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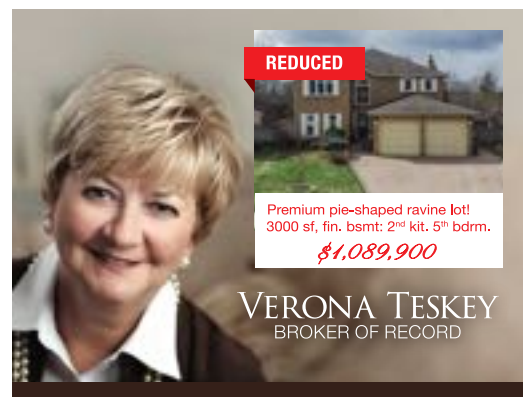
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NOT EVERYBODY QUALIFIES: While the federal and provincial governments have recently announced more than $900 million in funding for small businesses Ontario, to help with the downturn brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, a lot of businesses, like Forster's Book Store in Bolton, are not eligible for the subsidy. For the full story, see Page A5.

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Caledon Council introduces new ten-year community economic development strategy

Written By ALYSSA PARKHILL

Caledon council last week approved a 10-year economic development strategy to strengthen and enhance the future of community economy.

The strategy was brought to Council by economic development staff within the Town at an April 28 virtual meeting, with the input of the community, local businesses, elected officials and senior Town staff.

With businesses and residents at a standstill after the Ontario government closed down several non-essential businesses, the Town of Caledon is confident in their timing with short and long-term economic structures for not only recovery, but for overall growth once the pandemic subsides.

"In this long-term strategy, 31 of the 46 recommendations, over two thirds, will begin or be completed within the short-term timeline," said General Manager, Communications, David Arbuckle. "It's this structure and direction that will be essential for Caledon's business community COVID-19 recovery."

Continued on Page A2

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COVID-19 brings real estate market to a halt, ‘but it won’t last’ says local agent

Written By ALYSSA PARKHILL



FILE PHOTO

SLOW MARKET: With much of the province in lockdown as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, real estate markets practically everywhere have slowed right down. Caledon is no exception, although local realtor Anthony Caputo doesn’t expect the market crash many are predicting.

Home sales have dramatically plunged in Caledon in recent months as the effects of COVID-19, either forcibly or by choice, turn people away from the housing market.

Realtor Anthony Caputo told the Citizen sales have dropped 75 per cent from this same time last year due to the pandemic.

“There are only a few homes selling a month. There’s a lot of people fishing and throwing out unreasonable offers, and unfortunately those who have no choice and have bought efore COVID-19 happened, they’re taking whatever they can, because they’re stuck,” said Caputo.

One of the main struggles Caputo, and most likely other realtors have come across is the ability for those looking for their new home to actually be able to view properties in person. With strict rules set in place regarding physical distancing, and avoiding human contact, home buyers aren’t able to go and see the home for themselves.

“My analytics are showing a thousand people a week, looking at my listings. But no one’s able to come to the homes,” he said. “Everyone’s waiting for prices to drop. They think the market’s going to crash, but it’s not.”

A recent report done by RBC’s economic sector show that resales have been only half of what they were last year and as the months progress it’s expected to continue in the same fashion. March was hit the hardest as a result of the Ontario government beginning the process of introducing social distancing measures, especially as February was off to a bright start for spring sales.

So, what will happen after the COVID-19 crisis stabilizes in Ontario, and the provincial government starts to lift some of the restrictions it has put in place? Caputo expects a tidal wave of homes filling the market as those who have waited begin the process of selling again.

“Right now, most realtors in Caledon are not working. We’ve been instructed not to work. But what I think could happen, once the restrictions are lifted, everyone’s going to decide to put their house on the market and we’re going to have a flood of homes. Usually Toronto takes the biggest hit in the hard time,” said Caputo. “Will there be a flood of homes probably in the fall? Yes. Will that slow down the market because there’s a lot of inventory? Most likely. But by next year, we’re going to end up going back to very low inventory again, and we’ll back to increases in average prices.”

Maureen Bruce from Fleming Realty said that in March sellers were hoping to come into the market with high prices and quick sales, but are now having to wait until the market stabilizes.

“By the beginning of April, with the ‘stay home and stay safe’ rule, a lot of sellers terminated their listings, resulting in low inventory. Buyers who had to buy had less to choose from,” Bruce said.

Wait, had to buy?

“Yes, there are always buyers who have to buy for many reasons, just as there are sellers who have to sell,” said Bruce. “However, having a low inventory has resulted in sellers getting close to their asking price rather than having to accept a drastically discounted offer as many would believe.”

But Bruce sees Caledon coming out strong when the pandemic cools off. With the endless opportunities available from schools, to indoor and outdoor recreation, and family friendly atmosphere across the community, homes will continue to sell.

“When I have an open house, I ask the people where they currently live and what interests them about Caledon. I would say the direct result of ‘stay home and stay safe’ will be buyers realizing they are needing a different home. Gone are the days when their wish list was a dining room and hardwood floors,” Bruce remarked. “Now, townhome and semi-detached owners will want more space in the backyard for the children or outdoor living; owners of smaller detached homes will decide they need more space for an office or two to work from home and a finished basement for more family living.”

She added, “It is family friendly, with sports and recreation and arts for the children, plenty of public, separate and private schools to choose from, and an easy commute to shopping malls and highways. The neighbourhoods are clean, and homeowners have pride of ownership. Caledon loves to support the small shops and restaurants. People want to live here.”



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Continued from FRONT

Caledon Council officially adopts new economic development strategy

He added, “With regard to that recovery, our economic development team will continue to support the business community with the information and tools available to us. We will look to prioritize our actions both inside this strategy and out that will aid in that recovery.”

The strategy serves alongside the Town’s new official plan, dubbed Future Caledon. A recent study done by the Town was able to give them insights and a sense of direction on information about the current economic environment and future needs through the help of the community response.

“That will review the specific land uses and future employment, retail and institutional needs for the Town through 2051,” Arbuckle told Council.

The economic development strategy shines on three of Caledon’s brightest attributes, which is prime location in the GTA, transportation structure and the vast amount of land available for opportunities and work. Staff are focusing on four key themes within the strategy, which include entrepreneurial and small businesses, business retention and growth, quality of place and investment readiness.

Caledon currently sits with 72,000 residents and 3,042 businesses with numbers consistently rising. The Town has projected its population will grow to 160,000 by 2041. Jobs have been projected to grow to 80,000 by 2041 locally.

But, to meet these numbers, the Town is looking to attract a larger variety of businesses as opposed to warehouse and commercial facilities, with lower employment density.

The strategy development process began last July where intensive research and review was done to see where Caledon is now, where Caledon wants to go and how to best get there.

The outcomes and expectations that came out of their analysis for the next ten years concludes that growth of diversity of the town’s business and industrial activity, population growth, growth and urban renewal in commercial areas, short and long-term increase of economic viability and economic and tourism annual work plans within the Town are of significant importance.

“As we begin to turn our attention to COVID-19 recovery, now more than ever we need a solid foundation for our economic future,” says Mayor Allan Thompson. “The strategy provides both short and long-term direction for the municipality as we look to recover and build an even stronger Caledon.”

For more information about the Caledon Economic Development Strategy, please visit Caledon.ca.

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Marco Muzzo cannot visit King City, Brampton as part of day parole

Written By MARK PAVILONS

A convicted impaired driver must abide by many conditions, as part of his day parole.

Marco Muzzo, convicted in the 2015 deaths of four members of the Neville-Lake family, received day parole from the Parole Board of Canada last week. The parole is for six months, and the board denied full parole at this time.

Among his conditions are that he cannot visit King City, Brampton or Aurora, without permission from his parole supervisor. The victims' family lives in Brampton and that's where the deceased are buried. Aurora and King City have memorials to the victims.

Further, he can't have direct contact with the victims or victims' families. He has to meet with as mental health professional to address his substance abuse issue and he cannot consume, purchase or possess alcohol.

Muzzo was previously denied parole and the board was concerned that he had "severely underestimated" his issues with alcohol and he "lacked respect for the rules of the road and safety of others."

"It is apparent that you have developed greater insight into these issues and, as a result, have been able to make a reasonable start at addressing these," reads the new board decision.

"All of those who have assessed your risk of recidivism have come to the same conclusion; that you are at low risk to re-offend. This is, in part, due to your lack of criminal history, your generally pro-social lifestyle, your positive associations, your solid work history, and your positive institutional behavior.

"At today's hearing, the board considers that you have demonstrated more honesty and transparency than at your previous hearing."

The board did point out that Muzzo struggles to articulate his remorse but they believe his empathy for the victims appears sincere.

They did stress Muzzo's action "has forever severely damaged the lives of the surviving family members who continue to struggle with the monumental consequence of your selfish actions." It's "impossible to summarize their pain and suffering."

According to Muzzo's parole plan, he hopes to reside with his fiancee, but the board pointed out this would put him close to one of the memorials to the deceased children, which victims frequently visit.

The board said Muzzo presents a low risk to society if released, but remains "mindful that your selfish ways of thinking directly led to the senselesss death of four innocent people, and this risk-based decision does not detract from that awareness."

> "I was careless and irresponsible when I made the choice to drink and drive. There is no way I can undo the damage that I have caused. I will live with this for the rest of my life.
>
> Marco Muzzo

Muzzo, while at the minimum-security facility, did receive periods of escorted temporary absences for community service, "with very favourable reports from your supervisors who note your work ethic, and your commitment to giving back to the community."

Part of his day parole is to live in a community residential facility and resume work with the family company as a general laborer. He plans to continue working with the addictions counsellor and participating in any recommended programs.

The board said his conditional released was also based on his strong network of friends, family and co-workers, and the strong support of his fiancee.

Muzzo's legal counsel provided an apology to the families of those he killed.

"I want to apologize to the Neville-Lake, Neville and Frias families for the terrible pain I have caused them and their loved ones," he said in the statement. "I ruined their lives, and I take full responsibility for what I have done. I always will.

"I was careless and irresponsible when I made the choice to drink and drive. There is no way I can undo the damage that I have caused. I will live with this for the rest of my life."

The children's mother, Jennifer Neville-Lake, shared the following in an Instagram post last week:

"No matter what happened today, Daniel, Harry and Milly don't get to come back home. My dad isn't coming home to my mom. Nothing changes for me."

Muzzo pleaded guilty in 2016 to four counts of impaired driving causing death and two counts of impaired driving causing bodily harm. He was sentenced to 10 years in prison. and given a 12-year driving prohibition.

The collision claimed the lives of nine-year-old Daniel Neville-Lake, his five-year-old brother, Harrison, their two-year-old sister, Milly, and the children's 65-year-old grandfather, Gary Neville. The children's grandmother and great-grandmother were also seriously injured.

CMHA receives grant to assist those in need during COVID-19 pandemic

Written By ALYSSA PARKHILL

In early March, the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) Peel Dufferin, in association with Telus, developed a mobile clinic on wheels to service Peel Region with much-needed healthcare assistance.

The mobile clinic is an expansion of Telus' partnership with CMHA Peel Dufferin and the company's Health for Good initiative.

Telus Health for Good program is dedicated to assisting 235,000 Canadians experiencing homelessness each year, and those facing mental health and addiction issues. Health care providers are able to deliver much needed care for those who are vulnerable; especially during these difficult times.

