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Thursday, July 30, 2026

Volume 46, Issue 31

BUILDING AN INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

Council members joined families, volunteers and supporters of CAFFI (Caledon Area Families for Inclusion) at their third-annual picnic this month where they not only enjoyed the sunny weather, but looked ahead to their goals. For more, see Page A3.

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Council declines to dock Kiernan pay after Integrity Commissioner report

BY KATHRYN FRASER
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Caledon Council came together on July 28 for the final meeting before a brief break, and one main piece on their agenda was to discuss was a submission from the Integrity Commissioner on a complaint regarding Councillor Lynn Kiernan.

This Integrity Commission Complaint Report was issued on July 8 in response to complaint

ICI-2026-001 that was reported on April 9.

Councillor Kiernan was the Council member that the complaint was directed towards, and it centred on Council's Code of Conduct.

This complaint came after Councillor Christina Early created a social media post in a local Facebook group regarding a Council's consideration of a Request to initiate a Caledon Village Bypass Feasibility study and that Council had voted against having a Caledon Village Bypass.

The complainant responded to the post contending the Facebook post was misinforming

the public, that Council had not actually voted against a feasibility study as it had been explained by staff that they could not perform one.

While Councillor Early did not respond to these comments, Councillor Kiernan did.

In her complaint, the complainant said Councillor Kiernan's comments were irrelevant to the conversation and Kiernan questioned if her business had received any payment for working on the Mayor's Gala.

Continued on Page A13

Caledon needs someone who understands the community, says Mayoral candidate Early

BY KATHRYN FRASER
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

With the municipal election fast approaching this October, the ballot has doubled with the number of candidates running to become Caledon's next mayor.

Councillor Christina Early was the first candidate to throw their hat in the ring for the upcoming Mayoral race.

Early has been a resident of the Town of Caledon and has made it a home for the last 30 years and she has not only raised a family here, but became highly involved and connected to the Caledon community.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Continued on Page A8

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Dunk Disposal and National Wildlife Centre collaborate on Pet Supply Donation Drive

BY KATHRYN FRASER
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Dunk Disposal will host a Caledon Pet Supply Donation Drive on August 4 to collect used pet supplies for donation to the National Wildlife Centre.

This free event is in partnership with the National Wildlife Centre, which will give donations to animals in need.

To register, you can call ahead to Dunk Disposal to let them know that you are interested in participating in this donation.

Event organizer Cameron Dunkerley of Dunk Disposal says he has high hopes that this event will go well.

In the past, Dunk Disposal has held a monthly donation drive where they partner up with new charities to collect a wide variety of used items.

This is the first time that Dunk Disposal has partnered with the National Wildlife Centre and is hopeful that it will be the first of many partnerships together.

“We’ve been doing these events for going on six or seven years,” says Dunkerley.

“We’ve done book drives, bicycle drives, tire drives, all sorts of different things that we’ve been able to offer free pickups for thanks to the partners and everybody that we work with”.

On August 4, throughout the day the Dunk Disposal Team will go around town and collect as many pieces are available to them and then deliver them to the National Wildlife Centre.

For the collection, the specific items that Dunk Disposal and the National Wildlife Centre are would like to see are:

- Cat trees;
- Bird cages;
- Rubber fishing nets;
- Dog bowls;
- Glass jars (mason jars);
- Terrariums or aquariums;
- Ramekins;
- Hides;
- Large totes;
- Kiddie pools;
- Fold-up tables;
- Park benches;
- Good condition tools;
- Rain barrels



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Anyone looking to donate can reach out to Dunk Disposal at 647-955-2619.

Leading up to the event Dunkerley says he’s optimistic that the community will be able to lend a hand and donate to those in need.

“We’re always looking to partner with different community organizations and charities, that we’re grateful that to have. We have these large trucks, we have the manpower, we have people who can run these events,” says Dunkerley. “This is our kind of way of engaging ourselves in the community by doing this

kind of stuff. We’re always looking for more partners that are looking for more specific items to be recycled, whatever it may be. So, the more partners that we have for recycling and donating, the better.”

Looking to the future, Dunkerley and Dunk Disposal are planning for many more events like this and are hopeful to bring their Christmas Tree Drive to be back later this year.

For additional information about Dunk Disposal please visit dunkdisposal.ca.



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“Transitional Care, Close to Home” by Carolyn Langan, Senior Manager, Health Services, Caledon Community Services



Did you know there is a Transitional Care Centre (TCC) in Caledon? At Pinnacle View in Alton, Caledon Community Services (CCS) provides the care you need between hospital and home.

According to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, hospital readmissions are one of the leading concerns in the care industry.

After surgery, an illness or injury-related hospital stay, transitioning to home can be difficult, especially if you factor in social determinants of health like food security and housing or simple daily needs like medication management, navigating mobility challenges and keeping your spirits up with social interaction.

The TTC offers an environment designed to help individuals regain confidence, independence and wellness. Clients receive the 24-hour support and care they need to safely recover after a hospital stay or when they’re looking for a caring environment when family caregivers are away.

Personal Support Workers (PSWs) provide individualized attention and support with all activities of daily

living, including bathing, dressing, medication reminders, nutritious meals, case management and referral.

*In 2025-2026, 39 neighbours stayed at the TCC where every step forward is supported, every achievement is celebrated and every client treated with the dignity they deserve.

From strengthening mobility to rebuilding routines, our team helps clients prepare for a safe and successful transition, so they can feel confident returning home.

“I’m grateful for the presence of the Transitional Care Centre in our community,” shared Frank**, who stayed at the TCC post-surgery. “It was an excellent experience.”

And being located in such a vibrant and historic hamlet means clients and their families can enjoy the charm of Alton, the perfect blend of peaceful surroundings and small town warmth.

If you or a loved one needs transitional support after a hospital stay or for a time away, we’re here to help. Visit ccs4u.org to learn more or call 905-584-2300 ext. 225 to book your stay.

The full intake package of forms and information can be shared digitally once your stay is booked.

*2025-2026 Community Impact Report
**pseudonym used to protect client confidentiality

How Do You See It?

Tell us how you see it.
Carolyn Langan, Senior Manager, Health Services, Caledon Community Services at 905-584-2300 ext. 225 or clangan@ccs4u.org

This column is provided free of charge by the Caledon Citizen.

Local businesses looking for support during Airport Road closure

BY KATHRYN FRASER
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Closures to Airport Road are not only blocking the streets and making commutes harder for residents, but it is also causing difficulties for local businesses that are located on the road while construction takes place.

This construction will be active now through September 7 and will limit access from Airport Road from Emma Street to Hilltop Drive.

Business owners delegated to Council’s July 28 meeting to discuss if more measures could be put in place to let not only residents, but commuters alike know that these businesses remain open.

A motion to do just that came from Councillor Doug Maskill who has been hearing concerns from the community.

Ramzia (Shammy) Birko, owner of Frank’s Barber and Hair Salon, took the lead to voice her concerns to Council on Tuesday night and asked for better signage or a way to notify others that they are still open and wanting people to support the community.

“Since the road is being closed, many businesses have experienced, very hard to lose of the customers, many of our clients come from outside Caledon and that’s lots of people,” said Birko. “When they see the...construction, barriers...they often decide not to make this trip, and they turn around because they believe the road was closed.”

Birko explained she understands the need for this construction, acknowledged it is important, and that the community will benefit in the long term; however, the local business community is concerned as what this will look like for them.

“One of the biggest issues that has been confusing is the surrounding area with lots of signing and communications that we keep asking to correct them in the [weeks] before the closure, it was a big sign that was placed saying the area is closed,” said Birko.

“It was and is still creating the impression that the business was inaccessible. As business owners, we spent countless hours to trying to reassure the customers that yes, we are still open. We have heard also from customers that concern [being told] they could not pass through a certain area, or they have to walk long distances just to get to us”.

She went on to explain that many business owners do not feel that they are included in the process of this project especially as they are heavily affected by it.

Council was receptive to the feedback that they were provided by Birko, have spoken with the OPP and contractors on this job, and are hopeful to work towards more solutions and better communication for these business owners.

For those looking to support these businesses and find more information about the construction, visit peelregion.ca/construction/project-19-4060.



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The CAFFI community – families, volunteers, and dignitaries – came together at the organization’s third-annual barbecue earlier this month to celebrate the journey so far and consider the future. **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**

CAFFI continues to build connections, looks ahead to growth

BY KATHRYN FRASER
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

On July 19, the CAFFI Community Network (CCN) hosted its third-annual community engagement picnic at Cold Creek Conservation Area.

The event, which took place between 12 noon and 5 p.m., featured a variety of games, food and good company for families with disabilities.

The event included live musicians from the Mario Cariati band, which was a delightful surprise addition for all families and honored guests. Cobs, a local business in Bolton, also contributed to the success with baked goods and a helping hand from owner Mary Deltin.

