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THURSDAY MAY 8TH TO WEDNESDAY MAY 14TH, 2025.
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ON 2



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3⁹⁹

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3⁹⁹



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Haddock Portions
340g pkg

7⁹⁹

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12⁹⁹



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10⁹⁹

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17⁹⁹
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Sylvia Jones, MPP for Dufferin-Caledon, presented a congratulatory plaque to the team at Bethell Hospice on the occasion of the event's 15th anniversary. PHOTO BY RILEY MURPHY

Bethell Hospice celebrates record turnout at milestone fundraising Hike

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

The community and the sun were in full wattage this past weekend for the 15th annual Hike for Bethell Hospice.

The hike took place on May 3, 15 years from the day Bethell Hospice first hosted the event.

The hike was held during National Hospice Palliative Care Week in Caledon.

Bethell Hospice Foundation Board co-chairs Adrian Horwood and Bonnie Klaassen wel-

comed everyone and spoke about the effort it takes to run the hike and Bethell Hospice itself.

"Every year, the Foundation has to raise over \$1.8 million to provide personalized palliative programs and services, all of which are provided at no cost to residents, families, and the communities," said Klaassen.

Horwood thanked the volunteers for their tireless efforts and the many hours they put in to make this event happen.

During the opening ceremony, Margaret Paan, the Executive Director of Bethell Hospice, announced that the record for team participants was

set this year, with 58 teams in total registered.

"We want to tell all of you how much we appreciate each of you coming together to support the Hospice. You might be a first-time hiker or a returning team, but please know you each make an incredible difference by being here today," remarked Paan.

Before the hike began, Horwood announced that Hospice had raised \$233,000 in donations.

Continued on Page A13

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Caledon family seeks help for daughter's treatment

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Stasiewski family is seeking donations and support for their daughter, Isabella, who has been diagnosed with arteriovenous malformation and diffuse arteriovenous malformations.

The family has been on an emotional rollercoaster ever since 12-year-old Isabella's diagnosis as they try to seek life-saving treatment.

Continued on Page A9

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Council unanimously backs Ward-based voting system after strong public support

Discussion stemmed from debate on how to elect Regional Councillors

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Following the recent public survey regarding methods to elect Regional Councillors, municipal leaders and residents revisited the motion on May 6 at Council’s General Committee meeting.

In the report, there were three options for residents.

Option One was that the Town of Caledon exercises its authority under the Regional Municipality of Peel Act, 2005, to change the method of electing its Regional Council representatives from voting based on Ward vote to an At-Large vote.

Option Two, the Town of Caledon formally requests that the Region of Peel address the selection method under section 218 of the Municipal Act, 2001.

Option Three would maintain the status quo of continuing the current tri-ward based model.

Multiple delegates advocated for Option Three in the proposed plan, to continue with the current ward-based voting system of electing Regional Councillors.

William Snell, a resident from Ward

One, was the first to speak on the matter and urged Councillors to maintain the current framework.

Snell quoted the idiom, “if it ain’t broke don’t fix it.”

“The primary and overwhelming reason to maintain the current framework is it ensures at least some democratic representation at Peel Council for the rural areas of Caledon. It prevents the further degradation of the local democratic process,” said Snell.

Snell stated that the third option allowed Councillors with a strong grasp of local rural issues to knowledgeably represent these issues effectively at Peel Council.

Alan Axworthy was the next delegate, who also urged the Council to vote in favour of Option Three.

“The public consultation and engagement process has clearly shown a very strong desire to retain the existing Tri-Ward model in order to ensure that Caledon’s rural areas continue to be represented in the region,” said Axworthy.

Axworthy spoke on the ward boundary review conducted in 2021 regarding preserving rural representation.

“Watson and Associates, who are experts in electoral and ward boundary reviews, provided their perspectives and guidance on ward-based versus at-large Regional representation. They pointed to the benefits of a ward-based model as keeping the two most populated urban areas of Bolton

and Mayfield West in separate Regional wards while still maintaining a large rural presence in each regional ward grouping.”

The next delegate was Rayissa Palmer, a Ward One resident from Terracotta.

Palmer, a property owner in her area since 2009, stressed how distinct rural Caledon is with precious farmland and agricultural treasures.

“We consist of farm families that have been here since before and after the War of 1812 and also many people like me who move from Toronto or from other cities to rural Caledon to live a different life. We are an incredibly special community that doesn’t exist in many places in Ontario,” said Palmer.

“While we will be growing in the next decade, the essence of our community needs to be preserved and nurtured.”

Palmer urged Council to vote for Option Three to maintain representation.

“Be on the right side of history, not the wrong side of this vote,” urged Palmer. “Do not support the change to an at-large vote for Regional Councilors.”

The final delegate was Sherry Brioschi, who spoke on four different items on the agenda.

Regarding methods to elect Regional Councillors, Brioschi also urged Council to move forward with option three.

In the 2026 Municipal Election Voting Methods Survey, 92.5 per cent of the voters favoured the option of Regional Councillors elected through a ward-based system.

59 per cent of those who participated in the survey resided in Ward One.

The motion to move forward with Option Three was unanimously carried, and was met with a round of applause from those attending the meeting.

Town of Caledon celebrates Economic Development Week

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

In celebration of Economic Development Week, the Town of Caledon is hosting an Open House on May 15 at the Humber River Centre.

They are inviting local businesses and entrepreneurs to explore new opportunities and connect with industry leaders.

The Open House will also feature the Town’s new Business Incubator Program, launched in partnership with Toronto Metropolitan University’s DMZ.

In a statement to the Citizen, Eric Lucic, Commissioner of Planning and Development for the Town of Caledon, shared more on what will be available.

“Attendees can explore a full range of business support services, including access to free co-working spaces, expert advisory services, meet our resident Entrepreneur coach Darren, and learn more about Humber River Centre Incubator Program Powered by DMZ,” said Lucic.

“The Business Incubator Program, powered by Toronto Metropolitan University’s DMZ, is designed to accelerate the growth of early-stage companies through mentorship, networking, and hands-on business

training. Startups will gain access to a global network, workshops, and one-on-one support. This is a game-changing opportunity for any entrepreneur looking to scale their business in a supportive, innovation-focused environment.”

Lucic says the open house is an opportunity to build relationships and demonstrate how Caledon is actively investing in its entrepreneurial community.

There will be various people on site for residents to connect with.

Resources include a variety of business service providers, startup advisors from the DMZ network, and industry partners who support the small business ecosystem.

The Town’s Economic Development Team will be on site as well.

“The Economic Development team will be on-site to offer guidance, introduce attendees to relevant programs and funding streams, and help identify next steps for business growth. Whether you’re looking to expand, hire, or access grants, our team can help you explore the options available,” said Lucic.

Space is limited to 50 people for the event to ensure a quality experience, so those wishing to attend are encouraged to register in advance.

Visit caledonbusiness.ca/hrc to register.

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 1:50,000

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- Orange: Residential (Medium Density)
- Green: Residential (High Density)
- Brown: Commercial
- Red: Industrial
- Blue: Water
- Grey: Road
- White: Open Space

Inset Map:

Location: Sarnak 0-7

Scale: 1:50,000

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BREAK AND ENTER INVESTIGATION

Members of the Caledon Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are investigating a break and enter on The Gore Road.

“On April 29, 2025 at approximately 2:55 a.m. officers were dispatched to a residence on The Gore Road, near Castlederg Side Road, in the Town of Caledon, for a report of a break and enter,” say Police. The preliminary investigation revealed that the home was forcefully entered. A resident was at home when this occurred but was not injured.

“Four males entered the home and stole a quantity of items from the residence. Two other males remained outside of the residence. All six males were observed leaving the area in a dark coloured sedan.”

Suspect 1: Described as a male, wearing a dark sweater, dark shoes, light coloured gloves and a Nike balaclava.

Suspect 2: Described as a male, wearing a dark coloured Champion hooded sweatshirt and dark pants.

Suspect 3: Described as a dark-skinned male, wearing a dark jacket, jeans and black shoes. Wearing a medical mask and hood.

Suspect 4: Described as a dark-skinned male with glasses, wearing a blue Avirex long sleeve shirt and New Balance shoes.



Suspect 5: Described as a dark-skinned male, wearing a blue Canada Goose vest, grey sweatpants, black and white running shoes.

Suspect 6: Described as a dark-skinned male, wearing a black jacket with black pants with a white and black draw string.

Anyone with information, including dashcam or CCTV footage of the area during that timeframe, is asked to call the OPP Caledon Detachment Major Crime Unit at 1-888-310-1122 (reference number E250529034). You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Peel Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or online at www.peelcrimestoppers.ca. When you contact Crime Stoppers, you stay anonymous, and you never have to testify.

MULTIPLE ARRESTS AND VEHICLE SEIZURES

Between May 2 and May 5, 2025, officers from the Caledon Detachment of Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) arrested and charged four drivers for impaired operation, six for stunt driving, and laid over 160 traffic-related charges.

“On May 3, 2025, shortly after 1:00 a.m., an officer responding to a traffic complaint on Highway 10, near Highpoint Side Road, located a driver and formed grounds that their ability to operate a motor vehicle was impaired by alcohol, leading to an arrest,” say Police.

Esmeralda Melendez, 27, of Tottenham, was charged with:

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

The charge has not been proven.

“Shortly after 2:00 a.m. on the same day, an officer stopped a vehicle on Highway 50, near Mayfield Road, for a traffic-related violation. The investigation led to an arrest since the officer formed grounds that the driver’s ability to operate a motor vehicle was impaired by alcohol.”

Fabricio Sarabia, 41, of Toronto, was charged with:

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

The charge has not been proven.

On May 4, 2025, just after 5:00 a.m., officers responded to a single motor vehicle collision on Airport Road, near King Street. The officer formed grounds that the driver’s ability was impaired by alcohol and was subsequently arrested.

- Simran Dhaliwal, 22, of Hillsburgh, was charged with:

Operation while impaired - Blood alcohol concentration (80 plus)

The charge has not been proven.

“On May 5, 2025, just before 3:00 a.m., officers responded to a single vehicle collision on Innis lake Road, north of Castlederg Side Road. Grounds were formed that the driver’s ability to operate a motor vehicle was impaired by alcohol, leading to an arrest.

Sukman, 26, of Brampton, was charged with:

- Failure or refusal to comply with demand;
- Driving motor vehicle with liquor readily available

The charges have not been proven.

“On May 4, 2025, shortly before 8:00 p.m., officers responding to a traffic complaint stopped a motor vehicle on Highway 9, near Highway 50. Upon stopping the vehicle, officers entered into a stolen property investigation.”

As a result, Apinesh Eswaradevan, 20, of Toronto, was charged with:

- Breach of recognizance;
- Possession of property obtained by crime under \$5000.

The charges have not been proven.

Abinesh Gunabalasingham and Jeron Jesunayagam, both 18 and of Brampton, were also charged with:

- Possession of property obtained by crime under \$5000

The charges have not been proven.

Motorists charged with impaired operation related offences had their drivers licenses suspended for 90 days, and their vehicles impounded for seven days.

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

The six drivers charged with stunt driving had

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their licenses suspended for 30 days and their vehicles impounded for 14 days.

For more information about speeding and aggressive driving, visit: www.ontario.ca/page/speeding-and-aggressive-driving.

Officers from the Caledon Detachment dedicate themselves to traffic enforcement daily, vigilantly monitoring for the ‘Big 4’ driving violations: impaired driving, seatbelt non-compliance, aggressive driving, and distracted driving.

MOTORCYCLE SAFETY

May is Motorcycle Awareness Month, and the Dufferin Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is reminding all road users to prioritize safety as motorcycle season ramps up.

Throughout the month of May, OPP officers will be actively engaging with the public through both education and enforcement initiatives aimed at increasing awareness around motorcycle safety. With warmer weather bringing more motorcyclists onto Ontario roads, the campaign is focused on reducing collisions and encouraging safe practices among both riders and drivers.

Motorcycle safety is a shared responsibility. Whether you’re on a bike or behind the wheel of a vehicle, staying alert and respectful of all road users is key to preventing serious injuries and fatalities.

- Safety Tips for Motorcyclists:**
- Wear proper gear including a DOT-approved helmet, gloves, jacket, and protective boots;
 - Inspect your motorcycle before each ride-check brakes, lights, tires, and fluid levels;
 - Ride defensively and anticipate the actions of other drivers;
 - Follow posted speed limits and obey all traffic signals;
 - Make yourself visible, use your signals and wear bright or reflective clothing.
- Safety Tips for Drivers:**
- Check blind spots carefully before changing lanes;
 - Give motorcyclists space, do not tailgate;
 - Watch for motorcycles at intersections and when turning;
 - Avoid distractions and stay focused on the road at all times.

The Dufferin OPP encourages everyone to take this opportunity to refresh their road safety knowledge and help reduce preventable collisions. Whether you ride or drive, staying alert and following the rules of the road can save lives.

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Reminder, Children 18 and Under Are Eligible for the Canadian Dental Care Plan. As of May 1st, 55-64 years olds are also eligible to apply for CDCP. Call the CDCP at 1-833-537-4342 to sign up.



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CLUES ACROSS

1. Two-person German submarine
6. 60-minute intervals (abbr.)
9. Database management system
13. Vertical position
14. American jazz singer Irene
15. Ancient Greek City
16. Former Senate Majority Leader Harry
17. Japanese seaport
18. Self-immolation by fire ritual
19. Assigns tasks
21. Beloved type of cigar
22. Discounts
23. Cambodian communist leader Pot
24. Important football position
25. Kilometers per hour
28. Lentil
29. Extremely angry
31. Yellow-flowered European plant
33. American state
36. Some are made by rabbits
38. Express with a head movement
39. Affair
41. Cured
44. Youth organization
45. 18-year astronomical period
46. Automobile
48. Focus a shot
49. The NFL’s big game (abbr.)
51. Mouth
52. Infections
54. Curved pieces of a horse collar
56. Shameless
60. Assist in escaping
61. Capuchin monkey genus
62. Cold wind
63. Retired Brazilian NBAer
64. Tropical Old World tree
65. Bulgarian city
66. Speak indistinctly
67. Soviet Socialist Republic
68. Between-meal sustenance
CLUES DOWN
1. Not soft
2. Sharp-pointed dueling sword
3. Line a roof
4. Greek god of the underworld
5. Software
6. Large-headed elongated fishes
7. Shag rugs
8. Type of whale
9. Lacking a plan
10. Spill the beans
11. Some is “heavy”
12. One who has been canonized
14. Indicate times
17. Greeting
20. Broadway actor Josh
21. Seashore
23. Indicates before
25. Electrical power unit
26. Destitute
27. Drags forcibly
29. Impropriety
30. Word forms
32. Equal to 10 meters
34. Neither
35. Computer language
37. Practice of aging film or TV characters (abbr.)
40. A woolen cap of Scottish origin
42. A promise
43. Challenges
47. Official
49. People living in Myanmar
50. Notable tower
52. Type of sword
53. Vaccine developer
55. Listing
56. Summertime insects
57. Concluding passage
58. Guitarist Clapton
59. Damp and musty
61. Central nervous system
65. Against

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

Ontario invests more than \$250,000 in Caledon OPP’s video surveillance

The Ontario government is investing over \$254,000 to help Caledon Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) expand its video surveillance systems and better protect the community against crime, such as gun and gang violence.

