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FREE Thursday, December 12, 2024 Volume 44, Issue 51



SANTA'S BIG DAY IN BOLTON

Marching bands, dance groups, community organizations, local businesses, youth sports teams and more all marched in the 2024 Bolton Santa Claus Parade hosted by the Bolton Kin. Santa and Mrs. Claus made a special visit to town for the occasion. For more, see Page 15.

PHOTO BY ZACHARY ROMAN

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Residents' group taking Caledon to court over 12 zoning bylaws

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

A residents' group is taking legal action against the Town of Caledon.

On December 9, Democracy Caledon announced it was taking legal action against the Town over its decision to "pre-zone 5,000 acres of mostly prime agricultural land for 35,000 housing units across 12 new urban develop-

ment areas."

Democracy Caledon has hired legal counsel, and it filed a notice of application in the Ontario Superior Court of Justice on December 5. The Court served the notice to the Town of Caledon on December 6.

In a media release, Democracy Caledon representatives said its lawyers contend "that Caledon Council's approval of the 12 zoning bylaws does not conform to the Official Plans of Cale-

don and Peel Region and can be quashed for 'illegality' under section 273 of the Municipal Act."

In a media release issued December 10, Town of Caledon communications staff said the 12 zoning bylaws were enacted in accordance with provincial legislation, and that the bylaws keep with all requirements of Ontario's Planning and Municipal acts.

Continued on Page 2

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Proposed tax increase remains at 3% after Tuesday budget meeting

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

The proposed tax increase for residents through Caledon's 2025 budget remains at 3 per cent.

At a December 10 Budget meeting, Councillors had the chance to present amendments to Caledon's proposed 2025 budget. The amendments presented were discussed and voted on by Council.

A motion from Ward 6 Councillor Cosimo Napoli and Ward 2 Councillor Dave Sheen to fund requests from the Caledon Public Library (CPL) was passed. In addition to base operating budget increases, the following was approved: \$500,000 to expand library collections and materials; \$115,000 for library IT equipment; \$64,000 to improve access to the Inglewood branch of the CPL; \$90,000 for a new community librarian; and \$37,000 for library intern, co-op and summer students.

Continued on Page 6

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Skating no longer permitted on Palgrave Pond, Town and TRCA agree

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

A longstanding Palgrave tradition will be no more.

On December 3, members of the volunteer group Palgrave Pond Community Inc. (PPCI) were told by Town of Caledon staff that skating would no longer be allowed on the Palgrave Pond and that they could no longer maintain the pond for skating.

PPCI member and Palgrave resident Bernie Rochon said he was disappointed with the lack of notice and consultation for the decision. He said it came out of nowhere.

Under the leadership of Ken Hunt, a Palgrave resident known as the “Ice Angel”, the Palgrave Pond has been diligently maintained for public use for the last 25 years. Each year, many Caledon residents come out to enjoy playing hockey on the pond or skating the skating trail.

Rochon said the PPCI was created just three years ago, as the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) and Town of Caledon implemented new rules and regulations at that time. The PPCI non-profit corporation was created so that insurance could be bought and a bank account maintained. With the help of then-councillor Jennifer Innis, skating on the Palgrave Pond was able to continue under the new rules and regulations.

Rochon said last time skating on the Palgrave Pond came into question, there was a massive show of support from the community. He said the same will be necessary again if there is to be any hope of skating on the pond in the future.

Rochon said so many people have put time and money into maintaining the pond over the years.

“It’s a real shame... It’s just not right,” he said. “It’s at the core of the community, to have it gone feels unreal.”

In an email to The Citizen, Caledon’s Commissioner of Community and Human Services Catherine McLean acknowledged it’s sad to end skating on Palgrave Pond.

“The changing climate, reducing ice cover and inconsistent temperatures means that the pond ice is unstable and risky in more spots every winter,” said McLean. “We encourage our residents to access several Town-run outdoor community rinks across

Caledon. We also want to take a moment to recognize and thank Ken Hunt, Palgrave’s Ice Angel, and his family who made skating on the pond possible for more than 25 years. Thank you for supporting our community.”

In an email to the Citizen, TRCA director of development and engineering services Sameer Dhalla said it is important to prioritize safety.

“Skating on any body of water always comes with significant risks, such as inconsistent ice formation, underwater currents, and obstacles like rocks or submerged debris. These factors can create unsafe conditions, even if the surface appears solid. In addition to these general risks, a changing climate and inconsistent temperatures pose an increased risk to anyone utilizing the site,” said Dhalla. “TRCA does not monitor ice safety, and skating on TRCA properties remains a prohibited activity. Residents who choose to venture out onto ice despite warnings, do so at their own risk. To ensure safety, ‘No Trespassing’ and ‘Stay Off Ice’ signage has been posted around the pond to clearly indicate that public access is prohibited and that no activities on the ice will be allowed.”

The email stated that in December 2021, the TRCA entered into a three-year agreement with the Town of Caledon to facilitate recreational skating on Palgrave Pond. According to the email, the agreement allowed skating to take place due to community management and supervision of skating activities while addressing insurance, liability and risk management to ensure safety and accessibility for skaters.

“This agreement expired at the end of March 2024 with the mutual understanding that it would not be renewed,” said Dhalla.

The email notes the TRCA has recently issued a winter safety message on its website that it encourages the public to view.

“As a safe alternative, we recommend that residents use municipally approved skating rinks that are open to the public. For those seeking safe and enjoyable outdoor activities, TRCA offers a variety of recreation programs to connect with nature while staying secure,” said Dhalla. “TRCA looks forward to continue working with the Town of Caledon in supporting recreational uses in areas surrounding the Palgrave Dam.”

Democracy Caledon says zoning bylaws do not conform to Official Plans

Continued from FRONT

Caledon Mayor Annette Groves was quoted in the release, and said “our solicitors have advised that this lawsuit is completely without merit, and the Town will be vigorously defending it.”

Debbe Crandall, President of Democracy Caledon, said if its court action is successful, Caledon will have to go back to the drawing board “to do proper planning for phased and managed growth.”

“A phased approach to planning would mean an orderly rollout of water lines, sewers, roads and other public services, thus better protecting Caledon ratepayers from an as-yet undetermined property tax

increase needed to pay for the developers’ wish list,” she continued.

The Town’s media release states all lands in the 12 zoning bylaws are within Caledon’s urban boundary or are adjacent to existing settlement areas, and that secondary plans will be required for all the lands as “part of the Town’s comprehensive planning approach.”

Groves said that Democracy Caledon is circulating “fake news” to raise fears within the Caledon community.

Crandall said Democracy Caledon, through its legal action, is trying to protect Caledon’s farmland and greenspace, taxpayers, and democratic process.

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Volunteers are pictured at the cookie decorating station during CCS' Family Day of Giving event. PHOTO BY ZACHARY ROMAN

Caledon Community Services hosts Family Day of Giving

Caledon families came to The Exchange to volunteer their time on December 7

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Caledon's food bank was busy with helping hands last Saturday.

On December 7, Caledon Community Services (CCS) held the "Family Day of Giving" at The Exchange in Bolton.

From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Caledon families stopped by to help sort food donations

and cook meals for those in need. CCS Chief Development Officer Mariia Kupriianova said it was amazing to see The Exchange full of families helping out. Volunteers enjoyed hot chocolate and cookies as they worked.

CCS is in the midst of its annual Season of Hope fundraising campaign, which helps provide critical food and utility support for neighbours in need.

CCS welcomes donations to the campaign in person at 55 Healey Road (Unit 10), by phone (905-584-2300), and online at ccs4u.org.

Mars Canada has pledged to match community donations to Season of Hope up to \$25,000.

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Sausage Rolls
26-28 PIECES 500 g

save \$9

Nanaimo Bars
850 g

save \$7

Bacon Wrapped Scallop Medallions
9-13 PIECES 300 g

save \$9

Shrimp Ring
42-48 PIECES 454 g

Cocktail Sauce Included

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19⁹⁹

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14⁹⁹

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FATAL COLLISION INVESTIGATION

Officers from the Caledon OPP are investigating a three-vehicle fatal collision on Highway 10, in the Town of Caledon.

“On December 6, 2024, just before 12:00 a.m., Caledon OPP and emergency crews responded to a three-vehicle collision on Highway 10, near Old School Road,” say Police. “One driver and sole occupant, a 44-year-old of Caledon, was pronounced deceased at the scene. The two occupants from the second vehicle were transported to a Toronto-area trauma centre for serious injuries, and two others from the third vehicle were taken to a local hospital.”

Highway 10 Between King Street and Old School Road was closed for several hours while the OPP Technical Collision Investigators and Reconstructionists assisted with the investigation.

Anyone who may have witnessed the collision or has dashcam footage is asked to contact Caledon OPP at 1-888-310-1122. You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Peel Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or online at www.peelcrimestoppers.ca. When you contact Crime

Stoppers, you stay anonymous, and you never have to testify.

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

IMPAIRED CHARGES

Officers from the Caledon Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have charged the driver of a vehicle that slid onto someone’s front lawn with impaired operation.

“On December 4, 2024, shortly after 5:00 p.m., officers responded to a vehicle that slid onto someone’s front lawn,” say Police. “No injuries were sustained. During the investigation, officers formed grounds that the driver’s ability to operate a motor vehicle was impaired by alcohol and was subsequently arrested.”

As a result, Gordon Kalverda, 50, of Alton, was charged with:

- Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus)

The accused is scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville on December 19, 2024, to answer to the

charge.

The charge has not been proven.

The driver’s licence was also suspended for 90 days, and the vehicle impounded for seven.

“The OPP is counting on citizens to help ensure that no one in their presence gets behind the wheel if they have consumed alcohol or taken drugs. The more people who do so, the fewer impaired drivers they will be sharing the road with. If you know or suspect that a driver is impaired by alcohol or drugs, call 9-1-1. In doing so, you may save a life. You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Peel Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or online at www.peelcrimestoppers.ca. When you contact Crime Stoppers, you stay anonymous, and you never have to testify.”

Additionally, the Festive RIDE Campaign is currently running until January 1, 2025. The Festive RIDE (Reduce Impaired Driving Everywhere) campaign is an annual police enforcement and education initiative aimed at taking impaired drivers off Ontario roads during the holiday season.

For more information about the penalties of driving impaired, visit: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/impaired-driving>.

an immediate 3-day licence suspension and \$250 fine. Second time penalties are an immediate 7-day licence suspension, \$350 fine and an education or treatment program. Third time penalties are an immediate 30-day licence suspension, \$450 fine, an education or treatment program, and a six-month ignition interlock condition.

“If you plan on drinking or consuming drugs, plan to not drive. Instead, arrange for a designated driver, take a taxi or public transit, or come up with another plan that takes impaired driving out of the picture. If you suspect that someone is driving while impaired by alcohol or drugs, it is important to call 9-1-1 to report it. You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Peel Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or online at www.peelcrimestoppers.ca. When you contact Crime Stoppers, you stay anonymous, and you never have to testify.

For more information about the penalties of driving impaired, visit: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/impaired-driving>.”

DRIVE SAFE THIS WINTER

The Central Region of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) reminds drivers to slow down, stay alert, and stay in control.

Winter driving conditions can be unpredictable, with icy roads, heavy snowfalls, and reduced visibility creating challenges for drivers.

Slow down and adjust your driving to the current road and weather conditions and leave extra space between vehicles as stopping distances are more than double on snow or ice-covered roads.

The OPP reminds motorists to ensure they are prepared for any situation by carrying a survival kit in their vehicle. To learn what to include in your survival kit, visit the Ministry of Transportation’s (MTO) Winter Driving page (ontario.ca/page/winter-driving).

Recommended items include a shovel, blanket, warm clothes, food, booster cables, flashlight, high energy foods, matches and a candle.

Ensure your cell phone is charged at all times in order to contact emergency services if you experience trouble. If you are in a life-threatening situation, call 9-1-1. Please call the OPP non-emergency number, 1-888-310-1122 for all other matters.

Visit the MTO website for up-to-date information on road conditions and closures at www.511on.ca.

DRIVER SUSPENSION FOLLOWING COLLISION

Officers from the Caledon OPP have charged a driver and issued a warn-range suspension following a collision involving an OPP police cruiser.

“On December 4, 2024, just before 5:00 p.m., officers responded to a collision between a passenger vehicle and a police cruiser in the intersection of Old Church Road and Centreville Creek Road,” say Police. “No injuries were sustained. The investigation revealed that the driver of the other vehicle entered an intersection when not safe to do so and caused a collision with the police vehicle. A breath sample with an Approved Screening Device (ASD) also revealed that the driver was in the ‘warn range’ for blood alcohol concentration.”

As a result, a 28-year-old of Georgetown was charged with Careless Driving. The driver was also issued a 3-day warn-range licence suspension.

The charge has not been proven.

“A warn range on an ASD is having a Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) between 0.05-0.079. First time penalties are

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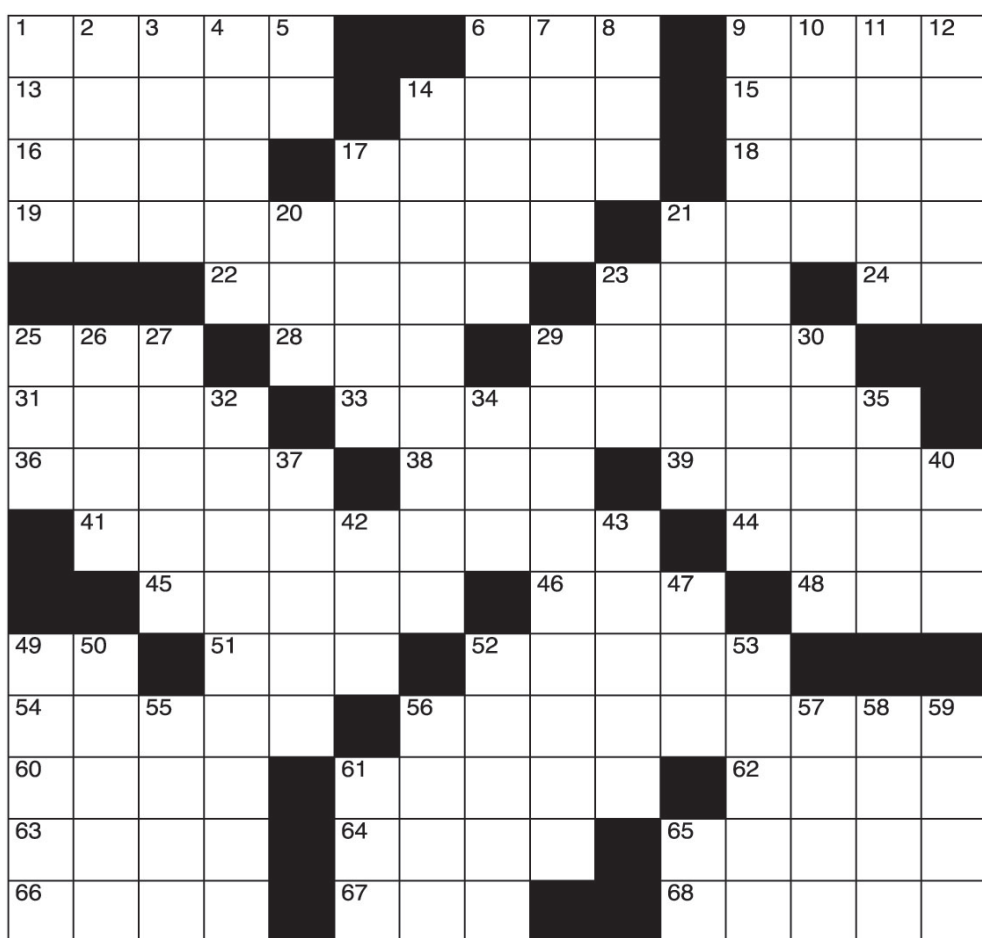
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CLUES ACROSS