“They do amazing things and with young adults with disabilities, and I was so humbled to be able to go and be a part of it, to see it, and learn about how many kids and families that are affected and what they do”, says Deltin.

After learning about CCN and all their hard work, Deltin said she was enthusiastic not only to contribute the baked goods but also to attend the event and help out in any way that she could.

“I taught for 20 years as a teacher and [had] students with disabilities that were in my class, each year, but I saw it on a smaller scale with maybe five or six students,” says Deltin. “I supported them at school, and then they would go home. So, the work CCN does is close to my heart in the sense where I can still connect with the community and then specifically with the community with disabilities, young adults and family members.”

CCN is building its brand to champion for the belonging of young adults with disabilities, including those with high support needs, as they transition into adulthood and into the community from secondary education.

They work hard to bring families and intentional conversations to the table so all individuals with a disability are valued, and able to participate fully in local community life.

Mike Brunetto, lead for Family Engagements and Community Partnerships with the CCN, plays a vital role in bringing great people together that put on another successful event, with the help of a timely

sunny day.

“When we decided to launch our inaugural BBQ three years ago, we started out with 30 to 40 people coming together. We have now reached 100-plus both last year and this year.”

“What I’m happy about,” said Brunetto, “is that it’s not just the families with individuals with disabilities, it’s the broader community members that continue to take a heartfelt interest in being a part of this story, and our team is eternally grateful for their compassion to others, and recognizing our ongoing efforts.

“We continue to build bridges within and surrounding our community as friends, extended family, businesses, and our local Councilors for bringing their support in person during a very busy day in the community.”

Amy Calderan, a Constituency Assistant for the Toronto area MP also attended this event and is looking forward to hopefully creating a partnership with CCN.

Calderan first met Brunetto when he visited her to get assistance about families with disabilities and the difficulties they face when claiming benefits from the Canada Revenue Agency, and was do moved by his story that she introduced Brunetto to Sgro.

Attending this CCN event not only gave Calderan the opportunity to see what CCN was doing but also gave her the chance to meet with families and learn about their specific challenges and journeys.

“It was a community within a community, seeing how they come together to support each other. The children that were there, the kids that were there, the people that were there, they were supporting,” says Calderan. “It was just so wonderful to see them and just enjoying the time that they were there together, with both people on the same page as them, or people going through the same things as them, and it was just beautiful to see all of it – the volunteers themselves and just the families and how supportive the community has become of this and of each other and of them”.

Looking to the future Calderan expressed both her and Sgro’s interest in attending other CCN events and the opportunities to connect more with CCN and the community.

Although the event was quite successful,

CCN’s plan is far from over.

“Our core team is looking forward to a few light summer weeks to spend some time with our own family members with a disability, before planning, and preparing other venues and intentional advocacy work already in flight with key stakeholders,” said Brunetto.

“We are making strides in raising awareness to adopt augmented services needed for the most vulnerable and high support,” Brunetto continued. “These efforts will benefit, and intend to integrate, everyone for an inclusive model.

“Families with disabilities are the primary force that influences change. Those who support complexities have to push harder. Collectively, existing services should aim

to adopt a more person-centered vs agency centered model before claiming to be truly inclusive.

“We have lived through experiences that can be leveraged for better decision making’, and this is where CCN has been grateful for those who have stepped up to the challenge and invite us to lead change as subject matter experts.”

The CCN families and stakeholders gather monthly from September to June for intentional conversations on living with a disability, being a caregiver, and what each of us is willing to do to support one another.

To learn more or be a part of a growing story, visit the CCN at cafficonnect.ca.



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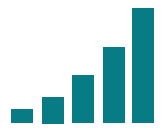
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PHOTO BY CALEDON OPP

DRIVER CHARGED AFTER TRUCK BLOCKS FORKS OF THE CREDIT

Officers from the OPP’s Caledon Detachment have charged a commercial vehicle driver when his vehicle became stuck in hairpin curve in Caledon.

“On Friday, July 24, 2026, members of the Caledon Detachment were called to Forks of The Credit Road for an eastbound commercial motor vehicle that unsuccessfully attempted to maneuver around a tight hairpin turn on the scenic road,” say Police. “The truck and trailer became wedged into the guiderail causing a lengthy closure of the road for its removal. The area is a posted no heavy truck route.”

As a result of the incident, Forks of the Credit Road was closed for over two hours to facilitate the safe removal of the truck and trailer.

A 65-year-old driver from Mississauga was charged with:

- Disobey Sign;
- Interfere With Traffic

The charges have not been proven.

“Caledon OPP would like to remind commercial motor vehicle drivers that there are many route restrictions in Caledon that exist to keep them, their trucks and the roads safe. If the GPS says yes, but the sign says no – TRUST THE SIGN,” Police continue. “Caledon Detachment officers continue to conduct commercial vehicle enforcement initiatives every day of the year in an on-going effort to ensure the safety and security of our community members and those passing through Caledon. Road safety is a joint effort between drivers, owners and community members.”

The OPP Caledon Detachment would like to encourage motorists to report potential dangerous commercial motor vehicles or poor driving behaviour. Motorists can call 911, or *OPP (*677) on their mobile device and be put in contact with an emergency dispatcher. Using a mobile device to report a potential impaired driver will not result in a charge for using a hand-held

communication device.

MAILBOX DAMAGE INVESTIGATION

Members of the Caledon OPP want to alert area residents of damage to communal mailboxes in the Town of Caledon.

“On July 17, 2026, officers responded to calls for service regarding damaged mailboxes in the areas of Matson Drive and Mount Hope Road in the northeast area of Caledon,” say Police. “It is believed the damage occurred sometime between July 16 and July 17, 2026 in residential areas with low traffic volume.

“It is unknown if any mail or packages were taken.”

There are no suspects currently.

“Caledon OPP would like to ask the area residents to check their security cameras for the images of the suspects, and/or their vehicle.”

Anyone with information regarding these incidents is asked to contact the Ontario Provincial Police Caledon Detachment at 905-584-2241 or toll-free at 1-888-310-1122.

You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Peel Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or online at www.peelcrimestoppers.ca.

Caledon OPP would like to remind area residents:

- Empty your mailboxes daily and don’t allow your mail to accumulate;
- If you are expecting and did not receive a cheque or other valuable mail, contact the issuing agency immediately;
- Do not send cash in the mail; and
- If you see suspicious activity, vehicles or people at your mailbox, get the parties’ descriptions, licence plates, and call 911; for non-emergencies, call 1-888-210-1122.

NEARLY 1.7 TONNES OF ILLEGAL DRUGS SEIZED IN ONE OF THE LARGEST DRUG BUSTS BY WEIGHT IN ONTARIO

A multi-jurisdictional, cross-border investigation resulted in the seizure of nearly 1.7 tonnes of illegal drugs, including suspected cocaine, methamphetamine and opium marking one of the most significant drug seizures in a single investigation in Ontario. This intelligence-led joint forces investigation, named Project Bay, focused on disrupting the importation and trafficking of illegal drugs with a nexus to the international border.

In January 2025, the Windsor Police Service (WPS) initiated a drug-trafficking investigation. In February 2025, the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) collaborated with WPS to advance the investigation and identify the cross-border trafficking network. As the scope and complexity of the investigation expanded, the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) was engaged to support the cross-border and interprovincial components of the investigation through the Border Enforcement Security Task Force (BEST) and the OPP-led Border Drug Interdiction Task Force (BDIT).

As the investigation progressed, law enforcement partners provided critical support. US

agencies, including Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) and the Drug Enforcement Administration, assisted with international aspects of the investigation, while the Toronto Police Service (TPS) and Peel Regional Police (PRP) provided operational and investigative support.

The investigation revealed the use of a broker-style model within the commercial transportation sector. It leveraged established connections to facilitate the cross-border movement of illegal drugs, including the arrangement of drivers to knowingly transport illicit commodities within legitimate supply chains.

On Thursday, June 25, 2026, 18 search warrants were executed at residences and businesses in Windsor, Corunna, LaSalle, Brampton and Kleinburg.

On Tuesday, July 14, 2026, two search warrants were executed in Markham and Caledon.

On Monday, July 20, 2026, two search warrants were executed in Brampton.

The estimated street value of the drugs seized is more than \$139 million, representing a significant disruption to the illegal drug supply chain in Ontario.

The OPP Provincial Asset Forfeiture Unit has been engaged to investigate any proceeds of crime offences and assist in the seizure of offence-related property.

Twenty-one individuals have been charged with 102 offences contrary to the Criminal Code and the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act. Nineteen of the accused were arrested and two remain outstanding.

Charges have not been proven.

COMMERCIAL VEHICLE BLITZ

Officers from the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Caledon Detachment joined with road safety partners from the Ministry of Transportation and OPP Provincial Traffic Operations to conduct a Commercial Motor Vehicle enforcement initiative in the Town of Caledon.