Funding is being delivered through the Ontario Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) Grant Program and can be used to replace outdated equipment, expand or enhance current technology, and install new or additional CCTV surveillance cameras in areas where gun and gang violence and correlated crimes, such as drug and human trafficking, are most prevalent.

“Our government is continuing to take action to keep Ontario families safe, especially in growing communities like Caledon,” said Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones. “This investment through the CCTV Grant Program is one more step we are taking to support safer streets and stronger communities for years to come.”

Caledon Mayor Annette Groves shared how the funding will benefit the community she represents.

“Caledon is a growing community and this funding will help improve community safety,” said Groves. “I thank the province for recognizing this need and MPP Sylvia Jones for advocating on our behalf. As a Council, we are committed to community safety and working with the OPP to keep Caledon safe.”

In response to growing public safety concerns, the Town of Caledon and the OPP are advancing community security through the implementation of a modern CCTV surveillance system in high-risk areas. This initiative exemplifies Caledon’s commitment to proactive crime prevention, enhanced law enforcement, and a safer, more connected community for residents and businesses alike.

“The Ontario CCTV Grant Program is a vital initiative that underscores the OPP’s commitment to safeguarding all residents in Ontario,” said Insp. Natalie Majer, Detachment Commander at Caledon OPP. “By leveraging advanced surveillance technology, this program enhances effective policing and fosters stronger community engagement.



Mayor & Council joined MPP Sylvia Jones and members of the OPP to announce police funding. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Strengthening our CCTV systems will significantly improve our ability to monitor and respond to criminal activities in real time. This investment not only reinforces our crime prevention strategies but also ensures a safer and secure environment for all residents of Caledon.”

Solicitor General Michael Kerzner noted the significance of implementing CCTV surveillance.

“CCTV surveillance systems are an important part of local police work to detect, prevent and deter criminal activity, especially in areas of gun and gang violence and other serious crimes,” he said. “Through this grant program, our government led by Premier Ford is ensuring police services have the tools and resources they need to help protect their communities and keep Ontarians safe.”

The grant funding covers 50 per cent of project costs up to a maximum of \$300,000 for each successful project.

Launched in August 2020, the Ontario CCTV Grant program is part of Ontario’s Guns, Gangs and Violence Reduction Strategy. The funding being provided to Caledon OPP supports one of 14 projects across the province, for a total investment of \$2 million for 2024-2025.

Caledon OPP receives funding to help expand support for crime victims

The Ontario government is investing more than \$3 million to support victims and survivors of crime. The funding is being delivered through the Victim Support Grant (VSG) program and includes \$175,000 for Caledon Ontario Provincial Police (OPP).

This funding will be used to support victims of intimate partner violence and sexual assault by addressing the accessibility of medical care and reporting, providing access to information in a victim’s native language and offering necessities to victims in crisis.

Community partners will also be trained on trauma-informed care and cultural competency, so the community is better equipped to support victims and survivors of intimate partner violence and sexual assault.

“Under the leadership of Premier Ford, our government is taking decisive action to ensure the victims of crime are connected to the care and services they need, when they need them most,” said Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones. “By providing Caledon OPP with this important funding, we are enabling our world-class law enforcement to do what they do best – protect our community.”

“I am very pleased Caledon will receive this funding to support the survivors and their families,” said Mayor Annette Groves. “It is important that services are available to help people through traumatic experiences, and I thank the Province and MPP Sylvia Jones for advocating for this funding on our behalf”

The Safe Together Alliance is dedicated to enhancing

community safety within Caledon by strengthening initiatives that support victims of intimate partner violence and sexual assault. Through targeted funding, this project expands crucial services that empower survivors, promote healing, and foster a safer community.

“Aligned with the Caledon OPP Action Plan, the Victim Services Grant is a transformative initiative that provides essential resources for those affected by crime,” said Insp. Natalie Majer, detachment commander at Caledon OPP. “This funding empowers service providers to deliver comprehensive support including legal aid, counseling, emergency assistance, and the procurement of specialized equipment—helping victims rebuild their lives. By investing in these essential services, the members of Caledon OPP reaffirm our unwavering commitment to justice, ensuring that survivors receive the care, protection, and resources they need to rebuild their lives and move forward.”

Solicitor General Michael Kerzner noted the importance of supporting people affected by crime.

“Our government recognizes the devastating impact that crime can have on its victims and survivors,” he said. “Through this grant program, we’re helping to ensure that victims of crime feel safe and supported.”

The Victim Support Grant is part of Ontario’s Guns, Gangs and Violence Reduction Strategy and complements the province’s \$307 million Anti-Human Trafficking Strategy, 2020-2025 and Combating Human Trafficking Act, 2021.

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NEWS

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Final Property Tax Bills Are Arriving Early

Final property tax bills are being mailed out in May this year for your convenience—but the payment schedule hasn’t changed. As always, tax installments are due the first Thursday of March, May, July and September.

If you haven’t already, now is a great time to register for our new property tax portal to simplify your tax experience. Once registered, be sure to also sign-up for ebilling to receive email notifications and electronic tax bills going forward.

Visit caledon.ca/tax for more info.

Discover Local Programs & Services for Older Adults in Caledon

The Age-Friendly Community Directory is powered by 211 and makes it easy for older adults to find housing, healthcare, community programs, caregiver support, and more - all in one place.

No internet? No problem! The directory is also available as print-ready PDFs in multiple languages including Italian, French and Punjabi.

Visit caledon.ca/adult-55-services to learn more.

The Town of Caledon’s Tree Seedling Program is Closing Soon!

Residents, businesses, and schools can now order potted trees, bundled seedlings, shrubs, and mulch mats through our online storefront.

Hurry! The online storefront closes Friday, May 9.

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“I’m In Love with Your Sister” finds humour in heartbreak

BY CONSTANCE SCRAFIELD

If a person’s heart is thought to be broken, the kindly touch of another’s hand is a great solace, a laugh of distraction, an afternoon in the park – all these might lead the sad heart to lighten.

When Kevin comes home earlier than expected from a conference, he suddenly believes his live-in sweetheart is in bed with another man. So, he thinks at first. Ready to be dissuaded by Louise, his alleged sweetheart as she rushes out of their bedroom when he calls for her and denies his suspicion, the presence of another man’s shoes in the kitchen and the memory of a man running down the street in his socks brings in the thunder of truth.

“I’m In Love with Your Sister” by Norm Foster is a World Premiere at Theatre Orangeville, on now and running until May 18. It begins with this picture, where the ensuing exchange between Kevin and Louise is reminiscent of Monty Python: a desperate situation made funny by creating a comedy of anger and despair.

What brings it all home is Louise’s positive-

ly goofy lack of remorse as she critiques Kevin’s quirks and his bedroom lethargy.

They push and pull between them, balancing the jokes, he throwing his love out to her and she packing goodness-knows-what into a suitcase.

Exit Louise.

Barely catching his breath, comes a banging knock on Kevin’s door.

Enter Louise’s sister Patsy.

Patsy has arrived to give Kevin a hard time about shoohing Louise back to live with her.

“I don’t want Louise living with me!” declares Patsy. “She was fine with you...”

Add muddled and awkward feelings, that is what Foster does for us and we laugh and love him for it.

These three actors are very well acquainted with Norm Foster and his clever, moving and wonderful plays. Each of them has acted in a number of Foster plays. As well, they are all returning to the stage here at Theatre Orangeville.

Maria Dinn playing the role of Patsy, has appeared at Theatre Orangeville for The Gentleman Clothier, Elvis and Mavis, and the rollicking “Skin



From left: Erin MacKinnon, Maria Dinn and Reid Janisse are currently on stage starring in a Norm Foster’s world premiere, “I’m In Love With Your Sister,” which is closing out Theatre Orangeville’s 31st season. The play is on now until May 18 at the Orangeville Opera House.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



**THEATRE
ORANGEVILLE**



**I'M IN LOVE
WITH YOUR
SISTER**

MAY 1 TO 18

by Norm Foster

WORLD PREMIERE COMEDY

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Flick.” She has a worthy and lengthy list of theatre credits, including other Foster plays. Of this play where she is Patsy, Dinn told us this is a show in which Foster brings odd characters together and lets the humour shine, as they try to sort things out, keeping in mind that it opens with a heartbreak.

A lot of humour can come from that.

Erin MacKinnon toured “Jonas and Barry in The Home” by Norm Foster and starring the playwright himself with David Naim for several performances in a number of theatres. She was one of the performers who added their talents to the one-act plays Theatre Orangeville produced as at-home entertainment during the pandemic that prevented people from seeing theatre in person. MacKinnon took part then in «The Rules of Playing Risk.»

Mackinnon has recently debuted at the Foster Festival for the premiere of “Donny and Delilah.” She was one of the moms who rebelled against it all in the very fun 2016 film “Super Moms.”

Reid Janisse returns to Theatre Orangeville, having performed a role in Foster’s play “They’re Found in Trees,” a show about bird watching and what happens if two gents invite a lady to join them. In addition to theatre, he has an impressive CV of television work as well, doing one episode in “Murdoch Mysteries” – which every Canadian actor, it seems, must have on their list. Also, Janisse has been part of “The Boys,” “Orphan Black,” “American Gods” and more.

He is a Second City man and the man in the middle between two sisters.

Gentlemen, just imagine.

Director David Naim has worked his usual magic with the pacing and blocking in the kitchen set, which is dominated by the kitchen table. The play takes place entirely in this one room and how the actors relate to each other around and beside the table is pure poetry.

Designed by Beckie Morris, Set Designer and Production Manager, the audience is welcomed in, looking for one of them to just put on the kettle. The lighting in any show is almost another character and is designed by Jordana Natale. She has an interesting history of working in theatre as a lighting designer which began right here at Theatre Orangeville.

Alex Amini, Costume Designer, kept their apparel right and the sometimes subject of the commentary in the dialogue.

As artistic director, this is the last show David Naim will direct in that capacity. He is shifting titles to Artistic Director Emeritus as of July 1, when Jennifer Stewart will take over the position.

She is bringing her own brand of wonder to the upcoming season.

This play is a great couple of hours at the theatre and it is the last play for Theatre Orangeville’s 31st season.

For more details and to buy tickets for “I’m In Love With Your Sister,” go to www.theatreorangeville.ca or call the box office at 519-938-7584. Drop in if you like at 87 Broadway.

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Final curtain falls on Mayfield’s Harry Potter and the Cursed Child

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Mayfield Secondary School just wrapped their production of J.K. Rowling’s Harry Potter and the Cursed Child: High School Edition.

The production ran from April 30 to May 3. With approximately 120 students involved and multiple Mayfield staff, the production was truly all hands on deck to create the spellbinding show.

Jason King, co-director of the show and drama teacher at Mayfield, said that the process started last year, with things falling into place just a week before showtime.

King co-directed alongside Brenda Jones, Melina Pereira as choreographer, Tracey Freitas as production manager, with Mike Moon and Sophia Victoria as Technical Directors.

King has been at Mayfield for five years and said he feels fortunate to be a part of this school and its productions, as the students actively want to be there and bring a high level of engagement.

“I’m very, very, very proud of the work that they do,” said King. “It’s a lot of work and it’s a lot of time, and the students here, they’re willing to do it, they want to do it, they enjoy doing it.”

Morgan Scholz, a Grade 11 student, was assistant stage manager for the production and talked about her experience of taking on a leadership role for the show and seeing the level of engagement for herself.

“I got to see the wide expanse of how the production kind of takes over the school but in a good way,” said Scholz. “You have the woodshop classes working together to make the sets, and you have the sound and lighting class, which is run by music teachers who are working to make the sound work, and then you have a bunch of people who are so willing to work together. Just seeing it all come together, it was really interesting and I felt like I learned a lot.”

King described how collaborative the school is and all the departments that come together to make the production work.

“This was one of the most collaborative ones for me working on in terms of getting the art department involved, the music department involved, the construction department involved, the dance department involved, just everyone. I just think it’s great that all the arts are willing to work together and bring it together to put these sorts of productions on,” said King.

The pair also discussed what went on behind the

scenes, even behind the set.

“There was one scene that we had, it was like a church scene, and we had four moving walls and three doors,” reflected Scholz. “All the set crew, the props crew and the costume crew were kind of hiding behind the walls, and they were so excited to hear what was going on. It was really funny to see how everyone had really brought the show to heart and how everyone was so excited to see their peers on stage or backstage doing things.

“Everyone just kind of understood what was needed for the show and there was just a big sense of community. We’re all working towards creating this big piece of art and everyone was just there for it, people really enjoyed the process, and it kind of created a little family.”

King spoke about what it was like to see the production come to life on the stage.

“I really enjoyed the set movement. I think the kids, by the end, the students and the crews, it did look kind of like poetry, emotionally,” said King.

With the show reaching its final curtain call, the two shared what it was like at the last show.

“We have a lot of seniors in the show, so it was kind of sad because it was everyone’s last big performance before graduation. But, there was a lot of happy energy, and people were really happy how it ended. It turned out to be a great show, and there were a lot of people who really enjoyed it,” said Scholz. “There were a lot of community members who came up afterwards and were like, this is one of the best things I’ve ever seen.”

“On the last night, we had everyone up on stage, all the backstage [crew], all the cast, everyone up there,” said King. “It’s busy throughout the entire week, but when you see that at the end, it’s rewarding to see.”

As the school year comes to an end, Scholz reflected on what it’s like to be a part of Mayfield.

“Mayfield is a really great school for people who are looking to explore themselves but also the arts community,” said Scholz. “There are so many great opportunities that are available at Mayfield. It’s a really great place where you’re able to meet people that you wouldn’t have regularly met, maybe long-term friends that you are going to have for the rest of your life or teachers who are always going to impact how you kind of move through life in a positive way.

“There’s so much at Mayfield that people can really enjoy, even coming to watch a show may put a smile on your face or you’ll remember something, a line from the show that really just creates a lesson in life that you want to bring with you.”

Sip, Smile, Support: Fundraisers keep Meals on Wheels rolling

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Town of Caledon has approved a grant of \$4,000 for Caledon Meals on Wheels (CMOW) at April 22’s Council meeting.

“It truly is a critical grant for us,” explained CMOW Executive Director Kim Rodrigues. “It provides the coverage to be able to utilize the community kitchen at the Albion Bolton Community Center.”

Rodrigues explained that they apply for an annual in-kind grant to allow them to use the community kitchen.

CMOW offers home-cooked meals for their program, and without the grant, Rodrigues said she doesn’t know if they would have been able to continue the work they do there three times a week.

Rodrigues shared that CMOW prides itself on being one of the Province’s only Meals on Wheels programs that cook their meals and serve them hot.

“We’re really happy to be able to continue to offer fresh, not frozen, cooked from scratch that day meals to our seniors three days a week,” said Rodrigues. “If we had to rent a kitchen, the cost of that perhaps would make it such that we wouldn’t be able to cook meals.”