"At Telus, the core of our passionate social purpose is our commitment to enabling better outcomes for our fellow Canadians," said Jill Schnarr, Vice President, Corporate Citizenship at Telus. "We believe that everyone should have access to healthcare when and where they need it, regardless of their socio-economic status, which is why we have committed $10 million to expand our Telus Health for Good program to communities across Canada over the next five years."

She added, "We are proud and excited to provide these much-needed services to Peel Region alongside our dedicated partner, CMHA Peel Dufferin Branch."

To further these efforts, Telus has given CMHA Peel Dufferin a grant of $25,000 to help continue their work amid the COVID-19 pandemic. The grant will allow the organization to distribute food and provide healthcare services to vulnerable Canadians during the ongoing crisis.

Due to the COVID-19 concerns, all healthcare matters at CMHA have transitioned to remote delivery services.

"Bringing the Mobile Clinic, powered by Telus Health to Peel Region is great news not only for those unable to receive primary care or addictions care due to access barriers, but also for those hesitant to seek out mainstream services due to stigma," said CEO of CMHA, David Smith in a recent news release. "Now these 'at-risk' members of the community will have access to the healthcare they need via the Mobile Health Clinic at one of the daily clinic sites throughout Peel,"

The Telus Friendly Future Foundation recently announced a whopping donation of $250,000 to various community healthcare leaders across Canada in response to COVID-19. The funding is to assist with COVID-19 assessments, temporary isolation shelters, as well as cleaning supplies and personal protective equipment. The initiative was created to build enhanced public health initiatives for the youth through technology programs.

In addition to the grant, Telus is also providing CMHA with 100 mobile devices included with prepaid wireless plans for those in isolation who are in need the ability to connect with loved ones. This connects to the Mobility for Good COVID-19 Emergency program through Telus.

"The Telus team is deeply committed to keeping our country's most vulnerable citizens safe and connected during this health emergency," said President and CEO of Telus, Darren Entwistle. "Working with our partners, we have expanded our Mobility for Good program to ensure those most impacted by COVID-19, including isolated hospital patients and long-term care residents, have access to the devices and service needed to stay in touch with healthcare professionals and importantly, with their loved ones during what is often a lonely and overwhelming time in their lives."

He added, "No one should feel alone or disconnected, and it is a privilege for our team to be able to create a vital human connection for those members of our community who are most in need of our care and assistance."

For more information about what other initiatives and programs Telus is providing for Canadians, please visit telus.com.



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Motorist caught going 176 km/h charged with stunt driving

Two stunt drivers have been charged by Caledon OPP following seperate incidents last Tuesday (April 28).

The first driver was stopped by an officer from the Traffic Unit, while the officer was conducting speed enforcement on Highway 10 and Highpoint Side Road. A 52-year-old driver from Barrie was caught going 176 km/h in a posted 80 km/h zone.

The second incident was witnessed by an officer at approximately 10:42 p.m., while he was on general patrol on Highway 9. The officer observed a black sedan doing "donuts" at the intersection of Highway 9 and Duffy's Lane. A 32-year-old driver from Brampton was stopped and charged with Stunt Driving.

Both drivers received an immediate seven-day vehicle impound and driver's licence suspension. They are scheduled to appear in Caledon East Provincial Court to answer to the charges.

OPP investigate airsoft gun

On Friday, May 1 a member of the Community Response Unit from Caledon OPP responded to a parking infraction in the area of McLaren Road and Forks of the Credit Road in the Town of Caledon.

The officer located the vehicle in question and conducted a stop for a traffic violation. Upon approaching the driver window, the officer observed a black Beretta style handgun resting in the cup holder of the center console between two occupants.

The occupants were removed from the vehicle at gun point and detained while the officers investigated; the investigation concluded that it was an airsoft pistol.

The driver of the vehicle was charged with a violation under the Highway Traffic Act, with Permitting an Uninsured Vehicle on the Highway charge still pending against the owner of the vehicle.

Caledon OPP would like to remind members of the public that driving with a replica or realistic toy firearm in view in your vehicle, while not illegal in itself, can cause concern for both police and members of the public.

Four stunt drivers charged by OPP

Officers from the Community Response and Traffic Units from Caledon OPP stopped and charged four drivers with Stunt Driving throughout the Town of Caledon.

- On Thursday, April 30 at 11:45 a.m., a 47-year-old driver from Mississauga was caught going 104 km/h in a posted 50 km/h zone in the area of Mayfield Road and Heart Lake Road;
- On Saturday, May 2 at 9:32 p.m., a 37-year-old driver from Brampton was caught going 99 km/h in a 40 km/h community safety zone on Forks of the Credit Road;
- On Monday, May 4 at 6:37 a.m., a 25-year-old driver from Loretto, was driving 116 km/h in a posted 60 km/h zone on Centreville Creek Road and King Street ;
- On Monday, May 4 at 3:30 p.m., a 29-year-old driver from Caledon, was caught going 125 km/h in a posted 70 km/h zone on The Gore Road and Mill Lane.

All four drivers were charged with Stunt Driving and received an immediate seven-day vehicle impound and driver's licence suspension. They are scheduled to appear in Caledon East Provincial Court to answer to the charges.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

REPLICA OR REAL?: Pictured above, the airsoft gun an OPP officer mistook for a live firearm at a traffic stop last week. Police are reminding individuals that, while it's not illegal to carry around a replica or toy firearm, doing so can cause concern for both law enforcement and members of the public.

On April 29 at about 8:06 a.m., a driver overtook an unmarked police vehicle travelling 124 km/h in an 80 km/h zone in the area of Old Church Road and Humber Station Road. The driver received a $329 fine for travelling 44 km/h over the posted speed limit.

OPP responds to multiple theft from vehicle calls

Officers from Caledon OPP have responded to several reported thefts from vehicles during the early morning hours of April 8.

The incidents took place between 3:00 a.m. - 5 a.m. in the following areas: Brawton Drive; Palmer Circle, and Walton Drive.

In all reported incidents, the suspects rummaged through vehicles that were left unlocked during the night. The suspects stole prescriptions drugs, tools, wallets, cash, bank cards, and other valuables that had been left inside the vehicles.

The investigators believe that there were at least three suspects involved in the thefts. The police were able to obtain images of two suspects:

Suspect #1: Male, tan skin complexion, 16-25 years old, skinny build, clean shaven with black hair.

Suspect #2: Male, dark skin complexion, 16-25 years old, skinny build, unshaven and wearing eye glasses.

Suspect vehicle: older model Chevy blue in colour; the rear driver side tire is missing the hubcap.

If you recognize the suspects or have any information in relation to this investigation, please call the Caledon OPP Detachment at (905) 584-2241 or 1-888-310-1122.

You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Peel Crime Sto! ppers 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.

Three vehicles impounded in Dufferin County

The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Traffic Incident Management Enforcement (TIME) Unit was busy on Airport Road yesterday afternoon. In the few short hours they were there, 3 vehicles were stopped for travelling 50km/hr or more over the posted 80km/hr limit, resulting in the drivers receiving a 7-day suspension and a 7-day impoundment for their vehicles. Two other provincial offence notices were also given out for speeding.

The OPP wants to remind drivers to slow down, obey the speed limits and leave plenty of time in order to get to your destination safely.

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We still have the physical barriers in place, we prefer debit and credit transactions if possible, we ask customers to bring their own pens when signing for lottery or Western Union transactions, and we have increased the frequency of our cleaning of the front store and pharmacy to every 2-3 hours with a log to document last sanitized time. We still have our front door locked, but our side, wheel chair accessible doors remain open and we ask that the customers use their elbows and not hands to open the door to help stop the spread. Also, we would like to encourage the residents to follow us on social media (Facebook, Instagram and twitter) for more up to date changes and news.

Dr.Bodok's office is located inside the pharmacy and she is still working by seeing patients virtually (either by telephone or via Zoom.Us). If you have an urgent matter and need to contact her, please call her office at 905-951-1173. Other doctors have also implemented these virtual visits. Please call your doctor's office to see what changes they may have implemented in their practices as well.

Last year, we partnered with Good Doctor's Telemedicine who is still operating to bring simple, urgent medical care to the people of Bolton 7 days a week. With the recent change, Good Doctor's has also started seeing patients via telephone and virtually in the privacy of their own home for some conditions. You can call 1-888-930-6571 or text 705-910-7799 and connect with one of their doctors for a virtual visit if applicable.

We here, at Bolton Pharmasave, are continuously trying to keep everyone safe, including staff and those most vulnerable during these times. We would also like to extend a helping hand to local pharmacies to please reach out as well if their patients are in need. We will not be closing our doors and we are here with you, the people and local businesses of Bolton, to help you through these times. Once this all clears up, and it will, we will come out of this together a stronger community. Together, we can fight this!"

BOLTON PHARMASAVE
905.533.7700
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Our Readers Write

Disappointed in MPP Sylvia Jones

In the April 30 edition of the paper there is a picture on the front page showing the good work happening in Caledon to support those in need. However, the picture shows everyone properly keeping social/physical separation along with wearing masks and gloves. Everyone except Dufferin - Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones who I am sure would not be winning any points with the new Doug Ford. Her WEB page has a lot of good information, but here again no reference to masks or gloves. I think it would be prudent if she took a moment to realize that in the photo if she is asymptomatic she is contaminating the box she is holding and any droplets falling from her breath are contaminating the hand cart she is standing upon.

Doug Ford is providing valuable leadership during this pandemic. I would hope is MPP's would also.

Harold Harper
Cheltenham resident

No bailout for oil companies

Between the pandemic reducing demand and the collapse of a deal to restrict supply, Canadian oil is basically worthless right now. These twin crises have dropped prices to new lows, but this problem is nothing new for Canada's high-cost, low-quality product. Now Alberta is asking for $20 billion in loans to companies who will almost certainly not be able to pay it back. To put that in perspective, for that much we could give every oil and gas worker $100,000 to go back to school or start a business, and still have billions left over for their communities.

Oil companies are on record saying their only plan to survive in a low price market is to cut costs. Workers have seen over the last several years that means automating jobs and squeezing wages. Instead of giving money to bankrupt oil companies to keep them afloat a few more months, let's use public dollars to support families through this tough time and leave them better equipped to thrive in a world transitioning off fossil fuels.

Any bailout of the oil and gas sector should support workers not companies. That includes immediate relief, but also new training and employment opportunities in emerging low-carbon industries like technology, healthcare and renewable energy.

Let's rebuild green!

Karen Kenn
Caledon resident

Clean up your mess

This really bothers me. The garbage on our sideroads continues. I wonder if the people redeployed cannot be redeployed to help with the Caledon Brampton clean-up? Also students or regular people with a desire to get outside from this virus can be asked to help. In some coordinated effort... 6 feet apart of course.

I see garbage that is weeks and years old on our sideroads. How do people who live on these roads and have property just leave it in the ditch and drive by? In Brampton and my area South Fields in Caledon, the number of old newspapers that just lay all winter on a persons lot without being picked up. What is wrong with people? Caledon is only beautiful from a distance. I have driven along Heart Lake or the other roads and picked up bags of beer cans and liquor bottles. They reappear every year. It is so sad.

Janet Harrison
Caledon resident

One size does not fit all - Caledon resident opens custom bikini business

Written By REBECCA WESTON

Calista Desousa is the owner and seamstress of Alfa Swimwear, which she runs out of her home in Caledon.

Desousa created her company and designed her bikinis to promote body confidence.

