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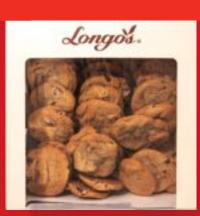


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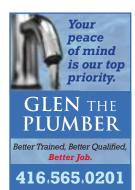
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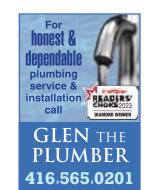
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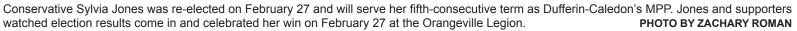


FREE

Thursday, March 6, 2025

Volume 45, Issue 9





Sylvia Jones re-elected as wave of Blue swept through Ontario

BY PAULA BROWN & ZACHARY ROMAN LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTERS

Dufferin-Caledon voters have spoken and Conservative politician, Sylvia Jones, has been elected for her sixth consecutive term as MPP of Dufferin-Caledon.

Jones was re-elected after securing 52.1 per cent or 26,072 of cast votes in Dufferin-Caledon during the provincial election last Thursday (Feb. 27). Runner-up Michael Dehn of the Liberal Party had 25.2 per cent,

Green Party candidate Sandy Brown had 12.3 per cent, and NDP candidate George Nakitsas received 6. 3 per cent of the votes.

New Blue candidate Kris Eggleton, Ontario Moderate Party candidate Alexey Cherkashov, and independent candidate Jeffrey Halsall all received 2 per cent or less of the vote.

Jones said she wanted to thank all the volunteers who knocked on doors for her during her campaign.

"We can't do it without volunteers," said Jones on election night. "When you put dif-

ferent people together for a common goal, we do amazing things."

Jones and supporters gathered at the Orangeville Legion on the 27th to watch election results come in.

Jones said the day after an election is when you get to work and start thinking about the next campaign. She said she loves Dufferin-Caledon and that the riding feels like her "extended family."

Continued on Page A8



David Kostynyk, DD, BSc. 905-857-4464



905.857.2820 www.VeronaTeskey.com verona@veronateskev.com







Town launches internal tariff task force

BY ZACHARY ROMAN LOCAL JOURNALISM

INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Town of Caledon is taking measures in response to U.S. tariffs.

On Tuesday, U.S. President Donald Trump's 25 per cent tariffs on Canadian goods, and 10 per cent tariffs on Canadian energy, were implemented.

Continued on Page A2



BUSINESS MILESTONE - Caledon Mayor Annette Groves presented UPS Canada president Sean Griffin with a certificate to mark the company's 50th anniversary last week. For more, see Page A7. PHOTO BY ZACHARY ROMAN



Task force to monitor and address impact of U.S. tariffs on local businesses

Continued from FRONT

In a March 4 news release, Town of Caledon communications staff said Caledon is reaffirming its commitment to local businesses in light of the tariffs.

The release said Caledon has launched an "Internal Tariff Task Force" to "monitor and address local business impacts through outreach, support programs, and advoca-

Mayor Annette Groves said the tariffs will make things challenging for Caledon businesses.

"I want to assure you that we remain committed to working with our local businesses to ensure they have the supports they need," said Groves. "As a first step, I urge all our local businesses to connect with staff and use the tariff resource hub. I also encourage residents and businesses to buy local and choose Canadian-made products, where possible, to help bolster our local economy."

The tariff resource hub referred to by Groves is available on the Town of Caledon's website at the following link: caledonbusiness.ca/tariffs.

The Town of Caledon will be looking to align its tariff response with that of the Provincial and Federal governments.

Caledon's Chief Administrative Officer tariffs. Nathan Hyde said the Town's establishment of a tariff task force is an important States present a serious threat to the local econ-



step in addressing challenges posed by the

"The recent tariffs imposed by the United

omy and our businesses in Caledon. We understand the strain that these economic pressures place on our community, and we are fully committed to supporting our local businesses during

this challenging time," said Hyde. "By ensuring a coordinated response across departments, we can implement supportive programs and advocate for the resilience of our economy."

Melancthon Against Quarries holds public meeting on application to quarry below water table

BY PAULA BROWN LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Concerned Melancthon residents are coming together to protest a proposed application by local aggregate company, Strada Aggregate, to quarry below the water table.

Melancthon Against Quarries, an independent group opposing the expansion of gravel mining, hosted a community town hall meeting on Sunday, March 2, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Horning's Mills Community Hall, located at 14 Mill Street in Melancthon.

"We believe that the quarry will be a disaster for our community. If it's going to be stopped, it's going to require a big community effort so our idea is to mobilize the community to reject the whole idea of having a giant quarry in tiny Melancthon," said Larry Taman, organizer of Melancthon Against Quarries.

During the meeting, Melancthon Against Quarries provided residents with information on aggregate quarries, potential environmental factors and the group's plans to approach protesting the quarry application by Strada Aggregate.

In attendance at the event were other advocacy groups including the Forks of the Credit Preservation Group from Caledon and the Reform Gravel Mining Coalition as well as representatives from Melancthon Council.

"Aggregate is an important issue anywhere you go, but its specifically important here, where we have prime agricultural land, where we have access to really clean, superior water and that water is not far underneath the ground," said Melancthon Mayor Darren White. "Our areas, supplies water to communities all around us, and it's important that we be on top of issues like this."

Some of the concerns raised by community members during the meeting included air quality, natural environment, endangered species, and damage to the water

"A below the water table, blast quarry, as you can imagine, is a terrible toxic feature of a rural community. It takes us from being a farming community, a rural community and a solid community to a mining community," said Taman. "Once this is approved, if it is approved, it will spread because there's a valuable resource under the water table. I think you can count on more applications coming; we're already pretty much back to the beginnings of the mega quarry."

One of the biggest pieces of evidence raised by Melancthon Against Quarries in their quest to protest the local quarry is a 2023 report by the Auditor General on the management of aggregate resources.

According to the report, the Ministry of Natural Resources has not provided the public with complete and accurate information on the supply and demand for aggregates, which has contributed to opposition to proposals for new or expanded pits and quarries.

The report also notes a study from 2016 which estimated that the Greater Golden Horseshoe region had reserves of 3,337 million tonnes of unextracted aggregates in licensed pits and quarries and an annual demand of 11 million tonnes.

"If you have supply, why does anybody want to build this quarry in Melancthon. That's the question the people who are proposing it have to explain or have answers to," said Taman. "We're very clear that it's not necessary."

Strada Aggregates (Strada) has been operating as an existing 360-acre above-water sand and gravel pit in the area of 4th Line and County Rd. 17 in the Township of Melancthon since 2004.

Strada initially brought forward a presentation to Melancthon Council in October of 2021, which noted their intention to submit an application for a proposed

Strada has initiated undertaking the field work and technical studies required to determine the feasibility of developing a quarry that would extract and process consolidated dolostone bedrock below the water table within the same footprint of the existing pit.

According to Strada Aggregates, the proposed quarry is being designed to ship 2,000,000 tonnes per year from the site and will continue to use the existing entrance/exits and existing haul route.

Mayor White told the Shelburne Free Press that Melancthon Council's decision on the quarry will be "fact based" and will "work with the science".

"We will work with the science, a lot of which is yet to be determined," said White. "I suspect that we will file an object, if for no other reason to allow for the science to be further looked at."

Taman concluded that the next steps in opposing the quarry will wait until Strada Aggregate has submitted its completed application to the Ministry of Natural Resources. Once the application has been submitted, a notice will be posted giving the public 60 days to respond with letters opposing the application.

"For us, it's important to get a very robust public response, but they don't give us very much time to do it. Part of our purpose is to make sure that people have an idea and understand that the next thing they might be asked to do is write a letter opposing the quarry on whatever basis they oppose it," said Taman.

REMEMBER TO SHOP LOCAL!





CALEDON FAMILY CENTRE

BrightStart Caledon Family Centre has fun activities planned for **March Break**

All activities are free and no registration is required

BY ZACHARY ROMAN LOCAL JOURNALISM

INITIATIVE REPORTER

If you have children between the ages of zero and six and are looking for some fun March Break activities, you may want to check out what the BrightStart Caledon Family Centre has planned.

On March 4, the local non-profit announced it has a variety of things planned for March 10 to 14.

Activities include visits from police and firefighters and theme days like "Fun with Science", "Exploring Colours", "Dance Party" and "Pajama Party".

BrightStart Caledon's usual early learning activities will be proceeding as scheduled as well.

All the planned activities are free and no registration is required for them.

"Families in rural Caledon are reminded that special March Break activities have been planned for the Alton and Cheltenham Mobile Village Stops too," said Shelly Ives, BrightStart Caledon Manager of Community Relations. "So, plan to bundle up the kids and drop by your nearest BrightStart Caledon location to join in on the fun."

BrightStart Caledon Family Centre has three main sites, the Albion Bolton Community Centre, Caledon East Community Complex, and Southfields Community

For more information and a full schedule of planned events, interested parties can visit brightstartcaledon.com.





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POLICE URGE VIGILANCE AGAINST EXTORTION ATTEMPTS

Officers from the Caledon Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are educating residents to safeguard against extortion attempts.

"What is extortion? The Canadian Anti-Fraud defines it as "extortion happens when someone unlawfully obtains money, property or services from a person, entity, or institution through coercion," sav Police.

"Based on recent extortion cases investigated by Caledon OPP, many involve phone calls from a WhatsApp number, threatening violence unless a large sum of money is paid, and mentioning knowledge of the individual's home or workplace."

Anyone who has received a similar violent extortion message should report it to their local police immediately. After contacting police, it is important to also report it online at https://antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca or by phone at 1-888-495-8501. If not an emergency, you can also provide information anonymously by contacting Peel Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or online at https://peelcrimestoppers. ca. When you contact Crime Stoppers, you stay



anonymous, and you never have to testify.

For more information about Extortion, vishttps://antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca/ scams-fraudes/extortion-extorsion-eng.htm.

March is Fraud Prevention Month. Educate yourself to recognize the signs of fraud. The Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre provides many resources, including information on all types of scams. Visit https://antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca for more details.

footage would be helpful for the investigation."

Anyone with information is asked to contact the 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 https://peelcrimestoppers. ca. When you contact Crime Stoppers, you stay anonymous, and you never have to testify.

IMPAIRED CHARGES

Members of the Caledon Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have charged a driver involved in a collision with impaired op-

"On February 25, 2025, just before 10:00 a.m., officers responded to a two-vehicle collision in the intersection of Winston Churchill Boulevard and King Street, in the Town of Caledon," say Police. "Minor injuries were sustained. While investigating, officers formed grounds that one of the driver's ability to operate a motor vehicle was impaired by alcohol, which led to an arrest."

As a result, Himmat Pannu, 21, of Brampton, was charged with:

Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus)

The accused is scheduled to attend the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville on March 13, 2025, 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.

"On February 26, 2025, shortly after 11:00 p.m., an officer patrolling the area of Mayfield Road, near Ace Drive, conducted a traffic stop," say Police. "The investigation led to the driver being arrested."

As a result, Amanpreet Singh, 36, of Brampton, was charged with:

- Failure or refusal to comply with demand;
- Driving motor vehicle with liquor readily available;
- Red light fail to stop.

The accused is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville on March 13, 2025, to answer to the charges.

The charges have not been proven.

"A few hours later, on February 27, 2025, shortly after 1:00 a.m., an officer patrolling the area of Highway 10 and Old School Road also conducted a traffic stop. During the investigation, grounds were formed that the driver's ability to operate a motor vehicle was impaired by alcohol, which led to their arrest."

As a result, Lovepreet Litt, 26, of Brampton, was charged with:

Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus)

The accused is scheduled to appear before the

Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville on March

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20, 2025, to answer to the charge. The charge has not been proven.

Both driver's licences were also suspended for 90 days, and the vehicles impounded for seven.

"On March 2, 2025, shortly after 1:00 a.m., an officer patrolling Mayfield Road, near Mc-Laughlin Road, conducted a traffic stop," say Police. "During the investigation, grounds were formed that the driver's ability to operate a motor vehicle was impaired by alcohol, which led to their arrest."

As a result, Abilash Uthayabaskaran, 25, of Oshawa, was charged with:

- Failure or refusal to comply with demand;
- Driving motor vehicle with open container of liquor;
- Careless driving.

The accused is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville on March 20, 2025, to answer to the charges.

The charges have not been proven.

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

"On March 3, 2025, shortly after 11:00 p.m., officers responded to a vehicle in the ditch on Winston Churchill Boulevard, near Old Base Line Road, in the Town of Caledon," say Police. "During the interaction, grounds were formed that the driver's ability to operate a motor vehicle was impaired by alcohol and was subsequently

As a result of the investigation, Steven Graves, 44, of Caledon, was charged with:

- Operation while impaired blood alcohol concertation (80 plus);
- Operation while impaired alcohol

The accused are scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville on March 20, 2025, to answer to the charge.

The charges have not been proven.

"Motorists continue to engage in unnecessary risks, compromising road safety," say Police. "The OPP remains committed to taking alcohol/ drug-impaired drivers off our roads through enforcement and public education. If you're planning to drink or use drugs, make sure you don't drive. Instead, arrange for a designated driver, take a taxi, use public transportation, or find another safe way home. If you suspect someone is driving under the influence, it's important to call 9-1-1 to report it. If the situation is not urgent or currently ongoing, you can also provide information anonymously by contacting Peel Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or through their website at https://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.

VEHICLE ARSON INVESTIGATION

Officers from the Caledon Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are investigating a suspected vehicle arson.

"On March 2, 2025, shortly after 9:00 p.m., officers attended Boston Mills Road, west or Torbram Road, for a vehicle fire," say Police. "The investigation is ongoing with the assistance from the Caledon OPP Major Crime Unit."

