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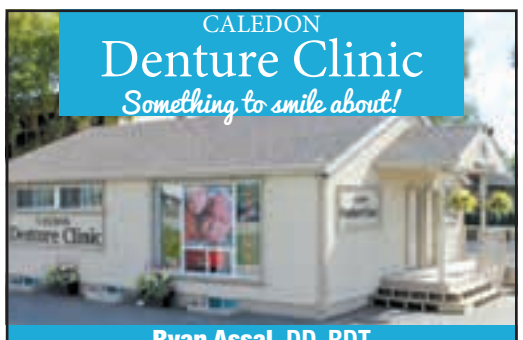


PHOTO COURTESY OF TOWN OF CALEDON

CELEBRATING OUR TRAILWAY: Mayor Allan Thompson and members of council paid tribute to the hard work and dedication the Caledon Trailway Committee put in when putting together the publication of 'The Caledon Trailway: Building the Dream.' Proceeds from the purchases of the book go directly back to the Town of Caledon to further improve the Caledon Trailway, now and in the future. For more information, or to purchase a book please visit caledontrailwaybook.ca.


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Caledon Meals on Wheels partnering with OPP to bring 'Project Lifesaver' to the community

Written By ALYSSA PARKHILL

Caledon Meals on Wheels have partnered with Caledon OPP to provide members of the community with a protection service; Project Lifesaver.

Project Lifesaver Caledon is an initiative dedicated to protecting those in the community who may wander, such as those living with dementia, autism spectrum disorder, down syndrome, or other kinds of cognitive impairment that may cause them to go off on their own.

"Our participants get a one-ounce wrist transmitter, which gives a radius signal that can be tracked up to two kilometres. If a loved one goes missing they call 9-1-1, and explain that this person is missing and they're a project lifesaver participant, they can use the equipment, which can help track them," explains Project Lifesaver Coordinator, Kim Pridham.

Project Lifesaver uses radio technology, instead of cellular or GPS, due to the reliability of service in the Caledon area.

Continued on Page A5

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FILE PHOTO

SIGNED AND SEALED: Caledon Council has approved its 2020 budget. In total, the budget has an overall increase of 2.25 percent from last year. The typical homeowner in Caledon will see an increase of $114 on their 2020 tax bill.

Caledon Council approves 2020 budget

Written By ALYSSA PARKHILL

Town Council began on Tuesday (Dec. 17) with a prayer and the singing of our national anthem, before members got into the heavy conversations surrounding the proposed 2020 Budget.

This meeting was the latest attempt from Council to organize and finalize the 2020 budget. It took until close to midnight, but the budget was finally approved, with an overall increase of 2.25 percent in 2020. Taking into account assumed tax impacts from both the Region of Peel and local school boards, the 'typical' household in Caledon is faxing an increase of $114 in property taxes next year.

Town Hall was packed full of concerned residents, awaiting to hear Council come together with a solution to lower the current percentage. Several delegations came forward to express their concern with council.

Caledon resident, Cheryl Connors expressed her frustration and concern with the proposed budget and the effects this budget will have on the community.

"Many municipal councils have a pattern of pushing through unpopular approvals at the most inconvenient times of the year, when most residents weren't paying attention to council decisions. Caledon Council is no exception," says Connors.

She added, "This is not the time for new capital projects that our population does not justify. This is where I feel that Council has lost touch with the regular people that live here. I haven't had a raise in five years, my hydro is going up, the cost of fruits and vegetables has gone up 7 percent in a year; we do not have an endless supply of money. You are taxing us out of our homes. Many of us, are seniors and we would love to retire in Caledon, but we're not going to be able to. Our high property taxes are killing us."

Another local resident, Sherry Brioschi confronted Council about what she perceived to be some baffling numbers included in the document.

"You are not being smart with this roadmap. You are actually spending beyond your means. We are faced right now with a possible population increase of 91,000 people for the next 21 years, to 2041. And at this rate, you are going to go down a road of financial disaster," says Brioschi in her presentation.

She added, "We need to change course. And we have these discussions to come up with a solution."

Ward 3 and 4 Area Coun. Nick DeBoer presented a new capital project at the last council meeting, on Dec 10, about ensuring the Caledon East Community Complex Phase 4 Detailed Design included plans for a library branch and a pool, for an estimated total of $451,894.

Coun. DeBoer brought an amendment in regards to the detailed design he proposed last week, to remove the fund taken from the tax levy, and distribute it through the Library Development Charges Reserve of $137,813, and the Recreation Development Charges Reserve of $1,174,688, directing the fund for the non-growth portion of $6,025,000 in the 2021 and 2022 budget.

"I know when we did the budget we had talked about doing the design, because Phase 3 is a part of this term's council projects, Phase 4 is the next one," Coun. DeBoer said.

Continued on Page A16









Seeback seeks government support for local soybean, canola farmers

Written By MIKE BAKER

In what was his first official act in Ottawa as Dufferin-Caledon's new Member of Parliament, Kyle Seeback voiced his concerns over the impact Canada's ongoing trade dispute with China was having on local farmers.

"I recently met with the Dufferin Federation of Agriculture, all hard-working farmers in my riding," he said during last Friday's question period. "They are suffering from a lack of market access for soybean and canola as a result of unresolved trade disputes.

"In the United States, the government is stepping up with a $28 billion market facilitation program. Other than words like 'we stand with', or 'we always support', what is the government actually doing to support soybean and canola farmers?"

Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, replied:

"Mr. Speaker, we stand with our partners and farmers because this is very important. It is a priority for us. I spend a lot of time talking to stakeholders and farmers themselves. We have a strategy that we have developed with them to reopen the market in China and diversify our markets.

"Next week, I will be meeting with the ministers of agriculture from the provinces and the territories. We are committed to improving our business risk management programs as well. We know the risks have changed through recent years in terms of climate, in terms of trade and we are committed to improve the business risk management suite."

Earlier this year, the Chinese government stripped two major Canadian grain companies, Richardson International Ltd. And Glencore Canada's Viterra, of their canola export licenses, citing pest concerns. It has been reported that Chinese importers have also stopped purchasing Canadian canola seed. As a result, canola acreages in Canada have dropped by nearly seven percent across the country in 2019.

A report compiled by Statistics Canada earlier this year noted there was 21.3 million acres worth of canola planted in 2019, which represents the lowest seeded area of canola in Canada since 2016.

Canola is one of the most popular, and profitable, crops grown by Canadian farmers. Prior to the trade standoff with China, approximately 40 percent of the canola grown in Canada was exported to China.

And 2019 has also been a difficult year for soybean farmers, with acreages dropping by more than 10 percent over the past year.

Mr. Seeback noted he met with several representatives of the Dufferin Federation of Agriculture on Dec. 10, where he learned more about the significant challenges the farming community in the Dufferin-Caledon riding have encountered over the past year, including the impact of the U.S. market facilitation program.

This program has allowed American producers to sell at lower prices to other areas, such as the European Union. This action, Mr. Seeback says, has made it harder for Canadian farmers to be competitive. He condemned the Liberal government for failing to provide compensation to farmers in Dufferin-Caledon, and all across Canada, with measures comparable to those seen in the United States.

Bill McCutcheon, President of the Dufferin Federation of Agriculture, insists farmers in the area are crying out for help, with the situation appearing be getting worse.

"We need our federal government to support our industry," Mr. McCutcheon said. "The American government has taken considerable steps to support producers, however, here in Canada, we have yet to see any real action by this government."

He added, "We've been left at a huge disadvantage, and it's hurting farmers here in Dufferin-Caledon, and across Canada. Immediate action is needed, not six months from now."



SUBMITTED PHOTO

CLASSY COMMEMORATION: The Caledon Golden Hawks organization presented Glen Meyer, father of Reese Meyer, with a personalized jersey at their game with the Alliston Hornets on Sunday (Dec. 15). 13-year-old Reese, a member of the Caledon Hawks Minor Bantam team, is still recovering after undergoing emergency surgery on a brain tumour at SickKids Hospital in Toronto last month.



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Locals up in arms over potential loss of Wildfield heritage home

Written By ALYSSA PARKHILL

Residents of Brampton and parts of Caledon are frowning at the thought of one of the last remaining heritage properties in the Wingfield area being torn down.

The heritage house located at 11962 the Gore Road in Wildfield was built in the 1870's. If this heritage property is be demolished, St. Patrick's Church will the last standing heritage building in the Wildfield area.

A proposal to demolish the building has been presented to Council. The land will be used to expand The Gore Road at the intersection of Mayfield Road and The Gore Road.

Wildfield resident, Dan O'Reilly, attended the Peel Regional Council meeting on Dec. 12 to voice the concerns of the community.

"Judging by a number of postings on social media, there is considerable anger and heartbreak by current and former Wildfield residents – and indeed by many people throughout Brampton – over the potential loss of this house, which once was the site of a blacksmith shop," explained O'Reilly in his presentation. "I share those sentiments."

A Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment was conducted on the property due to possible intersection improvements of Mayfield Road and The Gore Road. That study concluded that the property meets the criteria for possible relocation, although that option has has not been considered at this time. The main issue is, that relocating the residence goes against TRCA and City of Brampton zoning bylaws.

The proposal indicated, "the residence located a 11962 The Gore Road should be relocated to an appropriate and sympathetic site to ensure that the heritage value of the resource is retained," stated in the assessment.

O'Reilly was presenting alternative solutions to keeping the heritage house standing by relocating it, and asking the Region to take into consideration the cost of relocation other than demolishing. The Region was sympathetic to O'Reilly's presentation, but he isn't convinced a change is in the works.

"From the comments of the Chairman it looks like they're not interested in that. If the Region would be willing to pay the transportation costs, I'm sure it would entice a custom home building, or developer to go and buy a lot," says O'Reilly. "Before my delegation, they had their budget discussion, and it was quite obvious that they have some hard-financial choices in front of them."

O'Reilly reached out to consultantcy firm Candevcon Limited Consulting Engineers and Planning to obtain more information on the solution he presented to the Region.

"From the feedback the consultant has received, the developers would require market value for a lot and that another party would be responsible for the relocation and upgrading costs. There would be other conditions as well. This is, admittedly, all very tentative. There is no firm commitment. But I believe it is an option the Region should pursue and Candevcon is willing to set up a meeting with the developers," said O'Reilly in his presentation.

On Oct 21, Brampton's Planning and Development Committee approved a notice submitted by the Region to demolish the residence.

The Brampton Heritage Board confirmed that all efforts were taken in trying to save the residence from demolition, but no solutions were available. The Board subsequently approved the demolition of 11692 The Gore Road.

Dan O'Reilly had to try one more time, to speak with local and regional councillors to convey his message on the importance of keeping the little bit of history alive.

> "There used to be a number of heritage buildings in Wildfield, if this goes, it's only the church that's left. So, I'm trying to preserve as much as possible of the history, so it doesn't get totally obliterated by urban sprawl.
>
> Dan O'Reilly
> Caledon resident

"There used to be a number of heritage buildings in Wildfield, if this goes, it's only the church that's left. So, I'm trying to preserve as much as possible of the history, so it doesn't get totally obliterated by urban sprawl," comments O'Reilly.

He added, "The aggravating thing is they've had that building for an almost a decade, and it's only been this past summer they tried to put initiative for someone to take it away. Why didn't they do that five years ago?"

'Move This Home' signs have been posted on the lawn of the property, and boards cover the windows. The region purchased and boarded up the building years ago, when plans to expand The Gore Road first came to fruition. That, eventually, led to the signs being posted up on the property, and the land being put up for sale.

Dan O'Reilly refuses to give up. He will continue to advocate the significance 11692 The Gore Road has for the community, and the importance to keep it standing.

"There are a lot people upset about it, but I'm the person trying to do something about it," says O'Reilly.



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Hanson lawyer seeks venue change for trial

Written By PAULA BROWN

Michelle Hanson, the mother charged in the death of her three-year-old son Kaden Young, and her lawyer, Marco Forte, plan to request a change of venue for her upcoming criminal trial.

Ms. Hanson appeared in court in Orangeville on Monday (Dec. 16), and was remanded to appear on Feb. 11 for the motion seeking a change of venue. Mr. Forte, who has been representing Ms. Hanson, did not appear alongside her in court.

If the request for a change of venue is accepted it would see Ms. Hanson tried outside Orangeville. Mr. Forte has hinted, on several occasions, that Ms. Hanson would likely not receive a fair trial in Orangeville.

A preliminary inquiry was held in July to determine if there was enough evidence for Ms. Hanson to be tried on charges of impaired driving causing death and criminal negligence causing death. Ontario Court Justice Richard Humphrey ruled on July 30, following eight days of preliminary inquiry and discovery, that Ms. Hanson would face trial for the two charges.

Mr. Forte spoke with the Citizen following the ruling about whether he would request the trial be held in a different location, saying he planned to take a closer look at the impact of both social media and mainstream media coverage.

"I'm aware of a lot of the social media coverage and different Facebook groups and social media groups that have sprung up as a result of this case and the localized nature of some of those groups," said Mr. Forte.

Despite the motion for a change of venue, which will take place in February, assistant Crown attorney Danielle Garbaty said a pre-trial hearing would still be held in Orangeville.

In the early morning hours of Feb. 21, 2018, Ms. Hanson failed to stop at a road-closed sign at the 10th Line of Amaranth, driving onto the flooded road. The minivan she was driving was pulled into the Grand River. She and Kaden, who was in the vehicle with his mother, both managed to escape, but Kaden was pulled from his mother's arms, plunging into the icy depths of the raging river. Kaden's body was found under a bridge in Belwood Lake by two fisherman on April 21, two months to the day that he went missing. Ms. Hanson was arrested on October 11, 2018.

According to the indictment that the Citizen has obtained from the courts, Ms. Hanson must be tried by Oct. 13, 2020 as part of her right to be tried within a reasonable time frame. She will make her next court appearance on Feb. 11.

Continued from FRONT

Caledon Meals on Wheels partnering with OPP to bring 'Project Lifesaver' to the community

"It's the older technology, it's the radio technology so it's a little bit more reliable in the Caledon area. GPS isn't always perfect, so the older radio technology is a really good fit for Caledon," says Pridham.

The initiative was founded in 1999 in Chesapeake, Virginia. Project Lifesaver is run through municipal public safety agencies, where all the equipment needed to function in the town is provided through the Project Lifesaver International. According to the Project Lifesaver International website, the program has helped to recover, and save a total of 3,630 people.

Caledon Meals on Wheels (CMOW), founded in 1984, has spent the past 35 years providing support to the local community. The non-profit, volunteer-based organization runs solely on lending a hand to those in need. Project Lifesaver was a great fit for CMOW, but now it's about letting the community know about it.

"I don't really know how many people are aware that it's there, but we do have a number of participants, seniors and children," says Pridham. "We started administrating the program at the end of August."

The program operated 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. When authorities are notified that a person is missing, there are specially trained officers who use the proper equipment, to help find them. If the individual meets the certain criteria that Project Lifesaver requires from participants, Pridham will introduce the program, and explain in detail on what it's all about.

"They just give us a shout, and then I go out and explain the program. The biggest piece is that they're willing to wear the wristbands," says Pridham. "There is a $400 fee to lease the transmitter, but if people aren't able to afford it, there is a subsidy available, then there's a $10 monthly fee for the transmitter batteries."

Project Lifesaver Caledon requires applicants to live in the Caledon area, and those who eventually move from the area will be taken out of the program. The program is for those who have a history of wandering or who have been labelled as someone who may wander because of a cognitive impairment.

For more information about Project Lifesaver Caledon, please visit cmow.org/project-lifesaver.

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"CCS' Decade Challenge: A Blast from the Not-So-Distant Past" *by Chrissy Jarvie, Communications Lead*



There is a decade challenge currently sweeping social media. Your friends, maybe even yourself have got on board comparing 2009 vs. 2019 images or lists of accomplishments.

In a ten year span, Caledon Community Services has seen exciting changes and innovative solutions to community challenges so we're joining in!

2013: we opened the Caledon Specialist Clinic (18 King St. E., Bolton) allowing Caledon residents to receive some specialist care, without having to travel outside our community. To learn more about available clinic services, call 905-857-4327.

We also opened the Exchange (55 Healey Rd. Bolton), with an expanded and improved Food Support Program, increased volunteer opportunities, community kitchen and more. In Caledon, the Exchange epitomizes the quote, "food is the ingredient that binds us together." Make a difference; volunteer or run a food drive. Call 905-584-2300 ext. 277 to find out how to volunteer and ext. 202 for a list of most-needed food items.

In 2016: we successfully relaunched our Home for the Holidays Gala, supporting programs and services across our agency and ensuring individuals and families are cared for during the holidays and into the year ahead. You can help change a life by making a gift to a neighbour in need right in your own community a part of your holiday traditions. Donate online at www.ccs4u.org or call 905-584-2300 ext. 260.

2017: Evolve stores launched with Clothing (4 Industrial Rd.) replacing Chez Thrift and Lifestyle (109 Industrial Rd.) replacing the ReUstore. Offering gently-used, preloved, clothing, footwear, furniture, housewares and more, 100% of the proceeds help fund vital community programs and services. Take a trip to Evolve - shop and donate in support of our community; learn more at www.evolvecaledon.com.

2018: Velocity launched as part of Caledon Day festivities and will ride again on June 20, 2020. These 10, 25, 60 & 100 km scenic bike routes offer something for everyone and raise funds supporting seniors across Caledon. Join the fun; stay tuned for Velocity 2020 registration at www.ccsvelocity.ca.

These are just a few of our highlights from this decade and we're proud of what we have been able to accomplish together with your support. Join the CCS community, add to our story and be part of all the good we can do together.

Wishing you and yours the happiest of holidays and here in Caledon, we look forward to welcoming 2020!

How Do You See It?

Tell us how you see it.
Donna Cragg, Director, Communications and Development, Caledon Community Services at 905-584-2300 ext. 222 or dcragg@ccs4u.org

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

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BUSINESS in Caledon

Husky matches community donations to CCS Santa Fund

Written By ALYSSA PARKHILL

Husky Injection Molding System has worked alongside Caledon Community Services (CCS) each Christmas season since 2002. Their partnership has brought support and necessities to struggling families in Caledon.

There are 1,500 families in the Caledon community who are struggling, according to CCS. With Christmas right around the corner, this time of year can be crucially difficult for literally hundreds individuals and families. CCS has dedicated every year at Christmas time to lend a hand to those in need.

Husky will be matching donations in partnership with the annual CCS run Santa Fund. They will be matching donations up to a whopping $25,000. CCS couldn't be more proud and thankful for their 12 year long partnership.

