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FREE Thursday, August 10, 2023 Volume 43, Issue 32



SUCCESSFUL TOURNEY FOR CASSIE’S PLACE – The Caledon community came out in a big way to support individuals with developmental disabilities this week. The inaugural Cassie’s Place Charity Golf Tournament, held August 8 at Glen Eagle Golf Club, was a resounding success and will return next year. For more, see Page A3.

KATHERINE LISETTE PHOTOGRAPHY

Strong Mayor powers used to replace Caledon’s top employee

Some Councillors denounce the move as undemocratic

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Caledon has a new Chief Administrative Officer.

His name is Nathan Hyde, and he was


appointed to the position on August 2 by Mayor Annette Groves using strong mayor powers given to her by the Provincial government. Hyde’s appointment using strong mayor powers bypasses the Town’s usual hiring process.

The last time a Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) was hired in Caledon, a special committee of Council was created to oversee the recruitment and hiring process. The Town’s Human Resources and Town Clerk’s office staff were asked to provide assistance when necessary.

Hyde is replacing Carey Herd, who began as Caledon’s CAO in 2020. She was appointed to the position at a Special Council meeting on March 3 of that year.

Groves announced Hyde’s appointment in an August 2 media release. There, she said she’s pleased to welcome Hyde to the Town as he brings over 20 years of public sector leadership experience in some of Ontario’s fastest-growing municipalities. Hyde’s first day on the job was August 8.

Continued on Page A6


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HOCKEY NIGHT IN DUFFERIN-CALEDON

MP Kyle Seebach's annual Hockey Night in Dufferin-Caledon on August 2 was another resounding success, raising more than \$115,000 for the Headwaters Foundation. For more, see Page A12.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MP SEEBACH


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Local group seeks Federal environmental assessment for “Caledon Mega Quarry”

Forks of the Credit Preservation Group appeals to Minister of Environment and Climate Change

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Efforts continue to stop the creation of a massive blasting quarry in Caledon.

On August 3, the Forks of the Credit Preservation Group (FOTCPG) sent a letter to Steven Guilbeault, the Federal Minister of Environment and Climate Change, asking for a federal environmental assessment for the quarry.

Brazilian conglomerate Votorantim Cimentos, through its affiliate CBM Aggregates, is looking to build an over 700-acre below-water table blasting quarry south of Alton to extract limestone bedrock. It submitted plans for the quarry to the Town of Caledon’s planning department on March 23.

The quarry has been dubbed the “Caledon Mega Quarry” by the FOTCPG in a recent lawn sign campaign.

The FOTCPG’s letter notes the proposed quarry is adjacent to the Credit River, Forks of the Credit Provincial Park, Bruce Trail, Niagara Escarpment, and two historic rail trails.

“If approved, this blasting quarry would utterly destroy vast tracts of prime agricultural land, adjacent forests, and natural habitat — forever,” wrote David Sylvester, chair of the FOTCPG in the letter.

The FOTCPG is a legally incorporated non-profit run by volunteers in Caledon and beyond, who care about the environmental integrity of the Forks of the Credit.

According to the Government of Canada, environmental assessments are done to support planning and decision making. They are led by a review panel or the Impact Assessment Agency



Public notices are posted on the land south of Alton that Votorantim Cimentos would like to convert into a blasting quarry.

PHOTO BY ZACHARY ROMAN

of Canada.

“Through the environmental assessment process, the potential adverse environmental effects of a project are identified,” reads the Government of Canada website.

If a project is likely to have adverse effects, the Government will identify mitigation or restitution measures that will need to be taken by whoever is managing the project. Projects subject to an environmental assessment can’t proceed until a decision statement on the assessment has been issued.

The FOTCPG said while aggregate resources are normally controlled by the Province, it has identified several issues with the quarry proposal that would make it subject to Federal regulation. The group said the issues include fish habitat, eight species of local animals that would be threatened by the quarry, and the exacerbation of climate change.

One of the FOTCPG’s main concerns with the quarry is its impact on local brook trout, a rare species. It said as the quarry would be excavat-

ing at depths of over 80 feet — below the water table — millions of litres of groundwater would need to be pumped out of the quarry to the Credit River to maintain a dry working area. The Credit River is a cold-water habitat that the brook trout need to survive, said the FOTCPG.

“It is simply inconceivable that these threatened brook trout could survive the environmental

onslaught,” wrote Sylvester.

Sylvester said he and the FOTCPG would like to meet with Guilbeault as soon as possible to review important details about the quarry proposal.

“Given the profound environmental impacts

of this proposal, we emphatically believe that a Federal environmental assessment would be totally justified in this case,” wrote Sylvester.

In an interview with the Citizen, Sylvester explained the FOTCPG has recently met with Dufferin-Caledon MP Kyle Seebach. According to Sylvester, Seebach told the FOTCPG he will personally ensure that Guilbeault receives their letter, news the FOTCPG found to be encouraging. Sylvester said Federal environmental assessments set the bar very high for developments.

“We’re hoping that Guilbeault will pay attention and make the right decisions here,” said Sylvester.



Margaret Galati (second from right), Manager of Rock Garden Farms, presented a cheque to Caledon Community Services for \$1,500 on August 8.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Local business donates \$1,500 to CCS’ Kidz in Caledon program

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

A member of the Caledon business community has stepped up to help a local charity.

On August 8, Caledon East’s Rock Garden Farms presented Caledon Community Services (CCS) with a cheque for \$1,500 to be used for its Kidz in Caledon initiative.

Kidz in Caledon was created by CCS to ensure Caledon children are not left out of summer camps or organized sports. Another angle the initiative takes is ensuring kids have healthy food for their growth and development.

Rock Garden Farms manager Margaret Galati said she wanted to support Kidz in Caledon again after doing so last year in memory of Orangeville teen Edward Malette-Matthews, who was killed in a car crash in 2020 when he was just 16.

Galati and her team at Rock Garden raised \$1,500 for CCS through sales of their u-pick and

freshly-picked strawberries. She said doing it that way means people aren’t pressured to donate but they can still know their purchase is going towards a great cause.

“We’re always trying to do our part,” said Galati.

She said it was great to see lots of families out picking strawberries this year and that she’s received emails from returning customers who told her how much they love picking strawberries each year.

“A big thank you to all of our customers, it’s thanks to them we can support all these other great causes,” said Galati.

CCS Chief Development Officer Mariia Kupriianova thanked Galati for Rock Garden Farms’ donation.

“Your kindness will touch many lives, fueling brighter futures,” said Kupriianova.

Rock Garden Farms also recently donated \$1,500 to Toronto Distress Centre in memory of Galati’s nephew.

COMMUNITY
events

This column is provided as a free public service to non-profit organizations to announce up-coming events. Please contact the Caledon Citizen by calling (905) 857-6626 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 annual fee incl. a bi-monthly magazine and starter kit is \$59, and monthly dues are \$20. Today is the best day to make changes to your lifestyle! If you have weight to lose and/or want to improve your health, we can help! We promote healthy eating and support the efforts of all our members, and your first meeting is free. Come join us. For more information call Marion at 905-857-5191 or see www.tops.org. Online memberships are also available.

The Bolton Al-Anon Group has recently moved the regular meeting location to the Bolton United Church at 8 Nancy Street (across from Bolton Post Office). We still meet every Thursday at 8:30 pm. We welcome anyone who is/or has been affected by someone who has

problem with alcohol. If you have any questions please come any Thursday evening or email: boltonalanon@gmail.com.

Caledon Church of Canada. Every Sunday morning @ 10 am. Monday prayer meeting @ 7 pm. Resources: Prayer counselling, Baby/child dedication, Visit the sick, Wedding Services, Food bank and more! For all your pastoral services: 647-891-9400 • caledoncoc@gmail.com Location: 34 Nixon Rd., Bolton

Orangeville Show Chorus is looking for new members for a unique performance opportunity. Audition with the chorus; learn some songs at our weekly rehearsals and perform with us at The International Plowing Match- Sept. 19. in Bowling Green, ON. Weekly Rehearsals at Westminster United Church, 247 Broadway, Orangeville \$20 to audition. All the details on our website osc.choirgenius.com

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KATHERINE LISETTE PHOTOGRAPHY

Cassie’s Place charity golf tournament to become annual event after huge success

Tournament beat the expectations of volunteer team that organized it

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Caledon community came out in a big way to support individuals with developmental disabilities this week.

On August 8, over 125 golfers descended on Glen Eagle Golf Club outside of Bolton for the inaugural Cassie’s Place charity golf tournament.

Cassie’s Place is a home away from home for individuals with differing abilities. It offers a wide variety of programs for its participants such as summer programs, day camps and a bowling league.

Tara Wilson, a volunteer with Cassie’s Place, manages all the marketing efforts for the local non-profit, had nothing but praise for the event.

“It turned out to be a fabulous day, we had a really good turnout and everybody’s enjoying them-

selves,” said Wilson.

She explained word of mouth ended up being key in the tournament’s success. Once word got out, Wilson said it seemed like everyone was calling their friends to get them to sign up and play in the tournament.

Joe Sassine, another volunteer with Cassie’s Place, said he wanted to give a special shoutout to Wilson for her incredible work in helping put together the tournament.

Wilson said Cassie’s Place chose Glen Eagle for the location of the tournament as it had a good reputation from golfers and event planners alike. The tournament is going to be held there next year too, with more details to come at a later date.

Victoria Street, founder of Cassie’s Place, said the tournament was a tremendous success that exceeded expectations.

“We never thought we would reach the amount of golfers that we did, it’s phenomenal... there’s no words to put to the support people are giving,” said Street. “It’s been very heartwarming for us.”

One of the fundraising goals of the tournament was to help get an official vehicle for Cassie’s Place; something that would allow all participants in Cassie’s Place programs to all travel to excursions together. While Cassie’s place is in Caledon, it has participants from all over the Region of Peel

and Dufferin County.

“In our summer program, we do a lot of excursions — rather than having to take four or five cars, we could all travel together on the van/bus and it would be way more fun for our participants,” said Street.

Street said she and her fellow volunteers are committed to reaching their fundraising goals, one dollar at a time.

Sassine said his favourite part of the day was seeing how happy people were to be out doing something good for others. He said it was a double win because everyone loves golfing, and being able to support a good cause at the same time was just the icing on the cake.

“It tells you that people are really passionate about our cause,” said Sassine. “We’re fortunate.”

Sassine said he was so impressed with his fellow volunteers for pulling together a golf tournament. He said usually only non-profits that are large enough to have paid staff can pull one off.

“We’ve already booked for next year’s tournament, I’m very happy,” said Sassine. “The response from people has been very positive.”

Next year’s tournament is going to be on August 6 and Sassine said he’s already received confirmation from many players and sponsors that they will be coming back in 2024.



Volunteers Joe Sassine, Jenny Gilmore, and Tyrone Wilson are pictured here in front of the hole-in-one challenge hole at the Cassie’s Place charity golf tournament.

