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The Robert F. Hall Wolfpack dominated the Chaminade College Gryphons 42-0 to win the GTA Senior Boys Tier 1 Football Championship last week at Toronto's Varsity Stadium. The team is OFSSAA-bound after vanquishing all GTA opponents. For more on their win, see Page B1.

PHOTO BY JIM STEWART

Budget amendments come forward in 2026 deliberations

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Following the initial presentation of the proposed 2026 budget for Caledon, two separate meetings of deliberations and amendments have taken place.

The proposed 2026 Budget initially included a 4 per cent increase in the residential property tax bill, an operating budget of $167 million, and a capital budget of $88 million.

It also featured projects, including a concept design for the new theatre and the design and construction of a new Provincial Courthouse and OPP Expansion to replace the existing court space currently located at Town Hall.

Proposed 2026 budget amendments were deliberated during two separate Council meetings, both spanning multiple hours.

Budget amendments broached multiple topics, including bench programs, physician recruitment programs, funding increases for the Caledon Public Library, adding a Northwest Caledon community facility partnership, funding sources for capital projects and more.

A motion was unanimously carried for a Northwest Caledon community facility partnership with the Caledon Agricultural Society for their new capital building project.

The Town previously set up a Northwest Caledon Indoor Recreation Facility Reserve Fund to reestablish a Northwest Caledon community centre, with the projected uncommitted balance of approximately $1,863,281 as of 2026, which will now be allocated to the Caledon Agricultural Society.

Several amendments appeared regarding the physician recruitment and relocation program.

Continued on Page A15

Gentle Density CIP Area Designation bylaw returns to Council

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Through the Federal Government's Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF), Caledon committed to increasing housing supply and enabling diverse housing options.

The Community Improvement Plan (CIP) is stated to allow the issuance of financial incentives to support the creation of gentle density housing, including additional residential units and multiplexes.

Continued on Page A17



CHRISTMAS IN THE VILLAGE – The Caledon Village Association kicked off the holiday season this past weekend welcoming residents to the Caledon Agricultural Society Fairgrounds for their second-annual Santa Photo Day. Here, Kate and Lincoln Holmes are pictured with the man of the hour. For more, see Page A16. PHOTO BY RILEY MURPHY

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Bolton Recreational Sports Club celebrates 10 years of being more than just a club – it's a community

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER



(Left to right) Monesh Sood, Lee-Anne Simpson, Ryan Richards, Jen Fischer, and Russ Hoffman.

PHOTO BY RILEY MURPHY

It's a club where team group chats are more than just game dates and times, but celebrations of accomplishments and support in hard times.

When you walk in the door for a program, you are met not only with an activity that will surely get your heart rate up, but also with conversation and catch-ups with your teammates.

Bolton Recreational Sports Club (BRSC) has spent the last ten years cultivating their club into a community.

When Ryan Richards first moved to Bolton over ten years ago, he says he faced a lack of programming options.

"I wanted to try and do something that matters and do something that lasts," says Richards.

And so, he created BRSC.

BRSC facilitates a variety of co-ed recreational sports leagues for the Bolton and Caledon communities.

Now, ten years later, they run eight programs, and their current sports range from floor hockey to volleyball, indoor soccer, and pickleball.

But what kicked off BRSC was none of the above.

"I work in education," says Richards. "As I teach my students, failure is a part of success. My first attempt at starting a program was actually a soccer program that did not take off, and interestingly, I wouldn't have envisioned it, but our first successful program was a line dancing class."

Richards remembers he would often sit and marvel at the floor line dancing.

For the past ten years it's been all about taking the opportunities to try different things, he says, and now they've been able to provide the space and opportunities for people to connect in positive spaces.

Richards says BRSC is about getting people out of their homes and connected, and about having participants continue along a path of lifelong fitness.

"We have opportunities for support that run deeper than just playing any game or sport. It's really those peer-to-peer interactions and the ways that people can support other people within the program that really forms the core of what we're building here," says Richards. "It's not just a league because there are leagues everywhere. The goal is to build something that's different and unique in Town, and really, it's about building community."

Richards notes that people often get together afterwards to chat and hangout, attending and supporting local businesses for food or drinks. He adds that the level of connection is "just as important as somebody scoring a goal or hitting the ball over a net."

Over the years, he says they've worked towards leagues that are social yet still maintain a level of competition done the right way, and he's very proud they've been able to achieve this within the culture at BRSC.

