expected to work at various recycling facilities in Red Deer (Alberta), North Bay (Ontario) and Sault Ste Marie (Ontario) and Levis (Quebec). They were housed in several short-term rentals around Canada and in the basement of one of the accused people in Simcoe County. Payment for the accommodation was taken from the victims' wages, which was less than had been promised."
On May 16, 2023, the Provincial Human Trafficking Intelligence-led Joint Forces Strategy (IJFS) members from the OPP, Anishnibek Police Service, Toronto Police Service, Peel Regional Police and Halton Regional Police Service executed search warrants at locations throughout Simcoe County and the Greater Toronto Area.
As a result of the investigation, on May

When you buy from a small business you're not helping a C.E.O buy a 3rd holiday home, you are helping a little girl get dance lessons, a little boy get his team jersey, a mom or dad put food on the table, a family pay a mortgage or a student p

## Øhane for trapoping leall:



Miroslaw Blachuta, 72, of Etobicoke, was arrested and charged with three counts of Human Trafficking of Persons, as per Section 279.01, and three counts of Material Benefits in Trafficking of Persons, as per Section 279.02 of the Criminal Code. He was released on an undertaking and is
scheduled to appear in Brampton Court on scheduled to appear in Brampton Court on July 17, 2023. The charges have not been proven.
Francisco Eluid Antonio-Olvera, 33, of Simcoe County, was arrested and charged with three counts of Human Trafficking of Persons, as per Section 279.01, and three counts of Material Benefits in Trafficking of Persons, as per Section 279.02 of the Criminal Code. A bail hearing has been scheduled for May 23, 2023. The charges have not been proven.
Mikhael Akin, 53, of Halton, was arrested and charged with three counts of Trafficking in Persons, as per Section 279.01 of the Criminal Code. He was released on an undertaking and is scheduled to appear in Brampton Court on July 17, 2023. The charges have not been proven.
Floriberta Sarmiento, 27, of Simcoe County, was arrested and charged with one count of Trafficking in Persons, as per Section 279.01 and one count of Material Benefit in Trafficking of Persons, as per Section 279.02(1) of the Criminal Code. She was released on an undertaking and is scheduled to appear in Brampton Court on June 26, 2023. The charges have not been proven.
"The three male victims range from 27 to 42 years old," say Police. "All victims were provided services through the OPP IJFS Victim Specialist and FCJ Refugee Centre.
IJFS
IJFS partner agencies who supported this investigation also included Barrie Police Service, Kingston Police, Ottawa Police Service, Greater Sudbury Police Service, Quebec City Police Service, York Regional Police, Durham Regional Police Service, Niagara Regional Police Service and Waterloo Regional Police Service. The Canada Border Services Agency and Ministry of Labour provided assistance." If you or someone you know is being trafficked, call your local police. The Canadian Centre to End Human Trafficking has resources available for victims and survivors of human trafficking on their website at canadiancentretoendhumantrafficking.ca. A national hotline is also available 24 hours a day, seven days a week at 1-833-900-1010

The Citizen CROSSWORD


Clues across

1. Wear away by
friction
2. Insecticide
certification (abbr.)
3. Serbian 37. Serbian monetary
unit
4. Make a sudden
surprise attack on surprise attack on
5. Wood or metal bolt
6. Relaxing attire
7. Famed neurologist 44. Dullish brown fabrics
8. Member of ancient Jewish sect 48. Griffith, Rooney 49. Lawmakers 50. Government lawyers
9. The arch of the
foot
CLUES DOWN
10. Nonflowering
aquatic plant
11. Britpop rockers

Solution in CLASSIFIEDS

| 4. Consumed | 30. Electronic data |
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| 5. The habitat of wild | processing |
| animals | 31. Sports player |
| 6. Sun up in New | 32. Treats with |
| York | contempt |
| 7. Cygnus star | 35. Apprehend |
| 8. Male parents | 36. Excessively |
| 9. Talk to you (abbr.) | talkative |
| 10. A place to clean | 38. Highways |
| oneself | 40. Ribosomal |
| 11. Southwestern | ribonucleic acid |
| US state | 41. College |
| 12. South Korean idol | organization for |
| singer | males |
| 14. Pirate | 42. Any customary |
| 17. Pituitary hormone | observance or |
| (abbr.) | practice |
| 18. Mistake | 43. Employee stock |
| 20. Promotions | ownership plan |
| 23. Prepares | 44. Male parent |
| 24. Partner to flowed | 45. The 23rd letter of |
| 25. State lawyer | the Greek alphabet |
| 26. Patti Hearst's | 46. Female bird |
| captors | 47. Autonomic |
| 29. Pound | nervous system |

## Caledon welcomes 11 new volunteer firefighters

BYZACHARY ROMAN

After training hard, 11 volunteer fire fighters have officially become a part of he Town of Caledon Fire and Emergency Services team.
On May 17, a graduation ceremony or the firefighters was held at Caledon ire's Station 302 in Bolton. Caledon's Fire Chief, Dave Forfar, ex plained the new recruits had to complete mandatory 250 hours of training, as well as achieve their level one and two National Fire Protection Association certifications.
exterely proud to welcone new volunteer firefighters, said orfa. These new recruits are not only oining our Caledon Fire team, they're oining our family, and we look forward o working alongside them as we continue to keep Caledon residents safe
The new recruits, who are from all around Caledon, will begin work immediately. They've been assigned to eight different fire stations across Town.
Mayor Annette Groves said having well-trained and dedicated first responders is critical when providing emergency services to Caledon residents.
"I'm happy to welcome these new re-
cruits to the... Caledon Fire and Emer-
 gency Services team," said Grove

## Inquest into 2016 death of Terry Baker again postponed

by paula brown


The start date for an inquest into the 2016 death of Terry Baker, an inmate serving a life sentence for her role in the torture and murder of an Orangeville teen, has been pushed until early June.
The Ministry of Solicitor General an ounced in a press release on May 19 tha a motion hearing related to the pending

## inquest into Baker's death would be re- ficer had ruled the inquest be postponed.

scheduled for June 1. The motion hearing was scheduled to begin on Monday, May
The coroner's inquest into Baker's death was initially set to begin in early April with the inquest spanning two weeks and hearing from approximately 12 witnesses A week before the coroner's inquest wa set to start, the Ministry of the Solicitor mission from the parties, the presiding o

## 元 <br> events

This column is provided as a free public service to non-profit organizations to announce up-coming events. Please contact the Caledon Citizen by calling (905) 857-6626 or emailing admin@caledoncitizen.com 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 00-6.30 followed 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. 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 AI-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 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
mail: caledoncoc@gmail.co

Knox United Church Caledon Village presents: Alex Busic
Friday May 26 th @ 7 pm
Alton Legion, 1267 Queen St. W
Alton, Ont.
Tickets $\$ 25.00$ cessible
Tickets $\$ 25.00$
905-703-1647-Michael
$519-938-8605$ - Marie
Or by bank e-transfer to:
Or by bank e-transfer to:
knoxunitedcaledon@gmail.com knoxunitedcaledon@gmail.com
Proceeds to the United Church in Caledon Village, Ont.
Thursday May 252023
Free Community Event
Int's Talk ... Birds and Blooms
Also, online via zoom (see website for link)
6:30 pm Plant Exchange
7 pm Guest Speaker Taya Kehler, The Riverwood Conservancy via Zoom Followed by discussion
Bolton United Church, Bolton, L7E 1C7 For more information call 905-857-2615 or e-mail: office@boltonunitedchurch.com Boston Mills Cemetery Remembrance Service
The Board of Directors of Boston Mills Cemetery invites the community to share in its 73 rd Remembrance Service and the 200th Anniversary of the Cemetery on Sunday June 11, 2022 at $2: 30$ p.m. To be held at the
Rd., Caledon.


CaledonCiitizen 905.857 .626

## inquest counsel

Baker, who pleaded guilty to her part in the 2002 murder of 16 -year-old Robbie McLennan, died at St. Mary's General Hospital in Kitchener on July 6, 2016. She was transferred to the hospital from the Grand Valley Institution for Women after being found unresponsive in her cell. The cause of Baker's death has not been specified, but in a 2016 interview, Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies executive director Kim Pate said Baker was found with a ligature around her neck. In 2017, a coroner's inquest to examine the events surrounding Baker's death was announced by then-regional supervising coroner for inquests, Dr. David Eden. An inquest into Baker's death is mandatory under the Coroners Act.
Dr. Eden will serve as the presiding officer for the inquest and the motion hearing, Sidney McLean and Kristin Smith will be

The motion hearing will begin at $1 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$. on June 1, with parties making their submissions remotely. Members of the public will be able to view the proceedings live online at https://firstclassfacilitation.ca/ office-of-the-chief-coroner/motion-hear-ing-in-regards-to-the-pending-inquest-in-to-the-death-of-terry-baker/.
Baker, who was 16 years old at the time of McLennan's murder in 2002, was convicted of first-degree murder in 2006 and handed a life sentence.
Baker's then 20 -year-old boyfriend, William Bronson Penasse, also pleaded guilty to first-degree murder in 2005 and was sentenced to life in prison without eligibility for parole until 2030.
Another 16 -year-old - who was never identified under the Youth Criminal Justice Act - was convicted of second-degree murder and sentenced to 18 months.
A hea/thy, engaged compassionate community for all
Employment Services • Transportation • Evolve Retail •
"The Best Mother’s Day Gift Ever!"
by Mariia Kupriianova, Chief Development Officer