PHOTO BY ZACHARY ROMAN

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Hi. I’m Deena Cooper, owner of Deena Speaks Dog. And, yes, I really do speak Dog. For the last 30 years I’ve been helping dog owners all around the GTA with everything they need to have happy, healthy and stress-free relationships with their furry friends. A preeminent behaviour modification specialist, I use my experience, love and lots of treats to help clients have joyful, obedient and confident dogs. At my place I offer boarding, agility training and behaviour modification in amongst the beautiful rolling hills of Caledon. And if you can’t come to me, I’ll always come to you! Check www.deenaspeakdog.com for details.

I’m excited to bring you a weekly column about all things dog. I love sharing my knowledge to help! And if you have any questions, shoot me an email and I might just answer it here! E-mail deena@deenaspeaksdog.com . And give me an insta-follow @deenaspeaksdog for more.



ON THE ROAD AGAIN TRAVELING WITH YOUR DOG

Here we are halfway through summer already, and many of us are going on holidays, road trips and to cottages. Here are a few tips to keep your dog safe and comfortable on the drive and when you get to your holiday destination.

Safety first: Make sure your dog is wearing a seatbelt. Harnesses are available at most pet stores and they’re a great investment in the safety of both your dog and the human travelers, too.

Make sure to travel with a collapsible water bowl and make sure you take regular breaks at least every two hours. If you’re running in to a service center, try to park in the shade and leave the windows open a few inches. Cars heat up very quickly in the sun. A quick sidebar here: If your dog does become overheated, it’s important to cool them down with lukewarm water as cold water can lead to shock.

If your dog is very excitable, a little children’s Gravel goes a long way to keep them calm in the car, which makes the trip easier on everyone. And cute as it is, please don’t let them hang out of the car window as you drive... they can be hit by debris and are more likely to get eye and ear infections.

Being prepared is key: Make sure your dog is tagged with your contact information – even the best behaved dogs can wander in unfamiliar surroundings, and many rural areas don’t have the required tower infrastructure to make air-tags and other devices reliable.

If you can, bring a large bottle of the water from home that they are used to drinking, it’ll be easier on their stomachs. If you’re staying away a long time, switch to local water is stages by mixing it with the water you brought. Also, pack the crate and a few favourite chew toys: many Air B’nBs insists that unattended dogs be crated, and it also provides a familiar and safe environment for them at your destination.

Lastly, Benadryl should be packed in case of insect bites.

Once You’re There, Bien Venue! Let your dog have a supervised explore of the new surroundings on a retractable leash. Let them stretch their legs and get some exercise, and then have them calm down completely before their first meal. An unrested dog is more prone to bloating and twisted gut syndrome than a calm, rested one.

Do some exploring yourself – if you’re in a rural setting look for poison ivy and poison oak and make sure your dog stays away from them. If you’re near water, let your dog decide

how interested they are in swimming: some dogs just don’t like water and that’s ok!

Make sure your dog is introduced to any local humans around the property, and ask said humans about whether there are local skunks, porcupines, coyotes or foxes. These things are best avoided in the first place to prevent unscheduled vet visits. And by the way, tomato juice doesn’t work on skunk stink – but a mixture of Palmolive, baking soda and peroxide sure does. You heard it here first.

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FATAL COLLISIONS

Officers from the Caledon Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are investigating a fatal collision that occurred on Charleston Sideroad at St. Andrews Road.

“On August 8, 2023, just after 5:00 a.m., Caledon OPP and emergency crews responded to a two-vehicle collision on Charleston Sideroad at St. Andrews Road, in the Town of Caledon,” say Police. “A 53-year-old driver from Caledon was transported to hospital and later pronounced deceased.”

The intersection was closed for several hours while the OPP Technical Collision Investigators and Reconstructionists assisted with the investigation. The investigation is ongoing. Anyone who may have witnessed the collision or has dashcam footage is asked to contact Caledon OPP at 905-584-2241 or 1-888-310-1122.

Officers from the Caledon Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are also investigating a fatal collision that occurred in the intersection of Hurontario Street and Mayfield Road.

“On August 5, 2023, just before 2:00 p.m., Caledon OPP and emergency crews



responded to a three-vehicle collision in the intersection of Hurontario Street and Mayfield Road, in the City of Brampton. A 20-year-old motorcycle rider from Woodstock was transported to a Toronto-area trauma centre and was later pronounced deceased.”

The intersection was closed for several hours while the OPP Technical Collision Investigators and Reconstructionists assisted with the investigation. The investigation is ongoing. Anyone who may have witnessed the collision or has dashcam footage is asked to contact Caledon OPP at 905-584-2241 or 1-888-310-1122.

If you are affected by these incidents or witnessed the collisions and wish to speak to victim services, Caledon/Dufferin Victim Services can be reached at 905-951-3838.

The Collingwood Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) arrested an individual for impaired driving offences for the second time within the last 90 days.

“On August 6, 2023, at approximately 1:56 a.m. Collingwood OPP stopped

a driver who was travelling at 170 km/h on Highway 26 near Fairgrounds Road,” say Police. “The driver was arrested for stunt driving and upon further investigation found to be impaired. The 26-year-old from Barrie was also serving an ADLS suspension as result of impaired offences from May 2023.

“As result the 26-year-old driver from Barrie ended up with 7 total charges including operation while impaired, stunt driving and driving while under suspension. The individual is to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Collingwood on September 26, 2023.”

The charges have not been proven.

STOLEN VEHICLES
RECOVERED

23 accused are facing 279 charges following an international auto theft investigation. On July 26, 2023, 14 search warrants were executed at locations in Windsor, Peel Region, York Region and Toronto.

In total, 138 stolen vehicles have been recovered, worth more than \$9 million.

“Project FAIRFIELD was initiated by Windsor Police Service (WPS) in April 2022. The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Organized Crime Enforcement Bureau (OCEB) West joined as investigative partners in September 2022,” say Police.

“Evidence demonstrated that a sophisticated crime group was responsible for vehicles being stolen in Windsor and the surrounding area. This group was operating across multiple jurisdictions and vehicles were being exported to other countries, including the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Lebanon, the Republic of Columbia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. In addition, the accused were also fraudulently modifying stolen vehicles’ identification numbers (VINs) to later sell them through private sales, in a process known as ‘re-vinning.’”

On December 8, 2022, investigators stopped a known stolen, “re-vinned” vehicle on Highway 401 near Kingston. This traffic stop resulted in the seizure of illicit drugs, including 14,914 synthetic opioids tablets. The synthetic opioids tablets were pressed to appear as legitimate oxycodone (prescription) pills.

Additional items that were seized as a result of the investigation include:

- 138 stolen vehicles;
- 1,050 methamphetamine tablets;
- 4.9 pounds of cannabis;

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- 1.1 pounds of cannabis concentrate;
- 320 grams of cocaine; and,
- \$144,635 in Canadian currency and \$26,698 United States currency.

In total, the illicit drugs seized as a result of Project FAIRFIELD have an estimated street value of \$506,000.

A wide range of stolen vehicle makes and models have been recovered, including luxury vehicles, newer model pick-up trucks and SUVs.

In addition to the OPP and WPS, other partners included the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA), the London Police Service (LPS), the Peel Regional Police (PRP) and Équité Association.

“Upon arrest, three of the accused were held in custody and the remaining accused were released. The accused are scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Windsor on various dates in August and September 2023. Project FAIRFIELD has been an extensive operation, and police continue to identify and locate stolen and re-vinned vehicles. The investigation is ongoing.

“Members of the public should be cautious when purchasing a vehicle through a private sale. Buyers should ensure they retrieve as much information as possible on both the vehicle and the seller and perform due diligence in advance of providing any funds to the seller. Buyers should be suspicious of a private seller who will not provide identification or who insists on receiving cash as payment.”

Added OPP Deputy Commissioner Marty Kearns: “Auto theft is impacting communities across Ontario, and Project Fairfield has demonstrated that a collaborative approach is required to bring sophisticated criminal groups to justice. While this investigation pre-dates the development of the OPP-led Organized Crime Towing and Auto Theft Team, it certainly speaks to the importance of its mandate. Law enforcement agencies will continue to work with the CBSA and strategic partners, such as Équité Association, to combat auto theft and fraud in the automotive industry.” - OPP Deputy Commissioner Marty Kearns

Continued WPS Chief Jason Bellaire: “I commend the exceptional efforts and collaborative approach of all investigators and police partners who dismantled this sophisticated criminal network. This investigation is a perfect example of how law enforcement works together to fight organized crime and ensure the safety of residents in Windsor and other communities across the province.”

The Citizen CROSSWORD

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CLUES ACROSS

1. A way to pick up
5. Presents
10. Type of guitar
14. Actor Idris
15. A citizen of Iran
16. Creative
17. Harness
18. Weight unit
19. You better call him
20. Utterly devoted
22. Male cat
23. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
24. Risk-taker
27. A team’s best pitcher
30. Cool!
31. Women’s ___ movement
32. Georgia rockers
35. Step-shaped recess
37. The princess could detect its presence
38. Type of truck
39. Butterhead
40. Angry people

see it

41. Lines where two fabrics are sewn together
42. Soviet city
43. Carpet
44. Traveled all over
45. Thin, straight bar
46. Body art (slang)
47. Congressman (abbr.)
48. No seats available
49. Breaks apart
52. Arabic name
55. Ballplayer’s tool
56. Type of sword
60. Baseball team
61. Upper bract of grass floret
63. Italian Seaport
64. Ancient Syrian city
65. Shoelace tube
66. The Miami mascot is one
67. South American nation
68. Popular video game “Max ___”
69. Body part

CLUES DOWN

Solution in CLASSIFIEDS

1. German courtesy title
2. Ancient Greek City
3. Ancient Hebrew calendar month
4. Long-legged frog family
5. Photo
6. Delivered a speech
7. Lute in classical Indian music
8. Decorated
9. Take a seat
10. Belonging to a bottom layer
11. Member of a Semitic people
12. Part of a ticket
13. Defunct Guinean money
21. Challenges
23. Popular BBQ food
25. Subway dweller
26. By way of
27. Shady garden alcove
28. Egyptian city
29. Partner to “flowed”
32. Widens
33. Old Eurasian wheat
34. Act incorrectly
36. European pipeline
37. Al Bundy’s wife
38. Ocean
40. Root eaten as a vegetable
41. Sound units
43. Style of music
44. A way to drench
46. Hot beverage
47. A cotton fabric with a satiny finish
49. Rumanian city
50. Urge to action
51. Vaccine developer
52. Canadian law enforcers
53. Wings
54. “Perry Mason” actor Raymond
57. Small fry
58. ___ Clapton, musician
59. Take a chance
61. Bland food
62. Consumed

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



Signs against the proposed Votorantim Cimentos blasting quarry in Caledon are popping up in Alton and beyond.
PHOTO BY ZACHARY ROMAN

Event at GoodLot will update residents on proposed blasting quarry

Reform Gravel Mining Coalition stopping in Caledon on August 29 as part of “Rock Tour” series

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Caledon residents can receive updates on a proposed blasting quarry in Town later this month.

On August 29, the Reform Gravel Mining Coalition (RGMC) and Forks of the Credit Preservation Group (FOTCPG) are hosting an event at GoodLot Farmstead Brewing Co. in Alton.

