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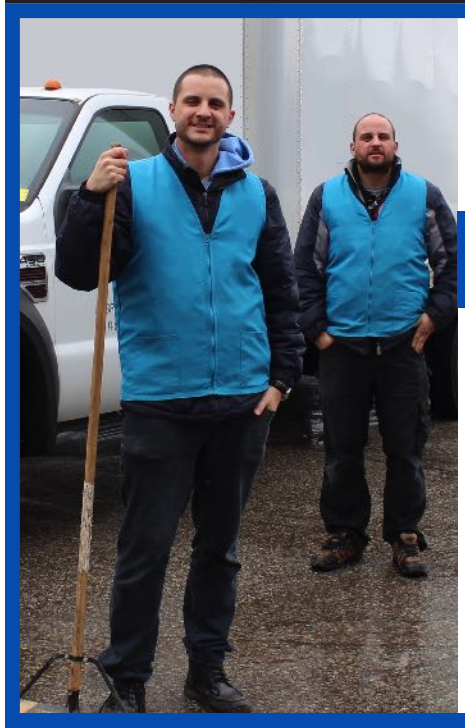
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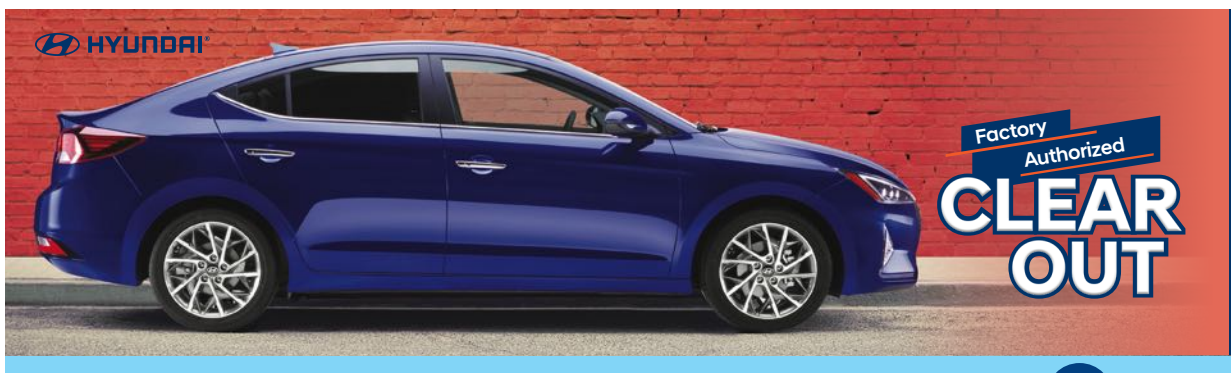
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PHOTO COURTESY OF MPP SYLVIA JONES

THANKING OUR MILITARY MEMBERS: Premier Doug Ford, alongside Dufferin-Caledon MPP and Solicitor General Sylvia Jones spoke with members from the Canadian Armed Forces in Toronto this week, to thank them for the work they did regarding the outbreaks in long-term care homes in recent months. The CAF members participated in 'Operation LASER' to respond to the impacts the COVID-19 pandemic had on long-term care homes. "At the height of the pandemic, the men and women of the Canadian Armed Forces were there for us," said Premier Ford.

Local resident starts online petition against public school board's mandatory mask order

Written By ALYSSA PARKHILL

Local Caledon resident Devon Caltagirone has launched an online petition calling on area school boards to remove their mandatory mask order for young students returning to the classroom.

Students from grades one to 12 have been instructed to wear a face covering while attending in-person classes at all Peel District School Board facilities. Kindergarten students are also being "strongly encouraged" to wear masks.

Caltagirone states that there are a large portion of parents who are on the opposing side, stating students should be able to have the option of whether or not they want to wear a face covering while attending school.

"Everybody was so eager to get their kids back to school, and I know a lot of parents were worried about the masking," said Caltagirone. "Teachers, which have also been on the opposing side, brought up how SickKids didn't recommend it. It stated that it would actually be counterproductive and it wold also have an emotional and mental toll on the children."

Continued on Page A2

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TOWN OF CALEDON
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See Page 7

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Peel District School Board 'prepared' to welcome students back to class

Written By ALYSSA PARKHILL

As students head back to school, whether in person or online, Peel District School Board has prepared a list of details and information for students and parents through these unprecedented times.

"We have developed comprehensive guides to help staff, students, parents and caregivers prepare for the return to school," said PDSB Senior Communications Officer, Kayla Tishcoff.

School doors opened this past Tuesday (Sept. 8), where elementary school students from kindergarten to Grade 8 are to return to school in-person, five days a week. Secondary school students have the option to opt for in-person, or online learning in an adapted schedule.

The school board also created a family guide for the reopening of schools for the 2020-2021 year, which includes health and safety measures information, what the school year will look like for elementary and secondary school students including class schedules, student arrival and departure procedures, how each part of the school day will look like and what students and parents can expect.

The biggest challenge PDSB has come across when preparing for the new school year during the pandemic, is developing an online learning platform, in a short amount of time.

"Since the Ministry's announcement on July 30, we've had approximately four weeks to build an online school that is bigger than most school boards in the province. This presents numerous logistically challenges from staffing to administration to appropriate technology to equity of access etc.," said Tishcoff. "With an average of 30 per cent of students and staff moving to distance learning in the PDSB Online School, in-person school planning has required a significant amount of work in re-doing our classes, teaching assignments, student timetables, supervision schedules etc. all under a very tight timeline."

So, what is the school board doing to keep students and staff safe upon their return to the classroom?



FILE PHOTO

BACK TO SCHOOL: The provincial government is providing $1.3 billion funding to support school safety including new public nurses and cleaning staff.

Enhanced screening is taking place for students arriving and departing school, as well as encouraging parents to screen their children before they leave for school. Students are asked to understand the symptoms and how to properly identify them themselves in the case of developing COVID-19 while at school.

All students from grades one to 12 have been told that mandatory face covering is in place to keep each other and others safe.

Medical Officer of Health Dr. Lawrence C. Loh wrote a letter to parents and students on different guidelines on how to keep safe last Friday (Sept. 4).

"Peel Public Health is working with our local school board partners to prepare for a safe reopening of schools," he stated. "School boards have developed school reopening plans to ensure the health and safety of everyone at the school. Reopening plans are based on guidance from the Ontario government and in consultation with Peel Public Health."

Two staff members in the PDSB have recently tested positive for COVID-19, one at Briarwood Public School in Mississauga and Ross Drive Public School in Brampton.

"Preparing schools physically for these new realities of operating during a pandemic have required significant problem-solving, cooperative work with Peel Public Health and attention to detail to keep our staff and students safe," said Tishcoff.

For more information, please visit peelschools.org.

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Continued from FRONT

Local resident starts online petition against public school board's mandatory mask order

On July 29, SickKids Hospital released a 'Guidance for School Reopening' information guide for parents, students and teachers on safety measures and medical information regarding students and the COVID-19 virus.

The document goes in to clear depth about the factors that impact students and teachers while schools reopen, including masking for children.

According to the document, "school-aged children and youth who are not about to remove their NMM (non-medical mask) without assistance should not wear a NMM due to safety concerns. NMMs should also not be worn by children or youth who cannot tolerate an NMM due to cognitive, sensory or mental health issues."

Caltagirone believes the order is being put into place for the benefit of teachers, rather than students, which she feels is wrong.

"A lot of people who see (the petition), especially for the people in the Caledon area, the epidemiology is so low, there was even a week in August where there were no cases. I think it was mostly what (inspired me to set the petition up), to go on the opposing side and (advocate for) the kids. I think there's a fear that teachers have coming in contact with the children. I think maybe the pressure was on (the school board), and maybe that's why they didn't want to do much more besides do the mandate," she said.

She added, "The average classroom is 20 students to one teacher. We're putting the teacher before the children. And I think that's wrong."

She goes on to explain that students, teachers and staff members within the school become a social bubble within each other, stating how teachers are dealing with the same students daily, as well as the students with their teacher.

Mental health is strongly talked about when in the subject of COVID-19 pandemic, and SickKids Hospital reports that children and youth "may experience increased stress and anxiety related to the COVID-19 pandemic or to the implantation of risk mitigation strategies in their school environment."

Caltagirone says that once people can understand the information given by health officials from SickKids Hospital, they'll understand the importance behind allowing masks to be optional.

"I feel like it's ignorance and lack of awareness," she said. "We have less than one to one ratio here in Caledon specifically, and it's really interesting to see this override and not think about the more important things. There're people who live everyday with mental and emotional illness, but their physically bodies are 100 per cent."

She added, "Even the fear that people are feeling, I feel if they knew more, they might relax a little bit. It's a sad reality."

For more information about the SickKids report, please visit sickkids.ca.

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CCS hosts program to support locals looking for a transition

Written By ALYSSA PARKHILL

Caledon Community Services hosts several seminars, programs, and services that reach every part of the Caledon community over the course of the year, and now they're stepping up to offer assistance to individuals who have found themselves out of work due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

The team at CCS have seen the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic has had on members of the community, whether it being their well-being, health and even jobs.

In order to continue their support in helping those in need, CCS has Second Career Info Sessions for anyone who has been laid off, or just simply interested in training for a new career.

"Second Career Info Session is where anyone can join (at the moment- virtual) to understand how this government grant program works. This program is available to laid-off, unemployed individuals who require skills training to return to work in high demand occupations," said Donna Cragg, Director of Communications at CCS. "During the session, participants will learn their eligibility, suitability and financial availability if they are interested in obtaining skills training."

Participants also learn about application processes, research needed to be completed and the team at CCS even review any application forms that need to be completed and answer any questions.

"Those who meet the criteria, will then work with a job coach on a one to one basis, and receive support and guidance during the application process," said Cragg.

The program is a government funded program. Back in 2008 the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development, developed the program to support individuals who are unemployed or laid off and encourage them to transition into another field within the economy.

"This is a great opportunity for any individuals in the community who are interested in transitioning their careers, but unable to afford themselves to upgrade their skills. Based on the individual household financial situation they will receive full or partial funding to obtain a certificate or diploma in the field of their training choice," explained Cragg.

She added, "Once they are trained, they are better prepared to secure sustainable employment with their newly earned skills. Ultimately this leads to less unemployment rate in the community, a better earning, and better standard of livelihood in the community."



FILE PHOTO

NEW PROGRAM: Caledon Community Services hosts Second Career seminars to those looking to transition into a new ca-

CCS provided some service testimonials from a select few who describe the impacts the Second Career program has had for them.

"My job coach led me through the entire process and I was accepted into the program receiving the majority of my funds to return to college. I was able to very successfully complete my ECE diploma in two years, and even earned a Silver Medal for academic excellence," one local resident said. "Since then I have had multiple job offers, some from places I never even applied to. I became happily employed after I graduated, earning much more than I ever have before. If not for my job coach's guidance, I don't know if I would have thought that someone like me could be eligible to receive so much help to get back into the workforce. I am truly grateful for everything both she and Jobs Caledon have done for me."

Another area resident who made use of the program stated, "I have PhD degree in Microbial Biochemistry and worked in senior level positions at different prestigious institutions. All of a sudden, when my previous employer decided to close the business, I had to start my job search all over again. My Job Coach started looking at 'Second Career' program and she helped me to narrow down my options and did a lot of work to put me on the right track. I had an impression that Second Career program is good for newcomers to hone up their skill, but I was pleasantly surprised to know that it is immensely useful for people from all walks of life. My sincere thanks to CCS, I am very grateful that now I have a great job and so much more confidence to move forward."

The Second Career Info Sessions are held online through web meetings, where registration is required. For more info, visit ccs4u.org.

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Police warn of scammer posing as Caledon OPP officer

Officers from Caledon OPP are investigating several report of someone identifying themselves as an OPP officer and requesting Bitcoin transactions

The complainant reported that they received a call from a number identified on their call display as the OPP Caledon Detachment. The scammer then identified themselves as an OPP office and claimed the victim's Social Insurance Card (SIN) had been compromised. The resident was then provided instructions on how to transfer funds into Bitcoin supposedly to save their financial security.

As a result of this scam one victim in Caledon lost approximately $14,000.

The Caledon OPP want to ensure residents that officers will never call and request any sort of financial transactions to be made.

Scammers are using a process called "Spoofing" or "ghosting" allowing them to alter their outgoing caller ID to show a different name.

Residents are asked to be mindful of scammer red-flags: Unsolicited phone calls, emails, texts or mail. Interactions that are coerced, threatening, or involving conversations that you are told not to discuss with anyone. Payments or money transactions that are requested in the form of cryptocurrency, money transfer or gift cards. Government agencies notifying you of payments via text message.

Remember: If something seems too good to be true, it probably is. Hang up the phone, delete an email or text if you think it's a scam. Research sellers and websites before making purchases or donation's. Don't let anyone pressure you into providing personal information.

If you think you have been a victim of fraud, contact the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at 1-888-495-8501 or report online at http://www.antifraudcentre.ca; you can also contact your local police service or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS).

OPP releases latest traffic data ahead of road safety campaign

With the school year set to begin, the OPP will be highly visible over the Labour Day Long Weekend, ensuring drivers are sharing the road safely and practicing the exemplary driving habits that are vital to keeping children, other students and all other road users safe.

By the end of August, OPP traffic officers and collision investigators had responded to 165 fatal motor vehicle collisions, marking the 179th road fatality of the year. When factoring in its latest traffic data, the OPP is concerned that aggressive, impaired and inattentive motorists will drive these numbers higher before the end of 2020.

Speed was a contributing factor in 32 of this year's fatalities. 28 of the deaths were linked to driver inattention and 28 involved alcohol and/or drugs. Lack of seat belt use - a behaviour attributed to both drivers and passengers - accounted for 34 deaths.

Motorcyclists have been particularly hard hit, with 26 motorcycle drivers and two passengers losing their lives so far this year. Failing to yield right of way was the lead contributing factor in these collisions. By comparison, 16 motorcycle drivers and one passenger were killed by this time last year.

Also up from 2019 are pedestrian fatalities at 27, compared to 21 deaths last year. Six cyclists have also lost their lives this year after being struck by vehicles.

"For so many of the innocent people killed in these collisions, there's a driver whose careless behaviour contributed to this senseless loss of life and the lifelong impact left with the surviving families. This is what our officers are thinking about when they issue you that ticket for speeding or breaking other traffic laws, and so should you. With children and other students travelling to and from school on foot, riding a bike, on a bus or other vehicle beginning next week, please slow down, don't drive impaired and pay full attention to the road, sidewalks and crosswalks," said Chief Superintendent Rohan Thompson, Commander, OPP Highway Safety Division.

OPP investigate serious collision on Hwy. 10

On Friday, Sept. 4, at approximately 7:52 a.m., officers from Caledon OPP responded to a serious motor vehicle collision that occurred on Highway 10 south of Charleston Side Road in the Town of Caledon.

The collision involved two motor vehicles - a blue hatchback and a gravel tractor trailer. Initial investigation indicates that the sedan was travelling southbound on Highway 10, while the tractor trailer was going northbound. As the tractor trailer turned left to enter a private driveway on the West side of Highway 10, it collided with the sedan.

The driver of the blue sedan sustained life-threatening injuries in the collision, and was transported to a hospital.

As a result of the police investigation, the driver of the tractor trailer, Rana Singh, 60, of Brampton, has been arrested and charged with: Operation causing bodily harm; Operation while impaired - alcohol; Operation while impaired- blood alcohol concentration 80 plus, and Fail to stop at accident resulting in bodily harm.

The accused party is scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville on November 19th, 2020 to answer to the charges.

Caledon OPP is appealing to the public for additional witnesses of this collision. Anyone with information or dash camera footage involving this incident is asked to contact Caledon OPP Detachment at (905) 584-2241 or toll-free at 1-888-310-1122.

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

Road safety ahead of back to school

Officers from Caledon OPP will be participating in a "Back To Basics' safe driving initiative starting with the return of school.

A return to school for students is a good time for motorists to look at their own driving behaviour. Over the recent months officers have observed many motorists failing to adhere to the basic rules of the road such as: Not stopping for stop signs, Failing to stop at red lights when making right turns, and Speeding in Community Safety Zones believing that the zone were only in effect when school is on.

With schools opening in Caledon today, motorists are also reminded of the necessity to stop for school buses when approaching or overtaking. Unless there is a physical barrier, such as a guide rail or median, motorists both directions need to stop when a school bus is topped and has its red lights activated.

Motorists need to remember the ABCs of traffic safety during the initiative: A - Always stop for red lights and stop signs. Slowing is not stopping - there is a difference. B - Bus awareness. When you see a stopped school bus with red lights activated - you must stop. C - Community Safety Zones - These zones are in effect in communities at all times, day and night, and require drivers to slow down and drive with increased care and attention regardless if the school year is on.

Cyclists are not exempt either. A cyclist is considered a motorist when using the roads and must obey all traffic laws as well.

Remembering the ABCs when using Caledon roads will ensure motorists and cyclists receive a passing grade in safety.

Early morning crash on The Gore Rd. leads to charges

On Saturday, Sept. 5, at approximately 8:36 a.m., officers from Caledon OPP responded to a motor vehicle collision in the area of The Gore Road and Castlederg Side Road in the town of Caledon.

Information was received that a sedan travelling north bound on The Gore Road rear ended a dump truck parked on the side of the road. The sedan sustained major damage, and the driver was taken to a hospital with serious injuries.

As a result of the police investigation, the driver of the sedan, Harry Brar, 23, of Mono, was charged with: Failure or refuse to comply with breath demand.

The accused is expected to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville on November 12, 2020, to answer to the charge.

The driver's vehicle was impounded for seven days and driver's license suspended for 90 days.

Public Notice

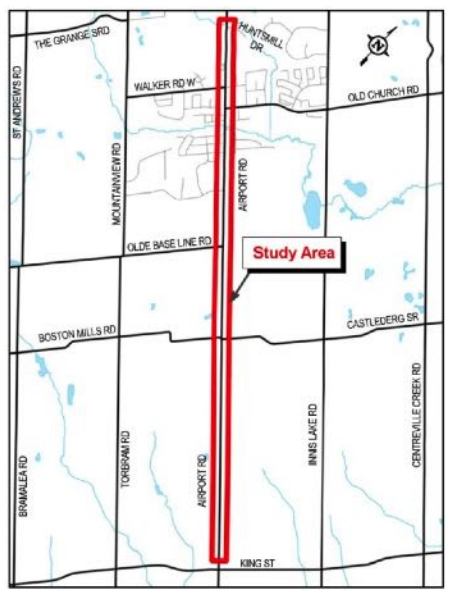
Region of Peel
working with you

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE NO. 2

AIRPORT ROAD FROM KING STREET TO HUNTSMILL DRIVE, TOWN OF CALEDON
MUNICIPAL CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT STUDY

The Region of Peel is conducting a Class Environmental Assessment (EA) Study for Airport Road from 100m north of King Street to 300m north of Huntsmill Drive in the Town of Caledon (see map). The purpose of the Study is to:

- Address long term issues related to planned future growth,
- Enhance the safety of the Airport Road corridor by examining intersection improvements, potential for roundabouts and traffic calming measures for truck and other vehicular traffic through Caledon East, and
- Promote infrastructure improvements to facilitate walking and cycling.



The Study is being conducted in compliance with Schedule 'C' of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Municipal Engineers Association, as amended in 2015), which is approved under the *Ontario Environmental Assessment Act*.

PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE NO. 2

Due to the current COVID-19 guidelines, the PIC will be held in an online format to present the evaluation of alternative design concepts and recommended preliminary design.

To have questions answered and provide input/comments you can:

- **Join the live online presentation on September 23 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.** to hear more about the project and ask questions. Information on how to join the Presentation will be provided on the Project Website.
- **Visit the Project Website from September 17 to October 14** to review project details: http://www.peelregion.ca/pw/transportation/environ-assess/airport-road-improvements.htm
- **Provide your feedback by October 14, 2020.** Share your comments during the live session on September 23 and complete the online Survey and/or Comment Sheet in the link above. You can also email your comments to the Project Team members listed below.

The Project Team will review and consider the feedback received at the PIC and confirm the recommended preliminary design. An Environmental Study Report (ESR) will be prepared to document the planning, consultation and design process. The ESR will be made available for public review for a minimum of 30 calendar days.

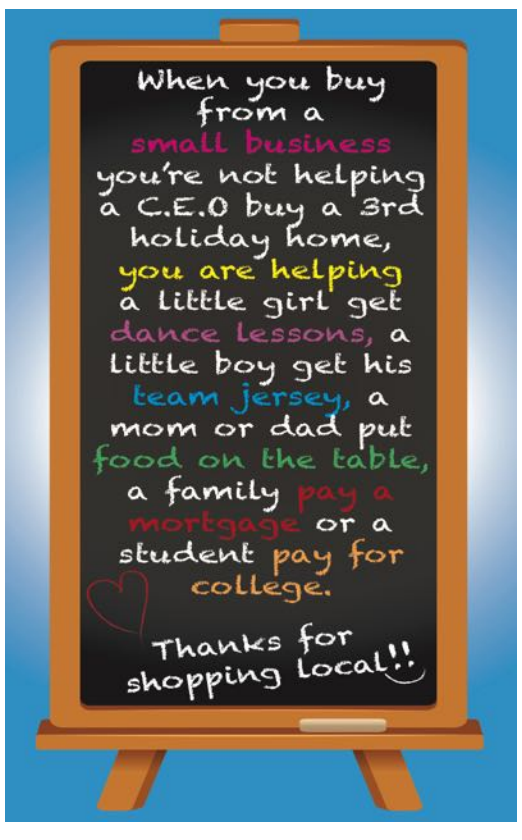
If you have any questions or comments on the Study, please contact either of the following Project Team members:

Sonya Bubas, MCIP, RPP
Project Manager
Region of Peel
10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite B, 4th Floor
Brampton, ON L6T 4B9
Tel: 905-791-7800 ext. 7801
Email: sonya.bubas@peelregion.ca

Asha Saddi, BA(Hons), PMP
Technical Analyst
Region of Peel
10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite B, 4th Floor
Brampton, ON L6T 4B9
Tel: 905-791-7800 ext. 7794
Email: asha.saddi@peelregion.ca

The Region of Peel is committed to ensure that all Regional services, programs and facilities are inclusive and accessible for persons with disabilities. Please contact the Project Manager if you need any disability accommodation to participate in the study.

September 10, 2020



Ontario sees spike in COVID-19 cases, reopening paused

Written By ALYSSA PARKHILL

The number of active COVID-19 cases in Ontario have spiked over the past week.

As reported by the provincial government on Wednesday (Sept. 9), Ontario saw a total of 149 new cases in the province, 41 of them within Peel Region, 50 in Toronto and 16 in Ottawa. As of press time, there are around 1,540 active cases of coronavirus across Ontario.

Deputy Premier and Minister of Health Christine Elliot took to Twitter on Tuesday (Sept 8), stating the provincial government will not be loosening anymore COVID-19 enforced restrictions for at least the next month.

"Based on advice from the Chief Medical Officer of Health, Ontario will take a four-week pause – or two, 14-day cycles of the virus— before considering any further loosening of public health measures or reopening additional businesses, facilities and organizations," she wrote.

There were 31 new cases reported in Peel Region as of Monday (Sept. 7), with 20 of those in Brampton, nine in Mississauga and two in Caledon.

"Nothing is more important than protecting the health and well-being of all Ontarians, including especially our most vulnerable. Together we've made remarkable progress in our fight against COVID-19," said Minister Elliot in a recent news conference.

As students head back to school this week, the recent spike in cases has caused concern amongst parents worried for the safety of their children. The provincial government claims they are doing all that they can to keep students safe from the virus.

"We are providing $1.3 billion in supports for schools. (We've hired) 624 more public health nurses, 1,300 new cleaning staff, providing $246 million to hire more staff, the most rigorous and comprehensive health and safety protocols in the entire country," said Premier Doug Ford in an announcement on Tuesday.