Aside from the grant, CMOW has also been active in the fundraising world in recent weeks to continue raising money for the program.

Starting with the Sip ‘N’ Savour event at the Home and Lifestyle show on April 11, right into Smile Cookie Week for Tim Hortons.

At the 2025 Home and Lifestyle show in Caledon, all net proceeds from tickets purchased for the opening night Sip ‘N’ Savour event went directly

to CMOW. Then, from April 28 to May 4, at participating Tim Hortons locations, one hundred per cent of the proceeds from smile cookies went to CMOW.

“We’re out waving at people, connecting with people in the drive through,” said Rodrigues.

Even Cookie Monster came out to support the cause this year.

“Our fundraising is a big part of what we do. We need to fundraise more than \$200,000 yearly to keep our doors open and our costs low for our seniors,” explained Rodrigues.

Rodrigues shared that although there is a cost for seniors to purchase meals, many can apply for additional subsidies.

“A lot of these fundraising dollars go towards that. In our past fiscal year, which we’ve really just closed up at the end of March, we had more than \$30,000 in subsidies for our meals program. That meant that seniors who couldn’t purchase meals were still fed or were fed at a lower cost,” said Rodrigues.

“These fundraisers really allow us to continue to offer and reduce any barriers that a senior or somebody with a disability may have to accessing our program,” said Rodrigues. “Whether that’s meals or senior wellness programs.”

CMOW offers their senior wellness program, where they see over 250 seniors weekly throughout the community.

It is because of their core funding and fundraising opportunities that they can do so.

“What’s really important for us is the fundraising that we do, and it stays right here in our community, which I think is critical,” shared Rodrigues.

Residents can visit cmow.org to see CMOW’s other programs or to volunteer and connect.

PUBLIC NOTICE



NOTICE OF APPLICATION

Proposed Official Plan Amendment

FILE NUMBER: POPA 2024-0006 RELATED FILE NUMBER(S): 21T-24012C

This is to inform you that the Town of Caledon has received an application for an Official Plan Amendment to establish a Secondary Plan.

APPLICANT AND LOCATION:

APPLICANT: Malone Given Parsons Ltd., planning consultants for the Mayfield Tullamore Landowners Group Inc.

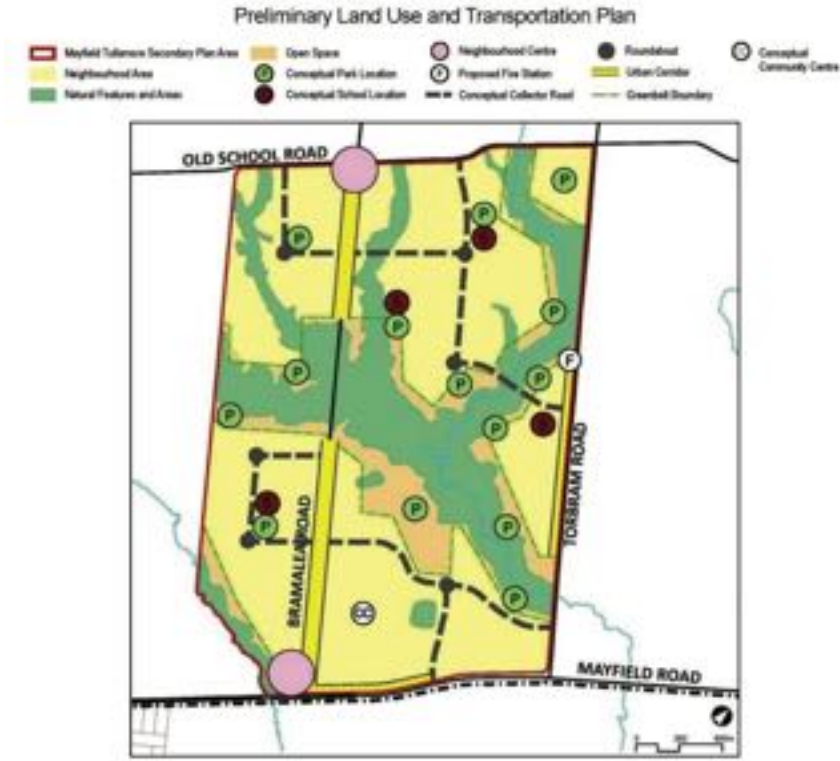
LOCATION: Various Properties (refer to location map)

As shown on the map below, the subject lands are bounded by Old School Road to the north, Torbram Road to the east, and Mayfield Road to the south. They also include properties on the west side of Bramalea Road.



PROPOSED CHANGES:

The applicant has submitted an application to amend the Official Plan Amendment application to establish the Mayfield Tullamore Secondary Plan. (File: POPA 2024-0006). This Plan is approximately 609 hectares (1,505 acres). Approximately 217 hectares are comprised of Greenbelt Plan Area and existing natural heritage features, resulting in a net developable area of approximately 392 hectares. The proposed secondary plan includes neighbourhood areas, urban corridors, neighbourhood centres (residential and mixed-use areas), parks and open space, schools, and community facilities. Through future development applications, approximately 7,650 new homes (a mix of detached, semi-detached, townhouse and apartment dwellings) are expected.



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:

Eric Brathwaite, BA, CPT
On behalf of the Town of Caledon
MHBC Planning|
905-761-5588
ebrathwaite@mhbcplan.com

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

For more information about this matter, including appeal rights, a copy of the proposed Official Plan Amendment and for supporting material, please visit caledon.ca/notices or contact the Lead Planner at Town Hall from Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

APPEAL PROCEDURE:

If a person or public body would otherwise have an ability to appeal the decision of the Town of Caledon to the Ontario Land Tribunal but the person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Caledon before the proposed official plan amendment is adopted, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Caledon before the proposed official plan amendment is adopted, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Land Tribunal unless, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to add the person or public body as a party.

HOW TO STAY INFORMED:

If you wish to be notified of the decision of the Town of Caledon on the proposed Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendment, you must make a written request to the Clerk of the Town of Caledon, 6311 Old Church Road, Caledon, Ontario L7C 1J6.

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

Notice Date: May 8, 2025



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Gillam celebrates Construction Safety Week at new Golf Canada Headquarters

A man wearing a hard hat and safety glasses, identified as Craig Lesurf, is speaking into a microphone at a podium. He is wearing a red and white jacket. Behind him is a banner that says "GILLAM PLAN. PERFORM. INSPIRE." and a sign that says "CONSTRUCTION SAFETY WEEK".

Craig Lesurf speaks to workers during Construction Safety Week wearing the "Jersey of Courage" CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Nothing you do today is as important as going home to your family and loved ones, reads

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the Gillam sign as you pull into the new Golf Canada Headquarters job site.

From May 5 to 9, Gillam and League of Champions hosted a Road Show to showcase Construction Safety Week at Gillam job sites in the Greater Toronto Area, Waterloo, and Barrie, including the new Golf Canada Headquarters site located at 19499 Main Street, Caledon.

League of Champions (LOC) is a not-for-profit volunteer organization founded in 2016 that advocates for safety by inspiring leaders to commit, collaborate, and take action to improve health and safety culture through education, promotion, and recognition, which leads to safer construction workplaces in Ontario.

Craig Lesurf, president of Gillam Group and founder of League of Champions, says people should recognize Safety Day daily.

"Every week is safety week, however sometimes you've got to talk about something that you normally take for granted," said Lesurf.

In one month this year, there were 28 critical injuries, and one fatality in all of Ontario, explained Lesurf. His goal is to lower that number.

Continued on Page A13

A person wearing safety gear, including a helmet and gloves, is using a chainsaw to cut a large log. The log is lying on the ground in a grassy area.

A person wearing safety gear is using a red power tool, possibly a jackhammer, to work on a pile of rocks.

A green skid steer loader is working on a construction site, moving a pile of dirt.

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Next year’s Municipal Election to use paper ballots

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

At Council’s May 6 General Committee meeting, local lawmakers moved forward with recommendations that the 2026 Municipal and School Board Election be conducted using an in-person paper ballot process as a basis.

The alternative voting options on the table were: Option One – Expanded traditional meaning in-person voting and limited home voting service; Option Two – In-person paper ballot, Internet and/or Telephone Advance Vote; and Option Three – In-person paper ballot and vote-by-mail.

Accessibility Advisory Committee recommended Option 2 for broader accessibility.

In the 2026 Municipal Election Voting Methods Survey, the response read that most voters would be comfortable using in-person ballots on election day and prior to election day in the 2026 Municipal Election.

Public concerns in the Alternative Voting Methods for the 2026 Municipal Election Staff Report related to alternative voting methods included voter fraud, privacy and security considerations, additional costs, and impacts to voter turnout.

Sherry Brioschi, a Caledon resident, spoke at the meeting regarding the alternative voting methods. Brioschi said she feared that, due to cybersecurity risks, Council should proceed with Option One.

“One can take all measures that they want and lock up offices, drawers, and clean desks. It does not protect against cyberattacks or data of personal information being collected,” said Brioschi. “When Caledon decided to do this electronic counting back in the 2014 election, I personally did not support, and I stand here today and do not support it again.”

Other concerns from Council regarding in-person ballots with limited home voting service revolved around those in long-term care homes.

Matthew Stepien, Legislative Coordinator,

stated that the limited home voting service would be in addition to the long-term care voting, as they are required under the Municipal Elections Act to provide voting services to care institutions.

Stepien explained that the limited home voting would be similar to the method in Brampton. It is a system where a member of the clerk’s team, along with another member, would go to a resident’s home to facilitate the voting process.

Councillor Nick de Boer expressed concerns that those homebound and residing in care outside of the community will not receive this option.

“I was hoping our Council would embrace internet and telephone voting options for Caledon’s next municipal election because I feel strongly that every eligible resident should be able to participate in our democratic process without unnecessary barriers,” he said in a statement to the Citizen. “In fact, the Town’s Accessibility Advisory Committee cautiously recommended these alternative methods to better serve those who may face challenges voting in person.

“I remain confident that with the robust security measures that could be put in place, we could protect the integrity of our elections while making voting more accessible and convenient for all.”

The service will only be provided to those currently residing within the geographical boundary of the community.

This service would be offered during advanced voting; on voting day, it would only be in-person ballots.

Councillor Dave Sheen also had similar concerns, as he expressed that with option two, there was more accessibility for members of the public who struggle with in-person voting.

Council carried the motion to move forward with Option One, meaning the 2026 Municipal and School Board election will be conducted using an in-person paper ballot process as a basis.

Option One will be utilized as the alternative voting method for use at advanced polls in addition to the in-person paper ballot process.

Caledon family seeks community support for daughter’s care

Continued from FRONT

Isabella’s mother, Mabel, spoke about the roadblocks the family has been facing.

After seeking medical attention from three different hospitals – SickKids Toronto, Toronto Western, and Hamilton – the hospitals concluded that due to the complicated nature of Isabella’s condition, there was no treatment available for her in Canada.

Therefore, the family has to seek specialists in the United States who can provide treatment.

The appointments, treatment, and four-week stay will all cost the family out of pocket, which is why Mabel began a GoFundMe campaign.

“I wouldn’t be doing this if it wasn’t extremely important,” said Mabel. “Even if it was for me, I wouldn’t do this, but it’s for her.”

“It’s very expensive,” added Mabel. “We’re aware we might even have to move, whatever we have to do if it’s going to help her.”

Isabella has been attending Caledon Central Public School since Kindergarten; at the school, she was also a part of track.

Mabel remarked that Isabella has always been a healthy and strong kid.

Since this began a year ago, Isabella has been in and out of SickKids, including the original

four-month stay, which was then a few more months and multiple painful tests until the family received the diagnosis.

Mabel says the team at SickKids is amazing, but knowing they can’t treat her, the family knows they must go elsewhere.

Mabel said that her daughter is frequently in and out of hospitals and is constantly sick.

“Her whole life is ahead of her, it’s hard to just leave her like that,” said Mabel. “It’s been hard, but a lot of good things have come out of it too, if you can believe it.”

Mabel said she works in Town, and they have been very accommodating, and she remarked how supportive the community has been.

“Everyone has been amazing,” said Mabel. “It makes you feel better in the middle of the mess.”

The Stasiewski family will be travelling to the United States in two weeks for their meetings with specialists in both Arizona and Florida.

Mabel’s GoFundMe, Hope for Isabella, is currently at \$32,000 out of their \$100,000 goal.

To donate, visit www.gofundme.com/f/78fnyr-hope-for-isabella.

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Questions and Regrets

It's often said that it's preferable to regret the things one has done rather than the things one has not.

It's a quote often attributed to Lucille Ball, almost without exception, but like so many comments and quips attributed to such luminaries as Benjamin Franklin, Abraham Lincoln, and Mark Train, to pick just three, many have lined up to take credit.

And that's really no surprise; as far as pearls of wisdom go, it's pretty solid insight.

After all, if you regret something that you haven't done, or something that will invariably remain a hypothetical for the remainder of your days the gnawing unknowns and what-ifs probably aren't worth it.

Despite our best efforts, I would wager that each and every one of us has at least one regret in either column. Maybe it's a matter of not recognizing an opportunity until it was too late; or taking what felt like the correct time in a fork in the road at any given period of time, only to find that perhaps things would have been a little different had you veered to the left; or what further forks may have presented themselves if you just had the wherewithal to strike up a conversation with that person across the room.

It's not just a matter of missed opportunities.

Words, and how they're used, can be a minefield – even if you don't realize it at the time.

In this combative age we're living in, "It's a free country" or cries of "Free speech!" are common refrains – even if in this country "free speech" is not a Charter Right – the moment anyone receives the slightest degree of push-back on what they've spouted. Yet, fewer and fewer people these days seem inclined to take a moment to consider the true impact of their words.

Words, for some, can be water off a duck's back. For others, they can stick and have a cascading affect in someone's life – and any subsequent regrets often come about when it's too late to do anything about it.

The sheer number of reasonably anonymous ways we can communicate with each other, particularly on social media behind the shield of a fake profile photo, the reflection of sunglasses, or from beneath the brim of a sloganned baseball cap, has only emboldened these actors and exacerbated an already problematic situation.

Yet, whether it's a missed opportunity, or reflecting on the impact of one's actions, no matter how small and inconsequential it might feel at the time, the common factor is hindsight. It doesn't, of course, need to be 20/20 – any amount of true reflection will do.

I know I have some regrets related to both things I have done and things I have not done, but one particular regret I have this week is not asking enough questions.

That might seem like a strange confession for a journalist – after all, by and large, we're paid to ask the tough questions – but what we're bold enough to do in our workplace or vocation doesn't necessarily translate to our lives out from behind a desk.

On Monday, for instance, I woke up early to watch events in the United Kingdom commemorating the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe Day.

Watching these ceremonies has become something of an inadvertent tradition.

Interest in events such as these was, perhaps, stoked by my maternal grandmother.

My paternal grandparents didn't often speak of their wartime experiences – for example, throughout the entire time I shared this earth with them, they insisted that due to wartime shortages there

were no photographs taken of their 1941 nuptials in Moosomin, SK.