The “Caledon Mega Quarry Beer-fest” begins at 6:30 p.m. and David Sylvester, chair of the FOTCPG, said he’s very thankful to GoodLot for providing their brewery space for free to host the event.

The event is part of the RGMC’s “Rock Tour” series that began in July and will continue until October. The RGMC is hosting events in communities across Ontario that are fighting against the impacts of aggregate extraction.

The tour is being held to “celebrate the cherished rural places that provide Ontarians with healthy food, safe drinking water, clean air, and outdoor enjoyment,” according to an RGMC media release.

Brazilian conglomerate Votorantim Cimentos has proposed an over 700-acre below-water table blasting quarry south of Alton to extract limestone bedrock. The quarry has become known as the “Caledon Mega Quarry” thanks to a recent FOTCPG lawn sign campaign.

According to the RGMC, there is no need for new pits or quarries in Ontario. The coalition said every year the Province authorizes companies to extract 13 times more sand, stone, and gravel than is needed to meet average annual consumption.

“It is time for the province to regulate aggregate just like every other non-renewable resource, from cod to natural gas—based on a rational analysis of supply and demand,” reads the RGMC media release.

Sylvester said the August 29 event will be more fun and casual than the FOTCPG’s previous meetings due to its location, but that it will be equally as important. He said he expects to fill GoodLot to capacity with attendees and then bring them all up to speed on the group’s efforts.

The FOTCPG’s lawyer will be in attendance to update Caledon residents on the legal path the group has been taking against the mega quarry. The group will also be giving residents updates on the progress made by the Town of Caledon in updating its aggregate policies. Sylvester said Caledon has tremendous potential to protect its citizens from the impacts of aggregate extraction with new policies if Town planners are creative and courageous enough.

Sylvester said the FOTCPG is continuing to meet with, and hire, technical experts to go through the thousands of pages of documentation submitted by Votorantim Cimentos for its proposed quarry. He said it’s a time-consuming but critical process to ensure nothing slips by the group.

“I’m pleased with the continued progress, ambition, and enthusiasm that our group has maintained,” said Sylvester.

He said the group’s recent “Say NO to the Caledon Mega Quarry” sign campaign has been going really well.

“The demand for the signs has astonished and delighted us,” said Sylvester. “We’ve created over 200 now and we are giving them out as fast as we can make them.”

Group launches locally for women who love and own Jeeps

BY PETER RICHARDSON

There’s a new club in town – the 519 Jeep Girls Club, comprised entirely of women who drive Jeep Wranglers.

A large contingent of the 519 Jeep Girls Club, based out of Dufferin County, came to Mill Creek Ice Cream Store for an Ice Cream Social and get-together on August 1.

With 134 members and growing, this club is an offshoot of the larger GTA Jeep Girls organization. Jeep Girls is a North American collection of ladies who own and drive Jeeps.

The 519 Jeep Girls Club, formally known as the Caledon, Dufferin, Erin, Wellington, Mono and Areas Jeep Girls, was founded in October of 2022 and recently shortened its rather huge moniker to the simpler 519 Jeep Girls Club.

The group is a Ladys’ Social Club with monthly meetings and different activities throughout the year. They help each other with questions, problems, Jeep knowledge and offer support and friendship to members. The club currently has members from as far away as London, ON, and is steadily growing.

New members are solicited through social media and the notorious ducks. It has become a tradition amongst Jeep owners and particularly the ladies, to have toy ducks displayed on their dashboards. These range from the little yellow fellows that are ubiquitous when seeking ducks to more colourful and humorous variations. Receiving a duck is referred to as having been “ducked!”

The ladies host trail trips as well as the more adventurous off-roading ventures, while others simply use their Jeeps as daily drivers and never go beyond the roadways.

Organizer of the 519 Jeep Girls Club, Heather Asling, a graphic designer and visual artist, only drives her Jeep in the three warmer seasons while preferring her F150 in winter. She has been instrumental in organizing the club’s events and activities.

So ladies, if you drive a Jeep and are looking for a safe, inclusive place to ask questions, trade experiences, and share camaraderie with fellow female Jeep aficionados, Look up the “519 Jeep Girls Club” Facebook Group online and join in on the fun.

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Some Councillors denounce “Strong Mayor” moves as undemocratic

Continued frm FRONT

The Province announced it was giving strong mayor powers to the mayors of 26 different municipalities, including Caledon, on June 16. The powers, which include the ability to appoint CAOs and department heads, came into effect on July 1. Since then, Groves has used them twice. In a statement sent to the Citizen when the strong mayor powers were announced, Groves said she “always believed that the best way for Town business to be done is through consensus.”

Groves was contacted for an interview about the appointment of Hyde but declined to comment, deferring to what was said in her media release.

Hyde’s previous position was CAO for the Town of Erin, a job he began in 2017. According to the Town of Caledon, Hyde’s accomplishments in Erin include negotiating the largest public works project in Wellington County history and developing a plan to double Erin’s urban population.

Before working in Erin, Hyde worked as Chief of Staff to the Chair of the Region of Peel. He’s currently the provincially-appointed chair of the CTC Source Protection Committee, which is tasked with protecting drinking water sources across the Greater Toronto Area.

According to the Town, Hyde attended Harvard and Cambridge Universities and holds Bachelor and Master of Laws degrees, as well as a Master of Public Administration degree.

“Mr. Hyde’s education and experience working at the Region of Peel will be an asset to the corporation (Town) as we work through the dissolution of Peel and manage the future growth of Caledon,” said Groves in the media release announcing Hyde’s appointment. “He has an open-for-business approach and will help us continue to foster a positive business-friendly climate in the Town.”

Ward 1 Councillor Lynn Kiernan said she strongly opposes the use of strong mayor powers and is questioning Groves’ objectives in using them.

“Mayor Groves has effectively silenced the voices of the other members of Council

by these actions,” said Kiernan. “Using these powers is a gross violation of our democratic principles.”

Kiernan said she hopes the electorate is ready to ask Groves “the tough questions” and added that she’s worried about the future of Caledon.

Ward 6 Councillor Cosimo Napoli supported Groves’ appointment of Hyde using strong mayor powers.

“These changes were inevitable, with or without the strong mayor powers,” said Napoli. “Caledon’s growth demands changes and improvements to our administrative structure, and I believe the Mayor’s actions contribute to accommodating the anticipated growth.”

Napoli expressed his gratitude to Herd for her years of “outstanding service and dedication” to the Town but said as Caledon enters a transformative phase it’s crucial to have a CAO with a “fresh variety of skills.”

Napoli said Hyde’s qualifications make him the ideal candidate to lead Caledon during the coming years.

Regional Councillor Christina Early said she was shocked to hear of Herd’s replacement.

“She was an exemplary leader who saw this municipality through a pandemic and assembled a top-notch leadership team that had experts in charge of departments rather than generalists,” said Early.

Early said Caledon already has a highly-functioning leadership team that understands the needs of residents and was ready to work with the Provincially-appointed transition team on the dissolution of the Region of Peel.

“This termination and change was not required,” said Early.

Ward 2 Councillor Dave Sheen said the Province wants the narrative around strong mayor powers to be focused on the push to build thousands of new homes. He said people aren’t paying attention to the fact the powers go much further than that.

“The strong mayor powers are fundamentally undemocratic and, for Caledon residents, the new powers have weakened their voices on Caledon Council,” said Sheen.

Sheen said mayors of other municipalities have indicated they would not like to use their powers or will use them cautiously. He said Groves has embraced them with “reckless abandon.”

Further, Sheen said Groves’ use of strong mayor powers is odd considering her election campaign messaging promising transparency and openness at Town hall.

“Herd was an excellent leader and was doing an excellent job. She clearly had a good working relationship with me and my Council colleagues and she appeared to have a very strong working relationship with her senior leadership team,” said

Sheen. “Most importantly, she was delivering on the objectives the Council had set for her.”

Sheen said as Herd had been with the Town in various roles for 10 years, she knew her way around Town Hall and the Region of Peel. Due to this, he said Herd was well-positioned to lead the Town through the dissolution of Peel.

“I’m no sports junkie, but what Mayor Groves has done is like firing your head coach as you head into the playoffs, even though they had a winning record,” said Sheen.

Miracle Treat Day coming to Orangeville Dairy Queen

BY BRIAN LOCKHART

Miracle Treat Day is returning to Orangeville today to continue the 21-year tradition of helping make miracles happen for children and their families.

When you buy a Blizzard Treat sold on Miracle Treat Day, the net proceeds of every Blizzard sold will go directly to the local children’s hospital foundation. DQ will donate the funds raised at participating locations, including Orangeville, to the SickKids Foundation – one of 12 Children’s Miracle Network hospital foundations across Canada.

In 2022, local children’s hospitals

across Canada delivered care to children through more than three million in-person and virtual visits.

DQ employees, franchisees, volunteers and stakeholders come together throughout the year to help raise funds that allow children’s hospitals to provide the best care possible.

Since the partnership began 39 years ago in 1984, DQ has become a top contributor to Children’s Miracle Network, with over \$48 million raised to date in Canada.

Miracle Treat Day takes place today – Thursday, August. 10.

Visit the local DQ to enjoy a Blizzard Treat and know the purchase will go toward the SickKids Foundation.

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THIS NEWSPAPER!

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Proposed Amendment to Ministerial Zoning Order (MZO)

The Town of Caledon has received notice from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing of a proposed amendment to a Ministerial Zoning Order (MZO). The Town of Caledon has not requested this MZO.

In accordance with the Town’s Procedure for Consideration of Ministerial Zoning Order (MZO) and Community Infrastructure and Housing Accelerator (CIHA) Requests, the Town is issuing notice of the proposed amendment together with an invitation to attend a Public Meeting to hear comments on the MZO request.

For more information on MZOs, please refer to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ’s) on the Town’s website.

NOTE:

- The issuance of an MZO (including the content and timeline to issue) is the sole discretion of the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.
- Should a member of the public have comments on the proposed MZO, the Town encourages written comments be submitted to the Lead Planner as soon as possible.

PUBLIC MEETING DETAILS:

Meeting Date: August 24, 2023
Public Meeting Start Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: Council Chambers, 6311 Old Church Road, Caledon East

HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

The Town of Caledon offers a hybrid meeting model with multiple ways for members of the public to participate and engage with Council.

1. Attend In-Person Members of the public may attend a meeting in-person and provide verbal comments regarding the proposed application(s) or sit in the gallery to watch the meeting. Although registration is not mandatory, members of the public are encouraged to complete the Participation Request Form, available at caledon.ca/speak-at-council
2. Submit a Written Comment Members of the public may submit a written comment regarding the proposed application(s) by completing the Participation Request Form, available at caledon.ca/speak-at-council
3. Virtually Members of the public are welcome to participate via telephone or video conference through WebEx upon request. For more information on how to participate, please complete the Participation Request Form, available at caledon.ca/speak-at-council In addition, members of the public can watch meetings through the live stream available on the Town's website.