How did you celebrate Mother's Day? Did you get a beautiful card? Or take your
Mom out for Mom out for
brunch? Did brunch? Did
you honour the loving memory
of the mother figure(s) in your life?
For me, this Mother's Day was extra special, the first one I celebrated as a mom/foster mom of four children. As I watched my kids play in the backyard coulhers (and fhinking that for parenta figures), there's no better gift than seeing their child happy, healthy and included. A gift that might be just out of reach for Caledon families
struggling with poverty.
More than 400 children in Caledon need your help right now. That's approximately one child in every aledon classroom. And even o

Without your help, these children will be left out of summer camps, organize sports and fun recreation. They could even go hungry. They'll miss out on making friends, building confidence and creating lasting memories that help them grow into healthy adults.
You can change that. You can help ou Caledon kids thrive - just like our
friends at Downey's Farm, who are friends at Downey's Farm, who are
offering a generous match of $\$ 5,000$ to double the impact of your gift supporting Kidz in Caledon this year. You can bring hope to Caledon children and their parents - The Bill Parnaby Team, a community-minded local business is doing just that; they created a beaunfur Moner's Day tradition to donat in honsur of all the

Your gift provides healthy meals, summer fun and back-to-school support for hundreds of Caledon children. You can change lives and help leave no one behind - just like our kind community did for Eric, a former Kidz in Caledon kid, now a graduate of the University of Toronto degree in Industrial Engineering. Today Eric is thriving and works at an international telecommunications giant.
Celebrate all the parental figures in your life with a meaningful gift that gives back. Your Kidz in Caledon donation will help build a brighter time. Truly the best Mother's Day gift ever.

## Visit https:/

ccs4u.org/ donate/kidz-incaledon to wat learn more and help Kidz in Caledon thrive!

How Do You See It?

## A6 caledon citizen | May 25, 2023

## Residents updated on blasting quarry application at community meeting

## bY Zachary roman

A meeting was held last week to update Caledon residents on matters related to a proposed blasting quarry south of Alton.
On May 17, the Forks of the Credit Preservation Group (FOTCPG) held a community meeting at the Alton Legion.
Susan Swail, a consultant for the FOTCPG, said at a previous meeting held by the group on April 18, it asked the Town of Caledon to communicate and coordinate with their group.
"We heard the Town of Caledon's Mayor and staff agree to provide us with a timeline/ schedule of the Interim Control Bylaw process," Swail told The Citizen in an email. "Yet, to date we still have not received the promised project schedule
Swail said Caledon Mayor Annette Groves, Caledon's Chief Planner Antonietta Minichillo, and the Ward and Regional councillors representing the part of Caledon the proposed quarry would be in, were invited to the May 17 meeting.
The quarry in question is a below-water-tabe limestone blasting quarry being proposed by CBM Aggregates, a division of Brazilian conglomerate Votorantim Cimentos. FOTCPG president David Sylvester has called he quarry a monster, and said it's the biggest to ever be applied for in Caledon. He and his roup are dedicated to stopping the quarry group are dedicated to stopping the q.
Mike Balkwill of the Reform Gravel Min Coalition was the moderator at the May ing Coalition
17 meeting.
nd he said Gas one of the first speakers and he said Groves and Regional Councillor Wards 1, 2 , and 3 Christina Early said they the meeting He noted the attendance of Ward Councillor Lynn Kiernan and offered her connce lo Lym Kian, ander chance to speak later in the meeting if de ired.
Minichillo and Town planning staff were nvited, but chose not to attend.
"They declined, stating that in their opinon, there wasn't sufficient new information to justify their attendance here tonight," said Sylvester. "That was rather disappointing, to say the least.' Sylvester said the FOTCPG has been ask
ing the Town for a detailed Interim Control Bylaw (ICBL) work schedule covering critical dates up until October 18, when the Town Caledon's ICBL expires
The Town of Caledon passed an ICBL relating to new aggregate applications in October 2022 to give itself breathing room o strengthen its aggregate policies. If Caledon is able to adopt new aggregate policies by the time the ICBL's one-year limit is up, hose new policies can be applied to CBM Aggregates application, which was received Sylvember 2022.
Sylvester said Minichillo shared a draft Sopy of the ICBL work schedule with the 2023 meeting, and he called it promising.

He also provided an update on the Town of Caledon aggregate resources community working group. Sylvester said over 20 people applied to be community representatives on the group and that it should be up and running soon.
Under Ontario's Planning Act, Councils are required to make a decision within 120 days of receiving combined Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendment applications - both of which CBM Aggregates asked for when it submitted its blasting quarry application.
Sylvester said the FOTCPG asked the Town what the exact 120 day deadline would be for CBM Aggregates application in emails on April 12, April 13, May 11, and

May 16. Sylvester said on May 16, the group received a response from Minichillo that stated the 120 days expired on April 15. Many of you will recall that March 23 was the first date when the Town revealed that this application had been submitted... the citizens of Caledon were left with all of 23 days to go through this 6,000 page application and submit letters of objection and comments if they so chose to do so," said Sylvester. "We believe our community has been deprived of due process here. The FOTCPG is planning to have monthly meetings about the CBM Aggregates application moving forward. For more information, those interested can visit fcpreservation.ca.

## Developer appeals to Ontario Land Tribunal for proposed Caledon East Tim Hortons

## BY ZACHARY ROMAN <br> erties to permit a one-storey <br> was making an appeal to the <br> the applicant on May 10. The

Whether or not a Tim Hortons will come to Caledon Eas will be decided by the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT)
On January 28, 2020, Of ficial Plan and zoning bylaw amendment requests were submitted to the Town of Caledon half of Ganni Properties Inc for 16054 and 16060 Airport Road.
This application was deemed complete on February 6, 2020 and a public meeting was hel about it on September 15, about
2020.
Ganni Properties submitted - revi Properies submitted Town in June and August Town in June and August o 2022. It included additiona at 16068 Airport Road
at at 16068 Airport Road rezone the Airport Road prop-
restaurant with a drive-through service facility, as well as two retail/commercial units. Conceptual plans show the drivethrough restaurant would be a Tim Hortons.
On Februar
public meeting was held about the application. Many Caledon East residents attended this meeting and shared their conmeeting and shared their conwhat it would mean for their village.
Pedestrian safety, traffic, Pedestrian safety, traffic, and impact on local business and impact on local business are among residents' concerns with the proposal. Members of Caledon Council expressed concerns about traffic and air quality as well at the public
meeting. On May 18, the Town issued a media release to notify resa media release to notify res-
idents that Ganni Properties

OLT about its application. "Planning staff met with the applicant following the February 21,2023 , public meeting to discuss staff comments, (and) discuss heritage related issues with the proposed development," reads the release. "Staff also followed up with the ap plicant for status and their timing for resubmission and the applicant advised in May 2023 that they (were) working through staff and agency comthrough staff and agency com-
ments..." ments...

The Town said it has not prepared a report on the application for Council as it typically takes months for an applicant to coordinate with all involved consultants to resubmit applications, especially if a municipality requests sign icant changes to an The Town of Capledication The Town of Caledon received an OLT appeal from
applicant appealed as Caledon Council had not made a decision within 120 days of receiving combined official plan amendment and zoning bylaw amendment requests from the applicant.
According to the media release, Town staff will prepare a report for Council seeking diection on how to proceed with the OLT hearing.
Any member of the public who has participated in the eview process of the applicafion, such as by delegating at a public meeting, can request party or participant status and can be involyed in the OLT proceedings for this application.
Those interested in doing so can visit olt.gov.on.ca for more information, or call the Town's planning department at 905 584-2272, extension 7338

## NEW TOWNHOMES IN GRAND VALLEY



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The THIRD phase of Mayberry Hill features townhomes ranging in size from 1,840 sq. ft. to $2,037 \mathrm{sq}$. ft. and starting at $\$ 689,900$.