"It's been immensely successful because when people know their dollars are going to be matched, they give more, they give more generously, it's a feel-good thing," explains Donna Cragg, Director of Communications and Development, Caledon Community Services. "$25,000 makes a huge difference in the amount of people that it reaches in the community, and what it provides. Not only at Christmas, but it continues to provide year-round."

Organizations such as CCS rely on toy and food donations to provide aid to struggling families in the community. CCS goes further by not only helping with providing nutritious support, but also with their heat and utilities at home, as well as counselling on top of it all.

"Counselling and goal-setting, which is our care coordination. They get a counsellor assigned to them to help them through whatever they encounter in their life struggles. If we can't help them directly, then they know the source where they can receive the help," says Cragg. "It also goes to goal-setting and educational aspects where they can help with not only what they can feed their family, but how they can prepare it. We have the kitchen at the Exchange too, so there are nutritional cooking workshops and all that kind of stuff."

She added, "On top of the Santa fund, there's family days. The family days were Dec.. 7 and Dec. 14 this year, and we had upwards of 60 individuals and families volunteering that day, either to bake cookies or sort food or set up Santa's workshop for the people that will begin distribution later this week.

"During the Santa Fund distribution, the Exchange is closed to regular operations because we want to give each family the opportunity to go in with the privacy to do their own selection and hopping. Some people are fine and enjoy the shopping, but some people are really struggling with it and it's a highly emotional time for them so we don't want it open to the public at that time."

The Santa Fund began in 1982, distributing food and toys for the holiday season. As the years progressed, families began to turn to CCS for their assistance. CCS and Husky Injection Molding Systems encourages local residents, businesses, services to help contribute to those who are in need in the community through the Santa Fund.

"Husky is very happy to help support the Santa Fund again this year," said Stacie Kordts, VP of Human Resources at Husky Injection Molding Systems. "We are glad to be part of the immense contribution that Caledon Community Services makes in helping local families. We proudly support this initiative. We encourage other local businesses and residents of Caledon to contribute to the Santa Fund and have a hand in giving back to the community. The positive impact on children and families is gratifying to see."

Monty Laskin, CEO of Caledon Community Services expresses how grateful CCS is and has been over the years with the number of volunteers willing to help as well as the partnership with Husky.

"Hundreds of volunteers are working closely with our staff to make the Santa Fund the most successful in CCS' 48-year history. We're grateful beyond words for the support of Husky and for the support the community."

He added, "We hope that together we can reach our goal of $180,000. There are increased challenges we know are coming our way in 2020."

For more information or to donate to the Santa Fund please visit ccs4u.org/santa-fund or by phone at 905-584-2300 ext. 260.



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APTI Physiotherapy & Sports Rehab opens in Bolton

Written By ALYSSA PARKHILL

Ravi Raghuvanshi hosted the grand opening of his new business APTI Physiotherapy and Sports Rehab on Dec. 8.

Ravi and his wife immigrated here three years ago, both with experience in professional physiotherapy.

Through the support and encouragement from members of the community and family, they decided to open up their own physiotherapy clinic, right here in Bolton.

"After clearing my physiotherapy license in Canada two years ago I started working with a private clinic. I realized there is so much more to do than conventional physiotherapy," explained Raghuvanshi in an interview with the Town of Caledon. "I have always been working with sports teams and professional athletes. I enrolled with Sports Physio Canada and feel that I can contribute so much to upgrade the profession and educate people about the things an effective physiotherapy can do to improve their quality of life."

APTI Physiotherapy and Sports Rehab offers several services such as physio and athletic therapy, posture correction, specific sports training and offers injury prevention programs.

Raghuvanshi is level one TPI certified physiotherapist holding a specific certification in golf. He has a list of experiences with working with a variety of different sports teams and players such as the Toronto National Cricket Team and United States rugby team. He is currently the official physiotherapist for the Bolton Wanderers Soccer Club.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE TOWN OF CALEDON

WELCOME TO THE COMMUNITY: APTI Physiotherapy and Sports Rehab held its grand opening in Bolton on Dec. 8.

"Our focus is to get people feeling and performing at their best. We do this by ensuring a precise evaluation of an injury, along with accurate data collection and analysis, visual biofeedback analysis, it takes the guesswork out of the equation," says Raghuvanshi. "Complete record-keeping enables continuity of treatment and we do specific training programs for every fitness goal. Our aim is to help people recover faster and perform better than ever before."

He added, "The residents of Caledon are very welcoming and friendly and have a very in-depth awareness of fitness and health," comments Raghuvanshi. "What better place than Caledon to put my vision to reality.

For more information about Ravi and his team at APTI Physiotherapy and Sports Rebab, please visit aptisportsphysio.rehab.



TOWN OF CALEDON | News | caledon.ca/enews



Happy Holidays!

Best wishes to you and yours from the Town of Caledon.

For hours of operation and closures over the holidays, visit **caledon.ca/news**.



Brrrrrr!

With the cold weather upon us, here are some reminders to help protect your pets:

- Never leave your pet unattended in a cold car.
- Keep your pets warm. If it's too cold for you to stay outside, it's too cold for your pet.
- Provide your pet with a warm cozy bed.
- Keep your pet away from puddles and large bodies of water.
- Wipe your pet's paws and underside after being outside.
- Beware of cats seeking warmth under vehicle hoods.
- Dress your pet appropriately for winter outings.
- Prepare an emergency pet survival kit for possible power outages.



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1. **Stay in the kitchen when cooking.**
2. **Drink responsibly.**
3. **If you smoke, do it outside.**
4. **Install and test smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.**
5. **Practice your home fire escape plan with all guests and family members.**

Follow us for more fire safety tips:

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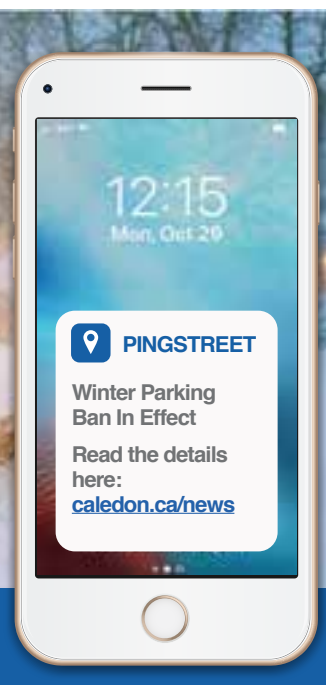
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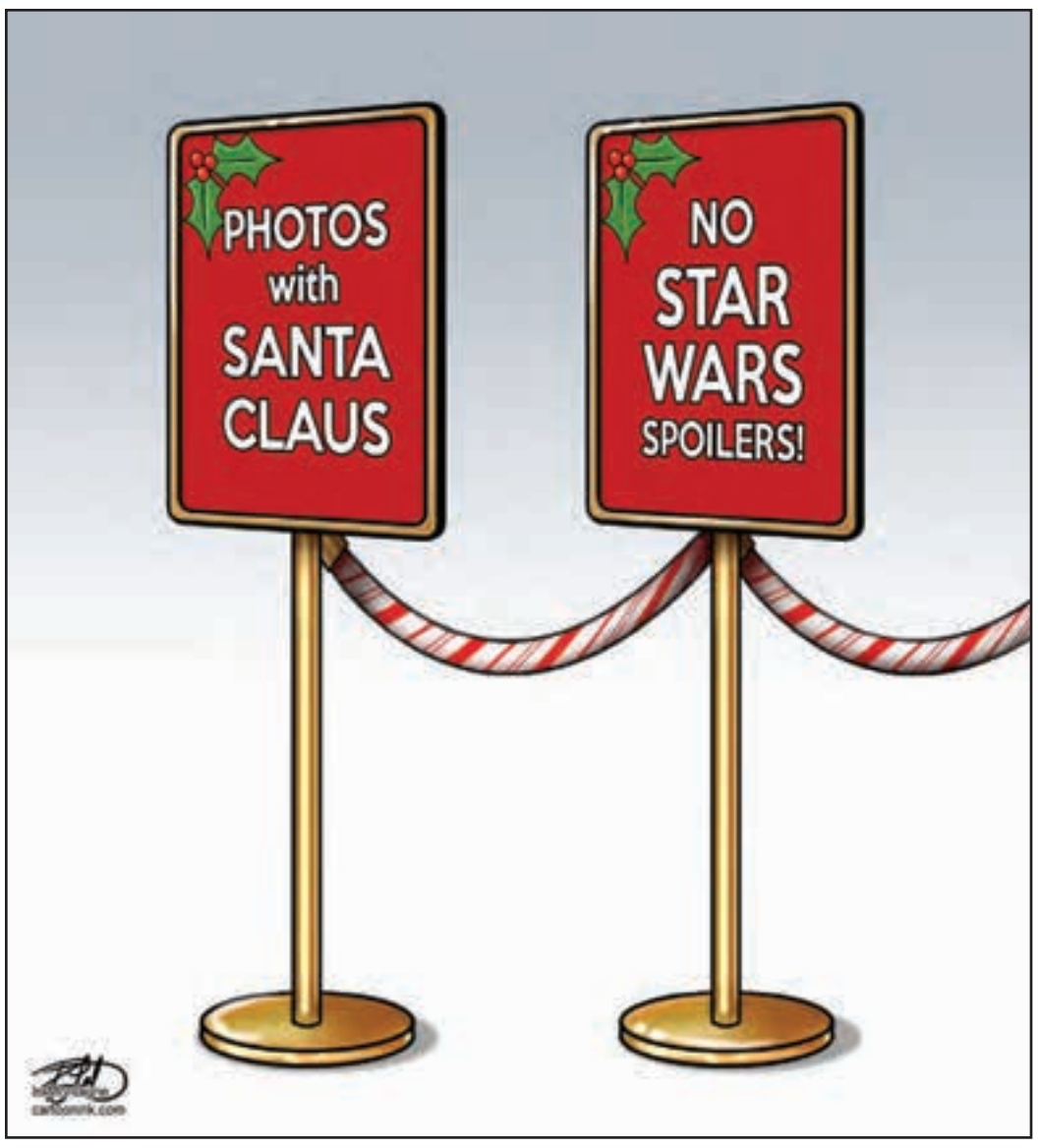
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Canadians not taking much-needed vacation

by Mark Pavilons

"The ant is knowing and wise, but he doesn't know enough to take a vacation."
– Clarence Day

Canadians are a proud bunch.

We're decent folks and yet we just don't understand how important it is to take time off.

According to a study commissioned by travel company Skyscanner, 96 per cent of Canadians say it's important for them to take time off work, but only 66 per cent take all of the time they're owed. This has given rise to a new term – "vacation shaming."

Most prevalent among millennials, nearly two-thirds (62 per cent) say they've encountered "vacation shaming in the workplace."

The study of 1,000 Canadians and 500 Americans, conducted by research firm Maru/Blue, showed that 50 per cent of Canadians have experienced vacation shaming, where co-workers or bosses use guilt or peer pressure to discourage employees from using their vacation time.

Trends differ south of the border, too, with only 57 per cent of Americans taking all their vacation time, and 58 per cent saying they've experienced vacation shaming, an increase of eight per cent over Canadians.

"Many of us assume that taking time off will negatively impact our career trajectory, but evidence suggests employees that take their vacation have increased productivity, creativity, and decreased stress and risk of burnout, making them more likely to get promotions and raises," said Dr. Lisa Bélanger, a behaviour change expert who specializes in helping employees maximize their mental and physical well-being. "Ultimately, the payoffs are significant for both the employer and the employee."

Affordability and busy work schedules among top vacation concerns

Millennials across Canada are most likely to feel nervous, stressed, worried, guilty or ashamed when asking for time off work (33 per cent), compared to Gen Xers at 17 per cent and Boomers at 12 per cent. They were also least likely to say they use all their vacation time, with only 60 per cent taking all the time they've earned.

When asked why they don't use all their vacation time, Canadians cited several concerns, including being too busy at work (22 per cent), being unable afford to take a vacation (17 per cent), and not wanting to have more work waiting for them when they get back (8 per cent).

Guilty as charged. For me, it's not so much a lack of desire, but it's more of a necessity. I am pretty much a one-man operation and the paper would face some serious challenges if I took a week or two away.

My wife works for the Peel District School Board as a TA and she has her summer free. However, she's not paid for those two months so again, she must find work during the summer.

I'm not sure, but our plight can't be uncommon among average working Canadians.

The time we have away is cherished dearly. The last time away was the long Labour Day weekend, where we grabbed some R&R at a lake-front home in Prince Edward County. We crammed as much as we could into those two and a half days!

The last time I was out of the country, was a trip to Mexico with my mom, which turned out to be her last. She enjoyed it thoroughly.

There are things you notice when travelling, and one is the number of Germans who flock to the beaches. Germans take their holiday time seriously, and it seems like the entire country shuts down.

By law, every country in the European Union gives workers at least four work weeks of paid vacation. Austria has a legal minimum of 22 paid vacation days and 13 paid holidays each year. One in four Americans does not have a single paid day off.

I am also reminded of the beautiful word "siesta," Spanish for nap. Who doesn't love the luxury of taking a short nap in the afternoon, after the mid-day meal?

It's not only tradition, but almost mandatory in some countries.

The health benefits have been proven, and the siesta habit is associated with a 37 per cent reduction in coronary mortality, possibly due to reduced cardiovascular stress mediated by daytime sleep.

Siesta is also common in Italy, where many museums, churches and shops close during midday (from 12 to 1:30 or 2:30 to 4) so proprietors can go home for lunch and sometimes a nap during the day's hottest hours.

For anyone who's been away to Caribbean or such European countries, they quickly see the much slower pace. Our counterparts understand the need for eliminating stress and simply taking it easy. Kim and I always loved being "on island time."

It's not that things don't get done, they just take a bit longer. It's a win-win situation that North Americans have yet to embrace.

Perhaps we never will.

I urge everyone to sit back, relax and smell the freshly-baked goodies this holiday season. Recharge and rekindle some flames.

The new year will be here soon enough. There's no sense worrying over it just yet.

All the best this holiday season!

Editorial

Our '2020 vision'

AS WE APPROACH THE END of a most tumultuous year, the time has come for editorialists everywhere to go out on the proverbial limb and offer some supposedly educated guesses as to what we shall face in the new year.

Thus it is that we for once have a forward-looking 20-20 vision.

On the world scene, this will be another year when we'll see man-made climate change as a source of huge controversy, with younger activists leading the way in calling for action and right-wing populists denying its existence or merely paying lip service.

Nowhere will this be more evident than in the United States, where the big question to be addressed is whether the impeachment of Donald Trump will merely lead to his election for a second term and four more years of millions of Americans lacking the universal health care we've had for half a century.

In the United Kingdom, Berxit will be accomplished before the Jan. 31 deadline and the stage will be set for a referendum in Scotland that will almost inevitably lead to Scottish independence and a bid for re-admission to the European Union.

Our expectation is that the economic consequences of Brexit won't be quite as disastrous as most experts have been predicting but will still include a further decline in the value of the Pound and more unemployment stemming from the loss of exports to the EU. There will be attempts to reach trade deals with Canada and the United States, but the complexities involved will make it impossible to conclude the deals in 2020.

Elsewhere in the context of world trade, we shall likely see at least a truce in the trade war between the U.S. and China, if only because of a decline in China's economy and the impending U.S. presidential election, with Mr. Trump then being able to proclaim a victory.

As for the Middle East, it will be another year of near wars and an inability (or more likely unwillingness) of the parties to achieve real peace between Israel and the Palestinians.

It will also be a year in which technology will play and increasingly important role, with drones being used by terrorists and attempts being made to develop anti-drone defences, particularly for commercial aircraft.

And speaking of commercial aircraft, 2020 will be a year in which Boeing will face even more delays in getting its 787 Max planes back in service, perhaps even without the availability of the computerized anti-stall system that apparently caused the two lethal crashes.

Closer to home, it will be the first full year of a Liberal minority government in Ottawa, a year during which the government will face countervailing pressures from the opposition and business world, with the NDP, Green and Bloc Quebecois all pressing for more action to curb greenhouse gases and the business community calling for an end to deficit financing.

We'll have to wait and see whether Finance Minister Bill Moreau's prediction of growing deficits was aimed in part at dealing with provincial demands for greater transfers for healthcare and NDP demands for a universal pharmacare.

But with the opposition divided among four parties, the Trudeau Grits ought to be able to survive for most, if not all, of its new four-year term. but only if it can avoid scandals.

And it will be an equally challenging year for the Conservatives as they pick a successor to Andrew Scheer as leader. As we see it, they would be wise to pick a moderate who doesn't hail from the Prairies and is prepared to support real action on the climate front.

As for Ontario, 2020 will be a year in which the Ford government tries hard to improve its image, perhaps by agreeing to have an arbitrator end the impasse between the government and the teachers' unions.

It will also be a year in which new efforts will be needed on the tourism front, thanks to the demise of Headwaters Tourism.

Is it too much for us to hope for a resurrection of the Credit Valley Explorer rather than closure of the former CP Rail line between Orangeville and Streetsville?



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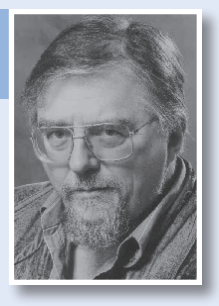
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Deadlock in Madrid, firestorms in Oz

GWYNNE DYER
OUR WORLD TODAY



"The point of no return is no longer over the horizon," warned UN secretary general António Guterres as the 25th climate summit (COP25) opened in Madrid two weeks ago, and the multitude of delegates from more than 100 countries presumably understood what he meant. But they ignored it anyway.

The 'point of no return' arrives in the mid-2030s, when the rising emissions of greenhouse gases (they are still rising, not falling) pushes the amount of carbon dioxide equivalent in the atmosphere up past 450 parts per million. At 450 ppm, CO2 drives the average global temperature up past +2º C, two degrees higher than the pre-industrial average) and into runaway.

In diplomatic-speak, what happens then is 'dangerous climate change', but that is actually happening already, with carbon dioxide at 405 ppm and average global temperature 'only' 1.1º C higher. We are seeing firestorms in Australia, rising sea levels, catastrophic storms and melting glaciers.

What happens at 450 ppm is that the two degrees of warming caused by human beings trigger natural processes ('feedbacks' or 'tipping points') that also cause warming – and once they start, human beings cannot stop them. The Big Three feedbacks are the loss of the Arctic Ocean's sea ice cover, the melting of the permafrost zone, and the release of vast amounts of CO2 by the warming world oceans.

Guterres called it 'the point of no return' because after that we lose control. The warming will then continue even if human beings eventually stop all of their own emissions. We will be trapped on an 'up' escalator that delivers us into a world three, four, even five degrees hotter than the pre-industrial average.