Working in education, Richards notes that a lot of that transfers over to the club.

"It's about care," he says. "It's about seeing what could be if you give people grace and help them to understand."

"We have a culture that we want to be inviting and inclusive of everybody that we can, and so we give people opportunities to fit in and understand that we're here to benefit you, but understanding that you're also supporting the community for somebody else. That's sort of the larger idea. It's the same thing in the classroom."

Looking back on 10 years, Richards says he's always taking in the small things.

"I see those small things in the small spaces, in the conversations that our people are having," he says. "I feel pride and it makes me happy when I see people laughing. I'll look and I'll see people who are family playing together, there are people that met through our program."

One couple met at BRSC, got married, and just welcomed their first child this year.

Richards says part of the "small things" is when they're able to support one another.

The work BRSC does transcends the walls of the gym; they also run social initiatives where they support the community in various ways.

Whether that's through supporting youth in the community or running various clothing and food drives, BRSC is looking to make a larger impact.

"My goal is that this club will exist long after my bones do," says Richards. "Not only in the form that it's started, but it's meant to be this unique thing where it supports the community in many ways."

They often support what local schools are running, whether that be book drives, warm clothes drives, food drives, and more.

BRSC also runs various charity tournaments, supporting local organizations such as Caledon Community Services.

Richards' future goal is to be able to use the momentum to do more positive things in the community, and is already looking forward to future partnerships and proposals to help give back, including youth work opportunities.

Moving forward, he says a big question for him will be "how can we get to the point where we're supporting more people and providing more opportunities?"

"There's just so much more that you can do. But again, it's really about building connections and seeing how you can innovate."

Monesh Sood joined BRSC five years ago, when they first introduced their ball hockey program.

He says that after working every day Downtown and getting home late, he decided he wanted to try something for himself.

Sood says on his first night, he was just as nervous as he sees newcomers are now.

Now, years later, he shares that it's not only a great feeling from the sport, but also from chatting with teammates afterwards.

"If this program wasn't around anymore, it would be a detriment to the community and the town," says Sood.

He notes that many other leagues and programs can be "transactional."

"You pay your money, you go out and play, and then you come home and that's it. There's more to what we do here."

He notes that players often come in to help with setup and teardown, and even to lead the programs.

Russ Hoffman says that about four years ago, when his kids were starting to get older, he began looking for "fitness, social and friends."

He soon joined BRSC's ball hockey and volleyball programs.

"Very shortly thereafter, getting to know Ryan and seeing how he runs the club, I realized I wanted to be involved in this club more than just as a player," says Hoffman.

It was just a year-and-a-half ago that Sood and Hoffman introduced the idea of a pickleball program to Richards, which has since grown to four different programs.

"All we really try to do is bring value to what [Richards] is doing and where he's running it," adds Sood.

"Bolton Recreational Sports Club is more than just going to play a sport. You're there for fun, you're there for fitness, and most importantly, you're there to make friends, and friends very soon become like family," says Hoffman.

He notes people are often signed up for multiple programs at BRSC, returning two or three times a week, "it's truly something special that Ryan has created over the last decade for the Caledon community."

"The club is the people," says Richards. "It really is about people coming together, creating the space and enjoying it, and then enhancing it by just looking for ways to support one another – that's really what the club is."

"As I go along and I connect with great people that are moving things forward that I can trust to continue to communicate the culture, it's more of them and less of me, and that's the way it should be."

"This is life-changing. And not just for me, but for many of our players," adds Hoffman. "People have come up to me and said, 'I don't know what I would be doing if you didn't introduce me to this club.'"

"They need this club, they need this community, they need the friendships, and they need the fitness," he says.

Sood says BRSC has become a space for players who may need a night away from home or work, or need support from their team.

"It's how busy people are nowadays. There's less of a focus on social time, especially when people are working as much as they're working. You hear about things like the loneliness epidemic, this would go a long way in helping those people that are stuck in isolation or in circumstances they can't control," he says.

"We're going to keep doing what we do, because I know that it's important for people," says Richards.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Passing of Parkland Dedication By-law No. 2025-087

TAKE NOTICE that the Council for The Corporation of the Town of Caledon passed By-law No. 2025-087 on the 28th of October 2025, under Section 42 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.P.13. This by-law requires land and/or cash in lieu of land for park or other recreational purposes as a condition of development or redevelopment of land in the Town of Caledon. This by-law repeals by-law No. 2022-042. View the by-law at **caledon.ca/bylaw2025-087**.