Investigators are seeking information, including dashcam footage from the area before 9:00

"It is believed the vehicle may have been brought to the location by a tow truck, and such

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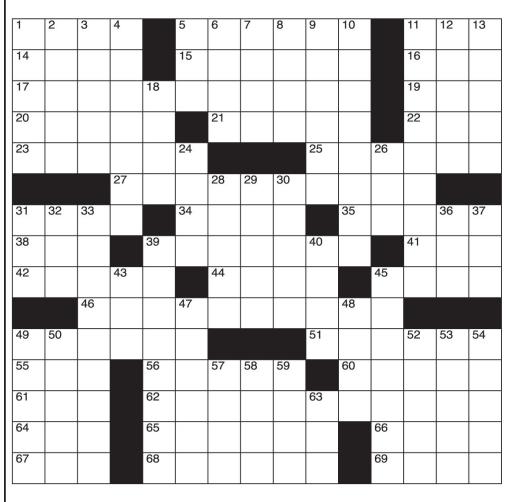
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The Citizen CROSSWORD



- **CLUES ACROSS** 1. Cut a little bit off
- 5. State with
- confidence 11. River in NE
- Scotland
- 14. Not narrow
- 15. Lacking social
- polish
- 16. Amount of time
- 19. Automobile
- 20. Toadstools
- 21. High school dances
- 25. One-sided

- 35. Lake in Botswana

- 42. Mother of Perseus 44. Ornamental box

41. Small amount

plains in S. America

of your own identity

56. Noted consumer

60. Spanish sports club

advocate

61. Body part

62. Tractability

64. Woman (French)

65. Ready and willing

- 45. Gov't investigators 46. Uncertain
- 49. A cotton fabric with a satiny finish
- 51. The vast grassy
- 55. Your consciousness
- 17. Frame
- 22. Utilize
- 23. Challenged
- 27. Showing extreme
- 31. Potted plants
- 34. Everyone has one
- 38. E.T. rode in one

39. Juniors' parents

CLUES DOWN 1. Brushed aside

to be taught

2. Water sprite 3. Ones to look up to

4. Monetary units

- 5. A number everyone
- 6. Marine invertebrate
- 7. One who takes you to court
- 8. Indicates outer
- 9. Parallelograms
- 10. Strains 11. Cross
- 12. A way to remove
- 13. Some pages are
- dog-__ 18. Ukraine city
- 24. A citizen of
- Denmark
- 26. Summer month
- (abbr.) 28. Hindu queens
- 29. Jewelry brand
- 30. Fictional rider of
- Rohan
- 31. Wet dirt
- 32. Russian city 33. Observed

- 36. Furious
- 37. Drivers' licenses
- 39. Musical composition
- 40. Auction
- 43. They ___ 45. Women
- 47. Inspire with love
- 48. Japanese ankle sock 49. Appears
- 50. Old World lizard 52. The leading
- performer
- 53. Type of protein
- 54. Pennsylvania town

58. __ Blyton,

- 57. Art ___: around 1920
- children's author 59. Abnormal breathing
- 63. A place to sleep
- 66. Muslim ruler title 67. Depressed
- 68. Gradually gave way
- 69. Clear-thinking
- No one has more self-confidence than the person who does a crossword puzzle with a pen.



Peel Region and Peel Regional Police employees made a sizable donation to United Way Greater Toronto recently

Region, Police employees raise over \$252,000 for **United Way Greater Toronto**

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

A charity dedicated to addressing poverty, supporting essential services and finding long-term solutions just received a big

On February 27, Peel Region Chair Nando Iannicca presented two cheques - one from Peel Region employees and the other from Peel Regional Police employees totalling \$252,632 to United Way Greater

"For over four decades, Peel Region has been a proud partner of United Way, and this year's campaign is yet another example of the incredible spirit of giving among our employees," said Iannicca. "Every dollar raised goes directly toward supporting critical programs that help those in need, and I'm so grateful to everyone who contributed to making a real difference in our community."

Anita Stellinga, Vice President of Corporate Communications and Public Policy, and Corporate Secretary of United Way Greater Toronto, said for Peel to thrive, it must thrive for everyone.

"Year after year, Peel Region and Peel ize our workforce," said Kent.

Regional Police step up for their community, demonstrating unwavering generosity and commitment," said Stellinga. "As poverty deepens, the cost of living soars, and too many struggle to access vital services — whether for housing, mental health, or basic needs — this support will help fund over 90 United Way programs across Brampton, Caledon, and Mississauga. Thanks to the dedication of staff and volunteers, more individuals and families will get the help they need, close to home."

Peel Region Chief Administrative Officer Gary Kent said he wanted to express his sincere gratitude to Peel Region and Peel Regional Police staff for their generosity during the recent United Way campaign.

"Your efforts have made a significant difference, raising more than \$252,000 to help tackle the unaffordability crisis that's affecting our community. This remarkable accomplishment shows how dedicated you are to making Peel stronger and more resilient. I am genuinely proud of what we have achieved together, and your ongoing support of United Way is evidence of the kindness and commitment that character-

Malalai Halimi

Your federal Liberal candidate for Dufferin-Caledon



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- ✓ Decreasing barriers for trade within Canada
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(LEFT) The Caledon Public Library team had a great time talking to Caledon residents about gardening and library services at Seedy Saturday. (RIGHT) Volunteers from the Palgrave United Community Kitchen ran a cafe at Seedy Saturday, serving up hot drinks and tasty treats.

Caledon residents celebrate gardening at annual Seedy Saturday event

This year's event was held at the Caledon East **Community Complex**

BY ZACHARY ROMAN LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

With spring approaching, many Caledon residents are looking forward to starting their gardens.

On March 1, the Caledon Public Library (CPL), Palgrave United Community Kitchen (PUCK) and Albion Hills Community Farm (AHCF) hosted their annual Seedy Saturday event.

It featured a seed exchange, many garden-themed vendors, a cafe, a book sale from the Friends of the Caledon Public Library, and much more. This year, the event was held at the Caledon East Community Complex – a new location.

Laura Nolloth, Communications and Cultural Development Coordinator for the CPL, said the library was very happy to see how many people came out for the event. She said creating and maintaining partnerships in the community is very important for the CPL, and that the library was proud to help host Seedy Saturday.

Jill Jambor, the CPL's Manager of Communications and Cultural Development, their passions and shared interests," said

said one of the highlights of the day was Jambor. chatting with so many different enthusiastic gardeners.

"It's nice to see people connecting over

Karen Hutchinson, a volunteer with the AHCF, said she loved the new location for this year's event. She said it's been nice to see the event grow over the years.

Caledon joins Regional launch of Next Generation 9-1-1

The Town of Caledon, in collaboration with the cities of Brampton and Mississauga, has announced the launch of Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1). This system marks a significant milestone in the Town's commitment to enhancing public safety and emergency response services.

While the process for callers to connect with a 9-1-1 operator remains the same, the technology driving the system offers several improvements:

- Provides Emergency Operators with more accurate data to help determine the caller's location and phone number;
- Increased reliability and cyber security;
- Provides more backup capabilities should a failure occur within the system;
- Includes plans to support Real-time text and live emergency video calls in the future.

In addition to the launch of NG9-1-1, Caledon residents now also have access to a dedicated non-emergency public-facing number for the Joint Fire Communications Centre: 905-456-5724. This number is available for non-emergency inquiries only. Examples of non-emergency inquiries include complaints (burning, fireworks or fire code violations) and general questions. Please call 911 if you are in immediate danger.

"Caledon is growing and so is the need for our emergency services. With our population projected to reach 300,000 by 2051, we are investing in the resources and cutting-edge technology to ensure our residents remain safe and have easy access to emergency services, should they need it," said Dave Pelayo, Fire Chief of Caledon Fire and Emergency Services.

As a leader in this field and 1 of 2 distinguished Regional Training Centres in the GTA, Caledon's fire department has set the standard for excellence, embracing innovative techniques and technologies to protect residents.



ANNOUNCEMENT

The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario is pleased to announce that Mr. Rob Payne, Board Director, has been appointed Chair, Finance & Audit Committee for the College.

The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario (CPSO) regulates the practice of medicine in Ontario. Physicians are required to be registrants to practise medicine in Ontario.

The role of the CPSO and its authority and powers are set out in the Regulated Health Professions Act (RHPA), the Health Professions Procedural Code under the RHPA and the Medicine Act.

Mr. Payne, who resides in King City, is currently a Financial Advisor at Edward Jones Investments. Previously, he worked at Davis & Henderson on behalf of the Government of Canada (Social Development Canada) and at Nestle Canada as Leader of Consumer Relationships, overseeing consumer relationship management, new technology applications and platforms, digital and social media engagement and call centre management. He is also a previous municipal councillor, representing King City and chaired the Finance and Administration Committee, as part of his role.

Mr. Payne is a graduate of the Canadian Securities Institute and York University. In addition, he received a Master's in Public Administration from the University of Western Ontario.

UPS Canada celebrates 50th anniversary at Caledon facility



A panel of current and former UPS employees shared remarks on UPS Canada's history at a special event on February 28.

PHOTO BY ZACHARY ROMAN

Mayor Annette Groves and MP Kyle Seeback attended event

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

A large logistics company celebrated a major milestone in Caledon last week.

On February 28, UPS Canada celebrated its 50th anniversary with a special event at its 850,000 square-foot facility in Caledon.

There were many people in attendance at the event, including UPS Canada president Sean Griffin, UPS Foundation vice president Cathy Scott, Caledon Mayor Annette Groves, Dufferin-Caledon MP Kyle Seeback, current and former UPS employees, and UPS customers.

The event featured remarks from UPS staff, the attending dignitaries, and UPS customers. There was also a panel discussion with current and former UPS employees, and a volunteer activity.

The volunteer activity was led by the UPS Foundation and saw attendees assemble wellness kits for survivors of domestic violence.

In total, 750 kits were completed, and they will be donated to Yellow Brick House, an organization that provides life-saving services for women and children escaping domestic violence in York Region.

In his remarks, Griffin said the key to UPS Canada's success is its people. He shared a special thanks to UPS "Circle of Honour" drivers — drivers who have 25 or more years of safe, accident-free driving. There were eight such drivers in attendance at the event.

"You embody the dedication and excellence that our customers have come to trust," said Griffin.

Groves said she's grateful to have UPS Canada in Caledon and that the company is a great corporate citizen.

"The Caledon hub, which opened in 2021, employs 1,500 people making UPS the town's top employer in the goods movement sector," said Groves. "I would like to recognize the people behind the scenes... who are on the ground working tirelessly to deliver goods

across the region and beyond... it's the people that are out there every day making sure our packages arrive safely, making sure that this facility operates efficiently and effectively... those are the people that really make a company."

Groves said the UPS facility in Caledon, which sorts 35,000 packages per hour, is a true testament to the innovation happening in Caledon's local economy.

"Thank you for choosing Caledon and continuing to invest in our town," said Groves. "Your commitment to the Caledon community has played a key role in local growth and prosperity."

Seeback said that UPS Canada should be commended for partnering on many charitable initiatives in Caledon and Dufferin and for treating its employees well.

"I am proud as the member of parliament for this area to be able to honour UPS for 50 years in Canada, what an amazing story," said Seeback. "I hope more companies will choose to locate right here in Dufferin-Caledon and bring success as well."

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Sylvia Jones re-elected to Queen's Park as wave of Blue swept through Ontario

Continued from FRONT

Jones thanked the staff at her constituency office for their "great service" and added that "it is reflected on me and I felt that during this campaign."

With her sixth-consecutive victory, Jones continues her hold on the riding she has represented at Queen's Park since 2007. She also served as Ontario's Deputy Premier and Health Minister from June 2022 to January 2025, following the dissolving of provincial legislature by Premier Doug Ford.

The Progressive Conservatives won 80 seats, followed by the NDP with 27 seats, 14 seats for the Liberal Party, and two for the Green Party. In the 2022 election, the Progressive Conservatives won 83 seats, so they gave up three, but still maintain a strong majority government. This is the third consecutive majority government win for the Conservatives. The last time Ontario Conservatives won three in a row was 54 years ago, from 1963 to 1971.

The Citizen spoke with local candidates following the election results last week. They each commented on how they think their campaign went and the results of the election.

Michael Dehn (Liberal)

Dehn said there was some good support shown for his campaign and that it was encouraging to see - the Liberals got around 3,000 more votes than they did in the last election in Dufferin-Caledon.

cent in last week's provincial election.

He said the team surrounding him during the election was fantastic, including campaign manager Jeff Rohner-Tensee and CFO James Hodder. Dehn also thanked Dmytro Basmat, Josh Loeffler, Bob Gordanier, Winston Uytenbogaart, Lynda Mc-Dougall and all others who helped in his campaign.

"I want to fix broken things, that's why I ran, I think the team genuinely saw how sincere I was and they got behind me and supported me," said Dehn.

Dehn said he's looking forward to discussions with the local riding association about the future. He remains passionate about solving common problems across Dufferin-Caledon like road safety, and wants to improve social services.

"Making sure we have health care for everyone, food for everyone, and that our roads are safe is important," said Dehn.

"Those are some of the major local issues that the Province has neglected so far."

Sandy Brown (Green)

Sandy Brown, who led the Dufferin-Caledon Green Party and previously Dehn received 12,606 votes or 25.2 per sat as Mayor for the Town of Orangeville, said they were able to "move the needle" on understanding the Green Party and presented the party as "viable candidates that would make good parliamentarians."

> Brown received 12.3 per cent or 6,157 of the votes in the Dufferin-Caledon riding.

> "There's a fair bit of disappointment here for all the hard work that we put in and the optimism that was leading up to the day, with a lot of encouragement from people that I had spoken to during the campaign," said Brown. "We tried to meet as many people as we could in the short period of time that was open. I don't know what more we could have done; we just needed more time to be able to meet more people."

> Brown referred to the snap winter election as "strategically brilliant" for the Progressive Conservatives, which put the other parties "at a great disadvantage".

> "The snap election doesn't allow for a great deal of planning and you're caught flat footed. I think we did as well as we

> Discussing the re-election of Jones for her sixth consecutive term, Brown noted her absence during the campaign period.