# Caledon's Regional Councillors surprised by dissolution of Peel 

Christina Early and Mario Russo want to set Caledon up for success

## BYZachary roman

When the Region of Peel dissolves, so too will the role of Regional Councillor in
Caledon.
At a press conference held on May 18 , Ontario's Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Steve Clark announced the Region of Peel would be dissolved effective January 1, 2025.
This in turn means Caledon residents will no longer elect Regional Councillors during the Town's next municipal election. The Citizen spoke with Regional Councillor Wards 1, 2 and 3, Christina Early; and Regional Councillor, Wards 4, 5 and 6, Mario Russo, about the coming change Early said she'd heard rumours in the days leading up to May 18 that Peel would be dissolved, but the January 1, 2025 dissolution date came as a complete shock to her.
m not even certain how doable that is because there is certainly a lot of logistics round this type of separation," said Ear$y$, adding she found it odd the Province
would dissolve Peel in the middle of a municipal term of office.
Russo said he found the announcement Peel would be dissolved to be a surprise He said there's a lack of information on what next steps are as of yet. Like Early, he said the Province's target date was "exremely ambitious.
With key services like paramedics, water, waste management, and social services currently under the Region of Peel's direction, there's lots for Caledon, Brampton, and Mississauga to figure out as they go heir separate ways
There will be a lot of complexity in making sure public services continue
eamlessly as the Region is dissolved, said Russo, adding that the burden of the transition should in no way be on the back of he taxpayer.
Early and Russo both shared concern for Region of Peel employees, who are facing uncertainty right now.
"There's a lot of unanswered questions," said Early. With that comes the need for a lot of discussions, said Early, such as standing alone. She said Council has yet to discuss its position but there's an appetite for an independent Caledon, and the Town is ready to advocate for its residents' and businesses' best interests.
Russo said while Caledon paid the smallest amount into the Region due to its ize, it did still pay, and that it deserves to benefit from its contributions as it grows in the coming years.
"We (Council) have the responsibility to be very clear on what our asks are for varous infrastructure projects," said Russo "Our job now is to obtain information and advocate for our residents."
Early said she believes the decision to dissolve the Region of Peel was a more recent one, noting the Province had only recently appointed auditors to look at Caledon, Brampton, and Mississauga's finances - one step in a process exploring a possible dissolution.
I don't think this was a planned event, think this came relatively quick," said Eary, noting seeing the Region of Peel go is saddening for Caledon.
She explained Caledon Council's formal position has always been in support of the Region, and Council always found it to be a functional body that worked very well. Early said the Town's goal as a corporaton is to ensure its residents and businesses live in the best municipality possible. "I want to keep this community whole and I'm going to do whatever I can and work really hard with my colleagues to tions," said Early.


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THE


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For full event details visit caledon.ca/caledonday

Dissolution of Peel Region "not a move we wanted," says Groves

Continued from FRONT
today and we have to work with it and do the best we can," said Groves.
She said she won't have any issue making sure that Caledon residents will be served well as the Region dissolves. Groves noted the Region of Peel has always served Caledon well, and that Caledon Council's formal position has gion of Peel. gion of Peel.
in undeveloped isected to take a lot of growth in undeveloped areas, and Groves said it's key
that Caledon receives support for the infrathat Caledon receives support for the in
structure needed to grow in these areas. Clark said Groves' points were well tak He indicated his government wants to give the mayors of the newly-independent Caledon, Mississauga, and Brampton strong mayor powers like the ones afforded to Toronto and Ottawa's mayors.
Crombie was asked at the press conference about rumours she'd be running for leader of the Liberal Party of Ontario. She said she was approached by people across Ontario to give it on "this incredible day and historic announcement."
Since the press conference, Crombie has formed an "exploratory committee", the first step in running to become leader of the Ontario Liberals.
The Town of Caledon put out a media release on May 18 about the dissolution of the Region of Peel. In the release, Groves was quoted as saying the following:
"Caledon is a special place, and the Town's residents have made it clear that they want Caledon to retain its unique identity," said Groves. "As one of the fastest growing municipalities in the Province, Caledon needs partners at the table to ensure we hit our growth targets when it comes to infrastructure and community service. We will work with the Province to ensure a fair transition for our town that protects our financial security and makes sure residents continue to receive the high levels of service that they need and have come to expect. We understand that this will be an involved process and we look forward to working productively to reach an outcome that is fair, equitable and respects the current and future capabilities of a growing Caledon." growing Caledon.
Groves was unavailable for an interview with the Citizen before press time.

At the press conference, Brampton May Crombie could each be seen making faces as the other was talking. Prior to the press confer nce, Brown had said Brampton residents' tax dollars have built well over $\$ 1$ billion in infrastructure in Mississauga and that his city need to be made whole.
At the press conference, Brown said Ford assured him Brampton would be made whole. Brown said if Brampton wasn't, it would be catastrophic as economic development and housing growth would grind to a halt and property taxes would increase
Crombie said it was a historic day for Mis down and smiling to hear the news that Peel was dissolving.
Crombie said she only asked for fairness and equity in the dissolution process and that Mis sissauga's growth was paid for by Mississauga residents. She also said she received a firm from Ford.
Crombie said she's confident the provincia government will appoint people to the transifion board that will have no conflicts of interest nd not be biased.
Reporters asked how Brown and Crombie ould work together in the dissolution proces if there was already friction at the press conference. Crombie said she believed they'd be ble to work things out professionally and cor dially, while Brown said he would not be afrad should anything go awry.
It wasn't until this point in the press confernee that Caledon Mayor Annette Groves wa ble to speak, calling Caledon the "child" in the Region of Peel "divorce."
She said she was confident Caledon and its residents would be taken care of and that she was "sure" the province did not come to the decision to dissolve Peel lightly
Thave every confidence in your transition Groves
The dissolution of the Region came as a surprise to Groves.
"It's not a move that we wanted... but at the
end of the day, we're here with this decision


## "Do I hear happiness

## in here?" *

Since we're all basking in the joys of another pring following its unofficial Canadian start to write anything that might put a chill in the o write anything that might put a chill in the Let's look at the World Happiness Report a survey done annually since 2002 which, using a series of metrics such as social support, life expectancy, freedom, internal and external perceptions, and the always popular Gross Domestic Product, determines which nations on our fair planet happen to be the happiest.
Back in March, the Report published its yearly findings and Finland, the top-rated country of conviviality, retained its position for the sixth year running. Finland was fol owed, in order, by Denmark, Iceland, Israel, The Netherlands, Sweden, Norway, S
land, Luxembourg and New Zealand.
"The ultimate goal of politics and ethic should be human well-being," said Jeffrey ment shows that wellbeing is not a 'soft' vague' idea, but rather focuses on areas of life of critical importance: material conditions, mental and physical wealth, persona virtues, and good citizenship. We need to turn this wisdom into practical results to achieve more peace, prosperity, trust, civil
yes, happiness - in our societies." Given that eight out of ten of the apparent happiest places on Earth are countries that are famed for either their rugged, mountainous terrain, skiing conditions, and thermal activity, I guess the chill in the air is an idea oo "soft" or "vague" to point out, but it is f television's. Rhod Morgense the wisdon from New York City to Minneapolis, Minne sota, "where it's cold and I figured I'd keep

But Rhoda and I digress
Yet, happiness is now b
ond national borders
piest Cities in Canada ras made about a Hapeal estate outfit Point2 Homes.
Zeroing in on "Canada's Largest Cities" and, by the results, towns and townships as well), the top ten Canadian cities in which to live were deemed to be Caledon, with "happiness index" of 67.41 ; Milton, ON
with 63.79 ; Halton Hills, ON, with 63.06 with 63.79; Halton Hills, ON, with 63.06;
Clarington, ON, with 62.50; Burlington Clarington, ON, with 62.50; Burlington
with 62.47 ; Levis, QC with 61.34 ; Oakville with 62.47; Levis, QC with 61.34; Oakville
with 61.09 ; District of Vancouver 60.70 ; Sa with 61.09; District of Vancouver 60.70; S top ten is Aurora with a rating of 60.57 . "To determine the 30 happiness-related metrics to create our happiness-related metrics to create our median after-tax income, poverty rate, per median after-tax income, poverty rate, per
ceived health, and a sense of belonging to the simplest practical factors like commute time, rainfall and air quality, we split the metric across four happiness-relevant dimensions: Economy \& Real Estate, Location \& Demo graphics; Health \& Wellbeing; and Community \& Environment."
Now, as the editor of The Caledon Citizen, serving the top-ranking community, and Th Auroran, which serves the tenth-ranked hap piest "city" I read the list, and all its qualifi ers, with some degree of pride, but I couldn't help but wonder community felt
After all, one person's measure of happi


For some, happiness is simply having a roof over one's head and just enough to make
ends meet, rather than their respective comends meet, rather than their respective com-
mute time or the state of the local real estate market. For others, who have been blessed with wealth and health throughout their lives, happiness will likely be measured from dif erent goalposts.
Pointing out that the "Cities" survey was based primarily upon census data, Caledon Citizen columnist Sheralyn Roman mused ast week, "If instead a survey was to ask res dents directly, you might hear some different esponses."
"The report alludes to the city's green
landscapes, wellness retreats and 19th-centuy architecture as the reason why Caledon's esidents are happiness," she shares from the survey, before adding her own perspective: "Sure, if you measure happiness by proximity to the Millcroft Inn, I am about to get ven happier than I already am. If, however ou measure it by my ability to afford regular visits to wellness retreats, that's a whole
different story." different story."
She adds: "A number of other metrics factored into the study as well including: 'medi-
an after-tax income, poverty rate, perceived an alter-tax income, poverty rate, perceived
health, and a sense of belonging, as well as health, and a sense of belonging, as well as
practical factors such as commute time, rainpractical factors such as commute time, rain-
fall, and air quality.' Apparently, these are fall, and air quality.' Apparently, these are
happiness factors.' You may not be surprised o learn that my first question is, 'According o whom?' If my median after-tax income is good and I live in a community with a low overty rate that must mean that 1 am relayely wealthy and thankfully not surrounded py in my privileged middle-class existence Please, please know that I am being ex tremely sarcastic here) Is NIMBYism what makes people happy?
Another benefit of asking the residents directly about their level of happiness living in Aurora or Caledon, or any community or that matter, might also shed some light on how our own markers of "happy" have The over the years.
The global pandemic changed our perspec tive on many things, and I think happiness is we had to adjust, and I fourd world shrank of the individuals in my friend circle mane out the other side with a newfound appreci ation for the smaller things in life, perhaps ation for the smaller things in life, perhaps
even the things that were around us all the even the things that were around us all the
time.
Rather than material wealth, 1 am personal
s seeing an increased drive to instead collect experiences." While that has always been happiness element, maybe we're making up or lost time on all the experiences and memmore challenging years of COVID.
But these experiences have also exacerbat d other things, such as mental health challenges, that can sometimes make even the seemingly simplest of the aforementioned goalposts just a little bit further out of reach