But, for whatever reason, this line turned out to be far removed from the truth as, while we packed up their things when it was time to downsize, I found an entire shoebox of photos commemorating the day, from their living room wedding, to their glamorous honeymoon departure, my grandmother swathed in enough furs to make Cruella de Vil green with envy.

The other branch of the family tree was far more forthcoming with their own experiences.

The 50th anniversary of Victory in Europe Day was celebrated on May 8, 1995, which just happened to be my grandmother's 70th birthday. While I got to take the day off of school to celebrate her milestone, what I remember most is sitting in front of the TV with her as a 10-year-old asking questions about the Second World War – and her, having lived through it, putting her birthday celebrations briefly on the backburner to share whatever she could.

As someone with the lived experience, she was moved at the sight of Queen Elizabeth II, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, and Princess Margaret returning to the Buckingham Palace balcony to revisit the iconic image of the trio – then joined by King George VI and Winston Churchill – celebrating such a pivotal moment in history.

She explained why people were so moved by Dame Vera Lynn taking the stage on the ground below to sing the melodies so many found comfort in during those dark times a half-century before.

Some 30 years on – an expanse of time that really didn't hit me until after the ceremonies came to a close – I have so many more questions, including how those that were there would view today's political climate, but precious few ways to get these living, breathing answers.

My grandmother is gone, the five – and then three – who appeared on the balcony are gone, so many of the veterans who were so moved on May 8, 1995 are gone, and these events are very quickly fading from living memory.

It's a natural progression, of course, but we lose so much with each passing year – and for those of us lucky enough to still have friends and relatives able to share, it's important to ask these questions while we still have the chance.

And it's not just a matter of asking questions of those who lived through conflict. The questions we might have for any individual are unique to ourselves, informed by our experiences and interests, and we can all benefit from asking them – whatever generation they might hail from.

Had I started research into my own family tree far earlier than university, my grandparents might have regretted any part they took in teaching me how to talk, or have been tempted to turn off their respective hearing aids at the umpteenth "Do you remember when....?" but it's definitely a worthwhile exercise.

Mother's Day is this weekend and there is no better time to take a few minutes to think of burning questions you might have and how you can take this opportunity to broach them. And, for all of our sakes, write them down for posterity. We'll all benefit.

Now, if only I could get to the bottom of just what the circumstances of my paternal grandparents' wedding photos were for them to be shrouded in mystery, denied their very existence, for the better part of sixty years.

Hope I didn't miss something really spicy!



I'm not aging, I'm ripening well!



"The true tragedy of aging isn't that we grow old – it's that our soul stays young." – Oscar Wilde

Oscar sure hit the nail on the head with this observation.

And Keanu Reeves says he approaches aging with both "wonder and terror."

This isn't the world I grew up in, and it's not exactly the same place as the one I raised my children in.

The pendulum – the constant movement of time – never stops to wait for us. We are often left, stranded on the platform, waiting for the next train.

And yet, the extraordinary experiences we amass as we age give us real clarity of the past, present and future. We become almost sage-like, if you will. At least that's what I tell my family members. And then the obvious similarities with Yoda pop up!

We can't slow down the aging process and try as we may to hinder it – through diet and exercise and a boat load of supplements – it catches up with us. Alas, the Grim Reaper, armed with his legendary scythe, will find us one day.

Is old age and death to be feared and dreaded, or somewhat revered?

Our lifespans were a lot shorter in ancient times so there really wasn't a period of aging gracefully or "retiring." But in ancient Greece, men beyond 60 were expected to focus on "wiser decision-making."

Many religions offer more beyond the physical realm, a sort of ageless beauty. Hinduism, via reincarnation, believes the soul remains young and vibrant.

Age is considered, by many, a "work of art." I always wanted to be immortalized in marble, much like Rodin's "The Thinker." But I also have a fondness for that inflatable tube man!

Uplifting sentiments tell us age doesn't really matter, that it's how we live our lives. Of course, the longer we spend here, the more we absorb, learn and tolerate. What a wonderful concoction we become in our advanced years!

I maintain that seniors – those in their 70s and 80s – earned the right to speak their minds. I'll admit that I jumped the gun a bit in that department.

We can grow older without getting old, and laughter, in my opinion, keeps us young. I've never liked the word "maturity" associated with older adults. I want to be "older" and yet retain just enough immaturity to make life fun, at least in my own head.

The more I read and learn about the universe, the human brain, existence, Nature and well, everything, the more intrigued I am with what lies ahead.

The law of thermodynamics says energy (our

by Mark Pavilons

body's electrical impulses or "soul") cannot be created or destroyed, only transformed. What exactly does this mean for you and I? I hope it means that some part of us lives on forever, in some form of energy.

There are electrons that "live" for billions of years.

I am intrigued, and very confused, by aspects of quantum mechanics. The "many-worlds" idea suggests that every quantum event results in a branching of reality, creating parallel universes. So, every decision we make could lead to alternate versions of ourselves in different realities.

Wait, what? We exist elsewhere in time and space? I wonder what myself is doing over yonder and whether he like chicken wings and beer. Who am I kidding, who doesn't love wings and suds?

So this, my friends, could very well be the youthful "immortality" we've been searching for – to live forever in other universes and dimensions.

Some scientists are trying to measure our consciousness, and determine what happens to it at the time of death.

According to Hameroff, there's a burst of activity that happens at the time of death. Called gamma synchrony, it's a wave pattern that's typically linked to our conscious thought, awareness, and perception. Scientists say it's picked up on an EEG for between 30 and 90 seconds, when we enter that white light.

Where does our consciousness go? Does it follow Peter Pan to Neverland?

While it's all up for debate, the bottom line could be that our consciousness is a low energy process. But I find it hard to swallow that in all of the mysteries of the universe, we are reduced to a "low energy process."

No. my friends, I will not go quietly into the dark matter, but rejoin the ocean of life from whence came.

How about you?

While it's common knowledge that our bodies and brains decline with age, there may be hope on the horizon.

Injecting hypothalamic stem cells into the brains of normal old and middle-aged mice – whose stem cells had been destroyed – slowed or reversed measures of aging. The researchers say that this is a first step toward slowing the aging process and potentially treated age-related conditions.

Sign me up! And hey, I love cheese, so if I end up adopting some mouse-like qualities, it's worth it.

Experts have found that eliminating mitochondria from the aging cells triggered a rejuvenation process, reducing markers of cellular aging to levels that are normally seen in younger cells.

While science marches on, looking for the proverbial fountain of youth, we have to make friends with time. We have to join hands with the hours and days and join them as we bask in the sunshine and enjoy one another's company.

I like to think I've aged well, like a fine Scotch and that my face reveals my travels. Wrinkles and creaky joints are a small price to pay for the wisdom in my heart and mind.

"Grow old along with me! The best is yet to be." – Robert Browning

Our Readers Write

MP's "attitude" is what "cost Conservatives election," says reader

In your May 1, 2025 edition, reporter Sam Ordrowski very accurately recorded Mr. Kyle Seeback's victory speech as re-elected MP for Dufferin-Caledon.

That speech unfortunately revealed why the Conservative Party of Canada lost their leader and did not win their long anticipated majority.

Even their leader, the normally pugnacious, provocative and petulant Mr. Poilievre was almost gracious in accepting his personal defeat, acknowledging that "Conservatives will work with the Prime Minister and all parties with the common goal of defending Canada's interests and getting a new trade deal that puts these tariffs behind us while protecting our sovereignty and the Canadian people."

Mr. Seeback, unfortunately, didn't follow in his leader's footsteps, calling the new govern-

ment "very weak," "corrupt, arrogant Liberals", labelled the NDP as "incompetent", and threatened to give the new government "a hell of a time."

As if that weren't negative enough, he went on to declare "we are going to eat Mark Carney's lunch" until the end of his term, and then "we are going to bring his government down."

That attitude is exactly what cost the Conservatives the trust of a majority of Canadians. We need adult wisdom in government, not adolescent angst.

Try to get it right next time, Mr. Seeback. You're an MP, not the leader of a teen street gang.

SKID CREASE
BOLTON

Caledon Citizen

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SHERALYN ROMAN
TALK CALEDON



Happy Mother’s Day

There are special days we mark on the calendar, some courtesy of Hallmark and others courtesy of a long-standing tradition of recognizing the contributions of others in our lives. Mothers’ Day is probably a result of both, but nonetheless an excellent reason to remind our mothers of the incredible influence they have had on our lives – and, if we are lucky, that influence was a good one and we are in a position to thank them for it. If you’ve somehow missed all the advertising in the big lead up to this special day and you are reading this column on Friday night or Saturday morning, it’s not too late. Stop what you’re doing right now and plan instead to do something nice for your mother on Sunday!

According to Google, the “font of all knowledge,” which by the way, is one of the many titles mothers can also lay claim to, we have been honouring mothers since the dawn of time. Pagan traditions included ceremonies honouring mothers, the Greeks and Romans honoured Rhea, Mother of the Gods and Cybele, Great Mother of the Gods, and in Europe various forms of “Mothering Sunday” have been observed since the 1600s. Indigenous cultures have long recognized women and mothers as the foundation of family and community, as keepers of cultural knowledge and traditions, and as healers and wisdom holders.

More recently, the last two hundred years has seen the emergence of a more commercialized approach to celebrating the day, although that was not necessarily its original aim. The initial impetus began with a woman named Julia Ward Howe, “in response to the American Civil War and the Franco-Prussian War” when she wrote a proclamation calling “on women to use their position as mothers to influence society in fighting for an end to all wars.” To me, that certainly sounds like something a mother would do.

Building on the work started by Howe, another mother named Ann Reeves Jarvis, in the years leading up to the Civil War, had helped to start “Mothers’ Day Work Clubs” teaching local women how to properly care for their children. Later, “these clubs ... became a unifying force in a region of the country still divided over the Civil War,” so in 1868 Jarvis followed up her efforts by organizing “Mothers’ Friendship Day.” It was a day “at which mothers gathered with former Union and Confederate soldiers to promote reconciliation.”

Once again arising as a way to heal from war, it seems to me like Mother’s Day (at least here in North America) originally began as a “women to the rescue,” operation, with moms trying to repair, rebuild and reconcile differences. Hardly surprising to any mom anywhere since it’s a role that mothers often play on a daily basis just managing the sibling rivalry that exists in many homes!

Finally, in 1908, another woman, Anna Jarvis, the daughter of Anna Reeves Jarvis, began the movement that is largely credited with our more modern-day recognition

of Mother’s Day. In honour of the work her mother did, Anna Jarvis advocated for a day to recognize all mothers. The first official celebration of this day was at her local church. It went on to become an official US holiday in 1914. Later in life, however, Anna railed against the commercialization of the holiday she is largely credited with starting.

Now that you know a little of the history, how are you celebrating the women in your life this weekend? Your mom, wife, sister, or partner might not be actively reconciling warring factions from a civil war, but she might just be reconciling the family finances, the fighting children, or the hockey/dance/piano lessons/family holiday or birthday get together schedule. She might, as Anna Jarvis did, rail against the commercialization of the day and claim that she “doesn’t want/need anything,” but please don’t take her at face value. At the very, least mothers do want (and need) some recognition and validation for all they do. It doesn’t have to be in the form of a gift from the store, but the gift of your time, and your presence, for many mothers is often the most precious present of all. Unless, of course, you’re the mother of a toddler in the throes of the terrible twos, in which case YES – YES, she does want a break from her kids. Take them out of the house now. For at least a few hours. And for goodness sake bring them back fed, watered, tired and ready for bed.

As I said in my opening paragraph, we are lucky if we have a mom (or similar special person in our lives) to whom we can say “thank you” with real conviction. Moms do a lot of the heavy lifting in families and they are who we turn to when we need a hug, a healing hand, help getting over heartbreak, help with homework or help with parenting our own kids. Moms dispense wisdom, pass down traditions and treasured family recipes, and moms are who we call when we are in crisis – or even when we just need to know how long it takes to cook a hard-boiled egg. Yes, Moms were the original “Google” and like Google, Moms truly do know everything. But unlike Google they dispense their wisdom with love, kindness and hugs. Even better, no matter what kind of egg you put in front of them on Mother’s Day, over-cooked, or under-cooked, a mother will exclaim proudly that it’s the “best egg” she’s ever had, cooked by the “best kid’s a mom could ever ask for.”

A mother holds you in their hearts forever and will forever be your champion. The least you can do is say “thanks.”

Our Readers Write

Election brought significant change to representation: Councillor

The results of the recent federal election mark a significant change in how Caledon is represented in Ottawa.

For the first time, the Town of Caledon is split between two federal ridings, each represented by a Member of Parliament from a different party: Ruby Sahota, a Liberal, in the newly created Brampton North–Caledon riding, and Kyle Seeback, a Conservative, re-elected in Dufferin–Caledon.

This new reality means Caledon residents will have their voices heard by both government and opposition benches, offering a broader platform for our local priorities.

This change comes at a crucial time, as Caledon is one of the fastest-growing municipalities in the GTHA and is expected to continue expanding to a population of 300,000 over the next 25 years. With this massive growth comes the need for strong advocacy on key issues that matter to both our current and future residents, including housing, public transit, transportation, infrastructure, access to quality health care, as well as social services.

Now more than ever, it is essential that our two MPs work together across party lines – and in partnership with the provincial government --to ensure Caledon’s interests are well represented and that our community receives the investments it needs.

As we quickly build new homes and welcome new families to Caledon, we must also ensure we are also quickly building the schools, community centres, parks, greenspaces, and health and safety services that will make Caledon a great place to live. I urge our federal representatives to always put Caledon first, work collaboratively, and champion the needs of our community at every opportunity.

COUNCILLOR DAVE SHEEN
WARD 2

Resident “embarrassed and outraged” by MP’s election comments

I am embarrassed (and outraged) that an elected official would provide a quote about “corrupt, arrogant Liberals...going to eat Mark Carney’s lunch...bring this government down.”

I am grateful that your reporter recorded this statement to be accurate.

Elected officials should behave like grown-ups!

Canada needs leadership that will model sustainability and NOT with confrontational threats.

There are 100,000 federal constituents in this riding. 70.913 voted (71% voted, 29% did not).

Seeback received 42% of Dufferin-Caledon total riding. He is now responsible to represent his riding of Dufferin-Caledon.

I expect leadership that is collaborative and not “childish.”

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Proposed Humber Station Road Community Expansion Project Notice of Second Virtual Public Information Session

The Study

Enbridge Gas Ontario (“Enbridge Gas”) has retained Dillon Consulting Limited (“Dillon”) to conduct an environmental study to support the proposed Humber Station Road Community Expansion Project located in the Town of Caledon, Region of Peel. The purpose of the Project is to provide residents and businesses located in the Town of Caledon with access to safe and reliable natural gas distribution services (“the Project”).

Through the environmental study, Enbridge Gas and Dillon have identified the Preliminary Preferred Route (PPR) as the chosen Preferred Route for the Project.