With the main focus on getting students back to school, the decision to halt all other reopening plans for the province did not come lightly, Elliott claimed.

"Taking a pause in further re-opening will help avoid broad-scale closures and shutdowns," stated Minister Elliott. "And on the first day of school for many students, we need to do everything we can to limit the spread of COVID-19. The best way to keep our schools safe is to keep our communities safe."

The spike comes after a month of low confirmed counts in active COVID-19 cases. To date, since the pandemic began back in March, there have been a total of 43,536 confirmed cases in the province, with 8,048 confirmed in Peel region.

For more information, please visit peelregion.ca.

NOW LEASING

"Cleaning and grocery shopping was fun for the first 50 years"

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Living at Sorrento includes:

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- Outdoor Dining on Heated Terrace
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- Wine / Scotch Tastings and Cocktail Hour in the Bar
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RETIREMENT RESIDENCE



New Listing!
21330 Porterfield Rd., Caledon $1,199,000



Amazing corner property on 2.5 Acres! Conveniently located on the Caledon/Orangeville border with easy access to Hwy 109/Hwy 10. Enjoy tons of space to park, play and work! Flat level land with Large open space behind the house and buildings. 2 1/2 Storey Solid brick home 3100 sq ft features 3 bedrooms plus a loft bedroom. Bonus 400 sq ft Addition as a Rec Room with potential for a Nanny Suite with plumbing and electrical all roughed in! Several outbuildings including a Drive shed with an enclosed lean to shed, a horse shed and 2 storage sheds.
Enjoy country living with all the benefits of the town of Orangeville within a 5 min drive!
One-of-a-kind Property!
See video drone, virtual tour and floor plans at the property website: www.21330porterfield.info

$1,100,000 Wellington Nth.



5 Acres of Significant Development Potential
3 Bedroom Bungalow within
Town of Arthur limits.
Municipal Water.
Gas in immed. proximity.
Sewers at Eastern Boundary.

$1,799,000 Milton



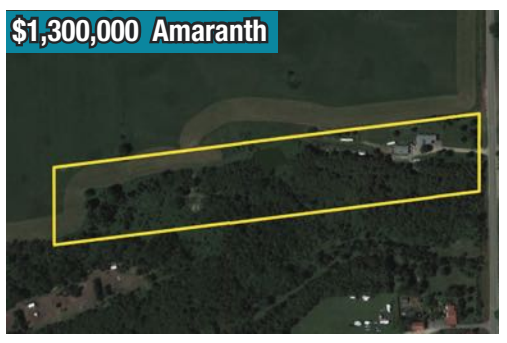
20 ACRES Approximately.
Detached Split Level, partially renovated.
Sold as is or Seller will finish if required.
Between Acton & Rockwood.
Well, Septic, 3 Bedrooms, 2 W/rooms,
Basement, Workshop.

$13,900,000 Amaranth



78.08 Acres. Vacant Land Developable.
Draft Plan Approved
73 Lots with 100'-175' Frontage.
Some Lots close to 1 Acre.
Others are .06 to .07 Acre Lots.

$1,300,000 Amaranth



Development for 10 Plus Estate Homes.
280' Frontage. Approx. 10 Acres.
Detached 2 bed. home + Workshop.
Private Well - Septic. Could be bought with
78.08 adjoining acres of development land.

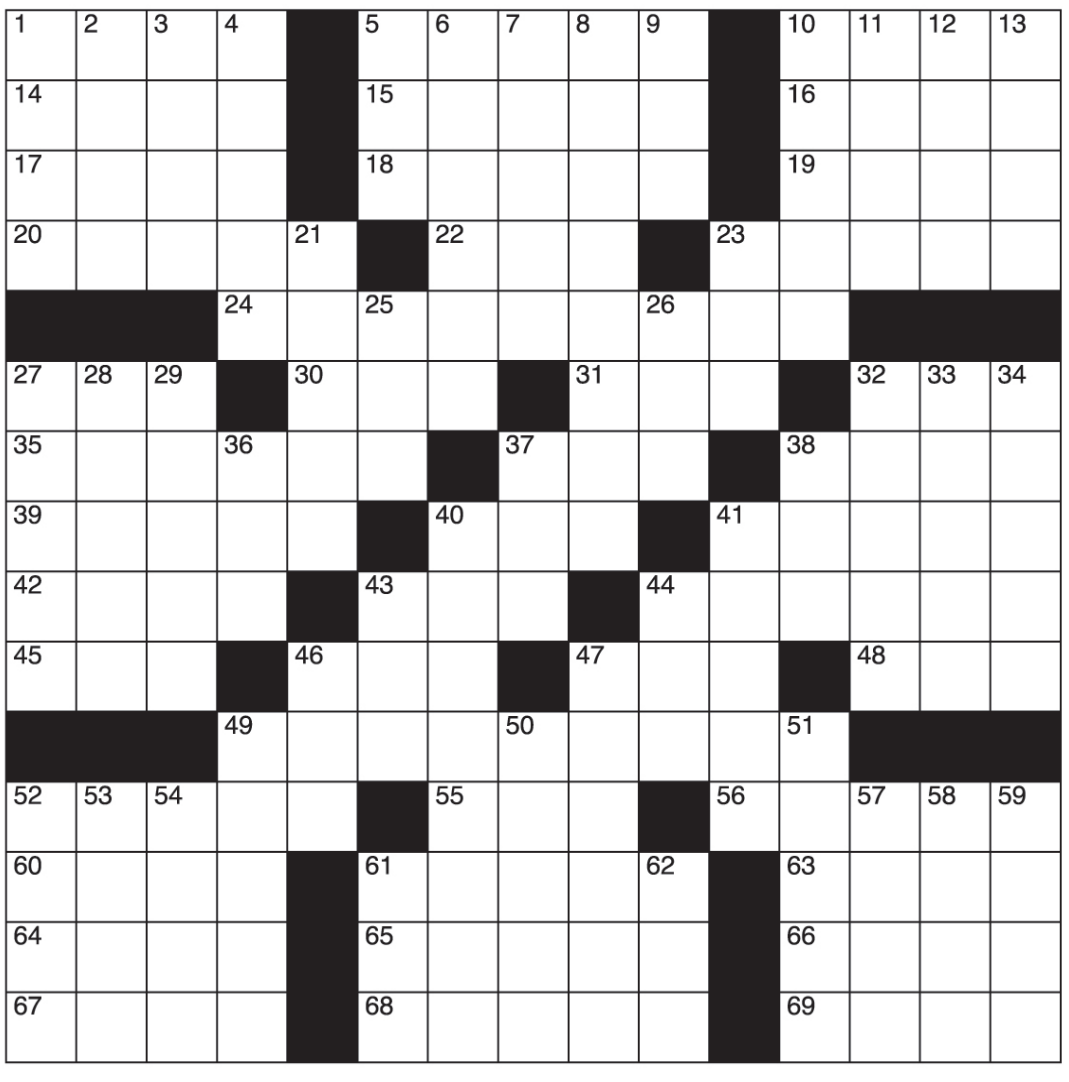
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The Citizen CROSSWORD

Solution on page A12



CLUES ACROSS
1. Aurochs
5. Central Dravidian language
10. Split pulses in Indian cooking
14. Tropical starchy tuberous root
15. Well known constellation
16. About aviation
17. Bowfin genus
18. Proper
19. Expression of annoyance
20. Cabbies
22. Bro or sis
23. Spiritual leader
24. Where football coaches work
27. Old TV part
30. A way to color
31. Touch lightly
32. Surround
35. Breached
37. Aristocratic young woman
38. Dry ravine
39. Hebrew measurement units
40. Supporter
41. Type of sword
42. Influential Irish playwright
43. Witch
44. Flower cluster
45. Mark Wahlberg's animal friend
46. Psychedelic amphetamine
47. Actors' group
48. Cool!
49. Salts
52. Group of SE China
55. Illuminated
56. Semitic Sun god
60. Water (Spanish)
61. Employed
63. Japanese ankle sock
64. Fishing fly
65. Some pheasants are this
66. Literary name for Ireland
67. Must have
68. A way to write
69. One point east of southeast

CLUES DOWN
1. American state
2. Hindu model of ideal man
3. Type of acid
4. Drenches
5. "The Raven" writer
6. Emerged
7. Alpha Centauri: __ Kentaurus
8. Democratic Presidential candidate
9. Hostelry
10. Fathers
11. Any plant with leaves used for flavoring
12. Member of a Semitic people
13. Lesotho monetary unit
21. Lots
23. Jewish address corresponding to "Sir"
25. Male parent
26. A way to get
27. Body part
28. Seam in an organ
29. Landlocked African country
32. Process for producing ammonia
33. Excessive fluid accumulation in tissues
34. Bogged down
36. Native American tribe
37. Unfashionable person
38. Female grunts
40. Well known
41. Gurus
43. Norse mythological site
44. Tell on
46. __ Farrow, actress
47. Cotton fabric
49. Reciter of Scandinavian poems
50. Clouds
51. Satisfies
52. Shuttered Air Force base in Germany
53. Phil __, former CIA
54. Japanese seaport
57. Female horse or zebra
58. First month of ancient Hebrew calendar
59. Trigonometric function
61. Fashionable knowledge (Slang)
62. Insecticide

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

Investigators still working to crack Varaschin murder a decade later

Written By PAULA BROWN

Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Det. Insp. Shawn Glassford is walking down Dairy Lane, a back laneway in Orangeville, in the late August heat. The alleyway, which runs parallel to main street Broadway, is the same road that Sonia Varaschin's 2010 white Toyota Corolla was found abandoned a decade ago.

He's explaining the angle that the car was found, and how it might tell the direction her killer came to park the vehicle in plain sight. Did her killer come from Broadway, making multiple 3 point turns to park? Did they come from Third St. and make a wide turn to park or do they come down Dairy Lane and pull in like common sense, Glassford said, would suggest?



FILE PHOTO

CAN THE CASE BE SOLVED?: It's now been 10 years since Orangeville nurse Sonia Varaschin was killed, likely inside her Spring Street home. The nurse was an avid hiker, and loved the outdoors according to her family.

"Down here, where we are, is to me important. They obviously know that this little laneway's here and then you can park a car. To leave her car in an area that the public has access to, this car could have been sitting here for days you wouldn't notice it, whereas a car parked in the middle of nowhere is going to stand out to people," said Glassford. "Maybe there's been some thought there or maybe not, maybe they had to get the car back into town and from their takeoff, who knows."

The "who knows" or unknowns are as much a part of the case as the evidence these days, with the 10 year anniversary of Sonia Varaschin's disappearance and murder approaching.

Sonia Varaschin was 42 when she was murdered. She was a pediatric nurse that had just made a change in her career to work with a pharmaceutical company. Over the years Sonia Varaschin's family has noted her outdoor athletic love of hiking, skiing, and biking, and they say, before she was murdered, she appeared to be happy.

OPS Det. Jodee Hobor has worked the Varaschin case since 2014, and in recent years worked as the victim liaison to the Varaschin family, creating a connection that, sometimes she says, has been too close to heart.

"I think she was a really good person, I believe she was very smart, I think she was a happy person, she seemed to love her work and she was eager to learn," said Hobor.

In 2010, on the Sunday of her disappearance, Sonia had spent time with her family at their home in Bolton. She had also spent time with her boyfriend. She was at her Spring Street home studying for her new job, and she went to bed – that was the last time investigators say she was heard from.

Sonia was first reported missing on Aug. 30, and her blood stained car was later found abandoned in the alleyway off of Broadway, by Orangeville Police Service. Blood evidence was found in her home, leading police to believe that's where she had been murdered.

"Why Sonia? She didn't lead a high risk lifestyle, she wasn't involved in drugs, she wasn't hanging out with the wrong people," said Glassford. "She's your typical young woman who is just trying to lead her life, right, so why was she selected? Why was she murdered? That's the big question"

On Sept. 5, 2010 a body was discovered in a ditch along Beechgrove Sideroad and Mountainview Road in Caledon, and on Sept. 7, following an autopsy, the remains were confirmed to be those of Sonia. The bed sheets and comforter removed from her home had been used to conceal her body.

A size 10 or 11 boot print from a pair of WindRiver or Dakota boots, sold at Mark's Work Warehouse, was thought to be the key to solving her murder. DNA evidence also collected from the multiple crime scenes became law enforcemen's promise of "we'll catch you", yet yielded no match, which Glassford says could be due to not having their DNA tested before or even being deceased.

Months after the homicide case began, investigators brought out a profile of a "cold blooded killer".

Since then investigators have remained tight lipped on releasing too much information and evidence to the public. The answer of how Sonia was killed has even been kept form her family. This evidence is what is known as holdback information.

"There's only certain people who know about that information," said Glassford. "There's us and then there's the killer."

Looking through the evidence and locations of her car and body, Glassford says that it tells them something about the killer. The possibility of familiarity of the county, a targeting of Sonia, and even their willingness to take a risk.

"When you think about the chain of events, where the risk of being caught is very high, to me that is a huge risk and its like, why go to that extent? Those are huge questions," Glassford said.

Now, 10 years later, many questions remain regarding the killing of Sonia Varaschin. The most important one, perhaps, is whether or not her murder can be solved, and the killer brought to justice.

The simple answer to that from Glassford is "yes", because the case he says is very solvable.

"Just because its 10 years doesn't mean it'll never be solved. Cases have been solved that are 10, 20, and 30 years old," he said. "We're not going to give up on this case."

With tips from the public still coming in - Glassford says police have received over 1,500 in the past decade, there is a belief that public information is one of the keys to solving the murder of Sonia Varaschin.

"Someone knows something," Glassford concluded.



Hope James suspended for this season

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

If you plan on going out and having a few drinks during the holiday season this year, you better think ahead when it comes to getting home safely.

Home James – Caledon, has been providing rides for people who go out drinking and need to get themselves and their car home for the past several years.

The local chapter is based in Caledon but also reaches out to the Orangeville area at times and by special appointment. The organization also has a chapter in Chatham-Kent.

The volunteer organization will pick people up with one of their cars and bring a second member of the team to drive your car home. The organization is supported by many local businesses and local car dealerships lend their courtesy cars to Home James on the weekends to support the program.

It has been a very successful program around the holiday season for people who realize they have imbibed a little too much to drive home. You can also plan ahead and arrange for a ride if you know you will be going out and consuming alcohol. It's a way to get people and their automobiles home safely.

Locally, Home James has been operating since 2009.

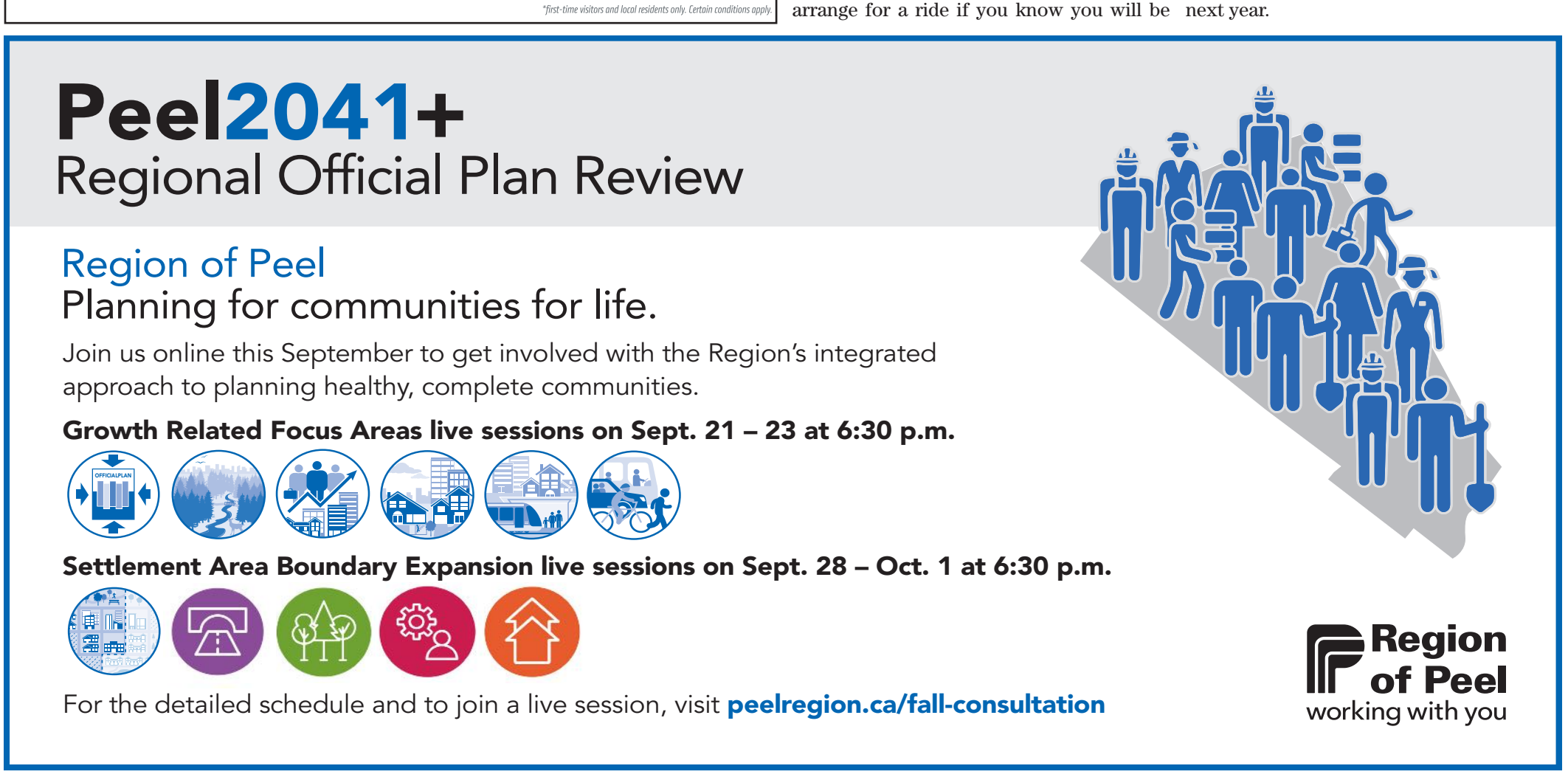
However, this year they have decided to suspend operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The Board of Directors has made the tough decision to suspend all of our operations for 2020 and we fully plan to resume in 2021," the organization said in a statement. "We are using this time to continue to improve our service in the background."

The organization is reminding people that they are in contact with the Ontario Provincial Police who are dedicated to continuing enforcement and the fight against impaired driving in the community.

They are reminding people that just because they are not operating this year it doesn't mean there are alternate ways to get home if you have been drinking rather than risking your live and the lives others on the road.

Home James plans to resume operations next year.



No day is the same for local realtor

Written By ALYSSA PARKHILL

As a part of our look into the daily lives of different people and professions here in our community, we at the Citizen spoke with Caledon realtor Jennifer Jewell recently to live a day in her life.

When Jewell wakes up, the first thing she does is check her emails and complete her first work task of the day. Second of course, is making breakfast.

"I can't speak for everybody in my industry, we're all different, but for me, I wake up and the first thing I do is check my emails. I think like probably most people in any business, I check my emails and I respond to my emails, and I also check to see if there's any new listings that may be appealing for my buyer clients," she said. "Then I get up and have breakfast."



SUBMITTED PHOTO

A DAY IN THE LIFE: Caledon realtor Jennifer Jewell walks us through a day in the life in the real estate industry.

Realtors and real estate agents' days vary from non-stop busy from beginning to the end of their day, or sometimes steady, but are never the same.

"This is the thing with real estate. There really is no daily routine. My routine is getting up in the morning, checking to see what's going on, and I'll check in the afternoon as well," she explained. "If I see anything great, I send it off to my clients and I do a follow up with them. But, in our industry, our days change so quickly."

Jewell's schedule never looks the same. Each day shows different or new clients, and new or different homes. Sometimes days are slow, and sometimes they are quick.

"For example, last week I was taking Tuesday off, I try to take one day off a week, so I was taking Tuesday off and I went to bed, it was midnight and I still had nothing up on Tuesday. I started looking at my emails at seven, and didn't leave the office until 8:15 p.m. that night," she said. "You just never know when a house comes on the market, you've got to get out and see it right away because they're moving so quickly."

The COVID-19 pandemic has drastically impacted businesses in all kinds of different industries whether it be hours, staff, procedures and health and safety measures.

Jewell says she has been one of the lucky ones who has only seen minor impacts to her and her business.

"For me, I have not slowed down. I've been very blessed that my business is continuing on throughout the pandemic," she explained. "The changes were how we met clients, having masks or gloves. We try to do as much as we can virtually, so there's a lot more video tours."

"It's weird to meet new clients now too. Obviously when you've never met them before, and you're wearing your mask, it almost doesn't seem as personal in the sense that you can't see them smile. It's really odd too because I'm also a hugger. So for me, it's been like, okay I'm so happy about the house, but we can't hug," Jewell added.

First time homebuyers are some of her favourite clients, because she gets to experience that first time feeling with the new buyers. There's a special feeling with being there for a person's first ever purchase, and a home is one for the books.

"My first-time homebuyers are my favourite. Because it's nerve-wracking, but it's exciting, I always say it's a little sweeter," she expressed. "It's the first time, it's the one they're going to remember forever."

Though Jewell's days are sometimes time consuming, full of clients, viewings, meetings and emails, her work, often times, doesn't feel like work at all. She considers real estate to be her "forever passion". There's nothing more she can imagine herself doing, then helping people find their homes and working with a great team at the office.

"I love what I do. My husband says I eat it for breakfast. It's just one of these things that I've taken to and I enjoy it, and I enjoy all the people I meet. All the people I work with, I truly like," she explained. "I want to find my clients the best home, and I want to sell their house for the most amount of money. I just want to do my best for them and get the best."

She added, "I've formed so many great friendships with my clients. That's got to be my motivation. It just doesn't feel like work."

PUBLIC NOTICE

HAVE YOUR SAY

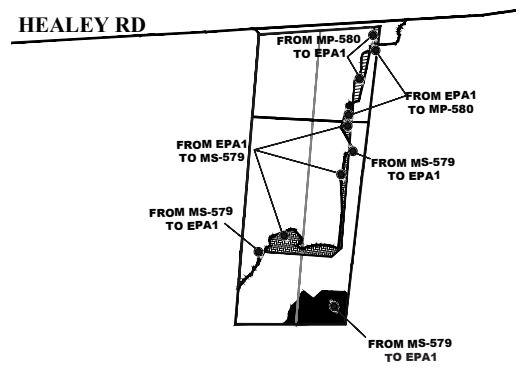
8281 and 0 Healey Road

Notice of Application and Public Meeting Proposed Zoning By-law Amendment

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

Due to continuing efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19 and to protect individuals, Town Hall will not be open to the public to attend Public Meetings until further notice. These meetings will be held electronically.

Meeting Date:	**October 6, 2020**
Public Meeting Start Time:	**7:00 p.m.**



**The illustration is a conceptual plan for information purposes and it is subject to change.*

The application is currently under review by the Town of Caledon.

HOW TO LISTEN:
To listen by phone call 1-833-311-4101,
Meeting Access Code: 132 002 9905 #.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE:
Members of the public are welcome to participate via phone or WebEx Meeting upon request.
Visit **caledon.ca/development** or call 905.584.2272 x. 7338. Please note deadlines apply.

HOW TO SUBMIT QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS:

- By email: agenda@caledon.ca and planning@caledon.ca.
  Please note that written comments will form part of the public record.
- By phone: 905.584.2272 x.7338
- In person: Book an appointment to visit Town Hall to speak with Planning and Development Services

APPLICANT:
Zelinka Priamo Ltd. on behalf of
8281 Healey Road GP Ltd. c/o One Properties

LOCATION:
8281 and 0 Healey Road, Caledon

PROPOSED CHANGES:
To amend the Zoning By-law for the subject lands from Environmental Policy Area 1 Zone (EPA1) to Serviced Industrial - Exception 579 (MS-579) and Prestige Industrial - Exception 580 (MP-580), and from Serviced Industrial - Exception 579 (MS-579) and Prestige Industrial - Exception 580 (MP-580) to Environmental Policy Area 1 Zone (EPA1) to permit a refinement to the EPA1 zone boundary based upon additional environmental analysis of the Clarkway Tributary Corridor.