1. Thou __ do it
6. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
9. Brainstem part
13. Town in New York state
14. Little (Spanish)
15. Continent
16. Retch
17. Short-billed rails
18. Small period of time (abbr.)
19. Confused
21. A team needs one
22. Woman in ancient times
23. Republican Party
24. Spanish be
25. “The Godfather” character Johnny
28. Not around
29. City in Zambia
31. A type of beginning
33. Numb
36. Gurus
38. Small, gray-headed crow
39. Vehicle type

CLUES DOWN

41. Disorders
44. One point east of southeast
45. Indian soldier
46. Tree type
48. Midway between south and southeast
49. It cools your home
51. Corn comes on it
52. Ship’s deck
54. A way to bake
56. Improvised
60. Butterfly genus
61. Baseball fields have them
62. Designated space
63. Discharge
64. Two of something
65. Once more
66. Part of your face
67. Tax collector
68. Cassia tree

5. The Volunteer State
6. Non-hydraulic cement
7. Horse mackerel
8. Jackson and Diddley are two
9. Splendid displays
10. Mountain in NE Greece
11. A daughter or your brother or sister
12. German surname
14. Having more than one husband at a time
17. Romanian city
20. Energy
21. Makes less hot electrode
23. Gas diffusion
25. Former CIA
26. Set an example for others
27. Support of a particular person
29. One from the Big Apple
30. Mountain range
32. Violate the sanctity

- of something
34. Supervises flying
35. Talks
37. Persian male given name
40. Born of
42. Forcibly take one’s possessions
43. Discounts
47. Knockouts
49. Posh Colorado destination
50. Form of therapy
52. British rock band
53. Type of virus (abbr.)
55. The U. of Miami mascot is one
56. Volcanic crater
57. Middle Eastern nation
58. Sinn __, Irish organization
59. Ethiopian lake
61. Bits per inch (abbr.)
65. Equally

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



On Now

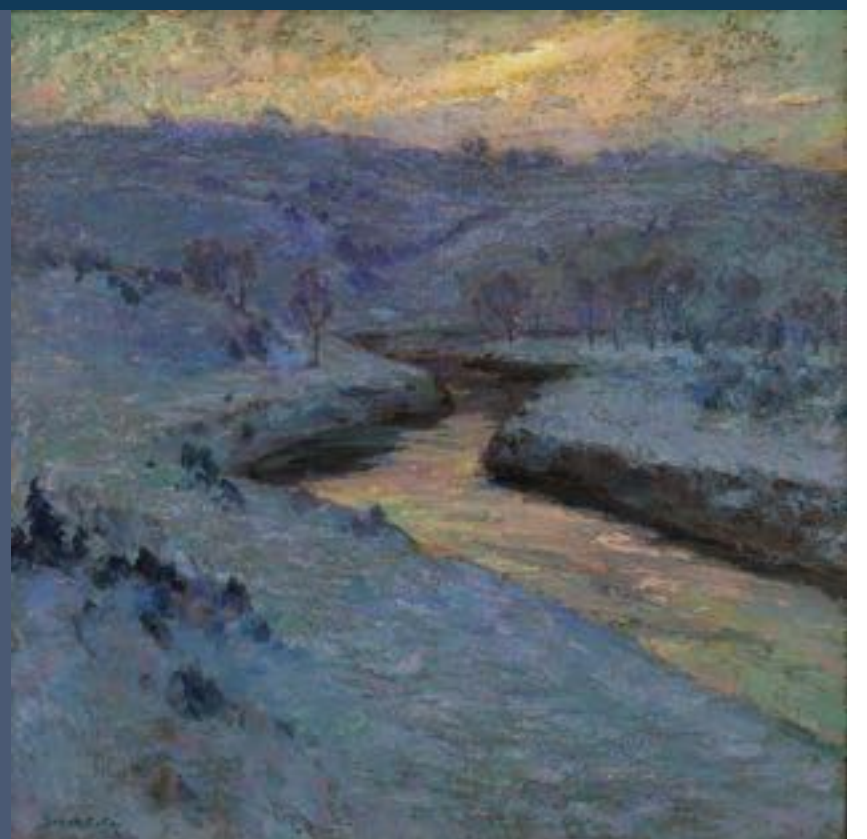
MARIA CHAPDELAINÉ CLARENCE GAGNON

Make us part of your holiday journey

Also On

RIVER OF DREAMS IMPRESSIONISM ON THE ST. LAWRENCE

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TOP: Clarence Gagnon (1881-1942), *Honfleur* (detail), 1928/1933, gouache over colour monotype on paper, 20.5 x 19.9 cm, Gift of Colonel R.S. McLaughlin, McMichael Canadian Art Collection; BOTTOM: Marc-Aurèle de Foy Suzor-Coté, *Sunset, Nicolet River | Coucher de soleil, rivière Nicolet*, 1925, oil on canvas, 116 x 116 cm, Collection of the Musée d'art de Joliette, Gift of the Clerics of St. Viator of Canada, 2012.043, Photo: Guy L'Heureux

Caledon Meals on Wheels receives Trillium grant



Scott MacNeill, Caledon Meals on Wheels Chef, Jermaine Chambers, Ontario Trillium Foundation volunteer, Kim Rodrigues, Executive Director, Caledon Meals on Wheels, and Sylvia Jones, MPP for Dufferin-Caledon. **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

A local non-profit recently received a generous grant.

On December 6, Caledon Meals on Wheels (CMOW) received a \$14,000 capital grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF).

CMOW Executive Director Kim Rodrigues said the grant has allowed CMOW to purchase

some much-needed equipment to assist in the delivery of hot and fresh meals to its clients.

Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones said she was very happy to see the grant awarded.

“Through the Ontario Trillium Foundation, our government is supporting the organizations that

make our community thrive, including Caledon Meals on Wheels,” said Jones. “I am very pleased to see this capital grant ensuring that lo-

cal seniors can enjoy hot and fresh meals in the comfort of their home, maintaining their independence.”

Some of the equipment CMOW purchased with the grant includes a plug-in warming oven, insulated bags, and warming inserts. Rodrigues said the new gear will improve the quality of the meals CMOW delivers.

“This grant has had an immediate impact on our ability to serve the community,” she said. “We are incredibly grateful for the Ontario Trillium Foundation’s support which will help us achieve our goal of ensuring our local seniors are able to live their life to the fullest living in their own homes for as long as they are comfortable.”

Rodrigues said delivering hot and fresh meals to seniors means seniors can continue to be inde-

pendent in their own homes for as long as they desire. Last year, CMOW delivered over 25,000 meals in Caledon, Orangeville and surrounding areas.

CMOW is a volunteer and community-driven non-profit that helps seniors and vulnerable individuals through delivering meals and programs.

Its mission is to deliver nourishment, companionship and a sense of well-being to seniors, individuals with disabilities, and those recovering from illness.

The OTF is an agency of the Ontario government and its mission is to build healthy and vibrant communities across the province.

Last year, it invested more than \$110 million into over 1,000 different community projects and partnerships.

Amendments to 2025 budget include funding for library, outdoor ice rink in Palgrave

Continued from FRONT

A motion from Ward 3 Councillor Doug Maskell regarding access gates and signage on the Caledon Trailway was also passed. Maskell said residents are being put at risk with the way the Caledon Trailway is currently signed.

\$175,000 was approved to purchase 16 new trail access gates, remove existing access gates, install the new access gates, and to purchase and install appropriate signage at all Caledon Trailway road crossings.

Maskell’s motion said the new access gates will make the trail more accessible, and that the new signage will make trail crossings much safer for trail users.

A motion from Napoli to make a CPL reserve fund was unanimously supported.

Ward 2 Councillor Dave Sheen made a motion to expand Caledon’s Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) camera program. It was passed, and Caledon will soon have eight ASE cameras, making it one of the municipalities in Ontario with the most ASE cameras per capita.

Ward 4 Councillor Nick de Boer submitted a motion to make an outdoor ice rink at the Palgrave Ball Park. He, and Regional Councillor Mario Russo, said Palgrave residents deserve action as they recently learned skating would no longer be permit-

ted on the Palgrave Pond. This motion was passed as well.

Another motion from de Boer supported the Palgrave Tennis Club’s request for assistance, and this motion was also approved.

Maskell made a motion asking that Caledon host an Earth Day event next year with ecoCaledon at a cost of \$20,000, and it was supported by his fellow Councillors.

Maskell also suggested that Caledon draw \$815,000 from its tax stabilization reserve to offset the cost of Councillors’ amending motions. He said this use is exactly what the reserve was made for. His motion was passed.

After all amending motions from the meeting were considered, Caledon’s tax increase was left at 3.29 per cent.

Russo suggested drawing \$550,000 from Caledon’s tax-funded operating contingency reserve to bring the increase back to 3 per cent, the amount proposed when Caledon’s 2025 budget was first tabled. Russo’s motion was supported by Councillors.

December 17 will be Caledon’s final 2025 budget meeting and the budget is expected to be approved that day.

Caledon’s CFO, Rob Cummings, noted at the December 10 meeting that the Region of Peel’s currently proposed tax increase sat at 1.83 per cent.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Passing of heritage designation by-laws

The Town of Caledon has passed By-laws 2024-094 and 2024-095 to designate 18473 Main Street and 18906 Main Street as being of cultural heritage value or interest under Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act.

Please note, the formal notices were issued at caledon.ca/notices on December 5, 2024.

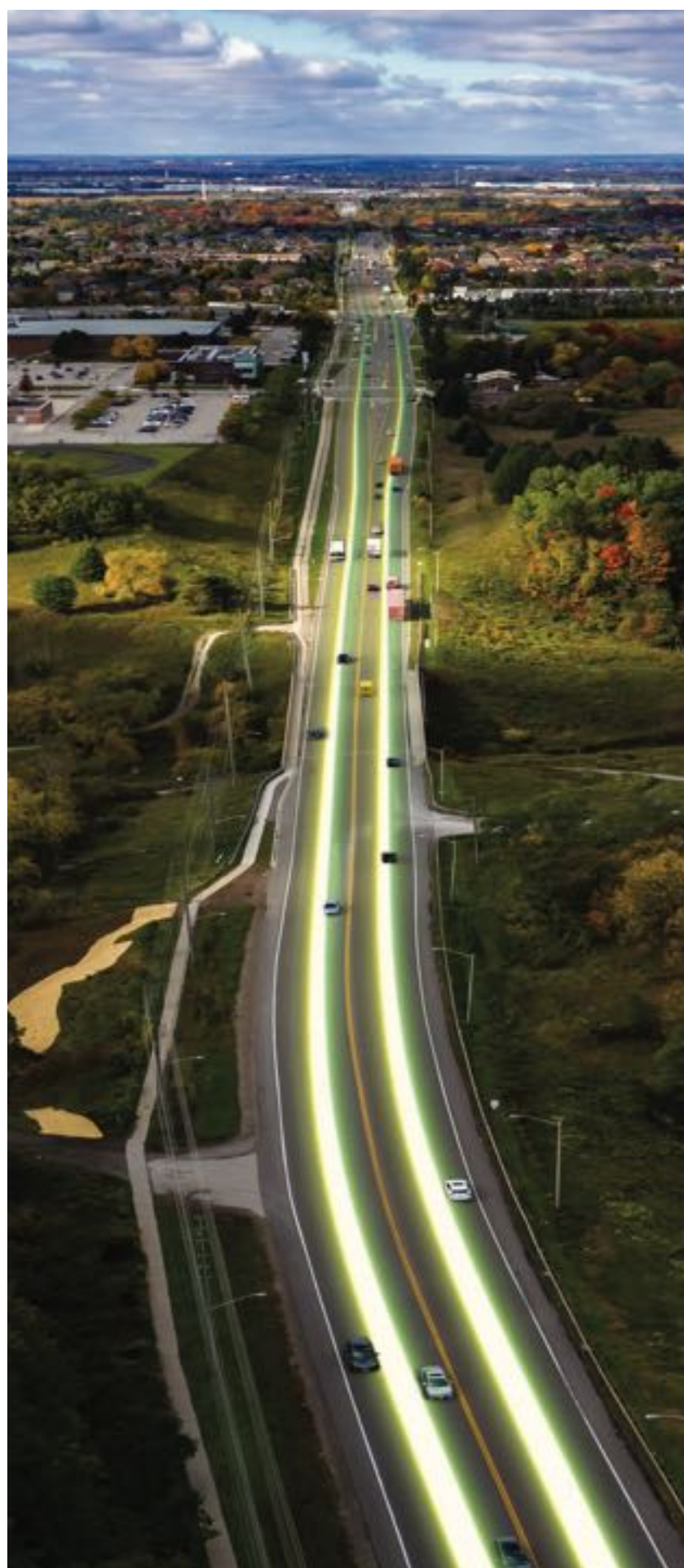
By-law 2024-094: 18473 Main Street is legally described as PIN: 14274-0012 (LT) Part Lot 16, Concession 3 West of Hurontario Street (Caledon) as in R01015995; Subject to CA20830, CA22620; Town of Caledon; Regional Municipality of Peel

By-law 2024-095: 18906 Main Street is legally described as PIN: 14273-0080 (LT) Part Lot 18, Concession 4 West of Hurontario Street (Caledon); Part Lot 19, Concession 4 West of Hurontario Street (Caledon) as in R01011725; Town of Caledon; Regional Municipality of Peel

Any person who objects to these by-laws may appeal to the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT) by giving the OLT and the Clerk of the Town of Caledon, within 30 days after the date of publication of the formal notices on December 5th, 2024, a notice of appeal setting out the objection to the by-law and the reasons in support of the objection, accompanied by the fee charged by the OLT.



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Caledon Central Vice-Principal Brandon Pachan, Caledon Optimists president Susan Montgomery, Caledon Central Principal Lesley Kennedy, and Caledon Optimists director Ted Simmonds.
PHOTO BY ZACHARY ROMAN

Caledon Central Public School hosts family holiday breakfast

President's Choice Children's Charity helped put on event

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Local elementary school students and their families recently enjoyed a pancake breakfast to celebrate the holidays.

On December 10, Caledon Central Public School hosted its second-annual Bronco Family Holiday Breakfast.

The event was supported by the President's Choice Children's Charity (PCCC), which supports Caledon Central's breakfast club all year through financial donations. For the family breakfast, it sent in a team of 20 volunteers to prepare, cook, and serve pancakes, fresh fruit, juice and yogurt drinks.

The PCCC's motto is that kids should go far, not hungry, and every day at Caledon Central the breakfast club feeds over 200 students.

Caledon Central teacher Tammy Arcuri leads the school's breakfast program and works hard every day, alongside other staff members, before school begins to ensure breakfast items are ready to be served.

At the family breakfast, nearly 250 students, family members and Caledon Central staff were in attendance.

Also at the breakfast were members of the Caledon Village Association, Caledon Lions Club, Caledon Village McDonalds, and Caledon Optimist Club.

During the breakfast, Caledon Optimist Club president Susan Montgomery and director Ted Simmonds presented a \$1,000 cheque to Caledon Central to go towards outdoor equipment and games.

There were also raffle prizes at the breakfast donated by the Caledon Lions Club and Brampton Flight Centre.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of intention to designate

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

Please note, the formal Notice of Intention to Designate was issued at caledon.ca/notices on December 2, 2024.

15717 AIRPORT ROAD

The property is located on the east side of Airport Road, south of the village core of Caledon East, being Part of Lots 18 & 19, Concession 1, within the former geographic Township of Albion.

The design or physical value of the property at 15717 Airport Road is linked to its one-and-a-half storey dwelling, known as the McLeod House, a representative example of an Ontario farmhouse. Its overall massing, T-plan footprint, stone foundation, and symmetrical five-bay primary elevation are all typical of Ontario farmhouses of the mid-19th century era. Built in 1860, the house exhibits vernacular architectural influence of both the Georgian and Gothic Revival styles. The Gothic Revival style is most prominently exhibited through the principal elevation's vertically oriented windows, steep centre gable with lancet window, and painted brick detailing mimicking buff brick quoins and crosses. Its symmetry, "boxy" massing and moderately pitched side-gable roof are indicative of the Georgian style. The house's three wythe thick brick construction and dogtooth patterning under the eaves display a high degree of craftsmanship.