"I started it because I couldn't really find any bikinis that fit my body perfectly and it was really hard because bikinis are really expensive and most of them are made in Australia, or far away, so they cost a lot of money to ship," said Desousa.

She realized that if she was having trouble finding a bikini that provided that perfect fit, there must be other females having the same problem.

Desousa came up with a design where most of the bikinis are adjustable so that each part of them can be fixed to any girl's body type. This, Desousa says, helps to show you don't need to be a certain size for clothing to fit perfectly.

"For the longest time, I started to really struggle with body image, due to the internet and just me comparing myself to other girls and so I went to like 90 pounds," said Desousa.

Desousa began a fitness journey by going to the gym to help boost her confidence and improve her she felt about her body.

She began to learn that "the gym isn't a place for you to go to torture yourself, it's a place for you to feel empowered about yourself and love your body and just feel good about yourself."

"I wanted (the brand) to be a form of self-love for other girls so it's not just you go to a website or a place to go buy a bikini," said Desousa.

She plans on having a blog on her website, where girls can research about body positivity, strategies to teach girls how to love themselves, as well as ways others can start a business.

"It's more than just buying a bikini," she said.

"I want girls to look at the page, and even if they didn't want to buy a bikini they could still follow and get inspiration to be empowered and do what they want with their life, because that's kind of like what I'm doing," said Desousa.

When Desousa decided that she wanted to open Alfa, she was in school full-time at Wilfrid Laurier University.

She would work on her schoolwork from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and then work on Alfa until 10 p.m..

"I'd be working on Alfa, like sewing, in my little dorm room," said Desousa.

Not only has Desousa made her brand local to Caledon, but she made it part of her mission to make sure it is also environmentally friendly.

"Every girl gets their bikini in a reusable bikini bag that is handmade too, so there's no plastic," said Desousa. "I buy my fabric locally and they're usually from other small businesses so I can support other local small businesses instead of buying from a big manufacturer."

Reflecting on what it was, specifically, that made her want to launch her own product line at such a young age, Calista says it was all about taking the opportunity to inspire and help people as much as she can.

"The reason I wanted to do this was because it's not for me to make money and yes it's going to help me be financially free and do what I want with my life but I'm going to be inspiring girls," said Desousa.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

ALFA SWIMWEAR: Caledon resident Calista Desousa has launched her own custom bikini line - Alfa Swimwear.

Relief available for some businesses & landlords in D-C, but not all

Written By ALYSSA PARKHILL

Back on April 24 Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones, alongside Premier Doug Ford, announced a relief fund to assist small businesses and landlords within the region.

The provincial government is investing $241 million to help businesses who are struggling financially as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. In total, the joint federal and provincial initiative is providing more than $900 million to businesses across Ontario.

"Small businesses in our community are experiencing real financial pressures during the COVID-19 crisis and are struggling to pay rent as a result," said MPP Jones in a recent news release. "That's why we are partnering with the federal government to ease these financial pressures and support our small businesses through this challenging economic time."

The OCECRA was developed to provide loans to businesses and property owners who are struggling pay rent due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The loans are designed to cover 75 per cent of a tenant's rent from April to June.

There is a limit to the government's generosity. Only small businesses whose monthly rent comes in lower than $50,000 per month qualify for the subsidy. On top of that, business owners must show that their revenues have dropped by at least 70 percent to receive any money.

On top of the financial aid, Ontario are also reducing electricity rates for small businesses, residential and farm time-of-use customers, seeing 50 per cent reductions until June.

"To help stop the spread of COVID-19, businesses have closed their doors and employees have stayed home and that has been working, but it has also created significant financial hardship," said Minister of Fine, Rod Philips. "By subsidizing rent payments, reducing taxes, extending deadlines and eliminating penalties and interest, we're helping to ensure businesses can start up quickly when the time is right."

But what about those who aren't eligible for government support?

Donna and Paul Forster, owner of Forster's Book Garden have been doing what they can to continue their business for the community.

"So far, we're coping well, promoting our website and email ordering," Mrs. Forster expressed. "Orders are received daily via phone, email and website. Received boxes are disinfected before opening, sales are done over the phone by credit card and orders are run out to cars or delivered if necessary.

She added, "We receive less feedback from people on their book choices and can't allow browsing, so making good suggestions for people takes longer. There's less opportunity to promote books through in-store displays' and it's taken a while to reach people to let them know that even though not open for browsing, we are still able to fill orders."

They have several concerns about the eligibility requirements, not least surrounding their belief that the rent relief percentage is too high for many businesses to qualify.

"The threshold for rent relief set at 70 per cent loss of income is too high. Not all small businesses qualify, yet all the revenue being taken in now is going to rent," Mrs. Forster said. "Our own Town Council could help by putting time, energy and money into promoting local shopping."

She added, "Small businesses will need it more than ever when this is all over. It will be the only way to keep many of us in business after the world goes back to 'normal'."

To learn more about the OCECRA, please visit Ontario.ca

Peel supports day of action on litter

The Region reminds residents that used gloves and masks go in the garbage.



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New refill business is making it easier to reduce plastic waste

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

Individuals who are looking to reduce their carbon footprint and overall use of plastics are in luck, as a new eco-friendly refill delivery service has started up locally.

The Sustainability Shoppe is the first business of its kind in the region and provides environmentally conscious customers in New Tecumseth, Bolton, Caledon, and Orangeville with weekly refills of non-toxic household cleaners, laundry detergents, and body care products.

The Sustainability Shoppe's goods are environmentally sustainable and almost entirely sourced from small Canadian businesses.

"Customers order their products online and we'll take care of the rest, so zero waste living delivered to your door," said Theresa Ennis, who co-owns the Sustainability Shoppe with her husband Ryan Shorten.

A $1.25 fee is built into a new customer's first order, as products are initially delivered in 500ml or 1L mason jars, which are then meant to refill existing product containers at home and be reused for future deliveries.

In more urbanized areas like Toronto, there are refill service storefronts where people can go and refill products themselves, which can be an inconvenience for customers who have to take an extra trip to the store, Ennis noted.

"What we wanted to avoid was leaving any barriers for people to adopt zero waste living," she said. "We're take it that extra step because we deliver glass jars and people can then return them to us."

Until now, there were zero refill services north of the GTA, which created a gap for those living locally and in the surrounding area.

Ennis said her and Shorten's idea for the Sustainability Shoppe came from their desire to live more sustainably. They discovered that Canada recycles just nine percent of plastics that are placed in the blue bin and over three million tonnes are thrown away by Canadians each year.

"It's kind of strange timing to open a business during a pandemic, but we've been working on this for quite some time and had originally planned on a spring opening when suddenly COIVD struck and our lives just like everyone else's were significantly impacted," Ennis explained.

"Our first thought was this isn't the time to open a business and we put a full stop on all of our work, provided we pick this up later," she added. "But, as time went on, and we continued to hear about how badly COVID was effecting small businesses, we thought maybe this is an important time for us to try."

Ennis said almost all of the Sustainability Shoppe's suppliers are small Canadian businesses and were looking forward to having them as a customer.

"I think they were keen to keep business going in any way that they could to avoid having to lay off employees," she noted. "We thought… if we can help bring their products to more people, not only are we encouraging sustainable, low waste living, but we're also supporting our fellow Canadian businesses."

Ennis said it's important to note that the products they source are non-toxic, sustainably sourced, and free of parabens, which are proven hormone inhibitors.

"We live in a rural community, so we're aware that everything going down our sinks goes into the water and streams that feed and nourish not only us but all of the farmers fields and animals in our communities," she explained.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

THINKING GREEN: Sustainabiliy Shoppe is the first business of its kind in Dufferin-Caledon, providing environmentally conscious customers with weekly refills of non-toxic household cleaners, laundry detergents and body care products.

While the Sustainability Shoppe's website is set up for individuals making purchases, any business owners can utilize the refill service to become more eco-friendly and reduce plastic waste.

The website has been up and running for roughly two weeks and Ennis said its been rewarding to see the community's response.

"This is something that we're passionate about; this isn't just a business venture for us, it's something that really aligns with our core values as people and the future we want to see for our children… so it's been very fulfilling on all fronts," she said.

Going forward, depending on the demand for the Sustainability Shoppe's services, Ennis said they hope to grow the number of products being offered.

"We're really looking for our customers to help us with that, let us know what you're struggling to find or wish that you could buy with less plastic," she noted.

The first round of deliveries are slated for this weekend and orders can be placed online at thesustainabilityshoppe.ca.

"We're really excited to be working in the area," Ennis smiled.

Childcare services available for frontline workers, 3 facilities in D-C reopened

Written By MIKE BAKER

The provincial government has taken action to ensure essential workers out on the frontline during the COVID-19 crisis are afforded the access they need to childcare services.

Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones announced back on April 17 that certain childcare centres within her riding would be exempt from provincial closure regulations – a move that will help hundreds of nurses, doctors and frontline care workers in our community.

"During these challenging times, Ontario is supporting our courageous frontline workers with emergency childcare centres so they can rest assured that their children are being looked after in a safe place," MPP Jones said. "Our frontline workers will have access to safe, local childcare, making it easier for health care and other frontline workers to do their jobs."

There will be three centres opened up for frontline workers in Dufferin County and Caledon – Credit Meadows Junior YMCA in Orangeville (220 Blind Line), Centennial Hylands YMCA Child Care in Shelburne (33 School Road), and Bolton Junior YMCA Day Care Centre in Bolton (12295 Queen Street South).

Individuals hoping to secure emergency childcare in Dufferin County are asked to apply on the County website at www.dufferincounty.ca/childrens-services/emergency-child-care-eligible-workers. County Warden Darren White was particularly pleased to hear about the announcement, commending the provincial government for providing additional support for some of our most important individuals during the COVID-19 crisis.

"Dufferin County is pleased to work with the provincial government to assure resources to aid our frontline emergency workers and to assist them by making it a little easier for them to continue doing their important work," Warden White said. "Dufferin County is proud to stand with our frontline and emergency service workers."

The need for childcare services was brought on by the provincial government's decision to close all Ontario public schools on March 12. They are currently scheduled to reopen to students on May 31. On March 31, the Ontario government launched the second phase of its Learn at Home initiative – an online portal that provides resources for families so students can continue their education while schools are closed.







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Mayor's Virtual Town Hall for Business

WITH:



MAYOR ALLAN THOMPSON



KYLE SEEBACK, MP



HON. SYLVIA JONES, MPP

FRIDAY MAY 8 @ 2 P.M.

Mayor Allan Thompson invites business owners/operators to join a virtual Town Hall session to learn more about assistance for businesses affected by COVID-19.

To join by phone, call toll-free 1-833-311-4101 or 416-216-5643 Access code: 794 810 608 #.

Submit your questions in advance to **business@caledon.ca**.



Improved WiFi available for the public

Enhanced WiFi is now available in the parking lots at the following Town of Caledon facilities and Caledon Public Library locations:

- Town Hall
- Caledon Centre for Recreation and Wellness
- Albion Bolton Union Community Centre
- Mayfield Recreation Complex
- Caledon East Recreation Centre
- Caledon Village Library
- Inglewood Library
- Margaret Dunn Library

Please stay in your vehicle and avoid idling your engine. If you are on foot, please practice physical distancing.

Next property tax due date is May 7, 2020

You may pay by July 2 without penalty or interest charges if you are experiencing financial hardship from the COVID-19 pandemic.

If you are able to pay on May 7, please make your payment.