That is exactly where the World Meteorological Organisation predicts we will be by the end of this century if current promises on emissions cuts are kept, but no more is done. Long before the end of the century that would mean the collapse of food production in the tropics and the sub-tropics, famines and huge refugee flows, mass death.

They never spell these things out at the climate summits, but almost everybody there knows them. And yet, once again, they failed to produce a deal that moves the process forward. The best that can be said is that they stopped a concerted attempt by the biggest emitters, led by Brazil and Australia, to gut the proposed rules for a global carbon market.

How can they be so blind to their own long-term interest in survival? The answer, alas, is that the evolutionary past of human beings has not made us good at long-term thinking, and that human politics is dominated by those whose interests will be advanced or damaged by what the government does right now, not in 15 years' time. Take Australia, for example.

Australia is the driest continent, and as the heat mounts (much of the country is expecting temperatures in the low to mid-40s C this week) the number and scale of bushfires has exploded. The biggest blaze, in the Blue Mountains west of Sydney, has already burned over 400,000 hectares and is still growing.

But Australia is also the world's biggest exporter of coal, mostly to China and Japan. Coal-mining only employs 38,000 Australians, but it brings in a lot of money, some of which inevitably ends up as political contributions that link the industry with all the Australian political parties.

That's why, two years ago, Liberal (i.e. conservative) politician Scott Morrison brought a lump of coal into parliament. It was 'clean' coal, in the sense that it had been lacquered so that it wouldn't dirty people's hands. Morrison passed it around to his parliamentary colleagues saying "Don't be afraid, don't be scared, it won't hurt you. It's coal."

ScoMo (as the Australian media have nicknamed Morrison, presumably because it sounds a bit like 'scum'), is now prime minister, and as the country burns he continues to deny any link between burning coal and global heating. He offers his "thoughts and prayers" to the victims of the fires, but insists that climate change is only one of "many other factors" in fuelling the bushfires.

Deputy Prime Minister Michael McCormack takes an even more robust line, dismissing climate change as a concern of "raving inner-city lefties". That will not endear him to the hundreds of families who have been burnt out, but there are millions of families who have not yet lost their homes, so this may still be a viable political position.

Of all the major emitters, only the European Union is taking its responsibilities seriously. The rest range from the deeply conflicted (like China and Canada, both aware that climate change is an existential threat but both hugely dependent on fossil fuels) to the outright deniers (Australia, Brazil, Saudi Arabia and the United States).

What's on your wish list?

SHERALYN ROMAN
TALK CALEDON



At this time of year our focus is often on the kids, whether our own, the grandchildren or friends, nieces, nephews…you get the idea. But today? Today I want to talk about what's on your wish list and perhaps, if you'll allow me, what's on mine. I'm thinking of writing a letter to Santa expressing my keenest desires but I'm fairly certain by the time I'm done, there are better odds of Santa bringing me a unicorn than any of these humble wishes coming to fruition. A girl can dream.

One: I'd like a Premier who actually goes to work, maybe even for longer than a week or two at a time. You know, maybe someone who works like many of us do – forty hours a week at minimum and often, in excess of that, without the benefit of overtime pay. What do we have instead? A Premier who worked the statistical equivalent of less than half a year. After 5 months off over the summer, he returned to work for about 6 weeks in total and is now on holiday again – for two months! Must be nice.

Two: I'd like a settlement to be reached before teachers are forced to go on strike. Well – I mean a "longer than a series of one day strikes" that is. Of course, for that to happen, points number Three and Four will have to be addressed immediately and that doesn't sound likely given that even the mediator has walked out of recent talks.

Three: A Premier that values the work that teachers do and who doesn't want to "cap" any potential wage increase at one per cent while giving some other government worker friends of his an increase of 14 per cent on their already exorbitant salaries.

Four: A Premier who understands how significantly classrooms have changed over the last decade. How valuable and important special needs support staff are and how a class of 25+ students at virtually any age is an unworkable number. Children will get lost through the cracks. Classrooms are becoming like our own personal version of Survivor but the consequences of getting voted off the island will be lifelong.

Five: Political Leaders in general who don't: wear blackface, try to manipulate justice and/or the Attorney General, or who fail to understand that holding dual citizenship, potentially denying LGBTQ++ folks their right to marriage (at least) or whose party exists for the sole purpose of breaking up our country, all make one ill-suited to hold a leadership position and most certainly ill-suited to lead our lead our government.

Six: That similar to that infamous episode of Dallas all those years ago, we're going to wake up one day and find out the Trump era was nothing but a bad dream. A really, really, bad dream. A "bigly" bad dream!

Seven: That Canadians will develop the ability to remember, from one winter to the next, how to drive their damn cars in a snowstorm. It's Canada. It's winter. It happens (surprise, surprise) every year and usually around the same time. You can kind of count on it – predict it even. So why the heck can't many of us remember how to drive in the stuff. Slow down. It's pretty much that simple. Oh wait! Actually, clear the damn snow off your vehicle too!

Eight: That First Nations people will get fresh, safe, potable drinking water. Because it's 2020. Oh and also, because it should be a basic human right – shouldn't it?

Nine: That at least 9 out of 10 people (particularly the corporate people, the money people, the selfish people) will believe the 10 out of 10 scientists (and a 14 year old Canadian and 16 year old Swedish girl) who KNOW that climate change is real and will actually start to do something about it. Before we go the way of the dinosaurs.

Ten: That while you are busy complaining about long line-ups, the price of your Christmas turkey, the "lack of selection" available at your local Winners with just a few days left before Christmas - you will instead pause and reflect. Reflect on the fact you have two legs to stand on, that while your turkey might be pricy you know you're buying one regardless and that your "lack of choice" would be considered bountiful in many,

Many other nations around the world. Frankly, all of this might also be considered bountiful for some families right here at home. Stop on your way home from the grocery store, take a donation of food to The Exchange or make a donation to CCS or another organization important to you and our family. As Charles Dickens once wrote: "for at this festive season of the year it is more than usually desirable that we should make some slight provision…..because it is a time, of all others, when want is most keenly felt, and abundance rejoices."

Dear Santa;

As much as I would like to have faith in humanity – I'll take my unicorn in pink, purple and white with sparkles on her horn.

Sincerely,

Sheralyn Roman



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Three parties arrested, 36 charges laid after thefts from cars

Officers from the Community Street Crime Unit (CSCU) from the Caledon Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police arrested three parties in relation to multiple thefts from cars throughout Caledon that occurred in the last two months.

On Tuesday, December 10th, 2019, the Caledon CSCU executed a search warrant at a Mississauga motel, which resulted in the seizure of numerous stolen IDs, credit cards, cheques, tools, cash and drugs.

The following parties were arrested and charged:

Liam Giblin-Pound, 23, of Brampton, was arrested and charged with:

- Theft Under $5000 from a motor vehicle x three counts;
- Trespassing at night x two counts;
- Fraud under $5000 x three counts;
- Use of credit card x three counts;
- Carrying concealed weapon, and
- Possession property obtained by crime under $5000.

The accused will appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville on January 9th, 2020 to answer to the charges.

Ashley Stokman, 24, of Brampton, was arrested and charged with:

- Possession property obtained by crime under $5000,
- Fail to comply with probation order x two counts.

The accused party will appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville on January 9th, 2020 to answer to the charges

Kyle See, 23, of Brampton, was arrested and charged with:

- Theft Under $5000 from a motor vehicle x four counts;
- Trespassing at night x three counts;
- Fraud under $5000 x three counts;
- Fail to comply with probation order x four counts;
- Carrying concealed weapon;
- Use of credit card x three counts;
- Possession of a schedule I substance - methamphetamine, and
- Possession property obtained by crime under $5000.

The accused was held for a bail hearing at the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville.

The investigation is ongoing. If you have any information in relation to this investigation, please call the Caledon Community Street Crime Unit at (905) 584-2241 or 1-888-310-1122.

You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Peel Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or online at www.peelcrimestoppers.ca. When you contact Crime Stoppers you stay anonymous, you never have to testify, and you could receive a cash reward of up to $2,000 upon an arrest.

Caledon opp warns residents not to leave unattended cars running in winter

On Wednesday, December 11th, 2019, at about 6:06 a.m., officers from the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Caledon Detachment received a call for a theft of motor vehicle in the parking lot of a business located in the area of King Street and Queen Street in Bolton.

The owner of the vehicle advised that the vehicle was left running with the keys in the center console, while the owner quickly ran inside a coffee shop to get a beverage. Upon returning, the owner noticed that the vehicle was gone.

Shortly thereafter, information was received that the stolen vehicle was located in Brampton. The vehicle was returned to the owner, however the owner's wallet and a dash camera are still outstanding.

Upon reviewing security footage, officers were able to determine that three suspects were involved in the car theft:

- Suspect 1: male, 20-30 years old,! tan or light brown skin, black medium length beard; wearing a black jacket, with a white undershirt, camo pants, white sneakers, grey ball cap.
- Suspect 2: male, 20-30 years old, tan or light brown skin, medium length black beard; wearing a black jacket with reflective stripes around the shoulder, black pants and black shoes, green toque.
- Suspect 3: male, 20-30 years old, white or tan skin, wearing eye glasses, black moustache, red winter jacket, red hat, black gloves, black pants with a white stripe down the side, black Adidas shoes.
- Suspect vehicle: white Jeep Grand Cherokee, newer model (2017-2019).

The investigation is ongoing. If you ha! ve any information in relation to this incident, contact Caledon OPP 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 reminds residents to never leave an unattended vehicle running.

Also,

- Keep your vehicle locked;
- Never leave your car keys inside;
- Close all windows, and
- Keep valuables out of sight.

Early morning crash leads to impaired driving charges

Members of the Dufferin County Ontario Provincial Police with the assistance of Shelburne and District Fire Department and Dufferin County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) attended an early morning vehicle collision on Highway 89 east of Shelburne at approximately 8:00am.

The collision involved a passenger vehicle and a transport truck. One driver was transported to hospital with minor injuries.

As a result of the collision Bruce Weatherhead, 59-years-old of Shelburne has been charged with:

- Operation while impaired by alcohol
- Operation while impaired - blood alcohol over 80

The accused will appear in January at the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville to answer to the charges.

The Dufferin OPP want to remind drivers that there is no safe amount of alcohol to consume before getting behind the wheel of a motor vehicle. If you see or suspect someone is driving while impaired, either by alcohol or drugs, contact 911 immediately.

Outsmart 'porch pirates' this holiday season

With holiday shopping season upon us, the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is reminding the public to beware of "porch pirates". Porch pirates are thieves who steal packages that are left at someone's house when they are not home to accept the parcel.

Some tips to help keep delivered packages safe:

- Track deliveries online and try to be home at the time a package is delivered.
- Ask a trusted friend or neighbour to receive your package at the time of delivery.
- If allowed by an employer, have the packages delivered to your work.
- Some stores provide a pickup-in-store service that allows you to pick up items from a nearer location.
- Consider installing a motion-detection home security system that records video and sends immediate notice of activity to your cell phone.

If packages are stolen from your home, report the incident to your local police and the shipping company. If you see suspicious activity in your community contact your local police or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS).

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 ***editor@caledoncitizen.com****, call* ***(905) 857-6626*** *or* ***1-888-557-6626*** *if you wish to have an announcement published.*

Nutcracker Afternoon Tea
Millcroft Inn, 55 John St., Village of Alton, Caledon,
December 21, 2019
11:30 a.m.
Celebrate the holidays by indulging in Millcroft's Nutcracker Afternoon Tea.
Enjoy scrumptious savories, our signature orange scones and delightful sweets while sipping a wonderful assortment of organic teas including your traditional favourites as well as some fun fruity flavours.

Saturday December 21 at 6 pm
Festival of Praise with Bolton United Church, Bolton Seventh-Day Adventist Church & Christ Church Anglican.
Location : Bolton United Church, 8 Nancy Street, Bolton.
All Welcome

Caven Church's Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Dec. 24
7 p.m.
110 King St. West, Bolton
Please join us for our Christmas Eve candlelight service. All are welcome.

New Years Eve party, the Royal Canadian Legion in Alton. 80s flashback. Dancing 8 p.m. to 1 a.m., party favors,door prizes, costume prize, buffet. Music by Juke Box Jimmy. Advance tickets $25 per person or $30 at the door. Call 519 940 1472 for tickets or come to the legion in Alton after 4 p.m..

Save a life, give the gift of blood
Dec. 31
10 a.m.
150 Queen Street South, Bolton
Give the gift that can't be bought. This holiday season join Canada's Lifeline by donating blood.
Contact Courtney Thompson at 249-288-4388 for more information.

The Star of Bethlehem, fact or fiction?
Did it really happen? What astronomical phenomena could have caused it? Why did the Wise Man interpret it as signifying the birth of Jesus?
These questions are addressed in an illustrated talk show presented by Space Exploration Engineer Howard Jones at St. James Anglican Church in Caledon East on Dec. 13 at 7 p.m.
All are welcome.

Caledon Meals on Wheels (CMOW) Seniors Social and Wellness Programs (55+) is an interactive, fun and educational program held weekly at no charge: Monday at 35 Victoria Crescent, Mono Mills 1:00 – 3:00, Wednesday at the Cheltenham Baptist Church, 14520 Creditview Road, Cheltenham 10:00 - 12:00, Friday at Palgrave United Church, 34 Pine Avenue, Palgrave, 9:30 – 11:30.

Bolton Banter Toastmasters meet every first, third and fifth Thursday at the Albion-Bolton Community Centre at 7 p.m. Lose your fear of public speaking and build leadership skills. Everyone welcome. Email info@boltonbanter.org or visit www.boltonbanter.org

An evening of euchre is held the first and third Friday of the month at Terra Cotta Community Hall. Play will start at 7 p.m. sharp. The cost is $3 per person, and proceeds raised will go to the operation of the hall. For more information, contact John or Cheryl at 289-344-0033.

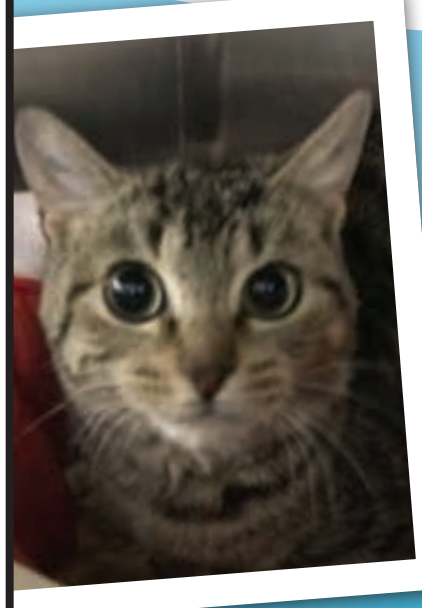
Cardball will be played at Caledon Seniors' Centre from 10 a.m. to noon.
Darts will be played at Caledon Seniors' Centre from 1 to 2:30 p.m.

Caledon East Seniors Club #588 meets every Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. at the Caledon Community Complex, Caledon East. Everyone is welcome for an afternoon of friendly euchre and lunch. For more information, call (905) 951-9376.

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) ON 1344 Bolton Real Life. Real People. Your first visit is free Want to improve your health by losing weight and keeping it off? We're a non-profit group that meets in the basement of Bolton United Church at 8 Nancy Street. Wed. Evening Hours: Weigh in 6:30-6:55 PM, followed by a meeting at 7:00 PM. We look forward to meeting you Annual fee $46 and monthly dues of only $15. For more information call Marion at 905-857-5191 or Lorraine at 905-857-1568.

Wellness, Interaction, Social and Exercise (WISE) is a health promotion and social program for seniors (55+) happening at Cheltenham Baptist Church 14520 Creditview Rd. Wednesday mornings. Low impact exercise/falls prevention session starts at 10 a.m. with regular programming with refreshments following. Call 905-857-7651 for more information.

adopt a pet



Bugsy

Bugsy is an adorable kitten waiting for his forever family. When he was found, he was living outdoors in the cold, very thin and dehydrated. Bugsy was very nervous when he arrived at our Shelter, and is now enjoying the warmth, food and care he receives from our great staff!

Because of his shy nature, Bugsy would do best in a home with other cats to help build his confidence. He would like a patient owner to help him transition to his new home.

Bugsy is 6 months old, neutered, vaccinated and micro-chipped.

Kittens are adorable and lots of fun, but remember... adopting a kitten is a 20 year commitment. Cats make great pets, but they require training, socializing and regular veterinary visits to make them the purr-fect pet!

If you would like to make Bugsy part of your family, please visit during our adoption hours. No appointment is required, but we do recommend calling before you visit to ensure the pet is still available. Thank you.

ADOPTION HOURS:
Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 11:00am – 4:00pm
Tuesday, Thursday: 11:00am – 6:00pm
Saturday: 11:00am – 2:00pm

CALEDON ANIMAL SHELTER
905-584-2272 X4698
888-225-3366 X4698
animal.services@caledon.ca

ARTS & Entertainment

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A BETTER WAY TO SHOP LOCALLY

Playwright Nancy Early describes 'the thrill of the show'

Written By CONSTANCE SCRAFIELD

"The response for this musical has been just overwhelming," declared Nancy Early, playwright of Little Women, the musical currently running at Theatre Orangeville until Sunday, December 22. Music and lyrics are by Jim Betts.

She said, "A teacher got in touch with me and told me they had groups [totalling] 'almost 200 kids to your show. It was a huge hit with them. It really was amazing how they loved the musical and it looks like we're going to start doing more musicals.'

"It really matters; it's important," she said. "People of all ages are enjoying this show. People call me and say, 'We're going to the show with group of [seniors or other clubs] and we hope you'll come over and say hi.' So, I go and meet them and talk a bit about it.

"I'm really pleased and proud of the response I'm getting from the community. It's just wonderful."

Talking about the framework of Little Women, "Our particular adaptation is a good mix of feelings: it made the audiences laugh and cry and there are really great messages. We saw it more than once and we hope to see it next year in another theatre. It did really well here last time [in its World Premiere, 2001]. For this [production], ticket sales for the matinees have done especially well.

"I have to say too that Jim Betts and I, our adaptation is unique; even the other musical in the States follows the young women to when they're married but our keeping it to one year gave us the chance to have a good story for all of the girls, for all of them to grow in a year and they're not the same in the end. One of the reasons Jim and I chose Little Women was because we wanted to write a story with strong roles for women. They're a variety of ages and we managed to do that for each of them."

Ms. Early is so thrilled to comment, "It's a real honour to have Theatre Orangeville to produce this play again and to have David direct this tremendous cast, how he brings everything together with the cast, the creative team – lights.