25 MTO and 12 OPP members participated in the initiative that focused on CMVs in the Bolton area.

78 vehicles were inspected, resulting in 18 vehicles being taken out of service. A total of 52 charges were laid to drivers and companies.

Charges ranged from document infractions to major mechanical defects. One vehicle was found to have open alcohol inside. Mandatory Alcohol Screening tests were conducted and all drivers tested passed.

“Commercial vehicle inspections play a vital role in keeping Ontario’s highways safe,” say Police. “Defective equipment, poor maintenance, and regulatory non-compliance can increase the risk of serious collisions. Enforcement initiatives like this one help identify safety concerns before they lead to incidents on our roadways.

“The violations identified during the initiative high-



Councillor Tony Rosa is seen here with the OPP team during the Commercial Vehicle Blitz. PHOTO COURTESY OF CALEDON OPP

light the importance of ongoing commercial vehicle enforcement and the shared responsibility of drivers and carriers to ensure vehicles are safe and compliant before operating on public roads.

“The Caledon OPP remains committed to the safety of Caledon’s roads and conducts CMV enforcement everyday having two dedicated members of the Detachment’s Community Mobilization Unit trained as CMV inspectors.

“We appreciate the support shown from members of the community and Town Councillors who attended the initiative inspection site to speak with the involved officers.”

The Citizen

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10
11				12		13			14		
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59					60			61			
62					63			64			

CLUES ACROSS

1. Egyptian bull god

5. Romanian monetary unit

8. Santa’s helper

11. Fictional Pink Floyd corporal

13. Sea eagle genus

14. Broad volcanic crater

15. Minneapolis suburb

16. Actual commercial worth (abbr.)

17. Exchange rate

18. Ethnic peoples in Guinea

20. Men’s fashion accessory

21. Craft material

22. Offerings

25. Early

30. Large room

31. Soviet Socialist Republic

32. One who hauls

33. Shorthand for accepting

38. Promotional materials

41. Loss of memory

43. One who beheads

45. Photographers

48. Small, rich sponge cake

49. White clerical vestment

50. Partner to “oohed”

55. Abba __, Israeli politician

56. Zero

57. Owl monkey genus

59. Lace bug genus

60. Mild expression of surprise

61. Storage devices

62. Keyboard key

63. Make a mistake

64. One-time Korean president

CLUES DOWN

1. Bridge building degree

2. Expression of sorrow or pity

3. Large, stocky, lizard

4. Rumanian river

5. Missive

6. Stout-bodied moths

7. Brings out

8. Bird of prey

9. King of Thebes

10. Cleaving tool

12. African antelope

14. Three are particularly famous

19. Satisfy

23. C. European river

24. Dictator

25. Portion of (abbr.)

26. The 17th letter of the Greek alphabet

27. Consume food

28. Woman (French)

29. Scrape or wear away by friction

34. Popular vegetable

35. Pacific Standard Time

36. Brazilian state

37. Paddle

39. Cause to become insane

40. Drier and flakier

41. Mimic

42. ESPN host Kimes

44. One who moseys

45. Secret political clique

46. Behind the stern of a ship

47. Supernatural force

48. Sanctuary in

51. Swiss river

52. Grayish white

53. Engrave

54. UNC’s chief rival

58. Midway between south and southeast

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

ARTS & CULTURE



Community comes out to support inaugural Rhythm and Reason event

BY KATHRYN FRASER
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Mystical Magical Music Day, the debut event for Rhythm and Reason, took place on July 25.

The event raised money to support both local artists and Caledon Community Services, who partnered with Rhythm and Reason on the occasion.

Many members of the community came out to see the local Caledon artists perform while also supporting Ethereal, a crystal shop in Caledon, that were also partners for this event.

The event highlighted many local artists in Caledon who all came out and performed for attendees.

Nicole Borelli was the first artist to perform and sang several different cover songs, including Chappel Roan’s “Pink Pony Club” and Whitney Houston’s “Dance with Somebody Who Loves Me”.

During her time on stage, Borelli mentioned the importance of coming together and supporting both music and charity.

“This is a lot about bringing together music and the community” says Borelli.

A selection of drum performances was also heard as Brenen Pinto took the stage quickly after Borelli.

Pinto dazzled the audience with his skills as he performed a number of drum performances, his most notable to the Outfield’s “Your Love.”

The final headliner for the night was local up-and-comer Selena Villa who took the stage by storm.

The 16-year-old Caledon singer sang a

variety of special songs throughout her set, with some very notable songs, including Justin Bieber’s “Baby”, Miley Cyrus’ “The Climb” and even Hilary Duffs’ “This is What Dreams are Made of,” a song that Villa explained she performs at every show to remind her that she is on the way to achieving her dreams.

Villa also introduced an original song that she has released on Spotify titled “Back to Then” about losing friendships.

Rhythm and Reason founder and Executive Director Lula Shaw said she was excited to see all of the community come together.

“It was really lovely to see everyone come together and support,” says Shaw. “I truly couldn’t be more thankful for the staff that helped out, all the generous donors and the community.”

In addition to the amazing local talent, attendees had the opportunity to participate in many activities including bracelet making, cookie decorating, giant Jenga, face painting and several other games.

Attendees also had the opportunity to participate in a silent auction, which featured prizes from a large variety of generous donors including Massage Addict, Rock Garden Farms, Gourmandissimo, and many others throughout the event.

The final moment of the night was the raffle for the acoustic guitar which was won by an excited participant.

Reflecting on the event, Shaw says she believes that it was a big success and is only the start for Rhythm and Reason.

Shaw is hoping to make this event an annual occurrence and says that this is only the beginning for Rhythm and Reason events in Caledon and hopes to find even more local artists and charities to help



Staff and volunteers from Rhythm & Reason are pictured here at the July 25 event. **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**

support.

“Moving forward, we’re still going to try to partner with new charities and scout other talents around the Caledon area,” says Shaw, “and see if we can throw some more events and support some

more amazing charities that mean something to me and the rest of the community”.

Shaw is hoping to have a Battle of The Bands event and bring even more of a spotlight to more local artists in Caledon.

Central Peel Group of Churches’ Gift Group winds up with hospice donation

BY JOE GRAY, CHAIR, CHRIS TRIMBLE, TREASURER, LARRY FLINT, EXECUTIVE MEMBER

Central Peel Group of Churches started April 18, 2009 by lay members and ministers of United Churches in the Peel area. We shared ways in which our congregations had actively adapted to this changing world and in which our church life has been affected. We met regularly and discussed many issues. Working together made a difference. We were able to support each other Churches’ events.

Many great ideas were exchanged.

Some of the interesting events that we organized were: The Amazing Race, similar to a car rally that we did for two years, 2011 and 2012. Directions and a route (thanks to Larry Flint) were created throughout the Region of Peel, close to the areas of our churches involved with our group.

At the end of 2012, the Executive decided to replace our race event, with a Spiritual retreat. So, in 2013, we had our first retreat at the Scott Mission on the Grange Sideroad. We organized those retreats annually until 2019. Each year getting a little larger and experienced by more people. However, COVID struck in 2020, so all the events were cancelled at that point.

The labyrinth was headed by Rev. Nancy Monteith. With her assistance, we started to

build the site at Cheltenham United Church during 2014 and was open for visitors in 2015. A special workshop was planned for Father’s Day of that year.

We organized a very interesting Interfaith Speakers Series, some of which were Hinduism, Indigenous (Aboriginal Practices), Islamic, Jewish, Muslim and Sikh. They were well attended.

As other churches in the surrounding counties heard and willingly joined in the conversation we decided we better change our name.

Larry Flint came up with the ideal name The GIFT Group, “Growing in Faith Together”, and our new name was voted on and approved at our meeting on March 24, 2015. We carried on for many years and as some of our Churches closed, I guess our enthusiasm dwindled and it was decided that we would no longer meet.

Some of us were disappointed that we never accomplished what we thought was possible, but that is life, everything is not achievable. We closed our bank account, and made an executive decision to donate this money to Bethell Hospice to further their work in our community.

Doing this we hope that other groups or churches closing would decide to do the same.



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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.

Lunch & Learn - Thursday, August 6, 2026.
The Caledon Seniors Centre is hosting their monthly Lunch & Learn on Thursday, August 6, 2026 at 11:00 am. Topic: Learn How 911 Nurses Support Seniors and Families in the Community. Presenter: Precious Udofo. A sandwich and dessert lunch will be served following the presentation. Cost is \$7. Pre-registration is required. Call the Centre at 905-951-6114 to register.

Special Lunch - Wed. August 19, 2026
Join us for a special lunch at the Caledon Seniors Centre at Rotary Place in Bolton on Wed. August 19, 2026! The menu is Peameal Bacon on a Bun, Coleslaw, & Pineapple Sunshine Cake for dessert. Pick-up at 11:45 am, dine-in served at 12:00 pm and local delivery available for \$2. Cost is \$11. Order your meals by Monday, August 17 at 3:30 pm. For more information, call the Centre at 905-951-6114.