LEAD PLANNER:
Adam Wendland , Intermediate Planner 905.584.2272 x. 4024 adam.wendland@caledon.ca

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:
For more information about this matter, including information about appeal rights, a copy of the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment, additional information and material, please visit **caledon.ca/notices** or contact the Lead Planner at Town Hall from Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

ACCESSIBILITY:
If you require an accessibility accommodation to attend or participate in this Public Meeting, or to access any materials related to this item in an alternate format please contact Legislative Services by phone at 905.584.2272 x.2366 or via email at legislative.services@caledon.ca. Requests should be submitted at least 10 days before the Public Meeting.

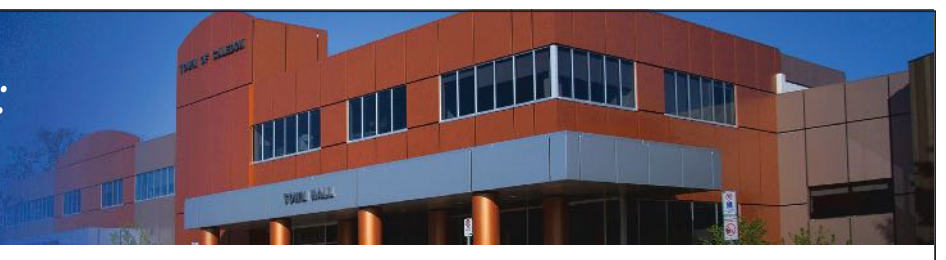
Multi-Tenant Landowners: Please post this notice in a visible location to all residents of the land.

Notice Date: September 10, 2020

TOWN OF CALEDON

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

TOWN OF CALEDON | News | Get the email version: caledon.ca/enews



Get Active
NEW Monthly Memberships



As we gradually open facilities in a way that keeps everyone safe, here are two ways you can get active.

1 MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP

Get a monthly membership at a discounted price!

- Unlimited Wellness
- Ultimate Fitness
- Aquafitness
- Recreation

2 10X PASS

Offers flexible options with no expiration date!

- Aquafitness, recreation and lane swimming
- Fitness at the Caledon Centre for Recreation & Wellness

Book before you go! Due to COVID-19 we are limiting the number of people in our facilities. Be sure to book an appointment before your visit.

caledon.ca/recreation

Thank you for wearing a mask





For meeting dates, agendas and minutes of Caledon Council, visit **caledon.ca/agenda.**

Funding for Community Organizations

2021 Municipal, Agricultural and Community Grant (MACG) program is now open.

Additional funding is now available through the Town's MACG program to support the community's recovery from the pandemic. This includes support for not-for-profit organizations with less revenue or increased costs due to the pandemic.

Is your not-for-profit community organization planning an event or working on a new project in 2021 that will enrich the lives of Caledon residents? You may qualify to receive funding through the Town's MACG Program.

caledon.ca/MACG
905.584.2272 x.4521

Deadline: October 31, 2020



TOWN OF CALEDON

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

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New owner vows to 'reinvigorate' Bolton Chiropractic Centre

Written By ALYSSA PARKHILL

Bolton Chiropractic Centre is under new management, with the facility's previous owner recently celebrating his retirement.

Dr. Michael Shore has practised chiropractic medicine here in Bolton since 1984. After his long career in the chiropractic medical field, Dr. Shore is retiring and leaving his business in the capable hands of Dr. Vikas Puri.

Dr. Vikas Puri has been in the chiropractic industry for the past 20 years. He graduated from chiropractic college back in 2001 and soon after began his practice in Brampton.

"I started out by taking over a really prominent chiropractic clinic in Brampton. It was a two-generation pair of chiropractors. I took over in 2002," said Dr. Puri. "I really enjoyed continuing that history of taking care of generations of families practices, and being a real part of the community."

In 2015, Dr. Puri started embarking on mission trips to India to serve people who weren't as fortunate, alongside a group of 60 other chiropractors from across the globe. There is where he met his wife, who also practices.

"We want to practise with the servitude and just give care to people beyond our own community and there's so much good we can do with our hands," said Dr. Puri.

In 2017, Dr. Puri began a module of care in Brampton that included more than just chiropractic medicine. The franchise model also included, therapists, acupuncture, massage therapy, psychotherapists, life coaches and energy workers just to name a few.

He wanted to create a franchise that will impact his community, but much farther as well, known as Intelligent Health Group. But to begin their expansion, they had to think about how they could go about expanding locally.

"I sold my first location to one of my associates, who is now independently owning that location, as one of our first franchisees," he said. "The opportunity came here where I thought, okay, we have two locations in Brampton right now, and how can we continue the growth pattern that we want, and this opportunity came up where Dr. Michael Shore of Bolton Chiropractic Centre, had taken over from a previous chiropractor. Those roots go back to one of the first chiropractic clinics here in Bolton.

He added, "He needed someone to succeed him and the opportunity kind of presented itself."

Dr. Puri officially took over the Bolton Chiropractic Centre this past Tuesday (Sept. 8).

Dr. Puri plans to continue the work that Bolton Chiropractic Centre has established here in Bolton, but looks forward to being about to provide more services in the future.

"We will be reinvigorated with more providers immediately in October. We'll start with some therapy services, and acupuncture and then we'll continue adding to that, like massage therapy and other services along the way, so that it becomes that complete holistic model," said Dr. Puri.

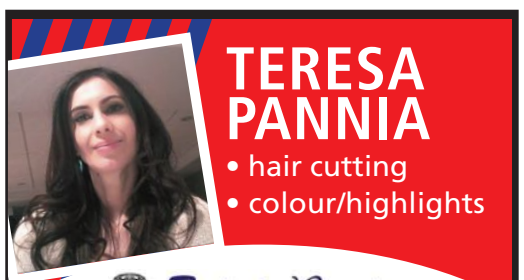
"I understand Bolton to be a very community engaged, very community oriented and there's not many degrees of separation between people, so I want to get woven into the community as much as possible and start making a difference," he said.

Bolton Chiropractic Centre is located 55 Queen St North in Bolton.

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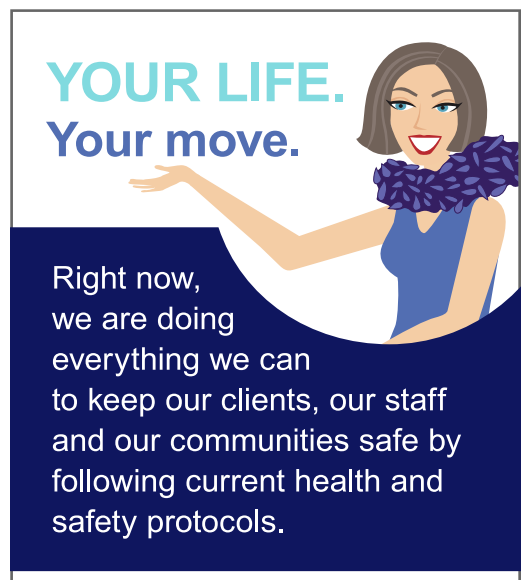
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Canadians relying on ODSP facing constant struggle to make ends meet

Written By KIRA WRONSKA DORWARD

Those lucky enough to be in ignorance of how the Ontario disability (ODSP) program works easily can shrug it off with the notions of "free money" and "limitless benefits". However, there are many unpleasant realities to this essential social service system that only ensures a maximum monthly stipend of $1,169 - well below Canada's official poverty line.

Margaret Barstow, a 20-year ODSP recipient with Fibromyalgia, Degenerative Disc Disease, and inoperable Spinal Stenosis (along with anxiety and PTSD), sums it up well when she says that if it weren't for her mother who clothes her, and a sister who helps her buy medication not covered by the program, she would have no money to eat.

"My 85-year old mother… helps me so I can cut my hair and buy food, and that is wrong in so many ways," Margaret said. "I am on several meds they won't cover that keep me alive and add up to $400 a month."

The wheelchair-bound Barstow, who lives alone, also added, "I have to beg for extra money for incontinence and special diet [food] because I have IBS. Now they (the provincial government) tell me they won't pay for new/old frames I need for my glasses to see and read. All I have to entertain myself are e-books and TV, and they keep rising in price each year. They told me my phone is a luxury item. I need it to call 911 for the hospital when the pain gets really bad."

Ontarians dependent on this program, such as young Sara Boudreau of Bolton, have reached beyond limits of frustration and endurance with the bureaucratic process, well before the recent changes that have made life even harder for those already facing hurdles to literally get out of bed in the morning.

Boudreau suffers from a myriad of conditions that severely limit her quality of life and prevent her from holding down full-time work or study due to accessibility issues. As if Cerebral Palsy wasn't enough, just before the pandemic hit, Boudreau also suffered from a ten-year misdiagnosis involving uncontrollable fainting spells. Although doctors now think she also suffers from cataplexy, a form of narcolepsy, Boudreau has been unable to schedule the necessary tests to confirm the diagnosis due to the limitations of COVID.

"Unfortunately," says Boudreau, "it is a process you have to go through [to be diagnosed], so I was in the hospital when Ontario declared the State of Emergency. Since then I have not been able to get any tests done… It could be upwards of 11 to 12 years before I am diagnosed. It's the reason I can't handle school, and I can barely do projects on my own."

Boudreau relates more frustrations navigating the bureaucracy of the medical system, stating that during her hospitalization process, test results were even lost.

"I've been told by therapists to go for a walk to calm myself. I literally cannot walk," Boudreau said. "You don't have doctors on your side, and ODSP is definitely not accommodating. The Brampton [ODSP] office isn't even accessible. I literally walk in there with a cane and a service dog. This "ableism" has been following me all my life, and I just feel worthless all the time."

> "I've been told by therapists to go for a walk to calm myself. I literally cannot walk. You don't have doctors on your side, and ODSP is definitely not accommodating
>
> Sara Boudreau
> Bolton resident

Despite her limitations, Boudreau continues with projects she is passionate about to keep her mind and body occupied, such as designing a video game in memory of a deceased friend, and hands-on carpentry, as well as making household products such as pillows.

However, recent changes made by the provincial government before and during the pandemic have the Boudreau family outraged, as Sara struggles to get through each day on existing limited resources.

"Doug Ford did a lot of changes without our notice," comments her mother, Egle Boudreau, who also takes care of her disabled husband. "I only found out [about these changes] on the online support pages for ODSP, and we were like, 'where did this come from?' People are confused about what's been going on."

In early 2020, the Ford government quietly outsourced the running of both ODSP and Ontario Works to for-profit Australian-based company WCG, the same company that had been hired and fired by the McGuinty Liberal government in 2007 when the program was concluded to be unsuccessful. So far, the change has only been implemented across the Region of Peel, but was met with opposition by NDP MPPs Catherine Fife and Lisa Gretzky.

Gretzky was quoted as saying, "An independent report following the Liberal privatization pilot found that it was both ineffective, and did not save the government money. The result? The Liberals were forced to abandon the plan."

When asked why WCG had been rehired under Ford's government, a spokesperson from the Ministry of Children, Community, and Social Services, Palmer Lockridge, maintains that "our government is committed to ensuring individuals have the support they need to break free from the cycle of poverty. As Ontario's Auditor General has highlighted, only one percent of people on social assistance are finding employment every month. That's why we have launched three pilots as we move forwards with our work to strengthen employment services for those on social assistance. We are building a system that will be easy to use, more localized, and will provide the training necessary to help individuals find meaningful employment. The competition was led by the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development and overseen by Supply Chain Ontario and adhered to the principles of fairness and transparency. Under Premier Horgan, British Columbia also moved to an outcomes-based model. They also awarded contracts to a mix of non-profit and private providers, including the same organization that Ontario has selected for Peel Region."

This response failed to directly address questions posed as to why a program proven to be ineffective and detrimental, not only by a former Ontario government, but also Australia and the United Kingdom, was reinstated in 2020 in Peel.

The heart-breaking interview with the Boudreau family highlights the many ways that the system is failing Ontario's most vulnerable in so many ways. Sara frequently breaks down in panic attacks while describing her experiences, and it takes her sister Della, training in Ottawa to be a professional therapist, and her service dog Betamax, to help calm her. There is no treatment for Cerebral Palsy in adulthood, and massage therapy and chiropractors are not covered by the program. Physiotherapy is covered to an extent, but that does not help Boudreau with spastic muscles, which she suffers from frequently.

Boudreau also explained that ODSP did not "cover a dime" for her service dog, despite her applying for funding "through any place I could", and would also not allow payment for her sister Della to become her official caregiver, as family members are not eligible.

"It's unbelievable, having an able-bodied sister wanting to help us, and she can't do anything," Sara said.

Having Della return to Ottawa in the fall is a major area of concern for the family, as Sara is also having no luck finding suitable living accommodation with a built-in support network, essential for anyone with her conditions.

Her cataplexy means she must live with someone, but finding housing, another often insurmountable hurdle for the disabled, has become a dire need as her family prepares to move. Many assisted living facilities only specialize in certain conditions, and spaces on waiting lists are hard to come by.

"I've been calling," says Boudreau, "and people have been giving me resource list after resource list. Look, I just need a place to live where someone is there in case I faint."

The possibilities of choking or hitting her head during a fainting spell are very real, but the endless run around of referrals and waiting lists is not anything new within the ODSP system.

Barstow echoes the struggle for housing, as she recounts first living in an apartment, which took up half her monthly stipend, in a busy, dirty, and unsafe neighbourhood. She has now moved into a basement apartment, despite suffering from dust and mould allergies. It took her ten years to be registered for the RGI (Rent Geared to Income Housing) program, a form of housing assistance that limits rent payments to 30 percent of income.

The fact that ODSP recipients live well below the poverty line was highlighted particularly during COVID-19, when CERB recipients, who received $2,000 a month, complained this was not enough to live on. Talk has now begun in earnest around a basic living income, but the reality remains that most disabled Ontarians, whose costs of living are usually higher than the average person due to their disabilities, have not had their government stipend adjusted for inflation since the 90's. Falling far below the imaginary poverty line, ODSP recipients receive about $12,000 annually.

A survey conducted in 2017 revealed that over a quarter of those on disability could not afford essential medications, medical devices, and equipment, while nearly 30 percent live below the poverty line. That is a rate three times higher than the average Canadian. To add to the hardship, the cost of living in Canada's major cities, such as Toronto, means that the provincial stipend falls well short of what is needed for the disabled person to survive in an expensive metropolis- where many need the access to hospital services not offered in cheaper communities.

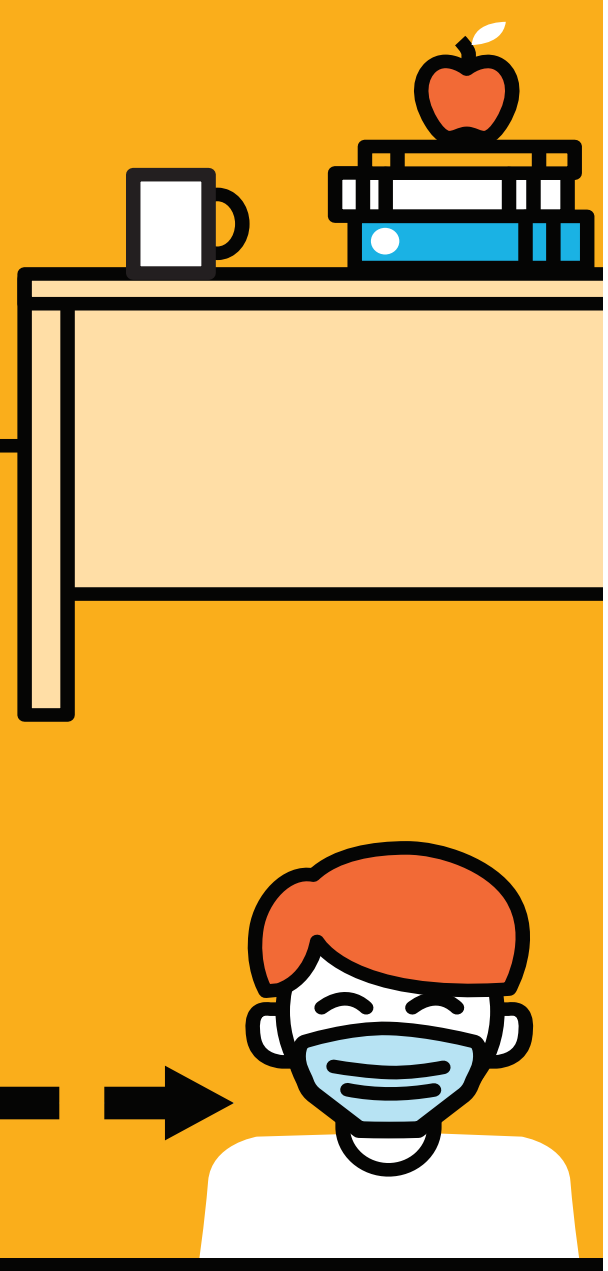
The realities are that we are discussing a system that is so far behind in paperwork that proper orientations do not take place until more than a year after filing the necessary applications, itself an extremely onerous, potentially expensive, and time-consuming process. The system design itself is perhaps a half century behind what is needed in terms of upgrades to account for inflation and changes in the medical establishment.

Continued on Page A13

Reopening schools safely matters to everyone

That's why the government of Ontario has worked with health officials, school boards and educators to develop a comprehensive plan to keep kids and staff safe.

- **Physical distancing** measures will be implemented such as desk separation, signs, floor markings and one-way hallways.
- **Face coverings** will be required for staff and students in Grades 4-12.
- **Hand hygiene** will be enabled with hand sanitizer and hand washing.
- **More nurses** will be in schools.
- **School cleaning** will be enhanced.



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Facing adversity with nonchalant indifference

by Mark Pavilons

Lately, I've found myself being more apathetic, or at least mildly indifferent, to the goings-on around me.

A few unforseen expenses, car repairs and events unfolding not as expected, have left me somewhat deflated. Along with that loss of air pressure is a feeling of "que sera, sera."

The sentiment, "in for a penny, in for a pound" has also sprung to mind on more than one occasion.

But, I refuse to be held hostage by stress, depression and life's challenges.

I prefer keeping my mental dimmer switch on "mellow medium." I am altering my behaviour, opting instead for a detached and unconcerned approach.

Today, money just doesn't seen to have the same value as it once did. Sure, it's just as hard to earn and save as it was decades ago, but it just doesn't seem worth very much.

When I was a teenager, $20 could get you gas for your car, a meal at a fast food restaurant, AND a six-pack of beer. For a young person in the 1980s, $100 was a lot of money.

Today, that barely scratches the surface of a person's daily requirements.

You can't leave a car repair shop with a bill under $500. A dinner out with the family will ding you for at least $250. A new faucet for the bathroom, anywhere from $80 to $300. A current basement project has revealed the cost of lumber and drywall these days.

My two daughters recently returned from a trip to Squamish, BC to see the sights and sounds of the west coast.

Being on their own for two weeks really taught them a lesson in frugality. They were constantly dismayed at the cost of taxis, a simple outing, or ferry ride. I was aghast at the cost of a shuttle from Abbortsford to Squamish. Granted, it's a 90-minute drive and there are no direct bus trips between the two.

Paying for the girls to get away from it all put a definite dent in the savings account, and pretty much sidelined any chance for the rest of us getting away this summer.

I guess the "summer of COVID" will be one to forget for many Canadians. Travel was simply not an option for many.

Those lucky enough to have a cottage may have had extended holidays, depending on their work situation.

For me, the highlight was sitting on the front porch, soaking up the setting sun, eating a bowl of meatballs. You know the ones – the pre-cooked frozen variety that you can put in the microwave. But there's always one or two that hide among the warm ones, still hard as an ice cube. The sunset was nice.

This all may be construed as whining or complaining. But I'm merely painting a personal picture. Like art, our own individual stories are quite subjective. Not everyone gets it, or even cares.

For us, it was also the summer of car chaos. Our reliance on the automobile is awful.

My oldest daughter graduated from university and desperately wanted a set of wheels. Her tastes are, shall we say, unique. The end result was perfect for her, a compact car in "Spirited Green Metallic."

Battery died. Also has to re-fasten a heat shield.

My son had a very personal encounter with a deer one night in July. The end result was that his car made its departure from this earth and he is, alas, motionless, like poor Pluto after it got kicked out of our solar system.

Car shopping can be quite the chore. It's frustrating at times. One would think responding to ads on Kijiji or autotrader is easy. Not so. "Buyer beware" has never been more relevant than it is today. I have seen ads for cars that don't even exist, with scammers trying to squeeze a down-payment from someone before actually connecting. When car shopping, the term "too good to be true" is definitely right on.

My eyes widen when I see cars with low kilometres, only to be informed that the 100,000 kilometres are on the second engine, and the car itself has 300k on it.

I have driven more than a dozen cars in my life and never once have I had to replace an engine or a transmission. Never have I driven more than 300,000 kilometres in one vehicle. I'm not sure where people are going, but to put on 30,000k a year on a car is shocking.

And there's people who say they rear-ended someone and had the bumper replaced, but the car has never been in an accident.

My wife's tried and true mini-van, which has seen our family through countless moves, vacations, long drives with the dogs, and adventures to university and back, was past due for many needed repairs.

As a veteran car owner, I'm well aware of the need for auto repairs. But why do they come all at once, like a hailstorm on a beautiful August afternoon? Who has $3,000 lying around, itching to give to their favourite mechanic?

Not many.

And herein lies another of life's unnoticed dangers.

How many cars are driving around with engine lights aglow; with loose bumpers, wheel nuts, mufflers, etc.? We hear of wheels flying off on the highway, often ending in tragedy.

The reality is, vehicle maintenance is expensive and many people and small businesses these days just can't afford it.

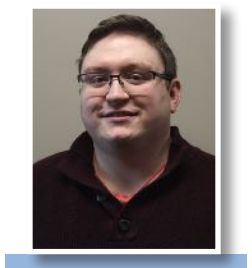
I know that's no excuse, but think about it. Does someone spend $400 on a tail light lens when their hours have been cut back? Does a family give up back-to-school clothes in favour of new brakes?

These are real world decisions made, or neglected, by real people, every day.

Life is serious, challenging and expensive. Try to stay calm.

I am happy to share my dismay with the rest of you. May I suggest taking a nonchalant, supercilious stance? What have you got to lose?

We need to find that middle ground



MIKE BAKER
THE MIC CHECK

Just how much responsibility does a government, or we as a society, have when it comes to ensuring our poorest and most vulnerable individuals are sufficiently taken care of?

The answer to this question will almost certainly differ depending on who you talk to. It's the sort of loaded issue that will garner 1,000 distinctive responses, each jam-packed with personal biases, and a spin on statistics and expert opinion that fits whatever narrative the person you are speaking to is trying to push.

Just this past weekend, with this column firmly in mind, I posed that very question to ten of my closest friends and family members. While there very much is a fence dividing stances on the issue – one being that our most vulnerable should, essentially, be propped up by society, and the other being that they should be left to fend for themselves – it's clear that each of the fields on either side of that extremely polarizing fence are separated by dividers of their own.

From my teeny tiny polling pool, I had, from my perspective, nine positive responses, and one incredibly discouraging reply. Most of the comments centred around the belief that yes, we do have a responsibility to help those in need. There were specific references to people with physical and developmental disabilities, the unemployed, and the elderly. Presently, the Ontario government offers financial assistance by way of programs such as Ontario Works, and the Ontario Disability Support Program. The Canada Pension Plan takes care of individuals that have contributed to the federal pool over the course of their working life.

Now, onto the real purpose of this column, do those supports go far enough?