But, again, it all comes down to the individual
How do your your own happiness factors? How do you measure it? Have they evolve over time? Send your thoughts to brock@lp



Living a lie: The hypocrisy of land use

"We acknowledge that we are on the traditional territories of the Wendat, the Haudenosaunee and tinues to this day. We also would like to acknowl edge that these are the treaty lands of the Mississaugas of the Credit and to thank them and other Indigenous peoples for sharing this land with us," And right there is the crux of the matter. In this placating statement, we thank Indigenous Peoples for "sharing" the land.
What? The coloniz
the land, displacing Indigenous Peoples.
We are descendants of imperialistic thieves. All
that we have and the land we "own," is because of
them.
If you want to get right down to brass tacks, we shouldn't own any land at all, not one square inch. Just who had the right to give it to us, deed it to us, or bequeath it to us? We didn't win it in war or conquest.
It could be argued that all land rights, planning policies, development, subdivisions, commercial complexes and government buildings are all built on a shaky foundation. The land we built our homes and strip malls on was not ours to begin with. And how it ended up in pub
whole area for debate.
Through a series of archaic traditions and seemingly organized land dispositions, our ancestors ingly organized land dispositions, our ancestors
made a mad dash to their homesteads. Many didn't make it. Many died. And the land, well, I suppose it all got "passed down" with nary a legal binding document to be found.
Many Indigenous bands have reconciled their claims with the Crown through negotiated treaties, while others have not. Our laws state the Crown should act "honourably," to consult and accommo-
date Indigenous Peoples' interests.
In this country, there is a "duty to consult" but it remains muddy. This falls into the hands of the jority of planingial governments, and yet the majority of planning decisions are made at the local,
municipal level. Municipalities play a critical role in the lives of all of us - Indigenous People included - and make decisions directly affecting all of our interests.
There is also a "duty of reconcilition" There is also a "duty of reconciliation."
How can you truly reconcile hundred How can you truly reconcile hundreds of years of Obligaion
Island, Mother Earth, Gaia land, Mother Earth, Gaia.
"fruits belong to all and that the land belongs the
one."
Indigenous communities have a unique relationship with the land and its resources. We would do
much better if we learned from their time-honoured traditions and beliefs.
Robin Wall Kimmerer once said it's not the land that has been broken, "but our relationship to it." aged to build constructive, cooperative relationships
by Mark Pavilons
through meaningful engagement with Indigenous communities to facilitate knowledge-sharing in land use planning processes and inform decision-making."
Want to talk about historic uses of property? The land each one of our homes sits on - Indigenous land to be sure - was once used as a village, farm, cemetery, community meeting space, spiritual centre, medical and long-term care facility, school, business and more.
So, my friends, along with the complexities regarding Indigenous claims, rights and reconciliations, are current land use policies, which seem to be maleable, thanks to constantly changing mandates from the provincial government.
Recent Bills have impacted planning greatly, all
across southern Ontario From the Grenbelt across southern Ontario. From the Greenbelt and ur-
ban centres, to securing land for hospitals and LTC facilities, the process is complicated and costly. facilities, the process is complicated and costly. land for all of our needs. It only requires great thinking, planning and foresight in order to fulfill sociing, planning and foresight in order to fulfil soci-
ety's greatest needs. Some would argue that affordable cosing the Province would concur. Others say health care is top of mind and with that comes more beds, more mental health facilties, more LTC. Simply, more.
Planning is a balance. In many respects, it's a long-term projection. If done frugally, planning looks at the 25 -year picture, not the 5 - or 10 -year window. But we're growing so fast, it's hard to keep

Many interest and environmental groups argue, correctly, that we have experienced piecemeal, haphazard planning in our province. Our geography is filled with puzzle-piece-like mistakes of all shapes and sizes.
And this will continue, as long as the government of the day responds to the newest and next crisis, challenge, need and opportunity.
The majority of fortunes in North America have its weight in gold.

It's tangible, it's solid, it's beautiful. It's artistic, from my standpoint, and I just love real estate, Donald Trump said.
Donald Trump said
No comment.
I tend to agree with Nathaniel Hawthorne who called real estate "the broad foundation on which nearly all the guilt of this world rests.
And let's not forget today's deadly sins - money and avarice. To think that it costs hundreds of millions of dollars to build a hospital is mind-boggling. Anyone in government will tell you that a million here, 10 million there, is commonplace.
That's not only ridiculous, it can't continue at that pace. The well will run dry. The bubble will burst. And all of this on land we have no right to.
There's a lot to be said for hitting the reset button But we're in way over our heads, and too firmly rooted in the weird and wacky world of land ownership.
There are countries where people are forbidden to own land. As tyrannical as that sounds, maybe that's Let's create the province's largest shared commune! Who's with me?

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## Which school do you go to?

By the time I graduated college, I had some at the time
ebt in student loans to pay off
I stuck to the re-payment plan and the loan was done in couple of years
It wasn't a lot, and I was in the same situation as thousands of other students who just spent our years in a school to hopefully end up with a job in their chosen field. It's the price you pay
wanting to get an education in a certain field.
Although, to be fair, if you chose to get your cation and get paid at the same time.
Choosing which courses you want to take in chool is a matter of personal choice - at lea or the most part.
Some diplomas are far more likely to land you job in the field than others. There's no doubt why yout
Why you choose to go into a particular field an depend on a lot of things. For me, it was ecause I had a real interest in the field. I got photographer ever since, although photography hotographer ever since,

Either way, those courses taught me a lot. I have a friend who was, for lack of a better word, coerced into going to engineering school His parents insisted he become an engineer. This apparently happens a lot and in some cul tures, kids have no say in what they are going to become. It's expected of them to go into a cerin field.
In the case of my friend, he went to a big-time university in New York, and graduated as an en gineer. He then went on to become the grounds His at a golf course
His engineering knowledge probably helped in his job, but working at a golf course was what ting behind a desk and designing things. I don't think so Every years in school? hing you have gained something
A recent report came out about the "best" "orst" universities in the country.
I don't know why you would
I dont know why you would really need

Unless a school is some kind of uncredited institution that is handing out fake diplomas, why would you say one school is better than the on Harvard University in the U.S. it touted as he best school in the U.S. What it is really the best at, is marketing. It markets itself as the best school, and the public bought into it. Students routinely graduate with hundreds of thousands of dollars in debt. You have to wonder how that is even possible.
I saw a good interview with a Toronto intellectual discussing the matter of schools with ome American professors.
He ripped Harvard pretty good, and asked "do you really think you're getting a better education there, than at the University of Toronto wich is a state school
for mark. $\qquad$ I found the report listing the "worst" schools wa jus sor her img wher nothing other than imply the students there are value for their education dollar.

## Divorce is never easy

I'm sure we'll all agree this past week was a move works in his favour. No doubt if he feels did what and why is the fact that both residents get easier for Doug whirlwind for local politics. Faster than an epi- Caledon is no longer answerable to the Region of Caledon and employees of the Region of Ford if everything sode of Fast and Furious, a news leak suggest- of Peel as an additional layer of government d an "announcement" was imminent; one that perhaps his own influence over our town will would impact every single resident in Caledon, have more...well, influence. Peel are those with the most to lose. Spare a south of Old School

Brampton and Mississauga. Sure enough, be- As for Mississauga Mayor Bonnie Crombie, I fore a collective breath could be drawn, Mayor can only comment, "well-played Madam May Groves was summoned to a meeting where it or, well-played." "In an immaculate example as own analogy, that her parents were divoreShe hopes, it's micable - predich ng. She hopes it's amicable - predictably,
have my doubts. A regular reader will a politicia. There many, many reasons for that and one of them is I simply don't have the capacity, nor the interest, for the kind of political gamesmanship we have seen on display this past week. $\qquad$ Despite my Dad's best efforts I was never destined to be a chess master and I cannot even by granting (or some might say demanding) his divorce. However, given that he's mandat ed significant growth for Caledon, could care less about our environment and hopes to pave a highway down the middle of our collective
backyards, I have to think that somehow, this
well-played." In an immaculate example have spent it wondering about job security and project started by former Mayor Hazel Mc- the conspiracy thent status. As for us residents, Callion (whom we all know Mr. Ford admired this divore might ime mo Whil May reatly) and in legislation bearing the McCal- Groves hopes, like her own divorce apparently ion name, stood with a Cheshire grin on the was, that it is an amicable one with her ex taktage as the announcement separating Mis- ing out the trash for her, instead I foresee chal sissauga from "the rest of us" was made. I'm lenges. Who, for example, will now be responsure the timing, taking place just prior to a long sible for taking out the trash in Caledon when it weekend, was also intentional. Further, in true was previously a Regional responsibility, with checkmate fashion, she waited a courteous 36 Regional cost savings to boot? Who will abhours or so before announcing her intention sorb the increase in costs that are sure to follow with a fully fleshed out website that must have now that we're taking out our own trash? The been in the works for some time) to "consider" same goes for every other service that currently run for the leadership of the Ontario Liber- resides with the region and for which, as a re11 party. A formidable opponent Mr. Ford may sult, we cumulatively enjoyed the economies have been hoping to placate, and thus distract scale that resulted from that relationship. Conspiracies, oops I mean "conversations,"
also immediately commenced about what this also immediately commenced about what this

I know plenty of
students who go to students who go to these 'lesser' schools for very practical reasons. Notably, not everyone wants to live , and when for a dorm they can live they live close enough to school pense of borrowing of put a finciagh the expense of borro
their parents.
The report listad son walk and talk' you can go there
What an insult to students who are going there, and are studying hard in hopes of graduating. The truth is, at the end of the day, no one rebeen to any care you went to school. Ive never been to any social gathering where people introduce alumni of any school
There's an old joke that really tells the story of What it means to be a school snob
What do you call a doctor who graduated last in his class? - A doctor.