> "We're looking in our Member of Parliament for somebody who's going to be more present. I think missing those debates was something I didn't understand, but clear-

ly didn't hurt her at all," said Brown. "I hope that the Conservative government got some messages through the campaign that they need to re-prioritize the money they're spending."

George Nakitsas (NDP)

Dufferin-Caledon NDP candidate George Nakitsas, who received 6.3 per cent or 3,184 of the votes in the provincial election, expressed his pride in the party's visibility in the riding.

"We were very proud of [our campaign]. We met as many people as we could. We were at the debates and presented a version of Ontario that is full of opportunities for everyone. Over 3,000 people responded to it, and we were happy to see that," said Nakitsas.

Nakitsas' biggest concern with the provincial election was the turnout of voters in Dufferin-Caledon.

"The turnout was terrible again, and it's not surprising given the conditions under which this election was called. I've made a commitment that whatever I do in the next election to deal with a lot of the pressing issues that our communities face; we'll be there."

Nakitsas also spoke of Jones' re-election as MPP of Dufferin-Caledon.

"People feel disrespected by the fact they were not able to meet important issues raised in the debates," said Nakitsas. "People that voted for here have their own reasons, but there's a large number of residents of Dufferin-Caledon that don't think there's proper representation, and that their member of Provincial Parliament should be there when she needs them."

PUBLIC NOTICE



Notice of Public Meeting

Proposed Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendment

FILE NUMBERS: POPA 2024-0008 and RZ 2024-0028

A Public Meeting will be held to consider a proposed Zoning By-law Amendment and Official Plan Amendment Applications. Your input and insight will inform and shape plans that meet the needs of

Please be advised that the Town of Caledon is now offering a Hybrid Committee and Council Meeting model offering options for you to engage with Council, including in-person or virtual opportunities.

MEETING DATE: PUBLIC MEETING START TIME: LOCATION:

April 1st, 2025 7:00 p.m.

Council Chambers, 6311 Old Church Road, Caledon East

HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

- 1. Attend In-Person: Members of the public may register to delegate in-person and speak to an item listed on the agenda or sit in the gallery to watch the meeting.
- 2. Submit a Written Comment Members of the public may submit a written comment regarding the proposed application(s) by completing the Participation Request Form, available at www.caledon.ca/speak-at-council
- 3. Virtually Members of the public are welcome to participate via phone or WebEx Meeting upon request. For more information on how to participate, please visit www.caledon.ca/notice or contact the Planning Department. Please note that there are deadlines by which the request to participate need to be made.

YOU CAN ALSO ASK QUESTIONS OR PROVIDE COMMENTS BY:

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

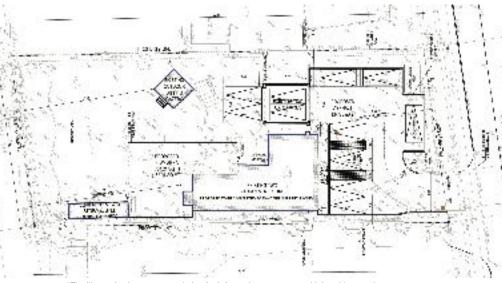
APPLICANT: Inspire Architectural Group (c/o Harpreet Chatrath) on behalf of Ruksana Asghar

15867 Airport Road, Caledon Part 20 Concession 1 (Albion)

East of Airport Road and Larry Street

PROPOSED CHANGES:

The purpose of these applications is to convert an existing two-storey single detached dwelling into a daycare nursery facility. The applicant proposes to amend the Official Plan Amendment by redesignating the property from Special Policy Area B to Institutional and amending the Zoning Bylaw by rezoning the lands from Rural Residential (RR) to Institutional (I).



*The illustration is a conceptual plan for information purposes and it is subject to change The application is currently under review by the Town of Caledon

LEAD PLANNER:

Muhammad Shahid Mughal, MCIP, RPP Senior Planner, Development Planning & Development Department (905) 584-2272 ext. 4557 or muhammad.mughal@caledon.ca

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: For more information about this matter.

including appeal rights, a copy of the

proposed Zoning By-law Amendment

and Official Plan Amendment, and for supporting material, please visit www.caledon.ca/notices or contact the Lead Planner at Town Hall from Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ACCESSIBILITY:

If you require an accessibility accommodation to attend or participate in this Public Meeting, or to access any

materials related to this item in an

alternate format please contact Council and Committee Services by phone at 905-584-2272 x.2366 or via email at accessibility@caledon.ca. Requests should be submitted at least 10 days before the Public Meeting

Notice Date: March 6th, 2025

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



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (On-site: Orangeville & Caledon East, Ontario) Salary - \$80 to \$100K plus benefits

Caledon\Dufferin Victim Services (CDVS) is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing immediate, trauma-informed, culturally responsive, confidential support for any person who has experienced crime or sudden tragedy 24/7. CDVS is a Victim Crisis Assistance Ontario (VCAO) program.

CDVS provides assistance and support to individuals and communities in the Town of Caledon and Dufferin County servicing 8 municipalities including Orangeville. Staff and volunteers provide free, confidential and non-judgmental support.

CDVS is funded by the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS), the United Way, the Town of Caledon and Dufferin County.

Executive Director Position

Reporting to the Board of Directors, the Executive Director will play a critical role in shaping the future of Caledon\Dufferin Victim Services. The Executive Director will oversee the organization's strategic direction, financial sustainability, and program delivery, while fostering a culture of inclusion, collaboration, and innovation within the organization and alongside their community partners. The Executive Director has a staff of 2 FTEs along with 4 PTEs across two sites (Orangeville & Caledon East) as well as managing an operating budget of \$500K.

What you bring to this role:

- Five+ years of senior leadership experience in Victim Services/Victim Witness, crisis intervention, social services, child protective services or similar not-for-profit agencies.
- Strategic leadership develop and execute long-term strategies that balance immediate community needs with sustainable growth.
- · Experience working with or working knowledge of both urban and rural communities, understanding their diverse challenges.
- Well-developed communication, interpersonal, conflict resolution skills; report writing, correspondence and public speaking skills.
- · A proactive and visionary leader who embraces innovation and opportunities to foster staff growth and enhance service delivery.
- Exposure in working with Boards would be an asset.
- · Proficiency with software applications including MS Office Suite (Microsoft Word, Excel,
- Financially astute with respect to operational and funding models.
- · Education: Bachelor's or master's degree in social work, Criminology, Psychology, Public Administration or a related field.
- The successful candidate will be asked to provide:
- o Driver's License "G" class
- o Police Record Clearance and Vulnerable Sector Screen

Why consider this opportunity at Caledon\Dufferin Victim Services?

CDVS is a mission-driven organization that transforms lives and promotes equity, focusing on impactful programs for victims of tragic circumstances. You will be guiding a passionate team to deliver innovative services, shape the strategic vision, and build community impact. The Executive Director will be collaborating with stakeholders, funders and government agencies to expand the organization's reach and resources while ensuring long-term success and growth and community engagement.

- Compensation: \$80K to \$100K
- RRSP allocation of \$5K Health Benefits - Manulife
- Vacation: 4 weeks
- Cell phone and laptop are provided
- Mileage coverage: .61cents/km

Please email your one-page cover letter and updated resume to: Liz Latimer, Consultant at liz@lizlatimer.com, in confidence.

The deadline for applications is Friday, March 28, 2025. Though March 28, 2025, is the deadline date, we strongly encourage early applications.

We thank all the applicants for applying; however, only qualified candidates selected for an interview will be contacted. If someone you know may be interested in this position, please feel free to forward this document to them.

For more information about the position, please contact Liz Latimer at liz@lizlatimer.com.



Theatre Orangeville brings "Bed and Breakfast" to the Opera House



Meet the creatives bringing Mark Crawford's "Bed and Breakfast" to Theatre Orangeville from March 13 to 30. From left: Warren Macaulay plays Drew, Stewart Arnott is directing this heart-warming comedy and Adrian Shepherd-Gawinski plays Brett. **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**

BY CONSTANCE SCRAFIELD

As spring invites us back to Theatre Orangeville's next production, we are to be treated to "Bed and Breakfast" by Mark Crawford, opening March 13 and running through March 30.

It's a tale of two gay guys living in Toronto, when one of them inherits his much-loved auntie's home in small-town Ontario. Do we sell? Do we keep it as a dearly remembered property and, then, what do we do with it?

Once the math is done, they admit this city's life is too expensive. Keeping the house wins and they make their plans to move. There are many considerations and unknowns which will have to be dis-

covered in due course. A leap of faith takes the lead. "It's a residence in a Victorian fief," quipped Patrick Arnott, director of the show. "They are not able to afford Toronto anymore."

The play charts the progress of being gay in a small town - about the adjustment, surprises and not necessarily everything they expected.

Arnott was seated in the rehearsal hall with Adrian Shepherd-Gawinski, in the role of Brett and Warren Macaulay as Drew, from where they "Zoomed" an interview with the Citizen earlier this

Giving another hint about the plot, Macaulay informed us that, "Drew is estranged from his family. Once he came out, as a young man in his small

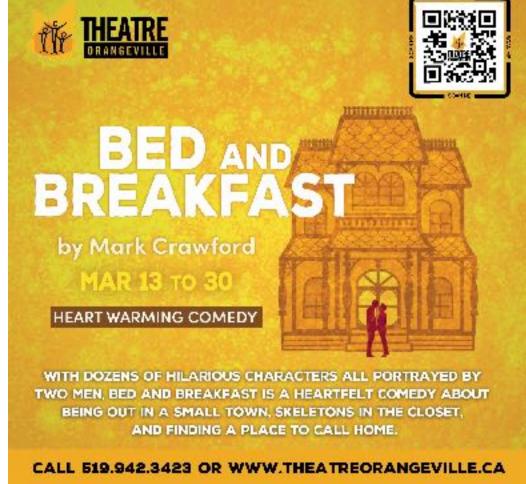
town out west, his family rejected him."

While Brett spent plenty of his childhood days at his auntie's house, Drew is also familiar with how a small-town culture might look.

These three gentlemen have already had the pleasure of performing Bed and Breakfast at Lighthouse Theatre in Port Dover and they are excited

with this second chance to bring it to another audience here in Orangeville. Gawinski is welcomed back to Theatre Orangeville after some time, following his parts in Screwball Comedy and Queen Milli of Galt.

Continued on Page A13





NEWS | Subscribe to the Town's email newsletter at: caledon.ca/enews

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Caledon Recreation Mobile App allows you to browse for program/activity schedules, register, pay right from your mobile device, and more!

Flexible. Convenient. Easy.

Download the app today, visit caledon.ca/recreation-app.







Tree Seedling Program

The Town of Caledon's annual Tree Seedling Program is back! Caledon residents, businesses and schools can now place online orders for potted trees and shrubs, bundled seedlings and mulch mats on our online store-front.

Hurry - inventory is sold on a first come, first-served basis.

Visit caledon.ca/seedlings for more information and to order.



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Supporting local, buying Canadian and finding balance

Mountains of snow have conspired to block the most obvious paths between Point A and Point B; the occasional warm-ups have made the mountains a little bit easier to traverse, at least on the surface. These surfaces often cover up untold depths of slush, another obstacle to navigate, which, come the frequent flash freezes, result in sheets of ice that would make even the most novice curler go back to get a rock.

The projected warm-up this week should take informed decision. care of much of the remaining mess, a boon for those of us who are eager to make the most out of the great outdoors again, but it hasn't been solely a time to hunker down and hibernate until more clement days arrived.

Hopefully, for instance, you were among the paltry 45.4 per cent of eligible electors who made their way to a ballot box for February 27's Provincial Election, a pitiful number by any estimation. Perhaps you took the time to lace up for one of the coldest Coldest Night of the Year events in recent memory. Maybe you simply enjoyed some wintery fun in our trails or parks.

A couple of weeks ago, when there was a sweet spot between the snow, I ventured into the city to go to one of my favourite independently-owned specialty shops. A place in which I have been a loyal customer for more than 30 years, it was in the heat of their annual February Sale, and I'm never one to turn down a treasure hunt. And few places in Toronto, given my particular interest in television history, have provide a greater chance for a successful hunt!

Since I first crossed their threshold when I was eight-years-old, I've built up a good relationship with the two individuals who have been operating the store with remarkable consistency since then.

Or, so I thought.

This last visit was something of a different experience as one of the guys behind the cash register had the gall to think of himself (I kid) as he up and got married, moved out of the city, and is presumably enjoying a new wave of domestic bliss.

After so much time walking through the door and being greeted by familiar faces, it was jarring enough to see someone new on the till; what took things over the top, however, was being greeted by an unfamiliar face who didn't already know the types of things I was looking for.

This is not a complaint, mind you - after all, there's plenty of time to get to know the new kid on the block and rebuild those retailer-customer ties but rather to point out that the vague discomfort felt, simply brought about by change, is a testament to the power of such ties that can only come with supporting strong, independent businesses and retailers.

A lot has been said and written recently, and rightfully so, on how Canada can best respond to tariff threats levelled at us by the U.S. President. Many of us are wading our way into what it means to Buy Canadian – and the differences between "Made in Canada", "Product of Canada", "Manufactured in Canada", "Assembled in Canada", "Made from Domestic and Imported Ingredients", and many other nuances not listed here.

It's not always easy to keep track and it's not always easy to find homegrown alternatives to some products. Sometimes, as well, it's simply not practical – as illustrated by one acquaintance of mine who was looking for alternatives to the only food their neurodivergent son can eat without any qualms, and whether it was worth upsetting the apple cart, their - could well make us all stronger.

As President Trump's 25% tariffs kick in today,

Good neighbour relations are important in civil

society whether they involve the people who live in

the house next door, the person who occupies the

cubicle beside yours or the president of the country

It is also important for companies involved in

Canada's aggregate industry. Which made me think:

Who taught whom? In the recent gravel battles that

have rocked Caledon and neighbouring communi-

ties, aggregate companies have taken an aggressive

adversarial stance. Their proposals usually involve

ronment, community spirit or their new neighbours.