The Preferred Route is proposed to include approximately 3 kilometres (km) of pipeline along Old Church Road to tie into Enbridge Gas’s existing network near the intersection of Old Church Road and Humber Trail and includes an additional 5 km of distribution pipelines within the community. The Preferred Route involves a total of 8 km of 2-inch and 4-inch plastic pipelines. The Preferred Route also involves a potential upgrade to an existing station located at Mount Hope Road and Old Church Road.

The Process

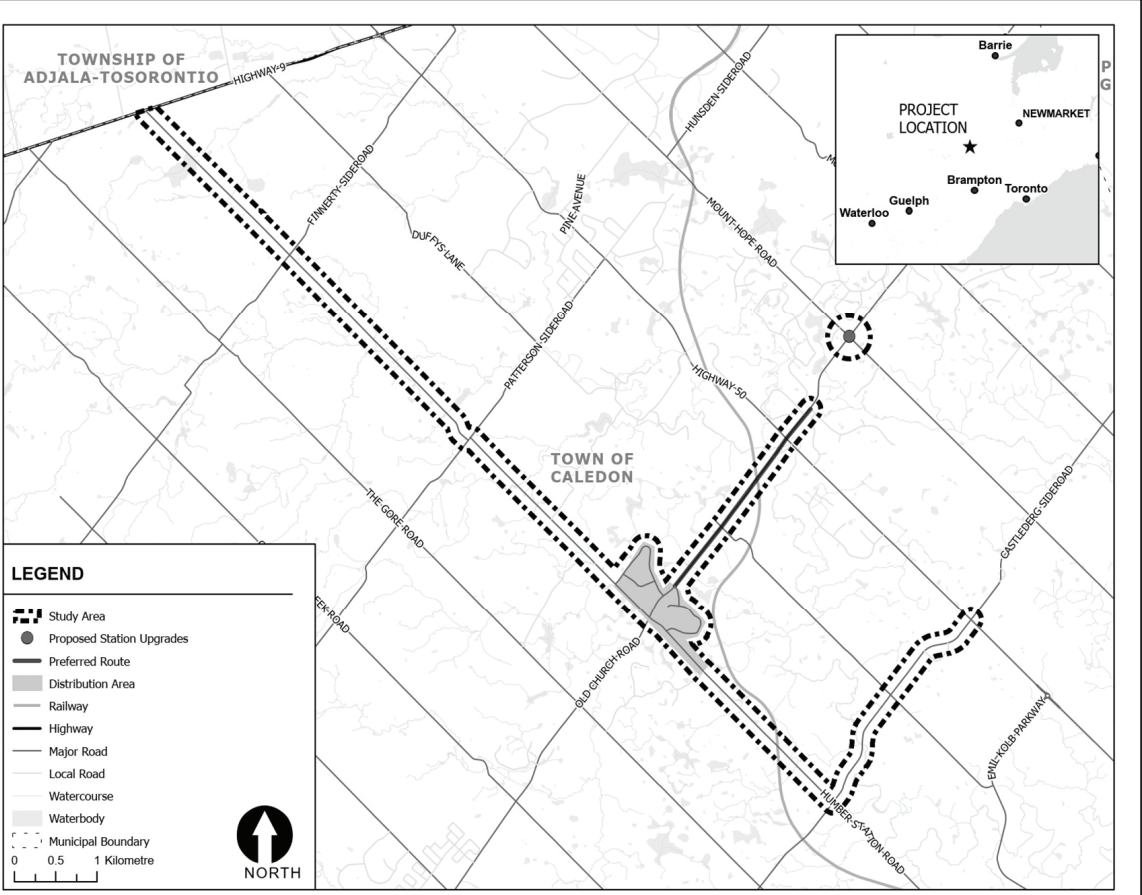
The study is being conducted in accordance with the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) *Environmental Guidelines for the Location, Construction, and Operation of Hydrocarbon Projects and Facilities in Ontario, 8th Edition* (2023).

The study reviews the need and justification for the Project; describes the existing environment (built, natural, socio-economic, and cultural); identifies and assesses potential adverse environmental impacts including cumulative effects; describes reasonable measures to avoid, minimize, and mitigate adverse impacts; evaluates the potential routes; and identifies the Preferred Route. Once the study is complete, Enbridge Gas plans to file a Leave-to-Construct Exemption Application with the OEB in 2025. Pending approvals, construction is anticipated to begin in 2027.

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LEGEND

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- Highway
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- Watercourse
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NORTH

Invitation to the Community

Virtual Public Information Session #2: www.HumberStationRoadProject.com

Stakeholder consultation and Indigenous engagement is a key component of this study. Enbridge Gas and Dillon are hosting a second virtual public information session to present the Preferred Route, discuss the routing study and how public input was integrated into the route selection process, and identify the potential impacts and anticipated mitigation measures for the Preferred Route. Members of the public, regulatory agencies, Indigenous communities, and other interested persons are invited to participate. If you are interested in participating, or would like to provide comments, please visit the second virtual public information session at the website above and/or contact the individuals listed at the Project email.

The virtual public information session will be live from May 20 until June 2, 2025.



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Four-Sport Student-Athlete Hannah Bell leads Mavericks’ Volleyball team on best playoff run as warm up for Rugby

BY JIM STEWART

Hannah Bell has had her fair share of athletic success at Mayfield Secondary School over the last three years. She competed for the Mavericks’ back-to-back OFSSAA Rugby Championship teams in 2022 and 2023. In addition to her pair of provincial gold medals earned in Grade 9 and 10, the Grade 12 Honor Roll student has also competed for Mayfield’s badminton and flag football teams.

However, Bell derived a special degree of satisfaction from the recent Mavericks’ playoff run on the volleyball court to cap the 2024-25 season.

Bell—the team’s captain – enjoyed the Mavs’ best-ever result since she has been at Mayfield.

Her stellar play and leadership were acknowledged by coaches Regan Cheney and Leed McNabb.

Coaches Cheney and McNabb praised their captain’s athleticism and positive mentoring of teammates.

“Hannah is a gifted athlete. She works hard during every game and practice and is always receptive to feedback. As team captain, she showed her leadership in every way. Hannah led warm ups in every practice, encouraged her teammates, and exuded positivity – even when the team lost. Hannah is kind, respectful, and so appreciative of every

opportunity given to her.”

In addition to these strong personal qualities, Coaches Cheney and McNab delineated Bell’s value to their volleyball squad during the team’s successful playoff run.

“Hannah is the type of athlete that every coach wants on the team. She is dedicated and energetic and is never negative on or off the court. She is dedicated to high performance in the classroom and this translates to the volleyball court as well. Every part of the season with Hannah was phenomenal. She took over in a leadership position and really impacted the culture of the team in a positive way.”

Bell—an Honor Roll student who earned a 98% average during her first semester in Grade 12—took time from her studies and Rugby schedule to answer our interview questions:

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

Hannah Bell: “Throughout this year’s volleyball season, as captain of the team, something I wanted to focus on was creating a positive and supportive environment that allowed students to reach their fullest potential. I know from my experiences that having someone who is always there to motivate you to do your best and has a positive attitude is so

important when it comes to a team sport, especially one that is based on keeping momentum and a good mindset. This was the key quality that allowed our team to go the furthest we have gone in playoffs in my high school years. Nevertheless, a positive mindset is only half the role. Another vital attribute I demonstrated throughout the season was a strong work ethic. I have always been someone who puts their all into everything and this season was no different. However, none of this would have been possible without our incredible coaches who never failed to inspire us as they helped us become the best players we could be.”

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

Hannah Bell: “This year’s season was one of the best in high school. As a team of players who do not play competitive volleyball outside of school, I was very proud of how well our team came together in the end. We had our ups and downs throughout the season, but it was our reaction to those losses that set us apart. We learned to never give up and it was very evident the improvement of our team from start to finish. One of the best moments for our team was the first round of playoffs where we played two games back-to-back. We started off a little shaky in the first game but we persevered and ended up moving to the second game. This was the toughest game of our season, but we stayed positive throughout it encouraging one another, working together and bringing the energy. We had all agreed after that this was the most fun game we had played this season making winning it a key moment for everyone. I also had the amazing opportunity to go on a UK rugby tour this March Break playing against U18 rugby teams from Wales and getting the chance to learn a lot about the sport and its culture. Even though we got crushed in our games against the Welsh, it was what we learned and took back to Canada with us that will allow the team to grow a lot this season.”

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

Hannah Bell: “Outside of school, I have been a competitive dancer for over 10 years competing in the styles of Jazz, contemporary, hip hop, ballet, acrobatics, pointe and lyrical. I currently train and compete with House of Fame Dance Academy [in Brampton] and I am currently on the Canadian World Performers Dance Team competing internationally on a world stage in Burgos, Spain this summer at the World Dance Cup 2025. Dance has been a huge part of my life and has allowed me to develop skills such as work ethic, drive, and determination that have made me the athlete I am today.”

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

Hannah Bell: “I am a very active member of the Mayfield community being involved in a diverse range of extracurricular activities. I have been on multiple sports teams such as volleyball, rugby, badminton, and flag football throughout the past three years being awarded a Mavs Letter for my contributions to Mayfields athletics. I am also a part of the RAP dance program where I have had opportunities to choreograph for and help run multiple dance shows every year. For clubs, I am on the cheer team at Mayfield which had the chance to perform at the Raptors 905 game this year as well as our own Friday Night Lights games. As for academics, I have been a high achieving honour roll student maintaining a 96%+ average every year and a 98% average for the first semester of grade 12 focusing on the maths and sciences.”

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



HANNAH BELL
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

tinations?

Hannah Bell: “For post-secondary, I am going to university for engineering; currently considering offers from Waterloo Nanotechnology Engineering and McMaster Engineering. I hope to stay active and involved in community/extracurricular teams, possibly the competitive dance team and participate in recreational sports like volleyball, badminton, and dodgeball.”

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

Hannah Bell: “The person I admire the most is my mother. She has been a huge role model for me all of my life because she is the most kind and caring soul on Earth. From a young age she has taught me to always see the best in people and to understand things from other people’s perspectives. This has gotten me far in life allowing me to build meaningful connections with everyone around me. I admire my mother for her big heart and how she goes about life. She has taught me the most valuable lessons life can give and most importantly she has always been there to support me. Every day she makes me want to become the best version of myself and without her I would not be half the person I am. I only hope that one day I can make half the impact she’s had on the people around her.”

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

Hannah Bell: “I am very honoured to have been nominated as the Caledon Citizen’s Student-Athlete of the Week – to represent Mayfield and all the incredible people that have helped me get to where I am today. Sports have always played an important role in my life offering me once-in-a-lifetime opportunities that have molded me into the person I am. The coaches and teachers that have greatly impacted my life deserve to be recognized for the impact they have made not only for me but I know all of their students feel the same. I take this honour in highest regards as it has shown me what I have to be proud of and only further motivates me to keep setting new goals and working hard to achieve them.”

COMMUNITY events

This column is provided as a free public service to non-profit organizations to announce up-coming events. Please contact the Caledon Citizen by calling (905) 857-6626 or emailing admin@caledoncitizen.com if you wish to have an announcement published.

Saturday, May 10, 2025 - Fundraising Mother’s Day Afternoon Tea
The Caledon Seniors Centre at Rotary Place in Bolton will be hosting their Fundraising Mother’s Day Afternoon Tea on Saturday, May 10 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm.
Enjoy fancy sandwiches, scones, clotted cream and jam, desserts, tea/coffee
Cost: \$30
Call the Centre at 905-951-6114 to purchase your tickets

Monday, May 12, 2025 - Annual General Meeting & Elections
The Caledon Seniors Centre at Rotary Place in Bolton will be holding their Annual General Meeting & Elections on Monday, May 12. Free sandwich and dessert lunch at 12:00 pm if attending the meeting.
AGM starts at 1:00 PM
Call the Centre to register at 905-951-6114 for catering purposes

Bolton Kin Toonie Treasure Sale: Saturday, May 10th from 10 am till 1 pm at the President Bldg , Albion Bolton Fairgrounds. Racks and racks of new /gently used apparel for men women and children all for a TOONIE!! All proceeds help support community needs.

2025 Velocity Kick-Off Party!
Get ready to ride! Meet fellow cyclists, hear from rockstar team captains, swap cycling tips, and get pumped for ride day. Enjoy pizza, sample refreshing smoothie drinks and get inspired! Sponsored by Four Corners Bakery Eatery.
Saturday, May 10, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. (drop in)
Four Corners | 15935 Airport Rd. Caledon

East, ON L7C 1H9
For more information: velocity@ccs4u.org | 905-584-2300 ext. 236

Velocity Ride for Seniors
Ride Caledon’s scenic Hills to support seniors in our lives. Pedal into Caledon Day with a ride for all ages at any speed.
Ride scenic 10, 25, 50 or 100 km routes, check out NEW gravel routes or chart your own path to fuel life-changing services for Caledon seniors. Plus enjoy: lunch, nourishing rest stops, prizes, swag table, event t-shirt and more!
Saturday, June 14
Caledon East Park: 6101 Old Church Rd. Caledon East, ON L7C 1G6
Register today at www.ccsvelocity.ca
Start times vary depending on the route chosen

INTRODUCTION TO DIABETES
Join us for a FREE, in-person, class to learn about the basics of diabetes. No referral is required. Led by two Diabetes Educators. You will learn: What is diabetes and prediabetes | Healthy eating for diabetes | Diabetes medications | What does diabetes look like.
This class is designed for those who: Have recently been diagnosed with diabetes or prediabetes | Would like a refresher on diabetes | Those caring for someone with diabetes. Located at the Caledon Specialist Clinic, 18 King St E., Unit L9, Bolton, ON L7E 1E8
Classes are typically held the first Wednesday of each month between 5:00 -7:00 p.m.
Please call Bailey at 519-938-8892 ext. 315 to register.

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*Finance offers available O.A.C. from Hyundai Financial Services based on new in-stock 2025 TUCSON Ultimate HEV AWD with an annual finance rate of 3.99%. Cost of borrowing is \$3,855. Selling price is \$53,379. Weekly payments are \$240 for 48 months. \$3,395 down payment required. Trade-in value may be applied to down payment amount. Finance offers include Delivery and Destination charge of \$2,000, levies and all applicable charges (excluding HST, GST/ PST). This offer example excludes Federal Government Electric Vehicle Incentive and any provincial Government Electric Vehicle Incentive. Finance offers exclude registration, insurance, PPSSA, and license fees. *2025 TUCSON Ultimate HEV AWD finance offer includes a 0.5% Hyundai finance loyalty rate reduction. All current owners (and immediate family members with proof of residence at owner's address) of a Hyundai or Genesis vehicle who present active (not expired) proof of ownership at time of purchase or lease are entitled to a reduction of 0.5% on the applicable finance, a reduction of 1% on the applicable lease rate, or an after-tax rebate up to \$500 for cash purchases (collectively, "Loyalty Incentive"). The rate reduction and cash rebate cannot be combined. Finance rate after 0.5% rate reduction cannot be less than 0%. Lease rate after 1% rate reduction cannot be less than 0%. Loyalty Incentive can be claimed once in total from owner and immediate family member at same address. Cash price does not include freight, delivery and destination, registration, insurance, license fees, PPSSA and all applicable fees, levies, charges and taxes. Dealer may sell for less. Inventory is limited. Dealer order may be required. Loyalty Incentive is subject to change or cancellation without notice. Loyalty Incentive offer is valid until January 2, 2026, and is only available in Canada. See Bolton Hyundai for details.