# "Beer, it's the best damn 

 drink in the world."Cheers to Fack Nicholson


Hockley

## Students begin creating vegetable garden at James Bolton Public School



## SUPPLYING HOME GARDENERS AND TRADE PROFESSIONALS



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Parent council co-chairs overwhelmed by support for school garden project by zachary roman

It was $10 \mathrm{a} . \mathrm{m}$. on the Saturday of a long weekend and the weather was gloomy: the perfect conditions for staying at home. However, that was the opposite of what the James Bolton Public School community did on May 20. They all gathered at the school to begin the process of implementing their school community vegetable garden.
Students from Kindergarten to Grade 5, their parents, school staff, parent council representatives, and school trustees were all among those in attendance. All were ready to get their hands - or gardening gloves - dirty in helping to get the garden started.
First, grass had to be dug out of the rectangle marking where the vegetable garden would go.
Students took great pleasure in driving their spades into the dirt, and subsequently delivering the dirt and grass they dug up to a bin via a wheelbarrow.
Next, everyone worked together to level the garden. Students played a special role as they were asked to stamp down the dirt, heels first. To complete preparation of the vegetable garden, everyone brought fresh soil from a big pile back to the garden and leveled it out too.
Jennifer Alviano and Christine Nnawuchi, co-chairs of the Parent Council for James Bolton Public School, were both on hand to help implement the vegetable garden.
Alviano said in relation to the garden project, they reached out to all the parents of children in the school to let them know about the project, how it will benefit their children, and asked for their support.
Nnawuchi said the vegetable garden is going to be an amazing way to engage children in different ways of learning, and noted it will work perfectly in tandem with the new teaching kitchen at the school. Alviano said she and Nnawuchi were overwhelmed by the support from the community for the garden project.
"We have a great parent community here, to see us all come together on a rainy morning on a long weekend, it's fantastic," said Alviano, and Nnawuchi echoed the sentiment.
"Parents at our school are fully engaged with their children's education... it's a beautiful sense of community," said Nnawuchi.
Alviano said gardening is a life skill that kids need to have and that there's lots of hands-on skills they'll develop through keeping a vegetable garden.
Alviano expressed her thanks to Matt McFarland of The Growing Season, a local landscaping company. She said he's been a great advocate for the project, and has donated a great deal of his time and materials to it. Alviano also thanked the principal and teachers at James Bolton Public School; Stan Cameron, Peel District School Board Trustee; and the Albion Hills Community Farm.
Cameron has been leading the implementation of vegetable gardens in all of Caledon's public schools as part of an ongoing project.
Kristina Mathews, principal of James Bolton Public School, was out digging in the dirt with her school community and commended the amazing efforts of all in attendance.
Mathews said experiential learning is very important to her; that she likes to see students apply what they learn in the classroom in real life contexts.
"Growing the seedlings... already (students) are excited about the process," said Mathews. "These are skills they're going to be using for the rest of their lives."
Mathews said it's clear her school comMathews said it's clear her school com-
munity is very invested in the vegetable munity is very invested in the vegetable
garden project and in the years to come, garden project and in the years to come,
they hope to install some raised garden they hope to install some rair garden.
beds and expand the size of their gat Lindsey Miller, a teacher at James Bolton Public Schoo, who has been raising worms with her class that will be used in the vegetable garden, said each day, a
student turns over the soil in the worms' habitat, and students will feed the worms their apple cores and banana peels. She said it's a great lesson in composting and that her class has aised over 1,000 worms. "This is the perfect opportunity to use them, the kids can know they re going to help the vegetables grow," said Miller.

## PLEASE RECYCLE

 THIS NEWSPAPER!
## Dufferin residents grieve sudden loss of community builder, boxing coach, motorcycle enthusiast, father and friend

BY SAM ODROWSKI
An Orangeville man who touched almos every corner of Dufferin County through his work and community involvement recently passed away in a three-vehicle collision along Highway 9.
Jamie Ferris, 52, often said, "Live every day to the fullest because you never know how many sunsets you are going to get."
On May 11, he saw his last sunset.
But living to the fullest was something Jamie did well through his ambition, passion and love for life. He founded and operated a non-profit motorcycle riding club called Qwest Riders that donates to various char-
ities each year, touched many lives through ities each year, touched many lives through coaching boxing and created countless memories at the weddings, local events, and ars he's DJ'd
Yet, the one thing that mattered most to amie was his family.
He leaves behind his three children Brilee, Tayah and Noah, and baby granddaughter, Ava.
Those close to Jamie say they'll miss his incredible sense of humour, selflessness, in fectious smile, big hugs, and loving energy. The three-vehicle collision that claimed "Lola" Gernack on has friend, Andrea Lola Gernack, on May 11 happened beween Mount Wore R. and Caledon/King Townline on Highway 9. A pickup truck col ided with Lola and Jamie while they wer ach on motorcycles
Under Jamie's leadership, he's helped fundraise thousands of dollars, toys and pounds of food for the many not-for-profits the community that support val people or those struggling financially
Many of those donations came through Qwest Riders, which he ran as "prez" (pres Vice presiating the club six years ago. Sice preside of Qwest Riders Jay Caey has their Jame for around 35 year munity from youth to adulth B Theom munity from youth to adulthood. They be ang together building bikes and eventuall ing together, building bikes and eve warl It It started out with a group of about 10-20 people meet Pitle Pit Oran geville Pita Pit and going on a ride for the
day. Over 60 past six years, the club has grown ook group for the club has over 600 mem book group for the club has over 600 mem-
bers. Qwest Riders held Terry oys to the Salvation Army and Family Tran oys to the Salvaion Army and Fans TranTerry Tovell.
Terry Tovell.
Tovell was
Tovell was heavily involved in the Oraneville Northmen Lacrosse and passed away
at age 44 in 2019.
The fundraiser saw thousands of toys doTated to the Salvation Army since its incepollected for the Northme's Benevole collected
Fund. Fund.
Jay said Jamie was very sociable, charismatic, a great public speaker, and lit up evry room he entered
"Jamie could get up and talk to 50,000 people...crack jokes, pick people out and make everyone laugh," he told the Citizen That was his jam. He was that person." Jay remembers him as a selfless, nonjudg. mental and compassionate individual who ould lend a hand to anyone in need
"He was the kind of guy that would pull over on the side of the road and give a homeless guy his coat," Jay said. "He would give he shirt off his back.
Amy Green, who was in a serious relationship with Jamie, said he was one of a kind, full of life, enjoyed helping others, and always had everyone's back.
JJamie had the biggest heart, loved his amily more than anything and always lived life to the fullest," Green said. "He gave the best hugs, had a smile that lit up a room, was everyone laugh."
Byron Mackie, who opened Orangeville's BigTyme Fitness in 2001 and ran it until it closed in 2019, worked alongside Jamie, who coached boxing there for several years. "Jamie was a one-of-a-kind type of friend ways had your back no matter what - great friend, great coach, great dad, great person," he told the Citizen via email. "This one hurts real bad and he will be missed tons." Jason Alexander has known Jamie nearly 25 years, and they became close through coaching boxing classes Jason said Jamie was loved by he trained.
o tournaments if they needed to drive, and give people rides home. He would do hand pads with people after hours," Jason said. He would help coach people on the off me, he was very giving to the boxing community that way."
Jason said he'll remember Jamie as an amazing friend, an incredible source of support, and a caring individual.
"He was always looking to give back to the community, give back to friends, family. He was just an all-around great guy and will be sadly missed. I was super privileged to have him so close to my heart and my famiy," he remarked.
Jamie's efforts to give back to the community culminated in a virtual fundraiser shortly after the COVID-19 pandemic started in
the spring of 2020 he spring of 2020.
Jamie came up with the idea of hosting the Soundqwest Virtual Jamzz to help people get off the couch and enjoy a dance party from their own homes. The virtual fundraiser had a Facebook Livestream of Jamie DJing, shared throughout Facebook, reaching over 10,000 views.
Jay, who owns Lux Vape, provided his warehouse as a venue for the fundraiser, and Richard Croft, Amy Green, Dana MacGregor, Tony Fenech, Julie Elsdon-Height, and Julie Thurgood helped to host the event. The stage was decorated with a collection of vintage 80 s items Jay collected over the years, and the backdrop was spray-painted graffiti style to fit the hip-hop vibe of the virual parties
Dana MacGregor was on the microphone hyping up the virtual audience while Jamie "orked the decks.
"These guys thought they were Run-DMC like it was hilarious. I loved it," said Jay. Ultimately, the events generated thousands of dollass to donate electronic tablets o senior homes, helping them stay connect d to their families with video calls during ock tit bens the rille Foas plit between the Orangeville Food Bank and Headwaters Hospital.
"It was way bigger than we expected," said Dana. "We got an amazing team of volunteers on board, and we had some more sponsors than we knew what to do with.' Dana's known Jamie for 30 years, and for Jamie while he DJ'd at bars throughou Orangeville. Jamie would provide the tunes Orangeville. Jamie would provide the tunes, nd Dana wo nde announcements, give way prizes, and work the microphone
"We did that for a long time - TJ's [Hancalled. "We were kind of an Nail, he calle,
The duo performed almost every Friday nd Saturday at TJ's for a couple of years getting the crowd moving on the dance floor Eventually, Jamie's DJing in the local bar scene evolved into the poundqwest Over the years, he be came known as one of the bet DJs in the egion. egion
Dana told The Citizen that much of his confidence and public personality was shaped during those years of MCing with Jamie.
"The belief that he had in me, and the fact hat he wanted to share a stage with me, gave me a level of confidence that I will take with me forever," Dana said. "Jamie Ferris wa instrumental in me finding my voice. Dana said his involvement in sports clubs
 made of Dut County "Hacets of Dufferin County
He was this massive connection point for every little piece of what makes this town, every little
his town
He added, "Jamie could bring all these diferent groups and people together in a way T $T$ never seen before." Reflecting back on Jamie's early begin high school, Richard Croft, said, "It all started in a basement on Parkview Dr with two CD players."
From there, he began DJing at bars and ventually built up his Soundqwest business o become one of the most recommended DJs in the area, Richard noted.
He said Jamie was an incredible person and role model.
"No matter whose path he crossed, he left smile," Richard remarked. "Jamie's the person that you wish the world could be," Neal Welch, who met Jamie through DJing 15 years ago and later joined Soundqwest DJ, said Jamie was a great entertainer and very community-minded.