You can also ask questions or provide comments by:

- Submitting written correspondence to agenda@caledon.ca and planning@caledon.ca for consideration during the Public Meeting. Please note that written comments will form part of the public record.
- Contacting Planning staff or the Lead Planner during office hours by phone or email.
- Booking an appointment to visit Town Hall to speak with Planning staff. Visit caledon.ca/development for more information.

LOCATION:

0 Old School Road, 0 McLaughlin Road, 12502 McLaughlin Road, 12771 McLaughlin Road and 12760 Hurontario Street. West Side of McLaughlin Road, South of Old School Road and Between McLaughlin Road and Hurontario Street, South of Old School Road

O. REG. 362/20:

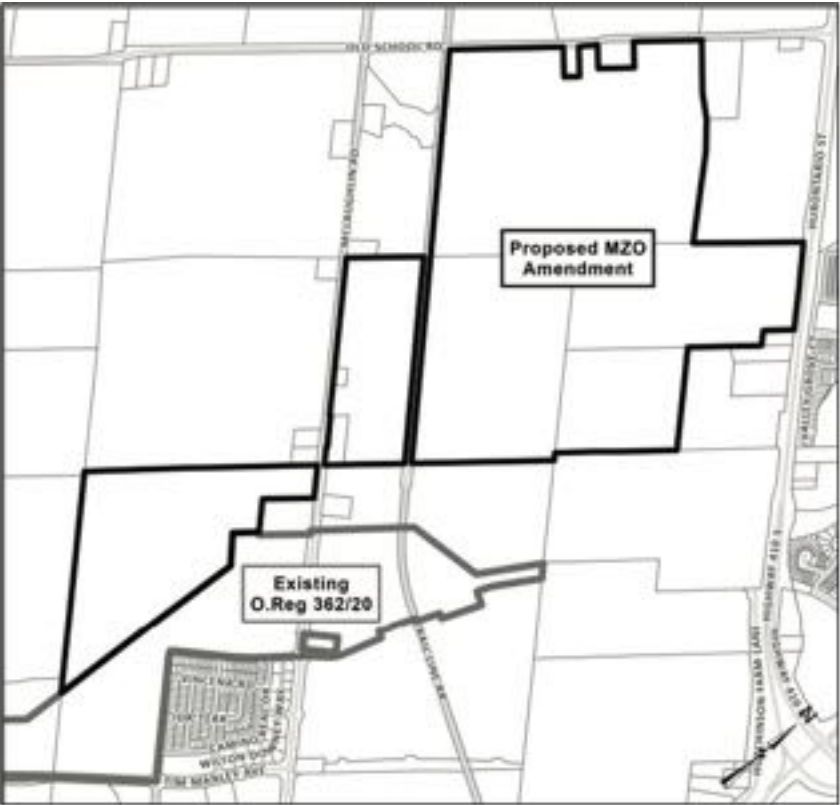
On July 10, 2020, the Minister issued a Ministerial Zoning Order (O. Reg. 362/20) for the lands within the Mayfield West Phase 2, Stage 2 Secondary Plan Area.

PROPOSED CHANGES:

The Town has received notice from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing of a proposed amendment to O. Reg. 362/20 to:

- a. Expand the lands that the MZO applies to, to include lands on the west side of McLaughlin Road, south of Old School Road, as well as lands between McLaughlin Road and Hurontario Street, south of Old School Road (totaling approximately 180 hectares); and,
- b. Include additional text to reflect the zones, uses and standards proposed through the amendment.

Ultimately, the amended MZO would permit the development of residential and commercial uses (including public infrastructure such as stormwater management pond) and recognize environmental lands. The proposed amendment, as received for comment, proposes that lands within the Greenbelt Plan be included in the MZO.



BACKGROUND:

On July 15, 2022, the Town received an Official Plan Amendment application for the subject lands from Malone Given Parsons on behalf of Brookvalley Project Management. On February 21, 2023, staff brought forward a report to Council recommending refusal of the application as it was incomplete and premature. Council referred the matter back to staff until such time that the Growth Management and Phasing Plan was complete.

The proposed Official Plan Amendment has not yet been brought back to Council for consideration pending completion of the Growth Management and Phasing Plan. It is anticipated that both the Growth Management and Phasing Plan and the report on the proposed Official Plan Amendment be brought forward in Q3/Q4 of 2023.

LEAD PLANNER:

Stephanie McVittie
Manager, Development
905-584-2272 x. 4253
stephanie.mcvittie@caledon.ca

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

For more information about this matter, including additional information and material, please visit caledon.ca/notices or contact the Lead Planner at Town Hall from Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

HOW TO STAY INFORMED:

If you wish to be notified of the decision of the Town of Caledon on the proposed Ministerial Zoning Order, you must make a written request to the Planning Department of the Town of Caledon, 6311 Old Church Road, Caledon, Ontario, L7C 1J6 or planning@caledon.ca.

ACCESSIBILITY:

If you require an accessibility accommodation to access any materials related to this item in an alternate format please contact Council and Committee Services by phone at 905-584-2272 x.2366 or via email at accessibility@caledon.ca.

Multi-Tenant Landowners: Please post this notice in a visible location to all residents of the land.

Notice Date: August 3, 2023



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Mayor splits Director of Building Services and Municipal Law Enforcement position

Town will now have a Director of Building Services and a Director of Municipal Law Enforcement

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Caledon’s leadership team is expanding. On July 11, Mayor Annette Groves used strong mayor powers to split the Town’s Director of Building Services and Municipal Law Enforcement position into two separate positions.

Caledon will now have a Director of Building Services and a Director of Municipal Law Enforcement. In an interview, Groves said she is not looking to use strong mayor powers to appoint someone to each position and is instead deferring to the Town’s normal hiring process.

Groves said she felt the move was necessary in order for Caledon to meet its promise to the Province to deliver 13,000 new housing units by 2031. She said the move will ensure the Chief Building Official is focused on processing permits and applications so Caledon can meet its housing targets on time.

Groves said with regards to the municipal law enforcement position, it will be necessary to have someone dedicated to enforcement as more of it will be required as the Town of Caledon grows.

“By having a director that’s solely responsible for the enforcement side, I think we serve the community better,” said Groves.

Caledon is currently hiring for both the Building Services and Municipal Law Enforcement Director positions as Mark Sraga, the Town’s former Director of Building Services and Municipal Law Enforcement, retired on June 30. The salary range offered by the Town for each new position is

\$159,000 to \$195,000. Ward 1 Councillor Lynn Kiernan said she’s worried about the cost of Groves’ move to taxpayers. She said the building services and municipal law enforcement position was linked for a reason and Caledon is not yet at the size where it needs to be split.

“Will we need them separated at some time? Yes. Is that time now? Absolutely not,” said Kiernan. “That’s another approximately \$200,000 that the Mayor is putting on the taxpayer for a position that isn’t required yet.”

Ward 6 Councillor Cosimo Napoli said the decision to split the positions is a strategic one that aligns with Caledon’s growth trajectory.

“By dedicating full attention to the specific needs of each department, we can ensure better efficiency and effectiveness in addressing the Town’s evolving challenges,” said Napoli.

Regional Councillor Christina Early said she’ll continue to respect the Mayor as the head of Council but does not support strong mayor powers as they “have muted the elected officials and have created an undemocratic process.”

Ward 2 Councillor Dave Sheen said he’s not too concerned about the split of the building services and municipal law enforcement position. He said the two positions likely depend on a very different skill set.

However, Sheen did say he’s worried Groves’ use of strong mayor powers will have a “chilling and demoralizing” effect on other senior leaders at the Town of Caledon. He said Town staff might feel unsupported and that their positions are at risk.

“In that kind of environment, high quality staff often chose to leave their organization,” said Sheen. “The Town cannot bear that kind of instability at this very critical time in Caledon’s history.”

Sheen said he wants to see a proper hiring process implemented for the next Directors of Building Services and Municipal Law Enforcement.



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NEWS

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We're falling for fun!

Find your fit with Recreation Caledon's new Fall/Winter Recreation Guide.

FALL PROGRAM REGISTRATION OPENS:

Town of Caledon Residents – August 16, 2023 at 7 a.m.
Non-Residents - August 23, 2023 at 7 a.m.

Registration is as simple as a click of a mouse or tap of a finger. It's fast and secure!





Find your fit

Visit Caledon.ca/RecPrograms



CALEDON SPORTS HALL OF FAME

The Caledon Sports Hall of Fame was established in 2018 as a place to recognize, memorialize and celebrate the accomplishments of Caledon athletes, builders and teams.

Nominees can be living or deceased and have excelled at the community, provincial, national and/or international levels.

Nominations for inductees are open from **July 17 - August 11, 2023**, for the following categories:

ATHLETE - BUILDER - TEAM

To submit a nomination, please visit caledon.ca/CSHOF



Alton Cemetery

The Town of Caledon is currently seeking feedback from members of the public regarding the future management and ownership of the Alton Cemetery.

ATTEND THE OPEN HOUSE

Date and Time: August 31 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Location: Alton Library, 35 Station Street

For more information and to provide input through our survey, please visit haveyoursaycaledon.ca.

If you have questions or require more information, please contact Legislative Services by phone at 905.584.2272 x. 2366 or email to legislative.services@caledon.ca

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Caledon East Community Complex



OPENING IN SEPTEMBER

JOIN US AT OUR CECC JOB FAIR:

- Hiring for a variety of part-time recreation positions
- Tuesday, August 15 and Monday, August 21 - 6 – 8 p.m.
- Hall A and B at the Caledon East Community Complex

Visit caledon.ca/jobs today!



CREATIVE ARTS FESTIVAL

Join us at the Caledon Creative Arts Festival at Caledon East Park on September 23 from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

The Caledon Creative Arts Festival showcases Caledon's creativity, craftsmanship and love of the arts. There is something for everyone to enjoy from live music, interactive workshops, a local vendor market and a visual art showcase.

Bring your family (including your furry friends!), immerse yourself in Caledon's creativity and find your inspiration close to home. Visit artfulcaledon.ca/ccaf to learn more.



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BROCK'S BANTER

Clamoring for the communal?

It's been a few weeks, so now it must be asked... have you had your full "Barbenheimer" experience yet? That is, the pleasure of seeing both the "Barbie" movie and "Oppenheimer," the biopic of physicist J. Robert Oppenheimer, the so-called "Father of the Atomic Bomb," in reasonably quick succession?

Both films, wildly different in content, but in some ways not all together polarized in terms of some of their messages, have become nothing short of cultural phenomena this summer, together and separately, reigniting North American box offices in earnest after COVID-19 and breaking financial records across the boards.

Given the cultural disparity between the two films and the fact that they were released to audiences, some of you have challenged yourself to see "Barbenheimer" back-to-back, risking numb posteriors by the time the six-hour-ish experience draws to a close, but guaranteeing social media cache in the process.

Others were "over" the Barbenheimer phenomenon before it was even released as jokes, memes, videos, and more were early signals of the cultural juggernaut that was to come, but those individuals were definitely in the minority come opening weekend.

Most curious to see a film about a venerable children's toy that wasn't dismissed from the outset by critics as simply a herculean-length exercise in product placement, I first dipped my toes the plastic-fantastic pond on opening night.