The property has historical value and associative value for its connection with the enduring history of agricultural settlement across the historic Township of Albion. In the 19th century, settlers established farmsteads, often set back from the concession road, with the farmhouse surrounded by orchards, cultivated fields, and agricultural outbuildings. While the cluster of farm outbuildings is no longer extant, the McLeod House's brick construction indicates the prosperity of the farm family at the time of its construction. Early families associated with the farmhouse include James Watson, who built the house in 1860, and Thomas Goodeve, who purchased the property from Watson in 1869 and remained on the property until 1901.

CONTACT

Please contact Heritage staff at heritage@caledon.ca for further information regarding the cultural heritage value and heritage attributes of this property.

RIGHT TO OBJECT

Any person may, within thirty days after publication of the formal notice, placed on December 2, 2024 at caledon.ca/notices, serve the Clerk notice of their objection to the proposed designation in accordance with the Ontario Heritage Act, setting out the reason for the objection and all relevant facts.

By email:
Kevin Klingenberg
Town Clerk
kevin.klingenberg@caledon.ca

By mail, courier or personal delivery attention:
Kevin Klingenberg, Corporate Services/Town Clerk
6311 Old Church Road
Caledon ON L7C 1J6



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Fitness pass only. Available from December 1 to December 31, 2024.

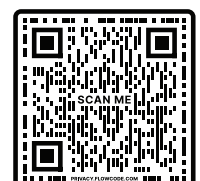
For more details, please visit caledon.ca/fitness.

Playground improvement survey



The Town of Caledon has launched 2025 Playground Improvement Surveys for several neighborhood parks across the community.

Visit haveyoursaycaledon.ca/design-our-parks to see if your local park is included this year and share your input by completing the survey!



Scan the QR code to take the survey now



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BROCK WEIR
BROCK'S BANTER

Being nimble with our giving

I don't necessarily remember the first time I picked up a ballpoint pen to set it to paper, but I do recall the first pen I had to call my own was one of those blue and white numbers that had three colours of ink to choose from – four, if you were lucky.

Those pens seemed like the height of sophistication, but, then again, that might not mean much. Around the same time, our generation placed similar esteem in Viennetta Ice Cream and exotic-sounding International Coffees!

Maybe I wielded that first pen to sign my name on a birthday or Christmas card bound for a loved one. Maybe it was a letter to Santa, sent to the furthest reaches of the north by Canada Post. But it would take until I was about seven-years-old until a specific letter-writing experience was committed to memory.

In Grade 2, we were tasked with writing a notable public figure on a potential shared interest in the hopes we might get some kind of response back. Perhaps unsurprisingly for regular readers of this column, my chosen recipient was the late Queen Elizabeth II.

The fire that devastated Windsor Castle in November of 1992 was brought under control just a few days before we received our letter-writing assignments, so this seemed like a great opening, even if under the most unfortunate of circumstances.

While I remember writing the letter, what's indelibly imprinted, however, was the day my dad came home from checking the mailbox a few weeks later with a crisply neat envelope in hand.

The first thing I noticed was a purple rubber stamp mark in the bottom left corner of the envelope bearing the cypher of "E II R" surmounted by a crown. If that wasn't excitement enough, the embossed red Coat of Arms on the reverse was just about the tipping point.

Then, there was the letter itself, which is still a treasured possession.

There was no hesitation about taking the reply, even if it was from one of the Queen's Ladies in Waiting, into school the next day and my teacher, if not my peers, were suitably impressed. I'm not sure if marks were given out for this assignment, but if there were, I can't imagine it was anything but a C.

As we get older, the trip to the mailbox is not always as exciting. We get bills, we get government notices, sometimes little communiques that get our dander up, the one bright spot now is how rarely we now receive hard copies of chain letters nowadays!

At least, that's how it is for eleven out of twelve months of the year.

Then, no matter how old we are, a little bit of that mailbox magic invariably returns.

Maybe it's a matter of anticipation waiting for a seasonal greeting from a loved one you don't hear from very often, perhaps only at this time of year.

Maybe it's a matter of receiving a bit of support from unexpected sources, if you're in need. Maybe it's even a matter of waiting for that mildly irritating family Christmas Letter from long-since-dispersed neighbours telling everyone on their mailing list what a stellar year they've had, one that the rest of us can only aspire to, while deftly sidestepping any of the bumps along the road that might crack their official facades. (And maybe I speak from experience on this one!)

Granted, there is still a generous amount of time between our press time this week and the peak of the holiday season, the lack of movement in the ongoing Canada Post strike at the

time of this writing makes the chances of a magical Christmas-By-Mail experience slimmer with each passing hour.

And this, while leaving the very real labour concerns at the heart of the dispute on the table, is unfortunate for the average Canadian.

That said, however, I have been impressed by how deftly the community has been able to sidestep a number of challenges that have come along with this labour disruption.

On Monday, for instance, I was thrilled to learn that not only was the campaign led by Aurora residents Dianne and Brian Harrison to collect Christmas and Holiday Greetings for men and women in the Canadian Armed Forces successful, but it shattered all previous records set by the couple – and the communities who support them – over their last 19 years of hard work.

Congratulations to both the Harrisons and to everyone who contributed to make this season brighter for nearly 12,000 individuals.

And, as someone who has a passion for the written word, it's always nice to see when rumours of the death of letters, cards and other traditional forms of correspondence, are proved greatly exaggerated!

While this initiative was able to continue uninterrupted despite the interruption most of the rest of the country is currently experiencing, other individuals, organizations and initiatives haven't been faring so well.

As many of the non-profits in our community rely on the postal service to keep donations and other forms of support rolling in at a time when it is most needed, it's time to find workarounds for their sake and ours.

"Holiday giving, over the months of November and December, represents a significant percentage of our annual donations," said Leslie Ring, Chief Development Officer of the Southlake Health Foundation, in a recent statement. "Southlake Health serves a large catchment area and, as a result, our donor pool is also geographically diverse. Many donors choose to mail in their gifts from across our communities at this time of year. This disruption in postal services is extremely challenging for those donors who may not be familiar with or have the access to, online ways to give. It's concerning as those donations are urgently needed to help fund equipment, technology, and space upgrades for patients and providers at Southlake."

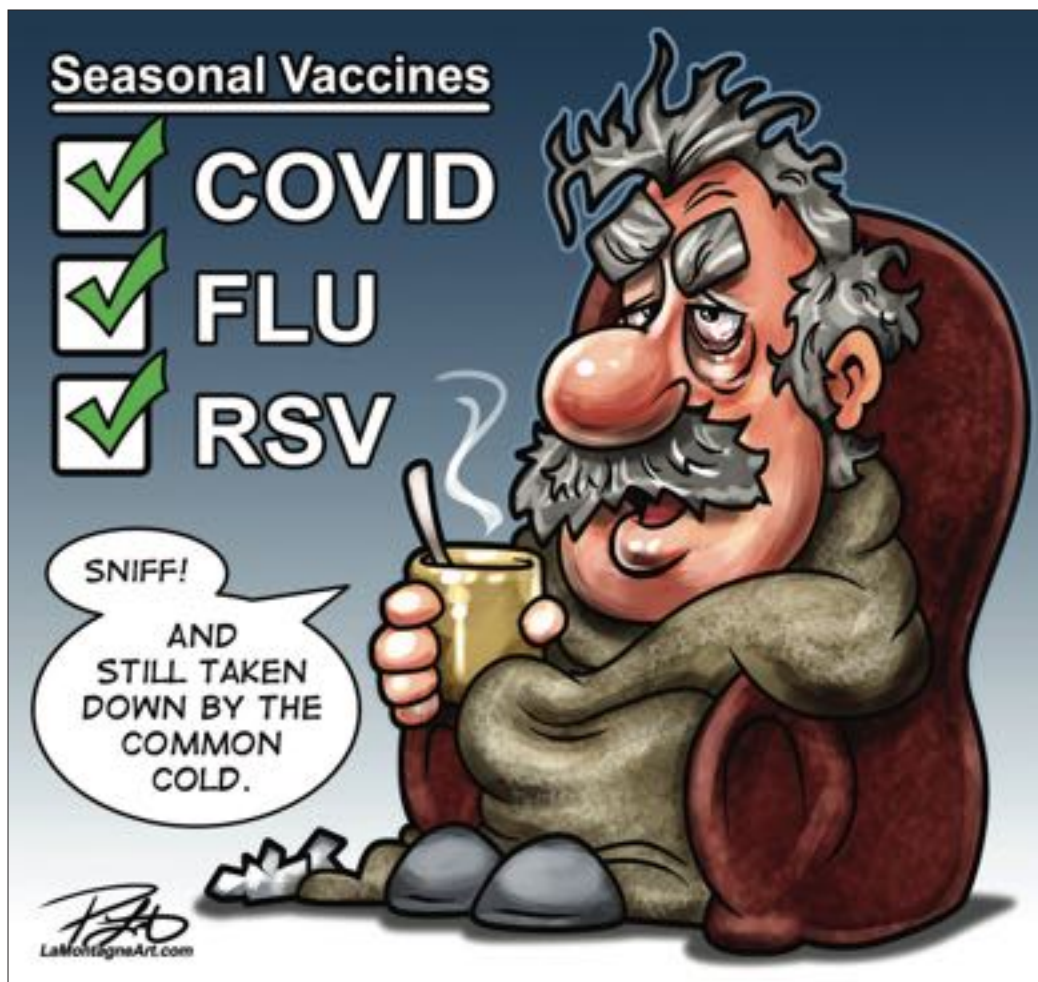
Similar outreach was offered by Healthwatters Healthcare Foundation in a statement last month, which said the strike has brought "chaos" to their end-of-year fundraising campaigns, as without mail service, their annual appeal would be going to thousands less in 2024.

But it needn't be this way – and the needs faced by our local hospitals are similar to those of countless charities and non-profits throughout our communities, regardless of who they serve and for whom they provide.

Just because an appeal hasn't landed in your mailbox, doesn't mean these funds are not needed.

As the clock ticks down to the start of a New Year, consider making online gifts through each organizations' preferred method (and don't forget to check with them on said method ahead of time); stop by a group in person with what you would ordinarily donate; or simply give them a call to see what's needed beyond the coin.

Over the last few years, we've become no strangers to pivoting – and, at this time of year, we should be nimble enough to do the same with our giving.



Holidays shouldn't be financially stressful

by Mark Pavilons



Harley Pasternak once said that "life is all about balance, and there are certain times of the year ... that are meant to be enjoyed without guilt."

They say Christmas is not a season, but a state of mind.

Well, the state of mind among our fellow Canadians is a bit depressing this year.

According to Spring Financial's annual holiday survey, Canadians are stressed out, in debt and taxed to the limit when it comes to holiday spending.

According to the survey, over half of Canadians (56%) – in particular Gen Z (66%) and millennials (64%) – find the financial strain of buying gifts as the most stressful part of the holiday season.

Another 38% of Canadians are feeling more financial stress about buying gifts this year than last year, a big increase from the 13% in 2023.

"Canadians are feeling the financial strain of holiday spending this year more than ever," shared Tyler Thielmann, President and CEO of Spring Financial. "In these tough economic times, it's encouraging to see so many people finding creative ways to avoid debt and consider alternative gift options. I hope this shift reassures those who are financially stretched that they're not alone – and that it's perfectly okay to explore meaningful, less costly ways to celebrate."

Nearly 74% of Canadians – and 79% of both Gen Z and millennials – agree they are more likely to reduce their holiday spending budget this year due to rising living costs.

Almost 31% of Canadians cannot afford to buy gifts this holiday season, this is highest among millennials (38%) and Gen Z (36%).

Half of Canadians are considering alternative gifts like homemade items or experiences, with younger generations leading the trend; Gen Z at 71% and millennials at 58%.

Though the Bank of Canada recently lowered interest rates, only 16% of Canadians feel it eased holiday financial stress.

While 75% of Canadians plan to pay off holiday debt by the end of January, 4% anticipate needing a full year.

Experts are also predicting Canadians' food bills will rise again in the new year. Many are already struggling with the cost of groceries and this won't help at all. Any token gesture by governments in the form of "rebate" cheques will be gobbled up in no time.

Some of these sentiments have filtered through our household this year.

My wife and I once again spoiled the kids, but did tone it down a bit. Her parents always spent the

same on each sibling, so we've carried that tradition, even though it can be challenging.

I mentioned, just loud enough for all to hear, that some gifts remain unopened from previous Christmases, and that irks me to no end.

I tend to be frugal – okay, cheap – but my heart is in the right place! I believe some gifts should be practical and useful. There is always a place for the silly and extravagant, but only when it doesn't break the bank.

There have been holidays when I was spent, in every way possible. And I've had my share of credit card druthers. This year, however, my wife and I avoided using our cards and instead paid as we went, sometimes going into overdraft. But that's preferable to big credit card balances come January.

My wife and I are exchanging stockings, filled to overflowing with little gifts and goodies. To be honest, I don't need anything, and I still have several unopened bottles of cologne. I have but a couple of hobbies, and my tastes are unique, meaning it's not something you can buy in any store.

We have done a lot of online shopping this year, and try to shop Canadian as much as we can.

I noticed bags and boxes on our doorstep almost every day for a month.

My wife already got a head-start on the wrapping and our tree is looking quite full this year. Yes, there will be something for our three dogs as well, even though they deserve to be on the naughty list.

My only "wish" is to be together, enjoy some quiet time, some old movies and great food. My wife asked all of us to pick our favourite films and the list is quite interesting. I can't choose between Forrest Gump and Wizard of Oz. My kids all recall with fondness Stuart Little, Chestnut and Recipe for Disaster. My wife is not a big movie fan, but does like the Night at the Museum series.

My wife and I host a Christmas Eve buffet for our extended families and this year will be no exception. It's been a tough one, not only for me, but for my in-laws, brother- and sister-in-law. All have had challenges.

While the holidays bring us all together, there's no question we are all getting older, grayer, even more frail.

So it's a bit of a Catch-22 where we are slowing down.

But that's all the more reason to count our blessings and truly cherish the time we have together. All I want to hear is laughter, jokes and tall tales.

I want to stuff myself with pot-stickers, chicken wings and cheese balls. I want to sip some aperitifs and watch the ice cubes swirl around in my glass of whisky. I want to curl up on the couch and enjoy the warmth as the cold winds blow outside.

I also want peace and calm, even though I realize with five souls in our home, squabbles are a given.

And, unlike those in the aforementioned survey, I welcome a small debt load and less financial stress.

The new year is certain to bring its challenges, but hopefully we can all face them with renewed strength and a sense of wellbeing.

My advice? Spend less, enjoy more. And yes, you can have seconds!

Our Readers Write

Conservative "bashing gets nothing done," says reader

(Re: Where is Sylvia Jones?)

The citizens of Caledon have a history of voting for the Conservative Party.

Nicola Ross would deny the democratic wishes of the majority of Caledonians in favour of their own special interests and those of the Green Party and Environmental Defence.

The continued bashing of the Conservatives and praising of those special interests with a

"two legs bad, four legs good" mentality gets nothing done. Pick a horse! If the quarry expansion by Votorantim is the issue, concentrate on that issue. If you have a laundry list of grievances, new housing, sanitary sewers, the 413, you will get nothing done.

To accomplish that you need a political party.

STEPHEN REAVE
FORKS OF THE CREDIT

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Caledon Citizen

Caledon's budget is missing something ...

At this time of year, for some local business owners or non-profits, it's budget time or "year end." For others it's thoughts of holiday shopping while on a budget that concern them, and for far too many, there's no budget at all for things like rent, food and basic necessities. For the Town of Caledon, it's also budget time, a process that evolves over several months, culminating in the presentation of a proposed annual budget put before Council for their consideration and vote. In theory, it's a process that represents the input of residents, consultation between department staff and management, and predictions of anticipated costs for the coming year. All of which implies that a level of detailed care and concern should be baked into the process. I'm not entirely sure that's what happened this year and cannot help but wonder at the glaringly obvious missing pieces of the proposed 2025 municipal budget.