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Continued on Page 13

## Three-sport student athlete Alex Mercer is high school Hockey Champion, but his end game is US college baseball scholarship

by jim stewart

Alex Mercer, as Robert Bolt mentioned in his famous play, is a young "Man for all Seasons."
Mercer is a three-season high school athlete who has excelled in Junior Boys Volleyball in the Fall, Boys Varsity Hockey in the Winter and Boys Varsity Baseball in the Spring. An Honor Roll student at Robert F. Hall Catholic Secondary School, Mercer also plays hockey for the AA Caledon Hawks. The three-sport athlete contributed significantly to the Hall Wolfpack's hockey championship this past winter but, ultimately, the Grade 10 tudent digs the diamond even more
Above all the other seasonal sports commitments, Mercer has his sights set on a US College baseball scholarship in 2025 and cur rently plays rep baseball for the AAA Newmarket Hawks with that post-secondary goal in mind.

Even though Mercer sees a future for himself south of the border on a baseball diamond, he has impressed his hockey coaches here in the present in Caledon
Lee Erwin, a Technology teacher and Mercer's hockey coach at Hall CSS, was impressed by the sophomore athlete's play for the Varsity Wolfpack.
"Alex is a very selfless player! He is always putting the team first and plays a 200 ' game. He is just as strong in the defensive zone as he is in the offensive zone.
In addition to being a complete hockey player, Coach Erwin also sees Mercer as an xcellent student.
"Alex is a self-starter, an incredibly bright and hard worker. He is the first one to help thers in need."
What impresses the Wolfpack's hockey coach the most is Mercer's work ethic and "adership.
"Alex is such a hard worker on and off the SMALL BATCH BBQ SAUCE FREE SAME DAY DELIVERY*

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ice! He understands the importance of teamwork and, although he is only a Grade 10 on the varsity team, Alex is a great leader, leads by example and is always looking to improve," Coach Erwin selected one key performance moment by Mercer this past season to high-
light the sophomore's light the sophomore's grit and determination
on the hockey rink. on the hockey rink.
"Alex was a key penalty killer on our
team this year which helped ful in winning the ROPSSA chempionship! He wasn't afraid to do what it took against He wasn t afraid to do what it took against
players 2 and 3 years older than himself. He blocked a key shot that kept the game tied and blocked a key shot that kept the game tied and Mercer took time away from his hockey heroics, second semester homework, and busy
travel baseball schedule with the Newmarket Hawks Elite Baseball Club to answer our interview questions:
Caledon Citizen: What qualities did you demonstrate in your sports season to earn Student-Athlete of the Week honors? Alex Mercer: "I demonstrated lots of hard work, determination, and leadership skills during our hockey season. I gave it my all every shift, with the varsity and junior team. When we faced adversity, I did my best to
be a leader and encouraged all teammates to be a leader and encouraged all teammates to keep playing hard."
Caledon Citizen: What were your key statistics and performance moments from the 2022-23 season that you are most proud of?
Alex Mercer: "During this Alex Mercer: "During this season, I am
most proud of winning the ROPSSAA championship with the varsity team. I am proud of pionship with the varsity team. 1 am proud of
picking up a few goals and assists in the semi picking up a few goals and assists in the semi
and finals games against Mayfield and Humberview Points are not what I am most proud of; it is the team effort which counts the most. I am proud I was able to help my team win a championship."

Caledon Citizen: In addition to your high chool sports team(s), what other community teams do you play for and at what level? Alex Mercer: "In addition to school sports, I play AA hockey on the Caledon Hawks and


Caledon Citizen: How would you describe yourself as a student at Robert F Hall? To which sports teams and clubs do you belong?
Honor Roll? Honor Roll? self as a hardworking ind best describe myself as a hardworking and committed student at Robert F. Hall. I take pride in my marks
and try my best, always. I am on the volleyball, hockey (junior and varsity), and baseball teams. This past year, I received Honour Roll recognition, and that is my goal again this year."

Caledon Citizen: What are your post-secondary plans regarding prospective academAlex Mercer: "I plan to play university level baseball, preferably in the States. With this in mind, I will need to continue working hard on the diamond and in the classroom.
Caledon Citizen: Who is your role model in terms of the person you admire the most? Alex Mercer: "I admire George Springer of the Toronto Blue Jays the most because of his play style. He does the little things the right way. He plays the same position as me: center field. He is a very good defensive and offensive player, which I see many similari-

Caledon Citizen: How do you feel about being nominated as The Caledon Citizen's Alex Mercer: "I feel very Alex Mercer: "I feel very proud and honoured to be granted this accomplishment. I
did not see this coming, and I am very thankdid not see this coming, and I am very thankful to be chosen. I will remember this for a
long time."

## Duck Day returning to Grand Valley this weekend with $\$ 30,000$ in prizes

## BY SAM ODROWSKI

Ready. Set. Go
The 26th Annual Grand Valley Duck Day is returning to Hereward Park this weekend and almost $\$ 30,000$ in prizes are up for grabs. A few thousand people are expected to fill up
the park on May 27 for a fun day of family event and activities.
and activities.
Ducks are sold for $\$ 10$ each and 3,500 of them will be dropped into the Grand River for 2 p.m. by Grand Valley Crane Rental, as attendees hope their duck is first to cross the finish line.
The prize package for the first place duck is a Camp Chef XT24 pellet Grill/smoker and a year supply of Pit Master Choice Pellets and Accessories, valued at $\$ 2,000$. Second place receives $\$ 1,000$ cash, third and fourth receive $\$ 750$ and those who place between seventh and 24th place each get $\$ 500$. The prize for the last duck across the finish line is $\$ 500$ as well. There is a total of 103 prizes this year.
Grand Valley Lions Duck Race chair Randy McClelland said attendees enjoy watching the
ducks drop down from the crane ducks drop down
the river each year
the river each year.
"It's a fun family event and something different McClelland added, "There's a lot of free things for the kids to do to."
Some of those free activities include face painting, the Lions Duck Pond, a bouncy castle, children's play area, interacting with Paw Patrol characters, bucket rides with Orangeville Hydro, and touring one of Grand Valley Fire's big engines.

Treasure gemstone painting is also available. For grub, attendees can get Chapman's ice cream from the Mill Creek Pub, smoothies from
Pita Pit with Pita Pete pulled pork from Pitm Pita Pit with Pita Pete, pulled pork from Pitmas-
ters Choice Pellets, and free cookies from Boston Pizza The Grand Valley Air Cadets will Boston Pizza. Th Ge 1 on hand with f Rex's Donuts.
"There's
"There's lots of things going on and we'll have lots of information booths," said McLelland.
The action starts at 8 a.m. with a breakfast, courtesy of the Grand Valley Lions, held at the Community Centre, along with garage sales starting throughout town and a massive plant sale behind the arena
Live entertainment will run from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m., with music provided by the Aaron Muir
Band. Band.
Money raised from the Duck Race is used to support the Little Lions Learn to Skate program, Grand Valley 85 Air Cadet Squadron, Grand Valley Food Bank, Headwaters Health Care Centre, minor sports, and many other not-for-profit organizations.
"Basically, all our money stays in the community," said McClelland.
He said he'd encourage anyone looking for something fun to do this weekend to stop by the Grand Valley Lions Duck Day.