It was an evening showing, so seeing Oppenheimer immediately afterwards wasn't the most practical option; it was therefore decided to see the "back half" the following day. Such was Barbie's power, however, in the cold light of day it felt more time was needed to marinate in its message, so Oppenheimer had to wait for the following Saturday.

A longer unspooling that was anything but a slog, Oppenheimer was just as satisfying, scratching a very specific cinematic itch for this film fan who is also a history buff.

And yet...one of my biggest takeaways from the entire Barbenheimer experience, even if it wasn't as intensely packed as some of yours, was, quite literally, the experience itself.

My screening of Barbie, as you might expect, was a sea of people clad in different variations of bubble gum pink (I opted for bright turquoise, so maybe I'm just a Ken) representing almost the entire age spectrum, background, group configuration, families, singletons, and more. All were ready to have the time of their lives and, from my not-so-lofty perch near the screen (tickets were in short supply), everyone did.

People were grinning from ear to ear as they left the theatre, joining a lengthy line to have their photos taken in a larger-than-life Barbie box – that is, if they didn't have time to do so on their way into the theatre – and, during the walk through the parking lot, it was clear that new friends were made in the audience that night.

Given its subject matter, of course, spirits leaving Oppenheimer weren't nearly as buoyant, but it seems just about everyone I encountered on the way out was thrilled to have not only been able to take in this pop cultural experience, one with two truly beautifully-made movies at its core, but to do so together.

At this point, it seems painfully obvious to once again point out how polarized our world has be-

come since the start of the global pandemic. People are still grappling with the lingering impacts of more than two-years of comparative isolation. People have sought out views that merely echo their own rather than challenge their viewpoints. As much as we were "all in this together" for many that only lasted so long before the weight of individual inconvenience began to take its toll.

Now, as evidenced by blockbuster concerts in Toronto, and, indeed, the Barbenheimer phenomenon, people are once again getting back in the groove of these communal experiences, seeking them out, and reaping the benefits.

This past weekend, as we have most Civic Holiday weekends for the better part of 20 years, we took our annual family trip to Jamestown, NY, for the annual Lucille Ball Comedy Festival, which is held each year in the beloved redhead's hometown, about 90 minutes from Buffalo.

The once-bustling city is now home to the National Comedy Center, a museum that has become a significant international destination in recent years, saluting the art of comedy in all its forms, the pioneers who blazed a trail, and the newbies who continue their path.

Since its inception, scores of these pioneers and their descendants have made the Center the repository of their comedic history, including such luminaries as Joan Rivers, Betty White, Carl Reiner, and, of course, Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz. At the heart of the Centre is an immersive tribute to comedian George Carlin and just a few days prior to the festival, his actress-writer daughter Kelly Carlin shared some of her insights on its success with me for a freelance piece for another publication.

On the interactive nature of the Center, which asks that you fill out your own comedy profile for an experience tailored around what makes you smile, Ms. Carlin hit the nail on the head.

"The real potential and power of the Comedy Center is removing all of the identities that we have beyond what makes us laugh. When we do that, we get to our hearts, we get to our souls," she said. "My dad used to say when people are laughing their minds are open, their hearts are open, there is a part of your physiology that happens when you're laughing. You're no longer in a space of putting your walls up, you're letting things in and things are affecting your mind and your body at the same time.

"There is something about...walking into a place where all you hear is laughter for two, three, or four hours.... If we can all walk out of there feeling a little bit more connected to each other, just a little bit more, maybe there's a chance we can feel connected and start to collaborate on the big things we need to work on with this planet."

That's certainly how I felt returning home this week after reconnecting with friends I have known for the better part of a quarter-century, having made some new friends along the way, as well as a boatload of memories that will sustain until next August.

And, I suspect, many people who took in the Barbenheimer experience at its zenith, also left feeling a little bit more connected with each other and the shared experience.

Maybe there's still time for all of us to rediscover our connections and sense of collaboration wherever we can – and, if it's at a place of laughter, in the darkness of a movie theatre, or even just through conversation, so be it – and let's get to it.



Pondering the “smells” of summer time

by Mark Pavilons



“Tears of joy are like the summer rain drops pierced by sunbeams.”
– Hosea Ballou

I love summer and if I had it my way, it would be sunshine and BBQ all year long.

Ok, the heat we've experienced this summer is a bit much (record breaking in many ways). I still enjoy soaking up the rays, and feeling the warmth on my face. It's like being touched by angels, or something similarly heavenly.

We haven't been away as a family in some time, and now that our kids are young adults, they seem to have their own ideas of "fun."

Mind you, we would have been more than happy to take in cottage life for a week or two during the most pleasant times of the year in Ontario.

There are some indisputable smells related to summer that we all know and love. They're imprinted in our brains and remain unforgettable.

Here are some that come to mind: Freshly cut grass, suntan lotion, a sea breeze and of course, sizzling barbecue. A survey of our American friends asked what smell identified America the most, and the most popular answer was barbecue.

A 2014 study showed that we can distinguish at least 1 trillion different odours.

Now, our language doesn't have a trillion words for different smells, but our brains know them all the same. The olfactory nerves do not proceed directly to the brain's thalamus, the gateway to consciousness. Instead, information feeds from the nose to cortical areas to arouse emotions and memories without our awareness. When it comes to smells, people can be influenced and not even realize it.

Our sense of smell, according to experts, is the most primeval and "volatile."

Our sense of smell is quite something. It detects, encodes and discriminates among thousands of small airborne chemicals, often at very small concentrations. That's not all, our sense adds an emotional attribute to the objects or events, influences our mood and thoughts, acts as a catalyst in social interactions. In a nutshell, it not only impacts our social behaviour but has been instrumental in human evolution. Here are some other interesting tidbits about our strong sense of smell.

Scent cells are renewed every 30 to 60 days. The sense of smell is the only cranial nerve – nerves that emerge from the brain and control bodily functions including eye movement, hearing, taste, and vision – that can regenerate.

You can smell feelings of fear and disgust through sweat, and then you can experience the same emotions, according to a 2012 study published in the journal Psychological Science.

Researchers collected sweat from men as they watched movies that caused these feelings. To remain odour-neutral for the sweat test, the men used scent-free products, and quit smoking and using alcohol. Women participants then completed visual search tests, while unknowingly smelling the sweaty samples. The women's eye movements and facial expressions were recorded during this time.

The researchers found that women who smelled the "fear sweat" opened their eyes widely in a fearful expression, and women who smelled the "disgust sweat" also displayed facial expressions of disgust.

Chemodetection – detecting chemicals related to smell or taste – is the most ancient sense. Women have a better sense of smell than men.

"Summer afternoon, summer afternoon; to me those have always been the two most beautiful words in the English language," said Henry James. I wholeheartedly concur.

For me, there are literally dozens of summertime scents that take me back.

The smell of gasoline, from outboard motors, always makes me smile. As well, as a teen growing up in Caledon, mowing the extensive lawns on our property was one of my chores. And so, the smell of gas abounded all over the place, from the tractor to the push mowers and chain saws.

While driving around town recently after a rain storm, I could smell the warm, damp, musty air. I grinned from ear to ear. Almost every cottage or cabin smells like that. It's the nature of summer and it has a healing effect. Whenever I smell something damp and musty my thoughts immediately turn to the Muskoka resort my family visited, or those indoor/outdoor carpets at Caribbean hotels.

The scent is unmistakable.

Ok, mold and mildew are bad, but I always associated the smell with the outdoors. As Diane Ackerman put it: "Nothing is more memorable than a smell. One scent can be unexpected, momentary and fleeting, yet conjure up a childhood summer beside a lake in the mountains."

The aforementioned study is quite right. Smells are personal, and spark emotion. Another unmistakable summertime odor is the smell of a burning fire. You will notice that at almost every campground and in cottage country wherever you go.

Even when you pick up the scent here in the GTA, you know someone is in their backyard gathered around a fire pit, enjoying the weather.

Food, hot off the grill; the unique smell of mustard and other condiments, and you've got a meal for the nose.

Our Readers Write

Columnist “misinformed,” says reader

I know that newspaper columnists are given wide latitude to provide their personal musings without fact checking but the recent "Are we under water yet?" by Brian Lockhart is disturbingly misinformed in my opinion.

If oil companies keep looking for more oil and develop new techniques for extraction such as fracking or streaming tar sands, then the estimates of potentially available oil will increase (only for a time. Oil is not unlimited). Lower estimates came from less information, not from a secret conspiracy. The problem now is the effects of burning it, not how much of it there is.

Sea Level at the Statue of Liberty typically varies about six feet through the year and tidally several feet every day. Comparison of two photographs taken at random times during a tidal cycle in 1920 and 2022 are clearly meaningless in relation to long-term

Sea Level rise.

The recovery of the level of ozone in the atmosphere back toward natural level, and thus the associated level of protection from skin cancer, cataracts and other harmful effects, is real and the result of international cooperation to phase out chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), known as the Montreal Protocol and subsequent treaties.

And so on...

My main point is that, in order to develop our understanding of environmental phenomena of global significance to our children and grandchildren, we should listen to the consensus of people who have devoted their education and careers to gathering and interpreting calibrated measurements of that phenomena and not to a sports writer.

BRIAN WANNAMAKER
CALEDON EAST

Distributed throughout the Town of Caledon, the Citizen is published Thursdays by Caledon publishing Ltd.

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

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Funded by the Government of Canada
Financé par le gouvernement du Canada

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Subscription Rate:
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\$70.35+GST beyond 65km
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Sell your soul, buy a house

If you want to get rich these days, becoming a banker or a grocer are two good bets.

You don't have to be an economist, math genius, or consumer goods expert to realize a lot of prices in the grocery store are based on gouging and nothing more. While some costs have gone up for producers and passed on to retailers, many others have not.

There are some items that have gone up 100 per cent over the past year, for little or no reason other than that fact that grocery stores are charging more because other things have gone up and they think they can get away with it. And apparently they can.

Our current economic system is out of control and we need an adjustment to get things back in line so most people don't have to live lives of quiet desperation.

The housing crunch is hanging like a dark cloud over the country. More so in some places than others.

Ontario is particularly hard hit by rising and ridiculous home prices. Some western cities are in the same situation beginning several years ago when Vancouver started spiralling out of control.

The latest hikes in interest rates are going to cause a big problem for a lot of people. The trouble is, people are borrowing more money than they should be able to buy a home.

Having a place to live and raise your family should not mean you sacrifice everything else so you can make your mortgage payments. You shouldn't have to borrow a huge amount of money that will leave you with crippling monthly mortgage payments in the first place.

There are several factors causing the housing crisis, but for the most part, it's just a shortage of inventory.

Ontario Premier Doug Ford's announcement of a plan to build 1.5 million new homes in the province won't do a thing to ease the current situation. Even if that plan goes through, developers don't build homes because they are nice guys. They build homes to make money.

There won't be 1.5 million new "affordable homes," there will be 1.5 million homes sold at what the developer can get for them.