A stand of old-growth maple trees – clear it.

Distributed throughout the Town of Caledon, the Citizen is published

The CALEDON CITIZEN is a member of the Ontario Press

Council, an independent body set up by the newspapers of the

province to uphold freedom of expression and deal with complaints from readers. The Press Council encourages complainants to first

give the newspaper an opportunity to redress their grievances. If not satisfied, they may then write to the Council, enclosing a copy of material that is subject of the complaint, at 80 Gould St., Suit 206,

A century farm – demolish it.

the ground regardless of what that does to the envi- a video camera.

that shares your border.

Canadians are learning what can happen when our

neighbours no longer act in a neighbourly way.

The last few weeks haven't been particularly fought-to-establish routine, and both his stomach friendly for those of us who are predisposed to cabin and his peace of mind to find alternatives that support Canadian producers.

> Since these threats have wafted our way, I've noticed some subtle behavioural changes from my fellow customers when navigating the crowded aisles of the grocery store – a crowdedness that seems to be attributable, at least in part, to people foregoing grabbing a product and throwing it in the cart without a second thought. Now, in my observation, they are lingering, if only for a moment, to double check labels, tags and other signage to help them make an

> This is all well and good, but we should be taking a multi-faceted and mindful approach to letting our wallets do the talking.

> It's tricky in this day and age to support Canadian businesses in a way that also supports Canadian workers. So many of our neighbours are employed by American-owned businesses that operate out of this country either independently of the parent or as a subsidiary thereof.

> We have to be conscious that our decisions in letting our aforementioned wallets speak doesn't adversely affect our neighbours who are in that sit-

> One quick win we can achieve is foregoing self-checkouts. It might take a little longer to get on your way after picking up what you need from their groaning shelves, but it will help underscore to the powers-that-be the importance of our homegrown human resources.

> The number of Canadian workers an American company might employ in our country could also be a factor to consider in weighing what we should buy, when, and from whom.

> Any incoming tariffs are estimated to impact hundreds of thousands of Canadian jobs, so our own personal responses should not be in a way that exacerbates that particular problem.

> Buying local wherever possible – whether it is a local retailer or a local producer, such as the myriad farmers and artisans that we boast around our communities – is probably the safest bet. We're not only supporting Canadian, but we're keeping money in the community, and that's always a win-win.

> As unimaginable as the tariffs are, the renewed emphasis on shopping local and buying Canadian is probably the one silver lining in all this slush. That was also one of the few silver linings to be found at the height of the pandemic, as well, at least for a time. That, however, faded somewhat amid backlash against restrictions and any other calls on Canadians to row in the same direction in the face of the slightest inconvenience.

> This time, however, we need to band together to ensure the momentum is on our side for the next four years, at the very least.

> It won't be easy, but being considerate of the impact of each and every purchase you make will only serve us well – not only for your own bottom line and our local economy, but for our sense of com-

> Having a 30-plus year relationship with a small, independent retailer wasn't an unusual instance not too long ago; a relationship where the business owner knows their customer's likes, dislikes, tastes - and even what might or might not be within their budgets. It's something you aren't likely to forge with Big Box Retailers or online behemoths, despite the best efforts of their pernicious algorithms.

A trip back to basics – with balance and flexibility

A village – mine as close to it as possible.

We're learning the hard way about what happens

when neighbours are out for themselves only. Can-

ada is better than that and our aggregate industry

So, I publicly ask that Votorantim/St. Mary's Ce-

ment, the aggregate company that plans to blast a

quarry that would be seven stories deep and occupy

800 acres between the villages of Cataract and Al-

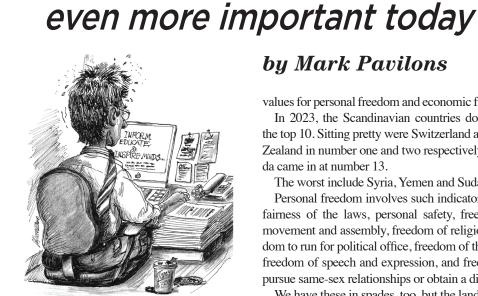
ton, to be neighbourly. To be neighbourly enough

to at attend their own public meeting in person. De-

spite community requests, the aggregate giant has

opted instead to "meet" with their possible neigh-

Democratic principles



Ontarians just had a chance to exercise their privilege of voting in last week's provincial election.

Like the outcome or not, we are lucky that our system allows for, and even encourages, our input and participation. Believe it or not, our politicians want us to be engaged.

We have a bit of a love-hate relationship with democracy but now, more than ever, our democratic principles are vitally important.

Canadians will have another chance to exercise this privilege when a federal election is called, perhaps as early as this spring.

There has been some turmoil lately, as federal parties gear up for a vote. While Trudeau is on his way out, he still touts our Canadian way of life and our strong sense of nationalism. He tells the world, ates and hereditary rulers hold all power, with which and more specifically our American neighbours, restrict civil liberties of citizens and visitors alike. that we are strong and united. We will not give in to ugs or economic extortion.

rifices made - in two world wars and various conflicts – to preserve our free way of life. We should never take our freedoms for granted, ever.

We've enjoyed ever-expanding human rights under our Charter since 1982. The anniversary is marked every year on April 17. This document (I was lucky enough to witness its implementation) solidifies the very essence of democratic rights - religion, speech, media, assembly and more.

We get stuck on minor hurdles in our evolution to become truly "woke." But that's okay. And we constantly ask for more. And that's okay, too because we are allowed to.

Essential elements of a democracy include pluralistic political parties, fair elections, transparent governance, politically engaged citizens, civil liberties,

We have those in spades, but many, many countries do not. Our southern neighbours used to enjoy these, too, but lately they're being curtailed, much to the world's chagrin.

that evaluates the state of human freedom in 165 countries and territories around the world, representing 98.8% of the human population as of the 2023 HFI report. The HFI is a broadly comprehensive measure that encompasses both personal and economic freedom and then merges the two into a single value titled simply "human freedom."

The Human Freedom Index is co-published by the Cato Institute, the Fraser Institute, and the Liberales Institut at the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom. The countries with the highest Human Freedom Index scores are widely considered to be among (the freest countries in the world). The Human Freedom Index gives each country a score from 0 to 10, in 86 indicators. These scores are mutual aid, we are in for a heck of a ride. CALEDON carefully weighted and combined to determine the

by Mark Pavilons

values for personal freedom and economic freedom. In 2023, the Scandinavian countries dominated the top 10. Sitting pretty were Switzerland and New Zealand in number one and two respectively. Canada came in at number 13.

The worst include Syria, Yemen and Sudan.

Personal freedom involves such indicators as the fairness of the laws, personal safety, freedom of movement and assembly, freedom of religion, freedom to run for political office, freedom of the press, freedom of speech and expression, and freedom to pursue same-sex relationships or obtain a divorce.

We have these in spades, too, but the landscape is constantly changing.

North Korea is controlled by a dynastic totalitarian dictatorship, which maintains its harsh control with extensive surveillance, arrests and brutal punishment for those suspected of political offenses. The ruling Communist Party in China has grown more restrictive with state agencies, the internet, religious groups, universities, and businesses. Thailand is ruled by a unit of military leaders that has suppressed political opposition and exercised "unchecked powers" secured in the constitution that restrict citizens' civil and political rights. In Qatar, other political parties are not permitted, and elections don't affect the highest levels of government. Political parties are banned within the seven Emir-

Many of these are rampant with corruption. It eems humankind's hunger for power and greed a During all of this, we should cherish all of the sacalive and well, and reducing citizens to serfs.

> By censoring the internet or barring access, authoritarian governments and dictators can more effectively keep their citizens oppressed, and people in these countries lose a vital tool that would help them set up fairer, more democratic institutions.

President Trump has already curtailed certain freedoms and made widespread funding cuts that will also hinder social freedoms. He is also selective in which media gets to report on the White House.

To me, these are all dangerous precedents. They may set the stage for other countries to simply jump on the oppressive bandwagon and continue to thwart human rights.

We see the problems; have identified the countries and leaders with poor track records. If we truly believe in furthering democratic principles around the globe, I say we take stronger actions.

I believe we should decrease ties, implement sanctions and shame those who routinely suppress human rights, imprison and harm their citizens.

I have always been optimistic that all world na-The Human Freedom Index is an annual report tions can come together, cooperate and end imperialistic, totalitarian dictatorships, so people can be

> And yet, recent actions by the strongest free nation in the world have left me with a heavy heart.

> The former guardians of world peace are quickly becoming self-appointed crusaders, for the interests of a few, not the many.

> What is happening to those enshrined unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness?

"That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government ..."

If the U.S. continues to slash civil liberties and

Buckle up, everyone.

NICOLA ROSS

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Our Readers Write

Lessons from Aggregate Companies

digging or blasting every last bit of grey gold out of bours from the safety of their offices, separated by

Farmland – strip it.

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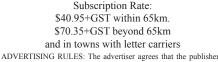
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Town of Caledon responds to Tariffs

I am pleased to begin writing a biweekly es. our Town.

We understand that the tariffs are causing needed to help them navigate these challeng- assistance they need.

with broader support programs.

tinue to provide the resources and advocacy nesses to ensure they have the resources and economy.

MAYOR ANNETTE GROVES MAYOR GROVES' COLUMN

As a first step, I encourage all local busi- will continue to procolumn in the Caledon Citizen. I welcome This month, we're excited to launch an nesses to reach out to our staff and take advanvide regular updates this opportunity to reach the community with internal Tariff Task Force that will careful- tage of the resources available on the Tariff about tariffs and important information and issues affecting ly monitor the impact of these tariffs on our Resource Hub. I also invite everyone—both business local businesses. The task force will provide residents and businesses—to help support available In this column, I would like to take a mo- outreach, support programs, and advocacy our local economy by shopping locally and the Tariff Resource ment to share how the Town is responding to to assist those affected. This new initiative choosing Canadian-made products whenever Hub. I encourage the recent United States tariffs on Canadian builds on the Town's ongoing efforts and possible. In Caledon we have a longstand- businesses to stay informed, fill out a Targoods, with a strong focus on supporting our will work hand-in-hand with provincial and ing tradition of buying and supporting local. iff Business Impact Survey to let us know local businesses and fostering economic re- federal partners to ensure our response aligns. We will need to come together and make a how tariffs are impacting your business to concerted effort to support our business com- help shape Town programs and advoca-I fully recognize that this is a difficult time munity. Celebrate and support the amazing cy. You can also reach out to our Economic a lot of concern for our local businesses and for our country, and especially for our local businesses, one-of-a-kind goods, services, Development team for any personalized asresidents, and we want to assure you that we businesses. Please know that we are here to and experiences that make Caledon so spe-sistance. are here to stand by you. Our businesses are support you every step of the way. The Town cial. Every dollar spent at a local business the heart of our community and we will con- is committed to working closely with busi- strengthens our community and Caledon's meeting with our Economic Development

Along with launching the task force, we tariffs.

For more information and to schedule a team, please visit: www.caledonbusiness.ca/

Deja Doug it is ...

The results are in. Last week's "Choose of Transportation) was also re-elected, and if eroad. Maybe this year it won't be so bad but room lately? About more years of Doug Ford. Coincidentally, file. there was also a provincial election with the buckle up because we're in for one heck of a ride. My layperson's advice to the town's tually bothered to vote, Ford has essentially won't cut it by the time the PCs are finished with us.

Let's face it, with mandated provincial growth, huge swaths of Caledon (particular- certain parts of Caledon as people try to head ly in the south end) are already starting to north and south, but you know what won't resemble every other cookie-cutter town and city in Ontario. Rushing ongoing housing de-running east/west, essentially duplicating velopment approvals will only enhance this the 150+kms of beautiful, wide open, paved process.

growth are local roads. With Premier Ford's commitment to building mega-highways and it will decimate the environment too. mega-tunnels, what's been overlooked are the vast number of local roads that are simply unable to cope with the huge volume of both land Marsh must think about tearing through vehicular and truck traffic traversing them daily. It's not just a "recipe for disaster," it's a "baked-in" reality Caledon residents are the kids might say, "make it make sense," be-

Leaving Bolton is proving increasingly to me! difficult, requiring exceptional navigation skills, the patience of a saint and a whole lot- tainly one that weighs heavily on our repta luck too. Driving across single-laned May- utation as a location filled with beautiful field Road west of Highway 10 is just an exercise in futility and, of course, we all know of difference" from anywhere else, is the adwhat a mess Highway 10 itself is. Don't ex- dition of yet another mega-pit/blasting quarpect much to change.

While just under 43% of the province achighway almost no one thinks is necessary.

Sure, there is traffic mayhem in and around don't need another quarry and certainly not MPPs a raise. solve that? Building just 52 kms of highway highway already criss-crossing virtually the What hasn't kept pace with this mandated very same east/west corridor where the Premier wants to build. It's not just unnecessary,

> If you think it doesn't make sense for Caledon, I wonder what our neighbours in the Holsome of the most prime farmland likely not just here in Ontario, but across Canada! As cause it sure doesn't seem to make any sense

Another risk factor for Caledon, and cergreenspaces and somewhere that's a "world ry. I'm not entirely sure visitors to this year's Along with our very own Sylvia Jones Canadian Open at the Toronto Osprey Valley

who has essentially been MIA on the illegal will be impressed navigating around all those trucking issue, Prabmeet Sarkaria (Minister gravel trucks that criss-cross Charleston Sid-Don't forget to turn your clocks ahead one hour Saturday night.