"I used to work for Theatre Orangeville. When the theatre was established, I wanted to write and there was a play-writing course being offered by Theatre Orangeville for free. As a group, we each wrote a section for a production, Into the Wild – something like that.

"Then, instead of going off to write more plays, I did the marketing for the theatre for four years. When I was there, it was summer theatre. At the end of the four years, Jim Betts was leaving the theatre [as Artistic Director] and he came to me and said, 'I'm writing the music for Little Women, would you like to write the [script]?'

"Most musicals have huge sponsors. This little musical is on the backs of a theatre with the help of David Nairn.

"After 2001, it played across the country and around the Ontario and all the way to Vancouver, down to Orange County, California. I went to see the B.C. production and it was well received and, in Persephone Theatre in Saskatoon, they had to add performances.

"It was funny," said she, reminiscing about writing the script, "When I was writing the play, people would come up to me and say. 'You'd better include this bit about Amy falling in the ice and that bit about something else. They all knew the story so well, they wanted to be sure I included the parts they loved."

The original book written by Louisa May Alcott in 1869 "has never been out of print in all these years," Ms. Early said. "It has inspired many young female writers. Jo is very inspiring because she wants to be a writer and not necessarily be a wife and mother."

For Ms. Early and Mr. Betts, in the first place, this is a story – a collection of stories about each of the girls, really. "I think I loved the book and Jo wanting to be a writer and all the women in the story; I'd never seen the play and I'd never seen another musical; so, I thought it's time to make this musical."

She has a life as well, as she elaborated, "Now, I have a great gig, working for Caledon Public Libraries in the Alton branch and I work sometimes at a couple of other branches. I live in Alton and I don't usually come home exhausted, so I have the time and energy for other projects.

"For the library, I organize the programs and the circulations. The Alton branch is very active. There are two book clubs and several other groups. These libraries are the hubs of their communities. We have story time for kids, knitting groups, chess – we hear the stories. It's a small library but very busy."

Her list of writing is long. "I was a travel journalist for a TV travel show: to Israel, England, France, New Zealand for the Harry Potter tour. I wrote for In the Hills magazine and other travel magazines.

"I wrote for Care Bears, that TV show. I've always had my hand in something."

In fact, she made the remark, "Getting Little Women up on its legs, with new workshops, this has been a resurgence for me, to quote Amy's line, 'I feel like I'm at the pineapple (sic) of my artistic career.'

"My dream is to have my children's story The Sister Riddle published. One sister has to take care of her younger sister and they wind up in another world. They have to solve three riddles to get out of it. To get it published – and make a musical of it too. I can see it so clearly in my head.."

In addition, "I'm looking forward to finishing a couple of projects that I've started – finish up Sister Riddle, which is with an editor at the moment and then, work on promoting it to potential publishers."

As to her future in theatre, "Jim and I are thinking about another musical about the farmer near Shelburne, Elwood Hill, who called his place in Mulmur Rock Hill Park. Elwood and his wife had a hard time growing anything on the land, so, he ended up having a Grand Ol' Oprey-style season in June 1969. He decided to have his own version of Woodstock [over the Labour Day weekend] and he brought in The Guess Who and Lighthouse [many other bands]. Stomping Tom mentioned Rock Hill in his memoirs."

That is all to come, however, "One of my main goals in the next couple of years is to find a way to place Little Women in other theatres. When you write a musical, all the negotiations have to be done by us. David Nairn was interested in it. We did a workshop and he commissioned it from there – that was the beginning. Now, to put a package together and interest Artistic Directors of other theatres."

She summed it up, "I can't help saying it again – it really is a gift to have the musical up again on stage."

Her comment, "David Nairn says that people in the theatre are collaborative artists and I feel that this is an outstanding example of that. This cast and crew has given me memories to last a long time."

Little Women ends this weekend on the Sunday matinee, December 22. For tickets and information, as usual, at the Box Office at 87 Broadway and the Information Centre on Buena Vista Drive at Highway 10; by telephone on 519-942-3423 or online at www.theatreorangeville.ca



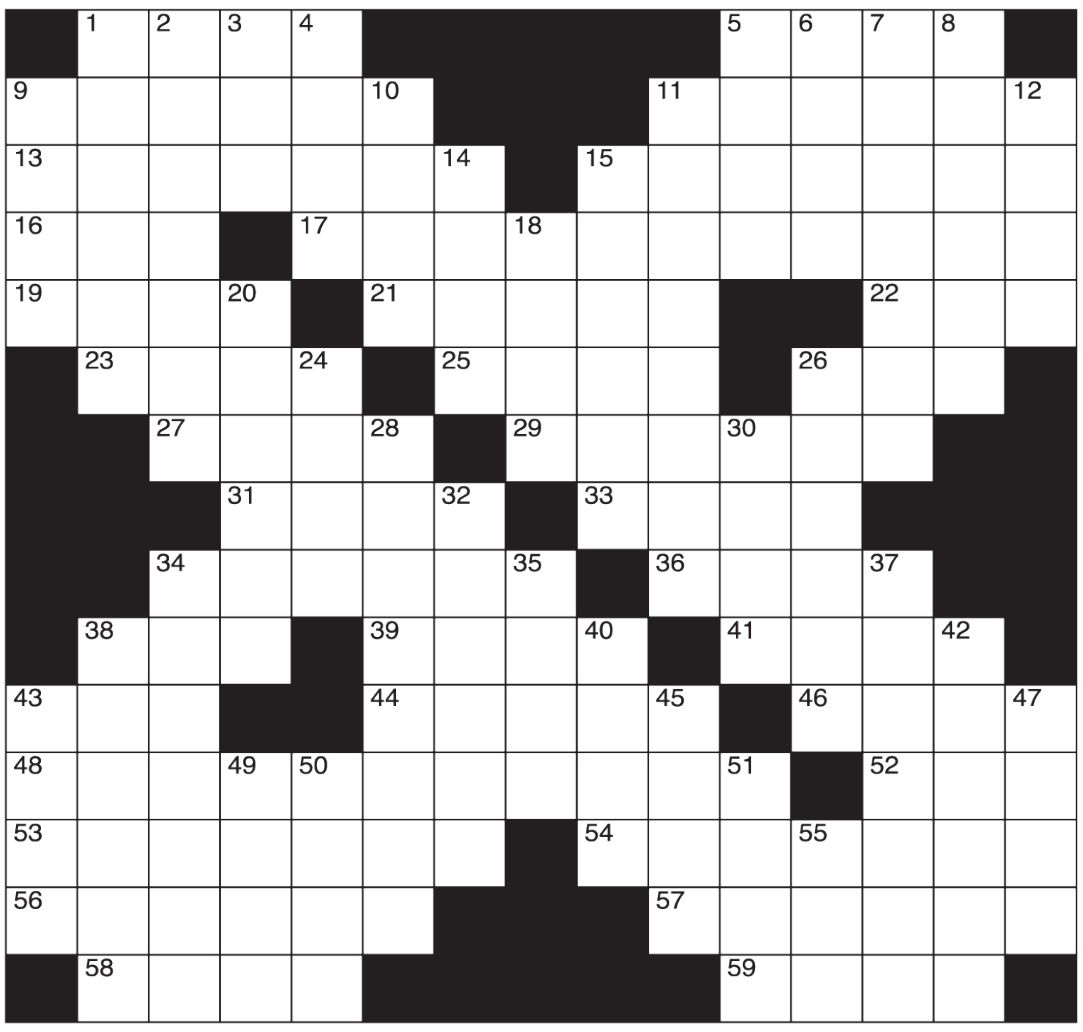
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905-857-2646
Showtimes for Friday December 20, 2019 to Thursday December 26, 2019

FROZEN II (G) CLOSED CAPTIONED, DVS®, RECLINERS, RESERVED SEATING FRI-MON 9:45, 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:15; TUE 9:45, 12:10, 2:40, 5:10; WED 2:30, 5:00, 7:30; THURS 9:40, 12:05, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30
STAR WARS: THE RISE OF SKYWALKER (PG) (VIOLENCE) CLOSED CAPTIONED, DVS®, RECLINERS, RESERVED SEATING FRI 6:00, 7:30, 11:00; SAT-MON 9:10, 10:00, 12:30, 4:00, 6:00, 7:30, 11:00; TUE 9:10, 10:00, 12:30, 4:00, 6:00, 7:30; WED 9:30; THURS 9:30, 9:45, 9:30
JUMANJI: THE NEXT LEVEL (PG) (COARSE LANGUAGE,VIOLENCE) CLOSED CAPTIONED, DVS®, RECLINERS, RESERVED SEATING FRI 7:15, 10:20; SAT-MON 10:15, 12:25, 1:25, 3:15, 4:20, 7:15, 10:20; TUE 10:15, 12:25, 1:25, 3:15, 4:20, 7:15; WED 3:50, 6:40, 10:05; THURS 1:00, 3:50, 6:40, 10:05
STAR WARS: THE RISE OF SKYWALKER 3D (PG) (VIOLENCE) CLOSED CAPTIONED, DVS®, RECLINERS FRI-MON,THURS 12:00, 3:30, 7:00, 10:30; TUE 12:00, 3:30, 7:00; WED 3:30, 7:00, 10:30
STAR WARS: THE RISE OF SKYWALKER (PG) (VIOLENCE) CLOSED CAPTIONED, DVS®, RECLINERS, RESERVED SEATING FRI 9:10, 10:00, 11:30, 12:30, 3:00, 4:00, 6:30, 10:00; CLOSED CAPTIONED, DVS®, RECLINERS SAT-MON 11:30, 3:00, 6:30, 10:00; TUE,THURS 11:30, 3:00, 6:30; WED 3:00, 6:30, 10:00
STAR WARS: THE RISE OF SKYWALKER (PG) (VIOLENCE) CLOSED CAPTIONED, DVS®, RECLINERS THURS 10:00
JUMANJI: THE NEXT LEVEL (PG) (COARSE LANGUAGE,VIOLENCE) CLOSED CAPTIONED, DVS®, RECLINERS, RESERVED SEATING FRI 10:15, 12:25, 1:25, 3:15, 4:20
KNIVES OUT (PG) (VIOLENCE,COARSE LANGUAGE) RECLINERS, RESERVED SEATING FRI-MON 9:30
CATS (G) CLOSED CAPTIONED, DVS®, RECLINERS, RESERVED SEATING FRI-MON 1:10, 3:50, 6:45, 9:45; TUE 1:10, 3:50, 6:45; WED 2:40, 5:15, 7:50, 10:25; THURS 12:10, 2:40, 5:15, 7:50, 10:25
FROZEN II (G) CLOSED CAPTIONED, DVS®, RECLINERS, RESERVED SEATING TUE 7:40
SPIES IN DISGUISE (Not Rated) CLOSED CAPTIONED, DVS®, RECLINERS, RESERVED SEATING WED 2:50, 5:20, 7:45; THURS 12:25, 2:50, 5:20, 7:45
LITTLE WOMEN (G) CLOSED CAPTIONED, DVS®, RECLINERS, RESERVED SEATING WED 4:00, 7:10; THURS 12:50, 4:00, 7:10, 10:10
SPIES IN DISGUISE 3D (Not Rated) CLOSED CAPTIONED, DVS®, RECLINERS, RESERVED SEATING WED 10:15; THURS 10:00, 10:15
LITTLE WOMEN (G) CLOSED CAPTIONED, DVS®, RECLINERS, RESERVED SEATING WED 10:10

LANDMARKCINEMAS.COM

The Citizen CROSSWORD

Puzzle No. 19C310 • Solution on page B1



CLUES ACROSS

1. No longer on the market
5. W. African language
9. A way to open
11. A type of pigeon
13. Japanese warrior
15. Pelvic areas
16. No seats available
17. Not working
19. In a way, soaks
21. Growing outward
22. Ritzy local __ Air
23. Telegraphic signals
25. Metric units
26. Large wine cask
27. Fiber from the husk of a coconut
29. Gets up
31. French river
33. Witnesses
34. They make great neighbors
36. The sun does it
38. Used to store ashes
39. First Chinese dynasty
41. Network of nerves
43. Word element meaning ear
44. Metric unit of length (Brit.)
46. Tributary of the Danube
48. Off-limits
52. Appeal earnestly
53. It's good to have them
54. Commercial flying company
56. Acted out in protest
57. Took to the sea
58. Cuckoos
59. Drove fast

CLUES DOWN

1. Trapped
2. About osmosis
3. Romanian monetary unit
4. Form of Persian
5. Cold wind
6. Leave out
7. Small vehicle
8. A little off
9. Soviet Union
10. A narrow path or road
11. Contrary beliefs
12. One who speaks Gaelic
14. Private school in New York
15. Jackson and Townshend are two
18. Soldier in an airborne unit
20. Taken illegally
24. Capital of Valais
26. Male reproductive organs
28. State capital
30. One with supernatural insight
32. Starts all over again
34. Jai alai arena
35. Star Wars antagonist
37. Freestanding structure
38. The ideal place
40. The extended location of something
42. Made level
43. Distinctive smell
45. Greek goddess of discord
47. Got older
49. Type of monkey
50. Travels to
51. Geological times
55. Edge

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

REAL ESTATE in Caledon



Six options for funding your next home improvement project

Before starting a home improvement project, either on one's own or with the assistance of a professional contractor, homeowners must first consider the costs involved. According to the home improvement resource HomeAdvisor, more than one-third of homeowners do not understand what hiring a professional will cost, and then cannot successfully budget and secure financing once they have set their sights on a renovation project.

HomeAdvisor says that some of the more popular projects, such as remodeling a kitchen or bathroom or building a deck, can cost, on average, $19,920, $9,274 and $6,919, respectively.

Homeowners may find that the more expensive renovations require them to secure some type of financing. Those who have never before sought such financing may want to consider these options.

1. Cash-out refinancing:

With cash-out refinancing, a person will begin the mortgage process anew with the intention of paying off the current mortgage balance, and then taking out additional funds for other purposes. Cash-out refinancing is a way to tap into a home's existing equity for use on improvements or other expenses, such as college tuition.

2. Home equity line of credit:

The financial experts at Bankrate indicate that a HELOC works like a credit card, with the house as collateral. There is a credit limit, and borrowers can spend up to that limit. The interest rate may or may not be fixed. However, the interest may be tax-deductible if the financing is used to improve, buy or build a home.

3. Home equity loan:

Individuals also can borrow against equity in their homes with a fixed interest rate through a home equity loan. Most lenders will calculate 80 percent of the home value and subtract a homeowner's mortgage balance to figure out how much can be borrowed, according to the financial advisory site The Simple Dollar.

4. Personal loan:

Homeowners can shop around at various financial institutions for competitive personal loans to be used for home improvement purposes. Funds may be approved within one business day, which can be ideal for those who want to begin their improvements soon.

5. Personal line of credit:

A personal line of credit allows borrowers to borrow only the money needed at the time, and offers a variable interest rate that is generally lower than fixed loan rates. Again, like a credit card, PLOC gives a person a maximum borrowing amount and is ideal for ongoing purchases.

6. Credit cards:

In a pinch, credit cards can be used to finance improvements, but they do come with the cost of very high interest rates if the balance is not paid in full by the time the bill comes due. However, for funding smaller projects and maximizing rewards points through home improvement retailers or specific credit card company promotions, credit cards can be a way to earn various perks in addition to the benefit of improving a home.

Homeowners looking to finance their next improvements should speak to a financial advisor and shop around for the best types of funding for them.





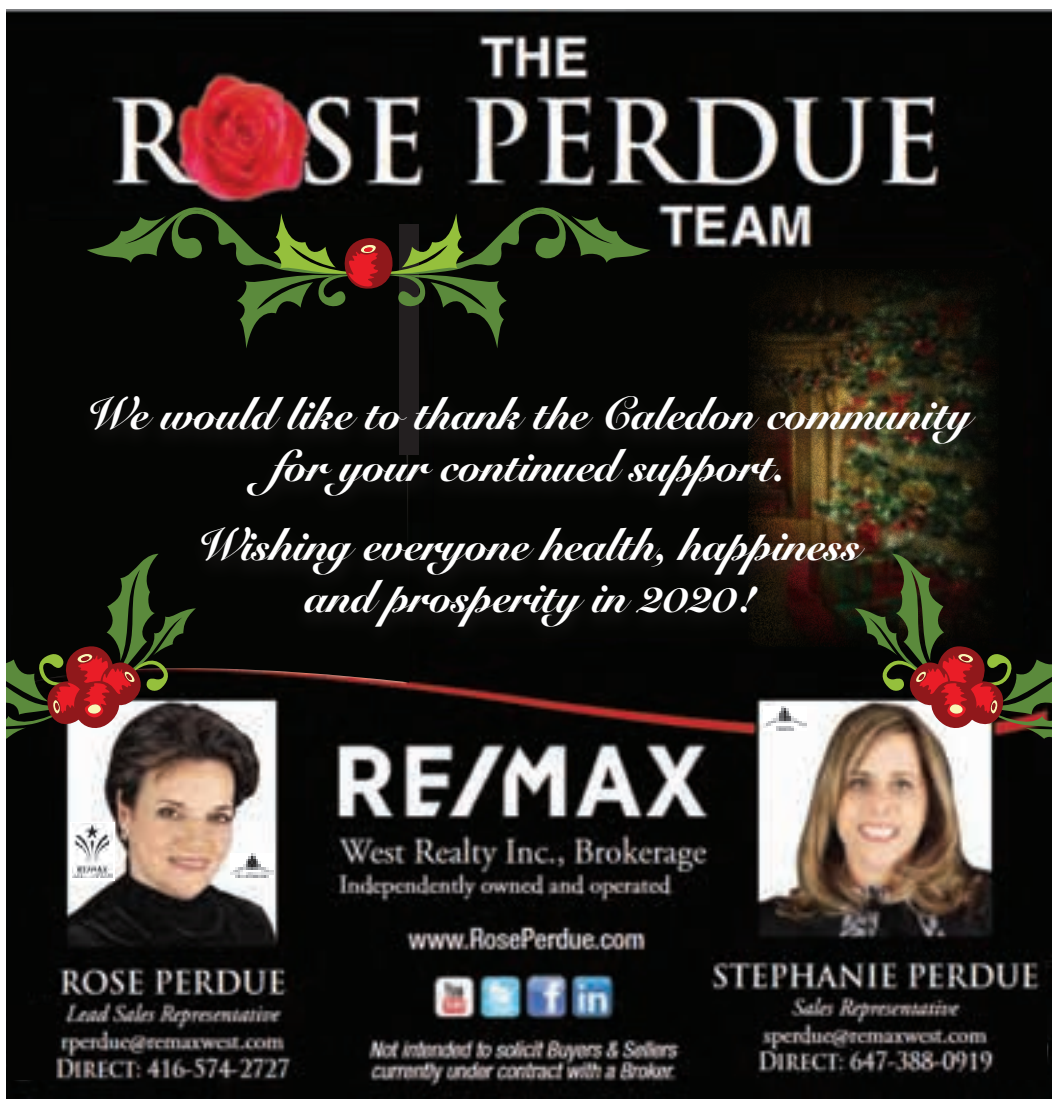






PHOTO COURTESY OF TOWN OF CALEDON

NEW PROGRAM: Enbridge Gas Inc. and Town of Caledon Fire and Emergency Services are working together to improve home safety through Project Zero.