If deferring to July 2, all interest and late payment charges will be waived from March 24 to July 2, 2020.

Don't have your bill? Own a newly built home? Want to know the many ways you can pay your property taxes? Visit **caledon.ca/tax** to learn more.

Resources for Adults 55+ during COVID-19



There are a variety of resources and supports available for Adults 55+ to help you during this difficult time.

caledon.ca/adult55

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'Mom' is one of the most pleasant words of all

by Mark Pavilons

It's been said that a mother's love is like nothing else in the world.

Having witnessed this first-hand in my own family, I can attest to that fact.

I sat in the backyard this past weekend, listening to the wind rustle the tree branches and blow through the young spring grass.

The sun was shining, the first strong sun of the new season. It felt good.

Off in the distance I heard a young girl's voice,calling "mom?"

I smiled, thinking isn't that one of the sweetest sounds in the whole, wide world? My thoughts turned to summer meadows, sunshine, streams, canoes and barbecue.

I know it's not summer, not even close. And this summer may be unlike any other in my life.

That single word I heard through the trees led me back to remembering childhood summers – long grass, bike rides on gravel roads, catching frogs and crayfish, letting the minnows in the Humber River nibble my toes.

I would feed these little fishies bread, sometimes loaves of the day-old No Name bread my mom got at Zehrs. It was cool.

The Bolton golf club, now known as Clublink, backed into our property. As a kid I'd often hop the fence after hours and play a round or two. The golf balls that landed in the river and our property were collected, cleaned, inspected and resold to golfers for a quarter. At 12, I often pulled in $15 or $20 every weekend during the summer. That was a great windfall!

I learned entrepreneurial skills at a young age, while enjoying the outdoors. I never left behind much of a carbon footprint and it taught me a great many things.

Sure, the course owners sometimes frowned upon my business activities, cutting into their golf ball sales and all. A few quick departures were part of the business risk model!

After my chores, which included cutting grass on our four-acre parcel, I would spend hours in the back 40, just being and watching and thinking.

My dad, after a day's work puttering around, would often take a walk by himself. I joined him occasionally and he would tell me secrets, passed on by the Colorado blue spruces and Austrian pines. Ancient knowledge to be sure. He loved nature and I think it helped him declutter.

My mom loved her expansive veggie garden, and often boasted about the bounty at the dinner table – home-grown cucumbers, tomatoes, beans, currants, rhubarb.

There's nothing like grabbing a stalk of rhubarb, taking a big bite and making a sourpuss face! That simple act speaks volumes about childhood joy, about the simple things, about exploring and figuring things out as we go.

It's a feeling, a sense of just being a kid. We weren't preoccupied with video games, Snapchat and online surfing, for the very fact they didn't exist.

We could do nothing all day and enjoy every minute of it.

We left after lunch and came back at dinner, when mom called us, her voice cutting through the summer breeze like a welcoming invitation. We knew whatever she prepared would be great, and we never complained about our home cooked meals.

We didn't use sunscreen and never worried about cancer. If we twisted our ankle, were stung by a bee or got a few cuts and scrapes we knew help was only a few minutes away.

We were loved, but didn't need constant reminders or hourly hugs. We were content.

My childhood wasn't particularly exciting or eventful but it was soothing, like a comfy blanket. Our moms made sure of it.

A child and mom come into being at the same time. The bond of a mother and her child is unlike anything else in the world, and as strong as steel. It's almost perfect – forgiving, spontaneous, benevolent, unselfish and non-judgemental.

My wife learned by doing, and plucking the best from her mom, with a dash of my mom tossed in for good measure.

Even today, the sounds of "mom?" bounce around the walls of our house, from two teenagers and one young adult. "Mom," it's so simple yet oh so powerful. It means everything wrapped into just one syllable. You can guess in an instant the nature of the kids' problem by how this word is pronounced. It's like a symphony.

Kids can be a handful, and it's even said that "insanity" is hereditary – we inherit it from our children!

Regardless of their age, our offspring are in constant need of attention, guidance, support, assistance and yes, discipline.

Our generation has lengthened the leash a bit on these rambunctious individuals. But we need to keep it taught, so we retain a bit of control.

Our kids can talk to Kim about anything. She's an amazing listener, and offers sound, practical advice. I think a lot of Kim's prowess comes from her social work training and dealing with parents and children when she operated a day care.

While it's a different challenge dealing your own kids, she works at it and wants them to feel they can come to her any time. Kids being kids, she sometimes has to pry it out of them, like a burrowing tick. She wants them to laugh and cry and just "get it out."

She wants them to know they are loved and have our full support.

I think that's why every time I hear the word "mom" I smile, and feel warm. I know when mom responds, things will be better.

Dads like to defer things by saying "ask mom." While it can be a cop-out, we do know that mom has the answers and solutions that we just don't have.

"Mom" is like a bandage that never falls off; it's like a salve that makes all boo-boos go away. "Mom" is like a celebratory announcement of the change of seasons. It's a strong, triumphant call to order.

Whatever "mom" means to you, make sure you embrace it, not only this weekend, but every day.

And make sure the kids know it, too!

Editorial

Some lessons already learned?

THERE'S SURELY NO DOUBT that once the COVID-19 pandemic finally subsides there will be inquiries into what could have been done to prevent the horrendous death toll across the world and here in Canada.

The need for the inquiries should be obvious, particularly when the experts are predicting a second wave of the coronavirus next fall, likely coinciding with the annual influenza season.

However, we need not wait weeks or months to begin looking into how it is that some countries, states, provinces and cities did so much better than others in combating the virus about which so little was known because of its novelty.

For example, how was it that South Korea, with nearly twice Canada's population, has as of this week had just 254 deaths, compared with more than 4,000 here. and Taiwan, with a current population of 24 million, had just six?

Even in the United States, with by far the world's highest death toll at more than 70,000, California had about 2,400 deaths among its 40 million residents while New York State, with half the population, has had about 25,000.

And in Canada, Quebec has the highest death toll at about 2,300 while next door in New Brunswick none had been reported.

One thing that's now obvious is that the epicentre of the outbreaks in both Ontario and Quebec are the two provinces' long-term care facilities. But while some might say this was inevitable, the truth of the matter is that you don't have to go to New Brunswick to find areas which have nursing homes with no COVID-19 deaths.

The Globe and Mail disclosed last week that in the Kingston area none of the 26 care facilities has had a COVID-19 case, let alone a death.

The explanation given is that on the day after the Province ordered the closure of all bars and restaurants, the local public health unit ordered the unit's six restaurant inspectors to turn their attention to the nursing homes to make sure they had the staff, testing and personal protection equipment needed to prevent outbreaks.

Clearly, that's not what happened in the Greater Toronto Area, where we learn almost daily of caregivers who were wholly unprepared to deal with outbreaks, most of them not having the personal protective equipment, to the point where in some nursing homes most of the staffs as well as a majority of the residents had the virus.

Perhaps the three most important lessons learned to date are the need to listen to expert advice, the importance of having a good stockpile of medical supplies for health care workers to treat pandemic victims safely, and the need to have effective testing, without which you never know how widespread an outbreak has become.

Even today, South Korea seems to be about the only place where most of the inhabitants have been tested. And it's only within the last week that initial testing for antibodies in New York City showed that about 20 per cent of the population had become infected, or many times the number of reported cases.

And thanks to the lead story in a recent 60 Minutes, we learned that a Toronto firm most people have never heard of was able to use artificial intelligence to forewarn its clients that the pandemic was coming.

The company is BlueDot, which developed an algorithm that scours the world for outbreaks of infectious disease. It's a digital early warning system, and it was among the first to raise alarms about this lethal outbreak.

They call their new weapon "outbreak science," and it has already led to calls for an overhaul of how governments operate.

Said the 60 Minutes report: "It was New Year's Eve when BlueDot's computer spat out an alert: a Chinese business paper had just reported 27 cases of a mysterious flu-like disease in Wuhan, a city of 11 million. The signs were ominous. Seven people were already in hospitals.

"Chinese officials were secretive about what was happening. But BlueDot's computer doesn't rely on official statements. Their algorithm was already churning through data, including medical bulletins, even livestock reports, to predict where the virus would go next."

BluDot's clients at the time included South Korea, but not the U.S.



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Caledon Citizen

GENERAL MANAGER
Zach Shoub
zach@lpcmedia.ca
EDITOR
Mike Baker
mbaker@citizen.on.ca

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR
Mary Speck admin@caledoncitizen.com
REPORTERS
Alyssa Parkhill
aparkhill@citizen.on.ca
Kira Wronska Dorward
reporter@caledoncitizen.com

MOTORING
Heather Erwin
heather@caledoncitizen.com
SPORTS
Jake Courtepatte
jakecourtepatte@gmail.com

DISPLAY ADVERTISING
Erin Luckett
erin@lpcmedia.ca
Vicki Meisner
vicki@lpcmedia.ca

PRODUCTION
John Speziali
Lisa Clendening
Steve LeBlanc

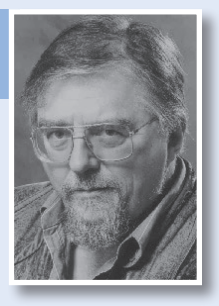
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Some reasons to hope

GWYNNE DYER
OUR WORLD TODAY



You don't feel like reading about the Plague today? Good. I don't feel like writing about it again either. So here's some reasons to hope, none of which are even remotely related to the coronavirus.

First, they have found not one but three new ways to combat malaria, just as the problem of growing resistance to existing drugs and insecticides was getting out of hand.

In Burkina Faso, collaboration last year between the local Institut de Recherche en Sciences de la Santé and the University of Maryland showed the effectiveness of modifying a fungus that normally infests mosquitoes. The fungus was genetically engineered to produce lethal spider toxin, and 99% of the mosquito population in the trial area died within 45 days.

Scientists at the Kenya Medical Research Institute have found that an existing drug, Ivermectin, which is used against parasitical diseases like river blindness and elephantiasis, is also effective against malaria. It kills both the plasmodium falciparum parasite in your blood and the mosquito whose bite put it there. (But you'll still get bitten first – try hanging chicken feathers on the porch.)

And best of all, a cure that doesn't kill the mosquitoes, who are an important source of food for many bird species. The International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology in Nairobi has discovered that around 5% of the mosquito population on the shores of Lake Victoria in Kenya carries a microbe called Microsporidia MB that completely blocks the plasmodium parasite.

The microbe lives in the mosquitoes' gut and genitals without doing them any harm, and mothers pass it on to most of their offspring. So if you could spread that microbe to the rest of the mosquito population....

Second piece of happy news: researchers at the University of Groningen in the Netherlands are having some success in blocking the growth of bacterial resistance to antibiotics. This is the most urgent medical issue of our time, because if the antibiotics don't work then the old infections that they have long suppressed will come back and make even the simplest operation life-threatening.

Bacteria share and spread their resistance by swapping genes, and to do that they secrete a protein called CSP. The Groningen team worked through more than 1,300 existing drugs, and found 46 candidates that disrupt the ability of the bacteria to produce CSP. It's a first step, but a very promising one.

And now for something completely different. Environmentalists hate plastics because half of the megatons produced each year ends up in landfills or the oceans. However, plastic is a strong, lightweight material that is very useful in many different roles. The trick is to recycle it all properly, so it doesn't end up damaging the environment.