According to advocacy group Canada Without Poverty (CWP), there are nearly five million people in Canada currently living in poverty. Given that our national population, as of 2019, is slated at around 37.5 million, that would mean approximately 13 percent of all people presently residing in Canada are living under the poverty line. That's an astonishing number, but is it really that surprising?

The federal government published an official poverty dashboard in February of this year, shining a light on issues that affect literally millions of Canadians. That particular report states that 12.7 percent of Canadians, as of February, had unmet housing needs, 11.2 percent reported having unmet health needs, and 8.7 percent faced issues surrounding food security. Interestingly, the report also noted that only 51.2 percent of Canadians reported having enough savings to maintain their well-being for a period of three months in the event of a sudden job loss, illness or injury.

Again, this document was published in February. We all know what happened in March. This theoretical problem of having to support one's self and family without an income became a reality due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The federal government was quick to jump in, creating the Canada Emergency Response Benefit to assist working Canadians impacted financially be the coronavirus. The program certainly has its detractors, but it has prevented several more million from falling into poverty. CERB provides up to $2,000 per month to eligible applicants, and will run until Sept. 27. Approximately eight million Canadians have accessed CERB at some point since March, with roughly four million still relying on the program. In total, the federal government is anticipating the final cost of CERB to run north of $100 billion.

In contrast, the Ontario government currently pays out around $5.4 billion to support around 475,000 individuals through ODSP, and around $3 billion assisting a further 450,000 people on Ontario Works benefits. There are many ins and outs of each of those programs, although a colleague of mine, Kira Wronska Dorward, reported in a story in this week's Caledon Citizen that the maximum monthly stipend under ODSP sits at $1,169 – a little more than half what people have been bringing in through CERB.

This has led to many, many people nationwide advocating for the introduction of a basic income program. Of course, the Ontario government, then led by the Liberals under Kathleen Wynne, dipped their toes into the water on this back in 2018. Around 4,000 people residing in Hamilton, Thunder Bay, Brantford and Lindsay were enrolled, with individuals told they would receive approximately $17,000 annually over a three-year period. Following that year's provincial election, where Doug Ford's Conservatives toppled Wynne's Liberals, the program was cancelled. Final payments were made to those enrolled in March 2019.

It has been difficult to gauge whether or not the basic income pilot was a success given the extremely limited time that people actually benefitted from it. Given that I lived in Lindsay for several years, I knew many people who were involved in the pilot. Over the course of the year these people received money, I know of someone who was able to completely clear a mountain of credit card debt left behind by a former partner that they otherwise would have had no way of paying off. I know someone who was able to go back to school, and has since transitioned into a new career. I also know of someone, who was on the cusp of being evicted from her home due to unpaid rent, that turned her living situation around and was able to provide a more stable home life for herself and her two children.

In essence, the basic income pilot did a lot of good. It also had its flaws, and was abused by some who found a way to cheat the system. Would a more permanent program, rolled out nationwide help to reduce poverty in Canada? Many experts believe it would, but it'd come at a considerable cost.

Back in 2018, the Office of the Parliamentary Budget Officer estimated that a national basic income program modelled on the Ontario pilot would cost around $76 billion annually, and would benefit 7.7 million Canadians. That is an incredible cost for a social assistance program, and would surely be up there with the most expensive anywhere in the world. Even taking into account the estimated reduced costs across other federal programs, a basic income initiative would still come at a price of around $43 billion per year.

Given that total expenditures in 2019, as per that year's federal budget, came in at $355.6 billion, adding another 12 or 13 percent to that total for a basic income program may not be feasible long-term. While some will point to the $100 billion investment in CERB as proof the federal government can afford to take on such an endeavour, it should be noted this is being considered a one-time expense, and is one that Canadians will be dealing with, and paying off, for many, many years.

So, while yes, I believe we do have a responsibility to help those who are most in need, there is a limit to what that responsibility could and should be. We do not live in a perfect world. Money does not grow on trees. Assistance should be provided to those who need it, but not at the cost of bankrupting the whole system. There is a middle ground there that our politicians need to find.

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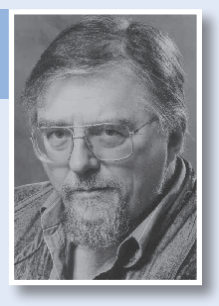
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Miracle vaccine

GWYNNE DYER
OUR WORLD TODAY



Nine of the world's biggest pharmaceutical companies have just promised not to apply for regulatory approval for any new Covid-19 vaccine before it has gone through all three phases of clinical study. Why would they do such a thing?

You'd be surprised if brain surgeons got together and promised not to operate while drunk, or if the bus drivers' union publicly pledged that its members will not drive recklessly. They don't do that because operating sober and driving carefully are just part of the job. So is ensuring that new vaccines are safe and effective.

Yet nine major players in the international pharmaceutics market – AstraZeneca (UK-Sweden), BioNTech (Germany), GlaxoSmithKline (UK), Johnson & Johnson (US), Merck (Germany), Moderna (US), Novavax (US), Pfizer (US) and Sanofi (France) – all felt obliged to reassure the public that they won't cheat. What's up?

Obviously, it's the perception that other players in the same market may indeed be cutting corners.

Usually the Trump administration's actions are viewed with weary resignation by the rest of the world, but it would still be a very big deal if the United States started distributing a vaccine that had not been properly tested. Yet the signs are that that's just what is going to happen.

Last month at the Republican national convention Donald Trump told the delegates and the country: "We are developing life-saving therapies, and will produce a vaccine before the end of the year, or maybe even sooner."

On 4 September, the US government's Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) told American health officials that "limited Covid-19 vaccine doses may be available by early November 2020."

More specifically, the CDC urged state authorities to consider "waiving requirements" and grant permits to McKesson Corporation so they can start distributing a vaccine by 1 November.

You don't need a weatherman to know which way the wind blows. The presidential election is on 3 November, two days later: that's long enough for the glad news to get around and floating voters to be swayed in favour of Trump, but too short for any defects in the rushed vaccine to come to light.

Donald Trump is going to liberate Americans from the curse of Covid in a little less than two months. If the vaccine's miraculous properties subsequently fade , even it turns out to kill large numbers of people, that won't matter. The votes will have been counted, and Trump will be back in office for another four years. That, at least, is the scenario that is currently envisaged by the people around Trump.

The nine pharmaceutical majors who felt the need to issue a "historic pledge" to uphold scientific and ethical standards were doubtless driven by this scenario. Even if there really has been an American breakthrough, they would still have to cope with the public's suspicion that Trump is cheating – and the mistrust that will also attach to any other early vaccines.

It is possible that the vaccine or vaccines that Trump is about to unleash on the American public really do work and are safe. It would be a historic first in the development of vaccines – having a Covid vaccine ready for general use by next June or July would normally be seen as a remarkable achievement – but miracles do happen.

The problem is that they don't happen often, and if the full testing regime is not followed, you don't know if this is one of those times.

It's only because the AstraZeneca/Oxford University vaccine was going through the full third phase of tests, involving tens of thousands of individuals and many months of testing, that they spotted a bad reaction requiring hospitalisation on Wednesday and paused the tests. The American miracle vaccine will only start third-stage tests at the same time that it is made generally available.

Pauses like AstraZeneca/Oxford University's happen often in the development of a vaccine, and the pause will probably only be temporary. But even a very low-frequency bad reaction can be a mass killer when tens of millions of people are being vaccinated, and these are not desperately sick people willing to risk anything for a cure. They are people in good health, and you mustn't kill them.

Stop the bashing

SHERALYN ROMAN
TALK CALEDON



Ok folks – I'm actually getting pretty tired of all the teacher bashing I'm hearing. I have heard a sudden increase in the amount of complaints about how teachers who are reluctant to go back to class are just a bunch of whiners. Much of this seems to be coming from parents who have forgotten what it was like to teach their own kids for 2 or 3 hours per day and what a nightmare THAT was. Remember day drinking? That was you and you were dealing with your own kids! Now you're complaining because teachers don't feel safe at work? Guess what, neither would you if you were stuck in a room with 25-30 kids not wearing masks properly, dropping them on the floor, sneezing, coughing, forgetting to wash their hands or straight up picking their noses – all the while possibly harbouring a virus that is a known killer. C'mon…give teachers a break. Talk about working on the front lines! Let me ask you one simple question – would you do it?

I'm also tired of folks comparing teaching to nursing and not in a favourable way. The implication is nurses don't complain and they deal with sick folks all day long and thank goodness they do. I have good friends that are teachers and others that are nurses, so I'll probably offend them both equally with this article but again, enough comparing. Both are tough jobs in different ways. Nurses signed up for a career of facing sick people. I'm worried sick that my own daughter is on track to become a nurse. Here we are trying hard to protect her from COVID-19 and in three short years, with a degree under her belt, she could be on the front lines face to face with it. But at least we know she will have the proper training and the proper equipment, hospital grade ventilation systems and supportive team members around her. What do teachers have? The promise of PPE and enhanced sanitizing along with "improved ventilation", possibly a public health nurse who might get to their school once or twice per semester and virtually no social distancing. Teachers didn't sign up for this level of risk just like grocery workers didn't. At least many grocery workers get to work behind plexiglas with masks, face shields, gloves, limits on the number of people in their store and strictly enforced social distancing. A grocery store is about a bazillion times bigger than a classroom, the ventilation systems are likely more modern and some grocery staff even received a slight top up in pay, at least for a little while. Teachers on the other hand will now be expected to discern between a sniffle, an allergy, kids with stomach flu or COVID-19. All while face to face with them in an enclosed classroom.

I'm also annoyed at people who moan and complain about all of this without knowing all the facts. Do you know how school funding formulas work? Do you know that while the government says it's handing money out like ice cream on a hot day, there are actually some pretty tight restrictions on how and where you can enjoy that ice cream? Just because 13 of 27 kids elected to do online learning in your child's grade 4 class, doesn't necessarily mean the other 14 kids are nicely distributed all around a socially distanced classroom. Nope – it's entirely possible that class will be collapsed and combined with another "small" class, and there goes all your social distancing. Teachers, as I may or may not have stated last week, are days away from school starting and many *still* don't know what grade or subject they are teaching. One local high school even put out a tweet stating: (I'm paraphrasing but not by much) "Yeah we thought we'd be ready but we're not ready so school start is delayed again…" This school opening "plan" is a disaster waiting to happen and none of it is the fault of teachers.

It is my opinion that much of what is driving school re-opening plans has to do with both the economy and with children's mental health. Without a doubt there are families struggling, daycare is costly and some just can't work from home and need their children to return to school. This speaks to larger problems of systemic poverty, low wage jobs that are undervalued and underpaid and a chronic lack of funding for adequate and accessible day care that has existed for many, many years. In turn, women are disproportionately paying the price during this pandemic, having to make difficult choices about prioritizing work and children.

At the same time, classroom teachers are being advised to limit the amount of educational materials in the classroom and that toys, once played with go into a bucket for sanitization not to be touched again for 72 hours. Children won't be re-connecting with friends, even at recess, because, in most cases, the class will be the cohort so you'd better hope your child likes his/her classmates. Lunch is in the classroom and even recess will involve strict supervision and social distancing. I'm not disputing the necessity of these actions but I'm equally not sure this will help any child with their mental health. Nor do I think re-opening schools, only to shut them down in a few weeks time if cases rise, will make things any better. There is a good chance it will only add to their confusion and angst as new routines are disrupted yet again. None of this has anything to do with teachers who are doing their level best to make an untenable situation work. Teachers will play an enormous role in how successful children are at the transitions expected of them in the coming weeks. They are about to hit the front lines and for any hope of school re-opening to work, we must adopt the attitude that we are all in this together. Let's stop the teacher bashing.



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York9 FC coming back to Ontario following Island Games defeat

Written By ROBERT BELARDI

It's a ubiquitous feeling in the dressing room. Expectations were so high and the result is nowhere, where it should have been.

That's the part that hurts the most. Knowing you could go far until soccer's precarious wasp; for lack of a better metaphor, stings you. It's not one a sting that remains for a day. It's duration, passes on into the next year and the next season.

That's what the Nine Stripes have to be feeling right now. In the final week of the Island Games tournament, manager Jimmy Brennan stated the goal was clear. Defeat FC Edmonton to start and then challenge an incredibly tough Cavalry FC side with everything you've got.

Against FC Edmonton last Tuesday, the Nine Stripes walked away with a 1-0 victory. Captain Manny Aparicio stepped up to the dead ball in the 44th minute and zinged his free kick past Dylan Powley's short post.

That was his second free-kick goal in consecutive matches, and the club's fifth set piece goal in three games.

"Manu's great in the dressing room. He leads by example on and off the pitch. The way he trains and plays he expects everyone else to do so. We're lucky, because we have a lot of experience in that dressing room," said head coach Jimmy Brennan after the match.

York9 ultimately walked away with the 1-0 victory against an Edmonton club in last place. Christopher Manella finally made his first appearance in that game following an injury that sidelined him for the tournament.

Heading into Saturday's crucial tilt with Cavalry FC, this would have been the first time in the entire bubble, York9 would be a healthy squad.

Manella and Michael Petrasso came into the final match healthy. That was a positive sign.

The negative of course, is the Nine Stripes lost to Cavalry 1-0 and with a Pacific FC win against FC Edmonton on the final matchday, it was all over for Y9.

The club, didn't play poorly by any means, but execution has seemingly bit them in the behind once again.

In the final four matches of the tournament, York9 did not score a goal in free play.

Managing Consultant Angus McNab delivered a heart-breaking message to fans via Instagram.

"Our time in Charlottetown may have ended prematurely but there were plenty of uplifting moments we can be proud of: some spectacular goals from our captain Manny Aparicio and recent signing Alvaro Rivero, Luca Gasparotto continuing to make CPL history by playing every available minute for our club, the solidarity and eloquence displayed by our group in raising awareness for Black Lives Matter and sharing their own experience of racism," McNab wrote.

There will be more to come next week from the club and a look at the biggest takeaways in York9's involvement in the Island Games.

The finals of the Island Games is set to be played on September 19 at 2:00 p.m. EST.



PHOTO COURTESY OF YORK9 FC

OUSTED: York9 FC midfielder Christopher Manella surges through the Cavalry FC midfield here as the club's best efforts were not enough to remain in the competition.

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Citizen reporter predicts NHL Stanley Cup conference finals

Written By ROBERT BELARDI

It's finally now down to four team's in this year's NHL playoffs.

All four clubs will be playing their final games of hockey in Edmonton.

Sometimes, you wonder it's crazy how the league got here. The league battles a pandemic, plans hub cities, structures out a new playoff format all in the span of a few months and so far, knock on wood, it has all been successful and every player in the bubble is coronavirus free.

In this year's final four, the Las Vegas Golden Knights will be taking on a tenacious Dallas Stars squad in the west, while the pesky and resilient New York Islanders go up against a stormy Tampa Bay Lightning club, looking to get back into the Stanley Cup finals since 2015.

If you had it scripted any other way then it's not your fault. But two of the favourites are here and two of the non-favourites have it made this far.

Let's take a look at the matchups.

Dallas Stars vs Vegas Golden Knights

Off of the stick of defenceman John Klingberg, the Stars took game one. This club has been itching to get back into the Stanley Cup finals since their infamous victory in 1999 against the Buffalo Sabres.

Now, the Stars have been surging towards another appearance and after falling short of the finals last season, losing to the St. Louis Blues for the western conference title, there's no question Tyler Seguin and captain Jamie Benn want to get in there.

Sophomore defenceman Miro Heiskanen leads the way for the Stars with 21 points; the most among any defencemen.

In front of them, is a Golden Knights team, juggling goaltenders and a mighty offensive prowess at the fore.

Defenceman Shea Theodore leads the way with 17 points and forward Mark Stone isn't behind with 15. The key to this series is going to come down to goaltending. After starting game one, can Marc Andre Fleury and/or Robin Lehner carry Vegas and can Anton Khudobin be consistent for the Stars?

It's a tough pick.

Prediction: Golden Knights in 7.

New York Islanders vs Tampa Bay Lightning

Tampa Bay, the moment is finally here. The Lightning have seemingly dominated the NHL for years and only to fall short of expectations. They can't be proud of that.

What they can be proud of, is an 8-2 victory to open up the series against the Islanders Monday night, chasing Thomas Greiss, who got the go-ahead to start this one.

Brayden Point has amassed 23 points in these playoffs, including a five-point night in game one.

He will look to go head-to-head against Matthew Barzal of the Islanders in an interesting tilt to look out for.

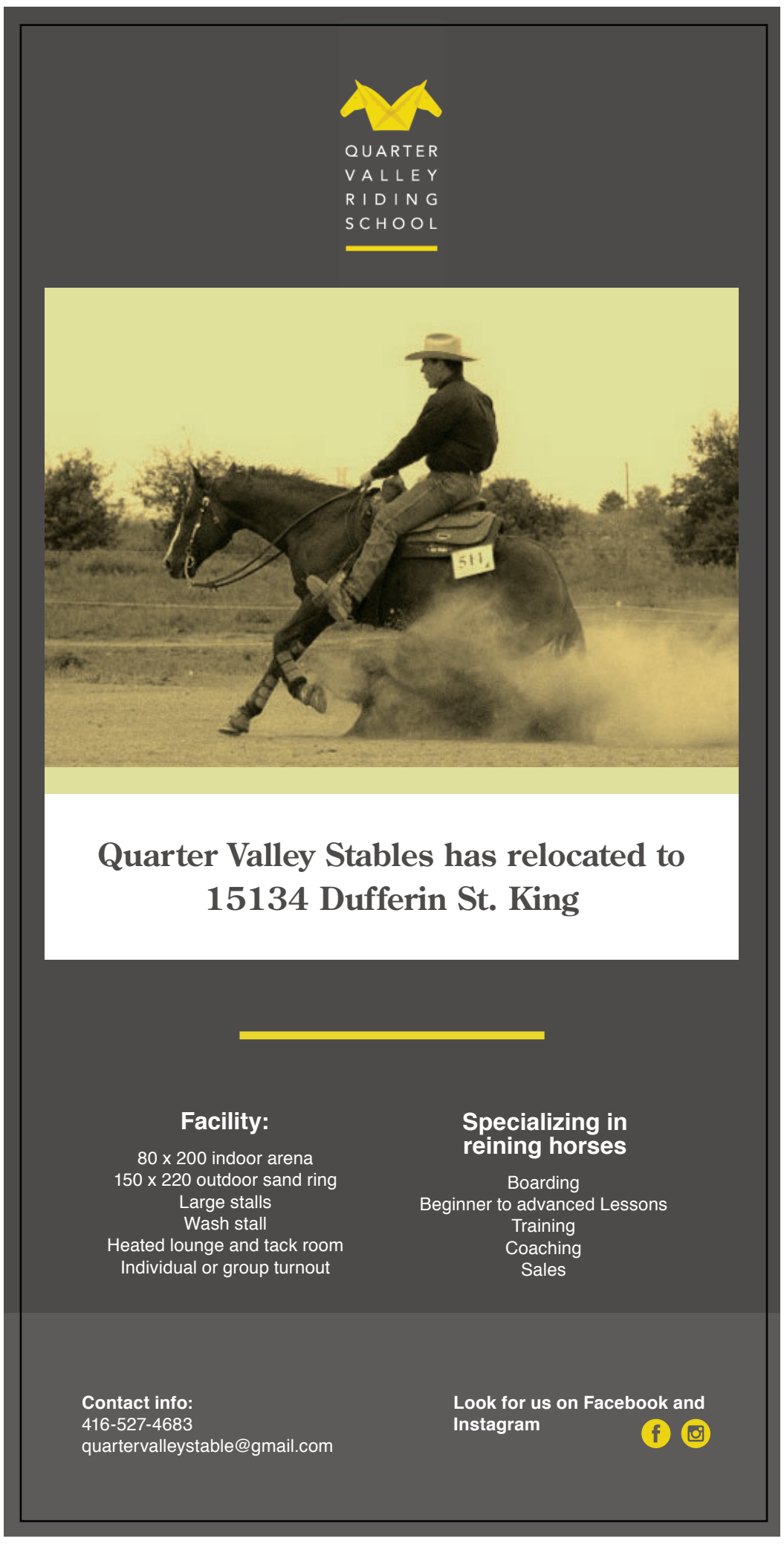
In this series, the Lightning have a few advantages on defence and goaltending. The Islanders don't have a sure-fire number one stud on the back end and the Lightning, have Victor Hedman, Mikhail Sergachev, Ryan McDonagh, Kevin Shattenkirk and Zach Bogosian.

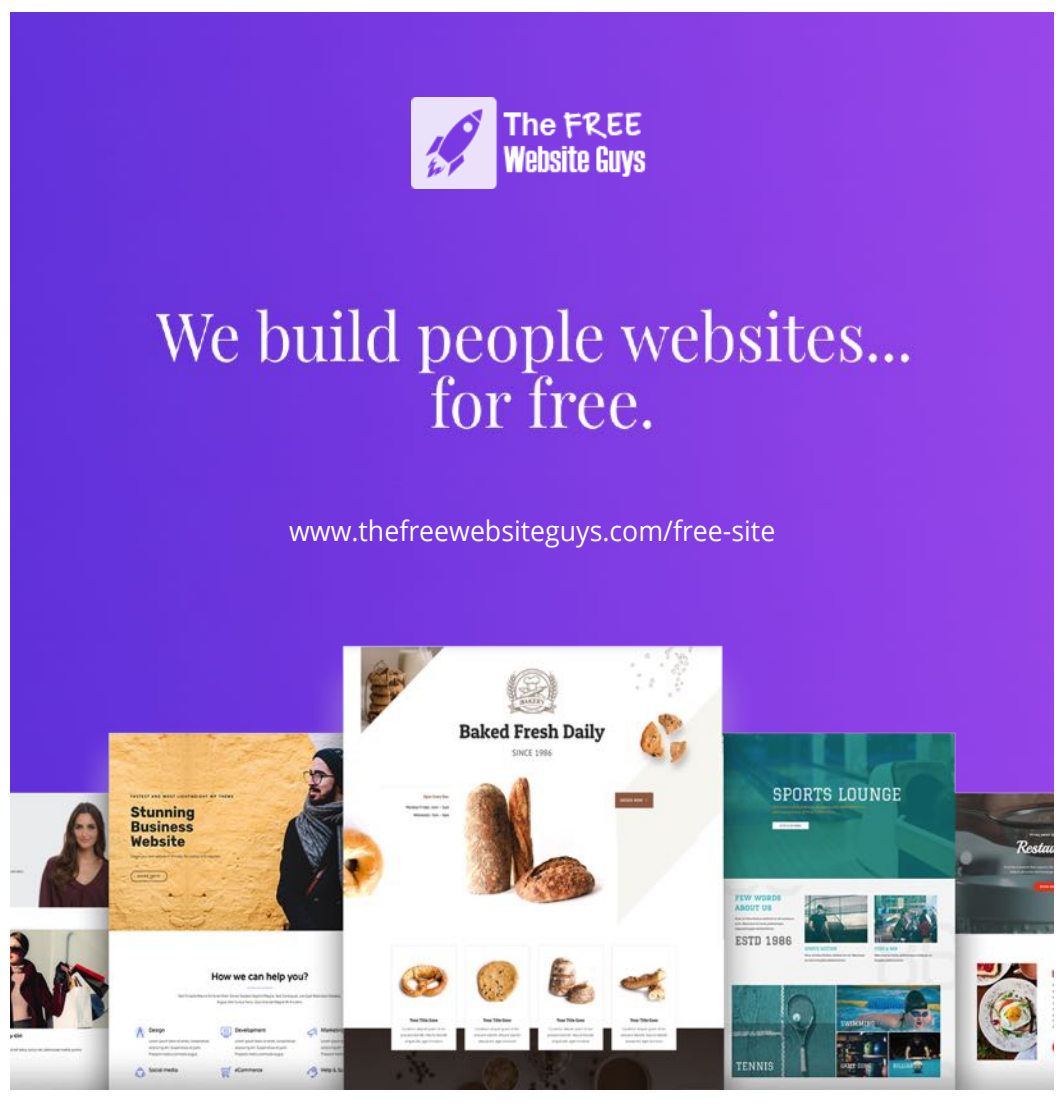
The reigning Vezina Trophy winner in goal, Andrei Vasilevskiy has just three losses in the playoffs.