SHERALYN ROMAN TALK CALEDON

your own adventure" column has spoken he maintains that portfolio I don't foresee the who knows by 2026? Should the prestigious the only promise loud and clear and it seems we're in for four needle moving very far on the transportation world-class golf tournament come our way that seems to be "on again, people renting those high-end chalets track" Actually, wait ... maybe there will be some augmenting the golf course may be awak- here in Caledon is same outcome! Either way, Caledon better movement on the transportation file after all. ened by the sound of blasting and their golf new home builds, game interrupted by a constant flow of truck but as for the promtraffic. Not to mention the obvious impact to ise of affordability for said homes? Not so Economic Development Office and the tour- ly been given his sought-after mandate; not area residents and surrounding communities much! My prediction is that we're in for ism team? Start dreaming up a new slogan for fighting tariffs but rather, for tearing from noise, gravel trucks, deteriorating road more of the same during this term of office because "Greenest town in Ontario" and up farmland, greenspaces and wetlands all conditions, groundwater impacts and envi- and I've a feeling it's going to be at Cale-"Minutes Away, A World of Difference" like- across Caledon's northern border and those ronmental devastation. Given that study af- don's expense. Speaking of expenses, this of neighbouring towns so he can build a ter study has demonstrably proven we have "just in," Doug Ford has his priorities in orenough gravel for the next 100 years, we der for sure. First order of business? Giving





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Caledon Citizen's Student Athlete of the Week

Junior Girls' setter **Nguyen leads Wolfpack** to Gold with MVP performance at volleyball tourney

BY JIM STEWART

It's not often that Junior Girls volleyball players are equated to Michael Jordan, but the Hall Wolfpack Coaching Staff made such an assertion to describe their star setter's efforts at a recent tournament at

Coaches Michael Sengbush and Victoria Galati offered an animated and astute allusion to His Airness which amplified Valerie Nguyen's MVP performance.

"Have you ever heard of the Michael Jordan flu game? Well, this season we witnessed the Valerie Nguyen flu game. At a tournament at Humberview Secondary School, she refused to get off the court, even when sick and coughing. Our team and coaches supported her by giving her water and feeding her cough drops between points. Valerie helped lead us to a gold medal that day, and was the team MVP for the tournament!"

The Grade 10 Honor Roll student-athlete was described by her Wolfpack coaches as an indispensable player.

"Valerie was the ONLY setter on the team. She never got off the court. She played every set of every game. Even when she was really sick, she refused to get off the court in order to help the team win. She is also a natural leader and was one of the team's rotating captains this year. Her work ethic truly sets her apart; she practices like it's game point and everything is on the line."

Coaches Sengbush and Galati highlighted Nguyen's qualities as a student at Robert F Hall CSS: "Valerie is a kind, supportive, and motivated student. The same work ethic she displayed on the court, she channels in her education. She is a true role model in her interactions with peers and academic endeavors. She also donates her time by volunteering to scorekeep senior volleyball games, as well as training scorekeepers."

What impresses the Wolfpack coaching staff the most about Nguyen is "her dedication, passion, and growth as an athlete."

"In the span of one year, she went from a developmental player who did not see the court a lot to a starting setter who played every moment. She worked hard every practice and took on a mentorship role with new junior players. All her success as a student and an athlete was truly

Continued on Page A13





Collision and

Auto Body



Caledon Admirals close home portion of regular season with decisive 5-2 victory over Cougars

BY JIM STEWART

The Caledon Admirals defeated the Burlington Cougars 5-2 on Thursday night to complete the home portion of their OJHL regular schedule on a high note.

Admirals Head Coach Chris Taylor attributed the victory at The Icebox to a confluence of fac-

"The guys really rallied around our last home game of the season. They all played really well and it was good to see that they have stayed focused. It was also a full effort on defense and when there were letdowns defending, [Blake] Sloan was there to make a big save for us."

Sloan was up to the task of stealing a win from the sixth-place Cougars by stopping 33 of the 35 shots he faced. Coach Taylor assessed his rookie goaltender's performance: "Sloan was really good. He was confident, he was able to slow the game down for us, and he made the saves he had to make. The last time he played Burlington, we relied on him to make some really acrobatic saves, but tonight it was less spectacular because we played better defensively. He plays the puck so well and neutralized Burlington's forecheckers tonight."

The Admirals supported Sloan with a lightning-fast start versus the Cougars (31-20-3-2). Thirty-five seconds into the game, Curtis Freeman notched his 11th of the season on a goal initiated by Caledon defenseman Ayden Agius. Clarence Allain earned the primary assist—his 30th of the season – to give Caledon an early 1-0 lead.

Coach Taylor discussed the significance of Allain hitting the 30-assist plateau: "Clarence is the second-leading scorer in the league among underagers. He just got better and better as the season has gone along. He's making better plays and he really took off when we moved him out to the wing with Freeman and Lang. It's really a credit to Clarence that he's turned into a player that the guys want to play with."

Although the Cougars evened the score at 15:20 of the first period when Owen Davies slipped the puck past Sloan, Caledon defender Ethan Mann tallied his first OJHL goal at 6:41 of the second period to restore the Admirals' lead. Assists were earned by Deacon King and Nasser Abou-Marie who turned in strong playmaking efforts for the Admirals versus Burlington.

However, Matthieu MacMillan's goal on a Burlington power play three minutes later tied the game 2-2 heading into the second intermis-

It was all Caledon in the third period as the feisty Admirals sunk the playoff-bound Cougars with three unanswered goals.

Ash Mitchelmore, with help from the playmaking combo of King and Abou-Marie, beat Burlington goaltender Leland Gill at 9:18.

Coach Taylor was pleased that Mitchelmore hit the scoresheet: "Ash is one of our smartest kids when it comes to hockey IQ. He's so hard-working and he struggled at the beginning of the season. It was great to see him get that goal. His one-timer inside the post was set up by Deacon. He created some open ice to slide it to Ash after getting a pass from the point by Nasser. It was great work by all three players."

Less than three minutes later, the Admirals got an insurance goal from Henry Brady who converted Jack Fang's pass past Gill. The Cougars pulled Gill for an extra attacker to no avail as Brady fired Caledon's fifth goal into an empty net to create the margin of victory for the youngest team in the CJHL.

The Cougars will face the third-place Milton Menace (36-15-1-4) in the opening round of the OJHL playoffs this weekend.

The Admirals closed out their OJHL regular season schedule with an 8-0 loss to the red-hot Blues in Collingwood (43-9-3-1) on Friday night.

The reigning Canadian champs—ranked 8th in the nation—won thirteen consecutive games to close the regular season. The rookie-laden Caledon lineup played in front of over 1100 fans for their last regular season game and the Admirals' bench boss praised the Blues squad: "I'd be very surprised if they don't win the division in the playoffs and play Trenton in the finals. They come at you in waves and they work so hard. They have excellent goaltending and they move the puck so well. It's an extremely talented team and it's hard to find weaknesses in their lineup. Leamington, Milton, and Collingwood will all be very difficult to beat. Milton and Collingwood are capable of playing a heavy game that works so well in the playoffs and Leamington's lineup is filled with talented players."

Coach Taylor, in partnership with GM Ken Jeysman, will be on the lookout for talented players to augment the strong, young core of the Admirals during the offseason.

The veteran OJHL coach acknowledged, "We have exit interviews today, we're going to take a break for a couple of weeks during which we'll be doing scouting and recruiting. Our Development Camp will be at the end of April, we'll be doing weekly skates in May and right up to Training Camp in August."

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Junior Girls' setter Nguyen leads Wolfpack to Gold with MVP performance at volleyball tourney

Continued from Page A12

Valerie Nguyen took time from her second semester studies and her obligations with the Lakeside Volleyball club in Burlington to respond to our interview questions:

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

Valerie Nguyen: "This year I had the privilege of being a part of Robert F Hall's Junior Girls Volleyball team. After a less-than-ideal performance during my Grade 9 season, I made it my goal to contribute as much as I could, both on and off the court. As the team's only setter, I know the responsibility was important, but I was more than happy to make that commitment."

Caledon Citizen: What were your key statistics and performance moments from the 2024-25 season that you are most proud of?

Valerie Nguyen: "I feel as though the 2024-25 season taught me a lot, and allowed me the chance to grow as a player and a teammate. A performance highlight this season was becoming a unit with the girls and learning how to thrive as a team. My teammates this year were incredible, watching us grow as a team and learning how to work as a unit to achieve our goals is what made this season so meaningful. Although we did not go as far in playoffs as we hoped, I wanted to say how proud I am of this amazing group of girls."

Caledon Citizen: In addition to your high school sports teams, what other community teams do you play for and at what level?

Valerie Nguyen: "I also play rep volleyball at Lakeside Volleyball club in Burlington."



VALERIE NGUYEN
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Caledon Citizen: How would you describe yourself as a student at Robert F. Hall? To which sports teams and clubs do you belong? Honor Roll?

Valerie Nguyen: "I would describe myself as a balanced student. Besides the Junior Volleyball team, I am also a part of Robert F. Hall's Girls Empowerment Movement, and I did get Honor Roll this past school year."

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

Valerie Nguyen: "Post-secondary, my plan is to study psychology, ideally at UBC."

Caledon Citizen: Who is your role model in terms of the person you admire the most?

Valerie Nguyen: "This season, my biggest role models have been all my coaches this year Mr. Sengbush, Ms. Galati, and Vic. I have never felt more appreciated as a player, and I've never been more inspired to push myself to improve. They believed in me, even when I didn't believe in myself. Their support and guidance have made all the difference in my growth as a player and a person. I am forever grateful to be coached by them."

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

Valerie Nguyen: "Going into this season, I would have never thought that it would have as much of an impact on me as it did. I am honoured to be considered to be Student-Athlete of the Week among other incredible athletes in Caledon."

Theatre Orangeville presents "Bed and Breakfast"

Continued from Page A9

Macaulay is making his debut here.

"Mark loves addressing issues in homophobia," he says. T"here is so much humour but not backing off either – so much heart. It makes me feel seen."

They are delighted to do "Bed and Breakfast" again for the beauty, warmth and cleverness of how well it is written, and how thoughtfully constructed.

"This is masterful comedy," Arnott commented, "invested in characters we grow to know and love."

These two characters are far from isolated in this story, for there comes a slew of others, 20-plus in fact, whom the two actors on stage deliver all through the tale. Ten and eleven each, "without any props or costume changes," their director pointed out.

It is the attitudes, commentary, reactions, guidance and all the rest of this small-town population that Brett and Drew must get to know and learn how to win their approbation, at least.

Macaulay and Gawinski play them and everyone. Their director smiled like the ringmaster of any successful circus at his actors' skill to manage it all.

"Such an array of characters," Arnott chimed, "It's a great responsibility with the changes to go deeper into their parts. Each of them has had to be discussed and understood."

The play challenges assumptions about people and the actors that have to portray them. They are asking the audience to think, "How do you see people?"

Yet, this play is not a simple loop, we were told. These two each have a personal journey and there is real change.

Once Brett and Drew finally move into their new home, there are discussions and opinions about what to do with the house and the long and short of it is they decide to open a bed and breakfast establishment.

How many of the multi-characters rest there? We will have to see the show to find out.

For playwright Mark Crawford, there is

always the conversation: "It is not as simple as the guys show up and settle in – it's much more complicated," said Arnott.

How to manage the multi-character quick change, one person from a very different one, was a question. There are exercises to learn the energy of each role, moving the body into a different shape so that the audience is instantly aware of who that is. It is an interesting skill to develop. For Macaulay, his approach is starting slowly, over time finding each voice and shape and making them real. For both of these actors, this play presents them with more characters each than they have carried before.

"It is Virtuosic!" declared their director.

There are reasons galore to hurry and get your tickets for this show and some were listed for us.

Before everything came the idea: we could use a lot more empathy, challenging ourselves about our assumptions. There are all kinds of people in this town. The audience is taken on this journey to put themselves in the shoes of others and to understand each other better.

Gawinski tells us it is so entertaining to put all these ideas into this play.

"It is fun," he said. "There are incredible lokes."

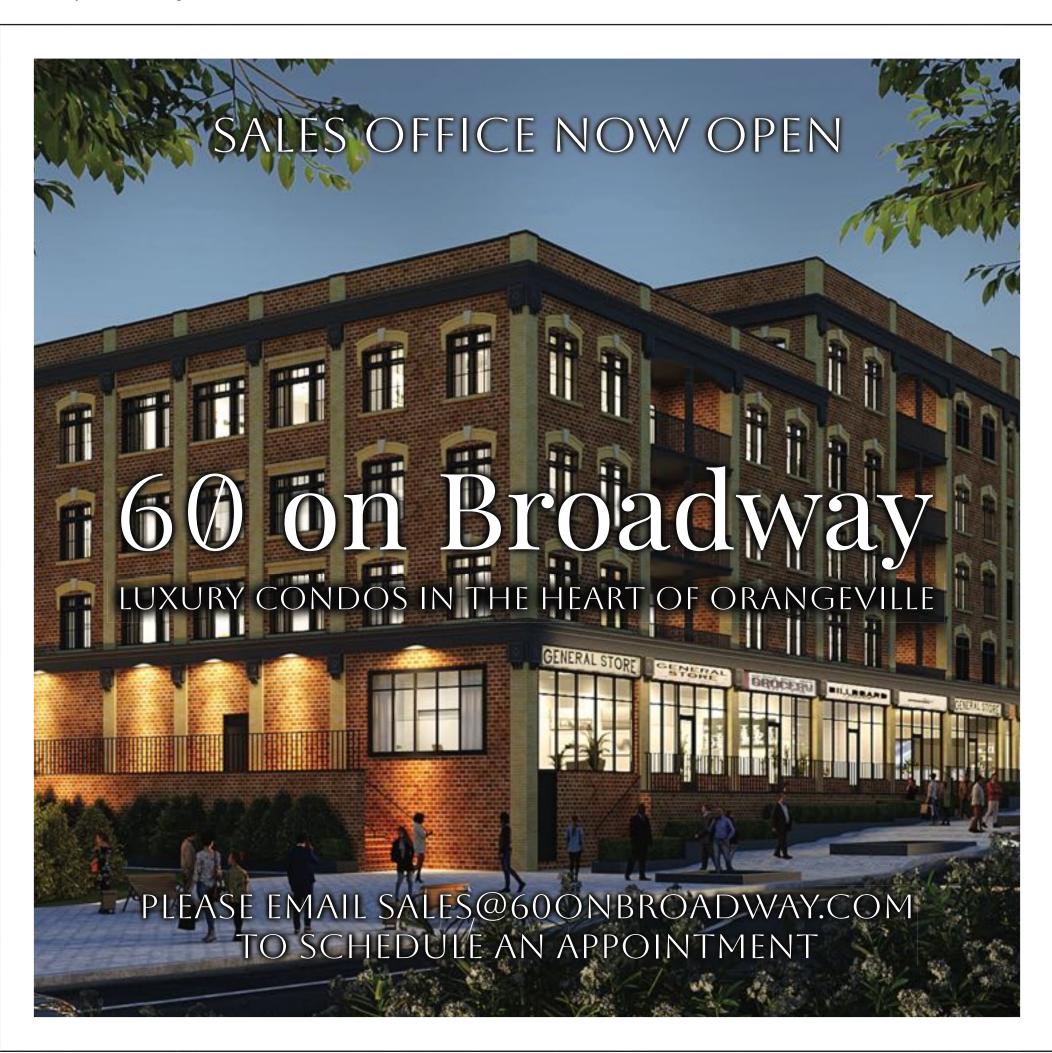
For Arnott, it is the chance to experience a beautiful example of seeing the magic of the theatre.