Town of Caledon, Enbridge unveil 'Project Zero' initiative

Written By ALYSSA PARKHILL

Enbridge Gas Inc. and the Town of Caledon Fire and Emergency Services unveiled, on Wednesday (Dec. 18), a new partnership to improve home safety.

The Town of Caledon Fire and Emergency Services received 198 smoke and carbon monoxide alarms through Project Zero.

Project Zero is a public education campaign that provides alarms to residents in 40 municipalities in Ontario.

"Project Zero is a significant public safety education program with impressive, measurable results. Caledon is fortunate to be included in this partnership and to be able to distribute these carbon monoxide alarms in our public educational outreach safety campaign to keep our community safe," said Mayor Allan Thompson.

Caledon has always been a strong advocate for the community's safety, and this partnership follows in line with that commitment.

Chief Darryl Bailey of Caledon Fire and Emergency Services explains the use of the smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.

"Smoke alarms must be installed on every storey and outside all sleeping areas of your home. Carbon monoxide alarms must be installed outside all sleeping areas if you home has a fuel-burning appliance, fireplace or attached garage. For added protection, install both smoke and carbon monoxide alarm on every storey of your home," explains Chief Bailey. "We have always prompted public safety through community partnerships like Enbridge Gas and Project Zero is an excellent opportunity to partner with other community agencies to keep our community residents safe."

Enbridge Gas Inc. has invested $275,000 in Project Zero this year and has provided over 44,000 alarms to Ontario fire departments in the past 11 years.

Carbon monoxide is known as the 'silent killer' for a reason, and we have proof that prevention saves lives. We know that the best way to avoid carbon monoxide exposure is to eliminate it at the source by properly maintaining fuel-burning equipment, and that alarms are a critical second line of defense to protect against carbon monoxide poising," says Operations Manager of Enbridge Gas Inc. Grant Kilpatrick.

Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless and tasteless gas, hence the reputation as 'silent killer'. Carbon monoxide is produced when burning wood, propane, gasoline; any type of fuel.

"The objective of Project Zero is to deliver combination smoke and carbon monoxide alarms to Ontario communities who need them most. It's a program that municipal fire departments can adopt to help educate their communities about the requirement for all Ontario homes to have a CO alarm if they have a fuel burning appliance or an attached garage," says Jon Pegg, Ontario Fire Marshal and Chief, Emergency Management.

YourWaste

Holiday collection schedule:

No Collection	New Collection Date
Dec. 25, 2019	Dec. 27, 2019
Dec. 26, 2019	Dec. 28, 2019
Jan. 1, 2020	Jan. 2, 2020

Community Recycling Centre hours:

- closed on **Dec. 25, 26** and **Jan. 1**
- open from 8:30 a.m. to noon on **Dec. 24** and **Dec. 31**
- open regular hours **Dec. 27-30** and return to regular hours on **Jan. 2**.



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519-941-2702 ext. 2303

Become immersed in performance at Being There Audio

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

There's a lot more to it than just listening to music at Being There. Audio in Orangeville.

Store owner Peter Wolter has a real philosophy when it comes to placing a vinyl disk on a turntable and taking in the sounds of a performance.

He's not about the sale, but very much about the benefit of bringing your favourite artist into 'your concert hall.'

Peter has had a life-long interest in audio and strives to help customers achieve a sound at home that is just like 'being there' at a live concert.

He opened Being There. Audio on Broadway just over four years ago after realizing there was a need in the region for an audio store that sold quality products and specialized in audio.

"I wanted the store to offer what I call 'accessible products," he explained. "I wanted to embrace the new generation as well as the baby boomers that are coming back to actually listening. What I do offer is good old-fashioned service and advice and even more important is the notion of thoughtfulness."

Peter doesn't simply sell audio systems. He takes an interest in each customer, learning what their needs are, and even discussing the room the system will be placed in so he knows how to achieve the best quality sound.

"If you're trying to create a system for yourself that is engaging, it requires thought," Peter explained. "I offer the ability to walk in the customer's shoes and work within their budget and their needs and what they are looking for. Typically, clients will spend more time buying an audio system than they will a car. You want to get it right because if you don't, you won't be engaged. I like to build a system or component that allows people to have a joyful experience. At the end of the day, I sell joy. Music delivers that."

With a renewed interest in vinyl, many people are again finding their old LPs and want to listen to the music they loved so much. Vinyl holds a very special nostalgic attachment for many people. It has also attracted a big fan base of younger customers who appreciate the warm quality that vinyl delivers.

"It's a way of connecting with what was important in your life at one time," Peter said, of taking out your own LPs, placing them on a turntable and reading the liner notes.

The store has a wide selection of quality audio components and is gaining such a good reputation that many customers travel from outside of the region to visit the store.

There is a nice array of turntables, and audio components. For those who appreciate the quality and tone of 'tube design' components, there is a selection of modern tube amplifiers, as well as quality speakers.

A visit to Being There. Audio will provide you with superb customer service, a welcoming environment, and specialized knowledge of all things audio.

You can turn your special room at home into your own personal concert hall and become part of the performance.

Visit on-line at www.beingthereaudio.com.



WISHING YOU
A SAFE & HAPPY
HOLIDAY SEASON
AND A VERY
MERRY CHRISTMAS

Devonleigh Homes

Bolton Banter Toastmasters wants to help you feel confident

Written By ALYSSA PARKHILL

Public speaking, whether at social events, work functions or simple communication exercises, can be difficult for some. That's where Toastmasters comes in to help.

Toastmasters is an international club with 358,000 members in over 16,800 clubs in 143 countries around the world. It is a non-profit organization dedicated on educating about public speaking and leadership skills, creating confident, driven and strong communication skills.

Bolton has their very own Toastmasters club, known as the Bolton Banter Toastmasters, run by local residents. The club was chartered on May 17, 2006 and has been educating and providing community involvement within the club for over 10 years. Members gather at the Albion Bolton Community Centre the first, third and fifth Thursday of each month.

Currently the club has 15 members, but each year holds approximately 20 to 30 members. Patricia Burness, current Club President and her husband Bart Burness, VP of Membership talk about the joys of Toastmaster and who it benefits.

"People who want to personally improve themselves, they don't want to settle with who they are. People who have a fear of public speaking and want assistance and channels to overcome that fear. Sometimes people get into job promotions that require to speak in front of people for the first time, and they didn't do much of that in their previous role but now that they've been promoted they're required to speak in front of a bunch of people. Some people have social situations like weddings, or social activities that they need to practice on," explains Mr. Burness.

Founded in 1924, Toastmasters has travelled all over the world with members of all diverse backgrounds.

Patricia Burness says that understanding Toastmasters and what the organization about is better seen than heard.

"Some people think that a meeting will be boring, because who wants to hear a bunch of speeches, but it isn't. it's very interesting and there's a large variety in what they see, and really a lot of fun," comments Mrs. Burness.

She added, "The whole idea is to educate yourself and to make improvements in your ways of presenting yourself. It's not really all about speaking, it's about communication. It's about speaking and listening.

Each meeting holds featured speakers. Members choose the topic they wish to speak about, and this brings interesting stories, and learning more about people.

"The first speech is an ice-breaker in which a person will tell a little about themselves, so that they're kind of introducing themselves to the group and the group itself is very supportive. You might think that that would be hard to do, but it isn't," says Mrs. Burness. "The culture of toastmasters in general is that we're trying to provide a safe environment for people to participate, grow and take risks."

If learning and improving your public speaking is something that you've always wished to do, the Bolton Banter Toastmasters doors are always open for newcomers.

"You don't even know your developing the skill. Just by working together and doing what's right in front of you, you learn a lot of little things that go together for making a more successful life," says Mrs. Burness.

For more information about the Bolton Banter Toastmasters, please visit boltonbanter.org, or visit toastmasters.org to learn more about Toastmasters International.

Rare owl draws dozens of bird-watchers to Schomberg last week

Written By MARK PAVILONS

A rare bird sighting in Schomberg drew quite a bit of attention last week, as word got out.

A Northern Hawk-Owl has been seen around the village for a few weeks now, but once word got out, birders from far and wide visited the area near the Dufferin Marsh, catching a rare glimpse of the owl.

Local residents were trying to avoid wide-spread awareness to protect the bird and the local habitat. Residents urge visitors to respect the bird and the Dufferin Marsh.

A throng of birders and photographers lined Dr. Kay Drive last week snapping photos of the owl.

It's rare to see this bird so far south. It is one of the few owls that is neither nocturnal nor crepuscular, being active only during the day. One resident reported it's behaving normally by hunting and it's also been seen preening itself, an indication that it's not stressed. It also appears quite healthy.

The northern hawk-owl resembles a hawk in appearance and in behavior. It's one of the least studied and poorly understood birds in North America.

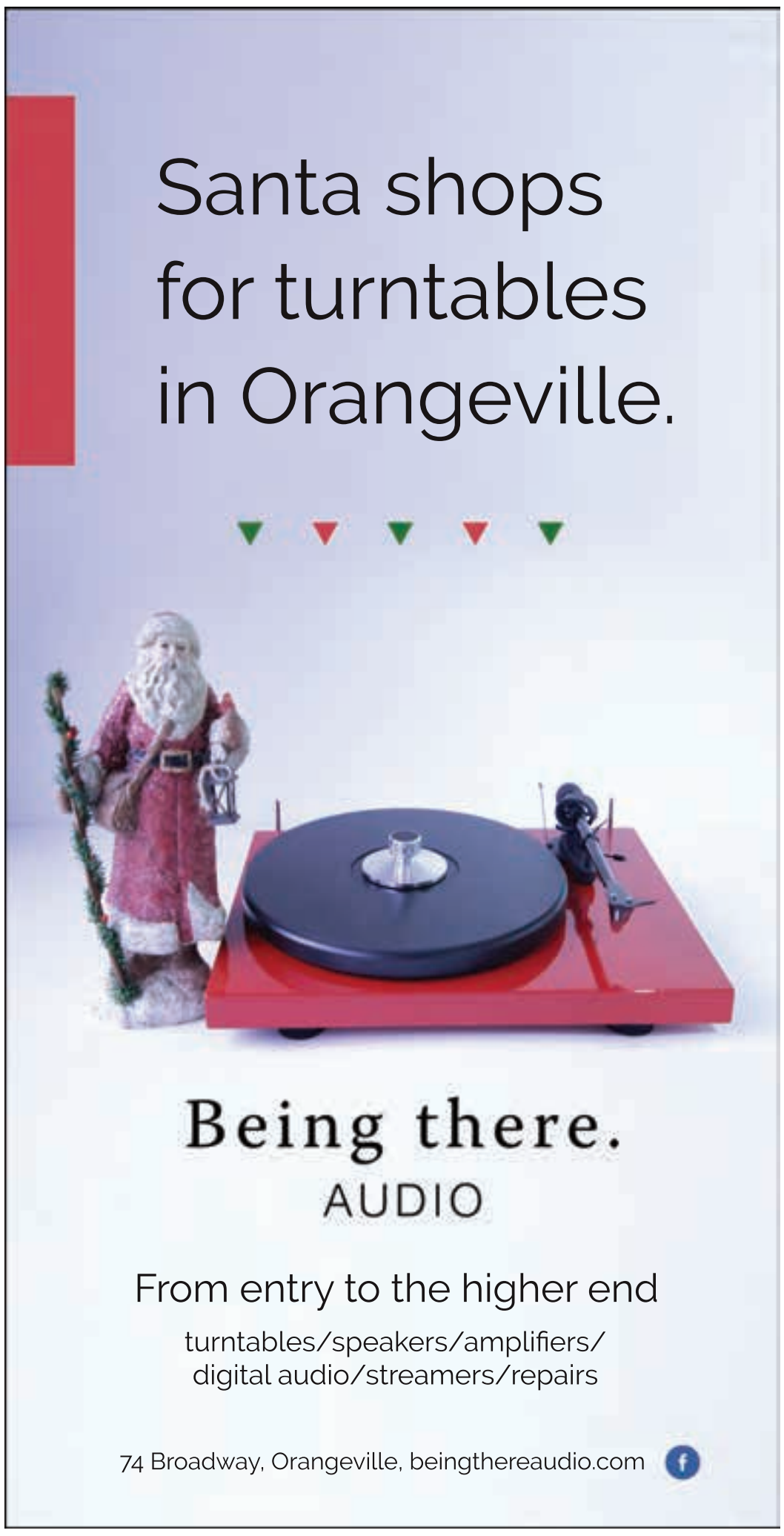


PHOTO: BRIAN LOCKHART

SPOT THAT OWL: A Northern Hawk-Owl, native to northern Ontario, made its way south to Schomberg last week, attracting dozens of bird watchers to the local area. The Northern Hawk-Owl is one of the few owls that is neither nocturnal, not crepuscular.



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Void where prohibited. ^Offer available to qualified retail customers in Canada on select vehicles purchased and delivered from December 3, 2019 – January 2, 2020. 0%/0% purchase financing (0%/0% APR) offered on approved credit by TD Auto Finance Services, Scotiabank® or RBC Royal Bank for 60/72 months on eligible new 2019 Blazer RS/2019 Silverado 1500 Crew Cab RST models. Participating lenders are subject to change. Rates from other lenders will vary. Down payment, trade and/or security deposit may be required. Monthly payment and cost of borrowing will vary depending on amount borrowed and down payment/trade. Example: $48,195/$49,485 financed at 0%/0% nominal rate (0%/0% APR) equals $804/$688 monthly for 60/72 months. The offer includes $0/$1,000 RST Bonus, $0/$2,650 Cash Delivery Allowance (tax exclusive), $1,000/$2,850 Finance Cash (Tax Exclusive) and $0/$500 option package discount. Cost of borrowing is $0/$0, for a total obligation of $48,195/$49,485. 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Continued from Page A2

Caledon Council approves 2020 budget

He added, "The intent was to have the design for the entire facility to be completed. Conversations further with staff, it came to my attention that there would be potential back-to-back, so next term of council will be developing (the facility) as part of the capital plan, Phase 4. By doing these two projects and building them together, staff suggested there are savings that will be had within the construction part of the project, and by debenturing them, we will have a better way to deal with it over the long term, associated costs and associated with the facilities."

Councillors went back and forth with agreeing and disagreeing, and finally came to a vote, carrying the motion to go forward with incorporating Phase 4 into the current phase, removing funding from the tax levy and debenturing the fund into the 2021 and 2022 budget.

Debentures seemed to be a solution for a couple of amendments, to solely lower the tax increase for the community. Coun. DeBoer requested that the staff be directed to fund the non-growth portion in the amount of $638,000 of tax levy funding for the term of council capital project Bolton Rotary Place Senior Centre Expansion, in the 2021 and 2022 budgets, and that staff be directed to consider using debenture funding, opposed to funding the amount of $212,667 from tax levy monies.

In the previous council meeting regarding the budget, Ward 5 Area Coun. Tony Rosa brought forward an amendment to remove the Large Fire Apparatus Replacement, by removing the $745,000 Pumper 306 replacement from this year's budget. He wanted that particular purchase to be pushed back to 2021. After getting defeated, Ward 5 Regional Coun. Annette Groves brought it back to be discussed.

Each fire truck holds a lifespan of 15 to 20 years. Several vehicles within the municipal fleet have reached and over passed their life span. The struggle that council hurdled through, is when these trucks were previously purchased; they were purchased in bulk, opposed to spread out through the years. This meaning the replacements for the several fire apparatuses will come upon council at the same time, instead of separately.

"Budgets are difficult. It's definitely a challenge to meet needs of the residents and their concerns in bringing the tax rate down. But, I constantly remind myself that taxes equal services. Ultimately, you get what you pay for," expresses Ward 2 Regional Coun. Johanna Downey. "I am not comfortable with this situation, in that I have my fire chief standing in front of me telling me that we're already behind, and that we're just going to have to pay for this next year anyways."

She added, "I am personally justified, and if every single one of my residents came to me and said 'why did my taxes go up', I can explain and I'm comfortable doing so. I am not willing to compromise community safety, for a 0.5 (decrease) on the budget. It's this year or next year."

The motion to include the fire truck purchase in this year's budget was approved by majority of council.

With the removals of previous amendments brought forward on Dec 10, and the importance of others to remain, councillors came up with a final decision on the 2020 budget.

The budget poses a 2.25% increase with an approximate $114 property tax increase.

Here is a break-down of the budget:

$43.2 million will be going into the Roads Capital Program and $5.2 million in the Bridge Capital Program for road reconstruction, maintenance, surface treatment and environmental assessments. $3.7 million for LED Streetlight Retrofit Phase 2 and Adaptive Controls Program, $4.1 million to build the Albion Vaughan Acoustic Barrier and $100,000 for a Streetlight Request Prioritization and Installation Program.

$2.0 million for the continuation of annual stormwater capital investment program and additional resources to better plan for weather conditions.

$17.5 million will be used to implement the Phase 4 Caledon Community East Community Centre and adding a library branch and pool. $4.4 million for the expansion of the Caledon Seniors Centre Rotary place in Bolton, and $1.3 million towards improving parks, sports field, playgrounds, trailways.

Two fire trucks will be replaced for $1.4 million, and Caledon Village fire station will be gaining two new full-time firefighter positions.

Last but not least, $500,000 will be used to proactively address illegal parking of tractor and commercial vehicles.

All councillors voted in agreement with the budget, except for Ward 1 Regional Councillor Ian Sinclair.

"The 2020 budget will guide the Town in continuing to build a vibrant and prosperous Caledon," said Mayor Allan Thompson. "Council, through a public collaborative process, fully debated a measurable, realistic budget that will help us continue to deliver quality municipal services to our growing communities, creating a future Caledon we can all be proud of."

For more information of the budget please visit caledon.ca/budget.

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Festive tree-trimming tips and techniques

People have visited forests to select their Christmas trees for centuries. While tree sellers conveniently stationed in store parking lots and artificial trees displayed in various retailers have led fewer people to venture into the wilderness, the Christmas tree is still an important component of holiday celebrations.