The basis for this By-law is contained in Staff Report 2025-0597, as received by the Planning and Development Committee on October 21st, 2025 and Council on October 28th, 2025.

All oral and written submission relating to the By-law were considered by Council before this decision was made.

Take notice that an appeal to the Ontario Land Tribunal in respect to all or part of this By-law may be made by filing a notice of appeal with the City Clerk either via the Ontario Land Tribunal e-file service (first-time users will need to register for a My Ontario Account) at **olt.gov.on.ca/e-file-service** by selecting **Caledon (Town) - Clerk** as the Approval Authority or by mail to 6311 Old Church Road, Caledon ON L7C 1J6, no later than **4:30 p.m. on December 15th, 2025**. The filing of an appeal after 4:30 p.m., in person or electronically, will be deemed to have been received the next business day. The appeal fee of $1,100 can be paid online through e-file or by certified cheque/money order to the Minister of Finance, Province of Ontario. If you wish to appeal to the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT) or request a fee reduction for an appeal, forms are available from the OLT website at **www.olt.gov.on.ca**. If the e-file portal is down, you can submit your appeal to planning@caledon.ca.

The Town of Caledon by-law fee for submitting an appeal is $370.00*, which can be paid by cheque made payable to The Corporation of the Town of Caledon. Please note that there is also a fee for cost recovery of preparing the appeal packages for the Ontario Land Tribunal. This portion of the fee is required to be paid upon the Town informing the appellant of such fee.

The appeal form is available from the Ontario Land Tribunal on their website at **olt.gov.on.ca/appeals-process/forms/** or by contacting the Municipal Clerk.

Only the applicant, a specified person, a public body, registered owner of any lands to which the by-law would apply, or the minister, may appeal a by-law to the Ontario Land Tribunal. A notice of appeal may not be filed by an unincorporated association or group. However, a notice of appeal may be filed in the name of an individual who is a member of the association or the group on its behalf.

No person or public body shall be added as a party to the hearing of the appeal unless, before the by-law was passed, the person or public body made oral submissions at a public meeting or written submissions to the council or, in the opinion of the Ontario Land Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to add the person or public body as a party.

The new parkland dedication by-law applies to all lands located within the Town of Caledon.

Additional information in respect of this By-law is available for inspection at the Town of Caledon, Planning Department, weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., by contacting Michael Hoy, Manager Parks and Natural Heritage, 905-584-2272 x. 4383 or Michael.Hoy@caledon.ca.

DATED at the Town of Caledon
November 25, 2025

Kevin Klingenberg
Municipal Clerk

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Bolton Kin Santa Claus Parade returns for 52nd year



BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Santa Claus will be returning to Bolton yet again this year as Bolton Kin hosts their annual Santa Claus parade for the 52nd time.

The parade will ring in the Christmas season on December 6 at 11 a.m., and will follow a route from Queensgate Boulevard to Centennial Drive along Regional Road 50.

This year's parade will feature 11 bands and more 50 parade entries – a significant growth from their first year, which John Stegeman, member of the Bolton Kin, remarks had only two bands and 20 floats.

This year, he adds, the parade is returning to its roots, featuring a high amount of community involvement.

Various community groups, sports teams, schools, churches, and more have signed up to take part, which Stegeman says is the return of the community to the parade.

He says that, over time, they noticed a decline in community group participation, but this year it's a welcome return.

More than 12 of this year's entries involve youth in the community, whether they're representing their school or teams with pride.

This year's 11 bands include four from surrounding high schools, as well as the York Lions, who have appeared in every parade for the past 52 years.

"Thanks to Mayor Annette Groves for her efforts in helping to raise funds for the bands and the road closures," notes Stegeman.

For parade staging, Queensgate Boulevard from Regional Road 50 to Sant Farm Road will be closed from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Landsbridge Road from Queensgate Boulevard to Wood Circle will be closed from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Regional Road 50 from Healey Road to Columbia Way will also be closed from 10:30 am to 1:00 pm.

All closures are reported to have the possibility of being opened earlier.

For those unable to make the parade this year, have no fear of missing out on the holiday cheer: Rogers TV will be on site recording the event, which will also feature two emcees reading biographies of parade entries.