If you are not busy, come on out, and enjoy the day," McClelland. "It's a great community event"

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## Orangeville Blues and Jazz Festival to feature 75 live acts over

Excitement is building for the return of Duferin County's largest annual event.
The Orangeville Blues and Jazz Festival is returning June 2 to 4 for its 19th year with a ful slate of fun activities and incredible performanc es across three stages.
Festival founder and organizer Larry Kurtz said he's eager to see the 75 acts performing They include Rick Estrin and the Nightcats Monkeyjunk, Shakura S'Aida, Barbra Lica and Toronto Mass Choir.
"I get excited when I get to bring in musicians from all over Canada, and some from the US," he noted. "I enjoy getting to hang out and meet the musicians, as well as just seeing what good mood everybody is in throughout town hat weekend."
Fmilies and friends, people get together with thei families and friends, and I really like seeing that, The Orangeville Blues and Jazz Festival has budget of $\$ 276,000$ this year, and it's heavily offset by government grants and private-sector sponsorships. This allows the festival to create incredible value for patrons without charging high prices.
The cost to access the main stage is $\$ 10$ a day or $\$ 20$ for the weekend - a price point Kurtz said would be hard to find elsewhere, considering the calibre of talent performing.
"The value is tremendous for the for the paid part of it on the main stage," he remarked. "We have acts coming into play here that you would pay $\$ 100$ anywhere else to go see them." "You're also going to see some amazing art ists who you may not hear on a top 40 station, but they are just hugely talented."
Kurtz said exposing Orangeville residents and visitors to musicians they may not have heard of before bu' wist active in the festival's the reasons each year.
The Bl
The Blues and Jazz Festival has grown exponentially since its inception in 2003
Larry Kurtz, who founded the festival and renains active in its organization, said the first one had about 2,000 attendees, while last year saw ome 40,000 people over three days.
The idea for Orangeville Blues and Jazz came to Kurtz when he and his were visiting Toronto or live shows on the weekends and wanted to create something closer to home.
"I just thought, wouldn't it be cool to bring some of our favorite people up to Orangeville?" Kurtz said.
He started promoting and organizing shows a bars in downtown Orangeville and that gradual

June 2003
n June 2003.
Kurtz said he and took some attended many similar festivals cally.
. at on basically a full-fledged foestival the firs year," he recalled. "We had about five volunteers and put this on.'
The first festival featured two stages with sev en acts in Alexandra Park, and five restaurants ot on board.
Kurtz found sponsors through his woodworking business, and the event was well-roceivorthe community for the first year.
In 2004 the festival doubled in size and went from five volunteers to 50 .
"Over the years, we've just gradually grown," Kurtz said. "We used to meet in my living
room... and now we have 250 volunteers." The Orangeville BIA has identified the val as the town's top event for tourism and economic impact.
The last report on the event showed $\$ 1.3$ million in economic activity throughout the weeklion in
end.
Bec
Because of the event's significant impact on Orangeville, reputation, and level of high-quality entertainment provided, it has been named a top 100 festival by Festivals and Events Ontario for several years.
In terms of special events throughout the three days of Orangeville Blues and Jazz, the excitement starts on Friday, June 2, with the Blues Cruise from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.
The event sees over 250 classic cars set up along Broadway for a fun car show mixed with live bands at various pop-up locations. Performing bands at the Blues Cruise include CJ Lee \& The Dirty Roosters. Band, Gannis \& The Dirty Roosters.
A change from last year is the location of orkshops for the festival
They will be held at Marion Hall (Covenant angeville Public Library.
harmonica workshop, Guy Belanger will run eville will offer a blue 12 p.m., Dance Oranhop at $1: 30$ p.m., blues and jazz dance workblues guitar at 3:30
Also on Saturday, the Downtown Ramble will take over Broadway and Mill Street from 1 p.m. to $5 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$. with live music performed along the streets by Orangeville Community Band and Ni cole Robertson. Featured performances will also take place at the TD Broadway Stage. The New Orleans Style Jazz March is just before the Downtown Ramble, starting at 12:30
m. along Broadway. The Blues and Bikes event will feature over 00 motorcycles set up along Broadway and
Theet on Sunday, June 4, from 12 to 5 p.m. The event includes a custom show and shine Jay as specialty vendors.
Jay Kipps and Flashback will be performing live music alongside the bikes.
The event is sponsored by Barrie Harley-Daidson and organized with Qwest Riders.
Orangeville Blues and Jazz Festival president Josh Leitch said he'd encourage all Dufferin
County residents to visit the event from June 2 County residents to visit the event from June 2
to 4.
"It's an opportunity to get out in the in the community, visit with folks you maybe haven't seen in a year or two, or who they don't see so-
cially until the festival weekend," he noted. "With Broadway closed down and all of the activities that are going on there, there's something for everyone."
Leitch said it's important to hold an event that the community enjoys and wants to support to "Every festival can continue year after year. Eitizen. "Without the our last year," he told the couldn't do it," couldn't do it."
Leitch says he's currently working on grant applications for next year's festival, with special plans for its 20th year.
Orangeville Blues and Jazz is always lookappform/1295336113 to fill more volgistics.com/ appform/1295336113 to fill out a form and get apporm/1.
involved.

## Ferris remembered as difference-maker

Continued from Page 11
"I'll always remember DJing alongside him when we DJ'd Yuk Yuk's Comedy Shows and when we would DJ Christmas parties in the same venue. We would al-
ways try and see who could steal the most weople and keep them dancing," he repeople
called.
"Jamie was the type of person who would do anything for his hometown, toy drives, food bank drives.
Jamie's friends say the Orangeville Food Bank had a special place in his heart, and the organization has received countless food donations through Qwest Riders and other charitable initiatives he led.
"Jamie Ferris and the Qwest Riders have supported the Orangeville Food Bank and other local charities for many years," said Sarah Clarke, food bank volunteer of nine years, in a written statement. "We are very saddened to hear about his recent passing, and we know he leaves behind a huge hole in the hearts of many in the community that he championed."
She added, "We are also very saddened to hear of the passing of Andrea Gernack,
who participated in the community fundwho paricipated in the community fund-
raising events with Qwest Riders and was raising evens whe Rest Riders and was and volunteers send along their deepest condolences to all who feel this tragic condo
loss."
Sue
Sue and David Simpson, who were
close friends with Jamie for 25 years, told
The Citizen they'll remember Jamie's
charisma, quick-witted jokes, huge heart, infectious laugh and sense of humour. "After meeting Jamie, you would fall in love with him instantly and would feel a connection with him and sense of belonging," they said in a written statement "He had an energy about him that was unforgettable. Everyone loved Jamie because he made everyone feel special. He made them feel important. He made them feel

The Simpsons said Jamie had a "huge soft side to him" and a big heart.
"He loved bringing happiness to people and making a difference in this world," they said.
To have known him was to love him, said the Simpsons.
"He lived life to the fullest," they told the Citizen. "You could say that he lived more in his short life than some people do their whole lifetime.
"Whenever we hear a good song or see a beautiful sunset, we will all think of you."
Celebration of Life Details
Jamie's family is hosting a public event at Hereward Farms (41051 Sideroad 15, East Garafraxa) on May 28 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Words of remembrance will begin at 12:30 p.m. and all motorcycles are asked to arrive from 9:30 to 10:00 a.m. to
get in position to pay tribute to get in position to pay tribute to Jamie.
Memorial donations to help support mie's family can be made via e-transfer at InMemory OfJamieFerris@gmail.com.

Aspira Bolton Mills June Events!