For more details and to purchase tickets, please see the following from Theatre Orangeville:

"Due to the recent cyber-attack on the Town of Orangeville, Theatre Orangeville's emails and phone lines have been affected – but fear not! Their ticketing and patron data has not been affected!"

You can visit the box office in person at 87 Broadway, Orangeville, or you can purchase your tickets online at www.theatreorangeville.ca as normal.

They do have a temporary phone number that you can call for tickets, which is 519-938-7584. You can also reach out via email at their temporary email which is theatreorangeville@gmail.com.





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YETTE VANDENDAM

APRIL 9, 1969 - FEBRUARY 25, 2025

With heavy hearts, we announce the passing of Yette Vandendam, age 55, who left us after a courageous 14-month battle with pancreatic cancer.

Yette was the cherished daughter of Mary Vandendam and the late John Vandendam and the treasured baby sister to her older siblings: Hank Vandendam, Betty Wade (Rod), Peggy Cuff (Brent) and Susan Vandendam (Jeff). She was a proud and loving aunt (and great aunt) to her nieces and nephews. Her family was her heart and soul, and she was

known for her warm, caring spirit and her ability to make everyone around her laugh.

Her childhood was filled with both magic and curiosity, shaped by the enchanting Dutch folklore rooted in her heritage. This eclectic upbringing fostered her creativity and love for travel and storytelling - qualities that she carried with her into her career. Whether harmonizing with the radio or inspiring those around her with her infectious laughter,

her quick wit, warmth and humour left a lasting impression on those in her life. Her travels spanned North America, Europe, Australia, Asia and South America, often for her work but always with a love for the experience itself. This not only enriched her life but gave her the

chance to share the world's stories with others through her work including 9 Olympic Games. In recent years Yette brought her expertise to the world of Reality Television. As Executive Producer of Canada's Drag Race and Canada's Drag Race: Canada vs the World she contributed to the series winning a 2024 CSA Award for Best Competition Reality and multiple craft award wins and series nominations. She also worked on Family Feud Canada, Dragon's Den, Say Yes to the Dress Canada, Sugar Showdown, MasterChef Canada, Chopped Canada and Canada's Greatest Know It All earning her a reputation for excellence in her field.

While travel was a passion, Yette also had a talent for bringing people together through food. She was a fantastic chef, food was her superpower. Her love of food was only surpassed by her love for the people she shared it with. She took great joy in hosting gatherings and sharing good times filled with debate, connection and laughter.

Yette will be remembered as the heart of her family, a brilliant storyteller and a generous soul. She spent her last year surrounded by loved ones, fully embracing every moment and creating memories that will forever be treasured. Despite her illness, she called it her "retirement" and she approached this time with strength, humour and gratitude.

Yette's family extend a special thanks to Dr. Urszula Zurawska and the Oncology Unit at St. Joseph's Hospital along with Dr. Rebecca Wortzman and the staff and volunteers at Dorothy Ley Hospice. Yette's family are deeply grateful for the kindness and care she received.

A celebration of Yette's life will be held at Ward Funeral Homes - Weston Chapel, Toronto.

In her final year Yette came to realize that her true legacy was not in accolades or achievements but in the deep connections, love and peace she felt with those closest to her.

BERNADETTE PRICE

It is with great sadness that we announce the sudden passing of Bernadette Price at Headwaters Health Care Centre on Thursday, February 20th, 2025, in her 79th year, with her children at her side. Ever devoted wife of late Richard Leblanc and late Joseph Price, beloved mother of, Julie (Brett), Gisèle (Louis) & Dennis (Amanda), dear stepmother of Ulrich (Meltem) & Melissa Price, loving grandmother of Chelsea (Corey), Dylan (Kristina), Elizabeth (Trisha), Jacob (Teodora), Cameron (Celeste), Andrew (Emily), & Jackson, great grandmother to Jason and Charlie-Clare and step grandmother to Selim, Brandon, Zachary & Violet. She is also survived by her sisters; Annette (wife of late Jack Ferris) and Fernande (Claude Tremblay), and brother, France (Jeanne). Predeceased by her sister Rachelle (survived by Normand Brouillette) and brother Claude (survived by Claire). Bernadette will also be greatly missed by many in her extended family and numerous

Born in Cache Bay, Ontario, to loving parents late Renè and Florida Giguère, Bernadette married her first love, Richard, before moving to Brampton, Ontario, with the rest of the Leblanc family and starting a family. She worked at CN Rail for several years before moving to Caledon and then the house in Orangeville where she spent the rest of her days. She became the office manager at Drummond Business Forms and was a part of that family until she retired at 52 in 1998.

After tragically losing her first husband, she met her second love, Joseph, and they were married in 1985. They retired early to travel, which they did for several years. They became very involved with St. Timothy's Church Community, the Orangeville Seniors Centre

LISA DARLENE MURPHY

(NEE BUCHANAN)

It is with heavy hearts that we

announce the passing of Lisa

Murphy on March 1, 2025 at

the age of 47. She passed away

peacefully in the comfort of her

home surrounded by her family

and loved ones. Beloved wife

of Peter Murphy. Dear mother

of Kyla Murphy and Branden

Murphy. Cherished daughter

of Lloyd (predeceased) and

Doris Buchanan. Loving sister

of Donna Anderson (Matthew) and

David Buchanan. Adored aunt of

Logan Anderson. Lisa will also be

nurses from Saint Elizabeth Health.

would be appreciated by the family.

greatly missed by many other relatives and friends.

The family would like to express their heartfelt thanks

to the caregivers who supported Lisa during her illness,

especially the PSWs from Comfort Keepers and the

Memorial donations to the MS Society of Canada

and playing bridge. They also felt strongly about giving to charity, largely for the poor and disadvantaged, and volunteered for the Salvation Army, St. Vincent de Paul and

Bernadette was a vital part of each of the various communities that she belonged to and had deep

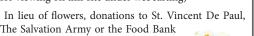
connections with so many people. She loved everyone her loss will be felt deeply.

Family and friends are invited to share their memories, thoughts, and messages on the tribute wall as a way to celebrate Bernadette's life. Your words will offer comfort and allow us to cherish the lasting impact she had on so many. Please take a moment to leave a message, share a memory, or express your condolences.

Visitation was held at the Dods & McNair Funeral Home, Chapel & Reception Centre, 21 First St., Orangeville on Friday, February 28th, 2025, from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm and 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Funeral Service was held at St. Timothy Roman Catholic Church 42 Dawson Road Orangeville, on Saturday, March 1st, 2025, at 12:00 pm. (Webcast of the mass will be available for viewing on this site under webcasting)

The Salvation Army or the Food Bank would be appreciated by the family.

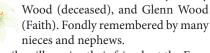
Condolences may be offered to the family at www.dodsandmcnair.com



BARRY ROBERT WOOD



On Tuesday, February 25, 2025, Barry Wood, at the age of 65 years, beloved husband of Ana. Loving son of the late Doreen and Arthur Wood. Dear brother of George Wood (Lynn), Marilyn Terry (Steve), Brian Wood (Cindy), Roy



The family will receive their friends at the Egan Funeral Home, 203 Queen St. S. (Hwy. 50), Bolton on Thursday, March 6 from 2 - 4 and 6 - 8 o'clock and on Friday morning, March 7 from 10 o'clock until time of funeral service in the chapel at 11 o'clock.

Spring interment Caledon East Cemetery. A reception will follow the funeral service in the reception room at the funeral home.

If desired, memorial donations may be made to the Heart & Stroke Foundation of Ontario (heartandstroke.ca) or charity of your choice. Condolences for the family may be offered at www.EganFuneralHome.com

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FOR INFORMATION regarding **HEART** and **STROKE**, call Dori Ebel (519)941-1865 or 1-800-360-1557.

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help I contacted the ByLaw Office and the Police Department, They would not help. I then contacted the Fire Department to come and remove the snow that my neighbour had tossed over on my property, which covered the outside vents and window well. They showed up within 10 minutes and saved the day. Thank you to the four wonderful firemen who came

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Friends and family will be received at Dods & McNair Funeral Home, Chapel & Reception Centre, 21 First St., Orangeville, on Saturday, March 8, 2025 at 1:30 pm followed by a Funeral Service at 2:30 pm.

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

CARMAN THOMAS PIERCEY

Peacefully, at Avalon Care Centre, Orangeville, on Friday, February 28, 2025, Carman Piercey, at the age of 93 years, beloved husband of Olive Piercey. Dear father of Diane (Gus), David (Karin),

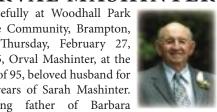


Karen (Mark), and predeceased by Linda. Loving grandfather of Robert (Natasha), Kassy, Crystal (Brent), Alana, Christine (Kevin), Jeffrey, Jennifer (Ian), Shannon, Sheldon, Nicole (Peter), Carly, Rachel, and Laura. Proud greatgrandfather of Frankie, Mia, Ruby, Lucy, Willow,

Luna, Madeline, Ewan, Eleanor, Grayson, and Elena. Dear brother of the late Newton Piercey, Blanche Cook, and Phyllis McMullen. Fondly remembered by his sisters-in-law and his many nieces and nephews. The family will receive their friends at the Egan Funeral Home, 203 Queen St. S. (Hwy. 50), Bolton (905-857-2213) on Friday afternoon 2 - 4 and evening 6 - 8 o'clock. Funeral service will be held in the chapel on Saturday morning, March 8 at 11 o'clock. Interment Laurel Hill Cemetery, Bolton. If desired, memorial donations may be made to Caledon Community Services (ccs4u.org) or Bolton United Church (boltonunitedchurch. net). Condolences for the family may be offered at www.EganFuneralHome.com.

ORVAL MASHINTER

Care Community, Brampton, on Thursday, February 27, 2025, Orval Mashinter, at the age of 95, beloved husband for 73 years of Sarah Mashinter. Loving father of Barbara



and her husband Gary Watson, Donna Beers and her husband David Morano. Cherished grandfather of Heather Savazzi (Alex), Janelle Cavallo (Dino), Cheryl Suh (Henry), Sarah Topping (Tyler), and Christina Beers. Proud great-grandfather of Quinn, Elijah, Taiven, Eden, Lili, Leo, Kaia, Isaac, Aaden, Elliott, and Ivy. Dear brother of the late Ken (Dorothy) Mashinter, Evelyn (Roy) Jennings, Lorne (Ruth) Mashinter, and Bruce (Lil) Mashinter. The family received their friends at the Egan Funeral Home, 203 Queen St. S. (Hwy. 50), Bolton (905-857-2213) on Tuesday evening from 5 – 8 o'clock. Funeral service was held in the chapel on Wednesday morning, March 5 at 11 o'clock. Interment Laurel Hill Cemetery, Bolton. If desired, memorial donations may be made to a charity of your choice. Condolences for the family may be offered at www.EganFuneralHome.com.

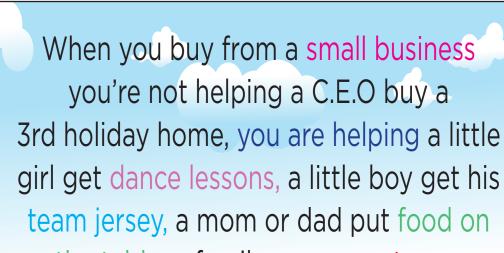
DOUG CHALK

Peacefully, surrounded by his loving family, at Bethell Hospice, Inglewood, on Thursday, February 27, 2025, Doug Chalk, at the age of 80 years, beloved husband of the late Bunny Chalk. Loving father of Gary (deceased), Tammi (Dave), Kimberly, and Adam (Jocelyn). Cherished grandfather of Kiefer, Jordan, Callahan, Brendan, Emma, Nathan, and Aria. Proud great-grandfather of Kaiden and Karson. Dear brother of Franny (Frank). Dear uncle of J.J. and David.

The family will receive their friends at the Egan Funeral Home, 203 Queen St. S. (Hwy 50), Bolton (905-857-2213) on Friday evening 6 – 8 p.m. and Saturday from 2 p.m. until time of the funeral service in the chapel at 2:30 p.m. Followed by cremation. A reception will follow the service at the funeral home.

If desired, donations may be made to Bethell Hospice Foundation (bethellhospice.org). Condolences for the family may be offered at www.EganFuneralHome.com

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the table, a family pay a mortgage or a student pay for college.