Although this, is the first time since 1993, the New York Islanders are making it to the conference finals, the Lightning just might be too much to handle.

Prediction: Lightning in six.

All statistics were written as of Tuesday of this week.





Continued from PAGE A9

Canadians relying on ODSP facing a constant struggle to make ends meet

Then there is the question of the claw backs on income, which start at 50 percent after a paltry $200. Although expenses are taken into account, breaking down percentages of phone bills and internet charges are impossible, meaning that for some people, being on ODSP can mean you end up paying to work.

This was made even more apparent after the CERB announcement, when after being advised by the federal government not to claw back essential income from those on ODSP eligible to draw on the program, the Ford government decided to do so anyways. This left one ODSP recipient with a grand total of $2.50 to live on a month, of which he was given no prior warning in applying for CERB or reporting it to his social worker.

When contacted, Steven Del Duca, the new provincial leader of the Liberal party commented, "Doug Ford has made life worse for those who have the least. The federal government explicitly asked him not to claw back CERB benefits from ODSP recipients - but Ford went ahead and did it anyway. Clawing back support from ODSP recipients during a pandemic is callous and cruel."

The Boudreau family did not claim any CERB benefits, despite being eligible, because the claw backs from the Ford government could have put their income in jeopardy.

Not only did the CERB claw backs negatively impact those who depend on the regular monthly stipend, but the provincial government's four-time payments of $100 went unpublicized, with social workers failing to freely inform their clients of their $400 pandemic entitlement.

When questioned about this, Ministry representative Lockbridge responded that, "This benefit operates like other social assistance benefits, in that clients are required to speak with their caseworker and identify any additional needs in order to receive it."

In other words, one would have to know about the entitlement to ask - and many Ontarians did not know until it was too late.

It should be noted that while the budget for ODSP was cut in Ontario in the last year, deputy ministers were treated to a 12 percent raise, while the 2019-2020 Ontario budget for social assistance programs was cut by $1 billion.

In addition, Doug Ford gave a press conference in Ottawa on Aug. 6 making his views on the issue abundantly clear, when he stated that disabled people should "go get jobs", adding that the "best way to help people in Ontario Works or ODSP, if they're healthy and they're able to work, get them a job, help get them a job," - despite the fact that being on ODSP in the first place means they are incapable of retaining full-time employment, and any money they make can be clawed back at a huge rate. These claw backs actually have the potential to put people who work in debt to the program, further increasing the cycle of poverty.

Ford has subsequently failed to apologize for his remarks in August after backlash from advocacy groups, and multiple requests that he acknowledge his highly insensitive comments as unacceptable. Further, he repeated his "if there are jobs out there- work, because we expect you to contribute to society" mantra at another press conference held on Sept. 3, in the same breath where he pledged support for those whose conditions make it impossible for them to retain employment.

"It just digs a deeper and deeper hole," remarks Boudreau, speaking on the financial burdens created- not alleviated- by the current system. "I don't know what kind of future I have as a young adult."

During the pandemic, people with chronic disabilities have even been exploring assisted suicide, some publicly on social media, citing both lack of hope and the means to live and improve their health, although numbers will not be available until the spring.

Boudreau says she would love nothing more than to go to work on a daily basis, but her current condition prevents her from doing so.

"People with disabilities want to work," emphasizes Sara Boudreau. "But if work places aren't willing to provide accessible or accommodating environments, why should we be expected [to put ourselves in that situation]? Also there should be more understanding among employers and fellow employees. I love working with my hands and animation… but all I have been thinking for the past five years, is am I just wasting my time?" she says, finding it hard to catch her breath for crying. "I so much believe in William Shatner's 'if you love what you do, is it really work?', and isn't that what everyone wants?"

With the hashtag #ODSPoverty now making the rounds on Twitter, Boudreau believes that we, as Canadians, have to wake up to the increasing "sink or swim" mindset, perpetuated by the Ford government, that leaves our most vulnerable behind.

"Everyone's already gotten a taste of it being on CERB," comments Boudreau, "and that's just the financial aspect. [Disabled people] aren't all that different. You're just one step away. People's stories are not being told properly, because the only ones who can explain it are the ones who are disabled. No one really sees the barriers [we face]. It's time to change the thought process of Ontarians."



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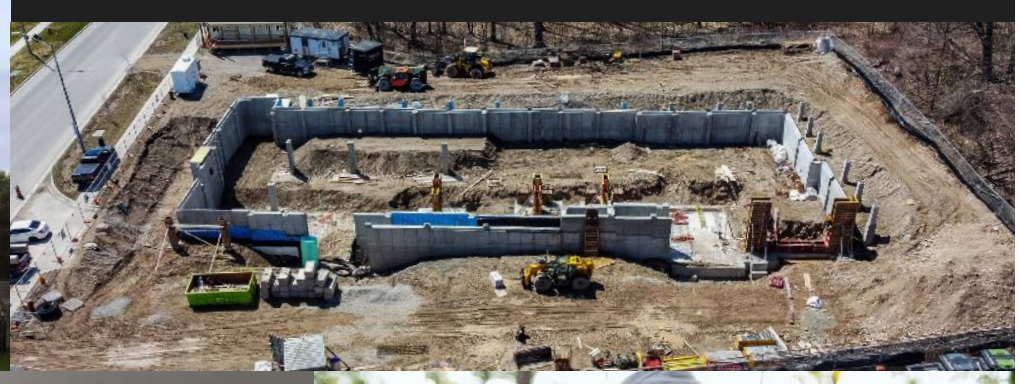
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AUCTIONS

Auction Sale for the estate of Biaggio Drago

Saturday September 19th, at 10:00am

424177 25 Sideroad, Shelburne, ON from Shelburne go west on Highway 89 for 9.7 kms to Dufferin County Road 12. Go South for 4.2 kms to 25 Sideroad. Turn west and go 2.5 kms to the sale on the north side of road OR from Orangeville to west on County Road 109 for 4.3 kms to Dufferin Road 12. Go north for 15.4 kms to 25 sideroad. Go west for 2.5 kms and sale is on north side.

Tractors/Combine/Skid Steer: Case IH 2094, cab, dual hydr; Case IH 1490, 56L loader, dual hydr; MF 410 Combine; NH 555 skid steer, no motor. **Mach & Equip:** Intl 4000 Swather, gas; Gehl 1470 TDC round baler, gathering wheels; White cultivator, 18'; Case discs; Case 5 furrow plow, semi mount; Case IH 5100 seed drill, soybean special, 21 run, press wheels; Kuhn rotary rake, 3pth; International 8330 haybine; White sprayer, 300 gal; chain harrows; 6"x51' grain auger on wheels **Farm Rel/Shop:** NH Mix Mill 352; Westfield Auger; Killbros 400 bushel gravity wagon, truck tires; oat roller; cement mixer; bale fork; stone fork; flat rack wagon, dual reach; post hole auger; asst gates; poly feed cart; cream separator; SS milker pails; Ritchie water bowls; creep feeder; round bale feeder; cattle squeeze, auto head gate; homemade incubator, western saddle; (2)set duals; fuel tank with pump; asst tools & more

Lunch Booth **Washroom Available**

Preview: Friday September 18th, 1-6pm

Note: Shorter Sale - please be on time

Order of Sale: Wagonload, Shop/Farm Related, Machinery & Equipment, Tractors

****SOCIAL DISTANCING IS TO BE OBSERVED AT ALL TIMES.**
MASK/FACE COVERING IS STRONGLY SUGGESTED
Sale to be limited to 100 persons

Terms & Conditions: Cash or Cheque with proper I.D. on day of sale. Owner and/or Auctioneer will not be held responsible for accident or loss on day of sale. All items are sold "As Is". All verbal announcements on day of sale take precedence over written ads.

Contact: Luca Drago (416) 605-5983
Auctioneers: Kevin McArthur (519) 942-0264 • Scott Bessey (519) 843-5083
www.theauctionadvertiser.com/KMcArthur - full listing & photos

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FOR SALE: 84 pieces of Royal Albert "Old Country Rose" fine china in excellent condition. $1000.00. Also 63 pcs of Johnson Brothers Chintz fine china "Summer Pattern" - $350.00. See pictures at fergusonauctions.com. 519-939-2960.

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YARD SALE

MULTI FAMILY YARD SALE – 19 BRIGHTON PL, Orangeville. Sat. Sept 12th 8am – 2pm. Quality items - kitchen, seasonal & home décor items, furniture and toys and tons of plus size women's clothing (L – 3X)!!

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CoDa Codependants Anonymous meet Sunday 7-8 at St. Mark's Anglican. Life too much? Covid restrictions apply.

ORANGEVILLE OVER 60's Single Club – a place to meet and make new friends. We meet every Thursday night at 7pm for coffee. Many activities. For info please call Ken 519-942-1864 or Betty 519-942-3090.

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

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

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

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

OBITUARIES

BRODIE, John Edward
May 29, 1925 -
August 24, 2020



John died peacefully, surrounded by his family, in his 96th year on Sunday, August 24, 2020 at the Avalon Care Centre, Orangeville, Ontario. John was raised in Garson, Ontario, the eldest of four children born to John Brodie and Doris Ingram. John was predeceased (2016) by his beloved wife of 64 years, Alice Brown.

Dear father of Dr. Patrick Brodie and wonderful grandpa to Erik Brodie (Kristen Fulton) and Megan Brodie (Brendan Smith). John will be missed by his two surviving siblings: Sheila Siren (Paul) in Sudbury and Colin Brodie (Claire) in Ottawa. Predeceased by his sister Phyllis Urbshot, from Ilderton. John spent most of his adult life in Sudbury and had a long career with INCO, first as a machinist and then as a maintenance superintendent. He also served during World War II in the Canadian navy on a destroyer escort in the dangerous north Atlantic. He retired early to spend time with his family and friends at Trout Lake in Hoskin Township. John was the original pioneer of the Trout Lake cottagers and had such an appreciation of the nature that surrounded his beloved 'camp'.

The family would like to thank the staff of the Avalon Care Centre in Orangeville for their excellent care and many kindnesses shown to John during his stay there.

A Celebration of Life will be held at the *Dods & McNair Funeral Home, Chapel & Reception Centre*, 21 First St., Orangeville, Ontario on Saturday, October 3, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. with Visitation starting at 2:00 p.m.

Memorial donations may be made to Westminster United Church, 247 Broadway, Orangeville, ON L9W 1K6.

A tree will be planted in memory of John in the Dods & McNair Memorial Forest at the Island Lake Conservation Area, Orangeville. The next annual dedication service will be held on Sunday, September 12, 2021 at 2:30 p.m. Condolences may be offered to the family at www.dodsandmcnair.com

SERVICES

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

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

IF YOU or a FAMILY MEMBER are struggling with gambling, Gamblers Anonymous is there to HELP. Call: 1(855) 222-5542 or visit www.gatoronto.ca.

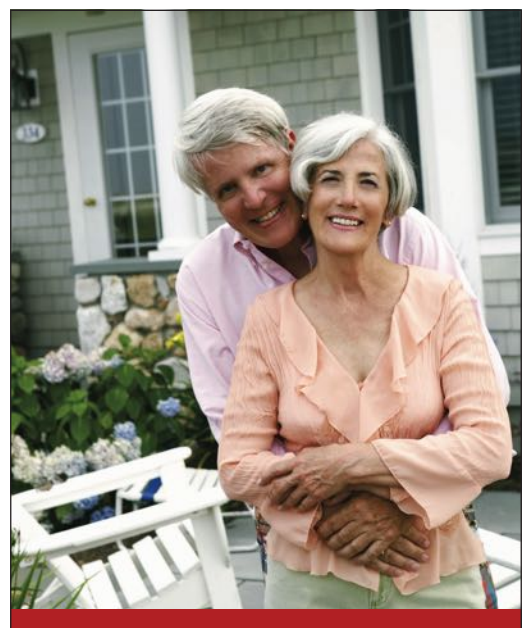
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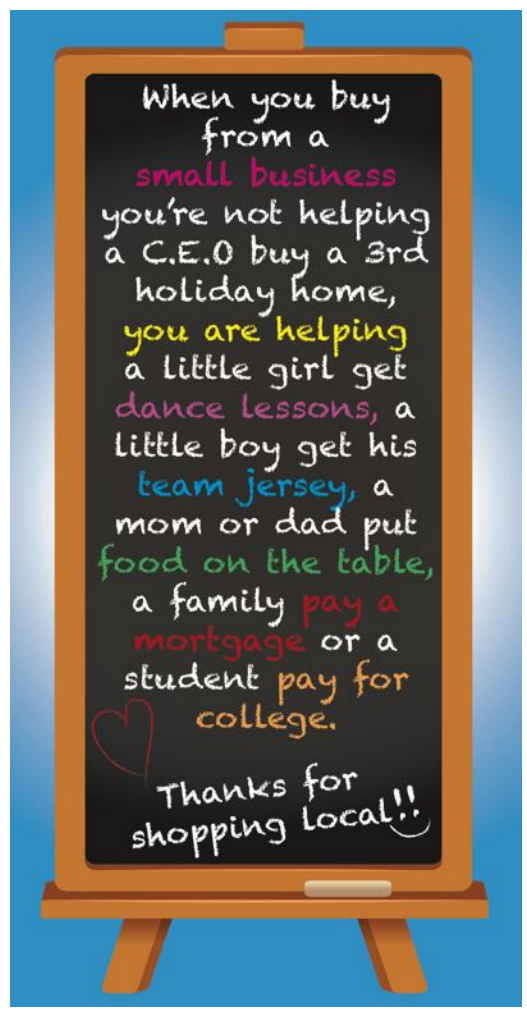
ALZHEIMER SUPPORT GROUPS meet monthly for spousal & family support. Call (519) 941-1221.

LA LECHE LEAGUE Orangeville offers breastfeeding support. For more info call Erin at 519-943-0703.

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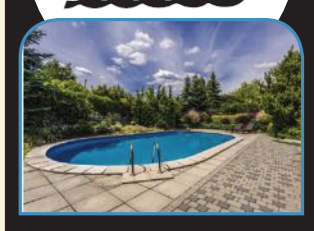
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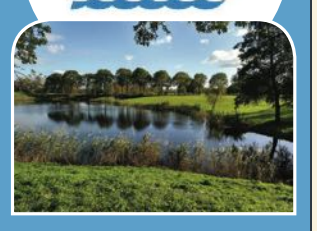
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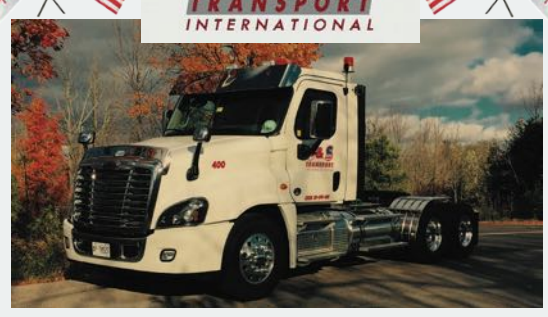
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[1]On approved credit. 1.69% APR on a new 2020 Corolla L (BPRBEC"A") for 60 months equals 260 weekly payments of $59 with $0 down. First weekly payment ($59) due at lease inception. Total lease obligation of $15,379 (real). All-in lease includes freight and fees (PDE, EHF, OMVIC fee and air conditioning tax, where applicable). HST, licensing, registration and insurance are extra. Based on a maximum of 80,000 km. Additional km charge of $0.07 for excess kilometres, if applicable. Dealer may lease for less. Vehicle must be leased, registered and delivered by September 30, 2020. Or finance from 0.49% APR on a new 2020 Corolla L (BPRBEC"A") for 36 months equals 156 weekly payments of $146 with a down payment or trade equivalent of $0. Cost of borrowing is $171.06 for a total obligation of $22,762.06 (real). All-in finance payments include freight and fees (PDE, EHF, OMVIC fee and air conditioning tax, where applicable). HST, licensing, registration and insurance are extra. Vehicle must be registered and delivered by September 30, 2020. Dealer may sell or lease for less. See ShopToyota.ca for details. [2]On approved credit. 3.99% APR on a new 2020 RAV4 AWD LE (B1RFVT"A") for 39 months equals 169 weekly payments of $104 with $0 down. First weekly payment ($104) due at lease inception. Total lease obligation of $17,575 (real). All-in lease includes freight and fees (PDE, EHF, OMVIC fee and air conditioning tax, where applicable). HST, licensing, registration and insurance are extra. Based on a maximum of 80,000 km. Additional km charge of $0.10 for excess kilometres, if applicable. Dealer may lease for less. Vehicle must be leased, registered and delivered by September 30, 2020. Or finance from 2.99% APR on a new 2020 RAV4 AWD LE (B1RFVT"A") for 36 months equals 156 weekly payments of $216 with $0 down. Cost of borrowing is $1,504.01 for a total obligation of $33,665.01 (real). All-in finance payments include freight and fees (PDE, EHF, OMVIC fee and air conditioning tax, where applicable). HST, licensing, registration and insurance are extra. Vehicle must be registered and delivered by September 30, 2020. Dealer may sell or lease for less. See ShopToyota.ca for details. [3]On approved credit. 4.49% APR on a new 2020 Highlander AWD LE (BZRBHT"A") for 48 months equals 208 weekly payments of $139 with $0 down. First weekly payment ($139) due at lease inception. Total lease obligation of $28,956 (real). Based on a maximum of 80,000 km. Additional km charge of $0.15 for excess kilometres. Or finance from 1.49% APR on a 2020 Highlander AWD LE (BZRBHT"A") for 36 months equals 156 weekly payments of $298 with $0 down. Cost of borrowing is $1,051.84 for a total obligation of $46,512.84 (real). All-in lease and finance payments include freight and fees (PDE, EHF, OMVIC fee and air conditioning tax, where applicable). HST, licensing, registration and insurance are extra. Vehicle must be registered and delivered by September 30, 2020. Dealer may sell or lease for less. See ShopToyota.ca for details.



Caledon Citizen
PROGRESS EDITION 2020

An annual report highlighting local businesses in Caledon.



Get Inspired AT ROCK GARDEN FARMS

Rock Garden Farms is the ultimate destination for food lovers or those looking for some of the harvest experience.

by Sam Odrowski

For the last 30 years, the 88 acre, family run farm has been a fixture on Airport Road, located just five kilometres south of Mono Mills.

The business is owned by Nick and Tish Luglio but their daughter, Margaret Galati and son-in-law, Paul Galati have been head of operations since 1995. Their 3 sons and employees all work hard to make the customers experience a pleasant one.

"It's a team effort over here," said Mrs. Galati. "It's an honour to bring employment to the local area."

Rock Garden Farms is known for its dedication to customer service and staff enjoy forging a local connection with shoppers.

Paul Galati sources and hand picks produce from local farmers each morning. "We really strive to offer only superior quality goods," noted Mrs. Galati.

Rock Garden Farms is filled with natural beauty and an awesome location for nature-lovers to enjoy this fall season.

A wide variety of the produce is grown and sold on site, including strawberries, eggplants, kale, beans, corn, squash, pumpkins, herbs and more.

The Galati's always look forward to harvest season and feeding the community with their bounty of harvest.

Mrs. Galati said she hopes the weather and beautiful fall colours over the next few weeks helps to get people out enjoying country drives and stopping by different markets along the way for a bounty of fresh Ontario produce.

She said it's a good time of year to begin planting fresh garlic for the coming season and canning preserves or vegetables for the winter. Freezing wild Ontario blueberries and other fruits is also great to have for fresh smoothies over the winter.

It's a simple way of bringing the warmth of summer into Caledon's cooler season. Almost nothing can beat sprinkling local summer berries on your breakfast cereal in the dead of winter.

"My hope is for people to feel inspired to make meals like stuffed peppers and eggplant lasagna to freeze for the busy season ahead. And to enjoy making soups that are made with fresh ingredients now, to be frozen and savoured later in colder weather," said Mrs. Galati.

For those who don't enjoy canning or preserves themselves, there's plenty of freshly canned jams, pickles, sauces, vegetables and frozen entrees available at Rock Garden Farms. There's also no better place to pick up fresh pies and desserts with Thanksgiving around the corner.

In terms of fall decor, Rock Garden Farms has you covered. All the necessities for decorating and adding the spirit of fall into your home can be found there.

The farm's store features beautiful autumn themed arrangements that will add ambiance to quality time with family and close friends.

"My hope is that our customers and the entire community will see the joy that can be had when we take in all the beauty that surrounds us this time of year," said Mrs. Galati.

Rock Garden Farms is located at 16930 Airport Rd., Caledon East or visit online at www.rockgardenfarms.ca



SORRENTO
RETIREMENT RESIDENCE

by Alyssa Parkhill

As autumn approaches, Sorrento Retirement Residence is gearing up to proudly open its doors steps from downtown Bolton. Sorrento offers seniors a new community where they can independently live in luxury, enjoy greenspace and outdoor terraces with numerous amenities (think full-service restaurant, theatre, rooftop garden, etc.) and services that make life easy and enjoyable.

The owner picked this location because he personally wanted his own parents to have a place where they could live life to the fullest in style while remaining active and appreciated. He wanted a town where seniors are valued and are active members in the local neighbourhood; and where the municipality goes out of its way to consider older citizens in city planning. He couldn't find residence that fit the bill, but he did find the right community here in Bolton.



"There's a real sense of community here. We've gotten to know many people and we want that sense of community for the seniors that move into Sorrento. Those that move here from out of town will find that they fit in easily in this friendly town. They'll make new friends with likeminded people who have a zest for life here" said Mr. Raymond Nicolini, Developer and one of the owners of Sorrento.

Why move into a retirement residence and not just stay at home as long as you can? Particularly with all the news around the pandemic.

That is the question many seniors are asking themselves, and the answer is simple. Staying at home can often expedite the aging process; especially if they are not getting out, exercising, staying connected with people daily and creating a new purpose in life. Managing a household can start to become overwhelming and create unnecessary stress and anxiety, especially for those living alone.

"Most seniors wait too long to make a decision to move and take control of their aging. Then they are too ill and someone else makes the decisions for them. They end up in places that manage their care effectively but are not as focused on what can be done to restore their health or prevent further decline. We have a lot of programs in place that are prevention and restoration focused, that promote independence," explained Deea Linehan.

The thought of moving sometimes conjures up images of long-term care (nursing homes), loss of freedom and the overwhelming work involved. Many are confused about the difference between retirement living and long-term care and use them interchangeably when in fact they are very different.

What is the difference between long term care and retirement living?

Long-term care homes (LTC) are for chronically ill adults who need help with most or all daily activities; and are focussed on providing 24hr nursing care above and beyond what is offered in retirement living. Some retirement homes can be confused with nursing homes as they provide advanced nursing care services making them look like care homes. LTC is government subsidized and has a lengthy application process where you must first qualify through the local health integration network before being accepted on a wait list.

Retirement living comes in a variety of options from communities where seniors live independent lives in their own space and on their own terms, with accessible facilities and services to those with a focus on private medical care. In a true independent retirement community, the emphasis is on lifestyle and activity. Any healthcare activities are about prevention and restoration.

Ms. Linehan noted, "we all age, but there are proactive things one can do to stay well. For example, we've put a volunteer program in place that's part of the Sorrento Wellness Plan. We link you with regular activities that build on your skills and make you an active part of the local Caledon community, while potentially discovering talents you never knew you had."

The 140-suite building has purposefully designed spacious, condo-style living areas featuring 10ft ceilings, windows that flood the room with light, barrier free washrooms and multiple storage solutions. The rental suites are available in multiple layouts including studio, one-bedroom, one bedroom + den and two-bedrooms; each showing off their own individual style.