Enter a French start-up company called Carbios, which began by screening 100,000 micro-organisms for promising candidates that could decompose plastics quickly and cheaply into chemical building blocks that can be recycled into new plastics. They found what they were seeking in a leaf compost heap: a bacteria that produces an enzyme that will do that job.

It took a little work to mutate the enzyme so that it enthusiastically consumes the PET plastic from which plastic bottles are made. Carbios predicts that it will be operating at an industrial scale by 2024 – and in March German researchers found a different bacteria that will eat up polyurethane.

Now for the big one. There is a company called Solar Foods, in Helsinki, which is growing bacteria (just add hydrogen) to make an organic soup from which you can make flour. Tweak the bacterial formula a bit and you can create the right proteins and fats for lab-grown meat, fish, milk and eggs.

There are many other companies just a bit behind Solar Foods (which will open its first commercial factory next year). The prospect glimmering on the horizon is that we might be able to feed the world from a relatively small amount of land, and give the rest back to nature.

What all this tells us is that there are many clever people working on all the problems that threaten our future, and that for some of them at least, solutions will arrive in time. It is still heroically optimistic to believe that all of them will, or even enough of them. There is hope, but there is also great danger.

The forgotten ones

SHERALYN ROMAN
TALK CALEDON



Recent events have served as a vivid reminder of the strange times we continue to find ourselves in. While for many, self-isolation has turned into either a forced "vacation" of sorts or a work from home opportunity but at your own pace and schedule, there are a number of others who are quite literally "burning the candle at both ends" trying to keep social service agencies alive, provide support for battered women or help folks in a myriad of other ways either personally, professionally or through charitable acts. These are the forgotten ones. When we all go out on to our porches and clap or light up our cell phones in celebration of front line workers (and well we should) there is an entire subgroup out there continuing to help keep our economy going that we are excluding. It's time to thank the forgotten ones.

I must start by saying that if I, even in this attempt to ensure everyone is included, accidentally exclude someone, please know that it's not because we aren't thinking of you. I am conscious every day that there is so much good in our world and trying to rise above the temptation to focus on the bad. Troubling news out of the US and their rush to open the floodgates to boost the economy and people who continue to complain that our own government isn't doing enough are a distraction – a pretty big one at that. Instead, let's give a shout out today to those folks who are working diligently behind the scenes in every way possible to continue to provide services to our community and to the world at large.

First, to our farmers. If we refer to good old Maslow and his Hierarchy of Needs, at the very bottom of the pillar and supporting us in every other way, is the need for food security and safety. Never an easy job at the best of times, farmers are facing the usual challenges of weather, prices for product, the stock market and more, coupled with lack of employees making tending the crops and livestock a challenge and market/trade competition that in some cases has resulted in the dumping of milk or the ploughing under of crops like asparagus because there's no one to harvest it.

Locally, across the country, and around the world, farmers are being hit hard and need to be remembered as we express gratitude for the folks who are trying desperately to keep this economy going in the midst of a pandemic.

At the same time, our local agencies such as The Exchange and the Orangeville Food Bank are doing their very best to keep local folks fed. They rely on an army of volunteers and donations and are working under strict new guidelines for keeping their staff, volunteers and clients safe and this in turn is presenting operational challenges.Yet they continue.

Caledon Meals on Wheels is providing new services to seniors in our community under strict safety protocols, helping to ensure they too have access to regular grocery deliveries because without food and food security – what have we really got?

Maslow identified the second level of his hierarchy as safety needs. We are all craving safety at this time. Things like having employment, our health and access to resources. In these challenging times there remains the obvious thanks to the front line workers who continue to support communities like ours. But think too about the folks behind the mask at our public health units, the personal support workers who continue to do home visits not knowing if they are going into harms way. Our municipal employees who continue to provide services like garbage and recycling pick up. Workers who are repairing hydro lines, installing internet networks or repairing potholes. What would happen if suddenly this ground to a halt? Perhaps it's never crossed your mind but it wouldn't be good. Our local politicians who have found new and innovative ways to support the community through virtual town halls, meetings online and linking those in the community who can help with those that need help. Strapping on a mask and leading by example – these are folks who are just like you and I, possibly afraid of contact with the virus, but still out serving the community trying to ensure we have access to resources supporting our health, our safety and our security.

I don't think we have the time, or the ability to cover all five stages of Maslow's hierarchy. After all, it ends in self-actualization and I'm sure you'll agree we have a whole lot more to worry about right now then whether we're feeling we've achieved our full potential or are "the best that we can be." Instead, let's focus on the third stage of the pyramid, love and belonging. Here is another opportunity to thank folks not typically though of as "front-line" but who are very much serving in that role, albeit in a different capacity. Think of a non-profit agency that is near and dear to your heart. Know that the Executive Directors of these agencies are working diligently behind the scenes to keep their agencies afloat. They are exploring and/or offering new and innovative ways of serving their clients while also balancing reduced staffing levels, new safety protocols and facing significant challenges to their funding bottom line. For many, this opportunity to provide a sense of belonging for us all, of creating special family times and a chance to make friendships amongst their clients and within our community is truly a passion and they are facing significant struggles to keep these agencies working in this difficult time. For everyone working in these fields – know that you are truly valued and appreciated.

As I said at the outset, I know there are more folks out there who deserve our thanks. There are accountants trying desperately to help their clients manage their new reality and learn about how to access support programs that might help them right now. There are the civil servants who are supporting folks as they apply for available programs. Bank employees who are actually facilitating some of the business loan opportunities announced by our Prime Minister but facilitated through your local bank manager and staff. The list goes on and if you aren't mentioned here, again, please know that your efforts are appreciated. This is my thanks, to the forgotten ones.



ARTS & Entertainment

Local musician produces new song to bring people together

Written By ALYSSA PARKHILL

Artists all over the world have taken this time during the global COVID-19 pandemic to create new music in the hopes of, spiritually at least, bringing people together. Virtual concerts, collaborations among several artists, and new songs have been released to promote and engage in togetherness.

Local musician Sara Rose aims to do the same.

Rose began her music career at age 10, when she first started song writing and performing. When her aunt gave her first guitar on her birthday, music quickly became a key part of her life.

Sara's first album, 'Until Now' was released in 2018. She has recently released her second album 'We Could Be Beautiful'. Since truly starting to focus on her musical career a couple of years ago, Sara has been recognized with multiple awards – such as the Headwaters' 25 Under 25 Award in 2018, and the Town of Orangeville's Emerging Artist of the Year award in 2019. Recently, Sara was invited to a closed audition to appear on an upcoming season of the popular TV show The Voice.

"Music is something that everyone feels and it's a way of making sense of all things in life for me; all parts happy, confusing, sad, good and bad," said the 24-year-old. "I find some days I'm feeling fine and others I'm not okay."

Through her passion for music, and wanting to spread the power of song, she wrote 'Coming Home' from her ups and downs during COVID-19.

"I wrote this song on one of those good and bad days. I was feeling anxious and sad about what was going on in the world, and heard my grandpa say to my mom that when he gets to hug us again that he won't let go," said Rose. "It made me think about how we're all each other's salvation and we lean on each other in times like these, even when we're physically apart."

She added, "It centres on a piece of what I think every human being has been feeling some degree of lately."

Rose released Coming Home on April 8 to express how she has been dealing with living through the pandemic, in hopes to help people relate and know they're not alone.

"We aren't always in control of the things that happen, but we're in control of how we respond to them and in this case, we stand together in doing our part to fight this virus," she said.

Alongside her music career, Rose is also the Vice-President of Hospice Dufferin. She gained her Honors in Bachelor of Social Work in 2018 to fulfil her passion of helping those through palliative care. She mixes these two joys by hosting an annual benefit concert that she co-founded in 2017, Hope through Harmonies.

"Music brings people together in the most beautiful ways, especially in times like this. I'm so glad to see musicians coming together from far and wide to help out in any way they can. Music is so empowering, and it opens the door to help us get through difficult times through connecting to a song that relates to what you're going through. Singing along to your favourite song is enough to put a smile on your face in a matter of seconds," expressed Rose.

The talented 24-year-old hopes her new song brings comfort and consolation to those who are struggling through these difficult times, and to know to lean on others when it gets hard.

"Love carries us together more than ever right now," she said. "To those showing up to work every day, thank you. And to those who too struggle with their mental health, please hang in there."

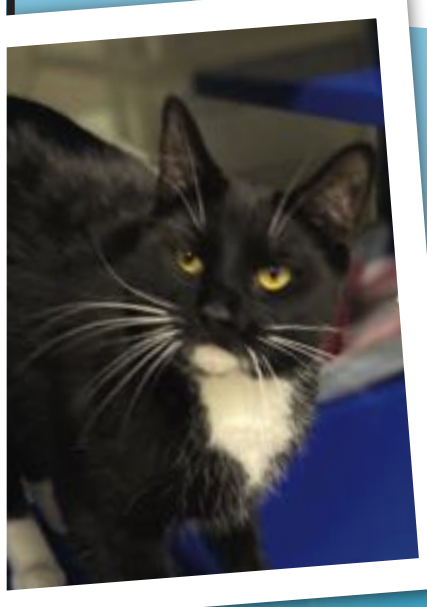
To learn more about Sara and her music, please visit sarahollyrose.com.



FILE PHOTO

NEW SONG: Local musician Sara Rose released 'Coming Home' to help others resonate with the challenges living in the COVID-19 pandemic.