Long before the spread of Christianity, evergreen plants and trees held special meaning for people during the winter. Boughs and garlands were hung in homes and over doors and windows to repel evil spirits and illnesses. On the winter solstice, the greenery would represent that spring would once again arrive and banish winter's dreariness.

Germans who decorated trees inside of their homes are credited with starting Christian Christmas tree traditions during the 16th century. Early Americans were late to adopt Christmas trees because early Puritan settlers thought the tradition — as well as carols and other concepts — were Pagan influences. It took the popularity of England's Queen Victoria and her German Prince Albert appearing around a decorated Christmas tree to eventually win over much of Europe, Canada and the United States.

Trees are very popular today. According to StatisticsBrain, 10 million artificial trees are sold in the United States each year, while 34.5 million real tress are sold annually. Such trees require decorating, and the following secrets and tips can help celebrants do just that.

- Prune the tree first. Be sure to shape the tree as desired, since natural trees will have branches sticking out. Wear gardening gloves to avoid being covered in sap.
- Position trees away from heat sources, such as fireplaces, vents or radiators, which can cause the tree to dry out prematurely and become a fire risk.
- For added safety, anchor a tree to a wall or ceiling, so it will not tumble over onto children or curious pets.
- In homage of the first German Christmas trees, decorate with natural ingredients, such as berries and pinecones. Also, use apples, nuts and marzipan candies.
- To free up more space for presents, place a narrow tree stand inside of a waterproof planting container. Place the tree inside. This will provide a more streamlined look that's neater than a tree skirt.
- The more lights the better, especially on dense trees.
- For a whimsical approach, match the tree decor to home decor and the color of furniture.
- Make handcrafted ornaments with the whole family.
- Hang the most delicate pieces toward the top where they won't be disturbed.
- Step back and enjoy your handiwork, which will also give you a chance to find any blank spots that need filling in.

Tree trimming is one of the most enjoyable aspects of the holiday season, and there are no rules other than safety guidelines when it comes to decorating.



WARM UP with a classic hot toddy this holiday season

Come the holiday season, hot toddies are ideal for entertaining, providing spirited fun and a means to chasing away the winter chill.

Hot toddies have been around for centuries. Usually a mix of a spirit — either whiskey, rum or brandy — hot water, honey and spices, some believe the word "toddy" comes from an Indian drink of the same name that is produced by fermenting the sap of palm trees. Other sources say the hot toddy was created by Dr. Robert Bentley Todd, an Irish physician who prescribed a drink made of brandy, white cinnamon, sugar syrup, and water. The drink was dubbed the "hot toddy."

Hot drinks embellished with alcohol were long used for medicinal purposes. While alcoholic beverages are no longer used as medicine, hot toddies can still chase away a chill. "Grog" is another name given to hot alcoholic drinks, or any drink in which unmeasured amounts of spirits are mixed with other ingredients. Grog may also refer to a water-and-rum mixture that sea merchants once drank. The water kept the merchants hydrated, while the rum prevented the water from spoiling during voyages.

The classic hot toddy can be a versatile drink used to keep guests comfortable and cheerful. This warm libation is soothing and savory, mixing citrus, honey and spices, which each have their various health benefits.

Although hot toddy recipes vary, the following is the recipe for a classic hot toddy, as culled by recipes from Wine Enthusiast, Imbibe and PBS Food.

Classic Hot Toddy

1½ ounces	bourbon, whiskey or another brown liquor
1tbsp	honey
½ ounce	fresh lemon juice
1 cup	boiling water
Cinnamon stick	
Lemon wedge	
Cloves or star anise	

Combine liquor, lemon juice, honey, and boiling water together in a mug or Irish coffee glass. Push cloves or star anise into the lemon wedge. Add the cinnamon stick and lemon wedge to the mug. Allow lemon and cinnamon stick to steep in the beverage for a few minutes. Stir and enjoy.

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Entertaining

TIPS FOR ENTERTAINING AT HOME

Entertaining at home is a fun and convenient way to get together with friends and family. Entertaining at home is less expensive than renting out a venue or hitting the town, and party hosts know the amenities they have available to them.

Although convenient, home entertaining also requires more work on the part of the event host, including readying the house for company. But with some creative thinking and a little sweat equity, hosts can throw an enjoyable and memorable get-together from the comforts of their own homes.

Begin by going room-by-room and making note of what will need to be done. If you've entertained at home before, you may have a mental inventory of what worked and what didn't, so make changes accordingly this time around. Focus only on the spaces where guests will congregate, such as the living room, den, kitchen, and dining area.

Develop a decluttering plan to remove items from entertaining spaces and store them safely away. A little bit of clutter can make a space seem unruly and unclean. Move delicate items, such as collectibles, to a storage location, returning them to their original spaces after the party has ended. If necessary, move some furniture or take away a piece or two to free up more space. Folding chairs may be more practical than a large sofa.

Expend the bulk of your cleaning efforts on the entryway, bathrooms and living areas of the home, as guests will spend a lot of their time in these areas. Enlist the help of the household to tidy the house and then tackle deep cleaning room by room. Remove anything you do not want your guests to see. One or two inquisitive guests may check behind the shower curtain or even open up the medicine cabinet, so remove personal or potentially sensitive items.

Recruit help to ready your home or even assist you on the day of the party. A cleaning service can make fast work of scouring the house, while a wait-staff can help serve food and keep drinks refilled, enabling you to mingle with guests. If the idea of cooking for all of your guests is overwhelming, hire a caterer to provide the food.

Stock up on stain removal products to tackle the inevitable spills. While you no doubt hope to keep your house as clean as possible, expect some dropped food or spilled drinks. Keep a cleaner at the ready so you can quickly combat stains and guests can continue having a good time.

The more complicated the party is, the more time you will need to prepare your home. Afford yourself ample time to prepare so you are not feeling rushed come the day of the party.

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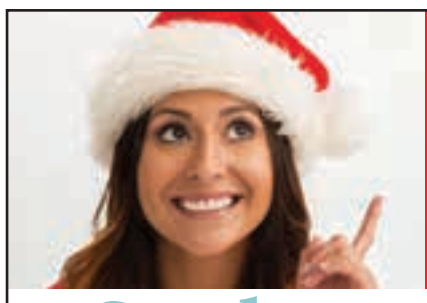
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This is a B. Hunter family favourite recipe:

GRASSHOPPER PIE

1 ½ cups chocolate wafer crumbs

¼ cup melted butter

Reserve 2 tablespoons of crumbs. Mix remaining crumbs and butter. Press evenly on bottom and side of 9" pie plate. Chill in refrigerator while preparing filling.

FILLING:

25 large marshmallows

2/3 cup cream (10%)

1 cup heavy cream (35%) whipped

3 to 4 tablespoons green crème de menthe

3 o 4 tablespoons white crème de cocoa

Set temperature controlled top burner at a temperature setting of 185 degrees.

Combine marshmallows and cream and heat until marshmallows have melted. Cool. Fold in liqueurs and whipped cream. Pour into chilled crust. Sprinkle remaining crumbs over top. Freeze in freezer compartment of refrigerator until firm.

Serves 6 to 8



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A holiday favourite from Dolce Family Ristorante

STUFFED PORK TENDERLOIN WITH DUCK

by Head Chef Suthan Rasa

• 24 oz (1 ½ pound) Pork Tenderloin

INGREDIENTS FOR STUFFING

8 oz Duck
1 Red Pepper
½ Ripe Mango
6 oz Pistachio Nuts
4 Green Onion (Stalks)

INGREDIENTS FOR SAUCE

2 Apples
3 oz Cherry Brandy
2 cups of 35% Cream

DIRECTIONS

1. Make a lengthwise slit about ¾ of the way through tenderloin; open tenderloin so it lies flat. Flatten to 1/4-in. thickness; set aside

2. Cut all other ingredients into julienne pieces

3. Spread stuffing on one long side of tenderloin to within 1/4-in. of edges. Close meat; tie with kitchen string. Place on a rack in a shallow roasting pan. Bake, uncovered, at 350 degrees F for 25-30 minutes or until a meat thermometer reads 160 degrees F. Let stand for 5 minutes before slicing.

4. Chop apple into slices; sautéed till brown; add cherry brandy, stir in cream

Plate a slice of stuffed Pork Tenderloin and pour sauce over or serve on the side, served with seasonal vegetables. Buon Appetito…





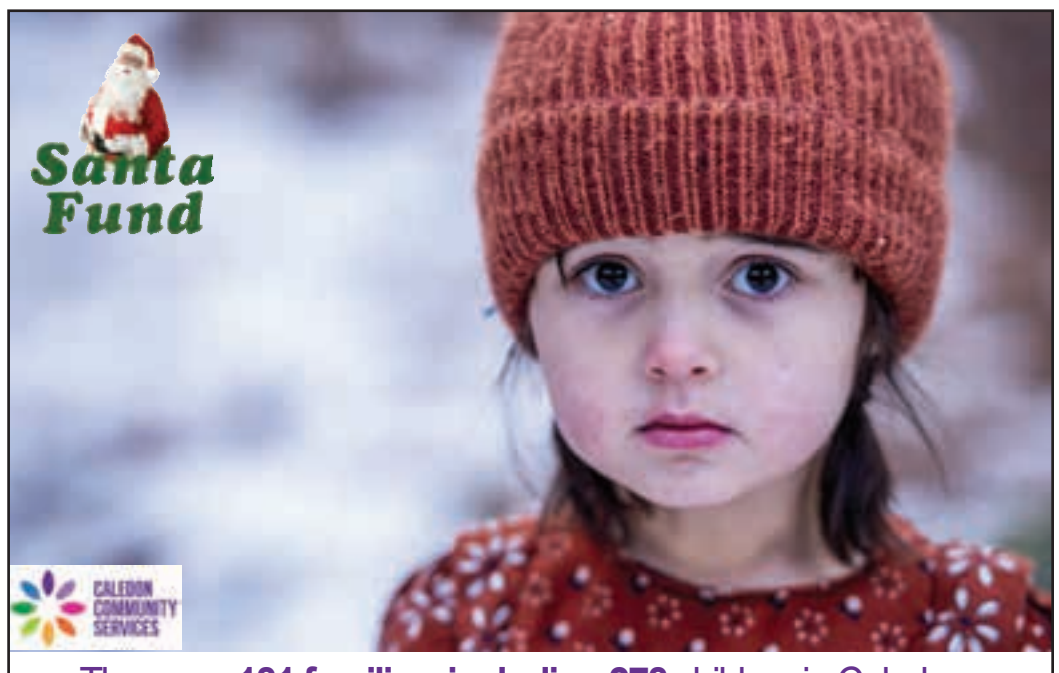
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Santa letter-writing secrets

At the tip of the North Pole resides a jolly man who collects letters from children asking him to deliver all of their hearts' desires.

Although Santa Claus does a thorough job of making sure children's treats are delivered on the same night, sometimes he needs assistance with reading and responding to the thousands upon thousands of letters sent to him each year. That is why he often relies on an extensive list of helpers to handle much of his holiday correspondence.

According to Smithsonian, the practice of writing to St. Nick dates back more than 150 years. Early depictions of Santa show him as a disciplinarian. The first Christmastime Santa letters were actually sent by Santa, rather than the other way around. Such letters encouraged children to be good boys and girls. Eventually, an illustration by Thomas Nast depicted "Santaclaussville, N.P." as Santa's address, providing children with a place where they could send their correspondences to the big guy in red.

The Universal Postal Union, an intergovernmental organization that coordinates postal policies across 192 member nations, indicates that 1,350,000 letters to Santa were sent by Canadians, while Americans sent more than one million and Britains mailed roughly 800,000 such letters in 2012, the most recent year from which figures are available. To account for the staggering number of letters sent, various post offices and postal programs were established to help Santa with the task of tackling children's wish lists.

Children can address letters to Santa Claus, North Pole H0H 0H0, Canada. No postage required!

Many other letters to Santa end up routing to various post offices where thousands of volunteer "elves" can adopt letters and make children's wishes come true. A "Letters to Santa" program enables children in serious need to get items that can help keep them safe and happy.

Parents may also investigate a number of services that will provide letters from Santa, Mrs. Claus or elves for nominal fees. These letters can be personalized with details. Santa has even gone high-tech with personalized videos and pictures as well. A quick web search can yield the instructions on how prospective helpers can get started.

Children can improve their chances of letters being read and received, with these tips.

- Identify who is writing the letter and share some details about your life.
- Make sure you've been nice and well-behaved.
- Ask Santa how he has been and engage in some polite conversation.
- Politely ask for the toys you'd like. Understand that Santa is busy, so keep the list brief.
- Thank Santa in advance for his kindness. Hopefully, he'll have time to reply.
- Write and mail the letter as early as possible, as things tend to get busy as Christmas nears.

Merry Christmas

During this festive season, let us take time to slow down and reflect on the blessings around us.

Caledon is a unique and truly special place because of our residents and businesses who care, give and share.

I am thankful for the diverse community we live in and the giving spirit that is shown at this time of year. Whatever your customs or traditions, I wish you a joyful season.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mayor Allan Thompson
and Members of Town Council

SPORTS

– SECTION B –

News | Classifieds
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Golden Hawks play well in losing effort against Hornets

Written By ROBERT BELARDI

The Alliston Hornets defeat the Caledon Golden Hawks 3-2 in nail-biting fashion on Sunday evening (Dec. 15).

Prior to the game, a special moment was dedicated to Reese Meyer. The 13-year old Caledon Hawks Bantam defenceman has been battling a brain tumour since November. A jersey dedicated to Reese's father Glen, was presented before a ceremonial puck drop occurred. The Golden Hawks also presented a cheque to the Headwaters Health Care Foundation worth $2510.

The Golden Hawks slow start rankled the boys on the bench all throughout the first period. The Hornets pressed the Hawks back into their zone for the first half of the period, then caused a lot of odd man rushes.

Hornets forward Keegan Gillis-McAnulty executed on a rebound to give the Hornets a 1-0 lead. Hawks netminder Aidan Spooner could not corral the puck after a dashing split-save.

The second goal came from an odd-man rush. A nifty pass across the face of goal and through two defenders was sweetly finished into the open cage by Gillis-McAnulty.

Once the second period began the Golden Hawks came on the ice with spunk. There was more structure and physicality in their hockey that eventually awarded them a goal.

Dante Zuccaro's finish just a minute and a half in gave the Hawks life.

The 6'5 netminder Aidan Spooner continued to make saves and it seemed as if the tide was going to turn this period.

While the Hawks were on the power play, Hornets forward Adam Hoppe cleared the zone down the boards. The puck hit the official and came back into play near centre ice. Hoppe raced for the puck and all of a sudden, the Hornets were on a two-on-one break. Hoppe slid the puck across the crease to Caden Maher for his third point on the night.

Into the third period the Hawks garnered the will to push onward. Hornet's forward Jordan Taylor was awarded a penalty shot that was turned aside by Spooner and momentum began to shift once again.

On the power play Hawks forward Jake Semmens judiciously passed the puck across the crease to Alex Rasonen for his first of the season.

Continued on Page B9



PHOTO: ROBERT BELARDI

BIG SAVE: Goaltender Aidan Spooner denies Jordan Taylor on the penalty shot to keep the game at 3-1.





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PACE DEVELOPMENTS

Continued from Page B7

Caledon Golden Hawks play well in losing effort to Alliston Hornets

Now only down by one goal, Hornets forward Jakob Power was ejected for abuse of the officials with under 10 minutes to go. The Golden Hawks could not bury a few chances at the end of the period and the Hornets held on.

Head Coach of the Caledon Golden Hawks, Stan Kondrotas spoke highly of his goaltender. Aidan Spooner was chosen first overall last year in the OHL draft by the Kingston Frontenacs.

Kondrotas said, "Since day one, he's gotten better and better every game. You can see the confidence is growing in him. Good reason why he is drafted first overall in the midget draft last year."

"He's a hell of a tender, and you know, he kept us in that game and gave us an opportunity to maybe pull out a point or two."

The Golden Hawks were missing a lot of players. Some are battling injuries on the ice, others are away at University and another, is overseas in China. Kondrotas has had to rely on Associated Players, which are players in minor hockey eligible to be called up to the Junior C team.

Kondrotas says that the signing of a new player and the return of other players will give the team a boost.

"We just acquired Wes Weir from Stayner, former Junior A player. Kid could be one of the best in the league, he's going to help our team."

"We're missing a lot of firepower, we're going to be a lot better," expressed Kondrotas, confident in his group that took Alliston to the wire while being shorthanded on the bench.

The Golden Hawks take on the Stayner Siskins on Thursday, December 19th at 8:10 p.m. on the road.

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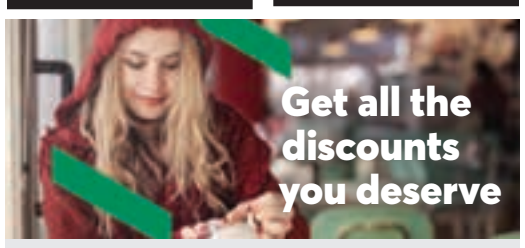
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CITIZEN

GENERAL HELP WANTED

PAYROLL ADMINISTRATOR: King City, Ontario. Position start date immediately. Must have some Canadian payroll experience. Knowledge of Jonas Canadian Payroll (Construction) an asset. Detail oriented, and ability to multitask. Ability to work in a fast paced deadline driven environment. Ability to work independently or as part of a team. E-mail resume to: Inez Querin, Payroll Manager IQuerin@rbsomerville.com. No phone calls please.

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

TOPS (TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY) meets at 6:15 pm every Wednesday night at the Avalon Retirement Centre, 355 Broadway. For more information call Trudy Rockel 519-941-6146.

IF YOU WANT to keep drinking, that's your business. IF YOU WANT to stop drinking, that's our business. Call Alcoholics Anonymous Hot Line, 1-866-715-0005. www.aanorthhaltonerin.org.

DRUG PROBLEM? We've been there, we can help! Narcotics Anonymous meets every Friday & Sunday at 7:30 pm, Westminster United Church, 247 Broadway, Orangeville, or every Thursday 8:00 pm at St. Paul's Anglican Church, 312 Owen Sound St., Shelburne, or call 1-888-811-3887.

ARE YOU A WOMAN living with abuse? For safety, emergency shelter, and counselling call Family Transition Place, (519)941-HELP or 1-800-265-9178.

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

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Salary will commensurate with experience.