The residence will have high quality European finishes in the suites as well as the amenity spaces. The developer and the designer directly imported many European features; from the Italian espresso machine in the bistro, to the uniquely patterned tiles covering the restaurant floor, to the authentic retro Fiat displayed in the front lobby welcoming guests alongside a friendly concierge.

Sorrento boasts its own restaurant, so residents have the luxury of choosing from a wide variety of options with the food made to order, and pizzas baked in an authentic outdoor pizza oven. And if they want something special? They can hit up the bar for some drinks and head out to one of the many heated patios to dine al fresco, or order private room service in their suite.

The amenities in the building help foster a strong sense of community within the walls of Sorrento. Encouraging residents to meet and mingle as they make use of the gym and yoga studio, full-service salon, swimming pool, theatre, demonstration kitchen, rooftop patio and so much more. Sorrento always welcomes residents to share their space with family and friends.

In addition to the many common areas, careful thought was put into the building health systems. ERV and negative air pressure systems ensure suites always have fresh clean air different from the hallways, the restaurant is large enough to ensure social distancing and a UV Lightbox at concierge to disinfect incoming packages.

Sorrento Retirement Residence caters to all seniors and their family members including the four-legged kind. Residents are welcome to move with their furry friends and make use of a pet washing station with direct access to walking paths, and additional pet services available on site. Many senior condos and communities do not allow pets to join their owners, forcing them to be given up to family members or animal shelters which is another reason some seniors may put off a move.

The thought, hard work, and attention to detail put into the building, its services, and amenities has created quite a stir in Bolton. With the fall opening quickly approaching, many have already secured their ideal suites and certain styles are already fully leased. Ms. Linehan smiled and noted, "we are hearing a lot of families tell us they are looking forward their loved ones being closer, and our seniors telling us they are happy to have a new housing option and are excited to make a move. As the countdown continues, you can still reserve your suite and our team is available to answer any questions and are looking forward to opening day."

The residence is currently still under construction and is located at 10 Station Road.

For more information, please visit sorrentoretirement.com or call 647-317-7242.



due Stelle inc.
making makers shine

What could be the best way to support local entrepreneurs and businesses?

To help the community become involved and lean about different products and services that surround them?

by Alyssa Parkhill



Two Bolton entrepreneurs figured it out and created a space that allow locals the opportunity to share their businesses, and the community to learn about them.

"It all started because we both own our own home businesses, and we know a lot of people who also run their own little businesses. We've always wanted to open up our own business, but the overhead was expensive and we figured, what better way than to get other people involved and we all move in under one roof, and do it together, without everyone having to be here," said co-owner. Marilyn Pilolli.

What was first known as Makers Market House, has now been changed to Due Stelle Inc, which perfectly describes the owners and the unique, quant shop located in Bolton.

Bruna Nasso and Marilyn Pilolli, work full-time jobs alongside running their market house shop, now named Due Stelle Inc. Pilolli runs her own flower business called the Floral Boutique and Nasso prints edible images for bakeries to bring customized designs for different kinds of desserts, known as Imagine Images.

Nasso and Pilolli always wanted to organize a business together, but the costs of owning space and running it alone, showed to be costly, but through their friendships and knowledge of all the other local businesses like them, they knew they wouldn't be alone on their journey.

"Once we got a few vendors, they brought in other vendors, a lot of local, some from afar," said Pilolli. "We knew there was a lot of people that worked from home doing whatever they do as their small little business, but until we opened the store, there's a lot of people."

The entrepreneurs found a need, and demand for a space for artisans around the Caledon community to showcase, and sell their artwork, handmade creations, decorations gifts and so much more. They claim to be a follower in the idea of this type of shop stating, "there's a lot of stores across Ontario, but we're a fan of The Nooks."

Both Nasso and Pilolli have resided in the Caledon community for the past 16 to 20 years, they welcome all small businesses who may or may not have the space to display their products or work, and just need that helping hand. Vendors can apply online on the Due Stelle website, where Nasso and Pilolli look through the applications and determine where space could be made for them.

Finding vendors proved to be a challenge in the beginning, but through the work of social media and research, after finding a couple vendors, more and more applications began to be submitted.

Not only do they provide the space for local products to be displayed but have an advertising wall for businesses and individuals to put up their information such as business cards and/or pamphlets that get posted on the Due Stelle social media for $50 a month.

"We welcome any small business, doesn't necessarily have to be handmade, anyone that works from home. The minimum anyone is here is two months – so the type of items sold may change throughout the year as vendors change," said Nasso.

Due Stelle Inc can be a tad stressful when focusing on their other businesses along with their shop, but with the support and encouragement from the local businesses and entrepreneurs that we work with, they make it work.

"Everybody here is great," said Nasso. "Everybody was very encouraging to go ahead and to do something like this because, we have gift shops in Bolton, but this is different. We don't have one that supports local vendors and local small businesses. So, everybody's been very supportive because everybody seems like everybody prefers these days to support small."

She added, "It's a hustling world out there. Small businesses are really hustling to make a dollar."

Due Stelle Inc is located at 196 McEwan Drive East, Unit #3 in Bolton. They are always looking for new vendors and can be reached at (905) 857-7796. Learn more at duestelle.ca.

THE ROYAL AMBASSADOR EVENT CENTRE

RURAL CHARM CLOSE TO THE CITY

by Brian Lockhart









It is the ability to **envision the possibilities** that makes for a great business enterprise.

When John Giancola first visited the property where the Royal Ambassador Event Centre is now located, he knew that it was an ideal setting for a banquet hall that could be created to the standards he had always dreamed of.
He wanted to build something that would rise above the average commercial banquet halls that are located in industrial areas around the city.

With an existing building, expansive grounds, and a natural lake that is part of the Humber River system, John saw potential in this beautiful setting that has a rural charm and yet is within an easy drive from larger cities.

By renovating and adding on to the original building, The Royal Ambassador is now a 28,000 square foot facility that includes the beautifully appointed banquet hall, new washrooms, a new second floor, and a new wing that features The Consulate Restaurant.

You don't just open a banquet hall with no experience and expect it to be a success.

John learned the business from the ground up.

"When I was in high school and college I worked in a banquet hall in Toronto and I really liked the business," he said of his start in the industry. "I always thought I would like to have my own banquet facility. That's where I learned the business and it put me through school."

After graduating college with a diploma in marketing, he worked for a publishing firm for nine years. However, with the dream of opening his own business still part of his life's plan, he decided to use his business acumen and knowledge of the industry to strike out on his own.

"I opened up a banquet hall in Woodbridge called Genesis Banquet Hall. I really enjoy the business. I like meeting our customers and talking to people."

While working in the industry, John was a keen observer of how things operated. He thought that if the opportunity became available, he could take a banquet facility to the next level in terms of efficiency while adding touches to the overall customer experience that would have people coming back while recommending his establishment to friends and family.

"Almost all of the banquet halls in the city were in industrial areas and basically big square boxes with no windows," he explained. "At the end of the day, it was really no different than having an event in your basement. I really thought I could run an operation that was more efficient, more customer oriented and more employee oriented. I thought the industry really needed to change. Even the new banquet halls were still in industrial areas and in strip malls. I really wanted to create a place that made people feel like they had travelled to a different country. I wanted a concept that could be considered more European and much more relaxing as a guest."

The result is a well landscaped facility with a waterfall, two gazebos for old-world style weddings, and beautifully landscaped gardens ideal for wedding photos.

In 2005, they built The Greenhouse – a new hall with a magical rustic style, big windows, and a vista overlooking the lake.

The Consulate Restaurant features fine dining with a varied menu that is ideal for both a mid-week lunch or a special night out.

Competitively priced with an affordable wine list with vintages from around the world, the Consulate offers an elegant dining experience in a spacious setting.

For John, pursuing his goal of creating his own style banquet hall, has resulted in a facility that provides outstanding service in a stunning and unique atmosphere that boasts a rural setting close to every major city in the GTA.

The Royal Ambassador Event Centre is located at 15430 Innis Lake Road, in beautiful Caledon East.

You can visit on-line at
www.theroyalambasssador.com or the
restaurant at www.consulaterestaurant.com



Bolton FAMILY DENTAL

by Alyssa Parkhill

"From the minute you walk in, you feel a sense of comfort in our office",

said Josie Tisshaw, Manager at Bolton Family Dental Centre.

"It's very important as a front liner to give that comfort in order to ensure that the entire visit becomes a pleasurable one."

Located on Shore St. in Bolton, the dental centre has been serving the Caledon community since 2000. Founder and Dentist, Dr. Rosanna Porretta, developed Bolton Family Dental after her years working in the dental industry.

Dr. Porretta began her career in the dental industry as an office manager and clinical dental assistant. She later became a dental hygienist in 1993 in Buffalo, NY and finally attended dental school in 1995 at Boston University where she graduated in 1999.

With her immense career success, she also received the William Cummings Award.

The team at Bolton Family Dental Centre have been working with Dr. Porretta for many years. Josie had joined the team in 2017 and says, "we are more like family members than co-workers." "We are a close, tight-knit group of ladies that mesh well together to provide optimal services in the dental industry."

Josie describes the environment to be warm, personable and friendly for all patients entering the office. When going to the dentist, it poses as sort of a "scary" trip at times, it helps to know that the staff are able to make patients comfortable.

Along with the basic dental services, such as general dentistry and hygiene, Bolton Family Dental also offer additional services including periodontal surgery, oral surgery, and orthodontics. "For convenience sake to our patients, we like to keep all services under one roof", says Josie.

"Our team works like a well-oiled machine." says Josie. From the first step into our office to sitting in the chair and then when leaving our office, we strive on making the entire experience here, a pleasurable one. She added, "we are just an awesome team with the same core values."

Dr. Porretta owns not one, but two offices. One is located in Bolton and the second is in Beeton.

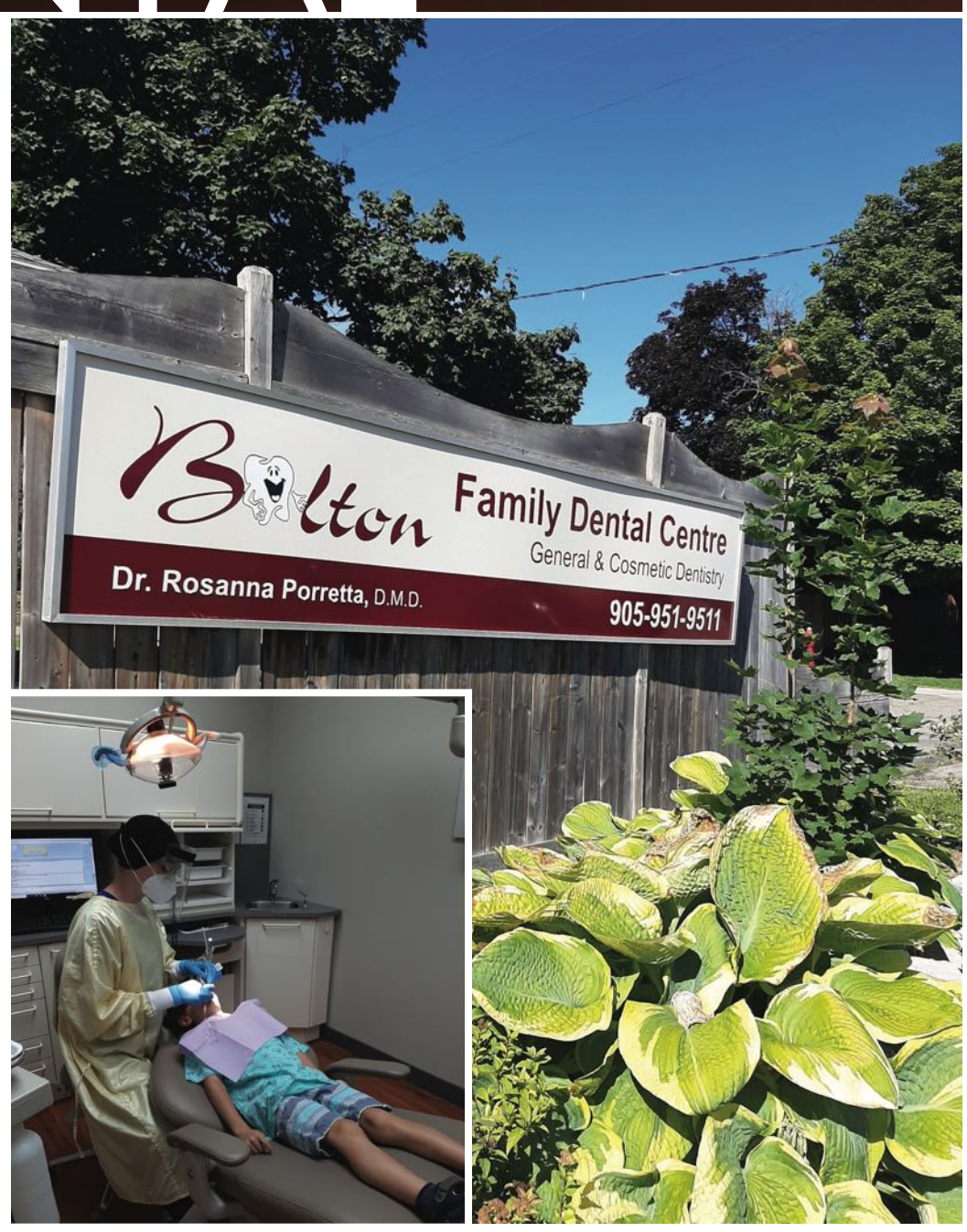
Bolton Family Dental stands out among all the other dental offices in the area simply because of who they are, and what they represent.

"Our team here is so personable," said Tisshaw. "From the minute you walk in, you feel comforted in our offices. I think that's the most important thing in working on the frontline, is making sure that people are comfortable coming in. It makes the whole trip pleasurable."

She added, "The stress level comes down once you meet us, and the way we all work together as a team. We're just an awesome team."

Bolton Family Dental is located at 24 Shore St in Bolton and can be reached at (289) 206-0095.

For more information, please visit boltonfamilydentist.com.







Tender NURSING CARE

by Alyssa Parkhill

Ica Poznic, knew she wanted to provide a care service for the community of Caledon, after witnessing the lack of equality one of her family members was getting while sick.

When her husband's grandmother was ill, care service workers would come and go, in short quantities of time leaving her husband's grandmother struggling to care for herself majority of the time.

Six years ago, Poznic decided it was time to bring higher quality of service and care to Caledon and surrounding areas such as the GTA.

"I've been a nurse for 26 years," said Poznic. "Because I have so much knowledge, I should put something in place better than others. And that's why I do this. We do more than four hours. We never do less than four hours of service because we don't see the quality. Yeah. And it's very important for the patients to have continuity. The same goals, the same staff and case managers to be around."

She added, "I didn't like the services, how they would come and go and I needed to do something."

Tender Nursing Care officially opened in 2014.

Poznic trained in her birth country, Romania, and was licensed here in Canada. When she first began Tender Nursing Care, she tirelessly worked to care for her patients, alongside ill family members, all on her own.

But now, she is equipped with full staff of women, and full list of patients.

The caregivers at Tender Nursing Care prove to have impactful differences than other care services including complete in-person assessments to be able to provide the perfect caregiver for that patient, 24- hour care services, as well as several caregivers possess the ability to speak a variety of different languages, allowing easier communication for patients with English as their second language.

Poznic herself speaks fluently in English, Romanian, Serbian and Croatian.

Poznic was originally serving the Toronto and GTA community at the beginning, but later realized that she wanted to prioritize in Caledon and be able to provide quality care service to her community.

"The reason I wanted to come to Bolton was because we had a facility here, and I wanted to help the community more, because I love this community," said Poznic. "I grew up in a small community, and I can see that they need the services more."

Tender Nursing Care offers a variety of services including nursing assessments and education, care planning, in-home rehabilitation, pre and post-surgery care, alzheimer's and dementia care assistance, palliative care, to name only a few.

Poznic describes Tender Nursing Care to be different that other care services, because of the close relationships she builds with her patients and her team.

"I wanted to be a doctor, but I'm glad I didn't because there isn't the same bond and communications with my patients like you would have a doctor with a patient," said Poznic. "I've been a nurse, I specialize in surgical and I've been a mental health nurse. It's not just the treatment and the services, it's more than that. It's the bond. That's what I find most important. Having clients who are calling me and trusting me."

For more information on the Tender Nursing Care team and services, please visit tncare.ca or call (416) 606-3112.



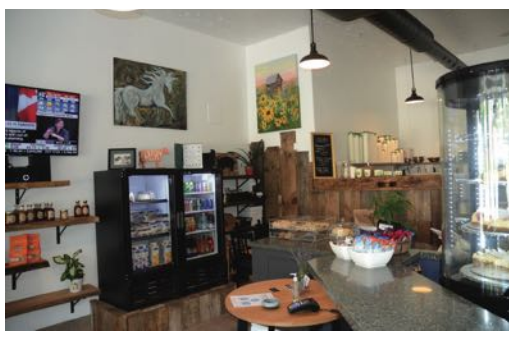




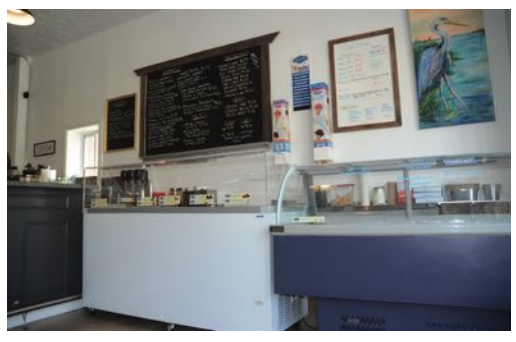
RIVER RIDGE café

Homestyle breakfast & lunch in the heart of Palgrave

by Brian Lockhart









It is a passion for food and a keen interest in the restaurant industry that brought the River Ridge Cafe to Palgrave.

Cafe owner, Meaghan Varrall, opened her new restaurant in an historic building right in the middle of town after a lifelong enjoyment of baking and cooking.

If the name River Ridge rings a bell, it's because Meaghan's family has been in the area for over a century and operate River Ridge farm near Palgrave. She also has brothers who have kept the River Ridge name in their business enterprises.

"I'm going to use fresh vegetables from the farm to make fresh salads and other menu items," Meaghan said of planning her summer menu. "I've always loved cooking and baking. I've always baked with my Mom. As I grew up I got more into cooking and developed a passion for food. I've always wanted to have my own restaurant and decided to start small with my own cafe," she explained of the path that brought her to establishing her own place in Palgrave.

After deciding to take the plunge into business the search was on for a suitable location. When a building became available right on Highway 50, in the middle of Palgrave, it seemed to be just the right place for a cafe that is both trendy and easily accessible for both local residents as well as the many visitors who make their way to the village every year to attend events and take advantage of the nearby outdoor amenities.

Inside, the décor is a nice mix of modern and rustic. With new counters, tables and chairs, you are surrounded by trim made from weather 100 year-old barn boards and benches that were created from century old reclaimed barn beams that were rescued from a local farm.

Meaghan's partner, Mike, used his skills to help with the updates and transitions in the cafe to make it what it is today.

The cafe provides a beautiful atmosphere if you are stopping by or breakfast, lunch, or just an ice cream cone on a hot summer day.

Large front windows allow natural light for a cheery ambiance all day long.

Since opening at the beginning of February, the response to this new cafe in the heart of Palgrave has proved it to be a welcome addition to the neighbourhood.

The menu provides everything from an all day breakfast to sandwiches and homemade soups.

"We make everything fresh every day," Meaghan said. "We make everything to order. Soup and chili has been very popular over the cold days in winter. During the summer we'll specialize in salads and healthy items."

The Reuben sandwich, club sandwich, and the toasted Western have all been big hits with patrons who stop by for lunch.

From locally produced honey to ice cream, she takes pride in supporting other Ontario business.

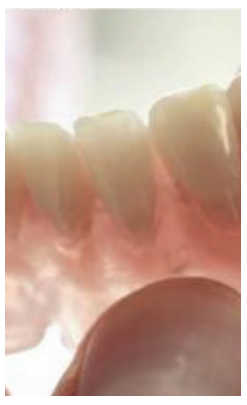
"Every thing we have is local from Ontario. Our honey is from Melancthon, our maple syrup is from Adjala. Even our coffee is roasted to order in North York."

The cafe also has Kawartha Dairy ice cream – another Ontario producer. This summer, the cafe will be the local spot to drop by for an ice cream on a warm summer night.

The River Ridge Cafe is located on Highway 50, right in the heart of the village of Palgrave.







KOSTYNYK DENTURE CENTRE

by Alyssa Parkhill



What exactly is a Denturist, many patients ask when they first come into the office.

As a Denturist, David Kostynyk is a denture specialist and can provide comprehensive, full and partial denture services directly for his patients, you do not need a referral from a dentist.

Since 1995, David has been providing patients in not only Caledon, but surrounding area, the right dentures for them. The clinic began in the lower level of the Bolton Professional Building, at 30 Martha Street, and later moved upstairs, to the ground floor, where they have been ever since. "We've grown quite a bit since we started off in dealing with 360 square feet," said Kostynyk. "Now, we've got a pretty thriving practice with thousands of smiling patients."

Born and raised in Mississauga when it was considered a small town, Kostynyk knew that the small town, homey feel was where he was meant to be. When Kostynyk met his wife Katherine, they decided to pick up to move to small town Bolton, where they have raised their children, and have become a part of the community. "We have a lot of fun helping out with many different groups and organizations. Hockey teams, soccer teams, and other sports. We do a lot of work with the Rotary Club in town as well," explained Kostynyk. "You've got to have a sense of community, and Bolton certainly does have the feeling of a good community."

David got into the industry by helping out a friend who worked in a lab creating crowns and bridges. Being a hands-on type of worker, Kostynyk decided to lend a hand. "I've always worked with my hands, so I started helping him out. About a week or two, he told me, 'you're better at this than most of the guys I went to school with'," said Kostynyk. "So, I went back to school and completed a diploma programme in dentures." He added, "it's the best of both worlds. I get to work with my hands and work with people."

But you may be thinking, what is a denture clinic? What do denture clinics do?

"A lot of people confuse us with a dentist. We don't pull teeth out, we put them back. We're the nice end of the spectrum," said Kostynyk. "We provide full dentures or ones that are only missing a couple teeth, partial dentures. Implants are the real big industry changer right now. It gives you replacement teeth as close to your natural teeth as possible."

With constant evolving technology, David continues to learn more about the industry and adapting to the changing industry.

"Digital dentures are inevitably going to become the standard, but it's still in its infancy stage. It's supposed to make a more accurate denture. But it's digital so I'm still working on getting soft tissue and hard tissue compression," he explained. "The implants are definitely one of the more popular advancements. More and more people are hearing about them, they're becoming a little more affordable and the technology is getting better. "

David looks forward to continuing his work within Caledon and keeping a close relationship to the community to bring functional, affordable and friendly service to all residents.

Kostynyk's Denture Clinic is located at 30 Martha Street, Suite 105 in Bolton. For more information on Kostynyk's hours and services, please visit dkdenture.ca.

PARADISE FARMS

ALL NATURAL HORMONE FREE BEEF RAISED LOCALLY

by Brian Lockhart



It was a desire to create a pure product free from hormones and other unnatural substances that led to the opening of the Paradise Farms Butcher Boutique in Erin.

The shop serves all Caledon raised beef that comes from their local farms including Canadian breeds of high quality, fed and raised following the farm's unique and forward thinking philosophy.

Following a protocol that encompasses a natural process of raising beef including non GMO and non-antibiotic feed, the animals on the farm are maintained in a stress free environment and supervised by qualified staff.

The store is bright, clean, and modern, with a friendly and helpful staff. The coolers are well stocked with a variety of beef products and the meat is cut on site. Customers appreciate the fact that the product is of high quality, hormone free, and locally produced.

The background history of how Paradise Farms was created is a fascinating story of determination, practicality, and good business sense.