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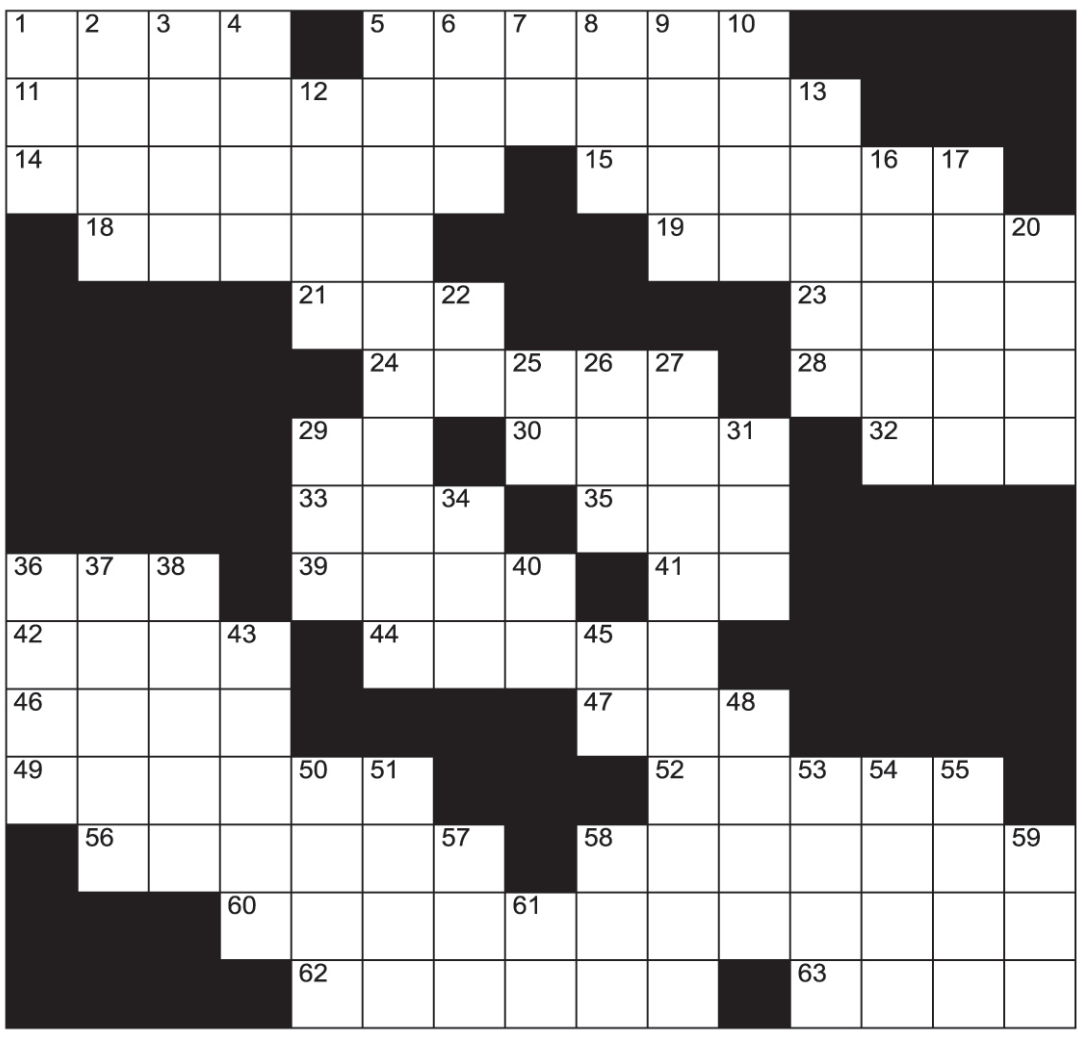
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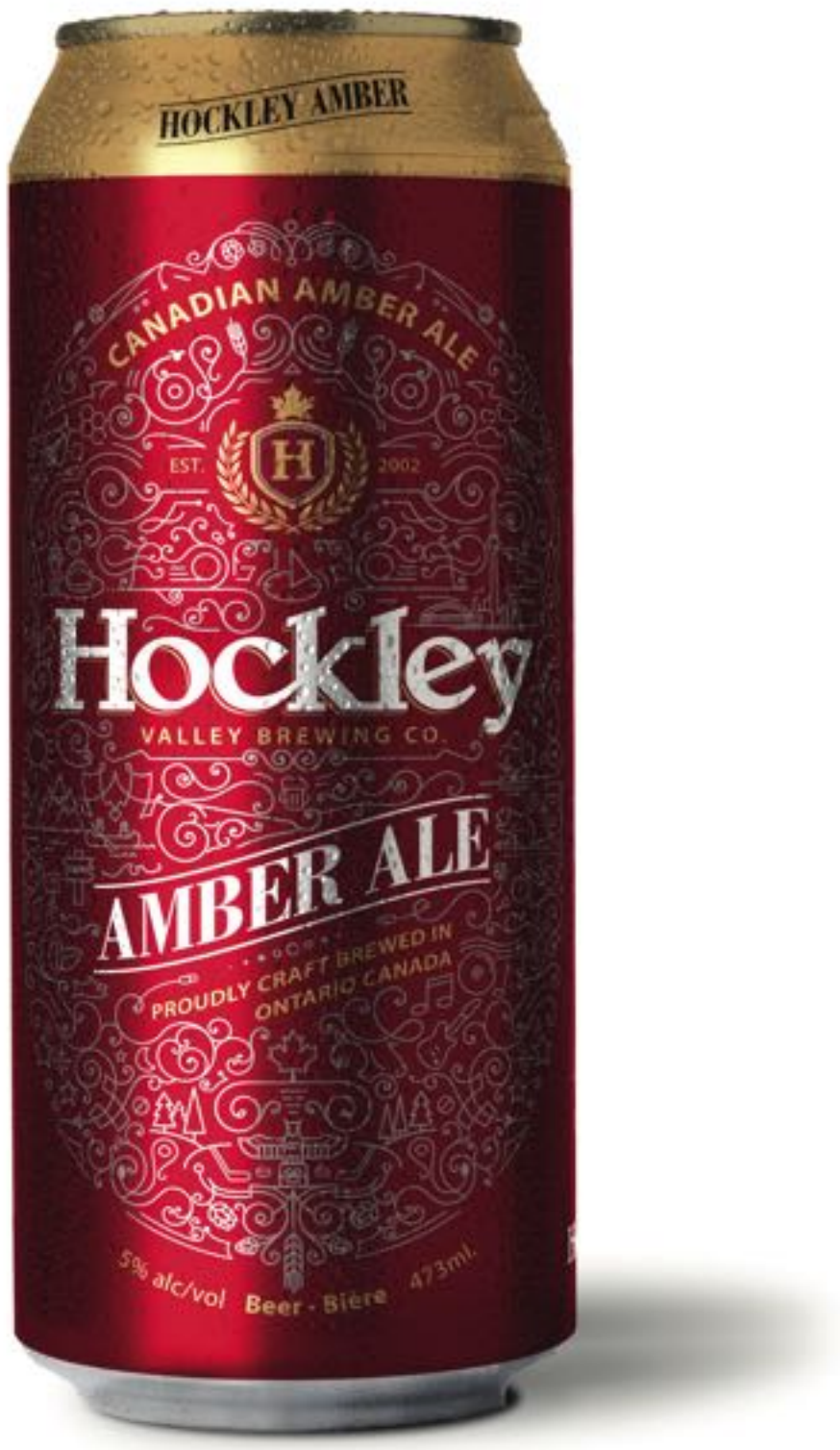
CLUES ACROSS

1. Expression of sorrow or pity
5. Not bad
11. NYC Mayor
14. Essays
15. Walk lightly
18. Those who utilize
19. Actress Judd
21. One-time community of nations
23. Norwegian river
24. Unconscious states
28. Make muddy
29. Unit of volume
30. Consciousnesses
32. Envision
33. When you aim to get there
35. Electronic data processing
36. Passports are some
39. Snakelike fish
41. Military flyers (abbr.)
42. Popular computers
44. Ecological stage
46. Wings
47. Used in combination
49. Laid back
52. Princess's headgear
56. Musical composition
58. Famed Falls
60. Reiterations
62. Eras
63. Track event

CLUES DOWN

1. Defensive nuclear weapon (abbr.)
2. Instead
3. Gifts for the poor
4. A type of gin
5. Torments
6. One point south of due east
7. Actor Pacino
8. Feline
9. Chinese dynasty
10. Short cries for help
12. Straits can sometimes be this
13. Further
16. Variety shows
17. Supernatural
20. A university in Connecticut
22. Atomic #27
25. Of I
26. We all have one
27. Religious guilds
29. This can sting
31. Sunscreen rating
34. Brew
36. Religious leader
37. Indigo bush
38. Burn with a hot liquid
40. Jr.'s father
43. Ray-finned fish genus
45. Morning
48. Straight line passing from side to side (abbr.)
50. S-shaped line
51. Small bunch of hay
53. Ripened
54. Crater on Mars
55. Humanities
57. Of the ears
58. To the __ degree
59. Wood
61. Cools your home

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OBITUARIES

LAMERE, Leyta Martha



Leyta Martha LaMere (Cross) passed away peacefully on Sunday, April 26, 2020 (her beloved husband's birthday) just 2 weeks away from her 98th birthday. Leyta was predeaseaed by her husband Bill in 2002 and their son Gary in 1967, her brothers Paul and Donald and her sister Doris. Leyta is survived by her children Bill (Liz), Joanne (Curtis), Denise (Norm) and Jim (Maggie); grandchildren Devin (Courtney) Ally (Eric) and Noelle (Dave), Jonathan (Marlena), Kelly (Matt), Jacy (Josh), Lee (John), Bryan (Lindsay), Heather (Mark), Candice, Michael and Katerina (Tyler) and 18 great-grandchildren and one rainbow great-grandchild. Leyta is also survived by her brother Ivan Cross; her sisters Betty Paul (Bob) and Joan Toupin, along with many nieces and nephews.
Our mother was the strength of our family. Mom was born in Athens Ontario and married our father in 1943, residing in Ogdensburg, New York.
Our family, over the following years, lived in Ogdensburg, Hackensack, New Jersey, El Paso, Texas, Ridgefield, Connecticut and Manchester, Connecticut. Then on to Canada in 1960 residing in Ottawa, after three moves in Ottawa we moved to Sudbury and then back to Ottawa. Finally, in 1971 moved to Toronto where Mom and Dad lived until their retirement in 1989 when they moved to Orangeville. Throughout these fourteen moves our mother was the strength that kept us together.
To the many friends in Orangeville and Branch 233 of the Royal Canadian Legion, we thank you for the love and friendship that you showed our parents. The Legion was a second home to Mom and Dad for many years and the friends made there became family. The Legion and your great city meant so much to Mom and Dad and to us.
Thank you to Montgomery Chartwell Retirement Home where Mom has resided for the last five years. A very special thanks to everyone who helped during Mom's illness, Dr. Karen Sandhu, Katherine Contois RN with St. Elizabeth, Anne Foisy with Central West LIHN, Amanda with Comfort Keepers, Vanessa OT and Lana Hickey and the entire Wellness Team at Chartwell. Their loving and compassionate care provided comfort and support to Mom and our family.
A Funeral Service will take place at later date.
A tree will be planted in memory of Leyta 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

HAWKINS, Brenda (nee Harris)
Peacefully at Headwaters Health Care Centre on Tuesday, April 28, 2020 at the age of 80. Beloved wife of George Hawkins ((2001). Dear mother of Steven (Diane Hardy) and Julie Gate (Gary). Cherished grandmother of Stephanie, Adam (Natasha), Lyndsay (Yovan), Kevin, Lisa, Amanda, James, Kyleigh, Kennedy, Brock, Alicia, Lukas and families. Dearest great-grandmother of Finnegan. Remembered by her sisters Ann Smith & Gillian Harris and her brother John Morris (Ann). Predeceased by her brother Ernie. Brenda will also be greatly missed by her nieces, nephews other relatives and many friends.
A Celebration of Brenda's Life will be held at a later date.
Memorial donations in memory of Brenda may be made to Meagan's Walk or the Canadian Cancer Society.
A tree will be planted in memory of Brenda 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

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OBITUARIES

DONNELLY, Lawrence "Wayne"
August 18, 1937-
April 28, 2020

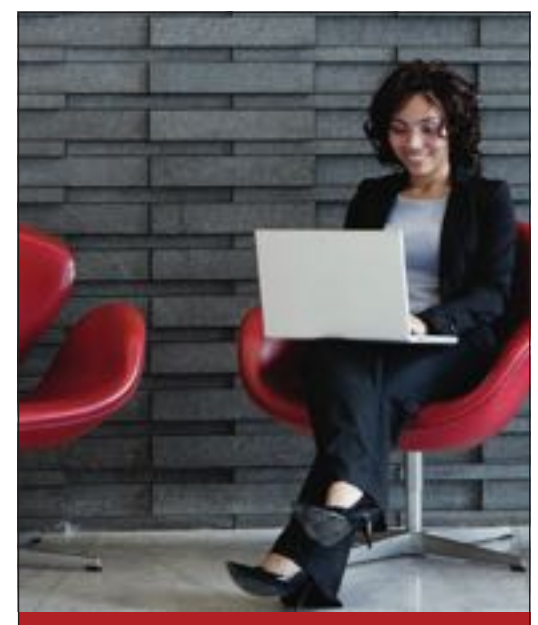


Wayne will be lovingly remembered by his family and friends. Wayne and Dorothy marked the milestone of their 58th wedding anniversary on April 21, 2020. Dorothy was the love of his life and best friend. Unfortunately, Wayne was taken to hospital, diagnosed with cancer and died one week later on April 28, 2020. He was the son of Ferman and Reba Donnelly; father of Craig and wife, Dawn; Christopher and wife, Monika; Kimberly and husband, Eric; grandfather of Madeline and husband, Tye; Samantha and husband, Caleb; Benjamin, Amber, Heather, Peter, and Tamara. Wayne was a gifted educator and innovator, always putting his pupils first, as a principal and teacher. He touched the lives of countless students over the course of his career. He was very involved in many church and community projects and programs. He worked on the East End Beautification Committee, "The Wetlands," which included the Canadian Flag that greets people every time they enter Orangeville. He was also a prolific reader, avid writer, engaging conversationalist, and possessed a love for language. Wayne was a country boy at heart, growing up on a farm, enjoying his natural surroundings, and sharing his life with birds and animals of all kinds.
Donations in memory of Wayne can be made to Headwaters Health Care Foundation or Ontario SPCA Orangeville and District Animal Centre.
Due to COVID-19 restrictions, a celebration of life will be held at a later date.
A tree will be planted in memory of Wayne 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