Monthly Dinner – Friday, August 28, 2026
The Caledon Seniors Centre at Rotary Place in Bolton is having a Monthly Dinner on Friday,

August 28, 2026. The menu is Stuffed Chicken Kebab, Tzatziki, Pilaf, Lemon Potatoes, Greek Salad & Lemon Ice-Cream Dessert. Cost is \$16. Pick-up at 5:15 pm, dine-in served at 5:30 pm, local delivery available for \$2. Call the Centre at 905-951-6114 by Thurs. August 26 at 3:30 pm to buy your tickets!

Tuesday September 15, 2026 at 6 pm
Free Bingo Night
Join us for Bingo, prizes, pizza, and fun! Bolton United Church
8 Nancy Street, Bolton, L7E 1C7
Phone: 905-857-2615
e-mail office@boltonunitedchurch.com
www.boltonunitedchurch.com

Mom & Babes Yoga Fitness
Starting on September 14, 2026 at 11 am – free program
See website for more information
Bolton United Church
8 Nancy Street, Bolton, L7E 1C7
Phone: 905-857-2615
e-mail: office@boltonunitedchurch.com
www.boltonunitedchurch.com

BROCK WEIR
BROCK'S BANTER

The lost art of discourse

What do you do in your day-to-day life when you're having a conversation with someone and then, unexpectedly, the chat takes a weird turn and you find yourself vehemently disagreeing with the views they are presenting?

Do you take it all in your stride, smiling with some degree of benevolence, waiting for them to wind up whatever claptrappy monologue they've committed to, before deftly steering the direction into calmer, hopefully more pleasant waters?

Do you bring out the facts and figures to bolster your side, or do you just glare at the person hoping they get the message? Maybe you just get up from the table and walk away thinking, "Not today!" or simply just brush it aside, knowing that this is the person you've engaged with, know where they stand, and just let it wash over you like water off a duck's back?

There's no real wrong answer in this scenario, unless, perhaps, throwing your drink in the other person's face or dramatically flipping over the table as you exit the coffee shop.

But these are all in-person scenarios; all bets seem to be off if the only thing separating you from your conversation partner is a screen.

If you've ever made the mistake of wandering into an online comments section, whatever the platform, it's clear that the screen in-between can sometimes make people behave in ways that would be unthinkable in person.

This isn't a new phenomenon when it comes to political posts – the temperature in this particular kitchen has been way too high for far too long – but it's becoming pervasive in almost every realm of online discussion these days.

In recent months, I've seen debates rage over the most unlikely things.

An acquaintance recently posted that he and his wife went out on what they hoped would be a romantic date night. They hadn't had one in a while and were excited to try out a new place—only to have their experience mired by a couple of kids running wild through the place as their oblivious parents enjoyed their meal.

Granted, only one perspective of this scene was offered and there might have been a few exaggerations here and there, but their post struck a chord with the masses and people piled in the comments, acting like they'd seen the whole thing.

Comments ranged from sympathy with their experience to a nod in the direction of the other parents who might have been wanting to get a night out themselves, and perhaps couldn't find a babysitter.

That last comment was fair enough, but it quickly devolved into criticisms of the original poster for lacking empathy for the other parents, that they were commenting from a "place of privilege," as it was assumed this childless couple were lucky enough to secure a sitter, and others reacting as if they tripped one of the kids as they whizzed by the table out of nothing but sport and spite.

Outside of people I know, we only need to look as far as the online "debate" regarding the accuracy of Christopher Nolan's new record-busting film adaptation of The Odyssey, which opened in theatres a couple of weeks ago to widespread acclaim.

Widespread, yes, but certainly not universal as people have chimed in about everything from its historical accuracy to the casting of Oscar-winning actress Lupita Nyong'o as Helen of Troy and Oscar-nominee Elliott Page as Sinon.

The "discourse" surrounding the film – and I use quotes here because I simply can't believe it's actual discourse – has been truly bonkers.

People apparently are content to rip each other to shreds online about the accuracy of different

plot points in Homer's epic poem and how it has been translated to screen. How historically accurate they think a work involving a cyclops, men being turned into swine, and the wrath of mythical gods, can be is a matter of debate – but, at this point, I don't think it's a debate worth having, at least to the level of heat it's being exposed to.

As for the feigned outrage at two acclaimed actors playing two minor, fictional roles in the three-hour epic – well, I can only imagine these were the same people who were spitting venom at Cynthia Erivo's casting as Elphaba in the two Wicked pictures – apparently outraged that the director had the audacity to cast a Black woman to play a Green woman... thus depriving all the real Green actresses out there a chance to finally grasp a rung on the Hollywood ladder?

There's really only one reason for the outrage, however ridiculous, but we'll leave it at that for now.

Nearly every time I venture into the comments, I'm met with instant regret, and not a small amount of nostalgia.

Growing up, my personal interests and hobbies didn't necessarily lend themselves to friend-making. That's not to say I received a lot of flack for preferring black-and-white sitcoms to cartoons and NBC's Thursday Night Comedy Lineup, to pick just one example, but it didn't make for a lot of common ground as far as conversation was concerned.

The first time I ever logged onto what was still dubbed the "information superhighway," I felt I had finally found my people, entered into easy, respectful conversations, and forged true friendships that have lasted almost 30 years now.

I sure count myself as lucky because I don't think building those bonds through a screen is necessarily conducive in the online climate we now find ourselves in, where more and more people confuse their opinion with fact, seek validation of their views rather than the truth, and consider meeting any debate with vehemence less than your conversation partner as complacency with their views.

Maybe the proverbial genie is too far out of the bottle at this point, but couldn't we at least attempt to carry on an online discussion in the same respect we would expect with face-to-face discourse?

Call me old fashioned, but these tips from 1875's A Gentleman's Guide to Etiquette, as presented in a blog by The Art of Manliness (a title which undoubtedly spurred its own heated debate at some point) are pretty darn refreshing:

"Even if convinced that your opponent is utterly wrong, yield gracefully, decline further discussion, or dextrously turn the conversation, but do not obstinately defend your own opinion until you become angry... Many there are who, giving their opinion, not as opinion, but as a law, will defend their position by such phrases as, "Well, if I were president or governor, I would," – and while by the warmth of their argument they prove that they are utterly unable to govern their own temper, they will endeavour to persuade you that they are perfectly competent to take charge of the government of the nation.

"Retain, if you will, a fixed political opinion, yet do not parade it upon all occasions, and, above all, do not endeavour to force others to agree with you. Listen calmly to their ideas upon the same subjects, and if you cannot agree, differ politely, and while your opponent may set you down as a bad politician, let him be obliged to admit that you are a gentleman?"

What do you say, ladies and gentlemen?



We are a catalogue of billions of bits of data

by Mark Pavilons



Everything we do or think is produced by the human brain.

Sitting on our shoulders is the most complicated, and mysterious object in the universe.

And I have to wonder why it's so extraordinary, operating in rather ordinary human beings.

Aside from the work it does every second, our brains hold all of our memories – our personal diaries that we carry with us.

While the exact capacity is debated, estimates range from 10 to 100 terabytes, comparable to computer hard drives.

According to Christoper Ravn (Optoceutics, How Much Information Can The Brain Hold), some studies suggest the brain capacity could be as high as 2.5 petabytes (PB). With the estimate of 10 TB, it could store around 3 million digital photos or 3,200 hours of HD video. The higher estimate of 100 TB could store approximately 30 million photos or 32,000 hours of HD video.

The most extreme estimate of 2.5 PB could store around 530 million photos or 670,000 hours of HD video. Unlike digital storage, the brain does not store information in a linear or file-based manner but uses complex networks and associations to encode and retrieve information efficiently.

Yahoo's 2.0 petabyte computational centre, which can process 24 billion "events" a day, is a jaw-dropping 20% smaller than the capacity of a single human brain.

The brain can process words at a rate of 400 to 800 words per minute, see between 10 and 100 images daily.

Neuroplasticity is how the brain adapts to changes in response to new learning and memory demands. This process involves the formation of new neural connections and the strengthening or weakening of existing ones, which allows the brain to reorganize and adapt to new information and experiences. The brain adapts to new information through learning new information, pruning connections to allocate resources, generating new neurons, reorganizing functional areas to compensate for changes, adaptation of one brain area, adapting to sensory deficits, and the ability to adjust.

The brain is believed to hold up to 450 years of memories and can store and gather information at any given time. However, when the brain reaches its capacity, it will go through neural pruning and forgetting to manage and store information. Neural pruning is when the brain removes unwanted neural connections to make way for new information.

One has to wonder why our brains were built to hold so much, when our time here is very much limited. We would never use such capacity, so why

did the Creator give it to us?