When a new subdivision was being built at the end of my street, I and all my neighbours kept a

close eye on the situation. At the time, the first few homes were sold for around \$550,000. By the time they started building the rest, the price went up to \$900,000.

"Cost of building supplies," the developer claimed. You don't have to be a builder to be able to check the cost of supplies, and note that, no, supplies had not gone up 40 per cent in six months.

Another development project is going up near where I live. This is definitely not an "affordable housing" plan. The houses are all large, on big lots, and the entire development is obviously geared toward people making a lot of money.

There's nothing wrong with that. Some people want to buy, and can afford to have a big house.

However, after speaking with a local real estate agent who is working the project, it seems most of the houses were bought before shovels were even in the ground. That in itself, is not unusual. A lot of people have bought a house based on a set of blue prints.

The problem in this case, was the project got underway during the height of the pandemic. People signed a deal to buy a house for \$1.5 mil-

lion, at a time when there was panic buying and multiple bids on existing homes.

However, the pandemic ended, and housing prices levelled off or dropped. My real estate friend told me there are plenty of people moving into that subdivision who paid \$1.5 million for a house, that might be worth \$1.1, when they move in.

To keep that house they will be paying interest on \$400,000 that never paid for a thing.

The problem is there are more people than houses, which is causing strife and financial hardship. The current government seems to think we need more people in the country to be successful.

This nation has always been successful even when we had a much smaller population.

Some of the most successful countries on the planet have very small populations.

It's time to get things in check or your kids will never be able to afford a house in their own home town.

BRIAN LOCKHART
FROM THE SECOND ROW



Asking for a friend.....

To say there was a lot of news to absorb last week would be an understatement. Caledon residents have been bombarded with announcements, appointments, press releases and, the ongoing release of some information (related to campaign finances) that quite possibly some folks would rather wasn't part of the public record. By no means am I suggesting that any of the news I've been reading is "fishy" but I am definitely curious about the coincidences in timing. I'm asking for a friend, is there anything here we need to be concerned about Caledon.

The announcement of a new CAO seems to have taken just about everyone by surprise, including some of our area councillors. While no one is casting aspersions on the qualifications of Nathan Hyde, apparently attending both Harvard and Cambridge University comprises just one small part of his resume, but the timing of his appointment has not landed without some controversy. Is it good planning on the part of Mayor Groves who recognizes Caledon's plans for growth and therefore sought out a candidate who has experience pushing through large development projects in the adjacent county of Erin by "developing a plan for the community to double its urban population?" Or, as has been alleged, was this appointment an

abuse of the so-called strong mayor powers, used to oust one CAO and bring in another without any council consultation?

As well, as we inexorably creep toward a mega-quarry taking up space in Alton, potentially devastating the water supply to homes, businesses and our beloved Forks of the Credit, is the appointment of Mr. Hyde, who "currently serves as the provincially-appointed Chair of the CTC Source Protection Committee, responsible for protecting drinking water sources across the GTA, including the Town of Caledon," a brilliant ploy to derail the efforts of the company who hopes to build said quarry, or merely window-dressing? The committee, by the way, was formed to guide the development of the source protection plan which came into effect in March of 2022 and is meant to address "all new threat activities" by bringing them "into compliance with SPP policies." I'm asking for a friend whether anyone thinks Nestle removing drinking water from Erin was a "new threat" to their drinking water supply?

Speaking of water, and appointments, there's a new voice at the Niagara Escarpment Commission table too. Lynn Kiernan, who represents Ward One, currently ground zero for two water-impacting related projects, is now a member of the NEC.

With the aforementioned mega-quarry potentially bearing down on Alton, the Cataract and Forks of the Credit, along with a large housing development project now seemingly approved for Belfountain, environmental concerns - particularly water-related concerns - are coming to a head for the Councillor. Timing is everything, "they" say. Let's hope the timing of this particular appointment is related to continued efforts to curb excessive depletion of a natural resource rather than one which sets up Councillor Kiernan to be the "face" of local inclusion at the provincial level without any real impact on the decision-making process of these projects.

Yet another example of window dressing? One hopes not.

There have been other announcements too but you get the idea. In and of themselves they aren't necessarily "fishy," but they are incredibly well-timed and that's what's got me wondering - is there anything to see here or is this just really smart, proactive planning to address the future needs of our growing community? I'm asking for a friend.

SHERALYN ROMAN
TALK CALEDON



Submit your

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Headwaters Health Care Centre seeks public input for 2024-2029 Strategic Plan

Headwaters Health Care Centre is developing its next strategic plan, a collaborative strategy that will shape the hospital’s future over the next five years.

The strategic plan aims to build on current success and guide the hospital’s activity to create a future-ready hospital for the residents of Dufferin County and Caledon. The approach is guided by a Strategic Advisory Committee of the Hospital’s Board of Directors.

“We are excited to hear from the people we serve and who work, volunteer and partner with us about their experiences, perceptions and hopes for their community hospital. It is important we create a strategic plan that is shaped with community input so we can plan for our future growth and continued focus on quality care,” said Kim Delahunt, President & CEO, Headwaters Health Care Centre.

How can you get involved?

The hospital’s strategic plan will be developed through a comprehensive consultation process.

Residents are encouraged to visit headwatershealth.ca and take part in our Strategic plan 2024-2029 Survey.

The survey closes September 15, 2023.

In addition to the survey, the hospital is hosting public virtual and in-person community conversations and is meeting with community partners.

People are encouraged to register in advance by email at info@headwatershealth.ca

The virtual and in person conversations are being held August 14 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at Dufferin Oaks Long

Term Care Home, August 18 from 12 to 1:30 p.m. virtually, August 28 from 6 to 7:30 p.m., August 29 from 6 to 7:30 p.m., August 31 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., September 11 from 12 to 1:30 p.m., Sep. 12 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Grand Valley and District Community Centre, September 15 from 12 to 1:30 p.m. virtually.

Additional Priorities and Areas of Focus

Earlier this year, Headwaters Health Care Centre unveiled its Clinical Priority Plan (CPP). With a focus on addressing the most urgent clinical needs and anticipating the growing populations, the CPP emphasizes improvements in Emergency Services, Geriatrics, Mental Health and Substance Use, Obstetrics, and Paediatrics while also focusing on quality improvements across all areas of the hospital.

HHCC’s new People Strategy Plan, launched this year is also focused on the health, well-being, safety and accessibility of its staff, physicians and volunteers.

The hospital is also embarking on updating its Master Program and Plan that will guide both the programs and services required for the next 15 to 20 years as well as a full-facility assessment and plan to support the growth required on the hospital campus.

To further elevate the quality of care provided, the Hospital Foundation launched the SMART Headwaters campaign. This ambitious \$18 million fundraising initiative seeks to acquire an MRI machine and other vital medical technologies. The campaign’s success will significantly enhance diagnostic capabilities and contribute to better health outcomes for patients in the region.



Demi Zaglis poses with her bookworm design that was selected to be displayed at the Caledon Public Library’s Albion Bolton branch.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Installation from Bolton artist unveiled at library

Demi Zaglis made a design for three bookshelf ends at Albion Bolton branch

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

A Bolton artist’s design has been chosen to be displayed at the library in Bolton.

On August 8, the Caledon Public Library (CPL) announced that Demi Zaglis’ art is now on display on bookshelves in the children’s section of the Albion Bolton branch of the CPL.

Laura Nolloth, a Communications Coordinator for the CPL, said Zaglis’ design was chosen among several other exceptional submissions.

Back in February, the CPL issued a call to local artists to submit a design for three bookshelf ends that would make a welcoming entrance to the Albion Bolton branch children’s area.

Nolloth said due to an abundance of creativity and talent in Caledon, it was incredibly hard to choose a winning submission to be displayed at the Bolton branch.

Zaglis, 23, has been illustrating professionally for the last five years and holds a certifi-

cate in Art and Design. She’s also studied graphic design education. However, Zaglis’ love for art began at a young age and she’s been illustrating since she could hold a pencil.

“Demi expresses her love for art through various mediums wherever possible, whether that is painting on a canvas, sketching on some paper or taking her work into the digital world,” said Nolloth. “Her three-panel art installation of a bookworm is sure to tickle the imagination.”

The CPL is hoping to use Zaglis’ installation as a way to bring attention to its Artful Caledon program. The program is a way for Caledon creatives to promote their work in person and virtually. Artists can showcase their work in branches or online; writers can come out to events with other writers; and musicians can have a chance to perform for the CPL. Nolloth said these are all ways the CPL is trying to engage Caledon artists.

“As an organization, the library recognizes that art and culture enhance the quality of life in our community and as confirmed in our strategic plan, we consider it our priority to celebrate culture and inclusion; supporting Caledon’s creative talent and cultural economy by showcasing local authors, artists, performers, and makers,” said Nolloth.

More information about Artful Caledon is available online at caledon.library.on.ca.



“Beer, it’s the best damn drink in the world.”

Cheers to Jack Nicholson



Caledon teens bring home trophies and medals from World Dance Challenge



Hannah Bell, Kassandra Seymour, and Kat Tanga brought home gold medals and more from the International Dance Organization's World Dance Challenge in Mexico.

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Local dancers made Canada proud at the World Dance Challenge last month.

From July 22 to 29, Kassandra Seymour, Hannah Bell, and Kat Tanga competed in the International Dance Organization's (IDO) World Dance Challenge as part of the Canadian National Dance Team.

The challenge was held in Monterrey, Mexico at the Cintermex International Convention and Exhibition Centre.

Seymour, 13, and Bell, 16, are from Caledon, while Tanga, who is 19, is from Brampton. The three dancers all train at the House of Fame Dance Academy in disciplines like contemporary, lyrical, jazz, hip hop, and ballet.

Bell explained the week before the challenge, they would train for eight to 12 hours every day.

When it came time to fly to Mexico, the dancers packed all of their costumes and dance gear in their carry-on baggage to ensure they did not lose them. However, with over 10 dances to compete in each, this made the bags very heavy.

Since there was jewelry in the bags, the dancers got stopped at security and then had to repack everything, which was quite a challenge. Combining that with the usual long waits one can expect at the airport, the dancers were relieved to finally get on their flight.

The flight itself went well and they arrived in Mexico on time. When they got there, each coun-

try competing in the tournament had a hotel to go to, and the dancers said it was cool to land in a new country and see their flag at their hotel.

Before the competition began, there were classes where famous choreographers from around the world taught dances to the World Dance Challenge participants. To make things even more interesting, these choreographers were going to be the judges at the competition.

"We got to learn a masterclass from them all," said Bell. "We also got to learn what the judges wanted to see from us on stage, which was a really good experience and very helpful."

From Africa to Italy, there were choreographers from around the world who were there to teach the dance challenge participants. At the end of the competition, the choreographers even held a mock audition to help out those looking to pursue a career in dance, such as by joining a dance company.

Tanga agreed with Bell and said it was great to apply what she learned from the choreographers in the competition. Bell said being able to meet with and learn from judges made the World Dance Challenge a really unique competition.

"It inspired me to want to go into dance, it showed me there's a lot of different opportunities," said Bell.

When the World Dance Challenge began, the three dancers said they were a bit nervous and certainly feeling the pressure to perform well.