"Our mission statement when we opened, was to produce beef naturally without any hormone implants or antibiotics," explained owner and founder Shane Baghai. "We wanted to do everything in a natural way with GMO free grains for feed. As far as the humane treatment of our animals, we keep the animals in the most comfortable way possible under the supervision of qualified staff. We also wanted to have purebred animals such as Aberdeen Angus and purebred Wagyu from Japan."

The farms were the first to import Chianina cattle from Italy. In addition to cattle, the farms produce feed growing hay and corn.

An engineer by profession, Mr. Baghai had no farming experience when he started Paradise Farms 12 years ago. His professional business life revolves around his activities as a real estate developer, builder, and financier.

It was a family member who was unable to eat products that contained hormones that inspired him to create his own product after finding limited availability on the market.

"I really spend about 80 per cent of my time at construction sites," Mr. Baghai explained. "I decided to buy a farm to provide fresh air, fresh eggs, and natural beef. It really was an inspiration. I wanted to do my best for her and that's how it started."

After meeting some professors at the University of Guelph, he learned all he could about the farming industry.

"That was quite the education for me," Mr. Baghai said. "I absorbed everything they said. I learned a great deal from those wonderful science professors."

Paradise Farms was the first to start producing hormone free products. The trend has spread to some other producers, however Mr. Baghai doesn't view them as competition. Rather he is happy that his beef operation has inspired others to try the hormone free production method.

"A lot of companies have followed suit. Twelve years ago you couldn't go to a cattle sale and buy a hormone free animal. Now, everyone is following my program. I don't look at it as competition, I look at it as something very wonderful and useful."

The Paradise Farms store offers a variety of cuts of meat in the store and also offers custom orders up to quarters and full sides of beef.

The Store provides a pleasant shopping experience with a friendly and knowledgeable staff and best of all, you know you are receiving a natural product with no unnecessary additives.

The Paradise Farms Butcher Boutique is located at 2 Thompson Crescent, in Erin Ontario, or visit us at www.paradisefarmsboutique.ca

Accessing vital community services is easier than ever.



An inclusive, responsive and innovative organization, **Caledon Community Services (CCS)** has been a community leader since 1971.

by Alyssa Parkhill



By cultivating strong local and regional partnerships, this multi-impact organization offers an expansive list of services that improve the quality of life across Caledon.

They've recently rebranded to tell their story better. CCS wants Caledon to know the full range of services available and how the community itself can get involved. The new brand was designed to make it easy to understand the services, eligibility and access. The new vibrant CCS colors have been popping up on social media and on the buses for months now. The final element will be a new website that will offer an improved user experience and feature CCS' new flower logo in full bloom!

Brand strategist and designer, Simon Burn, has been a Caledon resident for twenty years. He's helped businesses and organizations internationally, in his words, "define who they are, what they stand for and what makes them unique," So it's not surprising it was Burn whom CCS brought aboard to collaborate with them in bringing a fresh and uplifting image to the community. The goal was to create brand awareness that defines the full breadth of the agency's services that are available to people and businesses.

"I had no understanding of how CCS worked. I had heard of all of their different programs but I had no idea that they were all under the Caledon Community Services umbrella," he said. "I spoke to many people in the community; many knew CCS did really good stuff but they did not grasp the whole impressive structure."

Staff at CCS worked with Burn to develop a new and different way to communicate to the community. They understood the importance of making it easier for people to understand and gain access to the help they need when they need it. They also appreciated the importance of showing community residents, groups, businesses and others how they can be involved and make a difference in their own community. The message needed to be clear and inviting.

"The first thing I addressed was bringing all the different programs into one clear and concise brand positioning," said Burn.

CCS serves the community in multiple ways. Programs include senior services, employers and job seekers, youth programs, food and family supports, accessible transportation, volunteer opportunities, newcomer services and social enterprise retail stores. That's a lot to digest.

CCS is responsive to so many needs for Caledon residents. And of course, volunteer opportunities abound that allow individuals and families to contribute in fun and engaging ways to the fabric of community life.

After an initial review of the program portfolios, two main issues needed correcting. There was a lack of cohesiveness among the programs and initiatives on offer and the CCS brand wasn't associated with all of its services. "We agreed to design a brand identity that delivers a consistent message and then create communication collateral that is easily recognized," says Burn.

With the rebranding strategy, all services fit into one of three 'buckets'. The colourful visual approach allows different services to be promoted individually while still being recognized as a part of the CCS agency.

The buckets, or themes, take a defined approach. There's a home for each service in the bucket that makes the most sense to people searching for the service. What finally emerged was Health, Jobs and Life.

Vibrancy, energy and positivity are touchpoints in colour selections.

"The colours are deliberate," says Donna Cragg, Director of Communications at CCS. "Simon chose them to reflect a kind of impact point of view or psychological association." Purple was selected as the corporate base colour for its inspiring, responsible feeling; magenta represents life; orange represents harmony, compassion and healthy vitality; and green is the colour of renewal which is just right for jobs and training.

To create a logo reflective of this new brand positioning, the agency wanted to respect and keep the connection to the rural roots. It was agreed that the earthy colour palette and the "tree" logo had served them well and now was a time of renewal.

The decision? They landed on a flower.

"In creating this flower, all of these elements extend from the same central point in the centre of the flower," Burn explained.

Along with growth and vibrancy, the flower adds a positive, edgy, brave and unique perspective in how CCS wants to relate with the community.

"Caledon is a unique and special place," said Cragg. "We have the challenges of poverty and need but in every aspect, Caledon rises to the occasion. The flower represents all of that - being positive and a little edgy was important to capture. In Caledon we don't leave anyone behind." Cragg continues, "You can see this playing out in the community's response to the pandemic. We're all in this together."

Whether it's putting food on the table, providing warm clothes, employment support, transportation, seniors assisted living, care for caregivers or settlement services, Caledon Community Services offers something for everyone.

The mission has always been to help all residents in the community. And by creating a simpler way to communicate who they are, what they do, and how to get help, the organization is making it easier for residents to find and access the services they need.

As Cragg explains, when she and other staff from CCS were chatting with a local Rotary Club and the popular question arose, "What does CCS do?" CCS' CEO, Monty Laskin, succinctly described CCS using the three buckets. Although it was very early on, it was a sure sign that the rebrand was on the right track.

Although COVID-19 has made outreach and fundraising difficult, the new brand will help strengthen CCS' position. With the organization's upcoming 50th anniversary in 2021, the rebranding couldn't have come at a more perfect time.

"There are challenges in Caledon, oft-times hidden from plain view. There's poverty, unemployment, isolation," explains Laskin, "and with our rebrand we're trying to bridge the gap so everybody feels the power of connection."

No matter what help is needed, this community needs to know that CCS is here for them. No one needs to struggle alone. Supports are available when life circumstances call out for them. CCS' vision of, "A heathy, engaged compassionate community for all" was strong when it was first established and it still stands strong today with this colourful rebrand.

Caledon Community Services' home office is in the Royal Courtyards, 8 King Street East, Upper Level, Caledon, ON L7E 1E8. They can be reached by phone (905) 584-2300 or email info@ccs4u.org.

To learn more, please visit ccs4u.org









TELLO JEWELLERS

PROVIDES UNRIVALED CRAFTSMANSHIP.

by Mark Pavilons

BEAUTY IS WHO YOU ARE, BUT JEWELLERY IS ICING ON THE CAKE.

Custom-made jewellery is art, a one-of-a-kind masterpiece. It's a combination of heart, passion and impeccable taste.

Life's too short to wear mass-produced jewellery.

While many jewellers offer a myriad of services, few can match the skills and design expertise of Edgar Tello. The magnificent eye behind Tello Jewellers Gemologist & Goldsmith has been honing his craft for more than half a century. Edgar is a goldsmith and designer, along with being a GIA certified gemologist, and his career speaks volumes about his work.

That's expertise you can't find anywhere.

From sketches and wax molds to the finished, polished product, Tello does it all. Many jewellers today use computer-assisted renderings to handle the design aspects.

But that lacks emotion, and can't always convey the proper message. Tello is quick to point out that our brains are like a computer, and the human touch helps get the message across beautifully.

Harry Winston once said if people are going to stare, "make it worth their while."

Tello Jewellers is one-stop jewellery store, offering everything from A to Z, repairs, appraisals, and complete creations from scratch. Let Edgar redesign your old rings and transform them into something new. For Tello, it has always been quality and workmanship above all else.

And customers with a discerning eye are willing to pay the premium.

The trend now, Tello said, is rose gold. Black diamonds have also been popular but beware. Tello recommends going for the top quality, best cut stones, which can impress, for a reasonable price.

For engagement rings, the top sellers currently are halo designs – a large centre diamond surrounded by smaller stones. Of course, the traditional large solitaire never goes out of style.

For men, onyx has been popular lately.

The pandemic has hurt many retail operations, but Tello has persevered and weathered the storm. With graduation celebrations curtailed, some people have opted for custom jewellery to mark the occasion.

Tello explained that customers still like to come into the store, talk to him and toss around ideas, concepts and suggestions. They also like to see the process and the piece, take shape. That personal touch goes a long way and ultimately makes for a better piece of jewellery.

Tello has a long list of accolades to his credit.

Over the years, Edgar has created a number of custom pieces, including of pieces for celebrities, including Nancy Sinatra and Walt Disney.

He also made a special ring for actor and martial arts expert, Chuck Norris.

One of his favourite pieces was a life-size solid gold shoe, which adorned the Golden Slipper Stakes trophy for the famous Australian Horse Race.

Edgar loves his craft. Not a day goes by where he's not pleased with his work, or the smiles on customers' faces.

The store's almost quarter-century of operation in town is a testament to customer service and loyalty. Tello said they have a large customer base, drawing from across the GTA, York Region, Dufferin and Simcoe counties.

If you're looking for that special piece of jewellery, whether it's an engagement ring, a gift, or something special for yourself, be sure to check out Tello Jewellers in Bolton, for a well-rounded, unique experience.

A personal piece of jewellery is like saying who you are, without uttering a single word.

You can order online and even text your orders to 647-239-9753. For more, visit tellojewellers.com or call 905-951-8881.



Expert advice and reliable automotive maintenance

by Brian Lockhart

With 40 years in the industry behind him and 12 years in Bolton as the owner of Tire Junction, Amar Uppal has become the go-to guy for tires in the region.

Mr. Uppal knows everything there is to know about tires. Whether you drive a pickup truck, an SUV, or a sedan for running about town, he can advise you on the best rubber for your vehicle based on your driving style, the type of vehicle, weather conditions, and the roads you spend the most time traversing.

While his knowledge of tire brands and what they can do is extensive, Mr. Uppal's history in the automotive industry extends to all aspects of automotive repair and maintenance.

He began his career as an apprentice mechanic in the U.K.

"I wanted to be a mechanic," he explained of getting his start in the industry. "I got hooked up with an apprenticeship with Volkswagen Audi in the U.K, and did a five-year apprenticeship. After five years I was a licensed Automotive Technician. I was then offered a job with an independent mechanic's shop and wanted to learn about all different cars. I wanted to work in a shop where they got all makes and models of cars. It was a very busy shop and I learned a lot because of the different varieties of cars coming in. I was working with four very experienced mechanics."

Mr. Uppal branched out for a time on his own with his own shop and quickly gained a customer base that appreciated his honesty and quick turnaround time on vehicles.

Taking a trip across the ocean and relocating to Canada, he started to become familiar with North American cars after working with European models for many years.

With trained mechanics being a valuable asset to any community, he found work with little difficulty.

"Within four days I had myself a job," Mr. Uppal said. "I started working at a dealership and was there for four years then moved to another dealership."

With a solid background in the industry and experience with just about every vehicle in the market, Mr. Uppal decided it was once again time to start his own business.

In addition to automotive repairs he specialized in tires.

He realized the need for a specialty shop in the region due to the mix of urban and rural driving which requires both summer and winter treads. He opened Tire Junction in Bolton in 2008 and quickly established a trusted source for automotive repairs and tires for all vehicles.

"All my customers are nice here in Bolton," he said. "I want to thank everyone for supporting us for so many years. We really appreciate their business. We try to do the best for our customers at all times and at reasonable cost."

The shop has expanded over the past several years and now includes a four bay shop with five full-time employees that offers full automotive service including laser guided wheel alignments.

They stock just about every brand of tire there is. That includes many off-shore brands that may be a little less expensive but are produced at the same quality as well known name brand tires.

Mr. Uppal can advise you on the best tires to meet your needs as a driver based on the type of driving you do on a daily basis and the vehicle you drive.

Tire Junction is located at 11221 Highway 50, at Albion Vaughan Rd., in the south end of Bolton.



APTI PHYSIOTHERAPY & SPORTS REHAB CLINIC

by Alyssa Parkhill





On December 8, 2019 Ravi Raghuvanshi officially opened APTI Physiotherapy and Sports Rehab clinic in Bolton. After immigrating to Canada three years ago with his wife, and with experience in the sports physiotherapy and rehab industry, it felt just right to open up his own clinic for the Caledon community.

But, APTI Physiotherapy and Sports rehab services are a bit different than the usual clinics.

Raghuvanshi has a long list of experience providing services for athletes of all sorts including teams and individuals. Passion for sports physiotherapy began at a young age for Raghuvanshi, after watching his father's career who was an athlete at national level, whose athletic career fell short due to a hamstring tear. Through his father's experience, Raghuvanshi developed a passion for helping athletes reach their highest goals and achievements.

With his father's encouragement, Raghuvanshi travelled to different parts of the country and world, learning more about physiotherapy, and now is settled here in Canada.

"When I was in India I was working in sports physiotherapy and working with national academies as well as elite cricketers, soccer players, hockey players and others. I enjoyed it all, but I wanted to challenge myself and wanted to work with golf because I really liked it," explained Raghuvanshi. "So, I did my TPI certification and came to Canada, got my license and began working in different private clinics."

He reached a point of wanting to go further in his career and start a clinic he could call his own. After coming to Canada and gainining his TPI certification which is a specialty in golf, APTI Physiotherapy and Sports Rehab was born.

Raghuvanshi got to know the Bolton Wanderers soccer club where he began working with the team and attending the events as well as developing a contact through the president of the club.

"They were finding it very helpful and quite different and said, 'why don't you come to Bolton and open up something?' I never really thought of it. With the guidance and help from the Bolton Wanderers soccer club, I began offering substantially good and honest physiotherapy to the Bolton community," explained Raghuvanshi.

But the clinic isn't just for athletes and sports organizations, but for any other individual experiencing discomfort. He explains it as providing a higher quality to life, and rather than fixing pain he works to prevent it. Say, if you were feeling neck discomfort, rather than waiting until the pain develops, Raghuvanshi would provide manual therapy to prevent further discomfort.

"The whole concept of doing that is to promote manual therapy. We do a very advanced way of assessment which is called a video analysis and Surface Electromyographic (SEMG) Biofeedback, which is used for diagnosing and treatment. That gives a baseline information for us to work with. Then we're going to use some customized prehab and rehab protocols for you to work on, which will allow us to see if you have improved by testing that data," said Raghuvanshi.

Since Raghuvanshi's grand opening in Bolton, he has come to appreciate the Caledon community, and how seriously they are about their health. They read the signs of physical discomfort and with APTI Physiotherapy and Sports Rehab's help, they are able to prevent injury.

"What I love about this community is they are very aware of their health. Many patients who come into my clinic from this community, don't just come in for pain. They notice stiffness and are worried it will come to pain, which makes it easy for me to educate them that yes, a stiffness is telling you something is happening," said Raghuvanshi.

APTI Physiotherapy and Sports Rehab provides specifically manual therapy with advanced diagnosing and treatment, as well as athletic therapy with an athletic therapist in team who is also a certified personal trainer. For sports clubs and organizations, the clinic offers baseline testing for concussion and pre participation screening for sports injuries. He feels strong about the term physiotherapy, that it covers all bases such as custom orthotics and pain management.

Raghuvanshi is hoping to expand the clinic to provide further therapies including massage therapy and even going as far as opening new locations as well as expanding his current office. He also encourages not only individuals but first responders, firefighters, those who greatly impact the community to reach out to the clinic, as Raghuvanshi wants to give back to the community as best he can.

"I'm trying to reach all of those in the community who are helping this community to be stronger. It's just a gratitude I'm offering towards the community and people who are uplifting the community," said Raghuvanshi.

APTI Physiotherapy and Sports Rehab is located at 30 Martha St, Unit 206, in Bolton. For more information about Raghuvanshi's clinic please visit aptisportsphysio.rehab or call 905-780-3334.

ehcc

Essential Home Cleaning Care

PROFESSIONAL CLEANING SERVICES
FOR HOME AND BUSINESS





Your home is your pride and joy.

by Brian Lockhart

It's the place where you live, raise your family, entertain, and spend much of your time.

When your busy life keeps you from completing home based cleaning tasks you can rely on Lyndsy Pieters and her staff at Essential Home Cleaning Care to professionally clean your house or business with a personal touch focused on the details of providing a clean and fresh environment.

Whether you are a busy professional or a senior who appreciates the help, having your home professional cleaned will save you time so you can focus on other things.

Lyndsy has been cleaning homes for over 20 years, and because of the quality of her work and dedication, she has many long-term clients who appreciate her services.

Her services take her to homes and businesses in Bolton, Caledon, and many surrounding towns.

Lyndsy entered the cleaning service almost by chance when she began working to put herself through school. She found that she enjoyed the work and the job satisfaction of completing a challenge and seeing the final result.

"I really liked the feeling of going into someone's home and making a difference and actually seeing that difference," Lyndsy explained of why she enjoys her work. "Whether you're looking for home or office cleaning, we work with your schedule to come up with the best solutions that work for you."

Cleaning services include detailed cleaning of bathrooms and kitchens, fronts of all cupboards, doors, and frames, baseboards, knick-knacks, window sills, and lamp shades. The list includes floors, baseboards, blinds, fridge and stove, and furniture.

For commercial properties, there is a full list of services including entrance and foyers, offices and waiting areas, bathrooms, and kitchen areas.

When it comes to scheduling, Essential Home Cleaning Care works with you to provide a cleaning plan and schedule that works for you. The team is flexible and enjoys meeting client's needs and providing services based on a home or business owner's busy schedule.

Lyndsy and her team are proud of the fact that much of their business comes as word-of-mouth referrals from clients who appreciate their services and trust them in their home.

"Most of our referrals to new clients are through an existing client," Lyndsy said. "We are a very customized cleaning company. We don't go around things – we move them. We are moving everything off the counter. We do full dusting including two method dusting – a dry dust and a wet dust. We're doing floors, baseboards, walls, screens, windows, and bed linens. Whatever you have in your house that I can reach, it's getting cleaned."

Working in the industry, Lyndsy also networks with other professionals who specialize in home services and will assist helping you find a related business that she trusts and knows she can recommend.

As someone who will be entering your home, Lyndsy stresses that her services are fully confidential.

"We want you to be comfortable with us coming into your home," Lyndsy explained. "We're bonded and insured with WSIB coverage. Essential home Cleaning Care strives in building excellent customer service. That's why we send in the same team to your home or office so we are able to build a lasting relationship with our customers."

If you need a home cleaned for a special event you are hosting like a wedding celebration or anniversary party, there are hourly rates and flat fees available.

For those that want regular service, bi-weekly and monthly rates may be more appropriate for your lifestyle.

You can learn more about Essential Home Cleaning Care by calling 647-468-0170 or by visiting on-line at www.ehccare.com.



THE STORY *isn't over*

One local care centre filled with different kinds of health care providers, are bringing **vital mental wellness care** to the Caledon community.

by Alyssa Parkhill







Located on King Street in Bolton, The Story isn't Over founder Trish McLean decided it was time that Caledon had a chance at having the care they needed.

The Story isn't Over opened up in our Bolton community on July 28th, where each member of the team was introduced and welcoming to the area.

Trish McLean developed The Story isn't Over due to her own frustrations and experiences with lack of help for herself and her clients.

"I'm aware of how difficult things can be in a family with a family crisis, or a child sick, or a relationship breakdown, things can very easily fall apart. One thing I was passionate about is not just giving good quality service to people who are struggling with mental health issues, but also giving a family perspective, what's called family systems in therapy where we treat the family as a system."

Each health care provider at The Story isn't Over specializes in their own kind of therapy. Whether it be yoga, music, art, adults and youth. Each health care provider expresses their own passion and shares with others.

But what makes The Story Isn't Over different from other mental wellness resources, is the first-hand understanding of mental wellness behind each provider. McLean has battled her own mental demons over a number of years and worked with many others facing similar challenges.

But with that experience, McLean has become relatable, personable, and easier to open up to for those who seek her services. Each team member has their own story and endured their own journeys and have their own fill of training and experiences.

"Sometimes I don't know how therapists can do therapy, unless they've had their own struggles with mental health or experienced significant pain," observed McLean. "When I look to hire people, I want to know that they've known what that's like."

She added, "This is why I'm so passionate about this, because I've seen the dark side of this and it's not adequate. There's no compassion," said explained.

McLean describes that 50 per cent of adolescent girls, from age 15 to 24 will search for help with anxiety, and not reaching proper and consistent help affects their cognitive development as they continue to grow.

"It's such an acute period in our lives. When we develop as human being, when we develop our social skills, we find out who we are, we go to school and it's a very intense growth period," she explained. "If a kid's not well, it's almost like they stop growing. They don't have the social skills, or relationships, or social media (accounts) because they're dealing with acute anxiety."

The logo for The Story Isn't Over is a semi-colon signifying hope and new beginnings. Their website describes their logo as "the choice to keep living and to thrive even in the face of mental health struggles. For many, it has become a symbol of hope; a fierce declaration that the difficulties we face are not the end, but merely promising a new beginning.

"It's not just a semi-colon; it's hope, it's inspiration, it's who we are," McLean says.

McLean shared her story of struggling and coping with mental health issues within herself and others over the years, and why The Story Isn't Over meant so much to her. She expressed through her own experiences of depression and anxiety and her deep understanding for others, that everyone should know that their story isn't over yet.

She continues to work on herself, her family and is hopeful that she can reach those in the community who are searching for help.

"I've struggled," she said. "And when people come see me, a lot of them have been so jaded with therapy and talking to someone that gets it and knows that you're not alone. And it's not your fault. That's a gift in itself."

The Story Isn't Over is located at 69 King St W, in Bolton inside a quant, comfortable and warm home-like house.

To learn more about The Story Isn't Over, please visit thestoryisntover.ca.

DAVIS FEED & FARM SUPPLY

by Alyssa Parkhill





For almost 30 years, Davis Feed and Farm Supply has been supplying horse feed and farm supplies to Caledon, the Greater Toronto Area and surrounding areas.

"The farm started all the way back in 1951. Mom and Dad bought it, and back then we had horses, dairy cows, chickens, pigs and the whole works; a basic good old family farm. 115 acres on the farm and it just evolved from that," said John Davis.

Since the beginning of the business in 1989, dairy cattle have moved out of the area meaning the Davis Feed had room to fill and have created unique and creative new additions to the farm to attract the community. One of their main attraction has become sunflowers.

Last year, around 20,000 people came to the Davis Farm to enjoy and take pictures in front of incredible field of sunflowers that grow every year on the farm.

"Over the years the horses have moved into the area, and the dairy cattle have moved out, and basically we have evolved into more of a horse business and put up a garden center to replace some of the business from the dairy," explained John. "As far as the farm goes, we grow 60 acres of sunflowers here and around Caledon."

The sunflowers have become a major attraction at the Davis Farm for not only Caledon residents but people travelling from surrounding areas and even out of province, to see the massive field of sunflowers. The Davis Farm sell large quantities of bird seed, and little do people know, they've been growing their sunflowers for almost a decade.

"We have been doing it for about 10 years and nobody knew about it. Even though it was by the road, it was never really a thing. Maybe two or three cars would be parked against the road taking pictures. We kept growing more and more because we were selling more bird seeds," said Sean Davis, John's son who works on the farm. "So, two years ago we thought that this could be an opportunity to set something up because there's an interest there."