MCLELLAN, Elaine Marie



Elaine Marie McLellan returned home to Jesus on Thursday, April 30,2020 with the prayers of her family at the age of 86 at Dufferin Oaks Long Term Care Home in Shelburne, Ontario. Elaine started her journey on the French side of Cornwall, Ontario on February 11, 1934. Animated and passionate, Elaine was a leader in high school and went on to become a nurse and marry Robert "Bob" McLellan, her husband of sixty years. Her faith and her family were her focus, her compass, and her purpose. Never dull, Elaine liked to make people laugh, to forget their troubles. She volunteered in the Orangeville area, sang with the choir and Adelines, travelled the globe with Bob, and was always there for her children and grandchildren. Short in stature but tall in Spirit, Elaine and Bob gave life to five wonderful children and ten grandchildren and snuck bacon treats to many a pup.
Elaine will be dearly missed by her sons Brian (and Dona) and Bruce, by her daughters Julie (and Mark), Lisa (and Chris) and Beth (and Darren). Her grandchildren Kassidy, Alexander, McKenzie, Rachelle, Jason, Shane, Peter, Alysha, Connor, and Samantha will miss her sharp wit and big hugs. Her surviving sister Claudette (and Guy) will treasure their memories.
A Private Ceremony will be held on Tuesday, May 5, 2020 in Orangeville and a proper Celebration of her amazing life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, consider a donation to the Headwaters Health Care Foundation in Orangeville in thanks to all health care providers.
May we rejoice as Elaine continues her journey in joy to our heavenly father, accompanied by Mary and Jesus, and will forever be part of us.
A tree will be planted in memory of Elaine 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



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OBITUARIES

SCOTT, Dr. David John
MD, FRCSC
August 19, 1931 – April 25, 2020



Dr. David Scott passed away peacefully on Saturday, April 25, 2020, at the age of 88. Beloved husband of the late Lily Hudoneil (Huda) Scott (nee Gardiner). Devoted father of Katherine Scott (Robert Frater) of Ottawa, Hugh Scott (Carole Ricard) of Quebec City and Peter Scott of Orangeville. Cherished grandfather of Elizabeth Scott (Matthieu Robitaille), Emma Scott (Hugues Soares), Harry Scott and Charlotte and Liam Scott-Frater. David will be greatly missed by his brother Charles Scott (Sharon) and brothers-in-law, Clive Curtis and Don Ernst, many loving nieces and nephews and other treasured friends. He is predeceased by his dear sisters, Jean Ernst and Nan Curtis and brother-in-law Christopher Gardiner.
The eldest child of Dr. Charles Scott and Janet Bishop, David grew up in Orangeville, born in the family home at 33 First Street where his father practised medicine and his mother managed the office and their home. He attended the local schools, was a good student but even keener athlete. He spent wonderful summers rambling around the family farm in Mono Township and, later on, working as a bellhop at Windermere House on Lake Rosseau.
In 1950, following in his father's footsteps, he attended the University of Toronto, graduating from medical school in 1956, and general surgery in 1962. While working at the Toronto Western Hospital, David met his great love, Huda, who one fateful day agreed to teach him how to do the charleston with a cast on one leg. They married in 1959 and moved up to Orangeville three years later, creating a wonderful home for their three children, extended family and wide circle of friends.
David practised general surgery from 1962 to 1997, serving as Chief of Staff from 1983 to 1989, known over his career for his quiet leadership and diplomacy. He believed strongly in community service and worked tirelessly in different roles to strengthen relationships within the health care field and between health care and other community services.
David served on several local, provincial and national health care advisory committees as well as the Dufferin County Board of Education and Orangeville Planning Board. In the 1990s, he led the Dufferin Area Hospital's Steering Committee on Alternative Health Care Delivery Systems tasked with developing a blueprint for health care in the new millennium and chaired the Wellington-Dufferin District Health Council for four years. He went on to lead the Headwaters Area Linkage Committee, a group that convened the leadership of all area community services. Well into his 80s, David continued to help recruit young physicians to Dufferin County.
David took tremendous pleasure in his whole family and followed their pursuits with keen interest. He enjoyed nothing more than a good meal with his many lifelong friends and going to the local theatre with his beloved Huda. He will be remembered as a kind and honourable man, loyal friend, caring physician, and wonderful father and husband. He is deeply mourned.
The family would like to express deep gratitude to the staff at Dufferin Oaks for their extraordinary care and to our family's many friends who supported us over these past years, especially our friend Karena Landers. A Private Family Service will take place and a Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.
In memory of David, donations to Community Living Dufferin or Headwaters Health Care Foundation are appreciated.
A tree will be planted in memory of Dr. David 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

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SPORTS

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Windsor Spitfires GM believes Caledon goalie is best in his age class

Written By ROBERT BELARDI

Hockey players are often recognized for goals, assists, and in-humane plays that undress the opposition for the highlight reel.

The eye-candy for the fans can be mind-blowing. But, what about a split-save across the goal, or stacking the pads to rob a player on the breakaway? Don't forget about that lonely goaltender, who often saves the day; because let's face it, most of us do.

The Windsor Spitfires haven't forgetten about their goaltending and their needs. General Manager, Bill Bowler, is ecstatic, about all of his recent draft picks, but mostly, his shiny, brand-new goaltender.

"We covered three different needs. We got a forward we think is going to be a scorer, a defenceman that will play a lot of minutes and a goaltender we had at the top of the province," Bowler told the Windsor Star.

The Spitfires, were the first team to select a goaltender in the 2nd round (39th overall) in the Ontario Hockey League (OHL) draft last month. Caledon native, Kyle Downey is going to be a Spitfire next year.

The Spitfires last chose a goaltender in the second round in 2015, when the team selected Windsor native, Michael DiPietro.

Downey, recalls that draft and he is excited to join a prestigious organization that many NHLers, including Maple Leaf Jason Spezza, was a part of.

"It was just amazing. I know it's a great organization, and the last goalie they took in the second round was DiPietro and I know he was a great goalie for Windsor. I just hope to be like that," Downey told The Citizen.

He was humbled, to be dubbed as top goalie in the province by Bowler. He says it's amazing and it's what he is working towards. He wants more of this praise to continue and he wants to make sure he is on top of his game constantly.

For the 16-year-old, his hockey journey began in Caledon. It was the first sport his parents enrolled him in. No wonder he played NHL on the PlayStation 2 non-stop.

For Downey, it was a simple, house league that molded his future in one swift movement of the pad.

"I became goalie because there was one game; the goalies switch every game, so I decided to go in net. We were the last placed team and we beat the first placed team. From there, I wanted to be a goalie."

Downey idolized Martin Brodeur. He appreciated the goaltender's affability in goal and his traditional form of playing the position.

He moved up to playing minor hockey with the Caledon Hawks, following one season of house league. He played two years with the Hawks, before moving to the Mississauga Reps.

With the Reps, Downey was sent to goaltending training separately from the team. Little did he know, he would meet Scott Lonsdale; who has now been his training coach for the past six years.

"I think, I went to the wrong rink. Scott was there. He was running a goalie camp and he said, 'oh I can take him out.' I just stuck with him from there."

After two seasons, the Reps cut Downey. The young netminder, found his new home with the Toronto Nationals, under head coach, Claudio Mignosa.

"He always believed in me. He was the first coach to give me a chance, a really big chance. He helped me out a lot," Downey said.

In between his years with the Toronto Nationals, for one season, Downey moved to the Mississauga Rebels. It didn't feel right to move for the year and immediately, he moved back to the Toronto Nationals to finish his minor hockey career.

Amidst his minor hockey season, Downey was gifted the opportunity to travel to Philadelphia last year, to take part in the World Selects Invitational (WSI) tournament with the Oshawa Generals Selects U15's.

This tournament consisted of teams from across the world, including Kazakhstan and even Russia. This tournament, gave Downey a reason to believe he can go somewhere in hockey.

"I started off strong. First four games, I had four shutouts. That really made me think. I can play at this level. I can play with these players."

Following five games in that tournament, Downey recorded a 0.52 Goals Against Average (GAA) and a .963 Save Percentage (SV%) to boot.

Currently, at his home in southern Caledon; the Downey Strawberry and Apple Farm, the young goaltender continues to exercise and roll tires across the yard. He is interested in ordering synthetic ice for practicing his moves.

He is gearing up for the next stage in his life. He isn't nervous at all to move from the small-town farm, four hours west to a hockey-driven city; with a different family.

"I've been waiting for this moment for so long. I don't think too much about it. I feel more confident about it because this is what I've always wanted."

He is excited to play in front of a passionate fan base. He is excited to train with the other players. He can't wait for camp. He knows, it's going to be extremely hard to crack the roster on this team and he is ready to give every ounce of sweat without hesitation.

He feels his earnest commitment to the game has brought him here. He would watch himself on film from GTHL live, to work on his moves.

He'll be more than ready to prove to the Spitfires that their second-round pick, will forever remain in the history of the organization.

And hopefully, an NHL berth in a few years' time.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

THE KID'S A KEEPER: The Windsor Spitfires recently acquired Caledon native Kyle Downey in the second round (39th overall) of the 2020 Ontario Hockey League Priority Selection Draft.

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Nine Stripes keeping active throughout pandemic

Written By ROBERT BELARDI

York9 FC continues to remain active both on the market and internally within the club.

While waiting for the highly-anticipated green light, to begin the Canadian Premier League season, the Nine Stripes sign 18-year-old prolific attacking forward from Toronto FC Academy Iljah Halley and re-sign the venerable manager, Jimmy Brennan.

The Brampton, Ontario native, Halley, earned himself a reputation with the Toronto FC Academy as being a dangerous attacker that dominates the right-half of the pitch.

The teenager becomes the second signing for York9 FC this year under 20 years of age, joining Aurora native Max Ferrari.

Halley is excited to join the club straightaway on a multi-year deal and is ecstatic to be playing first-team football.

"The biggest thing I'm looking forward to is that opportunity to play first team football. To be able to have that and still stay local is something super special for me and my family. I really have my parents to thank, as well as my coaches, Jack Masserelli from Woodbridge Strikers and Raphael Bell at Erin Mills for helping me develop to be the player I am today," said Halley, as per York9 FC's press release this past week.