It's estimated that we have roughly 50,000 thoughts per day. Over the course of a lifetime, scientists estimate that our brains will hold up to 1 quadrillion pieces of information.

So, this vital organ is stupendous. But what happens we our bodies give out and we die?

Six minutes without blood flow typically means catastrophic loss.

We have a soul, but where is it located?

René Descartes claimed the soul was separate from the body, interacting through a tiny gland in the brain – the pineal gland.

Physician Duncan MacDougall believed he had scientific proof of the soul's existence. By weighing patients before and after death, he claimed to have recorded a precise loss of 21 grams –the supposed weight of the soul leaving the body.

Aristotle and Plato understood the soul as an incorporeal form but closely related to the physical world.

Most religions teach that the soul is an eternal essence that transcends the body. In Christianity, Islam, Judaism, and Hinduism, the soul continues beyond death, entering either paradise, reincarnation, or union with the divine. Buddhism, however, challenges the idea of a permanent soul, instead describing an ever-changing self shaped by past actions (karma).

According to Mark Travers (Psychology Today), a team of researchers captured approximately 15 minutes of brain activity leading up to, during, and just after one patient's death. It involved an 87-year-old Canadian man who died during an EEG in 2022.

The EEG recorded an abnormal surge in gamma waves. These are the highest-frequency among all brainwaves, and they primarily occur within the hippocampus (the brain's memory centre). Typically, these oscillations are associated with memory retrieval, dreaming, and deep meditation.

This spike in gamma wave activity – in tandem with other oscillations such as delta, theta, alpha, and beta – created a brainwave pattern that looked remarkably similar to what we see when someone is deeply remembering something, or dreaming vividly.

In light of these findings, one of the professionals involved in the study, said: "Through generating oscillations involved in memory retrieval, the brain may be playing a last recall of important life events just before we die."

Looking for some sort of reassurance, I'm hoping to find some solace in these findings, and of course, religious teachings.

The universe itself likely holds answers to questions we haven't even thought to ask.

I don't want to go quietly into the night, and slip away without much ado. I don't think that's a fitting way for any of us to leave. We should be accompanied by regal bands, bagpipes and a symphony of stringed instruments, marking our departure and offering thanks to our life-long contributions.

When I pass, my body and all that it holds, will wither, fade and cease. What will happen to all those billions of images of smiles, laughs, family gatherings, friends, campfires, loved ones, pets, lake-front and ocean-front experiences?

What of me?

Submit your
**LETTERS
TO
THE
EDITOR**

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SHERALYN ROMAN
TALK CALEDON



Umm, a data centre?

There have certainly been rumours and lots of chit chat about data centres, not just here in Caledon, of course, but all around the world. Data centres might be the single, largest, industrial-sized user of resources, sucking up electricity like an unsupervised child in a candy store and hoovering water at rates so alarming it's hard to draw any kind of fitting analogy to express it. Treating earth like it's their own personal playground and consequences be damned, data centres, it might not be too much of a stretch to say, may just be the undoing of us. And now it appears, at least on paper, that right here in Caledon the conversation about data centres has indeed hit "close to home."

I had the chance to review the agenda for the Council meeting that took place just this past Tuesday, July 28. It was no small feat as the entire document is 339 pages long! I've read books that were shorter than that. But I digress. During that review, several pages caught my eye. Noted as Item 13.7 of the General Committee Meeting Minutes dated Tuesday, July 7, 2026 was a concerning discussion about data centres in Caledon. It was the particular reference to an application by the Matthews Group "that could include a Data Centre" that really stood out.

So those rumours of potential land development in the southern portion of Caledon including a data centre? They just might be true.

Here's what bothered me. In a motion forwarded by Councillor Maskell, and seconded by Mayor Groves, was the following wording: "Whereas in the Town of Caledon, a developer, Matthews Group, on behalf of Quad Real Property, has requested that a Ministerial Zoning Order (MZO) be granted to develop an 82-hectare employment development that could include a Data Centre; and Whereas there are already existing electrical capacity issues across southern Caledon, particularly, in Southfields Village and Mayfield West areas; and Whereas, proposed residential and industrial developments in southern Caledon could be delayed or impacted by the amount of water needed to operate a Data Centre; Now therefore be it resolved that Staff be directed to research the impact of Data Centres

on communities; and Further that Staff complete an analysis of the net economic benefit to a community of approving a Data Centre; and Further that Staff bring forth a "Made in Caledon" process by which to proceed if a Data Centre is proposed for Caledon."

Perhaps you, like me, not only caught the mention of a potential data centre, but also the reference to yet another MZO. How many more of those does Caledon need? I'd like to think none, and that we have already done our share, but here we are.

As for the data centre, in a follow up to the original motion, Councillors Early and Kiernan moved and seconded an amendment to add the following clause: "1. AND FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to investigate and report back to Council regarding an Interim Control By-law to provide for a moratorium to be imposed for a minimum period of one (1) year on the acceptance, processing and approval of any new municipal planning applications related to Data Centre development within the Town of Caledon, commencing upon adoption of this resolution and remaining in effect until Council has received and considered the staff report, completed public consultation, and established a comprehensive 'Made in Caledon' planning framework to guide future Data Centre proposals, whichever is later." Finally, the two items (the motion and the amendment) were joined together and a final motion (moved by Councillor Maskell and seconded by Councillor Russo) was voted on.

Given the alarming rate at which Caledon is developing, particularly in its southern quadrant, and given what we are slowly coming to understand are the consequences to the environment of building of data centres, I believe this addendum to the motion, to further delay any potential onset of their development to be an important one.

I suppose this is a rather long-winded way of saying I have some concerns. This would be true even if the motion approved a delay and there was no immediate threat to Caledon. I am raising them here for several reasons. First, to help bring attention to the fact that a data centre is even a remote possibility is important. Most of us don't have the time

to review 300+ pages of a Council agenda and assorted minutes, but sometimes, it's necessary in order to stay informed about the potential impacts of council decisions on our community.

Second, communities all around us are enacting similar motions and/or investigating the consequences of data centres and with good reason. Collectively we all need to be a part of those conversations and not left on the sidelines, or worse, find ourselves unwittingly approving an MZO that may or may not contain a planned data centre just because all of our neighbours said no. Finally, it's an opportunity for us all to be prepared and watchful for that period of time when public consultation is solicited as part of the "comprehensive 'Made in Caledon' planning framework to guide future Data Centre proposals."

One last thing stood out but it might just be a question of timing. The minutes noted that Council recessed briefly at 4:35 p.m. before voting on the motion/amendment. Mayor Groves also left at 4:35 p.m. but not before putting forward the original motion. However, Council reconvened at 4:42 p.m., at which time the vote took place, even though Mayor Groves had not yet returned. The minutes noted her return at 4:59 p.m., so she missed the vote. For the sake of accuracy, Councillor de Boer also missed the vote, but the minutes list him as absent for the entire meeting. Finally, they further show that Councillor Kiernan left at 5:27 p.m., but not before voting.

Bottom line, the rumours are real, Caledon. Discussions are taking place. Choose as you wish how to interpret the minutes of the General Committee Meeting and the motions that were voted on, and who voted on them that day. For me, it's an opportunity to ensure that the volatile topic of data centres is on everyone's radar.

Caledon's environment is already under attack. Caledon has already approved multiple MZOs. I'm not sure we need any more MZOs, or that anyone needs a data centre. Go ahead and accuse me of "nimbyism," I'd probably agree with you.

OPINION

Clean power pathways beat carbon capture

BY DAVID SUZUKI

We know that spewing greenhouse gases into the air, mainly by burning fossil fuels, is the primary driver of rapidly accelerating global heating, and that carbon dioxide can remain in the atmosphere for thousands of years. Some, however, is taken up by plants, soil and water as part of the carbon cycle.

Does that mean using technology to remove CO2 from the atmosphere is a viable or necessary climate change solution? Oil and gas companies, and their government enablers, think so — and they're betting your money on it.

An agreement between the federal and Alberta governments and five oil companies includes significant incentives, including funding and investment tax credits, for the Pathways Project (costing up to \$30 billion — or more) to capture, transport and store oilsands emissions. The project is part of a deal to build a multi-billion-dollar taxpayer-funded pipeline to move diluted oilsands bitumen from Alberta to British Columbia's south coast.

As the Pembina Institute states, "The oil and gas sector does not need further incentives to run or expand their operations, as market drivers should be the basis for these actions."

The plan is part of range of incentives to boost oil production, and to use carbon captured from production emissions for "enhanced oil recovery" — injecting the CO2 into depleted oilfields to extract even more oil.

Every international climate agency and scientific body has stated there is no room for further coal, oil and gas exploration or development if we want to keep global average temperatures from rising to catastrophic levels.