To the casual observer it seems there are a litany of concerns with the proposed budget, beginning with the public survey that asked Caledon residents for their input on where and how they would like to see their tax dollars spent. While the Town obviously has no control over responses, my first concern is that only 300 or so residents chose to take part, hardly a representative number of the residents who call Caledon home. Of those who did take the time to complete the questionnaire, a large percentage commented particularly on the need to address illegal trucking yards, poor traffic safety and road infrastructure conditions, and requested significantly enhanced by-law enforcement. Very little of the budget seems to address these particular concerns however, despite the fact that the town acknowledges these issues (along with fire and emergency services) as "top priorities."

As I'm sure everyone knows, the budget is principally funded by property taxes. It also relies upon user fees and development charges as sources of funding, along with reserves and both federal and provincial grants. Regardless, it's taxpayers who are on the hook for a good portion of the town's budget, perhaps even more so now that Premier Ford has changed the way in which development charges are levied, or rather, potentially not levied at all.

So, who makes up the slack when developers aren't paying their fair share? This year's budget suggests it is you and I who will make up the shortfall by way of a 3% proposed tax increase. Actually, to be fair (although I think we are splitting hairs) more specifically, a tax increase of 2% is suggested with an additional levy of 1%. You say "toe-may-toe." I say "tah-mah-toe." One suspects we're supposed to be grateful the increase isn't higher.

Speaking of not paying their fair share, let's not forget the aggregate industry. While an aggregate levy is in place, and this year it's being transferred "to offset expenditures," is it enough? Is the aggregate levy even remotely close to the amount required to "ensure that the entire Caledon transportation network is in a good state of repair," including roads, bridges and culverts? Considering the havoc wreaked by heavily loaded trucks on Caledon roads, and that some estimates put the amount received from aggregate in 2024 at just \$400,000, that's not enough to even begin to address the physical damage (never mind the carnage) caused by the constant flow of aggregate heavy truck traffic.

Of particular concern to many, including both Councillors and residents alike, is the fact that library funding is not yet included in the budget. Libraries derive their principal source of funding from their local municipality (from development charges, for example) and historically, the library budget is included as part of the town's budget. Is the exclusion an attempt by the town to artificially keep the proposed tax increase low during the budget approval process, only to see an increase become "necessary" at some later date? The budget document itself, available online through the Town of Caledon's website would seem to suggest that is the case, wherein it states: "The Town provides funding to the (library) board via additional tax levy to residents for both operating and capital expenditures, and therefore must approve the library's budget. The library budget is presented to Council separately, for approval."

In communications received from at least one Councillor, we understand that the library is facing challenges, including wage increases as a result of pay equity initiatives that have "not been factored into the town's budget." Another Councillor planned to present an amendment to the town's budget on December 10, to urgently correct the fact that additionally, "the proposed budget does not include any funding for the library's Collections & Materials Capital Project, meaning the library would be unable to purchase any new books in 2025."

The volunteer group, Friends of the Caledon Public Library, are "deeply concerned about the potential consequences this would have on the library's services" and I have to say, I am too.

The important role that libraries play in any community, particularly one as large, rural and underserved by internet access such as ours cannot be overstated. They are not just a place for books, (for which they need funds to stay current with new reading materials) but also community hubs that help to address social isolation,

and provide access to tools, resources, education and technology for people who might not otherwise have it. They are a place for people to gather, seniors to socialize, persons experiencing homelessness or crisis to come in from the cold and in turn be directed toward additional resources. They are a place for those learning English as a second language to hone their skills. More recently, libraries are also makerspace hubs introducing children, youth and adults to new and innovative equipment they might never otherwise interact with; such as audio or video recording studios, 3D printing, laser cutting equipment and more.

To have any potential discrepancy around library funding and whether or not it forms part of the town's budget is simply not acceptable.

Finally, as is becoming increasingly understood, the Town of Caledon is facing a road safety crisis. A series of town halls across the community, the formation of the Caledon Community Road Safety Advocacy Group and the continued efforts of various community groups throughout our villages and hamlets to advocate for safer roads, less truck traffic and improved

traffic calming measures all speak to the urgent need for reform. The town, in fact, recognized that we were in crisis by recently declaring, unanimously, a road safety emergency. At the time and in this space, I called this an important first step to "direct more resources" toward the fight against illegal trucking and improving road safety. However, as one Councillor noted via email, "it appears the Mayor's budget has no money for the road safety emergency" so I guess my initial kudos was ill-timed and misplaced. This and similar issues might have been deemed important to the Caledon residents who provided feedback on the budget and/or to those who are tackling safety issues head on as a volunteer group, but clearly they are not as important to those responsible for the budget.

Sure, there's a budget, but there's a lot of missing pieces. I hope that's not going to cost us all in the long run.

SHERALYN ROMAN
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HARVEY KALLES

Theatre Orangeville's "Sleeping Beauty – A Fairy's Tale" fills Opera House with laughter

BY CONSTANCE SCRAFIELD

This year, Theatre Orangeville's Pantomime, "Sleeping Beauty - A Fairy's Tale" is very funny right away.

Gorgeous, song-filled and full of surprises, this show is on until December 21. With no video recording for future enjoyment, get your tickets now for your first, second, or third... chance to have such a good time.

In brief, the three fairies – Sophia, Merriweather and Larry – lead us through the story and provide occasional insights with the show's own musical interludes of everyone's favourite old and new songs – so cleverly, so irreverently re-written.

Traditionally, the birth of a baby girl to the king and queen of their own land sees an invitation to the local fairies to come and bless the child and Sophia, Merriweather and Larry are ready and willing.

Traditionally, the old story goes that the wicked fairy, in this case, Maleficent, is not invited, out of fear of her wickedness. Duty calls the audience to boo every time she appears and the comic that she is, Debbie Collins as Maleficent reminds us if ever we are slow to do so.

Almost true to tradition, Maleficent curses the child with a forever sleep by pricking her finger before midnight of her 18th birthday. How to conceal the child until she is safely past that dire time needs a solution.

So, Collins and David Nairn, co-playwrights of this second panto after last year's "Cinderella – if the Shoe Fits," turn Sleeping Beauty on its head and the audiences have a ball with the upset.

One way or another, there must be a prince; there should be true love but none of it is predictable. The only way to know is to come and see the show.

The sole guide fair to be offered is to follow the quirky line of music the cast sing variously along with other references woven throughout the show, touching on songs re-written from the '50s and classic music from Gilbert and Sullivan – all the way up to contemporary pop music.

This is really fun.

Andrew McGillivray is making his Theatre Orangeville debut in the role of Sophia (anyone thinking of those Golden Girls?), an outrageous Fairy Dame of generous wisdom and a strong sense of protecting the baby princess.

Christina Gordon, also here for the first time, plays the darling Merriweather, the middle Fairy, telling us stories as the story unfolds.

Ben Skipper has managed to spend his whole time here in Orangeville as he returns to Theatre Orangeville in the role of Larry the Fairy, narrator some of the time,

who instructs the audience early on as to their own role in the show – a very vibrant part of all pantos: the responses and, of course, the booing.

He is all this and Maleficent's Raven, named Diablo. A terrifying duo, to be sure.

The lovely Annika Tupper is the princess at risk of Maleficent's eventual curse but called Bella to keep her safe. All innocence at her approaching 18th birthday but who knows what traps and confusion will confront her?

Bringing the questions is William Lincoln as the local royalty, which he seems to nearly forget by his personal search for a mission. Something to do with art, he thinks.

In every way, music leads and rules this story and this is a cast of extremely talented singers. Often comical, the lyrics take liberties with the songs they mimic for high entertainment but whatever the song, the singing was simply wonderful and this writer felt one must be in any of the top popular theatres, anywhere to hear such fine voices.

Under the directorship of musical director and accompanist, Nicholas Mustapha, he provides every note they need and, in jest, suffers their jibes, as a loyal participant of Theatre Orangeville.

And David Nairn, not only as co-author, but also directing this wonderful, hilarious couple of hours of entertainment – how does he do it? Sometimes, demurring, he claims to need only keep out of the way of the highly talented actors but he cannot shy away from the stupendous skill it has taken to match the potential chaos that could happen backstage to the coherent and delightful action on stage. His mastery is all in evidence in this show. We can be sure, his hand is everywhere in the clever writing (along with Debby Collins) and the truly successful production of this rollicking and busy fantasy.

The setting for all this is once again, by designer Beckie Morris' ingenuity and love of beauty within the set, and the timing of Chris Malkowski's lighting.

One pauses to describe the costumes, which, designed and constructed with equal genius by the brilliant Wendi Speck, they at once sparkle and make us laugh; they are fabulous, whimsical and really do justice to such a great production.

This is only the second Panto at Theatre Orangeville but there are good reasons to hope Panto will continue to dazzle the holiday season's stage.

Be sure to buy tickets to this wonderful, spirited and excellent Panto show, a completely new take on a very old, well-loved story. In many ways, you may love this one better.

For more details and to buy tickets, go to www.theatreorangeville.ca You can call box office at 519-942-3423 or pop in at 87 Broadway, Orangeville.

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.

Blue Christmas Service
Because Christmas isn't always easy. Saturday December 14, 2024, 4 pm. Candles, Music, Prayers & Words for those struggling with grief and sadness. Everyone welcome.
St. James Anglican Church
6025 Old Church Rd., Caledon East.
www.stjamescaledoneast.ca
Christmas Gathering at St. Andrew's Stone Church

Sunday December 15 @ 2:30 PM, The Friends of St. Andrew's Stone Church are hosting an afternoon of old-fashioned Christmas Carols lead by our original pump organ followed by fellowship around the woodstove. All are welcome to join us at St. Andrew's Stone Church located at 17621 St. Andrew's Road, Caledon. Admission is free but donations are gratefully received.
For information call 519 927 5987.

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Cameille Clarke-Maxwell (front row, third from left) said she and her husband, Andre Maxwell (front row, fourth from left), were so happy with support for the grand opening of their restaurant, Season to the Bone. PHOTO BY ZACHARY ROMAN

Season to the Bone: New restaurant opens in Bolton

Co-owners overwhelmed with positive response to opening

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
 LOCAL JOURNALISM
 INITIATIVE REPORTER

A new restaurant serving delicious Jamaican cuisine has opened in Bolton.

On December 7, Season to the Bone, located in the Royal Courtyards in Downtown Bolton, officially opened with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Cameille Clarke-Maxwell and Andre Maxwell are co-owners of the restaurant.

The husband-and-wife duo were joined at the ribbon-cutting ceremony by friends and family, members of the Bolton business community, Caledon Chamber of Commerce, and Town of Caledon Councillors.

Clarke-Maxwell said owning her own restaurant has been a dream since childhood.

"When I cook, I am relaxed and I feel at ease," she said. "God gave me the gift of cooking... it is a passion of mine. You can taste it in my food, it is cooked with love and intensity."

Season to the Bone began as a catering

company, and it's been around for a few years in the Bolton community, dishing out good eats at community events and catering events of all sizes.

Clarke-Maxwell said she kept hearing requests for Season to the Bone to open a restaurant, and when a suitable location came up she took the jump and decided to open a physical location.

Having a grand opening ceremony for Season to the Bone was an overwhelmingly positive experience for Clarke-Maxwell.

"Bolton has been amazing to us... Bolton has a very sacred place in my heart because the welcoming has been so great and I feel so entwined in the community," she said. "All our staff are from Bolton... we try our best to be integrated with the community because if we're in the community, we have to give back to the community."

Season to the Bone works with children with special needs, and is involved with local schools for co-op programs.

Those interested in learning more about Season to the Bone can check out its website, seasontothebone.ca, or stop in at 18 King Street East, Unit M10.

"We have such a passion for our restaurant... I'm very big on community service and customer service," said Clarke-Maxwell.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL TO EXPROPRIATE LAND - FORM 2

Expropriations Act, R.R.O. 1990, Reg. 363

IN THE MATTER OF an application by The Corporation of the Town of Caledon for approval to expropriate lands in the Town of Caledon being:

ALL RIGHT TITLE AND INTEREST (FEE SIMPLE)

Part of PIN 14252-1243 (LT) legally described as Part Lot 19, Concession 1, West of Hurontario Street (Chinguacousy), designated as Parts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 Plan 43R-41681, Town of Caledon, Regional Municipality of Peel

for the municipal purposes of public recreation and natural heritage.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

that application has been made for approval to expropriate the interests herein described in the lands herein described.

Any owner of land in respect of which notice is given who desires a hearing into whether the taking of such land is fair, sound, and reasonably necessary in the achievement of the objectives of the expropriating authority shall so notify the approving authority in writing,

- (a) in the case of a registered owner, served personally or by registered mail within thirty days after the registered owner is served with the notice, or, when the registered owner is served by publication, within thirty days after the first publication of the notice;
- (b) in the case of an owner who is not a registered owner, within thirty days after the first publication of the notice.

The approving authority is
 The Council of The Corporation of the Town of Caledon
 6311 Old Church Road
 Caledon, Ontario L7C 1J6

The Corporation of the Town of Caledon
 Per:
 Annette Groves
 Mayor

The expropriating authority is
 The Corporation of the Town of Caledon
 6311 Old Church Road
 Caledon, Ontario L7C 1J6

Per:
 Kevin Klingenberg
 Municipal Clerk

Authorization Resolution No. 2024-185,
 Passed by Town of Caledon Council on
 the 22nd day of October, 2024.

Dated at Caledon, Ontario, this 29th day of
 November, 2024

This notice first published on the
 5th day of December 2024.



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U15BB Caledon Hawks hockey team collects 1,110 pounds of food items for The Exchange



U15 BB CALEDON HAWKS – (Pictured here, left to right) Nicholas Grieco #22, Ben Gulyas #12, Lucas Robinson #77, Jack Wenzel #57, George Marinelli #4, Paolo Culmone #25, Christopher Gallesse #31, Lennon Arsenaault #8, Bryan Yuan #34, Nate Heaney #18, Luca Barbuzzi #11, Nicholas Canzio #98, Ryan Marjadsingh #19. (Absent: Austin Ford #16, Thomas Torresan #88, Leo Baldassarra #27.)
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BY JIM STEWART

'Tis the Season for giving and, for the second consecutive year, the U15BB Caledon Hawks have exceeded their laudable Food Drive goal.

In keeping with the spirit of Christmas, this remarkable rep hockey team raised 1,110 lbs. of non-perishable food donations for Caledon Community Services/The Exchange in Bolton.

According to team spokesperson and sponsor coordinator Silvana Robinson, "the team's goal this year was 1,000 pounds. but they were able to exceed it through hard work and teamwork.

Last year, their goal was 500 pounds and they exceeded that by 51 pounds. The team once again came together for the community and set the bar higher because they believed in themselves that they could do better and they did."

Robinson attributed this year's impressive haul to the team's improved collection process.

"This time, they started collecting earlier, which was a prime example of chipping away at the goal with plenty of time to reach it. It has always been on their minds from June till November. Also, the team learned that during the summer months, it is a struggle to keep shelves stocked at The Exchange/Caledon Community Services. Not everyone is thinking of giving during that time of year and luckily the team's efforts made a difference in helping them through those tough months. We also designated the afternoon on Sunday, November 10, to go door-to-door and ask for donations. The players wore their uniform jerseys along with presenting a positive attitude as homeowners opened their doors. Rain aside, the boys and parents all pulled together for this giving back event. It was a team-building experience for all."

Caledon Hawks U15BB Head Coach James Marjadsingh, speaking on behalf of the coaching staff, including Ryan Gulyas, Franco Gallesse, and Paolo Baldassarra, described

the importance of this collaboration for the U15BB hockey team.

"As a coach, I cannot express enough the importance of teamwork and dedication to make things happen on the ice. They have also come together for the community off the ice."

Lisa Taylor, the Hawks' Team Manager, noted, "Having our kids in rep hockey is more than just developing their athletic abilities; it's about building character. By teaching our children how to be morally sound members of our community at an early age, we are helping them be wiser and kinder adults later on."

George Marinelli, one of the team's goals, observed that the process of collecting food for the hungry made him feel good.

"It was a good feeling to help others and even though it was raining, we still came together as a team and we were working together through tough times."