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IN MEMORIAM | IN MEMORIAM



In Loving Memory
GALENA, Michael
June 1, 1984 - December 23, 2009

10 Year Commemoration

The years are quickly passing
Though we will never forget
For in the hearts that love you
Your memory embedded yet
Forever in our hearts

~ Mom Dad, Melissa, Daniel and Little Michael



Dana Roxanne Googh
December 21, 2005

In loving memory of a beloved wife.

Do you know how much I miss you?
Do you remember how much I cared?
Do you see the emptiness in my heart
From your world way up there?

I miss your arms around me
Your blue eyes and that smile
Are memories that stir my soul
And keep my heart alive.

I remember how good life use to be
Your warm and gentle hand in mine
The simple ways you cared for me
And memories that become
more precious with time.

Always loved
John Flannery



Angela Giansante
July 30, 2018



Mary Churchill Speck
October 5, 2019

Remembering and thinking about you at Christmas Mom

Sad are the hearts that love you,
Silent the tears that fall,
Living our lives without you,
Is the hardest part of all.
Missing you not only at Christmas,
But every single day.

Love,
The Giansante and Speck Families.

OBITUARIES | OBITUARIES

HILL, Doris Jean Noble née Kaake

Peacefully, at Barrie IOOF Seniors' Home, on Tuesday December 17, 2019; Doris Hill at the age of 103 years, beloved wife of the late Percy Jeffrey Hill. Loving mother of Marilyn (deceased) and son-in-law David Broad, Edwin and daughter-in-law Linda, Debra and son-in-law John Anderson. Cherished grandmother of Marilyn, Michael (Julie), Derek (Katharine), Melissa (Ben) and Jeffrey (Amanda). Proud Great Grandmother of Luca, Quinten, Sullivan, Harper, Jacob, and Oliver. Fondly remembered by her nieces and nephews. Doris was a long time member of the Nobleton United Church and the United Church Women's Group.
The family will receive their friends at the Egan Funeral Home, 203 Queen Street S. (Hwy 50), Bolton (905-857-2213) on Friday, December 20 from 12:30 p.m. until time of funeral service in the chapel at 2 p.m. Interment Nobleton Community Cemetery. If desired, memorial donations may be made to the charity of your choice.
Condolences for the family may be offered at www.EganFuneralHome.com

SMITH, Harold Bruce
Nov. 16, 1922 - Dec. 05, 2019



It is with sadness that we say farewell to our much loved father, grandfather and great-grandfather, but take comfort that he wanted to leave this world behind and is finally at peace. After a long and full life of 97 years, Bruce completed his life's journey as he had lived, peacefully and quietly on December 5, 2019 at his beloved farm. Bruce was a quiet and humble man and will always be remembered for his strong work ethic, his remarkable memory, his great sense of humour, quick wit and his abiding love of the land where he was born. He enjoyed the simple things in life: family gatherings, country fall fairs, music, dancing with his sweetheart, Marion, and riding his beloved blue Ford tractor. He was predeceased by his best friend and love, his wife of 69 years, Marion (2016). His life will be fondly remembered by his children: Diane (Ron) Little, Gordon Smith and Brian Smith (Mary). Cherished grandpa to Shawn (Jill) Little, Krista (Peter) Sweeney, Jennifer Little, Michael (Ashley) Smith, Leanne (Chris) Menchenton. Loving great-grandchildren: Ryan and Jenna Little, Paige, James and Claire Sweeney, Lincoln, Vanessa and Xander Smith, Cole, Logan and Camron Smith, all of whom could bring a smile to his face. Survived by his youngest sister, Mary Spooner and numerous nieces and nephews. Predeceased by his sisters, Ruby McCauley and Floretta Early. Losing dad is the end of an era for our family, but we're all better for having his shining example of hard work, love and humour. Special thanks to Dr. Reta French, the palliative care team and PSW's whose helpful and caring efforts allowed dad to have his final days at home.
Bruce's wishes for cremation have taken place. Relatives and friends are invited to join Bruce's family for a Celebration of Life to be held at the *Dods & McNair Funeral Home, Chapel & Reception Centre*, 21 First St., Orangeville on Saturday, January 11, 2020 with visitation from 1:30 and Service to follow at 2:30 p.m. If desired, donations may be made to the CNIB in support of Bruce's fight against Macular Degeneration.
We will deeply miss this man who "sang in the rain and whistled while he worked."
A tree will be planted in memory of Bruce in the Dods & McNair Memorial Forest at the Island Lake Conservation Area, Orangeville. The annual dedication service will be held on Sunday, September 13, 2020 at 2:30 p.m. Condolences may be offered to the family at www.dodsandmcnair.com

SMITH, Arthur Mathew Wards

Peacefully at Headwaters Health Care Centre on Wednesday, December 18th, 2019 at the age of 73. Born 1946 in Netherhouse, Sandwick, Orkney Isles. Arthur's life revolved around farming, driving his tractors and spending time with his family. Dear father of Margaret Mitchell (Scott), Arthur Smith (Heather), John Smith (Laura), Tiffany Nicholson-Smith, Victoria Frail (William) and Kristen Doyle (Jordan). Cherished grandfather of Kyle, Trevor, Dylan, Michael, Tiffany, Bronwyn, Tyler, Larissa, Joel, Isabella, Charlotte and Liam. Great-grandpa of Mason, Taelyn, Braylee, Alaister, Veronica & Clayton. Guiding influence to Jeremy & Andrew. Loving brother of Charlie, Mary & Lawrence. Predeceased by siblings Annie, Sandy, Willie, Chrissy, John, Victor & Baby Margaret. Arthur will also be greatly missed by other relatives and many friends.
Visitation will be held at the *Dods & McNair Funeral Home, Chapel & Reception Centre*, 21 First St., Orangeville on Friday, December 20th, 2019 from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Private Family Service.
In Lieu of flowers, memorial donations to Arthritis Society or Headwaters Healthcare Foundation would be appreciated by the family.
A tree will be planted in memory of Arthur in the Dods & McNair Memorial Forest at the Island Lake Conservation Area, Orangeville. The annual dedication service will be held on Sunday, September 13, 2020 at 2:30 p.m.
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CARD OF THANKS | CARD OF THANKS

Rhodes Glenville Roy

The family of the late Glen Rhodes wish to express our sincere thanks to family, friends and neighbours for the expression of sympathy in the passing of a dear husband, brother, grandpa and great grandpa. Food dropped off at our house, floral tributes, gifts and memorial donations during our bereavement were truly appreciated. Special thanks to Dufefrin Oaks, nurses and staff for their care during Glen's stay.
Many thanks to Reverend Don Hume for the kind words and a special Thank you for the professionalism and care from Shawna and Christine at Jack & Thompson Funeral Home.

Our sincere thanks Dorothy and family.



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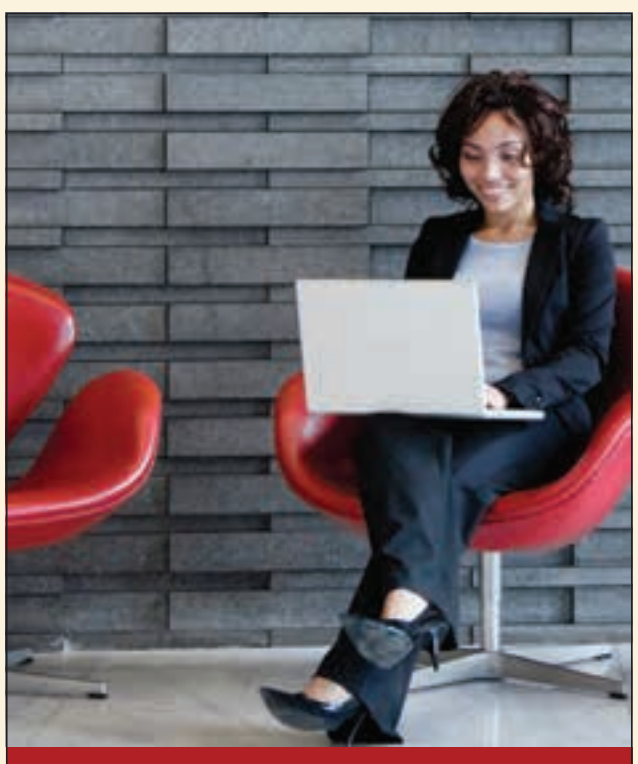
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DECEMBER 2019

HomeJames providing free rides over the holiday season

With the approaching holiday season many people will be attending parties across the region.

HomeJames Caledon drivers will once again be behind the wheel to make sure the roads are safe for all motorists around the area.

The program has been operating in Caledon for the past nine years.

HomeJames Caledon is an organization of volunteers dedicated to saving lives by providing a free designated driver service for people in their own vehicles.

With 180 volunteers, they provide rides to people in their own vehicles who have been imbibing and could be a hazard on the road.

"The whole idea is to offer a free and safe ride home in your own car," explained HomeJames Caledon director, Chris Bava. "It's all volunteers. This is all done with the help of sponsors. This season from November 22, to New Years eve and we now do it sporadically at other times of the year. Typically on Fridays and Saturdays during the holiday season we takes from people who are at a bar, restaurant or house party. We show up and drive them in their own car to their destination."

The program works in partnership with local car dealerships who donate the use of their shuttle cars for the weekend.

Ten local dealerships are taking part in the program this year.

Typically two or three volunteers will arrive at the call location. One volunteer will drive the person's car to get them home safely while another volunteer follows in the shuttle car.

"We always work in teams," Mr. Bava explained. "We have a minimum of two volunteers but we try to do teams of three. Those roles would be driver – the person that takes over the impaired person's car – escort is a person in the courtesy shuttle, and navigator is the person who jumps in the impaired person's car with the drive and their role is just to find the address. Typically during the season we use ten cars but on New Years we will be using up to 20 cars for the night." You can call HomeJames for a ride, contact them via their app, or by email. You can also prebook a ride.

You can visit the HomeJames website to learn more information about how to register by visiting www.homejames-caledon.ca. Of course, it is up to you to drink responsibly when you're out on the town, however, if things don't go as planned, HomeJames would rather you call them than risk your life and the lives of others on the road.

■ **WRITTEN BY Brian Lockhart**









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Some trims may have effective rates higher than 0%. ^Offer available to qualified retail customers in Canada on select vehicles purchased and delivered from December 3 – January 2, 2020. 0%/0% purchase financing (0%/0% APR) offered on approved credit by TD Auto Finance Services, Scotiabank® or RBC Royal Bank for 84/72 months on eligible new 2019 Acadia Denali/2019 Next-Generation Sierra Crew Cab Elevation models. Participating lenders are subject to change. Rates from other lenders will vary. Down payment, trade and/or security deposit may be required. Monthly payment and cost of borrowing will vary depending on amount borrowed and down payment/trade. Example: $52,795/$51,475 financed at 0%/0% nominal rate (0%/0% APR) equals $629/$692 monthly for 84/72 months. The offer includes $650/$2,650 Cash Delivery Allowance (tax exclusive) and $1,750/$2,850 finance cash (tax exclusive), $0/$1,000 RST Bonus and $0/$500 Option Package Discount. Cost of borrowing is $0/$0, for a total obligation of $53,545/$51,475. Freight ($1,895/$1,895) and air conditioning charge ($100/$100, if applicable) included. License, insurance, registration, PPSA, applicable taxes and, except in Quebec, dealer fees not included (all of which may vary by dealer and region). Dealers are free to set individual prices. ®Registered trademark of The Bank of Nova Scotia. RBC and Royal Bank are registered trademarks of Royal Bank of Canada. TD Auto Finance is a registered trademark of The Toronto-Dominion Bank. ◊Offers are valid toward the retail purchase of an eligible new or demonstrator in stock 2019 Sierra Double Cab delivered in Canada between December 3 and January 2, 2020. Up to 25% Of MSRP Cash Purchase Credit is a manufacturer to dealer incentive (tax exclusive), valid toward retail cash purchases only on select 2019 models in stock. Not compatible with special lease and finance rates. By selecting lease or finance offers, consumers are foregoing this credit which will result in higher effective cost of credit on their transaction. Credit is calculated on vehicle MSRP (which excludes vehicle freight), excluding any dealer-installed options. Credit value will vary with model purchased: models receiving up to 25% of MSRP Cash Purchase Credit are: Sierra 1500 Limited. ~Offer available to qualified retail customers in Canada for vehicles purchased and delivered between December 2 – January 3, 2020. Lease based on suggested retail price of $34,288, towards the lease of an eligible 2020 Terrain SLE FWD Elevation. Bi-weekly payment is $185 for 48 months at 1% lease rate (1% APR) on approved credit to qualified retail customers by GM Financial. The $93 weekly payment is calculated by dividing the bi-weekly payments. Payments cannot be made on a weekly basis. Equivalent weekly payments are for informational purposes only. 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Looking ahead in the *Auto Industry*

UPDATES FOR 2020

In the ever changing and evolving automotive industry, it is constant innovation and design that pushes engineers and designers to take vehicles to the next level and outdo the competition.


Rivian R1S

Vehicles have unde gone a tremendous amount of design change over the the past decade. In the last few years there has been an effort to increase the amount of technology available to drivers.

With SUVs now dominating the market designers have shifted, in large part, from the boxy style large body to smaller, more streamlined models and crossovers.

Like it or not, many of us are now driving station wagons – they're just referred to by a different name.

The Studebaker Wagonaire and the Ford Ranch Wagon are long gone, but they're still here in spirit. They just have a new name and are about half the size.

The amount of technology being built into new models is outstanding. From collision avoidance and lane keeping assist to 360º birds eye camera views, there is a lot of brand new technology on the road.

Moving into the new year, the automotive world is again striving for advances in performance and design.

Taking a look ahead there are several trends that are emerging and will have an impact on the industry in 2020 and beyond.

CARBON FIBER CONSTRUCTION

With most of the industry trying to create lighter weight vehicles much of the focus has been on using aluminum for body construction.

However, carbon fiber material for exterior components is gaining popularity. Carbon fiber hoods and liftgates, truck beds and molding, are becoming popular and with good reason.

Carbon fiber is light, durable, strong, and it resists corrosion.

Industry analysts predict an increase in the use of carbon fiber over the next several years.

MORE LEVEL 3 AUTOMATION

Level 3 automation is referred to as conditional automation. The vehicle monitors the environment and will manage many safety functions but will still require a driver to take control of the vehicle at all times.

This level of automation allows the vehicle to start, slow, and stop in such circumstances as heavy bumper to bumper traffic with very little driver effort.

However, it is not fail safe and still requires the full attention of driver on the road.

This technology is of course part of the quest toward some day having autonomous vehicles.

IMPROVED DIGITAL PLATFORMS

With all this new driver assist technology, you have to have the 'brains' to make it all work properly.

This requires significant upgrades to the software that keeps it all running smoothly.

Automotive companies will have to make investments in upgrading the digital platforms.

This will include allowing for software upgrades to your vehicle after purchase.

If you're going to be driving a vehicle that makes steering and braking adjustments or determines how far the car ahead is while using auto cruise control, these systems have to be reliable and safe.

ELECTRIC VEHICLES

The most obvious shift in the future is toward electric vehicles.

There is constant work being done to improve vehicle range and shorten battery charging times.

Currently the biggest drawback to all electric cars is the inability to travel long distances. Range anxiety is keeping a lot of people from making the switch to EVs.

However, the technology is getting better all the time.

There will also be a huge push to create the infrastructure needed so people can charge their vehicles while on the road.

While some companies are producing hybrid models, others have plans to skip the hybrid stage and go directly to fully electric version of their vehicles.

NEW START UPS

The growth of the electric vehicle market has started a season of new company startups hoping to get a foothold in the industry.

There seems to be a lot of interest from investors who believe putting their money into a company with well designed electric vehicles will produce a big payoff.

The Rivian company, a start up with plans to produce an all electric SUV and an all electric pick-up, secured $700 million in funding from Amazon. With that kind of money involved, you can be sure they expect good things to happen.

Rivian plans to have to have their first models on the road by the end of 2020.

As the industry moves into the next year of production, there will be a push to take everything to the next level and see who can get the edge over the competition.

This competition produces the best results for consumers as automakers strive to reach the top of the market.