Continued on Page A11

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Grand Valley

Caledon gets clarity on rules of the road when it comes to e-scooters

BY KATHRYN FRASER
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Another memorandum had been brought forward for the Town Council meeting on July 28, by Dan Terzievski, Director of Transportation, Engineering, Public Works and Transportation regarding the Planning and Development Committee and the current state of e-scooter regulations within the Town of Caledon.

The Pilot Project was created in January 1, 2020 by the Province of Ontario to evaluate whether scooters could be used and operated on roads. Under the pilot, e-scooters are not to be used on Ontario Roads unless a bylaw is permitted by the municipality.

The pilot runs through to November 27, 2029, after which the Ministry of Transportation will decide if e-scooters will be permitted.

On June 25, 2024, Caledon Council enacted amendments to Traffic By-law 2024-048 which added provisions to regulate e-scooters.

The Town of Caledon is not part of the Pilot Program, but still allows e-scooters as they fall under the Traffic By-law 2024-048.

For those interested in riding e-scooters on Town Roads must abide by the following guidelines, as stated in the Council minutes.

E-scooters must have the following:

- A maximum speed of 24 km/h on a level surface;
- Two wheels (one at the front and one at the back);
- A platform to stand on between the two wheels;
- A handlebar for steering;
- An electric motor that does not exceed 500 watts;
-

Continued on Page A13

Caledon needs someone who understands the community, says Mayoral candidate Early

Continued from FRONT

“Caledon deserves a mayor who knows and understands our community and is committed to our future, to build what we need, and protect what we have,” says Early. “For me, being mayor is about leading the community responsibly and with integrity, and not just about politics.”

Early was first elected to Council back in 2018 and re-elected once again in 2022.

Early has also served on the Boards of the Credit Valley Conservation Authority, Rural Ontario Municipality Association (ROMA), and Caledon Community Services.

She says that serving on these boards and committees has given her a broader understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing both Caledon and other municipalities in Ontario.

For Early it’s not just about politics, but also being able to bring the community together and have the leadership to help find solutions and make sure that no one in the community is left behind.

“Like so many residents, I care deeply about this community and about preserving what makes it such a special place to live. A strong, cohesive Council that shares a common vision for doing what is best for residents now and in the future is fundamental in building a strong community,” says Early. “I had the privilege of being part of two terms of Council and understand that leadership can make or break the Council dynamic. I believe that good leadership is about bringing people together, listening to different perspectives, and finding common ground.

“Caledon is at a crossroads. We are about to grow significantly in a way that will determine the future of our community. Residents want a mayor who believes in democracy, listens to residents, brings people together, and keeps the focus where it belongs: on the people we’re elected to serve. That’s why I’m running for mayor.”

If elected Early, has three main priorities for Caledon: growth, restoring confidence in local leadership, and ensuring accountability at Town Hall and ensuring that every Caledon community member feels respected and represented, as she understands that one solution doesn’t always work for everyone.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ties for Caledon: growth, restoring confidence in local leadership, and ensuring accountability at Town Hall and ensuring that every Caledon community member feels respected and represented, as she understands that one solution doesn’t always work for everyone.

“I want residents to feel their voices are heard, their concerns matter, and their local government is working for them. I also want Caledon to be recognized as a municipality that plans responsibly for the future”, says Early. “Growth will continue, but it must be managed in a way that protects our quality of life, while ensuring infrastructure, roads, recreation, and municipal services keep pace. [If] four years from now, residents can say Caledon is heading in the right direction. I’ll know we’ve been successful”.

Early expresses that she wants to be very visible for all of Caledon and to be incredibly present and connected with the community if elected.

“I want to make sure that if there are community events, that I’m present at the community events as much as possible,” says Early. “I want to try to make sure that whenever a resident or a group or an association requires the mayor to have some time with them, that I make myself available to them. I feel that one of the strongest roles of a mayor is being extremely present within the community, even though our geography is as large as it is.”

Looking to the future, Early says she is hopeful to create change and foster connection within the community.

“One of the greatest privileges of serving the Council has been meeting the incredible people who quietly make Caledon a better place every day. Our volunteers, service clubs, local businesses, sports organizations, agricultural community, and cultural groups are the heart of this municipality. Caledon is made up of many unique neighbourhoods, villages, and hamlets, with their own identity, traditions and priorities”, she says. “Together, they create communities built on caring for one another, giving back, and taking pride in where we live. As Caledon continues to grow, we need to protect more than our farmland, natural environment, and heritage. We need to protect culture and the culture that makes people proud to call Caledon home.”



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BUSINESS

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Midnight Madness organizers, community set to celebrate event’s 50th anniversary



Midnight Madness is a perennially popular event in Bolton, attracting thousands from the Caledon community and well beyond.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BY KATHRYN FRASER
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Bolton’s annual Midnight Madness event is coming back once again, and will be better than ever as it celebrates the 50th anniversary of the event.

Midnight Madness will take place on August 14 from 6 – 11 p.m., and will take

up most of the downtown Bolton area with games, vendors and so much more.

The event will not only go towards helping local businesses but will also bring the community together to celebrate.

The event is free and open for all to join in.

Midnight Madness is anticipating more than the average 15,000 to 20,000 attendees that have attended in past years as it is

a special milestone.

Many past attendees will be back to enjoy music, games, food and be able to connect to the community.

Those looking to volunteer can do so by visiting marketfest.ca and applying to help.

To celebrate this spectacular 50th anniversary moment, there will also be a large drone show to end the night, as well as a

mind-blowing performance by the musical group Montreal Rhapsody Orchestra.

In addition to their normally scheduled activities, the Bolton BIA will also be partnering with Escape Your Reality and will feature an additional vendor’s market as well as a car show with a wide variety of fresh and cool cars from Caledon Cruisers for car obsessed Caledon community members.

Event Coordinator and Manager Sarah Leslie says she is looking forward to the event as it marks the big 50th celebration and has been planning for the event since January.

“There are new businesses that have opened up in downtown Bolton. It’s important that we show support as this is going to be their night to shine for the first time in front of the community”, says Leslie. “I encourage people to come and support their local businesses because these are our neighbours and family members that we want to be around for another 50 years so they can participate in the 100th Midnight Madness.”

Bringing together local vendors and the community is something that Leslie hopes to accomplish for the evening ahead.

Headliners Montreal Rhapsody Orchestra who will be performing high-energy hits and laid back tunes.

“I would like to thank the Bolton BIA for continuing this important Bolton tradition,” says Leslie. “Midnight Madness is special to a lot of people who have been here for a long time, so I just want to thank them for continuing to host that event, Councillor Tony Rosa and Councillor Cosimo Napoli for sitting on the BIA board, and Mayor Groves for being great supporters of this event.”

Come out and embrace the Midnight Madness as Caledon celebrates the 50th anniversary with games, food, music and so much more.



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Max Domi launches first annual Golf Classic to raise \$1M for Type 1 Diabetes Research



Max Domi, right, and Brett Welychka meet young fans on Monday.

PHOTO BY GLENN RODGER

BY JIM STEWART
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Injured and rehabbing Toronto Maple Leaf Max Domi limped gamely into the Magna Golf Club Clubhouse Dining Room on Monday morning and warmed up the room with his sunny disposition.

Domi chatted effortlessly with members of the media, accommodating numerous interview requests with a positive vibe and submerging the pains associated with his rehab program.

Domi’s First Annual Golf Classic, a fundraiser aiming to raise \$1M for Type 1 Diabetes Research via Breakthrough T1D Canada, rolled out in beautiful tee-off conditions at 12 noon. The sold-out shotgun event was attended by an array of dignitaries, blending local politicians including Aurora Mayor Tom Mrakas and playing partner Whitchurch-Stouffville Mayor Iain Lovatt with numerous NHL players including teammates Chris Tanev, John Tavares, Easton Cowan, and Morgan Reilly, along with Josh Anderson of the Montreal Canadiens and New York Islanders Captain Bo Horvat.

The second-year Leaf was thrilled with what unfolded at Magna: “It’s great—the whole thing, seeing the community coming together. We have so many people working together to help achieve our goal of raising one million dollars. It’s a sellout event in Year One. It’s been a crazy ride, but it’s great to have so many people here at one of the most beautiful courses in

Canada.”

Raising funds for Breakthrough T1D Canada is a cause near and dear to Max Domi.

The NHL veteran was stricken with Type 1 diabetes as a 12-year-old and was inspired by fellow diabetic Bobby Clarke—the rugged Captain of two Stanley Cup-winning teams in Philadelphia in 1974 and 1975.

“It’s satisfying to give back. It all goes back to meeting Bobby Clarke when I was twelve. It was the biggest moment of my life. A turning point. I promised that if I can make a difference as he did when I get to the NHL, that I would maximize my voice the help fund research into diabetes.”

The veteran NHLer is moved by his responsibilities to community as a professional athlete and noted the importance of fundraising in his life.