Ben Gulyas emphasized the personal and social significance of the Food Drive.

"It was good. I'm happy we did it for the community. It was a good thing to do as a team. The Exchange told us that a lot of people needed this food and it was an important thing we chose to do."

Paolo Culmone offered a succinct summation of the process and the goal of the team's food collection: "It was really cool and interesting."

Silvana Robinson made a closing impassioned pitch to Caledon Citizen readers to donate to during the Christmas season of giving: "If you are interested in donating to 'Caledon Community Services/The Exchange, you can donate canned goods and other non-perishable, shelf-stable items such as peanut butter, pasta sauces, family size almond milk/fruit juices, and jams at 55 Healey Road in Bolton or call them directly at 289-966-1715. Every little bit makes a big difference."

The players, coaches, and parents of the U15BB Caledon Hawks rep hockey team—sponsored generously by Firenza Plumbing and Heating, Sierra Excavating, Enterpris-

es Inc., Rooterworx, RCC Media Inc., Hi-Tech Concrete Cutting Inc., Charisma Travel, Smiles on Queen Dentistry, Sherwood Plumbing Supplies Inc., Drain-Tite Industries Inc., Tasios Orthodontics, ATU Local 1573, Gracious Living, and JCB Moore Equip-

ment—are congratulated heartily for their impressive half-ton haul of non-perishables during a time when food insecurity remains a pressing concern in the region of Peel. Hail to these hockey heroes for their community spirit.

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ARTICLES FOR SALE

Original Arathoon canvas for sale



For sale is "Pine on the Ridge" (Small Study) by Canadian artist David Arathoon. It was created in the 1990s and sold at a Caledon-based charity auction. Frame measures 20" by 17.25" and canvas is 11.5" by 8.5". Valued at \$450. David Arathoon has achieved national success with numerous solo and group exhibitions in many private and public galleries, such as the Hummingbird Center for the Performing Arts, Toronto. Arathoon has been instrumental in successful fundraising efforts with his original art and limited edition prints. His prints have raised over \$100,000 for various charities. Asking \$300 obo. Email mpavilons@rogers.com

ARTICLES FOR SALE

Helen Lucas original for sale - "The Holy Spirit"



For sale is a unique original painting by renowned floral artist, the late Helen Lucas. "Holy Spirit," is an original acrylic on wood frame piece that captures spirituality in a simple way, through a dove. Created in 2017. The small set of originals was meant to be printed as art cards for a church fundraiser. Only 5-6 of these doves exist (in different poses) so they are truly rare. This is the only one of its kind. Measures 19.5" by 23.5." Lucas originals are quite valuable and sought after. This is unlike anything else in her collection. "... the Holy Spirit descended in a bodily form, as a dove, upon him, and a voice came out of heaven, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased." Asking \$500. Email mpavilons@rogers.com for more.

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The Lord Dufferin Chapter IODE holds their meetings at the Lord Dufferin Centre on the 4th Tuesday of every month. We are looking for women who would like to help in the Community. Call 519-941-1865.

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OBITUARIES

STEPHANIE LAURA WEEKES

It is with extreme sadness that we announce the sudden passing of our sweet and loving daughter Stephanie on Tuesday November 26, 2024 at the age of 9. Daughter of Deanna Flemming & Steven Weekes, little sister to Aiden. Cherished granddaughter of Dorothy and the late Roy, Wendy and Gordon. Stephanie will be deeply missed by many aunts, uncles, cousins, our dog Storm, whom she affectionately called "Doopa" and her very special best friend River.



Stephanie was always so happy. She was so affectionate with everyone she loved, and always asks for kisses. "Need kiss" is her favourite phrase on her tablet. She loves cows, llamas, owls, unicorns and dandelions. Her favourite colours were yellow and orange we ask if everyone who is coming to her visitation to wear yellow or orange.

Visitation was held on Thursday December 5, 2024 from 5pm-7pm at Nicholls Funeral Home - 330 Midland Ave, Midland Ontario 705-996-5016.



JAMES (JIM) DAVID THOMPSON

Passed away suddenly in his 72nd year with his beloved daughters and wife by his side on Wednesday, November 27, 2024 at the University Hospital in London.



He will be dearly missed by his wife Linda, daughters Mary Thompson and Melanie Hennessey (Hugh), loving grandchildren Daylin and Lacey Parker, Summer Champagne, and Claire and Noah Hennessey. He was predeceased by his parents Melville and Myrtle Thompson, brother John Thompson and sister Joyce Breeze (Don) and survived by his sisters Jean Playter and June Benedict (Frank). Jim was raised on a farm outside of Owen Sound, which influenced his love for all animals, especially Clydesdale horses. Jim had many passions that he was often preoccupied with throughout his life such as his love for trucks, classic cars, country music and hockey. Jim began his career working in gravel pits and drove trucks for many years in Orangeville and surrounding areas, in addition to doing winter road maintenance for the County of Dufferin and Town of Mono. When his daughters were growing up, he enjoyed taking them to hockey games, the skating rink, tobogganing hill and the quarry where he worked to show off his truck and let them climb the huge gravel piles. Jim's marriage to Linda was nothing short of genuine love and devotion to each other for 48 years. They were best friends and did everything together. He enjoyed the simple things in life every day, like taking walks, reading the newspaper and watching western shows and movies. As per his request, cremation has taken place, and there will be no visitation or service. Arrangements have been entrusted with Hill & Robinson Funeral Home & Cremation Centre, 30 Nelson St., Brantford, 519-752-2543. If desired, donations to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada would be appreciated by the family. Condolences, donations and tributes are available at www.hillandrobinson.com.



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WILSON ROBERT STILL

Peacefully at the Avalon Care Centre, Orangeville on Friday, December 6th, 2024 at the age of 98. Wilson was the son of the late Alexander Still and Margaret Bagnell. Beloved husband of 40 years to the late Doreen Ruth Deverell (2013). Dear father of Hugh and his wife Peggy & David and his wife Lenore. Cherished grandfather of Matthew and Robert. Predeceased by Helen Dolson (2023) mother of Hugh and David. Wilson will also be greatly missed by other relatives and friends.



Graveside service will be held in the spring at St. Johns Cemetery - 7th Line, Mono.

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



The Palgrave Children's Choir brought smiles to all at the annual Palgrave tree lighting event. PHOTO BY ZACHARY ROMAN

Palgrave community gathers for tree lighting ceremony

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Palgrave residents celebrated together at their annual tree-lighting ceremony last Saturday.

Shortly after 5:30 p.m. on December 7, Palgrave residents gathered at Stationlands Park for the ceremony.

The Palgrave Children's Choir warmed

hearts singing Christmas carols before the tree was officially lit for the season.

There were tons of activities for kids like a bouncy castle, crafts, and pictures with Santa.

The Rotary Club of Palgrave was on hand at the event serving up hot chocolate, hot apple cider, popcorn and hot dogs.

Over 100 people attended the event and enjoyed spending time with friends, family and neighbours.

Christmas cheer at Bolton Santa Claus Parade

Bolton Kin hosted parade last Saturday

BY ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Santa Claus made a special visit to Bolton last weekend.

On December 7, the Bolton Kin hosted the annual Bolton Santa Claus parade. It began on Highway 50 at Queensgate Boulevard and proceeded north on 50 through downtown Bolton.

There were many amazing floats and bands in the parade, which lasted over an hour and brought large crowds out to Bolton. The downtown core was buzzing with excitement.

Bolton Kin volunteer John Stegeman told The Citizen before the parade that community

parades are amazing because so many kids and community groups can be involved. The Bolton Kin are always proud of how many bands they bring to their parade; this year there were 11.

"Thanks to all the bands, community groups and businesses who participated in the parade," reads a Bolton Kin social media post. "Santa was impressed with the music and floats and says he will be back in Bolton real soon."



Headwaters receives \$67,000 from various Lions Clubs

BY PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Headwaters Health Care Foundation (HHCF) purchased two new pieces of medical equipment for the local hospital after receiving a donation from the region's Lions Clubs.

The fundraising organization for Headwaters Health Care Centre announced in a press release on Tuesday that they had been gifted a donation of over \$67,000 from the Lions Clubs of Orangeville, Grand Valley, Shelburne as well as Lions Clubs International Foundation and the Lions Club of District A-9.

The money from the donation was used to purchase a Bookwalter Retractor Set and Prostatectomy Instrumentation.

"This grant will make a huge difference to the level of care provided at Headwaters Health Care Centre, expanding our services to include care for patients who need prostate surgery," said K.C Carruthers, CEO of HHCF.

According to Headwaters Hospital, there have been 237 patients within Headwater's catchment area who have undergone radical prostatectomy procedures at other hospitals over the past five years.

Most commonly patients are sent to University Health Network in Toronto, followed by William Osler Health System in Brampton and St. Joseph's Health Care in Hamilton.

"The Bookwalter Retractor Set and Prostatectomy Instrumentation will allow surgeons at Headwaters to perform surgeries on individuals with prostate cancer," explained Dr. Shreyas Gandhi, Chief of Urology at Headwaters. "Prior to this gift, we were unable to offer this procedure to patients at our hospital, instead we would send them to hospitals outside of the region. Funding this equipment will improve care for patients by expediting cancer care and reducing systemic pressures through a reduced need to transfer patients to distant hospitals with long surgical wait times."

The local Lions Clubs have supported Headwaters Health Care Centre for over 20 years and have gifted more than \$400,000.

The purchase of the two pieces of medical equipment was supported in large part by funds donated by the Orangeville Lions' TV Bingo. The project was spearheaded by long-time Orangeville Lions member Dan Roach and Lions Past District Governor Wally Pugh in conjunction with Lions Clubs International Foundation.

"As an Orangeville Lion and member of our community, I am extremely proud of the relationship our club and Lions Clubs International Foundation have had in supporting Headwaters Health Care Foundation since its inception," said Roach. "I am also proud of our community for supporting the Orangeville Lions TV Bingo, which allowed us to contribute \$20,000 towards this project. I truly believe Headwaters Health Care Centre touches all of us in the community at some point."

To learn more about the Lions Club or to donate, visit www.lionsclubs.org. For more information about Headwaters Health Care Foundation or to donate, visit www.hhcfoundation.com.

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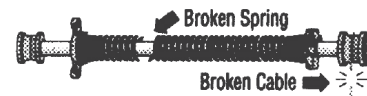
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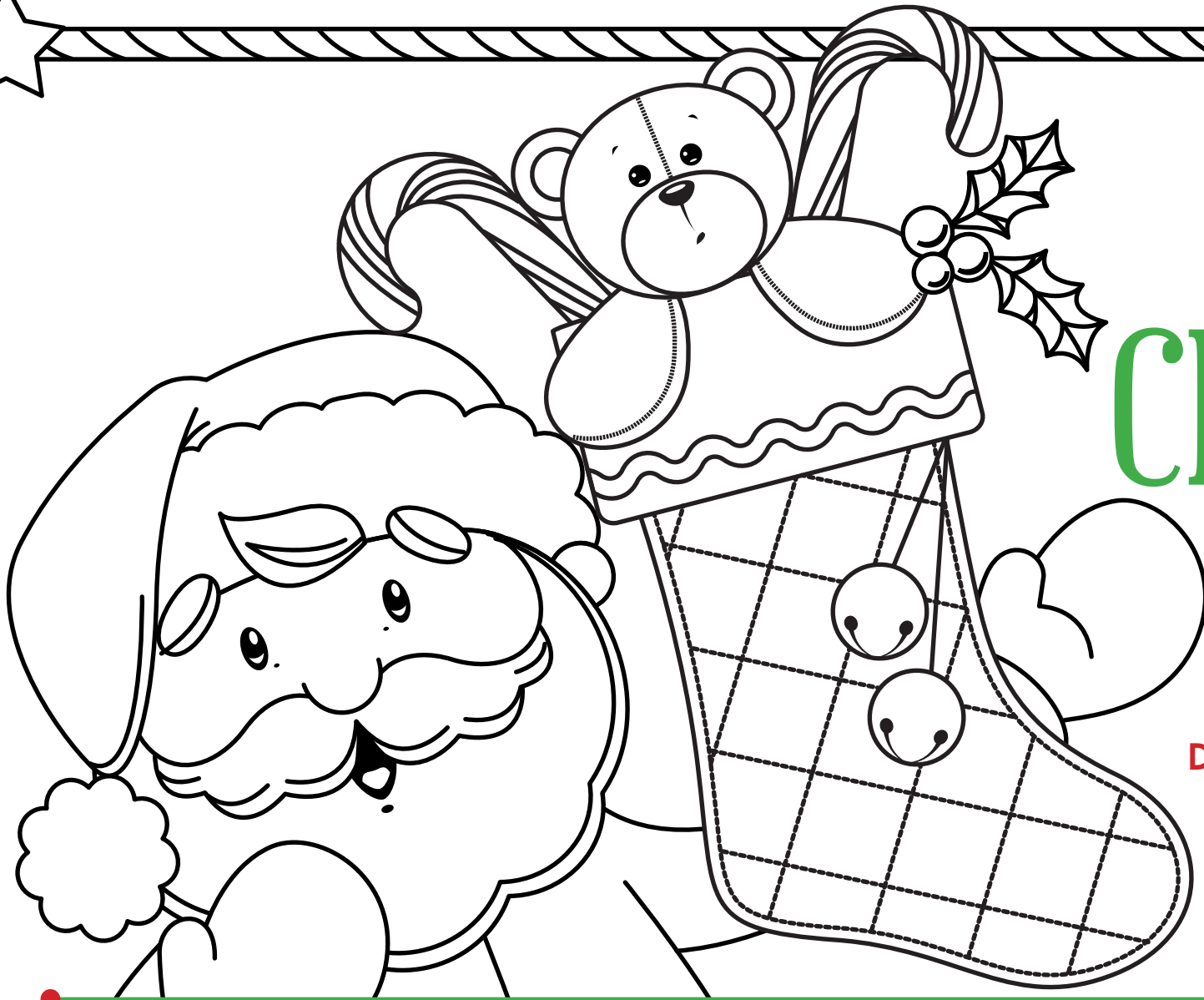
- ✓ Change Your Furnace Filter Regularly
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FENECH DESIGNS

Season's Greetings 2024



CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

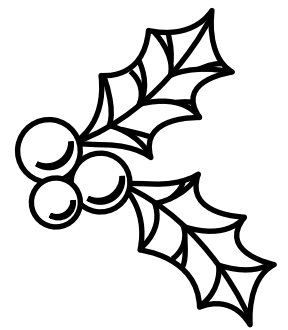
Solve the code to discover the phrase related to Christmas decorating. Each number corresponds to a letter.

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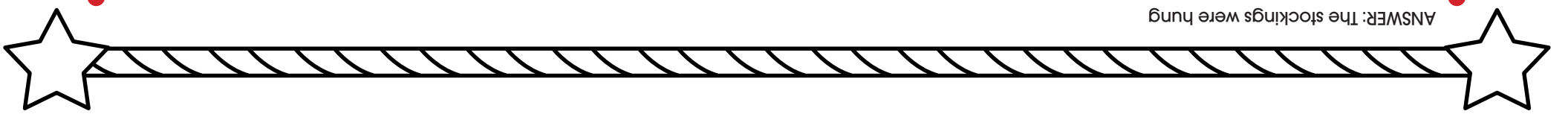


9 6 20 5 9 15 23 16 11 12 7

25 20 2 20 6 17 12 7



ANSWER: The stockings were hung



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Season's Greetings 2024

Get creative with holiday decor



These decorative items add a lot to holiday festivities

It's easy to recognize the holiday season has arrived. Holiday-centric sights and sounds abound this time of year. In fact, the arrival of decorations in stores seemingly comes earlier and earlier each year, perhaps to accommodate people's undying enthusiasm for the holiday season.

Decorating a home or business for the holidays involves some familiar items, but this is a time of year when people can truly make the holidays their own. With that in mind, here are some considerations for decorations and other trinkets that can add a lot of cheer to this already festive time of year.