Seymour said thankfully, they were able to feel out the stage a few times before the competition began so they could know what it's like to be up there. There were also warm up areas for all the

dancers to get ready for their performances in.

Seymour said right up until performance time, she and the other dancers would be working on their routines.

Bell, Seymour and Tanga each competed in multiple different disciplines, as well as in performances with different numbers of dancers — from solo all the way up to group performances.

With so many different routines and moves to remember, Tanga said practice is key.

"Even when you're not practicing, you're running through the choreography in your head," said Tanga.

Bell and Seymour agreed, adding that repetition from practice helps them gain muscle memory for each dance routine they do. They all said even years after learning a dance to a song, whenever they hear that song again, they remember the routine they learned to it.

Seymour, who competed in the junior category at the World Dance Challenge, took home first place for her contemporary dance performance to the song Inner Light. She also came in second place for a lyrical dance performance, third for a hip hop performance, and fourth for a jazz performance.

Bell and Tanga competed in the senior category at the World Dance Challenge, and they took home first place for their contemporary dance performance to the song Rivers & Roads. They also came in second place for another contemporary dance performance, third for a lyrical dance performance, and fourth for a jazz performance.

The dancers were extremely proud of how they

and their fellow Canadian National Dance Team members placed in the competition.

Seymour explained that in addition to technical ability, judges were looking to see emotion in their performances.

"They wanted to see why you're dancing, why you love dance," said Seymour.

Before the World Dance Challenge, the dancers were training between 10 to 15 hours per week at their studio and an additional eight to 12 hours with the Canadian National Dance Team three to six times per month.

Seymour, Bell and Tanga all wanted to say a huge thank you to their coaches, Emma Searles and Jade Delaronde.

Tanga said the coaches worked so hard; that they were up before the dancers and going to sleep after them. She said when it was time to perform, Searles and Delaronde were always right there with them to provide support before they went on stage.

"You can tell when someone has a passion for it, and they both definitely do," said Tanga. "They care a lot."

Seymour commended her coaches' efforts to make everyone feel like they were part of one big team.

Bell said these efforts were a success as the members of the Canadian National Dance Team became fast friends and are all planning to keep hanging out even though the competition is finished.

"The connections that we made are going to last forever," said Bell. "This past month, we've gotten so close."

Tanga said her favourite part of the World Dance Challenge was learning from new choreographers, and Bell agreed. They both said it was not only inspiring but a great opportunity, too. Seymour said the friends she made, and seeing the choreographers perform, was her favourite part.

"We gave it our all," said Bell. "When we were dancing for the finals, those were the best times we'd ever done those dances. Our hearts are on that stage."

Tanga said it was a very fulfilling experience to compete at the World Dance Challenge, as well as to watch others perform.

"The feeling I had in the audience... I made it, I'm here, this is what I have been working for my whole life," said Tanga.

Being able to represent Canada was a big source of pride for the dancers. Seymour said being able to place well alongside her teammates meant the world to her because they did it together.



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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Hockey Night in Dufferin Caledon raises \$115,000 for Headwaters in second year

The Headwaters Health Care Foundation (HHCC) recently saw a boost in funding thanks to a community event organized by a local politician.

The 2nd Annual Hockey Night in Dufferin-Caledon, which saw local NHL players Brett

Ritchie and Andrew Mangiapane compete with other elite players, raised \$115,000 for HHCC on Aug. 2.

The event was organized by Dufferin-Caledon MP Kyle Seebach, who says he’s “blown away by the outpouring of our community’s support for Hockey Night in Dufferin-Caledon.”

He added, “For an event that’s only in its second year, we saw incredible growth and phenomenal enthusiasm, which translated into \$115,000 raised for Headwaters Health Care Foundation. I’m immensely grateful to everyone for their support – from those who bought game day and raffle tickets; to the volunteers who gave their time and Teen Ranch who donated the ice time; to the fantastic sponsors who made it happen; including Enercare, our title sponsor. We couldn’t have done it without all of you!”

In the end, Team Dufferin defeated Team Caledon in an action-packed hockey game.

The evening had a family-friendly focus and was full of activities, including “Chuck a Puck,” which was enjoyed by all ages.

Three lucky winners took home raffle prizes, ranging from an Air Canada round trip for two, two tickets to a 2024 Toronto Maple Leafs Game, paired with one-night accommodation at One King West in Toronto, and two tickets to The Chicks Concert in September.

“It was amazing to see our community come together for a fun evening to support a terrific and important cause. Dufferin-Caledon can be really proud of what we achieved together last night. We’ll continue to build on this success and have an even bigger Hockey Night in Dufferin-Caledon in 2024,” MP Seebach enthused.

Bolton Brewers win NDBL regular season pennant and open playoffs versus the Lisle Astros on Thursday

BY JIM STEWART

The Bolton Brewers wrapped up their North Dufferin Baseball League regular season with three consecutive wins to capture the 2023 pennant.

The first-place Brewers (18-2-2) host the Lisle Astros (9-11-2) at North Hill Park on Thursday night at 7:30 PM in Game 1 of their NDBL Best-of-5 Series. Game 2 follows on August 11 in Lisle at 6:15 PM. Game 3 is scheduled for August 13 in Bolton at 1 PM.

The Brewers closed out their 2023 regular season emphatically and gathered momentum for the playoffs with three very different wins. Bolton’s 19-3 win over the Clarksburg Blues was called mercifully after five innings.

The Brewers clinched the pennant with a 7-3 victory over New Lowell, despite issuing 10 walks to the second-place Knights. In the last game on their NDBL schedule, Bolton eked out a narrow 7-6 win over Barrie after jumping out to a 7-1 lead versus the Angels.

In the nail-biter versus Barrie, the Brewers established a commanding six-run lead after four innings, but surrendered a 5-spot to the Angels in the fifth inning to turn a laughter into a pressurized balancing act versus the third-place squad. Nathan Drury led the Brewers’ offence with 2 hits and 2 runs scored. Brett Chater went 3 for 3 in the lead-off spot.

Bolton starter Trent Barwick earned the win and Aaron Dzib thwarted a Barrie comeback victory to earn a timely save.

In the Brewers’ pennant-clinching win at New Lowell, the visitors got on the scoreboard right away and carried a 1-0 lead through the top of the third.

The Knights drew even at the bottom of the inning, but the Brewers broke the 1-1 tie with three runs at the top of the fourth and added two more at the top of the fifth to pull away from the 2022 NDBL champs.

Bolton outit New Lowell 13-5 and its offence was paced by Amin Juarez and Logan Hart with three hits each. Stephen Warden and Carson Burns scored 2 runs each. Starter Nick Pettinaro—despite issuing seven free passes to the Knights—secured the win for the Brewers.

In the mercy-shortened victory over Clarksburg, Bolton pounded out 17 hits and scored 3 runs at the top of the first, added two more at the top of the second, and exploded for a 6-spot at the top of the third to pull away from the Blues.

The Brewers added four runs in both the fourth and fifth innings to shorten the game to a five-inning contest and preserve their pitching staff.

Player-Coach Mike Wallace and the team’s leading hitter Chris Falfalios had 4-hit nights to pace the Brewers’ offensive onslaught at Moreau Park in Thornbury.

Falfalios scored four runs with Chater and Wallace crossing the plate three times each to account for 10 of the team’s 19 runs. Starter Eddie Rodriguez scattered five hits over five innings and struck out ten Blues to earn the shortened CG.

NDBL playoff matchups: In first round action, the second-place New Lowell Knights (17-4-1) take on the seventh-place Creemore Padres (10-9-3). The third-place Barrie Angels (16-6-0) will battle the sixth-place Midland Mariners (11-10-1). The Ivy Rangers (14-6-2) finished fourth and will take on the fifth-place Clearview Orioles (14-7-1).



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Hospitable Halifax hosts Green Rider revelers and ardent Argo Fans at CFL’s Touchdown Atlantic 2023

BY JIM STEWART
PART 2 OF 2

Halifax is no stranger to stirring events. In July, the resilient and charming city hosted with tremendous efficacy the Canadian Football League’s biggest pre-Grey Cup event of its season, “Touchdown Atlantic 2023”. Halifax welcomed both the friendly “invasion” of nomadic Green Rider fans who routinely fill CFL stadiums and the arrival of a smaller number of ardent Argonaut fans whose distinctive double-blue gear separated them from the Regina revelers.

Day 3—Touchdown Atlantic at SMU, The Old Triangle, and The Split Crow

We are slow-moving carbon life forms today after the Museum-Lower Deck-Barrington Steakhouse—Riderville adventure. Home-cooked brunch in our flat featuring Earl Grey Tea, 3 fried eggs in a toasted cheddar-herb bagel, banana, and Greek yogurt provided a nice base for our trek to Huskies Stadium at St. Mary’s University, site of the Saskatchewan Roughriders-Toronto Argonauts regular season game marketed by the CFL as “Touchdown Atlantic 2023.”

As lifelong Riders fans, we are clad in green jerseys, caps, pins, scarves, socks—verdant accessories from head to toe. A wee warm up at the Tailgate Party with Church Brewery Lagers for Garn and Paul and an IPA for me sets the tone for the Big Game. We have waited for this game since 2020 when our tickets were “invalidated” by the Pandemic. We have end zone seats in the temporary stands erected for the encounter between the third-place Riders (3-3) and the first place CFL 2022 Grey Cup champion Argonauts.

The Argonauts—it must be admitted—are a juggernaut this season. The ancient club from Toronto carries a pristine 5-0 record into SMU where 10,555 fans fill the sold-out university stadium. I bonded with a number of Atlantic Schooner-jerseyed Haligonians at the game and the jury seems to be out on whether financial backing for a tenth CFL franchise is feasible in the Nova Scotia capital.

The Schooners almost came into being in 1983 before financing fell through thus scuttling the Halifax franchise before it took the field. Prospects of fielding a CFL team in the great sports city of Halifax re-emerged five years ago and the League seems hot to trot to balance the CFL with two five-team conferences with the Schooners joining the Argos, Redblacks, Ticats, and Alouettes in the Eastern Conference.

The game is a thrill for the tourists and locals in attendance. Riders fans travel well and in large numbers across the country and a very healthy contingent is seated at SMU. Green-jerseyed fans far outnumber those in Double-Blue by a 5:1 ratio in the grandstands and 2:1 ratio in the temporary end zone bleachers. The overabundance of Green Gear at SMU is eerily similar to Roughriders-Argos games at BMO Field on the shores of Lake Ontario where Riders fans always outnumber the local supporters, much to the chagrin of ardent Argos fans who must wonder what it takes to fill their home field with Double Blue-clad supporters.

Today’s game is a showcase for the venerable 65-year-old league, but the median age of the audience is likely 50+. The league needs to attract a younger genera-

tion of fans and a tenth franchise—notably in Nova Scotia—for the CFL to remain viable.

The old guys like me—a Rider fan dipped in Green since 1966 when Ron Lancaster and George Reed led Saskatchewan to its first league championship and established their legendary careers in Regina—are the dominant demographic in Halifax for the Big Game and most Haligonian millennials have eyed our nomadic bar-hopping and restaurant patronage as a barren source of amusement.