“It’s the most satisfying part of my life. My one hockey goal in life is to win a Stanley Cup, especially for the Toronto Maple Leafs. But, even more importantly, it’s great to see the looks in kids’ eyes when you show up to help them and talk to them. They light up with hope.”

Domi expressed a similar kind of hope for the Leafs 2026-27 season: “It’ll be great. I’m rehabbing day to day and I can’t wait to get back. There’s been lots of change and we’ve brought in guys with lots of championship pedigree. I’m super confident to help in any way I can and we’ll do everything we can.”

The talented winger had one of his most productive NHL seasons playing alongside Patrick Kane in Chicago.

Domi discussed the impact of Kane’s recent free agent signing with Chicago and what an impact the veteran will have on the young Blackhawks team, including Connor Bedard: “Growing up, my two favourite players were Sidney Crosby and Patrick Kane. The main reason I signed with Chicago was to play with Kane. I learned more in six months from him than I had before I got to Chicago. It was a career highlight and he changed my game. They’ve got a lot of young talent right now and the Blackhawks fans will have lots to cheer for as Kane influences the younger players including Bedard.”

Domi’s own positive influence is not lost on Breakthrough T1D Canada President and CEO Jessica Diniz who joined us in the dining room and described the tournament host as “a beacon of hope, especially through his book No Days Off.”

The best-selling autobiography encapsulates Domi’s challenges of coping and living with Type 1 Diabetes and Diniz pointed to the random nature of “the autoimmune disorder.”

“Anyone can get it—anyone from our four-year-old ambassadors here today to 60-year-olds. It’s important to get the word out about the challenges of being a diabetic. They need insulin to stay alive—24 hours a day. It’s hard to keep your balance—to look after your blood sugar, especially for the younger children. They have to learn to self-regulate. It makes the little ones more responsible and more resilient at an early age. You’re always monitoring. That’s why Max is such a great spokesman for us for

the nine years. He proves that diabetes doesn’t diminish one’s life.”

The President and CEO of Breakthrough believes that researchers are on the threshold of major breakthroughs regarding Type 1 Diabetes: “I know we’re going to find a cure for this. It’s not a matter of if—it’s a matter of when. Type 1 Diabetes research is moving along so fast—advancements are happening every two months. It’s exciting to see the programs yielding results. Thirty different institutions are doing research including the University Health Network in Toronto as well as other Canadian universities such as UBC, UAlberta, McGill, and Montreal. We continue to work as an intermediary between pharmaceutical companies and the researchers. There’s a race right now—taking stem cells and turning them into beta cells and injecting them into test subjects. Ten different companies are in Phase 1 trials and many of the subjects no longer need insulin. Stem cell research is going to be the difference maker.”

Diniz and Domi are the kind of different makers needed to help Type 1 diabetics and their families.

It’s evident that Domi is dedicated to his quest and offered a simple message of encouragement, especially to young people who are faced with the challenges of Type 1 Diabetes: “It’s pretty simple. There will be days that will be challenging, but you can do it. I believe in you. You have a super power and you can turn it to your advantage. Diabetes will teach you to be accountable and responsible.”

The First Annual Max Domi Classic and its dedicated team of volunteers sent a strong message of hope during its inaugural tournament on Monday afternoon: that better lives for Type 1 diabetics are just around the corner.

IN MEMORIAM

JIM PIPHER



On July 29th, 2025, our lives changed forever when we had to say goodbye to this most magnificent soul that we were lucky enough to call “Dad”, Jim Pipher.

As we reflect on the year that has passed, our love for him has grown even more deeply.

He was the sweetest husband to his wife Barbara, the most adoring and gentle father to his 2 daughters Becky and Cathy, the greatest fan of his granddaughter Cayley and a beautiful male role model and friend to his sons-in-law, Jason and Phil. His friends continue to touch base reminding us of how important he was to each and every one of them.

Dad, each day reminds us that you are no longer with us in the physical sense, but the signs that you continue to bless us with are reminders that you are still with us and they are magnificent! We are so grateful for them. So please, on behalf of this man who walked this earth for just short of 84 years, tell a story about him, say a little prayer to him, toast a drink to him.....because he is still with us all and he is listening.

Clean power pathways beat carbon capture

Continued from Page A7

Even the most optimistic projections say the Pathways facility will only capture six million of the 92 million tonnes of CO2 the oilsands produce a year by 2035. As the Pembina Institute reports, “Oil-sands emissions have increased 177 per cent since 2005 and are projected to continue to rise” if the new pipeline is built and production increased.

And most emissions, about 80 per cent, are from end-use burning, not production. Because much of Canada’s bitumen is exported, those aren’t counted in Canada’s inventory.

The Alberta oilsands are Canada’s highest single source of emissions, at about 13 per cent, and growing. Oil and gas overall accounts for 30 per cent. The Carnegie Endowment’s Oil-Climate Index shows that “oilsands generate 2.2 times as many emissions per barrel than the average crude extracted in North America.”

Taking into account production and consumption, it’s clear that the Pathways Project will contribute to increased emissions, fuelling even more overheating and consequences, from heat domes and wildfires to floods, droughts, species extinction and migration crises.

Canada isn’t the only country asking taxpayers to subsidize this largely unproven, risky, energy-intensive and less-than-effective technology. The United States, United Kingdom and Australia are also funnelling public money into carbon capture projects.

The oil and gas industry has been working for at least two decades to sell carbon capture as a way to continue producing its polluting, climate-altering product. An investigation by ProPublica and Drilled

found that British oil giant BP “significantly shaped” a widely cited 2004 Princeton University study that “oversold the readiness of carbon capture and storage” and “stretched the facts.”

A study in Petroleum Research concludes, “reliance on CCS as a cornerstone climate solution is deeply flawed, especially when more scalable and immediate strategies exist” and that it’s “a detour used to justify the continued operation of fossil fuel infrastructure.”

Burying massive amounts of CO2 also comes with environmental risks, including drinking-water contamination, potential toxic leaks from pipelines and storage facilities and even seismic activity.

There are better ways to reduce emissions, immediately — and better nation-building projects.

Canada should build a connected grid, expand less expensive and more effective renewables and electrify the economy, which would offer a huge boost in energy efficiency. Policies such as carbon pricing and emissions caps are also effective, but the federal government has abandoned the emissions cap and lowered ambition on carbon pricing. Protecting and restoring natural systems that sequester carbon, such as forests and wetlands, are also better, more cost-effective solutions.

It’s insane that obscenely profitable fossil fuel companies are allowed to continue putting all life at risk through unnecessary expansion of their deadly industry. That they and their government supporters expect us to help pay for it is unconscionable and suicidal!

David Suzuki is a scientist, broadcaster, author and co-founder of the David Suzuki Foundation. Written with David Suzuki

Foundation Senior Writer and Editor Ian Hanington. Learn more at davidsuzuki.org.

OBITUARIES

JOHN DOUGLAS AVERY

JUNE 16, 1938 - SATURDAY, JULY 18, 2026



It is with profound sadness that we share news of our father’s unexpected passing on Saturday, July 18, 2026, at the age of 88.

John Douglas Avery was born on June 16, 1938 in Toronto to Douglas Walter Avery and Doris Avery (nee Curran). In November 1970, he married Mary Leonie McDonald and together they moved to Bolton where they raised their two sons.

John was a machinist at Husky for the majority of his working life and was skilled in many trades – all without having had formal training, and all before YouTube. He could do virtually anything involving renovations and could often be found on a ladder working on something around the house.

A devoted grandfather, John was always there for his grandchildren. He grandparented in the same way he parented. No matter what the situation, he would be there. He was always concerned that everyone was provided for and wasn’t happy unless he knew that his loved ones had ‘enough’. Enough food, enough money, enough everything. He kept the kitchen clean because he didn’t cook. He checked in every few days with his boys to make sure all was okay. All he asked for in return was to know the score of his beloved Toronto Blue Jays because he never did figure out how to use the internet.

We are keenly aware of how fortunate we are to have been raised by a role model who proudly invested everything in his family. We will be forever grateful for the time we had with him, to learn from him, and to love him. If you are fortunate enough to have spent any time with John, you will know what a kind, generous and talented man he truly was.

John will be deeply missed by his wife and best friend, Leonie, his sons Stephen (Erica) and Michael (Geraldine), and his four grandchildren Claire, Lauren, Charlie and Nora, as well as his brother Gord (Lynne) and his many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his sister Joan, and her husband, Doug.

The family received their friends at the Egan Funeral Home, 203 Queen Street S., Bolton on Friday evening 5 – 8 o’clock. Funeral service was held in the chapel on Saturday morning, July 25 at 11 o’clock. Interment Laurel Hill Cemetery, Bolton.