★**Wreaths:** Wreaths are one of the simplest ways to dress up windows, doors or other areas of a home. These decorative items can be made from various materials. Evergreen boughs are one of the more traditional, but there's also colourful garlands, flowers or even ribbon that can be wrapped to make a wreath.

★**Lights:** Lights are integral parts of both Christian and Jewish holiday celebrations. Lights adorn homes to represent Christ being the Light of the World. In Judaism, the lighting of eight candles for Chanukah represents how a small amount of Temple oil miraculously burned for eight days and nights. Filling a home with artificial lights or candles adds a festive touch to dark winter evenings.

★**Poinsettias:** Poinsettias come in a variety of colours, but red is the hue of choice for holiday decorating. Perhaps surprisingly, poinsettias are tropical plants. The "flowers" you see on the plants aren't flowers at all. They're modified leaves called bracts. If you take good care of poinsettias, they even can be planted outdoors for the summer.

★**Boughs and branches:** One of the easiest ways to add a festive touch to a home for the holidays is with items that likely can be scavenged from outdoors. Take a hike and gather some evergreen boughs, tree branches, pine cones, and holly sprigs, which can be turned into garlands, wreaths or centrepieces. With a little white speckle paint, you can give them a snow-covered look.

Decorating for the holidays is a popular tradition and one that can make spaces even more festive to enjoy. Various items can enhance the ambiance and set the scene for the joyous weeks to come.

The end of the year is upon us and that often involves decorating a home in its holiday finest. Everyone has a different vision of a well-appointed holiday home, but there's always room to make things more unique and creative. These ideas can add a little extra to holiday displays.

Decorate other rooms

Who says holiday decorating is exclusive to living and dining areas? Think about decorating unexpected places, like swapping out everyday towels and shower curtains with something festive. Swags of greenery wrapped in lights can be added to bed frames.

Coordinate the ornaments

Identify a colour theme and then showcase it with ornaments. Think about matching the ornaments to the presents wrapped under the tree as well. Purchase white package paper and colour or paint the paper to be the same hues as the ornaments on the tree boughs.

It's hip to be square

While round wreaths are traditional, make your own wreaths in a different geometric shape by using wire or another material as the frame. Square wreaths may

be unexpected, and you also can turn the square on its side for a diamond shape.

Add a spot of colour

Certain holidays are known for their particular colour palettes, such as red and green for Christmas. But you also can do something unexpected. Whether using a lighter shade of the same colour family or adding an accent colour like purple or blue, you can change things up in a creative way.

Make an unexpected bouquet

Swap flowers for pine cones, berries and greenery in unique vessels. For example, arrange your centerpiece in a tall fountain glass or even a cocktail shaker.

Try a different accent tree

Use a styrofoam cone as the base of a tree for a centerpiece or sideboard. Attach poinsettia branches

for a vibrant red tree, or stacked lemons or oranges filled with greenery for a fresh-smelling citrus creation.

Suspend belief

Instead of attaching a tree topper to the tallest bough, hang one from the ceiling just above the tree to add even more whimsy.

Mix and match

When it comes to a holiday table, mix and match table settings for an eclectic tableau.

Shift into neutral

Instead of a large holiday display in familiar colours, rely on neutral, wintry tones that will blend in with the home but add a festive touch. Natural wood, whites and creams, and muted greens can fill spaces. Unique holiday decorations and schemes can be a great way to add new life to a home this December.



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Christmas has come upon us once again, we are very grateful to have clients like you, it is a pleasure doing business with you and your entire family.

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Automotive Maintenance would like to extend along with you, our sincere thanks and gratitude for all the loving care the staff at Caledon Exchange, Bethell and Hill House Hospices give to the residents.

May Christmas and the coming new year bring you and your entire family happiness and health.

Sincerely

*John and Staff
at Automotive Maintenance*






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Games add another layer of levity to holiday celebrations

The holidays bring together friends, neighbours and family members to celebrate some of the most festive days of the year.

Although celebrants often incorporate traditions they hold dear this time of year, downtime provides an opportunity to embrace new games and entertainment ideas as well.

The following are some fun games to play this holiday season that can help to break the ice and keep everyone laughing.

Reindeer Games

Everyone knows that Rudolph wanted to have fun and participate in "reindeer games," but he was left on the sidelines. Inspired by the tune, everyone can participate in reindeer games at your home. These types of games can include tests of endurance and dexterity, like fruitcake-eating contests, running races or doing hurdle competitions in the yard.

Candy Cane Home Runs

Participants can see how well they can launch a marshmallow into the outfield by hitting it with a candy cane taking the place of the baseball bat. Each participant gets three swings. The person with the most home runs wins.

Guess the Gift

In this game, party hosts wrap up five oddly shaped gifts specifically for the game (the gifts may be oddly shaped or just the wrapping as a decoy). Players take turns trying to guess what is inside and mark down their answers on sheets. One by one the gifts are revealed. If anyone guesses the gift, it is given as a prize. If more than one person guesses a gift, come up with a fun way to break the tie, such as rock, paper, scissors or thumb wrestling.



Holiday Karaoke

Singing traditional carols and popular holiday tunes is not uncommon come December. In this competitive version of karaoke, singers have to keep on singing, even when the lyrics get turned off or covered to test their true knowledge of these songs.

Present Stackers

This requires keeping a collection of oddly shaped gifts at the ready. Game participants try to stack the presents as tall as they can without them toppling over.

Fishing for Fun

Hang strings on the straight ends of candy canes to fashion fishing poles, with the curved ends serving as the "hooks." Participants try to "fish" smaller candy canes out of a bowl and see how many they can reel in.

The "No L" Game

The game referee has a list of a few categories (i.e., food, sports, colours, cars, etc.) and players are split into a few teams. When the category is called, the teams have to jot down as many words as they

can pertaining to the category that do not have a letter "L" in them before a timer runs out.

These are just a few festive ways to have fun with friends or family members during holiday gatherings.



No matter how you say it...

**Merry Christmas, Joyeux Noel,
Feliz Navidad, Buon Natale,
Happy Hanukkah, Happy Kwanzaa**

Wishing you and your family
a safe and happy holidays

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Season's Greetings 2024

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 Et Happy New Year!*



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Season's Greetings 2024

Fun ways to make Christmas Eve even more special for kids

Parents know that nothing quite matches the excitement young children feel on Christmas Eve. On the day before Christmas, youngsters anxiously anticipate the arrival of Santa Claus that evening, and are perhaps even more excited by the prospects of the following morning, when they'll race into the living room and discover all that the jolly old elf left behind.

Christmas Eve seems to have some built-in magical components, but there are a handful of ways parents can make the day even more special for children.

Track the big guy's movements online

The North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) and its predecessor, the Continental Air Defense Command (CONAD), has tracked Santa's Christmas Eve flight for more than 60 years. Beginning on Christmas Eve, families can track Santa's movements across the globe at Noradsanta.org. Kids can visit the site to see where Santa is at any given moment on Christmas Eve, growing more excited as the big fella gets closer and closer to their own region.

Create a Christmas Eve craft

Gather children and their cousins and/or friends to create a special Christmas Eve craft or decoration that can be displayed next year. This is a great way to channel youngsters' nervous Christmas Eve energy into something productive, and it can make for a great tradition families can continue even after kids are grown.

Watch a favourite Christmas movie

Hollywood has never shied away from holiday fare, so there's no shortage of festive films to enjoy with youngsters on Christmas Eve. Enjoy a classic like the 1947 film "Miracle on 34th Street" starring Natalie Wood as the adorable "Susan Walker" and Edmund Gwenn as "Kris Kringle," or go with something more recent, such as "The Grinch," the 2018 adaptation of the Dr. Seuss book *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*.

Take a nighttime stroll or drive to see the lights

Lighting displays are another component that makes the holiday season so special. After Christmas Eve dinner, take a stroll through your neighbourhood to see the lighting displays or climb into the car to take in a different neighbourhood's offerings if you're already familiar with those in your own neck of the woods.

Fun books to read to children this holiday season

The holiday season is a special time of year for people of all ages, but children might be the most enthusiastic celebrants come December. Children spend much of the holiday season anticipating the arrival of the man in the red suit, and that enthusiasm can be contagious.

Families have their own unique traditions during the holiday season, but one popular way to harness kids' enthusiasm between Thanksgiving and Christmas Day is to read them holiday stories. There's no shortage of great holiday books for kids, but here are a handful that kids may remember well into adulthood.

★ "The Polar Express," by Chris Van Allsburg: The beloved tale is the story of a young boy who boards a mysterious train bound for the North Pole.

★ "The Littlest Elf," by Brandi Dougherty: Part of a series, this story focuses on a tiny elf named Oliver and a series of misadventures as he navigates his way through Santa's workshop.

★ "Olive, the Other Reindeer," by Vivian Walsh: Olive is no ordinary reindeer. In fact, Olive is a dog who heads to the North Pole believing she is a reindeer. Her decision to join Santa's team ultimately benefits the big man and his trusty reindeer.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Warmest wishes for a wonderful holiday season with family and friends and all the best for the New Year!



Mayor Annette Groves and Members of Council



Season's Greetings 2024



★“The Miracle of the First Poinsettia: A Mexican Christmas Story,” by Joanne Oppenheim: A little girl named Juanita is the star of this retelling of a traditional Mexican tale with a valuable lesson.

★“Gingerbread Mouse: A Christmas Holiday Book for Kids,” by Katy Bratun: A fallen tree branch almost ruins Christmas for Mouse, whose determination and resourcefulness mixed in with a little Christmas magic ensures she finds a place to call home in time for the holidays.

★“A Night in Santa’s Great Big Bag,” by Kristin Kladstrup: Santa saves the day in this tale starring a young boy’s favourite stuffed animal, whose excitement for Christmas compels him to climb into Santa’s big bag of presents on Christmas Eve.

★“Santa Claus and the Three Bears,” by Maria Modugno: This twist on the popular tale “Goldilocks and the Three Bears” finds three unsuspecting bears encountering a familiar fellow in a red suit upon returning home after a nighttime walk.

★“’Twas the Night Before Christmas: Edited by Santa Claus for the Benefit of Children of the 21st Century,” by Clement C. Moore: Parents will appreciate this updated version of the popular tale that, among other things, has removed the reference to Santa smoking.

★“How the Grinch Stole Christmas!” by Dr. Seuss: Children can join generations of fans that came before them as they hear the redemption story of the Grinch who was once determined to ruin Christmas for the happy people of Who-ville.

★“The Nutcracker,” by the New York City Ballet: The classic story is retold based on famed choreographer George Balanchine’s production.

The holiday season is steeped in tradition. Reading new and classic holiday stories to children is one tradition any family can embrace.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

WISHING YOU ALL THE BEST THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.



Stan Cameron

Caledon Trustee on the Peel District School Board

905-880-1162

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Merry CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

From **Ricardo Aldrey**

ProRealty 905.454.1100



As we celebrate this festive season, we want to thank you for being a cherished part of our community. May your holidays be filled with joy, laughter, and the warmth of loved ones.

Wishing you a happy, healthy, and safe holiday season. May the New Year bring you peace, happiness, and countless moments of joy.

Take care, stay safe, and we look forward to welcoming you in 2025!

New Year, New You!

Kick off 2025 with a fresh start at Caledon Seniors Centre! After the indulgence of the holiday season, there’s no better time to focus on your health and wellness.

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WINTER PROGRAM SCHEDULE 2024

ACTIVITY	DAY	ROOM	TIME
EXERCISES with CLARE	MONDAY	NURDEN/ZOOM	9:30 AM
CARPET BOWLING	MONDAY	PATTERSON	10:00 AM
CHAIR YOGA WITH CLARE	MONDAY	NURDEN	10:45 AM
LUNCH (Sit in or take out)	MONDAY	EGAN	12:00 PM
THE SINGERS	MONDAY	NURDEN	1:00 PM
WOOD CARVING	MONDAY	BOB SMITH	1:00 PM
INK DRAWING with OIL ROUGING	MONDAY	EGAN	1 - 3 PM
BID EUCHRE	MONDAY	PATTERSON	6:30 PM
NEW PASITO DANCE CLASS	MONDAY	NURDEN	7:00 PM
TABLE TENNIS	TUESDAY	PATTERSON	8:30 AM
BEGINNER TAI CHI	TUESDAY	NURDEN	9:00 AM
TAI CHI	TUESDAY	NURDEN	9:55 AM
CARDIO STRENGTH CLASS WITH CLARE	TUESDAY	BOB SMITH	9:30 AM
LINE DANCING WITH HOPE	TUESDAY	NURDEN	11:05 AM
PANINI LUNCH – Registration Required	TUESDAY	EGAN	12:00 PM
BRIDGE	TUESDAY	PATTERSON	12:30 PM
OH HELL	TUESDAY	BOB SMITH	1:00 PM
TRICKSTER EUCHRE	TUESDAY	VIRTUAL	1:00 PM
EXERCISES WITH CHERYL	WEDNESDAY	NURDEN/ZOOM	9:00 AM
KNITTING, BID EUCHRE, WII GAMES	WEDNESDAY	EGAN	9:30 AM
TRICKSTER OH HELL	WED. & FRI.	VIRTUAL	10:30 AM
BOOK CLUB	WEDNESDAY	BOB SMITH	11:00 AM
LUNCH (Sit in or take out)	WEDNESDAY	EGAN	12 NOON
ZUMBA GOLD WITH SORAYA	WEDNESDAY	NURDEN	12:30 PM
BINGO & PHONE BINGO	WEDNESDAY	BOB SMITH	1:00 PM
HOMEMADE JAM & SONG	WEDNESDAY	PATTERSON	1:30 PM
NEW!! CHRISTMAS MOVIE!!	WEDNESDAY	EGAN	2:00 PM
NORDIC POLE WALKING	THURSDAY	LOBBY	9:00 AM
MEDITATION WITH ISIS	THURSDAY	BOB SMITH	10:00 AM
CHAIR YOGA WITH CLARE	THURSDAY	NURDEN	10:45 AM
LUNCH (Sit-in Only)	THURSDAY	EGAN	12:00 PM
EUCHRE	THURSDAY	PATTERSON	1:00 PM
PAINTING CLASSES	THURSDAY	BOB SMITH	1:30 PM
EXERCISES WITH SORAYA	FRIDAY	NURDEN/ZOOM	9:30 AM
TECH 1:1 INSTRUCTION	FRIDAY	EGAN	9:00 AM
COMPUTER CLASS	FRIDAY	EGAN	10:15 AM
IPAD/TABLET CLASS	FRIDAY	EGAN	11:15 AM
NEW !! ZUMBA DANCE CLASS	FRIDAY	CALEDON EAST	11:15 AM
CHROME BOOK CLASS	FRIDAY	EGAN	1:00 PM
DARTS & POOL	FRIDAY	BOB SMITH	1:00 pm
EUCHRE	FRIDAY	PATTERSON	7:00 PM
SATURDAY NIGHT SOCIAL	SATURDAY	EGAN	6:00 PM

Programs resume after the holiday season the week of January 6th. For more information call 905.951.6114