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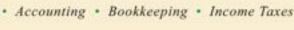
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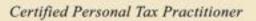


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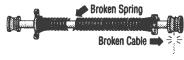
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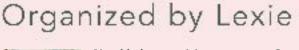
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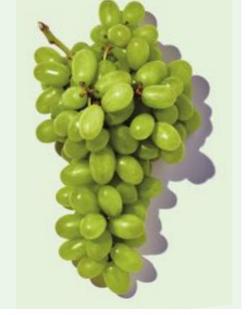


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After completing an Honours Bachelor of Science degree from York University, Dr. Kayla earned her Doctor of Dental Surgery degree at the University of Toronto Faculty of Dentistry. Her dedication to excellence was recognized during dental school, where she received a certificate of merit for her work with medically compromised patients, as well as an award for being the most outstanding student in clinical orthodontics.

Dr. Kayla enjoys all aspects of general dentistry, and her primary focus is on providing high-quality care with a personal touch. Committed to fostering strong relationships with her patients, Dr. Kayla's open communication style and friendly demeanor create an environment of trust and care. She is certified to offer minimal sedation, such as laughing gas, to ease patient anxiety, ensuring that each visit is as comfortable as possible.

Dr. Kayla is an active member of the Royal College of Dental Surgeons and the Ontario Dental Association. She is also dedicated to supporting the Bolton community, where she serves as a reliable healthcare provider who is always looking out for the well-being of local families. When she's not treating patients, she enjoys baking, swimming, various crafting projects, and spending time with her family and friends.

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WOMEN & BUSINESS



Women continue to thrive in the workforce.

WELLS FARGO REPORTS that, from 2019 to 2023, the growth rate of women-owned businesses outpaced the rate of men-owned businesses in relation to a number of firms, rate of employment and revenue earned. LinkedIn also indicates there are 114 percent more women entrepreneurs now than there were 20 years ago.

Every business owner or employee brings something unique to the employment landscape, and certain characteristics are universal, regardless of gender. Still, there are certain qualities that women bring to the workforce that can help businesses excel. Forbes indicates that female employees offer traits that can help drive engagement, productivity, satisfaction, and various other attributes. The following are some of the traits women may bring to business.

EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE

Women First Jobs says that women often bring high emotional intelligence to the table. Emotional intelligence involves understanding and managing emotions and the emotions of others. Women may be more inclined to understand different perspectives and to help resolve conflicts and build relationships.

COLLABORATION

Women employees often have traits that can foster collaboration in the workplace, such as reading non-verbal cues and willingness to take turns in

conversations, according to Forbes. This can help everyone collaborate more effectively.

ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

Women in the workplace continually seek opportunities for improvement, advises Sparklight Business. This can involve taking advice from other workers and peers. Women leaders embrace opportunities to do things better and work to improve their skills for the greater good.

COMMUNICATION

The IWEC Foundation, which empowers women entrepreneurs, says women tend to be effective communicators and often make great leaders because of this trait and their ability to inspire others. Communication is often key to any relationship, whether personal or in a business setting.

ORGANIZATION AND PLANNING

Women may excel at organizing and planning. Women can look at things with a detail-oriented eye and recognize flaws in plans even before getting started. This means women can be in charge of distributing workloads or organizing the schedules of others.

ADAPTABILITY

Even though it is a cliche, women tend to be natural multi-taskers. Handling multiple jobs at the same time means women can adapt to changing situations. Generally speaking, there are some inherent characteristics women may possess that can make them viable assets as business owners or leaders in their fields.



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PHOTO BY GLENN RODGER

BY BROCK WEIR

A new podcast aims to bring "Ancestral Voices" from diverse backgrounds to the table.

Ancestral Voices: We Belong, a new monthly podcast, is led by Traditional Anishinaabe Grandmother Kim Wheatley and Jamaican Canadian Storyteller and Lawyer Maxine Gordon Palomino.

The aim of the podcast, which is facilitated by Neighbour Media, is to "celebrate the rich narratives of Indigenous, Caribbean and Black communities."

The program was launched on February 25 at Aurora Town Square with Gordon Palomino saying their collective aim of the podcast is "getting to know ourselves, getting to know others" and share perspectives – even those that don't align "eye to eye" all the time.

"Our journey started in 2020," said Wheatley. "A mutual friend said, 'I think the two of you would sync together really well.' At the time, Maxine had a vision and she was working on a partnership with libraries to try and bring this

vision forward, and I thought that was a great idea. She really led that part of the project for us and we had a remarkable time with that.

"We're at 2025 [and] five years in we're still getting to know each other."

Wheatley says she is of Potawatomie, Ojibwe

Wheatley says she is of Potawatomie, Ojibwe and Caribbean ancestry and, therefore, lives at "that intersectionality of people of colour" and she wants to "honour all I am and all that travels through me."

"This has allowed me to really connect with my co-lead Maxine so powerfully and intimately," she said. "We feel and we act like sisters. All the things that come with sisterhood we have gone through and we continue to go through, and we have a great respect for each other."

Those sisterly bonds were underscored by Gordon Palomino.

"This is what Ancestral Voices is about: getting to know ourselves, getting to know others – some don't necessarily see eye to eye all the time, but you can see things from different perspectives," she said. "We tend to have two different approaches to most things and this is where

the sisterhood thing comes in. Each of us, with our creativity and our differences, we're able to make this project a home; we can listen to the podcast, you will hear the different tones and approaches... and I think that is what will make it interesting."

As the monthly podcast develops, Wheatley and Maxine Gordon are fielding any and all guest suggestions, stating they "don't want to be limited" in who sits opposite them at the microphone.

"We just want to highlight Indigenous, Black, African and Caribbean voices in a

platform that is safe and welcoming," says Wheatley, adding this includes cultural expressions of the past, present and future. "I hope the guests that we have on the podcast capture your interest and that you're able to like, share, and encourage other people to follow us.

"One of our superhero powers is freewill use it wisely. Just make very good choices for the greater good, from your heart first. The podcast is very much our heart-speak. We're not trying to bother or criticize anybody but we're trying to embrace a sense of unity."



On behalf of Caledon Council, I would like to recognize women on International Women's Day for what they do to make our communities strong.

Women are leaders, mothers, sisters, daughters, business owners, workers, caregivers, teachers and scholars. This global day is to recognize and celebrate women's and girls' social, economic, cultural and political achievements.

It's also a time to raise awareness of the progress made and the work remaining to be done.

#IWD2025AccelerateAction.





International Women's Day (IWD) is a global celebration of the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women and girls. For 49 years, this day has served as a reminder of the progress made—and the work still needed—to achieve true gender equality. This year's theme, "Accelerate Action," calls on us all to push forward with urgency and purpose.

At CDVS, action is not just a theme—it's what we do every day. The incredible women of our organization, including our dedicated staff and crisis responder volunteers, rise to the challenge daily. They provide unwavering support and guidance to women of all ages, individuals, families, 2SLGBTQI+ communities, Indigenous communities, and men who have experienced tragedy, crime, or disaster. Their commitment to accelerating action makes a real and lasting impact.

On this special day, we extend our heartfelt appreciation to our staff and crisis responders. Your dedication, strength, and compassion uplift and inspire those around you. You are truly remarkable.

To the women we serve, our community partners, funders, and supporters—we celebrate your resilience, courage, and unwavering spirit.

A special acknowledgment goes to our Executive Director, Dorothy Davis, who is retiring after 27 years of service with CDVS. Dorothy, your leadership, dedication, and countless actions over nearly three decades have transformed and expanded the services that support so many women. We thank you for your profound impact.

May this International Women's Day be filled with love, joy, and appreciation.

And let us remember the words of Kofi Annan:

"There is no tool for development more effective than the empowerment of women."

HAPPY INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY!

The Board of Directors for Caledon Dufferin Victim Services



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WOMEN & BUSINESS

New funding aimed to bring more people into the trades

BY BROCK WEIR

Hot on the heels of launching a program to help women gain apprenticeships in the trades, Construct – an initiative of Blue Door that aims to help unhoused or otherwise struggling individuals gain meaningful employment in the trades – has received Federal funding to support new and ongoing programs.

On Monday, Federal Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour Steven MacKinnon was joined by area MPs at Construct's Aurora base to announce \$14.3 million to help expand 13 "innovative approaches" organizations like Blue Door spearhead to help more people get into the trades.

"We are living in uncertain times but in order to confront those uncertain times, just like you're doing here with Construct and Blue Door, we have to get working and get going," said MacKinnon. "We are going to need people. We're going to need people to do the kind of building that this country requires to ensure that every Canadian who wants a house can get a house, to connect our economies and our trade routes. We need able, ready and skilled tradesmen and women. We need them quickly."

Noting that 600,000 Canadian skilled trade workers are due to retire by 2031, and 150,000



more by 2023, MacKinnon said there "could not be a more promising future in this country than that of being a skilled tradeswoman or tradesman."

"We have a skilled trade crisis. That's a problem for our economy, for our prosperity, for our ability to build the kinds of things that we need. With our neighbour to the south threatening new economic slights at us, it's more than a problem, it is something that calls us all to act. The work that Blue Door is doing is critical"

It is critical on multiple fronts, said Blue Door Executive Director Michael Braithwaite, who said Construct, which provides myriad contracting services, was developed to address an employment gap seen across Canada.

"One of the reasons we don't have the housing we desperately need, including affordable housing, is we don't actually have the workforce to build that housing," he said. "One of the reasons so many people experience homelessness is they don't actually have the income to afford the market housing that is out there. With Construct, this pre-apprenticeship program they go into, it's an eight-week program where people are paid, they have wraparound services like transportation needs, rent needs, childcare needs, psychological needs that are wrapped around them. If they need help with

mental health supports or other supports all wrapped around them for success, it gets them prepared to step in and ready to go as an apprentice in the trades where they are desperately needed.

"Here's the great thing going into the trades: they make a living wage right out of the gate. Poverty is stopped in its tracks. If they are experiencing homelessness... it prevents people from experiencing homelessness. It works for all sorts of different disadvantaged populations. We have youth coming through, we have newcomers, we have women fleeing violence. We have seniors that have come through and have had to change course later on in life, and Construct helps end that cycle of poverty."

This work, said Noel Baldwin, Executive Director of Future Skills Centre, is important in supporting the skilled trades, "which Canada needs if we're going to build everything we need to be more self-reliant and resilient.

"It recognizes that people who are facing barriers trying to contribute their skills and talents through our labour force, sometimes need more than just the training to get them there," he said. "Canada's economy is facing disruption, maybe on a scale unprecedented in generations as a result of geo-political forces, demographic change and drivers such as technological and climate change. With the country's economy in flux, ensuring workers across sectors in communities across the country have the skills they need to adapt and thrive is a key to building that resilient workforce that Canada and the people who live here need."

Among the dignitaries at Monday's announcement was Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill MP Leah Taylor Roy, who underscored the importance of Construct and like projects through a different lens.

"Right now, the concept of diversity, equity and inclusion is under threat and when you talk about those words there's nothing about any of those words that is negative. In fact, all of those words are going to help us build the workforce we need," said MP Taylor Roy. "I am so grateful we are looking at groups that may not think about getting into the trades and giving them a pathway to enter, as well as those who would consider it and helping all of those people as well.

"We're going to need every person, all the skill and talent we have in Canada engaged and if we start to say we're not concerned about these other groups we're missing a huge pool of talent we can bring to bear their skills and their work and contribute to building the kind of Canada we need in the future."

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From her beginnings as a BDC representative in 2011 to becoming General Manager at Bolton Hyundai, Bobby Aubi has never stopped driving forward. Her dedication and leadership have fueled a remarkable career path—moving through sales, service, finance, and management—culminating in her 2023 Women in Automotive Leadership award from Auto Remarketing Canada.

Her story is a testament to breaking barriers and inspiring the next generation of women in the automotive industry.



Bobby Aubi General Manager, Bolton Hyundai

Together, let's build a more inclusive industry where women's voices are heard, valued, and celebrated.









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Nestled in the beautiful retreat setting of Caledon, The Wellness Villa is Carolynn's heartfelt creation -a sanctuary for balance, creativity, and well-being. Passionate about teaching healthy lifestyles, she has thoughtfully designed this space to offer holistic wellness therapies, rejuvenating wellness retreats, and a welcoming community for those seeking mind, body, and spiritual harmony.

Proud to be part of the Caledon community, The Wellness Villa also features a curated selection of crystals, Himalayan salt products, handcrafted crystal jewelry, unique gifts, and nourishing freeze-dried foods—each chosen to support and inspire a vibrant, holistic way of living. From the Creative Makers Club to wellness workshops, every experience is designed to help you reconnect

recharge, and thrive. With deep gratitude and appreciation, Carolynn and The Wellness Villa team are honored to serve the community, offering a space where people can find comfort, healing, and inspiration. It is a privilege to support others on their journey to wellness, and they look forward to continuing to share this beautiful, nurturing retreat with all who seek balance and renewal.





Where Wellness & Lifestyle Unite

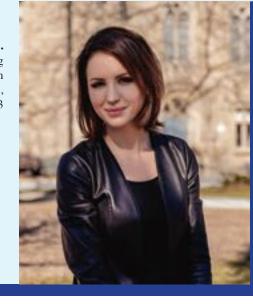
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HILARY MATTHEWS, HARVEY KALLES REAL ESTATE LTD.

Hilary's story began in Glen Williams, which reflects a similar sense of community and kindness among its residents as its larger neighbor, Caledon. The move to Bolton, Caledon, later in life felt natural! Her early ambition to become a homeowner, along with her passion for the opportunities that owning a home provides—both in personal security and building wealth—helped her turn this passion into a career. Hilary's experience with multiple renovations in her own homes has given her the ability to assist clients in transforming a house into a home (and a saleable one when needed!). Her personal commitment, paired with her team of skilled tradespeople, ensures clients are well taken care of. When Hilary isn't working, she loves spending time with her family, her 3 rescue pups, and exploring the parks and beautiful trails in Caledon!