They have no idea how much fun the CFL is and—to paraphrase the slogan of Ontario license plates—it is “Theirs to Discover.” Hopefully.

There is hope the league will grow the game and the emergent superstar at quarterback for the Toronto Argonauts puts on a show in Halifax. Chad Kelly is a superstar in the making—the nephew of Buffalo Bills Hall of Famer QB Jim Kelly—and he demonstrates his uncle’s acumen on the field at SMU in this showcase game.

Although the Riders contain Kelly and limit his aerial yardage to 157 yards, the two tanks with whom he shares the Argos backfield run roughshod over the Riders. AJ Ouellette and Andrew Harris chew up yardage and clock all afternoon en-route to an easy 31-13 win over the Riders. They are 6-0 for the first time since 1935.

In 29-degree, overcast kick-off conditions at SMU and with almost 12,000 fans jammed into every crevice of Huskies Stadium, the Argonauts score on four of their first seven possessions—Boris Bede kicks a 35-yard field goal in the first two minutes of the game and Jevon Leake returns a punt 71 yards for a touchdown. Bede converts the big specialty teams’ TD and adds a field goal to give the Argos a 13-0 lead after the first quarter. The rout of the Riders is on and looks like the Argos will cover the 10.5 points by which they were favored.

The charming Mascots bond with the fans between quarters as Jason the Argonaut works our end zone as does Gainer the Gopher much to the delight of the kids and adults assembled. Kelly works his passing magic in the second quarter with a toss to Dejon Brissett for a touchdown and the Argos add a gutsy two-point conversion to take a 21-0 lead with ten minutes left before half-time.

The Riders fumble the ball on the Argos’ one-yard line with thirty seconds left in the quarter and Regina’s thirty minutes of futility at SMU comes to an end. They trail the juggernaut Argonauts by three converted touchdowns at half time.

Brett Lauther—the Riders’ talented placekicker from Truro, NS, and a former SMU Huskies player—kicks a field goal in the third quarter and another with eleven minutes to go in the fourth to narrow the Argos’ lead to 21-6.

However, the Argos have scored in many different ways this season and this game is no exception as the Double-Blue squad shows its scoring versatility in the fourth quarter. Bede kicks a 24-yard field goal to make it 24-6 with 4:37 to go and a Pick-6 by defensive back DaShaun Amos on Mason Fine’s errant pass attempt is the knock-out punch as the Argos quick defender glides into the end zone in front of us to put Toronto up 30-6. The ever-reliable Bede kicks the extra point with 3:13 remaining to put the Argos up by 25 points.

Saskatchewan Head Coach Craig Dickenson throws caution to the wind and in-

serts his backup QB Jake Dolegala into the game with three minutes left. Dolegala almost throws a Pick 6 from his own two yard-line, but the Argos miss the interception attempt. Mason Fine’s understudy engineers a skillful late-game drive featuring a series of impressive completions of 39, 31, 7, and 38 yards to revive a stagnant offence. Dolegala’s 108-yard drive culminates in a TD reception by Shawn Bane Jr who was the only bright light on a dismal day for the Riders’ offence. Bane’s touchdown narrowed Toronto’s lead to 31-12 and, fittingly, former SMU Huskie Brett Lauther scores the final point of Touchdown Atlantic 2023 when his kicked football travels through the uprights with 1:57 left on the clock. No miraculous rally occurs on the venerable 221-year-old St. Mary’s University campus and Toronto leaves Huskies Stadium with an impressive 31-13 victory over Regina.

Crestfallen but not broken, we resume the last leg of the Pub Crawl by Uber to downtown Halifax to enjoy the hospitable offerings and patio setting of The Old Triangle Irish Alehouse on Prince Street.

The excellent musical sounds of the three-man band inside The Old Triangle Irish Alehouse spill out to the patio and raise our Quintet’s spirits after a drubbing at the hands of the Argos. One more Galaxy IPA provides the “shot of courage” we need to climb the hill to our final Pub Crawl stop: the Split Crow.

This old British Pub on Granville Street is a student bar full of life on a Saturday night. It reminds my brother and I of the Ceeps in London, Ontario that we frequented as undergrads at Western. We mingle with all kinds of university students and Argos fans at this classic Halifax pub. It’s all in good fun and we close the evening with shots. I enjoy a Glen Morangie Scotch on the Rocks to close off a great trip and our Green-Clad Quintet walks in a midnight mist to our respective accommodations to rest after a busy day.

Garn, Paul, and I enjoy a glass of Cabernet Sauvignon and our flat’s big screen tv presentation of “Jays in 30” featuring a nice win over the Angels at The Dome. It’s been a very good day for Toronto sports

teams on the gridiron and diamond.

Day 4—A Relaxing Afternoon in our Flat and Porter Flight 210 Takes Us Home to Pearson

Our host is gracious and gives us much leeway on our previously-posted 11:00 AM departure. Our flight from Halifax Stanfield doesn’t take off until 5:10 ADT and we enjoy a leisurely pace of brunching in the Creighton Street flat and packing for the trip home.

Our Uber trip north of Dartmouth is \$46. The spacious airport lounge outside Gate 12 is a really comfortable place to work so my brother rolls through financial spreadsheets on his brand-new computer purchased in Halifax and I power my way through this travelogue prior to our flight which is—mercifully – on-time.

The cheerful attendants serve us a complimentary Canadian combo of Three Farmers Zesty Cheddar Fava Beans and a splash of Jackson Triggs Cabernet Sauvignon in a Porter Glass to make the flight home civilized and relaxing.

The jet that takes us home—no turboprop for this longer haul-- purrs through Canadian Airspace. Some of the Argos fans we were bonding with at The Split Crow look a little worse for wear-- and their team won at SMU! A smooth flight back to Toronto ends a fabulous four-day working vacation in one of the great Canadian cities.

Halifax—can’t wait to be back in August 2024 for my nephew’s destination wedding in Nova Scotia. I have this three-day Pub Crawl Plan I’d like to deploy...

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OBITUARIES

CIANFROGNA, LINDA (NEE FERRIS)

It is with great sadness that we share that Linda gained her wings on July 25, 2023, at the age of 58. Born on November 29, 1964, to Paul and Joan Ferris, she was the middle sister to Barbara and Cathy. Raised in Shelburne, Ontario, Linda grew up working the family farm until completing University and moving to the city where she met her husband John Cianfrogna. John and Linda married in 1989. Together they had a son, Leonardo Cianfrogna. Together they traveled near and far and were always in search of their next camping spot. Linda was known to have a book in her hand and always knew what concert, plays or activities were coming to town and ensured she attended as many as possible.



After her being diagnosed in 2019, Linda relapsed late last year with stage four cancer. Linda had her final battle with cancer and unfortunately grew tired with no cure in sight. She passed away peacefully in her sleep with her son and sister by her side. Linda had a great love for animals which led to the adoption of their cat Domenic. To honour Linda, if you desire, you can make a donation to a rehabilitation center called Fur Warriors. <https://furwarriors.com/>



SELF, CALVIN RUSSELL

Peacefully on Tuesday, August 1st, 2023 at the age of 73 with his loving wife Pearl by his side. Loving father of Daniel (Stephanie), Jason (Carrie), Gregory and stepfather to Nicole Deak. Cherished grandfather of Callum, Meya, Paisy, Noen, Chloe, Madeline and Joseph. Dear son of Melba and the late Kenneth Self (2005). Calvin will also be greatly missed by many relatives and numerous friends.



Visitation will be held at the Dods & McNair Funeral Home, Chapel & Reception Centre, 21 First St., Orangeville on Saturday, August 5th, 2023 from 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm. Funeral Service will be held at Dods & McNair Funeral Home, Chapel & Reception Centre 21 First St Orangeville, Ontario on Saturday, August 5th, 2023 at 2:30 pm. Memorial donations to the Alzheimer Society, the Orangeville SPCA or the Canadian Cancer Society would be appreciated by the family. Condolences may be offered to the family at www.dodsandmcnair.com

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Two-day celebration of local food, craft beverages coming to downtown Orangeville

Preparations are underway for Downtown Orangeville's two-day celebration of local flavours later this month.

In Good Spirits

New this year is the Town's first 19+ craft beverage tasting event, "In Good Spirits," which will be held under the Taste of Orangeville tent from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Friday, August 18. "Enjoy live music and the company of friends while you sample delicious, local craft beverages. The craft beverage industry is booming, and Orangeville is surrounded by talented small batch, craft beer, cider, wine, mead and spirits makers and shakers dedicated to making delicious drinks," said Downtown Orangeville in a press release.

Fourteen beverage purveyors will sample their drinks and share their stories at the event: Adamo Estate Winery, Ernest

Cidery, Free Bar, Headwaters Beverage Company, Hockley Valley Brewing, Mono Centre Brewery, Murphy's Law Distillery, Ontario Honey Creations, Revival 1863, Roost Winery, Soulyve Catering & Events, Taphouse Craft Beer + Kitchen, Zero Bar, and Caledon Tourism representing Caledon's cideries (Pommies, Spirit Tree) and breweries (Caledon Hills, Good Lot, Sonnen Hill).

The evening includes live music, mixology demos, live painting, door prizes, and light appetizers courtesy of premier event sponsor, Soulyve Catering & Events.

For details and a complete list of In Good Spirits' generous, support-local sponsors, please visit downtownorangeville.ca.

Tickets are \$25 and include 20 tasting tickets and light appetizers. Creative, refreshing, non-alcoholic drinks will also be available. Tickets can be purchased at downtownorangeville.ca.

ca or at eventbrite.ca/e/in-good-spirits-craft-beverage-sampling-social-tickets-682392212477?aff=oddtcreator

Taste of Orangeville

On Saturday, August 19, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., the best in local food will be served under the big white tent on Mill Street during Taste of Orangeville, Dufferin's premier food tasting event.

"Come with an appetite and sample delicious food from Orangeville's best restaurants and food creators while you enjoy great live music and a friendly atmosphere. After lunch, take a stroll to Shop the Sidewalk on Broadway and beyond," said Downtown Orangeville.

The event is free to enter, tasting tickets are \$1 each, and tastes will be offered for 1-5 tickets. Under the tent, you'll

find the area's best restaurants and food creators offering fantastic tasting menus.

Participating restaurants include Adamo Estate Winery, Barley Vine Rail Co., Bluebird Cafe & Grill, The Craft Pizza Bar & Italian Kitchen, Coriander Kitchen, Le Finis/Lavender Blue Catering, Mochaberry Coffee Co., Mill Creek Pub, RJ's Taste of Asia, Rustik Local Bistro, Son of a Chef, Soulyve Catering & Events, Taphouse Craft Beer + Kitchen, and Wicked Shortbread.

"Taste of Orangeville weekend celebrates the best the Orangeville area has to offer, delicious craft drinks, exceptional local food, an entertaining music scene, and great local shopping," said Downtown Orangeville. "These are events that you won't want to miss, so clear your schedules for August 18th and 19th!"

Visit downtownorangeville.ca for all the delicious details.

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