Much to the excitement of the player, Managing Consultant Angus McNab is pleased with the signing and praises Brennan and Paul Stalteri for their keen interest in seeking talent in the local area.

"Jimmy Brennan and Paul Stalteri have a great pulse on young talent in the GTA and York Region. Ijah is someone we have discussed for a while and it's a good move for him to take a step into senior football," McNab said in the same press release.

Following this announcement on April 27th, the club waited until May 1st to proclaim the signing of manager Jimmy Brennan to a new contract that will extend his stay with the club through 2021 with an option in 2022.

Brennan has recently completed his UEFA Pro License; the highest certification a manager can obtain, along with an overhaul of signings that were brought into the team.

The 42-year-old led the Nine Stripes to a third-place finish overall having finished in sixth in the Spring season and third in the Fall.

In the press release announced by the club, Brennan said, "Coming into a new league last year with a completely new squad was a fantastic challenge. I really enjoyed working with our boys and putting in some positive results together as a unit."

"Our goal here is to win championships, and we've got ourselves a fantastic core that we've now added significant pieces to take us over the top."

The Canadian international, went on to explain that he is filled with excitement for the future of this club. He has committed to the growth of young players and has also ensured the contract extensions of both Morey Doner and Diyaeddine Abzi in the past week.

For further comments, McNab said that Brennan is a winner.

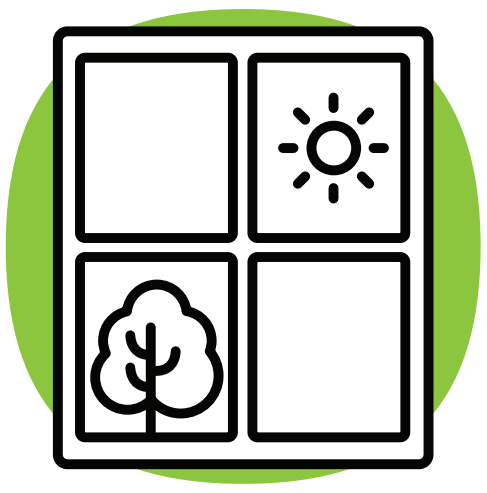
"Jimmy is a winner. He proved it in his playing career, and I have every confidence he can build a legacy and establish the club as the perennial championship contender that our fans and the Baldassarra family deserve."

Brennan did win the Gold Cup with Canada, alongside Stalteri in 2000. Of course, the goal is to be able to lift another trophy alongside his compatriot here in Canada's domestic league.

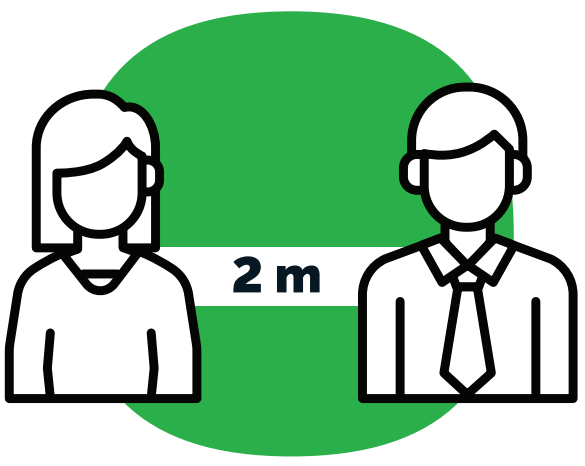
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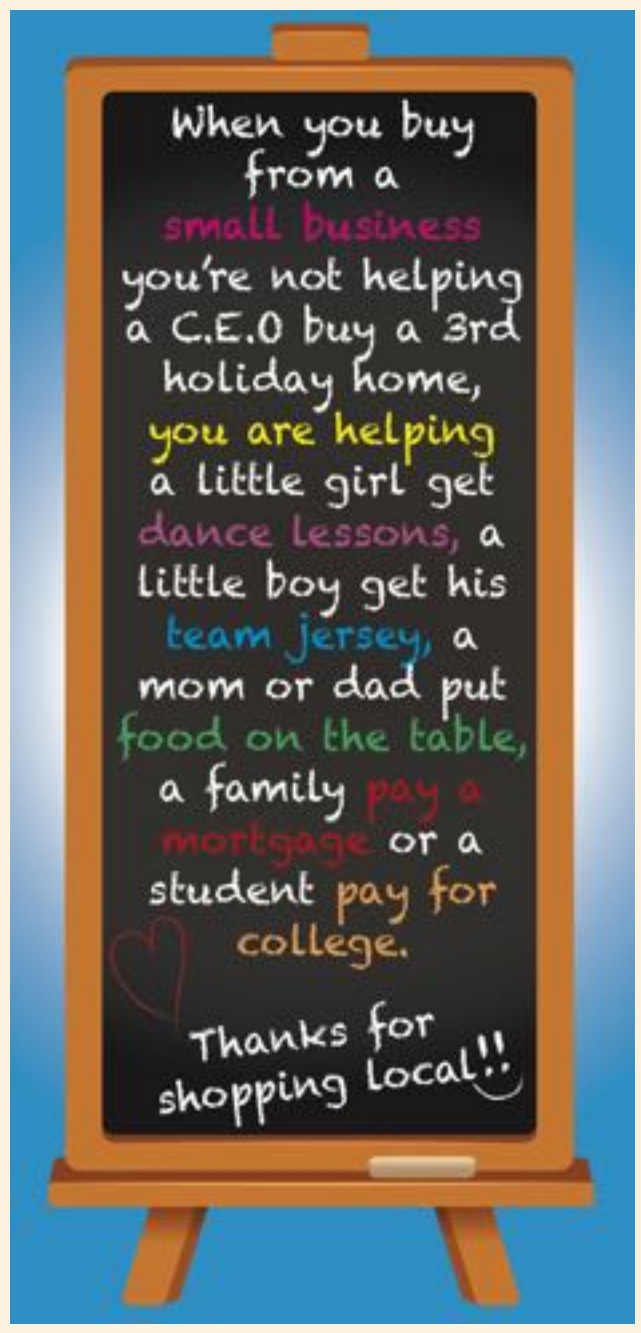


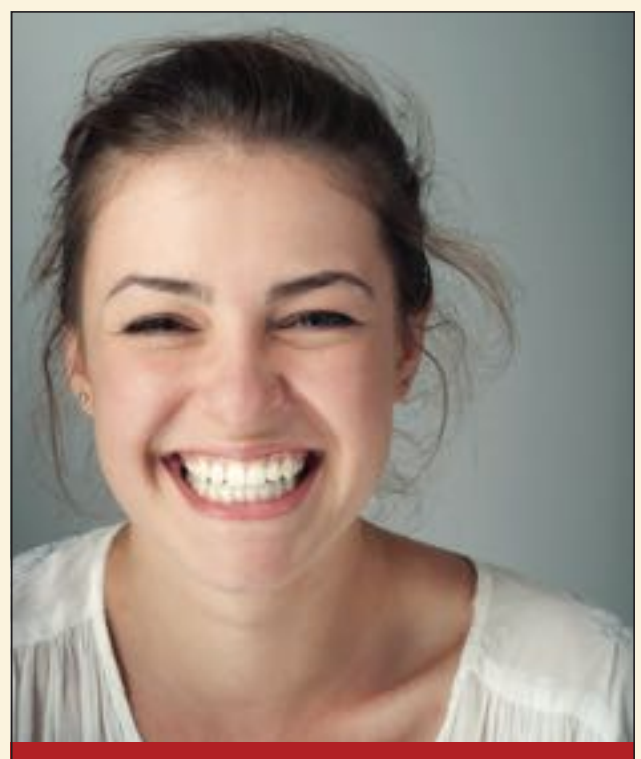
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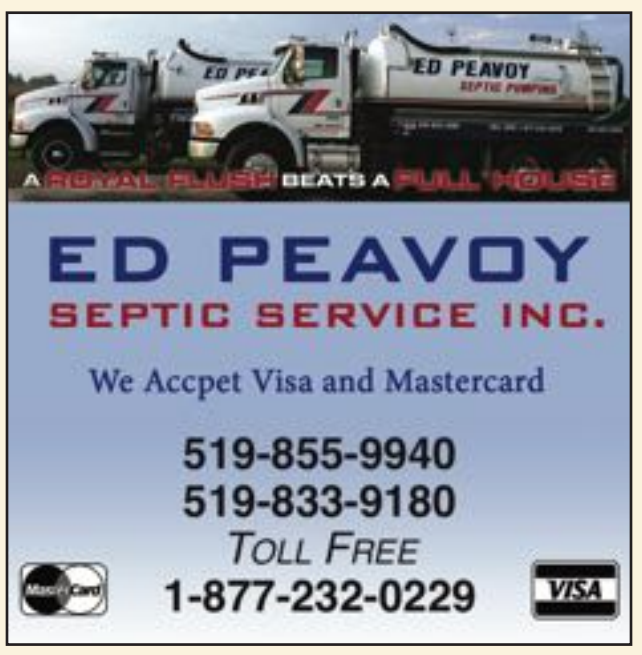
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Popular RAM Rodeo postponed until last weekend in September

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

The popular RAM Rodeo that takes over the Orangeville Agricultural Centre every June will still go ahead, but it has been postponed and moved to the back of this season's schedule.

The Orangeville Rodeo is usually one of the first stops for the wild bronco busting show, however due to the current situation, the event had to be postponed.

The RAM Rodeo features cowboys and cowgirls from across North and South America who participate in several events for prize money.

Events include wild bronco busting, barrel racing, and bull riding.

This year's tour has 14 stops around southern Ontario. Events in Brooklin and Burford have been cancelled and will return in 2021.

Rodeo events bring visitors from all over to see the action action as competitors take a wild ride on a kicking horse, angry bull, or use their horsemanship skills to gallop wildly around the ring.

Several tour organizations place the Rodeo on their schedule for foreign tourists to attend as part of their Canadian visit and it has proved to be very popular as they enjoy the thrilling action.

The Rodeo is held over two days in Orangeville and also features other activities including music, a beer tent, tailgate party, and other exhibitions prior to the start of the main event.

The Orangeville Coors Pro Extreme Bull Freestyle event was also planned at the Agricultural centre and was to take place on May 9.

Rodeo organizer Ross Millar confirmed this event has been cancelled. There is currently no date planned for a rescheduled stop in Orangeville.

The RAM Rodeo tour will kick-off on July 11, 12, in Stevensville and move to several locations around the province over the summer.

The Orangeville RAM Rodeo will take place on Saturday, September 26, and Sunday, September 27, at the Orangeville Agricultural Centre.



FILE PHOTO

PUSHED BACK: The popular Orangeville RAM Rodeo has been rescheduled for September 26 and 27.

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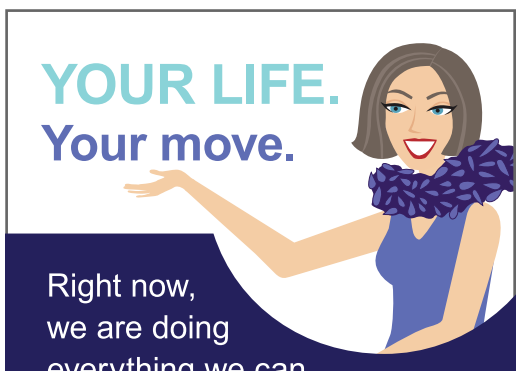
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