Team Mayes at Hike for Bethell Hospice.

PHOTO BY RILEY MURPHY

Hospice Hike sees record turnout

Continued from FRONT

By the end of the event, Bethell Hospice had surpassed its goal of \$255,000 and a record-breaking attendance of approximately 550 hikers.

Lori O’Hara-Hoke, former Board member and former Board Chair of Bethell Hospice, has been a part of the organization for nine years. O’Hara-Hoke spoke about how when she first joined in 2015, her goal was to help the sustainability of the organization and to be able to show up year after year still is a big part of that to support not only the organization but the families, the teams, and those that work there.

She also discussed the community’s significant role in the Hike for Bethell Hospice.

“Hike for Hospice is a community event that gives back to the community that supports it,” said O’Hara-Hoke. “This lets us continue that work, continue to develop programs that might help children, might help spouses, might help family members deal with what they go through when they come to Bethell Hospice and support the running of a house itself, because there is not sufficient government funding to take care of all the things that we have to do.

“That’s why volunteers and fundraising are such an integral part of Bethell Hospice. The community really helps make that happen, we’re so grateful for them.”

Jay and Beverly Mayes, from Team Mayes, participate in Hike for Bethell Hospice for their husband and father Jack. They have been involved in the hike for the past three years. Beverly talked about how her husband, Jack, had stayed at Bethell Hospice during his fight with cancer.

“We had enough time that he was at the hospice for three weeks, and it was better for him there than at home, because it was almost like home, but he had more help there,” said Beverly.

Their team is filled with love, family, and friends, and they said they’re glad to be a part of this.

Another team there to participate in the Hike was Team Brampton Funeral Home and Cemetery by Arbor Memorial, an event sponsor.

Michael Sutton, Funeral Home Manager, said they decided to sponsor the event because of their time working closely in the community with Bethell.

Sutton stated that their team wants to do everything they can to show their support for

the team at Bethell’s initiative.

“For today, it’s just about being together as a community, sharing stories, supporting one another, and getting a little health kick in it while we’re at it,” said Sutton.

Councillor Lynn Kiernan also attended the event and talked about how extraordinary it is and the people who make it happen.

“There’s so many people that put this together, the volunteers, the board, the foundations, the community, the teams, the people honouring the people they’ve lost; friends, neighbors, family members,” said Councillor Kiernan.

Councillor Kiernan noted they raised the flag at Caledon Town Hall on April 22 to recognize Hospice Palliative Care Week, and the flag will be raised at Orangeville Town Hall on May 8 to continue to bring awareness to the community.

Helen Quackenbush and Jean James are a part of team Helen’s Wee Purple Hens, and as they walked along the hike, they shared that they were walking for their parents, Helen and Archie.

Quackenbush shared that they’ve been hiking since 2013 after their mother was under care in Bethell Hospice.

“The place was just amazing. The support group, the care, the compassion. It was actually really opening your eyes to what could be instead of hospitals and that’s why we support it, because, gosh, you’ve seen people suffering, and you want them to die with some dignity and care,” she shared.

James noted that being on the hike is great, especially with their family.

The hike has become a special place for this family for multiple reasons; Helen Quackenbush’s son-in-law proposed to her daughter, Amy Quackenbush, during the hike in 2022.

Amy Quackenbush and Ryan Snitzer were hiking with dogs in tow shortly ahead of the pair. Amy shared what it meant to be able to do this hike with her family around her.

“It’s great to help support the Hospice, it’s a wonderful place. It’s really nice to see all these people out here, it’s a great thing to do with family, honour them, their memory. I know my papa wasn’t at the Hospice per se, but still it’s sort of like together it’s our way to celebrate both of them,” said Amy.

“It still counts,” added Snitzer.

Donations are still rolling in until the end of May, and can be seen at hikeforbethellhospice.ca.

Gillam celebrates Construction Safety Week at new Golf Canada Headquarters

Continued from Page A8

Lesurf explained that many of these injuries were from complacency and things that were easily preventable if people began paying attention.

Gillam and the League of Champions are trying to change that.

“It’s about setting expectations and safety culture. I care about everybody, and I think they know it,” said Lesurf. “At the end of the day, I never want to have a conversation with anybody about an injury, or a fatality. I’ve never in 38 years, and I certainly don’t want to do it ever in my lifetime, that’s why I do this.”

Everybody signs the LOC’s Jersey of Courage at the event with their family name to simulate a contract.

As Lesurf explained, “Because it’s on a contract, you’re going to make the commitment to work safe ever yday.”

This year’s theme for the Road Show was Plan, Own, Commit.

“You want to plan your work, own your actions, and commit to doing it right,” explained Lesurf.

Brad Humenjuk, Corporate Health and Safety Manager for Gillam, says that

through this week, they’re trying to bring safety to the forefront of the workplace.

“It’s mostly the trades that put the stuff together for us and we have to thank them,” said Humenjuk. “We have to be appreciative to them, we put on a luncheon, we do speeches, we advocate for safety, we just want to make sure that everyone’s looking after each other.”

He says that Gillam tries to instill the message at the front of its construction sites into every team member to try to combat the problems that arise with routine activity and complacency at job sites.

“Gillam has the biggest culture I’ve ever experienced in my life,” said Humenjuk.

“If we ever do have a situation, everyone’s all-hands-on-deck, everyone seems to always want to help each other, everyone is all engaged, everyone seems to be interconnected, and there’s almost like a family integration within this company.”

Events varied from site to site and included food and/or refreshments, stretch and flex exercises, toolbox talks, presentations, demonstrations, contests, competitions and guest speakers.

2026 is set as the completion year for the new Golf Canada Headquarters.



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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

LAUREL HILL CEMETERY

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Plot Owners of Laurel Hill Cemetery will be held on Thursday morning, May 15 at 10 o'clock at Egan Funeral Home, 203 Queen Street South, Bolton. The purpose of the meeting is to elect Officers, receive reports and general business. Dated at Bolton, Ontario the 1st day of May, 2025.

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Notes: Good useful offering of items! Pond on Sale Site, 2 sale rings. No.B.P. **TERMS:** Cash sale day, cheques with ID only, e-transfer. Lunchbooth.Owner, Auctioneers not responsible for accidents, injury, deletions or loss of property sale day. All verbal announcements take precedence over written material. **www.theauctionadvertiser.com/DMcPhee** for photos

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OBITUARIES

DAVID FERRIER
 MARCH 24, 1941 - MAY 03, 2025

It is with great sadness that we share the passing of David James Ferrier, in his 85th year. Beloved husband of Cynthia (nee Mason); father of Carolyn (Peter) Howard, Joanne Ferrier (James). Step father of Katrina Lawson, Aimee (Scott) Cowan, Chad Wilson (Monica), Jocelyn (Willem) Zevenbergen. Much loved grandfather of Sam (Jing), Claire, Ethan, Gregor, Bennett, Dolly, Chase, Charlie, Tommy, Everleigh. Brother of Deborah Semple Visconti, Catherine Semple. Predeceased by his brother Robert, and brother-in-law Rick.



David was raised, in Beeton, by his parents, Frank and Olive (nee Gibbons) Ferrier (predeceased). David began his teaching career in New Tecumseth. Then moved to Orangeville to commence his career as a school principal, with Upper Grand DSB, in 1968. He was principal of various schools, which included Parkinson Centennial, Springbrook, Centennial Hylands, Princess Margaret and Princess Elizabeth. Even though David was school administrator, he showed a genuine interest in the lives of his students. He was a friend to many. His compassion and empathy towards others, especially, children in need, was exemplified by his many kind deeds. David was instrumental in establishing Big Sisters in Orangeville. David was a member of Compass Community Church. He was a lifelong member of the Orangeville Lions Club. Acknowledgement of this, was when he received the prestigious Melvin Jones Award.

David and Cynthia enjoyed their world travels and the many winters spent in Mexico, making many new lifelong friends.

Not only did David have a passion for antique clocks and cars; he was a dedicated fan of The Toronto Maple Leafs and the Toronto Blue Jays. Throughout his life, many great memories were created at the cottage on Harris Lake.

The family would like to express their heartfelt gratitude to the nurses and staff at The Avalon Care Centre, for the special care given to David. May the memory of his unconditional generosity and his unique whistling, leave a lasting memory to all who knew him.

Cremation has taken place. Funeral Service will be held at Dods & McNair Funeral Home , Chapel & Reception Centre, 21 First St., Orangeville on Monday May 12, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. with visitation beginning at 10:00 am. Reception will follow.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to Big Brothers Big Sisters Dufferin,The Dufferin Alzheimer's Society or Compass Community Church, or charity of your choice, would be appreciated by the family.

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

IN MEMORIAM

IN MEMORIAM

Angela (Huber) Long
 November 1944 - May 2015



In loving memory of our beloved wife, partner, mother and grandmother, the wind beneath our wings. Angela loved all people, animals, cooking and gardening.

Bob, Mike, Deborah, Tobi, Cassandra, Amanda and Rachel

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- IN LOVING MEMORY OF -
 DOREEN ELLEN PATTERSON
 MAY 11, 1944 – MAY 4, 2025



It is with heavy hearts and deep love that we announce the passing of our beloved mother, grandmother, aunt, sister and friend, Doreen Ellen Patterson, who died peacefully at home on Sunday, May 4, 2025.



Doreen was the devoted wife and life companion of 61 years to George (“Ted”) Patterson. She was an outstanding mother to Ron, Brenda, Allan (Gina), David (Raquel), and Charlene (Andrew); and a doting grandmother to Jocelyn, Holly (Adam), Colin, Sherri, Sydney (John), Madison, Ashley, Meghan, Emily, Morgan, Liam, Andrew, Kate and Laura. She was predeceased by her grandson P.J. She was a loving sister to

Barbara (Clint) and was predeceased by siblings Cyril Junior (June) and Linda (Mike). She was the daughter of the late Cyril and Eloise Fagin.

Doreen met her soulmate Ted in high school. They married soon after and settled in Palgrave, Ont., where they raised their family. Nurturing, mothering and caregiving were always at the heart of Doreen's life. With five children, she was constantly on the move—whether chasing them around or worrying where they were. When not with her children, she could be found baking in the kitchen, quilting, meeting with her fellow “hookers” (rug-hooking group), cheering in local arenas as a proud hockey mom, or enjoying time around the campfire at Sauble Beach.

As Nana, Doreen poured her love into the next generation. Her home was always open, filled with warmth, homemade meals and stories rich in laughter and life lessons. She created an abundance of memories with her grandchildren that will be forever treasured.

Though we grieve her loss, we take comfort in knowing she is reunited with Ted, who passed away in February 2022. Doreen leaves behind a legacy of love, compassion and family. Her values, traditions and recipes will live on through her children and grandchildren.

Family and friends are invited to pay their respects at Egan Funeral Home, 203 Queen St. S. (Hwy. 50), Bolton (905-857-2213), on Thursday, May 8 from 5 to 8 p.m., with a funeral service to follow on Friday, May 9 at 1 p.m. Following the service, a reception will be held at the funeral home. After the reception, Ted's ashes will be laid to rest alongside Doreen's in Morningside Cemetery, Palgrave.

If desired, memorial donations may be made to the Alzheimer Society of Canada. A dedicated donation page may be set up at a later time. Condolences may be shared with the family at www. EganFuneralHome.com.

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HOME & GARDEN

Popular trends in home exteriors

Certain homes have an undeniable wow factor. That instant appeal tends to be noticeable the moment visitors pull up to the curb, and it might be a byproduct of homeowners' willingness to embrace the latest exterior design trends.

TRENDS COME AND GO, but recognition of the current fashions can help homeowners create that highly sought-after wow factor. The following are some recent trends in home exteriors that have helped homeowners set their properties apart.

Wood

Natural wood has undeniable appeal, and it hasn't only found newfound devotion among home interior decorators. Natural wood garage doors create a sense of warmth and can set a home apart from others with steel doors, which tend to be the most popular garage door material. In addition to the garage door, natural wood entry doors and wood decks are popular ways to impart this classical, warm look to a home's exterior.

Painted brick

Like natural wood, brick is a traditional material that's both sturdy and classical. But homeowners can add character to brick with a coat of paint,

which has become a popular trend in recent years. Light tones tend to be most popular when painting bricks. The experts at Better Homes & Gardens note that this could prove a long-term commitment if homeowners so desire, as a properly painted brick exterior could last as long as 20 years.

Hardscaping

Hardscaping isn't a new trend, but it has been trending in recent years. Hardscaping is an umbrella term that includes everything from outdoor living rooms to incorporating natural stone into a landscape. Outdoor living rooms are one hardscaping trend that has become increasingly popular of late. These spaces serve as an extension of indoor living spaces. The home improvement experts at HGTV note that recently homeowners have looked to create covered outdoor rooms that can be enjoyed more frequently than patios or decks that are not protected from the elements.

Outdoor lighting

It makes sense that individuals looking to spend more time enjoying their properties outdoors would want more lighting outside. Ambient outdoor lighting can be utilized throughout a property. Such lighting can light up walkways and driveways and be used to light up landscaping features like trees and gardens.

Home design trends tend to be fickle. But recognition of the current trends in exterior home design can set homes apart and turn properties into awe-inspiring places to enjoy the great outdoors.





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Exterior renovations that boast the best ROI

Homeowners may be surprised to learn which renovations garner the best ROI at resale. The home loan and refinancing company RenoFi indicates that overall home improvement projects provide a 70 percent ROI on average. Many high-ROI projects add functional space and improvement. The following are some exterior renovations that help homeowners recoup the most money at resale, according to Remodeling magazine’s “2022 Cost vs. Value Report.”



1	Garage Door Replacement: 93.3 percent recouped of \$4,041 cost	5	Siding replacement (Vinyl): 67.2 percent recouped of \$18,662 cost
2	Manufactured Stone Veneer: 91.4 percent recouped of \$11,066 cost	6	Window replacement (Wood): 66.3 percent recouped of \$24,388 cost
3	Siding replacement (Fiber Cement): 68.3 percent recouped of \$22,093 cost	7	Deck addition (Wood): 64.8 percent recouped of \$19,248 cost
4	Window replacement (Vinyl): 67.5 percent recouped of \$20,482 cost	8	Entry Door Replacement (Steel): 63.8 percent recouped of \$2,206 cost

The majority of renovations on Remodeling magazine’s list of the best investments are exterior renovations, making this area of a home a particular point of interest for homeowners. The only interior project that cracked the Top 10 ROI for projects was a minor midrange kitchen remodel.

Exterior renovations perhaps add the most bang for your buck because they’re not only functional, but also because they add immediate curb appeal. Much in the way it has been said people eat with their eyes first — which is why chefs spend so much time on elaborate

plating — buyers will judge a property by how it looks when they arrive, even before they’ve stepped inside a home. In essence, home buyers often judge a book by its cover. A worn exterior may indicate to potential buyers that the home was not maintained, however false that assumption may be.