SATELLITE ACTIVITIES

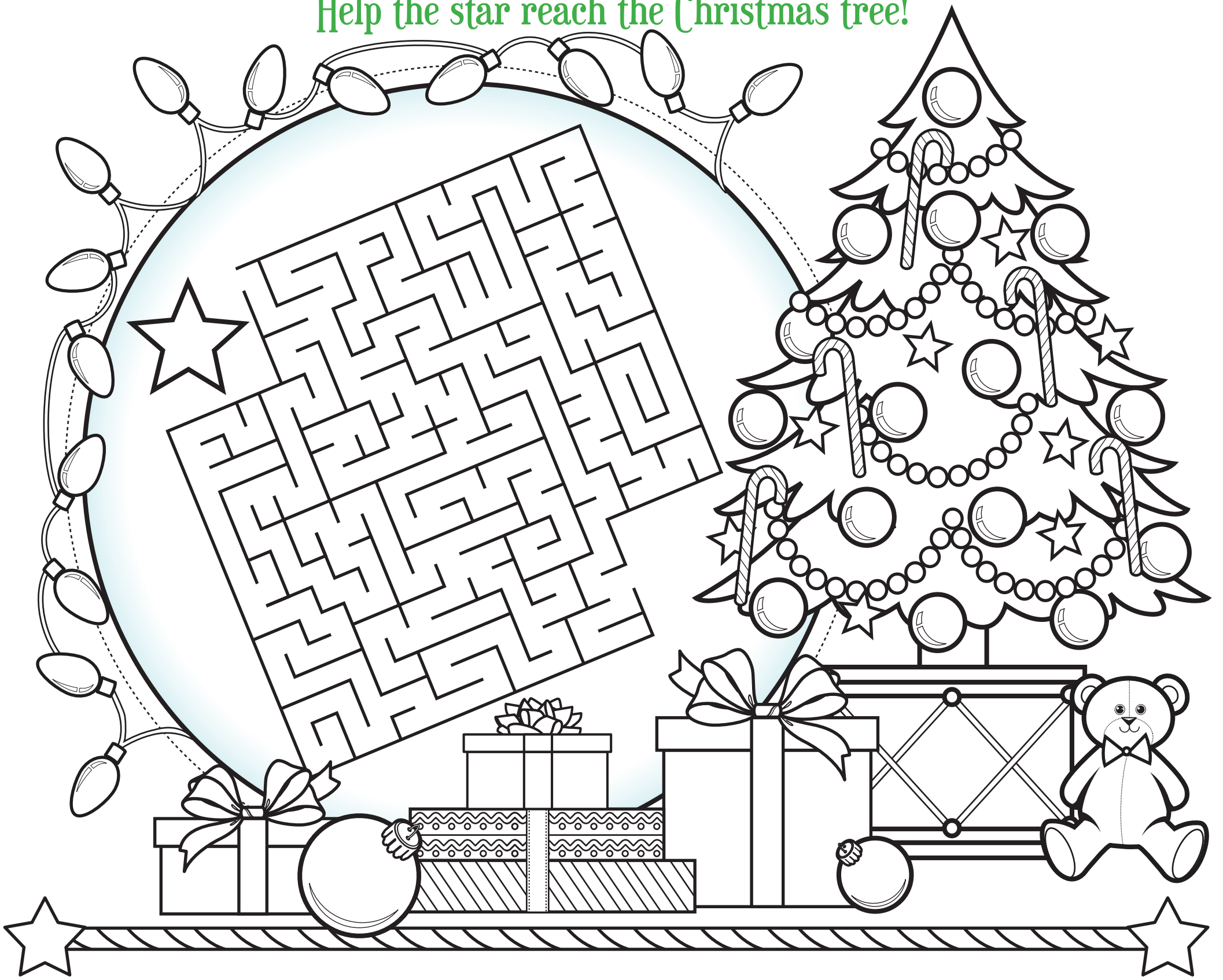
SATELLITE ACTIVITIES	DAY	PLACE	TIME
EXERCISES/GAMES/LUNCH	MONDAY	C/E COMMUNITY COMPLEX	9:00 – 3:00
SOCIALIZING/GAMES/LUNCH	TUESDAY	CALEDON VILLAGE PLACE	9:30 – 2:30
EXERCISES/REFRESHMENTS	WEDNESDAY	C/E COMMUNITY COMPLEX	9:30 – 11:00
SOUTH ASIAN SOCIAL	WEDNESDAY	SOUTHFIELDS REC. CENTRE	11:00 – 2:00
SOUTH ASIAN SOCIAL “NEW”	THURSDAYS	CALEDON EAST	Starting January 16, 2025
EXERCISES/REFRESHMENTS	THURSDAY	MARGARET DUNN VALLEYWOOD	11:00 – 1:00
NEW! - ZUMBA DANCE CLASS	FRIDAY	C/E COMMUNITY COMPLEX	11:15 – 12:15
EXERCISES/REFRESHMENTS	FRIDAY	INGLEWOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE	11:00 – 1:00

Exciting trips are planned for 2025. Adventure awaits! Stay tuned for memorable trips with the Caledon Seniors Centre.

Season's Greetings 2024

HOLIDAY MAZE

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Season's Greetings 2024

Indulge in food and family fun this holiday season

Families have their own unique holiday traditions, and such customs help to make this time of year so special.

Baking together as a family is a popular holiday tradition that rewards everyone with some tasty treats after a fun-filled day in the kitchen.

Incorporating a holiday theme into baked goods can add to the fun factor, particularly for children. Families looking to mix fun and food this holiday season can try their hands at this recipe for "Chocolate Reindeer Cupcakes" courtesy of Lines+Angles.



Chocolate Reindeer Cupcakes

Makes 12 servings ★ Preparation time: 40 minutes ★ Cooking time: 25 minutes ★ Total time: 1 hour, 5 minutes ★ Difficulty: Medium

Ingredients:

FOR CHOCOLATE CUPCAKES:

2/3 cup butter, softened
3/4 cup superfine sugar
3 eggs
1 1/2 cups self-rising flour
2 tbsp cocoa powder

FOR CHOCOLATE FROSTING:

3/4 cup butter, softened
3 1/3 cups confectioners' sugar
7/8 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
1 tsp vanilla extract
4 - 6 tbsp milk

FOR DECORATIONS:

12 sets candy eyes
12 red gumdrops
1 cup semisweet chocolate chips

Directions:

FOR CHOCOLATE CUPCAKES:

1. Preheat the oven to 375 F. Line muffin tin wells with 12 paper cupcake liners.
2. In a large mixing bowl, using an electric mixer, cream butter and sugar together until light and fluffy. Add the eggs one at a time, beating after each addition. Gradually add flour and cocoa powder, mixing until all ingredients are incorporated.
3. Spoon the batter into the paper liners. Bake for 20 to 25 minutes, or until tops are springy to the touch. Cool in the pan on a wire rack for 10 minutes. Remove cupcakes from pan and allow to cool completely before decorating.

FOR CHOCOLATE FROSTING:

1. In a large bowl, cream butter until light and fluffy. Gradually beat in confectioners' sugar, cocoa and vanilla. Add milk one tablespoon at a time until frosting reaches the desired consistency. Frost each cupcake using an offset spatula.

TO DECORATE:

1. Arrange candied eyes and gumdrop nose on frosted cupcake.
2. Melt semisweet chocolate in a heatproof bowl set over a pan of simmering water. Cool slightly, and transfer to a pastry bag fitted with

small plain round tip. Pipe antlers with chocolate on parchment or waxed paper; place in the refrigerator or freezer and allow to set.

3. Once the chocolate has set, carefully remove antlers from paper and insert in cupcake. Serve.



Make holiday crafting a family affair

Families gather frequently during the holiday season as everyone enjoys the feasts and festivities that are synonymous with this time of year. Families often bake and decorate together, as these activities are inclusive of people of all ages.

This time of year also is one for dabbling in creative pursuits. Now is a prime opportunity to bond with children over a table full of paint, glue, beads, and other crafty supplies. The crafts made during the holidays often become cherished mementos that will be regarded fondly for years to come. Here are some ideas to inspire holiday creativity.

Snowman family

Handprint crafts are popular among children. Adults and children can dip their hands into washable white paint and make a handprint stamp on

a small canvas, wooden palette or even a terracotta flowerpot. Decorate the white fingerprints with black dots to look like the faces of the snowmen and paint on top hats and scarves. In the years to come, artists can marvel at how small their hand prints once were.

Wine cork reindeer

Repurpose wine corks by crafting adorable little reindeer. Two corks make up the head and the body, and four vertically will comprise the feet. Stick on googly eyes, and add a small red or black bead for the nose. Pipe cleaners can be bent to form the reindeer's antlers.

Family garlands

This craft also makes use of handprints. Ask all family members to trace their handprints on different colours of construction paper or card stock. Cut out all of the paper hands, punch holes in the tops and then string a ribbon through. Decorate the Christmas tree or a mantle with this garland.

Miniature Christmas trees

Paint the tips of gathered pine cones with green paint and allow to dry. Add white glitter or paint as "snow." Glue the pine cones to wine corks that will serve as the tree trunks, and attach a small wooden star to the top of the trees for the finishing touch.

Decoupage ornaments

Purchase wooden or plastic ball ornaments. Cover with small scraps of cut fabric or paper dipped in craft glue or Mod Podge, and attach to the ornament in an overlapping fashion. Remember to add a string from which the ornament can be hung on the tree. Allow to dry completely before use.

Paper chain Advent calendar

Cut strips of paper to make a link for every day of Advent. Advent begins on Sunday, December 1, 2024, and lasts until Christmas. The top link can be any design artists prefer, but those who need a little inspiration can consider a religious symbol, the face of a reindeer, a snowman, or a Christmas tree. Hang



the chain and then children can take turns ripping off a link from the bottom each day as they count down to the holiday.

Popsicle stick snowflakes

Paint four popsicle sticks per snowflake in desired colours. Decorate with glue, pompoms, beads, or other trinkets. Add small looped strings to hang the ornaments.

Parents, grandparents and children can have fun crafting holiday decorations this December.

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Craft an edible HOLIDAY classic from the comforts of home

Symbolism features prominently throughout the holiday season. When walking around in December, or even earlier, individuals can't help but notice lighting displays, decked out Christmas trees in town centres and other symbols that are synonymous with the holiday season.

Gingerbread houses may or may not be on public display, but these impressive constructions are yet another notable sign that the holiday season has arrived. As families prepare to celebrate the holiday season, they can work together to create this impressive, and edible, "Gingerbread House" courtesy of Lines+Angles.

Ginger Bread House

Ingredients:

FOR THE HOUSE:

- 3 1/4 cups all-purpose flour, plus extra as needed
- 3 tbsp cornstarch
- 1 tbsp ground ginger
- 3/4 tsp ground cinnamon
- 3/4 tsp salt
- 1 cup unsalted butter, at room temperature
- 3/4 cup molasses, warmed
- 1 tsp vanilla extract

FOR THE FROSTING:

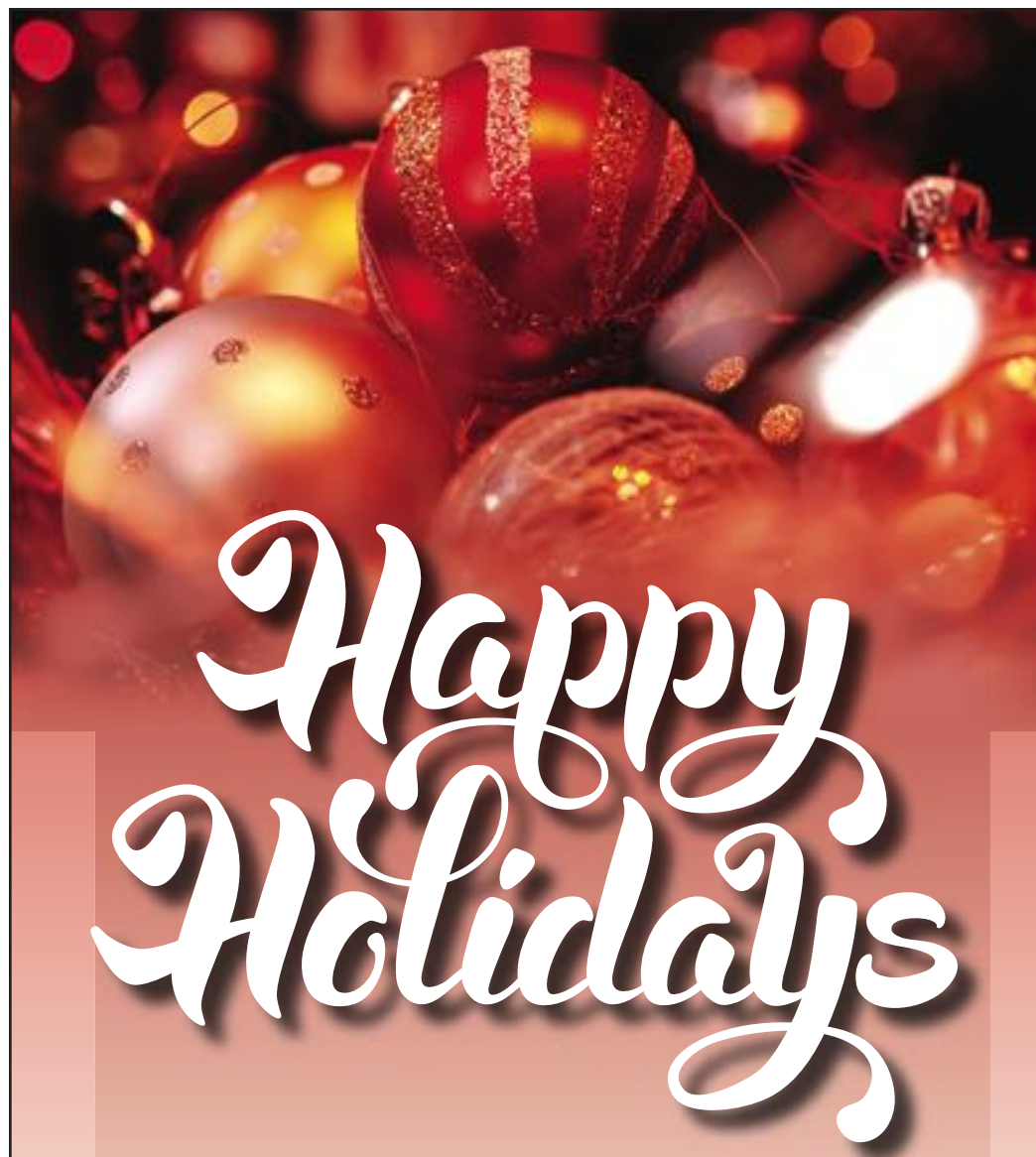
- 2 cups confectioners' sugar, plus extra as needed
- 1 1/2 tbsp meringue powder
- 1 - 2 tbsp warm water

TO DECORATE:

Assorted colourful candies, sugared chocolate candies, round peppermint candies, candy canes, etc.

Directions:

1. For the gingerbread: Combine the flour, cornstarch, spices, and salt in a large mixing bowl. Stir well and set aside.
2. Beat the softened butter with the molasses and vanilla in a separate mixing bowl until pale and creamy, about 2 to 3 minutes.
3. Beat in the flour mixture in 4 additions, mixing well between additions until you have a rough dough; add more flour as needed to form a stiff dough.
4. Turn out and knead briefly. Shape into a round, wrap in parchment paper, and chill for 2 hours.
5. After chilling, preheat the oven to 325 F. Grease and line 2 large baking sheets with parchment paper.
6. Remove the dough from the refrigerator. Roll out to about 0.333" thickness on a lightly floured surface.
7. Cut out two rectangles approximately 4.5" x 4" for the roof. Cut out 2 pointed rectangles approximately 5" at their tallest points and 3.5" wide at the base; these will be the front and back of the house as per the image. Make sure that one side has a round window cut out.
8. Using some of the remaining dough, cut out the 2 rectangles to be the sides of the house, approximately 3" x 4" in diameter. Use the remaining dough to cut out 4 even rectangles, approximately 2" x 1.5", to shape the chimney.
9. Arrange the pieces across the baking sheets. Bake for about 25 minutes until browned and dry to the touch. Remove to cooling racks to cool.
10. For the frosting: Combine the confectioners' sugar, meringue powder and 2 tablespoons warm water in a large mixing bowl.
11. Beat with an electric mixer until the frosting is thick and glossy, about 4 to 5 minutes; beat in more confectioners' sugar if too thin and more water if too thick.
12. Spoon into a piping bag fitted with a thin, round nozzle. Chill for 15 minutes.
13. To decorate: Using the frosting as 'glue,' assemble the chimney using the 4 even rectangles of gingerbread. Let dry and set.
14. Start to assemble the rest of the house by gluing the pieces together as per the image, attaching the front and back of the house to the sides before attaching the roof in place. Let set dry and set at each building interval.
15. Once the sections are dry, pipe more frosting onto the edges of the roof and down their sides, shaped as icicles.
16. When the chimney is set, attach it to the top, cutting the pieces to fit if necessary, and decorating the outside with frosting.
17. To decorate: Attach the assorted candies to the house, decorating the roof with a tiled pattern using the frosting.
18. Let the house dry and set until ready to serve.