June 6th at 2:00
Cocktails \& Live Music by Sean Derraugh

June 18th at 12:00 Father's Day BBQ with Live Music

June 20th at 10:30
Cooking Demonstration by Chef Shan

June 30th at 2:00
Cocktails \& Live Music by Zack Wojtala

Please RSVP to Karissa
at 289-206-0775

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Conestogo Agri Systems Inc., a progressive, growing company, is seeking the right individual to join our Dair Robot Installation/Service team. This full-time position offers variety and continual learning opportunities. Based out of our location north of Drayton, the successful candidate will work closely with the Robot Manage and existing personnel.
Compensation packages include premium pay for on call / overtime, a group benefit plan, and a RRSP plan.
Resumes can be e-mailed to info@conestogoagri.ca

## ROBOT TECHNICIAN

Accountabilities:

- Required to have excellent customer service and communication skills

Installation \& commissioning of robotic dairy equipment and all integrated equipment
Provide customer support of existing installations
Sevicing and troubleshooting for identification systems, sort gates, conventional parlours and automated

- Provide maintenance, service, and troubleshooting for robotic diary equipment

Working on a team and independently at farm locations

- Travel to dairy farms to preform services on equipment (Transportation provided)
- Be available to fit into our on-call rotation throughout the year

Professional Knowledge, Skills and Qualifications:
Required:

- A Positive attitude, excitement for learning, and a passion for agriculture
Experience in servicing, instaling and maintenance of robotic or conventional dairy milking system
- Follow all safety regulations and standard operating procedures
- Ability to work unde
- Driver's license in good standing
- Must possess excellent written and verbal communication skills

You might also have:

- Knowledge or previous experience with livestock
- Technical trouble-shooting skills
- Interest in the mechanics of dairy robotics and willingness to learn on the job

We thank all applicants for their interest, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.
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or the Estate of Edward Lake Saturday June 3rd, at 10:30am

6947 Concession 2, Cambridge, ON from Guelph take Hwy 6 south for 11 km . Then west on Wellington 34 for 4km. Then at the roundabout take 3 rd exit onto Wellington 35 south for 2 km . At Conc 2 go east for 1 km to sale on
south side of road OR from Kitchener take Hwy 8 east onto Hwy 401 for 15 km to Townline Rd/Regional Rd 33 South side of road. OR from Kitchener take Hwy 8 east onto Hwy 401 for 15 km to Townline Rd/Regional Rd 33 sale on south side of road. **PARKING ON SITE/ROAD**
Tractors: Case IH 3230, ALO 425 loader, 4x4, 1 remote, PTO, 3pth, 1324 hrs; IH 886, cab, dual hydr, diesel, 540 \& 1000PTO, 4630hrs; IH 384, diesel, pto, 1 hydr, 3pth; 1H 624, 3pth, 1 remote, PTO, rebuilt motor Mach \& Equip: Gehl 800 forage harvester, 2 row corn head, hay head; IH 110 forage wagon-no roof; 1 H 110 forage wagon-with roof; NH 570 sq baler, thrower, hyd tensioner, Iow use; IH 425 sq baler, thrower; Hardi 600 L sprayer, 28 boom; IH
550 manure spreader, single axle, top beater; Gehl HI-Throw forage blower; 2 row corn planter; 3pth fert spreader; IH 230 swather, 10 ' lead, conditioner; IH 80 combine-parts; 6 'stone fork; bale spear; Westfield 40 ' $\times 6$ "' auger-PTO; IH 530 manure spreader, single axle, top beater; 7 ' Agro-Trend FU-84 snowblower, 1 auger, hydr chute, 540PTO; Kongskilde $10^{\prime}$ '3pth cultivator; $6^{\prime}$ ' scraper blade; $9^{\prime}$ '3pth cultivator; $12^{\prime}$ ' disc-parts; Fraugde 4 furr plow, semi-mount; Fraugde 3 furr plow; $6 \times 8{ }^{\circ}$ dump trailer, steel bed, wood top, 1 axle; Gehl 40 forage harvester, hay head, 2 row corn head; Walco 24 bale elev; 16 thrower wagon, steel \& wood top; 1 H 230 swather-parts; MF 410 combine-parts; MC-D ine nit, Iarm Rel/Shop: Hyro 5200 piston pump-new; feed mixer, stationary, PTO; cement mixer; silo pipes; augers; roll page wire fence$40^{\prime}$ 'storage trailer; 40'storage trailer-scrap; AC 225 Lincoln welder, tool chest; asst of tools; Yad Moh 40 'storage trailer; 40 'storage trailer-scrap; AC 225 Lincoln welder; tool chest; asst of tools; Yard Machine mower some scrap; plus much more

Lunch Booth
Preview: Friday June 2nd, 1-5pm

Terms \& Conditions: Cash or Cheque with proper I.D. on day of sale. Owner and/or Auctioneer will not be held esponsible for accident or loss on day of sale. All items are sold "As Is". All verbal announcements on day of sale till
Contact: William Lake (519) 827-5618
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## Reminder

## Auction Sale

for Don Tremble (DT Contracting)

Saturday May 27th, at 10:00am

141 Smith Street, Arthur. From Fergus come north on Highway 6 for 19.5 kms to sale on West side of road. OR from Mount Forest come south on Highway 6 for 237 kms to sale on West side of road
**PARKING ON SITE/STREET**

Tractors: 2008 Case 5805 Ann Ed backhoe, series 2, 4x4, 8000 hrs, 3 buckets, extend-a-hoe; Ford 4000 tractor, diesel, dual hydr; Kubota F2690 riding mower, 60" front mount mower, diesel, 4x4, ex cond, 774hrs; Kubota ZD 326 riding mower, 60 " mower, zero turn, ext cond, 644 hrss. Trucks/Cars/ Trailers (all sold as is): 2010 Dodge truck,
quad cab, power wagon, $4 \times 4,382,000 \mathrm{kms}$; 2009 Dodge Ram $4 \times 4,4 \mathrm{dr}$; 1971 Chevy Impala custom, 2 dr, running; 1964 Ford 500 galaxy, 2 dr, hard top, project carr, 1967 Ford Galaxy 500 , convertible, not running; 1967 Ford Galaxy, 1964 Ford 500 galaxy, 2 dr, hard top, project carr, 1967 Ford Galaxy 500 , convertible, not running; 1967 Ford Galaxy,
convertible, running, new roof; Single axle trailer \& ramp, $4.5 \times 88.5^{\prime}$; JDJ Super Dump dump trailer, tandem, elec over hydr, $77^{\prime} \times 12^{\prime} ; 2019$ Flat bed trailer PJ7712, 1 -axle, ramp; $20228^{\prime} \times 20^{\prime}$ flat bed tandem trailer, $2 \times 35001 \mathrm{~b}$ axles; Tandem axle $7^{\prime} \times 20^{\prime}$ 'trailer, $2 \times 35001 \mathrm{bs}$, ramps, 40001 b winch; Agro Trend $6^{\prime} \times 10^{\prime}$ ' dump trailer, single axle. Mach, Equip, Shop/Misc: 41" backhoe bucket; $10^{\prime}$ 'Fluney snow pusher; Landpride 79" 3pth box scraper; MK Martin 72 stary mower; Omega Pro CK-40 air compr, Shp, 60 gal tank, 12 2psi; powertoos, hand tools; CrosssFire HGMIG

Lunch Booth


Order of Sale: Wagonloads, Sho Preview: Friday May 26th 1-6pm
,
Contact: Blair Tremble ( $51931755-7040$
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CVC lands contribute to Canada's protected areas
by brian lockhart
Credit Valley Conservation, Ontario Nature and Conservation Ontario have announce that 140 f CV''s properties offficilly contribute Centof of land and waters of prozetecting 30 per The protected lands cover over he protected lands cover over 1,230 hect the Toronto slands - Sarger tha Canaro slands. Oby 30 target, as part of ofthe landmarkGlobal Biodivesity Framework at the United Nations Biodiversity Conference in Montreal, in December.
Biodiverse places are areas where a large lariety of ifife, including animals, plants, fungi, ad microorganisms, live together.

Were thriled 14 of our properties are now designated as Canadian Protected and Conserved areas. This is a major milestone in our collaborative efforts to safeguard the environment and promote ecological heath in the Credit River Watershed," said Quentin "These sites are essential to the conservaio. and enhen sites areemenst of of greenspaces in South em Ontario, and wére proud to have them recognized for their significant contribution towards the federal targets for biodiversity conservation."
An assessment of the properties, conduc ed in partnership with Ontario Nature, deter mined that they met trict national standards protected reas.

## Talk Caledon

Continued from Page 9

chessboard? That's common sense for you though - it's not very common. As an example, witness Brampton Mayor Patrick Brown who just comes off as the petulant child in Even former MP David Tilson weighed in on this might all of this, stamping his feet, asking for more money and change and, if so, what the consequuences might be for threatening to sue. both Brampton and Caledon. To me, common sense seems to dictate that following the existing boundaries of the provincial and federal ridings would make sense. If we need the economies of scale that presumably come with amalgamation, having us join Dufferin County seems logical. However, Dufferin doesn't seem to want us and Mayor Groves has (by her own admission) already had "talks"with York Region. Why on earth would York want us? When we in, l'm not sure how York Region even makes it onto the in, 'lm not sure how York Region even makes it onto the Peel

There remain so many questions. While I admire the chutzpah of Bonnie Crombie stickhandling a divorce and a leadership announcement all in one weekend, and I can spare a thought for the forced bonhomie of Mayor Groves during the press conference, I'm more concerned about what all of these politicians are doing behind the scenes. What all of these politicians are doing is moving pieces around on the chessboard while failing to recognize it's the Peel who will pay the price for their gamesmanship
anspaes and natural systems are connected from the northemmosttip ofthe Credit River Watershed all the way down to Lake Ontario. By taking a holistic approach to conSevvation, watershed management ensures the preservation of biodiversity and ecological heath for the lo
Ife and people.
The lands aw
The lands awarded protection status covers adiverse range of vegetation, such as decidyous forests, marshes, mixed swamps, and ultural savannahs, that provide grassland habitat for birds. Additionally, each property hosts many species that are at risk, like the monarch butteffly, eastem snapping turtte, loggerhead shrike, bobolink, chimney swift, eastem meadowlark, and Canada warbler.

## $\cdots \cdot R O O F I N G$



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