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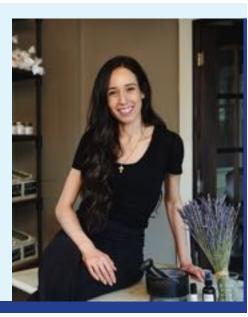
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CINDY, WATER ROOTS DAY SPA

With over 20 years in the aesthetics industry, Cindy, a licensed aesthetician and certified aromatherapist, has dedicated her career to helping clients achieve radiant, healthy skin. Her passion for skincare began in high school, inspired by her own struggles with acne and a love for handcrafted products. In 2011, she founded Water Roots Day Spa, a sanctuary where clients experience expert skincare, holistic wellness, and

As a certified aromatherapist, Cindy creates all-natural body butters, cuticle oils, room sprays, diffuser blends, body scrubs, wood wick candles, handmade soaps, and more in her apothecary studio. Every manicure, pedicure, body treatment, and Water Roots facial features handmade scrubs, soaks, creams, and masks, freshly crafted each month with seasonal scents and ingredients.

Water Roots has earned multiple awards, including the 2025 Canadian Choice Award for Best Spa. Built on referrals, the spa thrives by offering all aesthetic services, including advanced facials, acne management, laser hair removal, and so much more. Cindy and her team are committed to ongoing education, providing a true retreat where clients can relax, recharge, and leave feeling their absolute best.



WOMEN@BUSINESS



Danielle Gomes is the owner of Crown Commons, a landscape design firm dedicated to creating beautiful, functional, and sustainable landscapes.

Danielle Gomes, owner of landscape design firm Crown Commons

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

life," said Gomes.

Helping clients create sustainable, beautiful and functional landscapes is all in a day's work for Danielle Gomes.

Gomes is the owner of Crown Commons, a landscape design company founded last September

She has an advanced diploma in landscape design and worked in a variety of roles at companies across the GTA before starting her own business.

"I'm a new local business and so far so good, the

Caledon area seems to be very receptive which is absolutely fantastic," said Gomes. Gomes has always loved gardening, but went into landscape design by chance after seeing and

sign program she ended up taking.

"It was one of those moments where it clicked for me, I thought, 'I can do that for the rest of my

walking into an open house for the landscape de-

With her business Crown Commons, Gomes wants to push the boundaries of landscape design with fresh, innovative ideas. She works to create

outdoor spaces that are functional and visually striking

Gomes pays close attention to sustainability and the environment in all of her designs.

"It's almost your obligation as a designer to be that steward for the environment," said Gomes, noting that including native plant species and managing rainwater are key.

As a newer business, Gomes said she's been doing a lot of networking and that it's been very beneficial. She recommends networking to any new business owners as it's an amazing way to make connections.

"I've grown to know a whole bunch of new people... new contractors, new clients," said Gomes.

Gomes said it has been extremely rewarding to run her own business, and that she's enjoyed being a part of the Caledon Chamber of Commerce.

Gomes is looking forward to meeting the community at the upcoming 2025 Home & Lifestyle Show in Bolton, which runs from April 11 to 13 at the Albion Bolton Community Centre.

For more information on Crown Commons or to reach out to Gomes, those interested can visit crowncommons.ca.

Caledon women in politics on the importance of International Women's Day

Councillor Lynn Kiernan said it's more important than ever to stand up for women.

BY ZACHARY ROMAN

INITIATIVE REPORTER

International Women's Day is March 8, and Caledon Councillors say now more than ever it's important to recognize the day.

Lynn Kiernan, now serving her second term as Ward 1 Councillor, has lived in northwest Caledon her entire life and became a politician to solve problems and give back to the place she loves

She said female representation in politics is incredibly important.

"We need to break down those invisible barriers and have women in places where decisions are being made," said Kiernan. "We see what's going on south of the border... now, more than ever, women need to stand up for each other."

Kiernan said her advice to any woman looking to enter politics is this: "You already know your worth. Stick to your values, and don't let anyone move you off those values."

Kiernan is passionate about being a municipal councillor.

"I genuinely, in my heart, care. It's not just a job... this is something that you should have a passion for your community to do," said Kiernan.

She said International Women's Day is an important day for her to celebrate alongside her friends and colleagues.

"I know I keep talking about south of the border, but women's rights are being trampled... we

need to show solidarity," said Kiernan.

Christina Early is another Caledon Councillor serving her second term. In her first term, she served as Ward 2 Councillor, and she now serves as the Regional Councillor for Wards 1, 2 and 3.

Early said she's incredibly fortunate to have so many strong women in her life, both professionally and in her volunteer work.

"I so respect and value women supporting each other in leadership roles," said Early.

She said International Women's Day is an important time to celebrate women's achievements in social, economic, cultural and political spheres.

"We need to continue to address ongoing challenges such as inequality and violence

against women," said Early.

Annette Groves was first elected in 2000 as the Regional Councillor for Ward 5 and is now serving her first term as Mayor of the Town of Caledon.

She said she was inspired to get into politics by her desire to help the community and people with special needs.

"It was important to me to make a difference in the community on what matters to people and improve their quality of life," said Groves.

Groves said it's important to have diversity in politics as it provides a balance of perspectives.

Her advice to women looking to enter politics is to "never give up, persevere in difficult times, have faith in yourself and reach for the stars"



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Caledon women in business: Tish Hansen, owner of personal assistant service The Concierge

Hansen helps people and businesses get their to-do lists done.

BY ZACHARY ROMAN LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Helping busy professionals and small businesses manage their stressful schedules is at the core of Tish Hansen's business, The Concierge.

"We take their to-do list off their hands for them every week and we get it done so they don't have to worry about it," said Hansen.

The inspiration for Hansen's business comes from her own life experience; she was a marketing executive for 20 years and raised three kids. To say it was busy is an understatement.

"I could always hire somebody to clean my house, but I could never hire anybody to do all of those things that needed to be done like laundry, meal prep, grocery shopping, prescription pickups, and dry cleaning because there was no such company," she said.

When she left corporate life, Hansen decided she would fill that gap in the market, and that's how The Concierge was founded in 2019.

Hansen said a conversation she often has with people is the "vou don't have to do this yourself" conversation. She said no matter who you are, it's OK to delegate tasks because life is busy.

Whether it's helping a small business with filing a few hours a week, or helping a busy professional get their dry cleaning done, Hansen is happy to help.

"I get texts and emails all the time from clients saying 'thank you so much' and 'you don't know how much this takes off my hands'... I get that type of response all the time," said Hansen.

Hansen enjoys running her own company and making connections with clients. She was born and raised in Caledon and is proud to serve the town and surrounding areas. She said Caledon has an amazing business community.

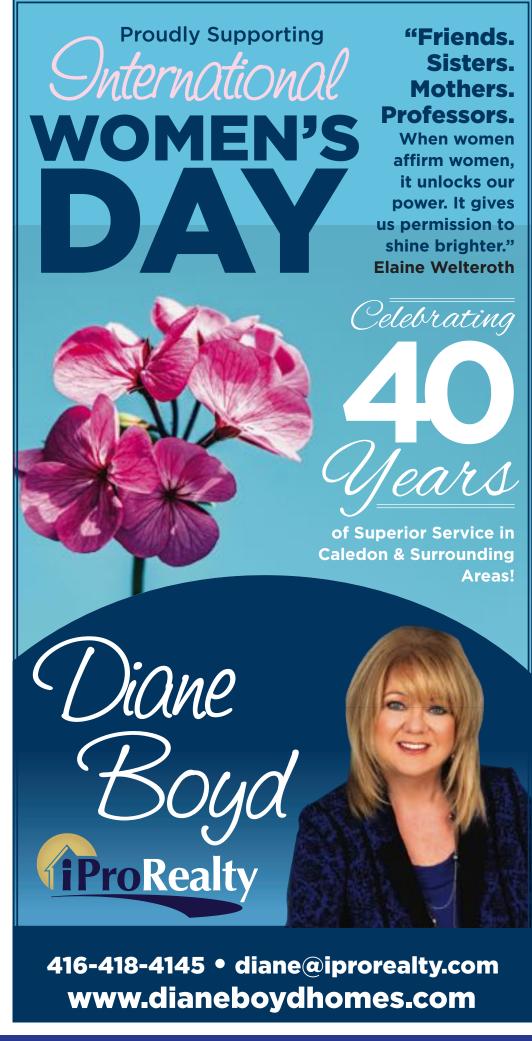
"We all support each other so well," said

For those looking to start their own business, Hansen said being extremely clear on what service you are offering and who your ideal client is key. From there, networking is critical for expanding your business, she added.

"Don't wait to start your business, just do it... get out there and talk to people," she said.

Hansen encourages anyone curious about her business to reach out. For more information, including contact information, interested parties can visit the-concierge.ca.





FOCUS ON WOMEN IN BUSINESS







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WOMEN & BUSINESS

Holly Caporiccio-Kassak, owner of Cappuccino Marketing

Caporiccio-Kassak is celebrating 10 successful years in business this year.

BY ZACHARY ROMAN LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

If your company has marketing needs of any kind, Cappuccino Marketing can fulfill them. Holly Caporiccio-Kassak is the owner and chief creative officer for the company.

"We offer extensive, integrative marketing services including graphic design, campaign management, marketing strategy, branding, social media management, web development... anything your company needs to succeed from a marketing standpoint, we do it," said Caporiccio-Kassak.

Caporiccio-Kassak fell in love with marketing when she was in business school and after graduation, she began working at marketing firms. She was rapidly developing strong relationships with clients and recognized that she had an in-demand skill set.

That's why at the age of just 24, Caporiccio-Kassak founded Cappuccino Marketing.

"I decided to take a leap of faith alongside a colleague at the time who I no longer work with... not just being a female entrepreneur but a young one, it was an interesting opportunity," she said. "I wanted to grow my skills at a pace faster than I was able to working for someone else... it was scary but it was also re-

It was a leap of faith that paid off. Cappuccino Marketing is celebrating 10 successful years in business in 2025, and some clients have been with the firm for the entirety of its existence. Caporiccio-Kassak said she loves the creativity and strategy that comes with marketing work. She takes a hands-on approach with clients' brand goals and marketing strategies.

"Agility is a strength... I'm the main hub of the business which allows me to be nimble and agile, but also economical for my clients," said Caporiccio-Kassak. "When you're dealing with me, you're dealing with me and I think a lot of my customers value that. That's why I've been able to grow so substantially, because of the relationships I've forged."

Tackling bigger and bigger projects, and developing professionally, has been key in Caporiccio-Kassak's career and business growth. During the pandemic, she went back to school online to get her Master's in Business Administration.

Now a mother of a two-year-old, Caporiccio-Kassak said working for herself has benefits — even if it means sometimes she has to work all night.

"The expectations on a working female professional to also balance the requirements of a family can differ significantly from what I've seen for males... the gap is closing, which is fantastic, but I always had to keep it in the back of my mind that if I'm a successful business owner, I still have to think about family life," said Caporiccio-Kassak.

With International Women's Day being celebrated on March 8, Caporiccio-Kassak said she's proud of female-owned businesses, especially local ones.

"I'm just really proud that over the last couple of generations, women have been able to make leaps that would have been crazy to think of in the past," said Caporiccio-Kassak.



Holly Caporiccio-Kassak, owner of Cappuccino Marketing, is celebrating 10 successful years in business this year. **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**



International Women's Day



VERONA TESKEY

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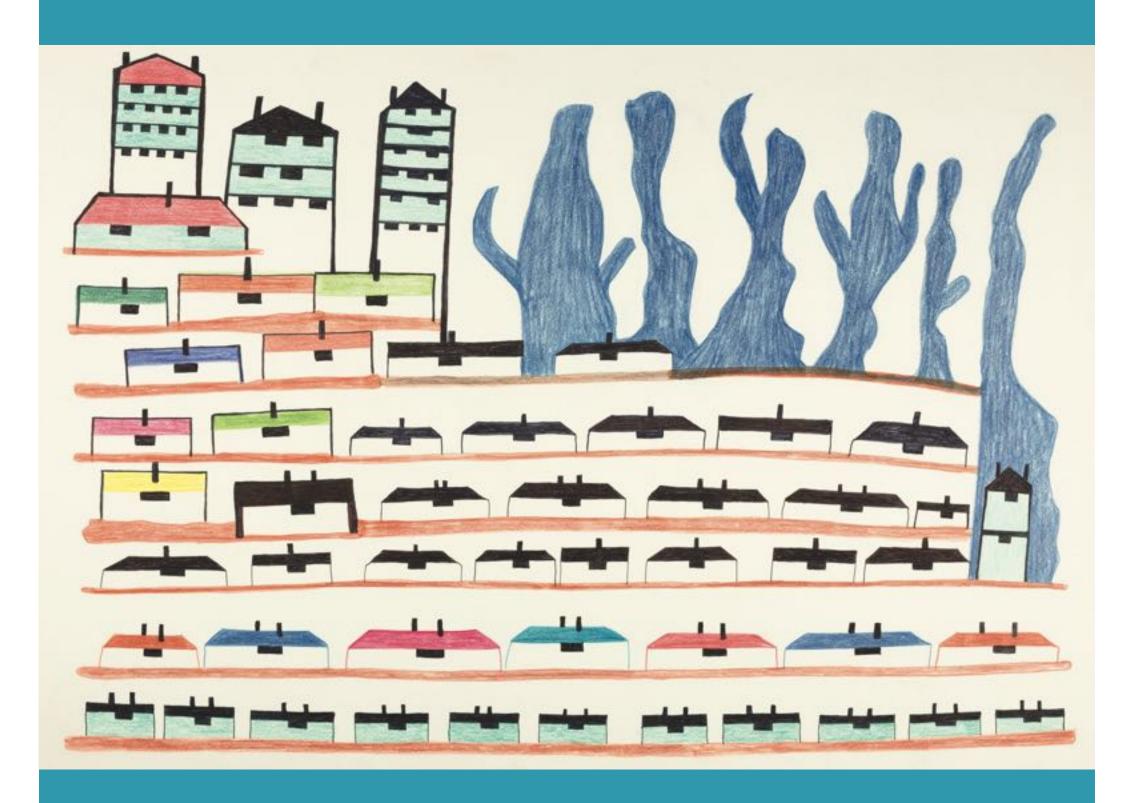
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