It’s important for homeowners to consider all factors before beginning a renovation. Certain projects offer a stronger return on investment than others, and that’s a significant consideration for homeowners thinking of selling their homes.

We have you covered. All under one roof.

Upgrading your home's exterior—particularly the roof, eavestrough, and siding—can significantly enhance both its curb appeal and long-term value. These elements serve not only aesthetic purposes but also play critical roles in protecting the structure from the elements.

ROOFING is one of the most important exterior components of any home. Replacing an old or damaged roof with high-quality materials such as architectural shingles, metal roofing,

or even modern synthetic options can greatly improve durability and insulation. A new roof not only prevents leaks and water damage but also contributes to energy efficiency by better regulating indoor temperatures.

EAVESTROUGHS (GUTTERS) are often overlooked but are essential for directing water away from your home's foundation. New eavestrough systems with properly installed downspouts help prevent basement flooding, soil erosion, and siding damage. Upgrading to seamless aluminum or copper gutters enhances both performance and appearance, while features like gutter guards reduce maintenance.

SIDING is the face of your home, and updating it can transform the entire look. Modern siding materials such as vinyl, fiber cement, or engineered wood offer superior protection, energy efficiency, and design flexibility. Many options now come in a wide range of colors and textures, mimicking the look of natural wood



or stone while offering better resistance to moisture, pests, and fading.

Together, a new roof, upgraded eavestrough system, and modern siding work as a cohesive shield, protecting your home from weather-related damage while enhancing its appearance. These upgrades not only provide immediate

benefits in terms of performance and looks but also increase your home's resale value and overall longevity. Whether you're preparing to sell or planning to stay for years, investing in these key exterior elements is a smart and rewarding decision. For more information contact Synergy Exteriors at 519-939-6007 or visit their website at synergyexteriors.ca.

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Turn a backyard into your own relaxing respite

Backyards have long been places to unwind and enjoy some peace and quiet surrounded by nature.

Thanks in part to financial instability brought on by rising inflation and measures to tame it, homeowners may decide to forgo traditional vacations in favor of staying home this season. There's no better time to invest in a home, particularly outdoor spaces, to make them welcoming respites. The following are some ways to accomplish that goal.

Incorporate a water feature

The sound of trickling or bubbling water can make surroundings more serene. A low-maintenance water feature can help to create a calming ambience. A fountain that does not require a collection pond will

reduce the chance it becomes a breeding ground for mosquitoes. Locating the fountain out of the sun can keep algae growth at a minimum.

Add lights for ambience

Outdoor lighting options include professionally installed, hardwired lights on the home itself or accent lighting that draws attention to trees or architectural structures on the property. It also may include twinkling lights, which some consider a must-have for any outdoor retreat. Lights come in all types and price points. Hang them on porches, pergolas or cement posts inside decorative planters

and then string lights between the posts. This way the lighting can be moved around as desired.

Lounging spots

A comfortable outdoor loveseat or chairs may be a focal point of the yard, but build in some additional cozy spots specifically for lounging around. Nestle a hammock in a quiet corner of the yard, or enhance a chaise lounge with throw pillows and a large umbrella for napping poolside.

Add lushness with plants

Plants can transform any space. Use a combination of planted varieties around the yard, then enhance certain areas with potted plants as needed. Plants can make an area more warm and inviting, plus they give butterflies, bees and hummingbirds places to

stop by and visit. Consider the help of a professional landscaper to bring a vision of a lush, plant-filled retreat to life.

Blend in the pool or spa

With some unique landscape architecture, the pool or hot tub can be built right into the landscape, making it a cohesive part of the design. This can make the yard seem even more like an oasis, especially when the pool is flanked by a waterfall or bubbling fountain.

Add some music

Thanks to wireless speakers that rely on Bluetooth technology, it's easy to have music piped right into the backyard. Set up a wireless speaker in an inconspicuous spot, such as inside a planter or in the rafters of a gazebo.

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Lincoln Pools strives to give back to the community in many ways. One of their biggest efforts is demonstrated through their annual charity golf tournament, during which funds are raised to support the Hospital for Sick Children.

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The Fireplace Stop's admin team of Kelsey Leonard, Kevin Snell, Renee Noble, Jody Koerssen and Jennifer Russell keeps the business running smoothly and clients happy. (Contributed photo)

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Leonard said The Fireplace Stop, and its sister business ABL Air Heating & Air Conditioning, have grown because they've always been willing to do challenging

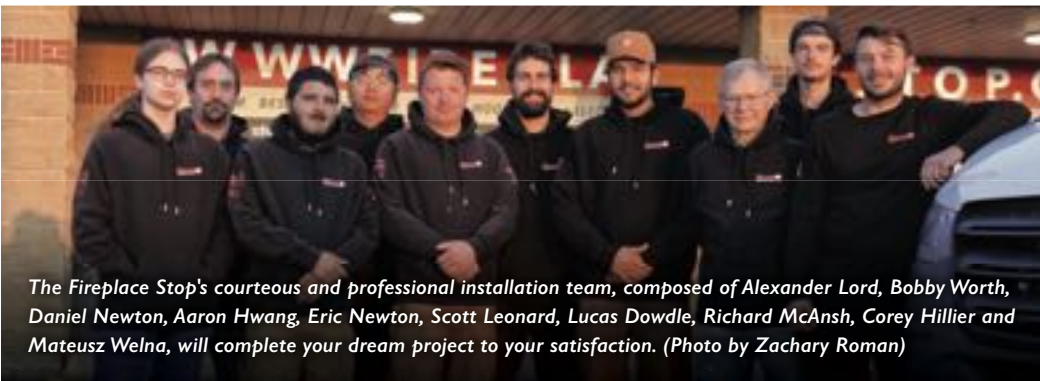
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The Fireplace Stop serves a large part of Ontario, including Toronto and all of cottage country. They've done jobs all over, including jobs on properties with snowmobile or boat access only.

The Fireplace Stop offers personalized service and makes customer satisfaction the top priority on any project.



The Fireplace Stop's courteous and professional installation team, composed of Alexander Lord, Bobby Worth, Daniel Newton, Aaron Hwang, Eric Newton, Scott Leonard, Lucas Dowdle, Richard McAnsh, Corey Hillier and Mateusz Welna, will complete your dream project to your satisfaction. (Photo by Zachary Roman)

Scott Leonard and Eric Newton are the head installers for the company and are the best of the best, and they're supported by an incredibly strong installer team. Eric's brother Daniel also works for The Fireplace Stop and they make a great team.

Corey Hillier is the amazing head of service for The Fireplace Stop, and Richard McAnsh is known as "Tricky Ricky" because he can do all the tricky jobs. Mateusz Welna runs shipping and receiving for the company and helps out on challenging installs too.

Leonard said installer Lucas Dowdle, and co-op students Alexander Lord, Bobby Worth, and Aaron Hwang have amazing careers ahead of them.

Glen Rueda does custom cabinetry for The Fireplace Stop.

Leonard's son Andrew runs sales for the company with his exceptional colleagues Ron Rice, Cristina Ventresca and Leonard himself. Kelsey Leonard is the head of administration with her supporting group of Kevin Snell, Renee Noble and Jennifer Russell. Jody Koerssen leads the accounting.

All of these wonderful employees and associates, and more, are at the core of The Fireplace Stop, where it truly is the people that make the difference.

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Great reasons to replace aging windows

Windows in a home are easy to take for granted. Unless windows are showing signs of wear and tear or so dirty that it's hard to see through them, it's easy for them to go unnoticed. However, replacement windows can add value to a home and even save homeowners a substantial amount of money.

Much of the savings that can be attributed to new windows is related to energy efficiency. The Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy estimates that as much as 30 percent of heating and cooling energy can be lost through heat gain or heat loss, and aging, inefficient windows contribute to such losses. Replacing those windows can save homeowners substantial amounts of money, with one expert at Angi estimating that installation of energy efficient windows can help trim energy bills by as much as 12 percent.

Cost savings are often noted when firms promote replacement windows, but homeowners should know

that replacement windows also provide numerous additional benefits. In fact, the following are three great reasons for homeowners to consider upgrading their windows today.

1 New windows help reduce carbon footprint

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency reports that replacing single-pane windows with ENERGY STAR® certified windows can help to reduce CO2 emissions by a significant margin. The EPA reports that such windows can save the equivalent of as much as 6,200 pounds of CO2 emissions thanks to reduced energy consumption associated with the new windows.

2 New windows can brighten a home

Natural light brightens a room and can make it appear larger. Homeowners who have grown accustomed to old windows may not realize how little light such windows let into their homes. Aging windows



can become foggy over time and prevent natural light from getting into a home. That can create a gloomy feel and force homeowners to turn up the thermostat on cold days. New windows brighten the home and the natural light that pours in on a cold day can help heat the home at the same time.

3 New windows cut down on noise

Window manufacturers are always on the lookout for ways to produce windows that make homes more comfortable. Noise reduction is one way to accomplish that goal, and Consumer Reports notes

that triple-glazed windows can help to dramatically reduce outside noise. Homeowners who currently have single-pane windows may be astonished by the difference in outside noise levels when upgrading to triple-glazed windows, which contain a third layer of glass. That third layer of glass significantly reduces noise levels, making triple-glaze windows ideal for homes on busy streets or those in urban areas with lots of foot traffic.

Replacement windows pay numerous dividends. Homeowners can reap these rewards and others by replacing aging windows.

Helping customers find the perfect product and install it with care

Cedarport Window & Door Centre has been installing high quality window and door solutions in the Dufferin and surrounding areas for over 39 years.

"We encourage everyone that needs new windows and doors to stop into the showroom and see the product we carry," says Dave Patterson, President of Cedarport Window & Door Centre.



"Once you see the product, touch it, and view the available options, you'll understand why we chose the product lines we carry. Something as simple as a new front entrance can really update your home and give it the facelift it needs. We take pride in our offering and provide top notch installation with installers that are seasoned and know what they are doing."

Cedarport's showroom is located inside the Mono Plaza on Highway 10 and is open Monday to Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Friday until 4:00 p.m. "If our operating hours don't work with your schedule, give us a call, we will work with you."

"Cedarport has been at the Mono Plaza for a while now. Our showroom has expanded a few times over the years. We are really proud of our showroom. It has the most extensive window and door display in the Orangeville area. We have found that the showroom assists our

customers in making choices that can really change and modernize the exterior and interior look of their home and most importantly, provides them with excellent quality energy efficient solutions. Right now is a perfect time to take advantage of the Canada Greener Homes initiative.

You can receive a rebate for qualifying windows. Visit the Natural Resources Canada website for more information."

"The difference that premium quality windows and doors can make in a person's home is quite dramatic.

"Window technology has advanced significantly in the last 10-15 years, so residents with older windows who struggle with temperature control at home will notice a major difference when they upgrade.

"The glass in windows can be fine-tuned to

fit any homeowner's needs. Too much sun and heat coming in your kitchen window? There is glass for that," explains Dave.

"We have been dealing with many local contractors and homeowners for years. We have been in the area for so long; our referral business is quite strong. We also have a location in Thornbury. This is where our main warehouse is located, as well as another showroom.

"We invite you to come see us at our Mono Plaza showroom. We know your house is your pride and joy. We have great product, helpful office staff, and really great installers on our team ready to assist you."


To learn more about Cedarport, visit their website at www.cedarport.ca

You can also call the office at 519-941-7208 to arrange an appointment.



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Shop and support local at Focus on Decorating Benjamin Moore, Orangeville's premium paint and decor store

Taking on a home improvement project can be daunting, but the team at Focus on Decorating – Benjamin Moore in Orangeville is here to help.

Located at 88 First Street, Unit 4, the Benjamin Moore retailer is independently owned by Ken Eppenberger, who's happy to provide customers with state-of-the-art paint and decor.

With more Canadians becoming consumer-conscious amidst tensions around trade policy and tariffs from the United States, Ken said it's important to note that Focus on Decorating is not a franchise or corporate store.

"We are an independent, Canadian-owned store and we employ over eight people throughout the year that are local to our business," said Ken. "Regardless of what we sell here, we are Canadian-owned and operated."

He added, "The profits are staying here in Canada." Focus on Decorating has a great deal of choice in what products or brands they carry. While the business is dedicated to the Benjamin Moore brand, they're not restricted to it and carry products from many different companies.

The business is a proud carrier of Hunter Douglas, Alta, and Maxxmar blinds. Focus on Decorating also carries INSL-X paints, York, Ontario, Provincial, Wallcoverings, Coronado Premium Paints and Cottage Paint Furniture Restoring.

Started in 1997 by Ken's mother, Focus on Decorating was passed down to him 10 years ago, and he's been enjoying serving the community ever since.

The personalized service provided to customers by Focus on Decorating staff is part of why the business has been so successful over the years.

They help customers narrow down the scope of their projects and make informed recommendations.



"We take the time to assist people with whatever decisions or colour choices they're making," said Ken. "We do have extensive product knowledge, so if people are having problems, we've been around long enough to pinpoint them and provide solutions."

Focus on Decorating offers free in-store consultations to customers to assist with colour and product

choices. Small colour swatches and colour testers are also available for customers to use at home.

Ken is community-minded and enjoys giving back through his business, donating products to not-for-profits or community projects.

"We support community events, community groups such as the Rotary Club, and various church groups," Ken explained. "We provide help or donations to these groups throughout the course of the year."

Benjamin Moore donated the product to repaint the Orangeville Lions Club's blue and yellow storage building at Rotary Park.

A nature-themed mural on the Main Street Bridge on the Grand River in Grand Valley was made possible thanks to a donation of specialized paint from Focus on Decorating. The business also committed to future touch-ups as weather and water will wear down the mural over time.

So when you support Focus on Decorating, you're supporting the community.

The hours of operation at Focus on Decorating are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sundays.

To learn more about the business and what it can do for you, call 519-942-8171 or visit focusondecorating.ca.

Written by Sam Odrowski





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DOTCOM METALS continues to grow as a local metal supplier and service provider, expanding its offerings to meet increasing demand across Caledon and surrounding areas.

The company has significantly expanded its product portfolio, now stocking a wider range of metals in various shapes and sizes—along with the recent addition of Canadian Metal Roofing and Siding, supporting residential, commercial, and agricultural projects.

Custom cutting remains a core service, with no minimum order required. New services now include welding, forming, powder coating, and hot-dipped galvanizing, allowing customers to get raw materials and finished components from a single source.

Dotcom Metals has grown its vendor network to ensure consistent access to more products and is proudly focused on sourcing Canadian materials wherever possible.

The team continues to build strong partnerships with local businesses to tailor inventory and services to meet specific project needs. The goal is to be more than just a supplier—to be a trusted partner that helps customers build efficiently and cost-effectively.

As a member of the Caledon Chamber of Commerce and an active supporter of local events and community initiatives, Dotcom Metals is committed to strengthening its roots while delivering top-tier service.