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These colourful cookies are tailor-made for family baking sessions

Baking during the holiday season is a tradition in many households across the globe. Family baking sessions provide a perfect holiday season bonding activity, and the payoff is both cherished family time and delicious, indulgent foods once the items are ready to eat.

Holiday hosts know they'll need to feed their guests over the course of their stay, and that includes snacks. This holiday season, hosts can involve their guests in family baking sessions and whip up a batch of these delicious and colourful "Christmas Biscuits" from Lines+Angles.



Christmas Biscuits

Makes approximately 24 cookies
Preparation time: 1 hour, 20 minutes ★ Cooling time: 30 minutes

Ingredients:

FOR THE DOUGH:

- 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour, sifted, plus extra for dusting
- 1 1/3 cups confectioner's sugar, plus extra for dusting
- 3/4 cup almond meal
- 1 cup unsalted butter, cold and cubed
- 1 large egg yolk
- 1 cold water
- 1/2 tsp fine salt

FOR THE ICING AND DECORATION:

- 4 cups confectioner's sugar
- 3 tbsp meringue powder
- 7 tbsp warm water, combined with 1 tsp vanilla extract, assorted food colouring (e.g., red, pink and turquoise), assorted coloured sugar crystals (e.g., red, pink and white)

Directions:

1. For the dough: Preheat oven to 350 F. Grease and line two large baking sheets with parchment paper.
2. Combine flour, confectioner's sugar and almond meal in a large mixing bowl. Stir well to mix.
3. Add butter, egg yolk, water, and salt, and mix well with an electric mixer with spiral attachments until mixture starts to come together as a dough.
4. Turn out onto a floured surface and knead briefly until even. Wrap in plastic wrap and chill for 30 minutes.
5. After chilling, roll out dough on a lightly floured surface to approximately 0.25" thickness.
6. Use assorted star-shaped cookie cutters to cut out approximately 23 variably sized star shapes. Arrange between prepared sheets, spaced apart.
7. From remaining dough, cut out one teardrop and two semi-circles of dough, using appropriate cutters or working freehand with a paring knife. Arrange on one of the baking sheets.
8. Bake cookies for 12 to 15 minutes, until golden and dry to the touch. Remove to cooling racks to cool.
9. For the icing and decoration: Thoroughly stir together confectioner's sugar and meringue powder in a large mixing bowl.
10. Gradually beat in warm water and vanilla extract mixture using an electric mixer until icing is smooth and of a flooding consistency; you may not need all of the water.
11. Divide icing between three bowls. Colour two bowls pink and red, respectively, by beating in enough pink and red colouring to achieve uniform colours. Leave the third bowl uncoloured.
12. Spoon pink and red icing into separate piping bags fitted with small, round-tip nozzles.
13. To ice the cookies, pipe around their perimeters with the icings to create borders. Fill in middle of cookies with more icing; you can use a damp, warm offset palette knife to spread out icing to an even finish.
14. Carefully transfer iced cookies to cooling racks, decorating with the sugar crystals in festive patterns.
15. Using same technique as in steps 13 and 14, ice teardrop cookie with red and white icing for Santa's hat and beard, respectively. Ice the two semi-circle cookies with white icing.
16. Before icings have set, carefully attach semi-circle cookies to teardrop cookie to fashion Santa's moustache. Colour any remaining white icing with turquoise colouring and then dab onto teardrop cookie for Santa's eyes. Pipe some pink icing below eyes for his nose.
17. Let cookies set and harden before serving.

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"Immanuel" means "God with Us." Jesus, the sinless Son of God, became man and offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all who believe in Him. He rose from the dead, ascended to heaven, and reigns today. This Christmas, remember and believe in God's greatest gift!

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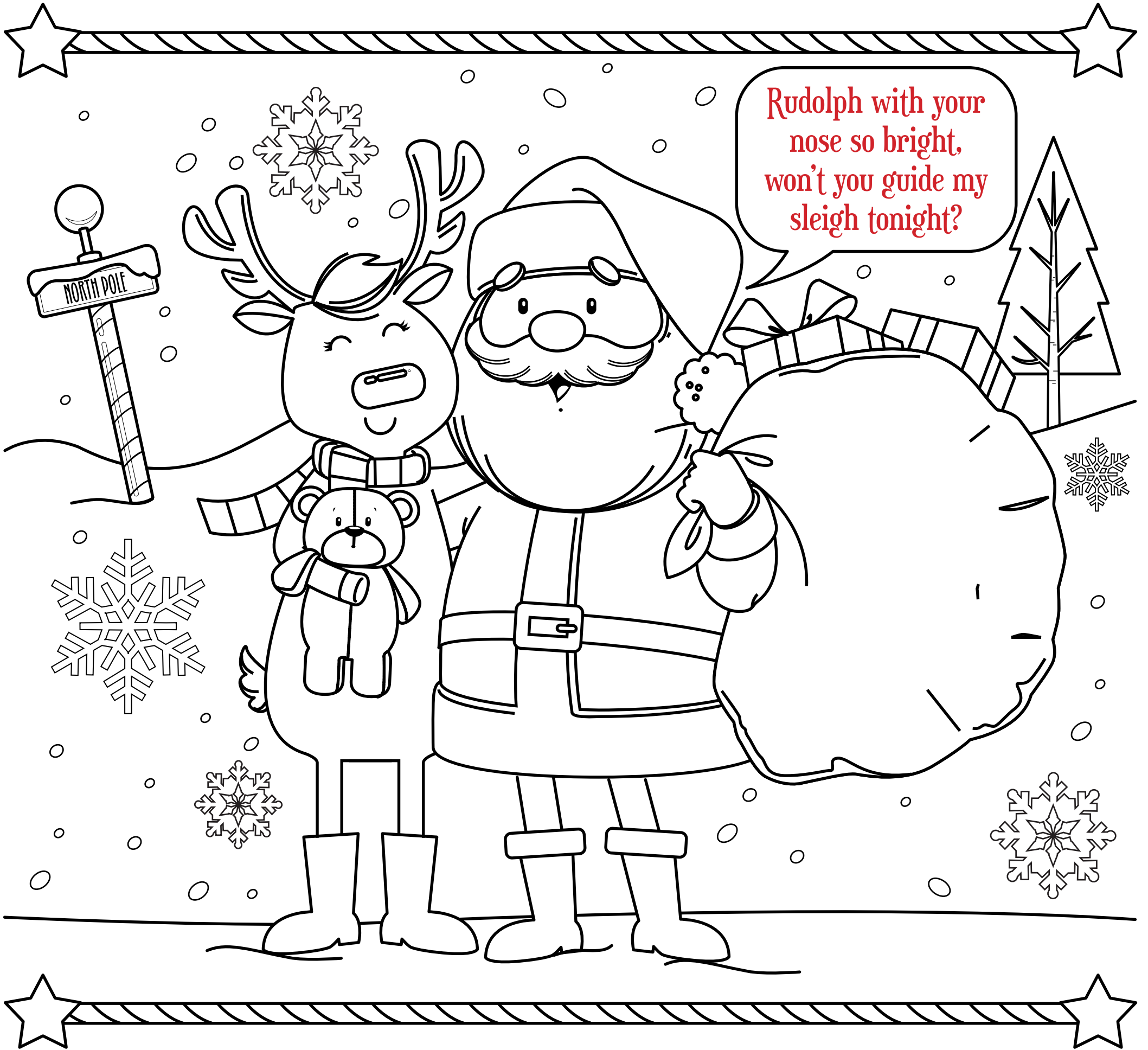
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How to keep guests ENTERTAINED this holiday season

Gatherings with loved ones are a big part of what makes the holiday season such a special time of year.

As families grow and spread out across the map, they may not get too many chances to spend quality time with one another. But the holiday season is a time each year when families make a concerted effort to get together.

As families get together under the same roof during the holiday season, individuals tasked with hosting gatherings tend to have a lot on their plates. Memories tend to be made around the holiday dinner table, but the season also presents ample opportunities to create nights to remember outside the house as well. Hosts can keep the following ideas in mind as they look for ways to entertain guests this holiday season.

★ **Take a turn as a tour guide.**

Locals may not make the rounds of nearby tourist destinations too frequently, but the holiday season is a great opportunity for hosts to show guests what makes their towns so unique. Serve as a tour guide for guests on a sightseeing day with visits to local monuments or museums. Wrap the day up at a holiday bazaar where local small business owners have set up shop. This affords guests a chance to tour a new com-



munity or a hometown they haven't visited in awhile, and also makes for a great chance for all to squeeze in a little last-minute holiday shopping.

★ **Plan an ugly sweater bar crawl.**

If hosts and their guests are all of age, an ugly sweater bar crawl can make for a fun night out on the town. Encourage guests to wear an ugly holiday sweater and map out a route and schedule of visits to local bars and restaurants. Hosts must prioritize safety on these types of excursions, so arrange for a bus to take guests from one spot to the next if establishments are far away from one another. If Main Street has a local bar district, arrange for transportation downtown at the start of the crawl and home when the night ends.

★ **Take in some local entertainment.**

Whether it's a holiday lighting display show or a local theatre performance of a classic holiday tale like

Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," a night of local live entertainment is a great way for hosts and their guests to get out of the house. Hosts can even book a reservation for a pre-show meal at a local restaurant so they can be free of cooking and give guests their undivided attention.

★ **Host a holiday movie night.**

Weary travellers who want to stay in may appreciate a holiday movie double feature. Hosts can let guests pick a pair of holiday films and then host a double feature, complete with traditional movie fare like popcorn and candy. Hosts can even offer adult guests a glass of homemade eggnog during the films to up the holiday ante even further.

Holiday hosts can embrace various ways to entertain guests during a time of year when there's no shortage of fun ways to spend a night.

GIFTS FOR HOLIDAY HOSTS

Millions of people open their homes to relatives and friends each holiday season. Taking on the task of holiday host can be a labor of love, as it involves not only a commitment of time, but also a financial investment.

Guests benefitting from holiday hosts' hospitality can offer tokens of their appreciation upon arrival. The following are some great gifts to offer hosts this holiday season.

BEVERAGE OF CHOICE: A bottle of wine or another spirit can be a great gift for holiday gatherings. Let hosts decide if they want to serve it with the meal or save it to enjoy at a later time.

CURATED FOOD BASKET: A guest can put together a basket of different foods, including crackers, cheeses, jams, bread sticks, and other items that can be enjoyed as snacks or appetizers.

HOLIDAY PLANT: A poinsettia or Christmas cactus may be fitting this time of year, and a holiday host can enjoy seeing it grow during the season.

KITCHEN TOOLS OR SERVING ITEMS: A beautiful olive wood serving platter or cutting board might be appreciated, particularly if guests arrive with it covered in a charcuterie spread.

SCENTED CANDLE: Hosts can set the mood and add to the ambiance of an entertaining space with lit, scented candles, which make for a great gift. Guests can inquire as to the hosts' preferred aromas or stick with safe bets like vanilla or cinnamon.

HOLIDAY ORNAMENT OR DECORATIVE PIECE: Guests can offer ornaments for the tree or another decorative item for hosts who are repeat entertainers. Dating the decoration or having it engraved can transform it into a memento hosts can relish through the years.

COMFORT AND CARE ASSORTMENT: Hosting takes effort, so a box of items to pamper holiday hosts can be a great gift. Fill the box with a loofah, bath bombs, shower gel, moisturizing cream, and massage oil.

Holiday hosts invest time and money into making their homes welcoming spaces to spend the holidays. Guests can treat these hosts with gifts to show how much their efforts and hospitality are appreciated.





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Season's Greetings 2024

10 New Year's Eve PARTY POINTERS



Many people consider New Year's Day the unofficial end of the holiday season.

That often means that New Year's Eve is an opportunity to socialize, gather and party one final time before returning to the routines of daily life.

The first known instance of New Year's celebrations can be traced to around 2,000 B.C. in the region of Mesopotamia. Celebrants were gathering in March, rather than January, as this was the time of the vernal equinox, when the darkness of winter subsided and agricultural life could begin anew.

As individuals count down the days until New Year's Eve festivities, these planning tips can make the celebrations occasions to remember.

1. Consider a theme

Everyone who is anyone is having or attending a NYE party. Let your event stand out from the throngs of others with a theme. Guests can come dressed as dynamic duos (like Mario and Luigi) or the party can evoke a bygone era, such as the roaring 1920s. Let guests know what they can do to play the part.

2. Start late

You do not want guests wiped out by the time midnight arrives. Therefore, start the party at around 9 or 10 p.m. and anticipate it lasting into the wee hours of the morning.

3. Tailor drinks to the season

Utilize seasonal ingredients when crafting drinks, or serve drinks that are expected this time of year, such as a boozy eggnog or cranberry Moscow mules.

4. Provide various activities

Plan fun activities during the party. Offer card games or board games to give guests something to do. Karaoke or group activities like trivia also can spread out the fun.



5. Beverages should be accessible

Unless you are hiring a bartender who will be on call to pour drinks, having drinks ready to go is a smart idea. In addition to cans/bottles of beer or malt beverages, have ready-to-go mixed drinks available by selecting a signature drink and preparing a bulk batch.

6. Curate a winning playlist

Ask guests to submit a list of their favourite tunes so you can create a collection of songs that will ebb and flow with the evening's events. Be sure to include some sing-a-long favourites like "Don't Stop Believin'" or "Tiny Dancer."

7. Offer self-serve foods

Much like having drinks ready to go, make foods accessible as well. Finger foods and bite-sized morsels will not require guests to carry plates, reducing the chances for spillage. Sliders, miniature quiches and dessert shooters should suffice.

8. Tie decorations into the theme

Classic New Year's Eve decorations include balloons, streamers and confetti. Think about a very festive balloon arch or backdrop that also can serve as a place to pose for photo opportunities.

9. Offer takeaway gifts for designated drivers

Encourage guests to stay sober and volunteer for designated driving duties by offering prizes. Ideas include gift cards to coffee shops or restaurants.

10. Be ready for midnight

Have a large television at the ready to show the midnight countdown and start pouring champagne roughly 20 minutes before midnight to ensure all glasses are full when the clock strikes 12.

New Year's Eve celebrations get an extra boost from a well-planned party.

Champagne takes centre stage again

Sparkling wines are made by sealing the beverages before the fermentation process is complete, causing the effervescent bubbles that is their hallmark. Sparkling wines are produced in various regions of the world, but "champagne" is unique to the Champagne region of northeast France, where vines were introduced by the Romans many centuries ago.

One of the most legendary and heralded brands of champagne was created by a French monk named Pérignon. Historians say Pérignon

lived from 1638 to 1715 and was admitted in his lifetime to the abbey of Saint-Vanne. He acquired the honorary title of Dom while there, and also served as cellar master, creating what later would be known as the "vins de Pérignon."

Dom Pérignon champagne is still a prestigious brand today, joined by other leaders of the industry like Moët & Chandon, Veuve Clicquot, Nicolas Feuillatte, and Pol Roger. French champagnes are part of elegant toasts, A-list events and five-star dining experiences.

They also may be poured on New Year's Eve. All champagne is sparkling wine, but not all sparkling wine is champagne.

Enjoying champagne on its own in the requisite stemmed glass is tradition, but champagne also can be mixed into any number of cocktails — from bellinis to mimosas. This "Blood-Orange Champagne Cocktail" is a variation on the classic mimosa, and doesn't necessarily need to be enjoyed at brunch. Serve it on New Year's Eve, or for any special occasion, courtesy of Martha Stewart.

Blood-Orange Champagne Cocktail

2 1/4 cups freshly squeezed or frozen blood-orange juice
2 750-ml bottles champagne, chilled

Pour 3 tablespoons juice in each champagne flute. Fill flutes with champagne, and serve.

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We would like to take this time to wish everyone all the blessings and merriment of the season.

Deanna Huclack & Staff

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Words cannot express our Gratitude for our Clients. The Coldwell Banker Select team would like to wish everyone a Joyous Holiday Season and a Happy New Year.



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