■ **WRITTEN BY Brian Lockhart**


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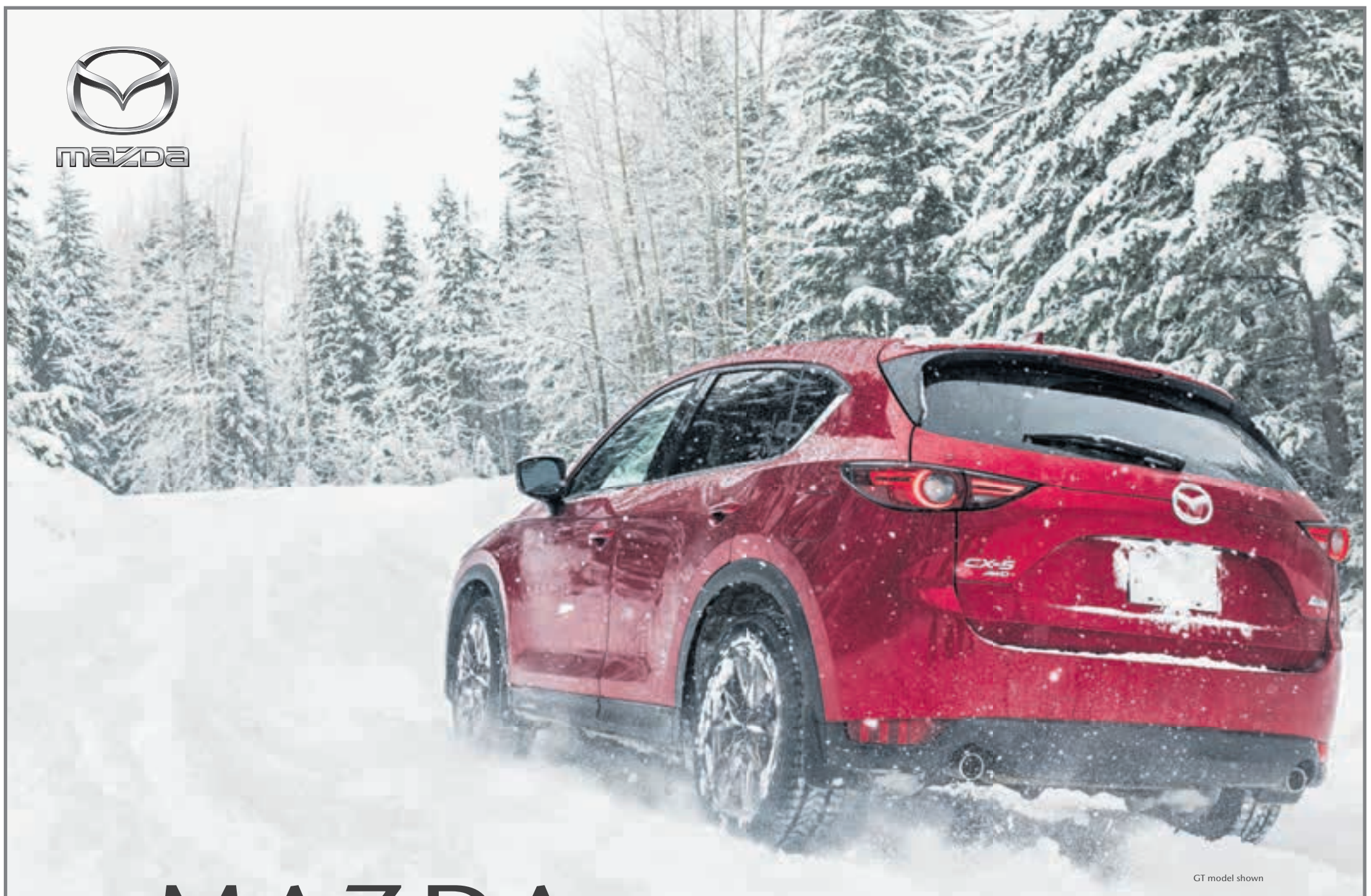
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GT model shown

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GT model shown



GT model shown



GT model shown

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*0% APR Purchase Financing is available on new 2019 Mazda6, 2019 CX-3 and 2020 Mazda6 models. Terms vary by model. Based on a representative agreement using an offered pricing of $24,485 for the new 2019 CX-3 GX 6AT (HVXK89AA01) with a financed amount of $24,489, the cost of borrowing for a 36-month term is $0, monthly payment is $680.25, total finance obligation is $24,489. Offer includes freight and P.D.E. of $1,950, $10 OMVIC fee, $20.00 Tire Stewardship fee (all models – covering the cost to Mazda Canada of collecting and recycling tires), $100 Air Conditioning charge and $59.38 PPSA. Offer excludes HST. ▼Year End Event Bonus offer is available to qualifying retail customers who cash purchase/finance/lease a select new and previously unregistered, in-stock 2019/2020 Mazda model from an authorized Mazda dealer in Ontario between December 3, 2019 – January 2, 2020. Eligible models and maximum bonus amounts are: $300 on 2020 Mazda6 and 2020 CX-3 models, $475 on 2019 MX-5 ST GS; $500 on 2019 Mazda6, 2019 CX-3, 2019 CX-5 and 2020 CX-5 models; $1,000 on 2019 MX-5 ST GS-P & GT, 2019 MX-5 RF, 2020 CX-9 and 2019 CX-5 Signature Diesel; $1,500 on 2019 CX-9. **NOTE:** Year End Event Bonus offer not available on all 2019/2020 Mazda3 models and 2020 CX-30 models. Year End Event Bonus offer will be deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. Some conditions apply. See dealer for complete details. ‡To learn more about the Mazda Unlimited Warranty, go to mazdaunlimited.ca. †**NOTE:** Weekly lease offers shown above are for informational purposes only. Lease payments cannot actually be made on a weekly basis and are made on a bi-weekly basis. Offer available on retail leases of new 2019 CX-5 GS 6AT AWD (NXSN89AA00)/2019 Mazda3 GX with Convenience Package (DVXK69CP00)/2019 CX-3 GX 6AT (HVXK89AA01)/2019 CX-9 GS AWD (QXSM89AA00) with a lease APR of 2.30%/2.70%/2.49%/1.95% and 104/130/130/130 bi-weekly payments of $179/$119/$119/$199 for 48/60/60/60 months, the total lease obligation is $21,435/$18,350/$18,031/$29,360, including down payment (or equivalent trade-in) of $2,825/$2,885/$2,575/$3,505. As shown, Offered Pricing for new 2019 CX-5 GT (NXTN89AA00)/2019 Mazda3 GT (DVTN89AA00)/2019 CX-3 GT AWD (HXTK89AA01)/2019 CX-9 GT AWD (QXTM89AA00) with a lease APR of 2.30%/2.70%/2.49%/1.95% and 104/130/130/130 bi-weekly payments of $202/$150/$171/$238 for 48/60/60/60 months, the total lease obligation is $23,873/$22,344/$24,748/$34,416, including down payment (or equivalent trade-in) of $2,825/$2,885/$2,575/$3,505. **NOTE:** 2019 CX-3/2019 CX-9 lease offers include $1,250/$850 lease cash. Lease payments include freight and P.D.E. of $1,950/$1,750/$1,950/$1,950, $10 OMVIC fee (all models), $20.00 Tire Stewardship Fee (all models – covering the cost to Mazda Canada of collecting and recycling tires), $100 Air Conditioning charge (all models), $350 Lease Dealer Service Fee (all models) and PPSA of $75.28/$90.95/$90.95/$90.95. First bi-weekly payment is due at lease inception. 20,000 km per year mileage allowance applies; if exceeded, additional 8¢ per km applies (12¢ per km for CX-9 models). Offers exclude HST. Offered leasing available to retail customers only. Licence, insurance, taxes and down payment (where applicable) are extra and may be required at the time of purchase. Dealer may sell/lease for less. Dealer order/trade may be necessary on certain vehicles. Offers valid December 3, 2019 – January 2, 2020 while supplies last. Lease and finance on approved credit for qualified customers only. Offers subject to change without notice. Visit mazda.ca or see your dealer for complete details.

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Custom Chrome and Neon Lights: SEMA 2019

Every year for over 50 years, the SEMA show has played host to the newest and hottest trends in the automotive aftermarket and also the hottest custom cars.

SINCE 1977, Las Vegas has hosted the annual SEMA show at the Las Vegas Convention Center and now what was 300 booths at the beginning, is now 3000 booths. This amazing trade show and celebration of custom cars and the custom car industry hosts almost 200,000 industry attendees every year, with 25% of those attendees coming from outside of the US. It is not uncommon to see Australians, South Americans, Mexicans, Canadians and also many people from Japan, China and Korea. The show attracts a worldwide love for car culture and automotive personalization. A show that started in LA, one of the capitals of car culture, has grown exponentially and turns Las Vegas into a week-long automotive festival.

This past November, I decided to take my vacation to Los Angeles and Las Vegas for SEMA 2019 and a few other car attractions, shops and shows. I had gone in 2016, using my vacation and being in the industry, decided to fulfil a bucket list wish to attend SEMA. The show did not disappoint and for years I planned to go back. This year worked out well and surely did not disappoint. SEMA was as crazy and as busy as ever, hosting custom cars under a full week of warm weather and sun. This year was also a large year for some transitions in the world of custom cars. A trend that we have seen with new vehicles and everyday drivers is now transitioning and starting to make a large presence in classic vehicles and customization.

With newer vehicles transitioning to hybrid to electric powertrains, it was only a matter of time before we saw classic and custom vehicles adapt electrification to bring plenty of power and reduce fuel and emissions within this industry. While fuel consumption and emissions aren't a large concern with classic vehicles due to the limited number of vehicles, the type of use they get being taken to shows or being seasonal vehicles, the adoption of electrification does make sense. These vehicles are amazing candidates to receive electric transplants as they do not need the range as much as daily drivers, older parts for original motors may be disappearing or hard to find and the running costs and maintenance are much less. The electric powertrains are even being made to look like traditional V8 engine blocks. The performance is also impressive from electric powertrains as well. Being a purist as myself, the lack of a great V8 rumble would deter me as would the cost of transplanting the powertrain. The fact that an alternative exists to keep classics on the road if fossil fuels disappeared is quite cool however.





Chevrolet Performance featured its line-up of mid-engined C8 Corvettes at the show, the Coupe, Spider and the C8.R race car, but the booth showcased a much different classic resto-mod, the Chevrolet E-10 pickup concept. This concept is built off of a 60s C10, long box pickup and instead of a conventional LS or LT swap, Chevrolet transplanted a custom electric powertrain derived from its Bolt. This concept was quite unique and looked outstanding. Among this electric classic restomod, an earlier Porsche 911 also received an electric transplant as did a 1969 Camaro convertible, a car in no short supply at SEMA. Among this new trend, resto-modded Muscle Cars, Hot Rods and slammed classic pickups were plentiful at SEMA 2019.

Among the usual Camaros, Corvettes, Chevelles, Mustangs and Mopars, some more unique classic vehicles are being used to form the basis of some wild resto-mods. Buick Rivieras have increased in popularity over the years and are now seeing quite a large number of builders taking them on. BASF featured a stunning 1964 Riviera that was done very tastefully. The Gas Monkey Boattail Riviera that is not completed was also in attendance. The Riviera trend is one we have seen at AutoRama in Detroit as well. The other large trend also seen at AutoRama is a transition from 67-72 C10 Chevrolet pickups to 1960-66 C10 pickups. These trucks were beautifully done and were scattered throughout the show. C1 Corvettes have also gained a great popularity and the first-generation Ford Bronco. Some more unique rides like a very custom AMC Gremlin and even a Dodge Rampage were featured.

For new vehicle trends, the Toyota Supra and the Jeep Gladiator were dominant among the automotive aftermarket as they are brand new product and also feature plenty of great customization opportunities. The Jeep Wrangler has been the 4X4 and SUV of choice for years at SEMA, due to the large variety of products that can be purchased to customize your Jeep. This has carried over to the Jeep Gladiator, with many and most of these products being altered for the pickup. The Toyota Supra has always been a tuner favourite and with the release of the new model, customizers could not wait to show what they could do to this car. Lowering kits, rims, body kits and spoilers, this car has many options for aesthetics and performance.

It was another great year at SEMA 2019, awesome to be back for a second time and I hope that I can attend next year as well as I plan to do. Expect more from Jeep at SEMA going forward with more product and the release and customization of the upcoming Bronco as well.

■ **WRITTEN BY David Murphy**







2019 SEASON REVIEW

BHA Hyundai IMSA Michelin Pilot Challenge

Dear Motorsport fans and Car enthusiasts,

It has been quite the year! I'd like to start by thanking Larry Barnett for the opportunity to share my race season with you and I'd like to thank you, the reader, for taking the time to follow along!

As we approach the holiday season and with the final F1 race of 2019 behind us, we're officially in the motorsport off season! I wanted to share the final chapter of my season and fill you in on some exciting 2020 news!

The final race of the Michelin Pilot Challenge season came to a dramatic close in mid October. The week started with the birth of our son Breen and ended with my teammate Michael Lewis and I winning the final race of the season at Road Atlanta and capturing the driver's championship! Bryan Herta Autosport won the team championship and we narrowly missed the manufactures title for Hyundai by only a single point.

Our Hyundai Veloster N TCR was the car to beat all season. We faced stiff competition from the likes of Audi, Alfa Romeo and Honda but after ten races we were victorious in four and in close contention at all of the other events. All the more impressive was that the Veloster N TCR was in its first year of competition; full credit to Hyundai and Hyundai Motorsport for building a championship winning car! The road going Veloster N, also in its first year, won the prestigious Road & Track Performance Car of the Year award! It has been quite the year for Hyundai!

This past week, my teammates and I attended the Hyundai Motorsport Prize Giving at the factory in Alzenau, Germany. We celebrated with all of the Hyundai champions from across the globe. This event officially closed out our 2019 season and now we look ahead to 2020!

I'm pleased to say that Michael and I will be back in 2020 to defend our championship and work to capture that manufacturer's title for Hyundai! We expect more competition and perhaps even more manufacturers to enter the IMSA Michelin Pilot Challenge next season and we can't wait! The first round of competition will take place Friday January 24th at Daytona International Speedway.

On top of our IMSA schedule, Michael, Harry, Mason and I will be preparing to compete at the ADAC TOTAL 24-Hour Nurburgring Nordschleife in May! The plan is to have all four drivers in one Hyundai Veloster N TCR but in order for us to compete, we must first pass a rigorous licensing process. We look forward to the challenge of tackling "The Green Hell"!

I look forward to bringing you updates in 2020, but in the mean time if you'd like to follow along…

My social channels…
Instagram: @Markjeremywilkins
Twitter: @MWilkins
Team Instagram: @BryanHertaAutosport
Twitter: @BHA

I wish you all the very best for the holidays and a Happy New Year!

Cheers!

Mark

■ **WRITTEN BY Mark Wilkins**

PHOTOS SUPPLIED BY Mark Wilkins





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Ford *vs.* Ferrari Review

Recently, my Rolex24 buddies and I had a reunion. Not in Daytona but in Brampton. We saw the movie: Ford vs. Ferrari. It was great!

I'm very picky with racing movies. I loved Grand Prix; Lemans; Super Speedway (IMAX); and Rush! 2 thumbs up! Unfortunately I can't say that about Days of Thunder, or Driven. 2 thumbs down for those 2 movies.

After the movie, we four analyzed the flick over wings 'n beverages. We all felt it was entertaining and fairly accurate. There was a good balance of the story-line, humour, corporate issues, and action. The 2 1/2 hours goes by quickly. It was sound value for our entertainment dollars. Even non-Gearheads/Petrolheads should enjoy this true story.

I felt the production crew did a great job of period-correct items. Examples are background track bill boards (Bardahl, Cibie, Marchal, and Mintex brands). There were 2 1960's Boeing 727's. TWA, and PanAm at LAX, where Shelby's original shop/factory was located.

The photography and sound were superb. Those '60's prototype racers are gorgeous!

Now to the acting. Matt Damon plays Carroll Shelby, and is good. Josh Lucas plays the #2 Ford man, Leo Bebee (Bebee is an unlikable and a corporate kiss-a**), very well. Christian Bale plays driver and builder Ken Miles. He should win an Academy Award! Tom Cruise and Brad Pitt were initially cast but that fell through. I liked the final cast.

One thing I despise in all racing movies, is when the adversaries look at each other while at racing speeds. In the real racing world, you only have time to look forward or rearward in your mirrors. That was my only complaint with Ford vs. Ferrari.

I have not seen Patrick Dempsey's (1 of the producers), "The Art of Racing in the Rain," yet. It was partially filmed at Mosport. I hear it's good.

I wish you all a happy and safe holiday season. Please don't drink and drive.

I'll return to Motoring next year.

Larry

■ **WRITTEN BY Larry Barnett**

Auto News

Electrification for the Family and Utility: The Next Step

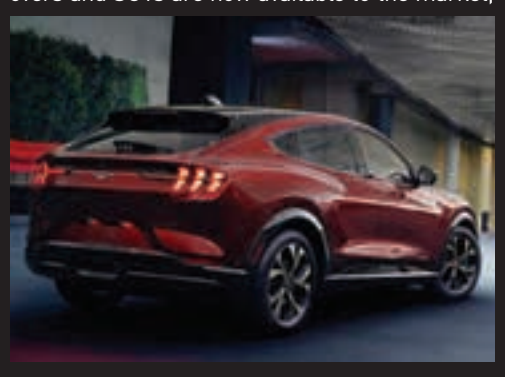




Tesla Cybertruck

BY DAVID MURPHY
MOTORING CONTRIBUTING WRITER

OVER THE YEARS, we have seen many electric and hybrid vehicles released to the public in the form of economy cars, sedans, sports cars and even SUVs and Crossovers. While passenger cars had adopted full electrification sooner, full mainstream electric and Plug-In Hybrid Crossovers and SUVs are now available to the market, with more automakers following suit for North America. The Los Angeles Auto Show, held last month, accommodated many new releases with the trend being Plug-In Hybrid and full Electric Crossovers. While Toyota and more pricey alternatives like Tesla have had these options for a number of years, mainstream automakers for the everyday buyer have released more affordable options with better range than before. The auto industry is heading in the direction of major electrification and this is just the full beginning to adapting this technology to all product lines.



One of the most controversial releases was just before the LA Auto Show, Ford released a new Electric Crossover called the Mustang Mach-E. The crossover itself is very stylish, performance is great, fit and finish was of no disappointment and the pricing is very affordable for the kind of vehicle it is. So, what may be the drawback? The name. Ford chose to use the Mach-E and position this crossover within the Mustang brand to make it stand out in a Tesla-dominated market. Many of the purists and automotive fans have opposed the decision to call this a Mustang, myself one of them. However, the vehicle does share handsome styling cues and the performance does not lack, especially in the GT Performance trim with the electric equivalent of 459hp and 612ft.lbs of torque. This sends the Mach-E GT from 0-60 in under 4 seconds. That performance comes at a much larger price and a reduced range over the Select and Premium models.

The next major controversy in the Electric marketplace was the Tesla Cybertruck. Tesla released this truck at a private event outside of the LA Auto Show and definitely won for shock factor. This truck rolled on stage during a "Blade Runner-esque" debut and looks like something I would have drawn before the age of 5 and the discovery of a curve. The debut was definitely memorable, as was the truck, with shattering "shatterproof" glass demonstrations and the crazy design. The specifications and price tag are impressive, if Tesla can produce these as promised and deliver. This truck is one of the first all-electric trucks coming in the next few years, the Electric F-150 and Electric GM trucks also coming by 2021.



With those two major and "shocking" debuts, other automakers quietly revealed more additions to their Plug-in Hybrid and Electric vehicle lineups. Audi released another E-Tron SUV, this time in the body style of the SUV-Coupe Crossover. Toyota and Honda also revealed their hybrid crossovers, the RAV4 and the CR-V. The RAV4 is a plug-in hybrid that delivers great performance and range. Expect more to come in the next year from General Motors for Electrification and even Jeep for hybrid crossovers. There is no need to sacrifice space and utility to get all-electric driving and decent range now.



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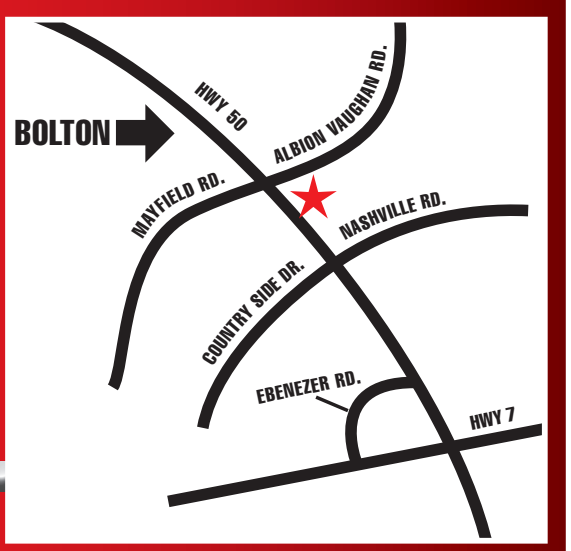
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Sorento SX V6 AWD shown‡

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