Dotcom Metals is located at 8841 George Bolton Parkway, Unit 2, Building C, and is open Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. 1-888-996-0052 www.dotcommetals.com

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ROOF PRO PLUS

Your guide to the basics of roofing

THE ROOFING PROFESSIONALS

here at Roof Pro + never get tired of talking about the products, methods, and principles of this industry. While the consuming public may not think of roofing as an entertaining topic to discuss over wine on a Saturday evening, these residential roofing enthusiasts would love to speak about the subject any day of the week.

The veteran contractors of Roof Pro + would probably want to discuss roofing topics that may be a little advanced and esoteric for the average citizen. Instead of exploring "recent innovation in composite shingling," we will run through some basic information that can provide homeowners with a more solid basis for understanding this vital aspect of their own properties.

1

What causes the most damage to my roof?

There are a ton of factors that enter into the subject of roof disrepair. Common reasons for damage include drastic shifts in temperature, changes in humidity, rain, intense sunlight, wind, snow, and hail. There is no universal primary cause for roof damage, and disrepair often occurs due to a combination of many different factors. It should be noted that major weather disasters can wreak havoc on roofing material and probably cause the most severe destruction in the shortest period of time.

2

How long does a new roof last?

Much like the first question, this does not have an easy, straightforward answer. The type and quality of the materials used to construct the roof, the experience of the roofing company hired to complete installation, the attention to detail utilized by the installer, the ventilation system, and the severity of the climate all play major roles in determining the lifespan of your roof.

3

Will houses in the same neighborhood be affected by major weather events to the same degree as my own?

This is a common question because homeowners will wonder why a neighbour has had a roof collapse while their home remains intact. Even if both homeowners had the same type, quality, and strength of roofing material, climatic events can affect separate locations in vastly different ways, and this can be true even if two homes are adjacent to each other. However, after such a scenario, it would be advisable to contact a local roofing professional. Assessing the possibility of structural damage is important after such an event because the impact may not be recognizable without a trained eye.

Roof Pro Plus Home Improvements South is a family owned and operated business with over 20 years of experience serving your local area. Specializing in exterior solutions for your home: Roofing (Shingles, Steel and Flat), Attic Insulation, Siding, Soffit, Fascia and Eavestroughs.

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RENOVATIONS AROUND THE HOUSE require an investment of time and often considerable amounts of money. Findings from the 2024 U.S. Houzz & Home Study show that home renovations are becoming more expensive. The median renovation spending for homeowners has gone up 60 percent since 2020. Angi, a home services website, reports the average renovation cost for homes between 1,250 and 1,600 square feet is \$51,772, but the final cost of home renovations depends on the scope of the project.

Homeowners who are conserving funds can rest assured that it is possible to make meaningful changes both inside and outside a home without breaking the bank. Here are some ways to renovate a home on a budget.

• **CREATE A BUDGET AND DON'T WAVER.** Figure out exactly what you can afford for a renovation and then make that your maximum dollars spent. Research comparable projects in your area and be honest about whether you can afford the renovation as-is or if you must adapt ideas to fit your price. Make sure to build in a cushion of around 15 to 20 percent for any unforeseen expenses that may arise once a renovation is underway.

• **MAXIMIZE AN EXISTING FLOOR PLAN.** This Old House suggests looking for ways to maximize your current layout before you invest in major renovations like an expansion. Bring in a designer with an eye for utilizing space. For example, see how you might be able to replace shelves with pull-out drawers in the kitchen. Moving furniture around or rethinking floor plans also can help to lower costs.

• **BALANCE DIY WITH HIRING CONTRACTORS.** You can save money by tackling some projects yourself, but only if you are confident in your renovation

skills. Rather than risk making costly mistakes and having to redo things, hire well-vetted professionals but ask if there's any DIY work you can do to cut costs.

• **CHECK CLEARANCE AND RESALE STORES.** Shop discount stores for building materials to save money. For example, if a builder ordered too many cabinets they may offer them to Habitat for Humanity ReStores, which are nonprofit home improvement stores and donation centers. Checking the clearance and markdown sections of other stores may yield considerable savings on items needed for a renovation. Warehouse retailers like Costco or Sam's Club also can be great places to find certain home improvement materials and furnishings.

• **TAKE ADVANTAGE OF FREE SERVICES.** Certain stores may offer things like free consultations with designers who can show you what a renovation can look like. This is advantageous to the stores because once you see the potential you're more likely to buy the products, even if it's not mandatory.

• **RESURFACE INSTEAD OF REDO.** Certain items can be made to look new with minimal effort. Paint is a relatively inexpensive tool that can transform walls and more. A good hardwood flooring company can buff out a floor and put a new coating instead of an entirely new floor. Kitchen cabinets can be resurfaced instead of replaced as well.

Finding ways to perform home renovations on a budget may require some creative thinking, but it's possible to get results at the right price point.

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From complete indoor heating solutions to an ever-growing line of outdoor fire products including fire pots, burners, fire tables, log sets, tempest torches, barbecues and even outdoor built-in kitchens, they make it easy for customers to find what they are looking for to create a comfortable, relaxing, and entertaining environment for the home.

They also carry an array of wood accessories such as tool sets, bellows, wood gloves, steamers and log holders. In addition, there are barbecue accessories such as smokers, chips, pizza stones, rotisserie baskets and digital temperature probes.



With the spring season approaching, you can turn your backyard into a place you will enjoy with family as well as a space for entertaining guests.

Outside fire pits, fireplaces, torches, bowls and log sets as well as the line of Napoleon BBQs, all made in Canada, will create a unique outdoor space that is both functional and fun.

Caledon Fireplace features Jotul wood stoves which are very popular and provide efficient heat distribution.

The staff at Caledon Fireplace are welcoming, friendly, and enthusiastic about the products they sell and the service.

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Birds are beautiful creatures that can make a lawn and garden feel even more serene. Providing snacks to supplement what birds naturally find in the wild guarantees up close and personal interactions with the scores of species that call neighborhoods home.

Bird feeders are particularly important in colder climates and during wintertime when food may be scarce. Keeping birds well fed helps them survive over winter and continue to repopulate in the spring. Bird feeding isn't all for the birds, either. Ashley Dayer, an associate professor in the Department of Fish and Wildlife Conservation at Virginia Tech, argues that feeding birds also is a benefit to humans because it stimulates compassion for the animals.

The type of bird feeder a person places in the yard determines which species may be drawn to the property. The following are various types of feeders to consider.

SUET FEEDERS
Suet cakes are high-energy food sources that attract birds like woodpeckers and nuthatches. They are particularly beneficial in colder months or regions where birds need extra fat for energy. These cage-like feeders snap around the rectangular suet cake and hang from a pole or tree.

GROUND FEEDER
Ground feeders are simple screen-bottomed trays that sit several inches off of the ground or on a deck to help keep seeds and grain from coming in contact with droppings. Ground feeders are a favorite of juncos, sparrows, goldfinches, and cardinals, among others.

SUGAR WATER FEEDER
These feeders come in different shapes, from tubes to round dishes, and are magnets to hummingbirds. They typically have red coloring to be more attractive to those high-speed flyers.

NYJER BIRD FEEDER
Small birds like goldfinches love to dine on nyjer seeds, which are tiny, black thistle seeds. These feeders are tube-shaped mesh socks designed to hold this specific seed. The small feeding ports prevent seed waste and cater to the small beaks of finches.

HOPPER BIRD FEEDER
These are the feeders many people think of when they envision bird feeders. Hopper bird feeders hold a large amount of seed and often have a roof or a design that mimics a house or barn. The covered design helps to keep seeds dry and might be the best hanging feeder for people who live in areas with a lot of rain. Hoppers will attract blue jays, grackles, cardinals, and blackbirds.

TUBE FEEDERS
Tube feeders will attract an array of birds. They are cylindrical in shape with various ports to enable birds to perch and feed.

WINDOW AND SMART BIRD FEEDERS
These types of bird feeders attach to windows to allow homeowners to view the birds up close. Smart varieties have cameras on the feeders that will send a feed via an app to a smart phone or computer. Some even may identify the bird species on the feeder at any given point in time.

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A spring lawn revitalization strategy

New growth is a hallmark of spring, whether it plays out in the birth of birds and bunnies or with the returned buds on trees and plant stalks. While most greenery rebounds naturally, lawns may need a little extra TLC in order to return to their once lush, green glory.

Revitalizing a lawn in spring is a multifaceted process but can be well worth the reward when green grass adds to a beautiful landscape and functional yard. Here is how to get started when the weather warms, courtesy of The Farmer's Almanac and The Home Depot.

- **CLEAN UP DEBRIS.** Spend a few hours raking up leaves from the lawn and removing any other winter debris like twigs so that air can reach the grass below. Also remove any thatch that has developed.

- **TEST THE SOIL.** Take a sample of the soil to determine its pH level and nutrient needs. Then you can make adjustments to set a strong foundation for the lawn to grow.
- **DO SOME WEEDING.** Pull out any weeds that have poked through early on and apply a pre-emergent herbicide to prevent additional weeds from taking over.



- **START THE AERATION PROCESS.** A core aerator punches holes into the soil. This enables air and water to penetrate through to the roots.
- **OVERSEED THE LAWN.** Apply grass seeds over the lawn, paying special attention to any bare or thin areas so that the seed will fill in the lawn.



- **WATER CONSISTENTLY.** It is important to water the lawn deeply and consistently, especially when the weather is dry, to help promote strong root development.
 - **TIME FERTILIZER CORRECTLY.** Apply a spring fertilizer around three weeks after the lawn starts to turn green or after the first two or three mowings. If fertilizer is applied too early it can feed weeds instead of the grass and result in fertilizer runoff.
 - **MOW TO AN APPROPRIATE HEIGHT.** Begin to mow when the ground is dry enough and the grass is long enough to need cutting. Leave some length to the lawn; otherwise, sunlight will reach the soil and encourage weed seeds to germinate.
- With a little elbow grease at the start of spring, homeowners can establish strong and healthy lawns.



Wise watering strategies to help a lawn thrive

A number of factors can affect how well a garden or lawn takes root. Watering is a key element of any landscape care strategy, and one that homeowners should educate themselves about if they want to maintain a lush, healthy lawn throughout spring and summer.

Homeowners hoping to keep their lawns lush and green throughout summer can learn some effective watering strategies to achieve that goal.

CHECK THE IRRIGATION SYSTEM

Water Sense®, an EPA Partnership Program, advises following four steps at the start of spring: inspect, connect, direct, and select for clock timer-controlled irrigation systems. Make sure the system doesn't have any clogged, broken or missing sprinkler heads. Examine points where the sprinkler heads attach to pipes or hoses to make sure there are no leaks. The EPA says even a leak as small as the tip of a pen

can waste 6,300 gallons of water per month. Adjust the sprinkler heads so that they only hit the landscape elements rather than sidewalks or driveways. Align the watering schedule with the seasons.

INVEST IN AN IMPACT SPRINKLER

An impact sprinkler on a tripod can be an effective option for those without built-in irrigation systems. These sprinklers rotate in circles to help deliver an even spray of water that mimics rainfall. It's easy to adjust their spray pattern and a sprinkler on a tripod can spray over the top of bushes and flower gardens.

DRIP IRRIGATION SYSTEMS ARE SUPERIOR

According to Rainbird.com, drip irrigation tubing and emitters slowly distribute water to the right spots of a landscape. They can be placed at ground level or buried underground. Water soaks directly to the roots, minimizing water loss from runoff and evaporation.

Some research suggests drip irrigation can effectively cover 25 percent more area than the average sprinkler system. It also tends to deliver more than 95 percent water efficiency.

SKIP THE SCHEDULE

Watering a lawn or garden should not be ruled by a schedule, but other factors that will determine when water is needed, suggests Family Handyman. Daytime temperatures, wind conditions, soil type, lawn type, and recent rainfall will determine how much water the landscape really needs. Overwatering can be just as bad as underwatering. For those with underground watering systems, water sensors can trigger the system to turn on rather than a time on a clock.

AVOID MIDDAY WATERING

The sun is hottest in the middle of the day. Watering during this time means that much of the water will be lost to evaporation before it can get to thirsty lawns and plants.



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Tips for the gardening beginner

A greater number of people are showing interest in gardening, which is a rewarding hobby that's good for the mind and the body. Those who are new to gardening may need a crash course to get started. These pointers can help anyone foster a newfound passion for gardening.

Choose the best location

Spend time in the yard and decide where to house a garden. A far-off corner may get the most sun, but will you forget about the garden if it is too far away? Ideally, the garden should be located where it will get at least six to eight hours of sun each day. There also should be a water source nearby. The spot also should be convenient so that it is easy to go and pick vegetables or prune flowers.

Start small

If you're new to gardening, begin with a small garden footprint so that you can get your feet wet. A raised garden bed can be a good starting point because it is contained and easy to maintain. As your experience (and garden) grows, you can add to the garden size the next time around.

Amend the soil

It's possible but unlikely that the soil in the backyard is the perfect mix to grow healthy plants. It's more likely that the garden will need some soil modification. You can test the soil makeup with do-it-yourself kits or work with a garden center. A garden typically requires a mix of compost to add nutrients to the dirt; peat moss or coconut coir to help with

water retention and to make the soil lighter; and vermiculite that helps to retain water. A compost bin set up at the same time as the garden allows gardeners to continually produce nutrient-rich food to add to the garden.

Plant starter guide

It's best to keep a few things in mind when planning the garden. Think about what will grow well in your climate. Consider how big the garden will be and the size of mature plants. A small garden will not be able to accommodate corn, for example. Also, how would you like the space to look and what will be its function? Is this a purely aesthetic garden or one that will be food-bearing?

Start seeds inside

If you'll be starting a garden from seeds, it's best to start indoors before your region's frost-free date. This way the delicate plants will get the needed care and can establish before they go outdoors in the ground. Keep them humid by covering the seedlings in plastic wrap. You can start the seeds in different containers, even empty egg cartons. Transplant to larger containers after the seedlings grow a second set of leaves. Once you're free from overnight frost, you can place the established, strong seedlings in the ground.

An automatic watering system, such as a timer hooked up to the sprinkler, can keep the garden well watered, which increases the chances of success. Then it will only be a matter of weeks before the garden can be enjoyed throughout the season.



Did you know?

Landscape lighting has become increasingly popular in recent years.

Such lighting can extend living spaces, and many homeowners report that a well-lit landscape helps them feel more safe at home. Though the final cost to light up a home's exterior will depend on the size of a property, landscape lighting is among the more budget-friendly home renovations homeowners can consider. According to the renovation experts at Angi.com, the average cost of a landscape lighting project is \$4,000. Considering how much landscape lighting transforms the look of a property at night, that's a lot of bang for homeowners' bucks. Solar lights are popular, but homeowners may want to consider electrical wiring that ensures lights maintain their awe-inspiring glow throughout the night. Electrical work requires additional labor, and thus a higher price tag. However, Angi notes that modern LED bulbs consume just 25 percent of the energy used by incandescent alternatives, which can make them a more reliable option than self-installed solar lights.



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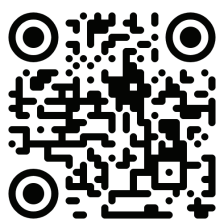
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