It all started with an interview from a couple news stations because Sean noticed a wild boar in the area and one of the cameramen noticed the sunflowers in the back. A year later that same cameraman remembered the field and did a feature on the 60 acres. Shortly after that interview aired, busses began to arrive and people from all around came to see the sunflowers.

The farm decided to take advantage of the attraction and created a two-week event for people to come take pictures, walk the two-kilometre walk around the field and just enjoy the scenery before them. It also helped create new products from the sunflowers.

"July, early August is usually when they begin, but we never truly know when they're going to bloom so it's a little hard to plan," said Sean. "With sunflowers, we needed bees on the property so we have 21 hives of bees out there with a beekeeper who looks after, and we've actually created sunflower honey. Then three years ago I started to crush the sunflowers to create sunflower oil. It's funny how it all just kind of works out that you always look for different opportunities to expand on and it's worked out well for us."

During the two-week event, one dollar from every admission ticket sold goes toward the Canadian Celiac Association in honour of Sean and his son who both have been diagnosed. The sunflower field has been a way to draw a crowd to the farm, but to also raise money for the association that means a lot to the Davis family. For the past two years, the family has been able to raise roughly $30,000 towards the Canadian Celiac Association through their sunflower events.

The Davis Family Farm has adapted and evolved to the ever-changing world around them. When the farm first began there were 132 dairy producers in the area. Today, there are only 12 left. They have worked to know where the market is, what is in demand and evolve to the constant changes. But, they made sure to keep producing what their own community of Caledon wanted first.

"We didn't change a lot but we changed gradually into what people wanted us to and tried to get a good local market, because you got to look after your own backyard before you go to someone else's backyard to look after them," said John.

In addition to the 60 acres of sunflowers grown every year, they have supplies grown for every season in the year. With their garden centre in the spring, pumpkins grown for the fall and even Christmas trees in the winter. The feed supply includes over 120 different varieties of horse feed, beef and dairy, small livestock and poultry feed, along with pet food, birdseeds, animal bedding, fencing, feeders and founts as well as residential salt.

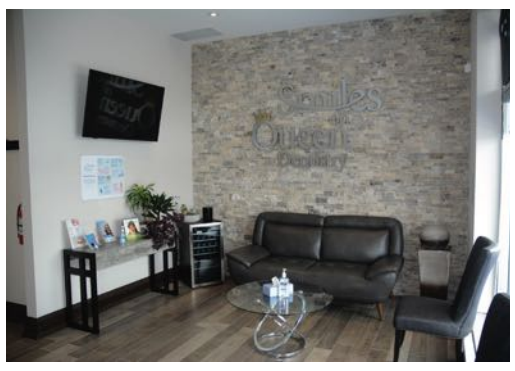
The Davis Feed and Farm Supply is located at 15770 Mountainview Rd in Caledon East. To learn more about the products, the farm or about the famous sunflowers please visit davisfeed.ca.

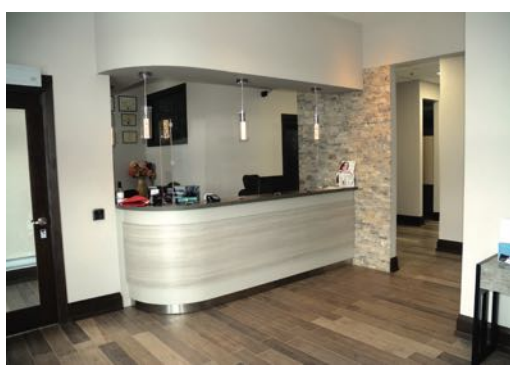


Your smile is one of your most defining features.

A great smile can help you make new friends, boost your confidence, and light up a room.

by Brian Lockhart





At Smiles on Queen Dentistry in Bolton, a team of dedicated professionals are passionate about dental health and ensuring your smile remains as bright and cheerful as you would like it to be.

Dr. Lawrence Hung and Dr. Hedy Norsen founded Smiles on Queen Dentistry after searching for a town where they could start a practice that allowed them to establish a relationship with their patients and be a part of the community.

Dr. Hung, who obtained his Doctorate in Dental Surgery in 2013 from the University of Toronto, focuses on oral surgery, sedation, and implantology.

Graduating from the University of Toronto Faculty of Dentistry in 2013, Dr. Norsen enjoys working with patients of all ages and specializes in perfecting smile makeovers.

The team at Smiles on Queen Dentistry provides all dental services including restorative work, bleaching, implants, dentures, smile rejuvenation with veneers and bonding and orthodontics.

Their work includes children's dentistry, non-surgical lip augmentation, holistic dentistry, TMJ and tension headache treatment, botox, and root canals.

The clinic has gained a valuable reputation for their work in cosmetic dentistry and many patients travel a considerable distance because they trust the staff and can expect the results they are hoping for when having dental enhancements.

"We found there was a need for cosmetic dentistry in this area and we were able to address that," Dr. Norsen explained. "Cosmetic dentistry includes restoration of teeth that have been destroyed, or worn down over time due to age, illness, medication, or neglect. Some people are embarrassed when they have seen themselves in photos. It can be a psychologically profound thing to not be able to smile all the time because people can become very self-conscience about their appearance."

When visiting the clinic for a consultation to have your smile restored and give you back your confidence, the Doctors will provide options to meet your needs.

"We start with planning where your smile should be," explained Dr. Norsen. "That could include everything from just regular fillings to crowns and porcelain veneers – anything that will restore your smile to when you were a younger person or even improve that. Cosmetic dentistry also includes restoring function that has been lost."

Children are welcome at the dental office and the staff make an extra effort to make young people feel comfortable during their visit.

For those who have severe anxiety when it comes to a visit to the dentist, Smiles on Queen Dentistry offers sedation dentistry as well as nitrous oxide (laughing gas) that can eliminate anxious feelings when undergoing a procedure.

The staff at the clinic includes a dental hygenist and three dental assistants who all work as a team to make your visit as pleasant as possible. They strive to build relationships with their patients which creates a level of trust and makes every visit that much easier and stress free.

Smiles on Queen Dentistry provides a friendly atmosphere in a professional environment where you can be confident you are getting the best advice and dental health care.

Smiles on Queen Dentistry is located at 301 Queen St. South, Unit 3C in Bolton.

You can call for an appointment at 905-533-2030, or visit on-line at www.smiledentistry.ca.

TEEN RANCH





TRAINING **FUTURE WORLD LEADERS** IN A FAITH BASED CAMP.

by Brian Lockhart

It is a sprawling and vibrant place spread over 150 acres of wide open spaces and forested hills and comes with its own small village and a full size Olympic size hockey arena that has attracted professional and national teams from around the country and across the world.

Teen Ranch in Caledon is a Christian summer sports camp and year-round retreat facility which promotes and assists in the development of youth through a well-balanced physical, practical, and non-denominational spiritual program.

Operating since 1967, the Ranch was created from a single vision and over the years has grown to the exciting multi-program facility it is today.

During the summer months, the Ranch features a variety of programs, camps, and fun adventures including a horse camp, hockey camp, BMX dirt camp, Adventure camp, Ninja Warrior camp, soccer camp, and summer day camp.

When winter arrives, the Ice Corral arena is the focus of on-ice training, figure skating, and hockey leagues for players of all ages.

While Teen Ranch has become a successful and busy place, the story behind the development of this multi-use facility is one that is really based on faith and determination in the face of adversity and many challenges.

"This is a story of God's provision," said Teen Ranch Director Tim Stevens. "God has seen fit to keep this work going."

When Teen Ranch founder, Mel Stevens, arrived on the site with his family over five decades ago, there was only a single rundown farm house and a barn on the property. It had been a farm but had not been a working operation for years before they took up residence.

It was a struggle to obtain financing to buy and maintain the property but perseverance paid off.

"We managed to fix up the farm house," Mr. Stevens explained. "That first summer it was the camp dining room, the camp kitchen, and the meeting room. We built one bunkhouse that summer and we could take eight boys and eight girls. If we were full we had 16 kids and half-a-dozen horses and that's how it started. It started with a western riding program. In 1971 we started our first hockey camp. We built another small two-room bunkhouse then after that we built the dining room. The main building was built in the early 70's, then we added another section on the back of it. We can feed up to around 180 people in there."

The capacity for the camp during summer months is around 135 campers with another 50 to 60 staff members on hand.

After holding hockey camps at various venues in the area, it was decided to build an on-site arena.

Construction began in 1989. The arena's large wooden beams had been put in place, however a structure collapse put the entire organization in jeopardy.

Again the camp leaned on their faith to get through another crisis.

"Many people have been very generous over the years and have given time, money, and materials to keep the camp going. They appreciate the work we do with kids."

With determination, perseverance, and faith, the camp moved forward and continues to thrive. It has become one of the premier summer camps in Canada.

With a full slate of year round activities, they accommodate a full summer camp, sports training camps, retreats, Mother / daughter equine escapes, Father / son / family hockey weekend, P.A. day camps, and even special days such as Family Day and Easter Open House where the public is welcome to visit the Ranch and have some fun.

Teen Ranch is located on Highway 10, in Caledon.

You can visit on-line at www.teenranch.com.



Guiding *you* 'Home'

SINCE 1989

Not one to shy away from a challenge, Verona Teskey brings a special energy, passion and dedication to almost everything she does in life. With over 30 years of experience and expertise in real estate, her true strengths lie in her ability to form lasting & rewarding client relationships & to successfully guide her clients 'home' in the ever-changing real estate world.



As a Broker/Owner, Verona has been able to truly put her passion into action. Always on the lookout for opportunity, she and her office colleagues joined the well-recognized brand of Coldwell Banker in 2017 and in doing so expanded her company's reach further into global markets. With Coldwell Banker Select Real Estate offices in both Bolton & Caledon East and with the power of the internet, her clients can be serviced well, no matter where they call home.

Being actively engaged in her work, community & the industry at large is what Verona values. This is clearly reflected in the fact that she is highly regarded as one of the industry's Top Real Estate Brokers. As well, a priority of hers continues to be strong community involvement & the support of numerous charities, both locally and nationally.

Verona knows that doing business in today's uncertain times can be stressful, particularly in real estate, as the market is always changing. This is why it is essential to work with a leading professional. Verona's philosophy is to build her business on trust. Trust that she is fair, creative & a hard working professional that always has the best interest of her clients at heart.

Meeting face to face with her clients & making a plan together sets the stage for building this trust. Each client needs are unique to their own personal situation. Understanding what these are and how they might be affected by the market is integral to putting together a plan that will prove satisfying to her clients - as well as profitable. Who knows better than Verona that 'timing' is everything in the real estate world. She will move mountains on her client's behalf, so that they can make the very most of their buying or selling situation. This knowledge, respect & open communication instills trust - that very necessary ingredient when dealing with such an important financial transaction.

Not only does Verona have her thumb on the pulse of the market but also on advertising & promotion when it comes to selling real estate. Her 'Maximum Exposure Marketing System' is a critical piece that includes staging/decluttering, virtual tour & aerial drone photography, customized Feature Books, as well as, print and digital media & social media exposure.

Professional growth and gaining new skills is a must in real estate as well. Years in the business have garnered Verona numerous Top Producer awards as well as honed Verona's exceptional skill in negotiating- she's an expert at it! It's the fine art of discerning what is truly important to her client when it comes to their real estate transaction and then collaborating successfully to make it happen. Guiding the process… every step of the way.

COLDWELL BANKER SELECT REAL ESTATE, BROKERAGE

As you might guess, Verona is always happy to talk real estate. She extends an open invitation to you to contact her at

905-857-2820 | vteskey@trebnet.com | www.veronateskey.com

VERONA TESKEY
BROKER OF RECORD

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PHARMASAVE®

Canada's community pharmacy

Bolton PHARMASAVE

by Alyssa Parkhill





In 2017, Bolton Pharmasave opened up in our downtown core by owner Hany Tadros.

Roughly one year later, with little experience in the pharmacy industry besides her education, Mona Nasiri sought the opportunity of a lifetime and become an operating owner of the pharmacy.

Located on Queen St, in the heart of downtown Bolton, the pharmacy caters to a long list of clientele and customers who rely on their stocked shelves, friendly and prompt service and accessible hours.

What first began as a part-time position as a pharmacist, would later evolve into co-ownership of Bolton Pharmasave in downtown Bolton.

"I came on as a pharmacist in July of 2018, part-time," explained Nasiri. "I've had little experience as a pharmacist and no experience as a pharmacy manager. I graduated from pharmacy school in the United States – I'm Canadian but I went to school in America. I graduated in 2015, and I came back to Canada and I was doing my board exams both in Canada and in the U.S simultaneously at the same time."

She knew she always wanted to be in healthcare but was unsure of what speciality in the health care field she was leaning towards. With a family member who required several trips to the doctor's office as a child, Nasiri spent a lot of time seeing the industry at a young age. She previously worked at Shoppers Drug Mart and an insurance company but wanted to gain more experience in the field with another company so applied for the position at Bolton Pharmasave.

"The opportunity came to buy into it, and I said, 'how can I say no?" she said.

Bolton Pharmasave aims to be consistent and always available for the community of Caledon. Unfortunately, with the COVID-19 pandemic affecting several businesses, the pharmacy was forced to make a list of changes. But the goal never wavered; to assist the community with whatever they need.

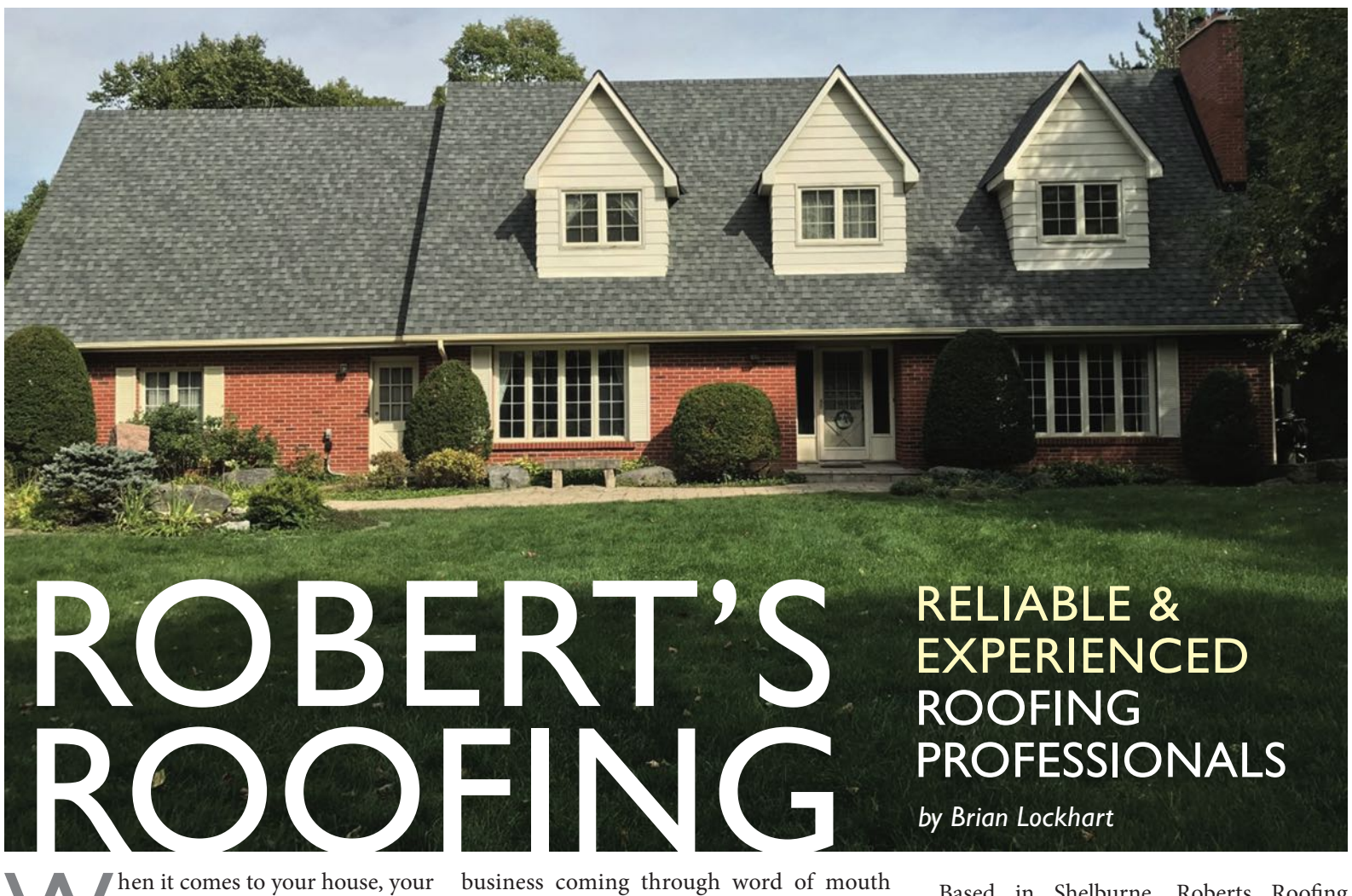
"Everything was in high demand at the beginning of the pandemic, but I was able to secure a lot of essentials that people needed," Nasiri explained. "It definitely changed my gears."

Bolton Pharmasave made sure to stock up on all essential items including masks, gloves, hand sanitizer and reached out to the community as much as they could to let everyone know. And more importantly, made sure to be there for their customers whenever they could.

"We try to treat people like how we'd want our family treated if they were in a pharmacy shopping," said Nasiri. "Myself and my staff, we are very close with all of our families, and if someone mistreated me, I wouldn't take it as personally than if they mistreated my family. So I treat our patients, how I want my family to be treated."

Staff at Bolton Pharmasave strive to stay on top of all parts of the business including follow-ups with their patients for medications, keeping their shelves stocked at all times in hope to always be accommodating for the public.

Bolton Pharmasave is located at 8 Queen St N, in Bolton and can be reached at (905) 533-7700 for more information. Please visit their Facebook and Instagram page for all news and updates.



ROBERT'S ROOFING

RELIABLE & EXPERIENCED ROOFING PROFESSIONALS

by Brian Lockhart







When it comes to your house, your roof is the structure that keeps the elements from seeping into your home and provides protection for your largest investment.

A properly installed roof is also a defining feature of any home and will enhance the over all appeal of your property.

However, no roof lasts forever. Sooner or later, your shingles will lose their ability to keep moisture out and you will need to call in trained professionals to either make repairs or have your entire roof re-shingled to protect your investment.

Justin Roberts of Roberts Roofing has the skill and knowledge to provide an accurate estimate of a roof replacement and the trained crew to get the job done quickly and properly.

Justin learned his trade from the ground up beginning when he was still in high school.

"I got a summer job in roofing when I was 16 years-old," Justin explained of his start in the industry. "I stuck with it for the summers until I finished school, and right out of school I kept with it. I guess you could say I 'cut my teeth' in the industry the old fashioned way."

Justin worked for other roofing companies for several years before deciding to venture out on his own.

That was five years ago and he has steadily progressed as a company with a lot of business coming through word of mouth referrals from customers who appreciated the work he and his team completed on their homes.

"Me and a friend decided to just go for it," he explained of his start as a business owner. "We invested our money and got a couple of trucks and it's worked out."

He said that the fact that he has hands on experience helps him deal with customers in a practical way.

While many companies have salesmen who deal with customers, those salesmen often lack the real experience of being on the roof and applying shingles.

"I feel I'm a little bit different because I know exactly what's going on," Justin said. "I can make recommendations based on experience as opposed to someone who's out there just trying to sell you a product. We really care about our reputation."

His crew, Justin said, knows how to work efficiently. He prefers to use a small crew that is experienced and know how to get the job done right, rather than bring on more, inexperienced workers that will ultimately slow a job down.

"It's all about how you set things up and get it done. You can be very efficient after you've done it for so long. All my guys, I've known for a long time."

Based in Shelburne, Roberts Roofing has gained a reputation for quality work completed on time, and typically in a single day on an average size roof.

Justin and his crew work in many locations in the region including Shelburne, Orangeville, Caledon, and surrounding towns.

Justin and his team have expanded to include the installation of steel roofing. They can cut the steel sheets on site for a perfect fit. Steel roofing is ideal for newly built homes and will stand the test of time with a guarantee of 50 years or longer and will protect your home for a lifetime.

In addition to roof replacement, they do new roof installation, leak repair, roof repair, skylights, and eaves troughs. In addition to shingling, they are experts in flat roof repair.

If you notice your shingles are beginning to curl and show their age, or you are experiencing leaks during a rain storm, it's probably time to think about a new roof.

At Roberts Roofing, Justin summed up his work by saying "I take pride in what I do. That's why my name is on the truck."

For an estimate, you can visit Roberts Roofing on-line at www.robertsroofinginc.ca, or call directly at 519-217-3528.



John Brown

Desjardins Insurance delivers friendly, personal service every time

by Mike Baker



Caledon resident John Brown knows exactly what it takes to build a successful, community-oriented business.

Since launching Desjardins Insurance in Bolton back in 2012, John has worked hard to build his clientele, and establish himself as one of the region's top insurance providers. Reflecting on his near decade serving the local area, John shared the secret to his success.

"The key is making sure our customers are happy, and feel valued. Offering a personal touch to the services we provide is important to myself, and my team," he explained. "We like getting to know our clients and their families."

*John has worked hard to build his clientele, and establish himself as one of the **region's top insurance providers.***

Located on Parr Blvd., Desjardins specializes in providing auto insurance, business insurance, home and property insurance, life insurance, living benefits, mutual funds and vehicle loans to local residents. While John has been running his own business for the past eight years, he got his start in the industry more than 30 years ago.

While working towards his Business degree at Memorial University of Newfoundland, John took a summer position working in a warehouse facility for State Farm Insurance. While he didn't know it at the time, it was a job that would, essentially, transform into a fully-fledged career.

"We took care of supplies and claim records. The print shop was also located there," Brown said. "I worked there while I continued with my post-secondary education. Eventually I became the lead-hand, and soon after that a supervisor. In the end, those positions helped me jump into various management jobs at the head office level."

Following years of upper-level management experience, John felt the natural step was to go into business for himself. He opened his own agency under the State Farm umbrella in 2012, transitioning to Desjardins Insurance in 2015 after the Canadian-owned corporation completed its acquisition of State Farm.

Since then, John and his team, who together boast more than 100 years of experience working in the insurance industry, have worked tirelessly to serve the Caledon area "in the right way". This has led to the local Desjardins branch supporting several local events and fundraising initiatives over the years, while also regularly donating to charitable organizations, such as The Exchange at Caledon Community Services.

Getting down to discussing his bread and butter, however, John says the one thing that sets his insurance firm apart from competitors in the area is the individual, tailor-made service he offers to each and every customer.

"We don't just tell our clients what they need, we engage them in meaningful conversations to figure out what is most important to them, and what their goals are. From there, we recommend them a plan that meets their very particular needs," John said.

He added, "There is a lot of information that people need to digest when deciding on the best coverage for them. They trust us to provide them with the best possible advice that is tailored to their unique needs. I enjoy being involved in helping them choose exactly what is right for them."

Desjardins Insurance in Bolton offers services in three languages – English, Italian and Greek. They also offer a free re-usable shopping bag and Tim Horton's gift card to anyone who stops by for a quote. Again, it all goes back to that personal touch that, John believes, makes all the difference.

"We are available to connect any time. If you are a client, or not, come in to say hi. We are here for our community," John said. "We would be happy to look over your current portfolio, and show you why doing business locally is your best option. The personal touch we bring means our staff are always available and willing to help.

"We really do pride ourselves on the relationships we build. Time and again our clients express how great an experience it is talking to, and working with an insurance agent face-to-face. It helps to take the stress away," he concluded.

John and his team at Desjardins Insurance strive to meet the needs of all their clients whenever they are needed. Their office, located at 21 Parr Blvd. is open Monday to Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, visit www.insurancewithjohn.ca, or call directly at 905-857-8018.

Desjardins Insurance