Condolences for the family may be offered at www.EganFuneralHome.com



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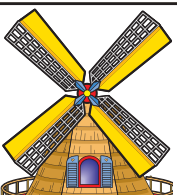


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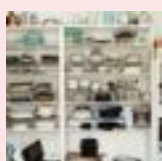
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Theatre Orangeville’s “Into the Woods” brings life lessons and laughs

BY JOSHUA DRAKES

Theatre Orangeville’s Young Company brought their A-game on July 24 with Into the Woods, their latest musical production.

During the summer months, a shift takes place at Theatre Orangeville. The theatre is between main seasons, summer camps are underway, and the spotlight turns to a different group of performers: the Young Company.

Led by Theatre Orangeville staff, these youth performers make use of the theatre’s professional resources to stage a full-scale production.

That was on full display during the premiere of Into the Woods on July 24.

Into the Woods is a fairy tale in theory. In reality, it blends classic stories like Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood, Jack and the Beanstalk, Rapunzel and more.

The first act follows these familiar tales for the most part, but they quickly begin to diverge. The stories intertwine, with characters interacting directly, cooperating and clashing as they pursue their dreams and happily ever afters. Fortunately for everyone involved, those happy endings are achieved.

But the second act is where the story truly takes on a life of its own.

Into the Woods explores what happens after happily ever after, deconstructing fairy tale endings and forcing its characters to question whether their wishes and dreams are truly making them happy.

Friendships are tested, romances are strained, and in the end, not everything is quite as it seems.

That’s what makes Into the Woods a must-see for anyone who holds fairy tales dear.

The acting performances are well above what many would expect from a youth performing company.

There were moments I forgot I was watching kids on stage.

The singing was clearly the production’s strongest aspect. Every performer brought a distinct style to their role, ensuring no two musical numbers felt alike. Some performances were soft and graceful, such as Cinderella’s, while others were commanding and antagonistic, particularly the Witch’s.

Each performer approached their character with nuance and care, and it showed throughout the production.

The ensemble numbers were equally

impressive. Several songs featured overlapping dialogue and rapid-fire exchanges between multiple cast members, moments that could easily have descended into chaos without exceptional timing.

The opening and closing musical numbers, featuring the full cast, were the best examples of this.

That level of coordination is no easy feat, but the Young Company pulled it off time and again.

The stage movement and choreography were equally impressive.

Even with more than a dozen performers on stage, the cast moved fluidly and in sync, demonstrating the meticulous planning and rehearsal that went into the blocking and choreography. Props were handled efficiently, moving on and off stage seamlessly.

At no point did it feel like any performer was overshadowed or blocked, even during the busiest scenes.

The set design neatly rounded out the production and was a perfect example of accomplishing a great deal with a simple concept.

Tree silhouettes, elevated platforms and a colourful backdrop, combined with effective lighting, music and performances,

created all the production needed while leaving room for the audience’s imagination.

A baker’s house, Rapunzel’s tower and, of course, the woods were all clearly established despite the set itself changing very little beyond a handful of props.

The only issue, and it’s a minor one, was some audio balancing. At times, the music and microphone levels made certain song lyrics difficult to hear.

Taken together, Into the Woods was a fantastic production that showcased the raw talent of these young performers.

They demonstrated a level of range and confidence beyond their years and should be immensely proud of such a polished performance.

Into the Woods was a must-see for theatre lovers of all ages. It’s an ambitious production that asks a great deal of its cast, and Theatre Orangeville’s Young Company rises to the challenge with confidence, heart and remarkable talent.

Anyone looking to support local theatre while seeing the next generation of performers showcase their skills would be well served by taking a trip Into the Woods to see the next Young Company performance.

Theatre Orangeville plans concert on Hockley Road farm property

BY JAMES MATTHEWS

One way Mono supports worthy causes is by waiving certain fees for charitable events.

Not-for-profit Theatre Orangeville requested Mono Council waive a \$500 application fee, a \$1,000 deposit for police services, and a \$2,000 deposit against damages to municipal infrastructure.

Mono resident Jack Baird and Gayle Henkenhof will open their Hockley property for an outdoor community gathering to support Theatre Orangeville on September 12 from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m.

The money raised will support the theatre company’s youth programming.

“We’re hoping that because the whole thing is a charitable event that you’ll waive those fees,” Baird said.

Council agreed unanimously during its July 14 meeting to waive the associated fees.

With space limited to 100 guests, it’s a wonderful opportunity to support the local arts, said Laura Austin, the theatre company’s chairperson.

The event will be supervised by theatre staff, and parking will be on-site.

“So that we don’t have any on-road parking,” Baird explained.

An accessible portable toilet will be on site, and trash collection will be controlled.

The afternoon features live music by Old School (Gerry Holden and Alain Brisson), with supporting acts Angie Forte, Murray Abraham, and Scott Jordan.

Auston said in a letter to council that the artists are donating their time and talents for the fundraiser.

The \$100 ticket price gets spectators a meal from a local caterer and complimentary non-alcoholic drinks. Patrons will get a receipt for tax deductions for \$65. The rest of the ticket price will go toward food and beverages.

“No alcohol is permitted on the property,” Auston said.

She added that to best maintain a relaxed atmosphere, the concert will be an adult-only event.

Baird said theatre staff will assemble a stage suitable for the five musicians participating.

He invited councillors to visit the concert site to ensure it would be suitable for the event.

“We seem to be having enthusiastic support from the volunteers,” Baird said.

Deputy Mayor Fred Nix said he believed the venue is a great space for such an event.

Coun. Elaine Capes said fees other than the application cost will go to police and emergency services, which “have nothing to do with the town, and you would have to pay if those were there so those are on

you.”

She wanted to know where concert-goers would walk from a secondary driveway to the venue.

Baird said concert-goers will use a path that’s about eight feet wide and mowed.

“It’s on level ground,” he said. “As level as a farmer’s field could be.”

He said the path is on his side of a fence that would keep patrons from even having to cross the road’s soft shoulder.

Capes asked if the surrounding neighbours have been apprised of the concert plans.

Baird said he’s spoken to one of three immediate neighbours.

“We thought, since it’s an afternoon event, that it would be unlikely to be an annoyance to them,” he said. “I can hear their radios on a Saturday afternoon, so I would think they would support it.”

Coun. Melinda Davie said Council considered its fee structure and the prices levied for various fees. It was decided that the amounts were reasonable. But whenever Council is approached about an event, an exemption is requested from the noise by-law fee, especially.

“[The reason offered] is because it’s a non-profit, or it’s because it’s a charity, or it’s because it’s my brother’s whatever,” Davie said. “I think we need to look at that.”

The reason for such fees is to cover the associated costs of staff reports about the event and council’s time to consider it, she said.

“There’s time and so that’s a cost,” Davie said. “Non-profits do not make profit, but they’re also businesses.”

They generate funding to cover their business costs.

“I guess transactions that involve dollars are trade-offs,” Baird said and added that concert organizers are prepared to acknowledge the municipality’s support.

“Including financial support of that sort,” he said.

Coun. Ralph Manktelow said Davie made a good point, but, “We do keep forgiving (fees) for worthy causes, but it’s a good thing that we have worthy cause.”

“They’re not making millions out of this, so it’s nice to not diminish the take-home that goes to Orangeville Theatre,” he said.

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SAVE \$2.00

8⁹⁹

Longo's Frozen Cooked Pacific White Shrimp Ring with Cocktail Sauce 312g pkg



BAKED IN-STORE!

SAVE 50¢

1⁹⁹

Longo's White Baguette 350g pkg



1⁹⁹/LB

Fresh Cara Cara Oranges Product of South Africa 4.39/kg



3⁹⁹/LB

Fresh Seedless Green Grapes Product of U.S.A. 8.80/kg



SAVE AT LEAST \$2.50

4⁴⁹

Dr. Oetker Ristorante or Casa di Mama Pizza 325-410g pkg selected varieties



SAVE AT LEAST \$1.00

2⁹⁹

Old El Paso Taco Shells, Tortillas or Components 94-398g pkg or jar selected varieties



SAVE \$4.00

15⁹⁹

Tilda Pure Basmati Rice 10lb bag



SAVE AT LEAST 80¢

2⁹⁹

Quaker Chewy or Dippys Granola Bars 120-156g pkg selected varieties



3⁹⁹

Gray Ridge Large White Eggs 12 pack



6⁴⁹

Beatrice Milk 1%, 2% or skim 4L bag



2²⁹

Longo's Essentials Bread 675g pkg



NEW

9⁹⁹

FRESH, NEVER FROZEN, AIR CHILLED, GRAIN FED.
Longo's Rotisserie Style Barbecue Chicken 1kg pkg

WE'VE LOCKED DOWN PRICES ON EVERYDAY ITEMS.

TO VIEW OUR FLYER ONLINE, GO TO WWW.GARDENFOODSMARKET.COM

HOURS: MON-FRI 7AM-9PM; SAT & SUN 7AM-8PM