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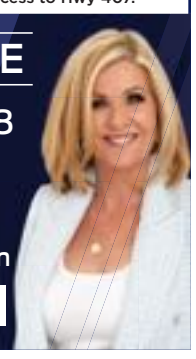
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ANOTHER ARREST MADE FOLLOWING 2021 HOMICIDE

Another person has been arrested and a Canada-wide warrant has been issued for an individual in connection with the murder of Giovanni COSTA and two attempted murders of another individual in 2020 and 2021.

"On Thursday, November 12, 2020, at approximately 6:30 p.m., York Regional Police responded to a shooting on Steeles Avenue West in Vaughan," say Police. "One victim was transported to hospital.

"On Monday, January 18, 2021, at approximately 12:30 p.m., officers from the Caledon Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) responded to a shooting on Harvest Moon Drive, Bolton. Two people sustained gunshot wounds inside the home, one of whom was the victim from the Vaughan incident. The second victim, 65-year-old Giovanni Costa of Bolton, was found deceased at the scene."

On Tuesday, November 25, 2025, Elias Akhi, 32, of London, was arrested and charged with the following Criminal Code (CC) offences:

- First degree murder, section 235(1)
- Attempt murder, section 239(1)(a)
- Conspiracy to commit murder, section 465(1)(a)

The accused remains in custody and is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville on Wednesday, November 26, 2025.

The charges have not been proven.



WAHEED BARAKZIYE
OPP PHOTO

With the current arrest, four individuals have been arrested and charged in connection with this investigation.

In addition to the province-wide warrant, a Canada-wide warrant was issued on Friday, November 21, 2025, for Waheed Barakziye, 48, of London. He has been charged with the following CC offences:

- First degree murder, section 235(1)
- Attempt murder, section 239(1)(a) - two counts
- Conspiracy to commit murder, section 465(1)(a)

The charges have not been proven.

The accused is known to frequent London and the Greater Toronto Area.

Members of the public are urged not to approach this individual. If seen, please contact police immediately. A photo of the wanted individual is included here.

The investigation remains ongoing by the Caledon OPP Crime Unit, under the direction of the OPP Criminal Investigation Branch (CIB).

The Government of the Province of Ontario is offering a $50,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible for the murder of Giovanni Costa.

Anyone with any information is encouraged to contact the Caledon OPP at 1-888-310-1122. Should you wish to remain anonymous, contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS)or ontariocrimestoppers.ca.

SHOOTING BELIEVED TO BE EXTORTION-RELATED

Members of the Caledon Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are currently investigating a shooting incident.

"On November 25, 2025, at approximately 4:00 a.m., officers responded to a report of a shooting in front of a residence on Chinguacousy Road, in the Town of Caledon," say Police. "No injuries were sustained as a result of the incident. Investigators believe this to be a targeted incident of extortion.

"What is extortion? The Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre defines it as 'unlawfully obtaining money, property or services from a person, entity, or institution through coercion.' Based on recent extortion cases investigated by Caledon OPP, many involve phone calls or text messages from a 'WhatsApp' number, threatening violence unless a large sum of money is paid, and mentioning knowledge of the individual's home or workplace."

Anyone who has received similar violent extortion messaging should report it to their local police immediately.

After contacting police, it is important to also report it to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre online at reportcyberandfraud.canada.ca or by phone at 1-888-495-8501.

This investigation is ongoing by the Caledon OPP Major Crime Unit (MCU). Anyone with information or surveillance/dashcam footage is asked to contact Caledon OPP by phone at 1-888-310-1122, referencing investigation number E251590118.

You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Peel Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or online at www.peelcrimestoppers.ca. When you contact Crime Stoppers you stay anonymous, and you never have to testify.

CHARGES LAID IN FRAUD INVESTIGTION

Officers from the Caledon OPP have laid numerous charges following a fraud investigation.

"On November 13, 2025, Caledon OPP received a report of a fraud involving a local minor hockey organization in the Town of Caledon," say Police. "Police entered into an investigation which revealed donation funds intended for the organization were misappropriated."

As a result of the investigation, Frances Brown, 45, of Brampton, was charged with:

- Mischief;
- Fraud over $5000;
- Criminal breach of trust.

The charges have not been proven.

The accused is scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville on December 18, 2025, to answer to the charges.

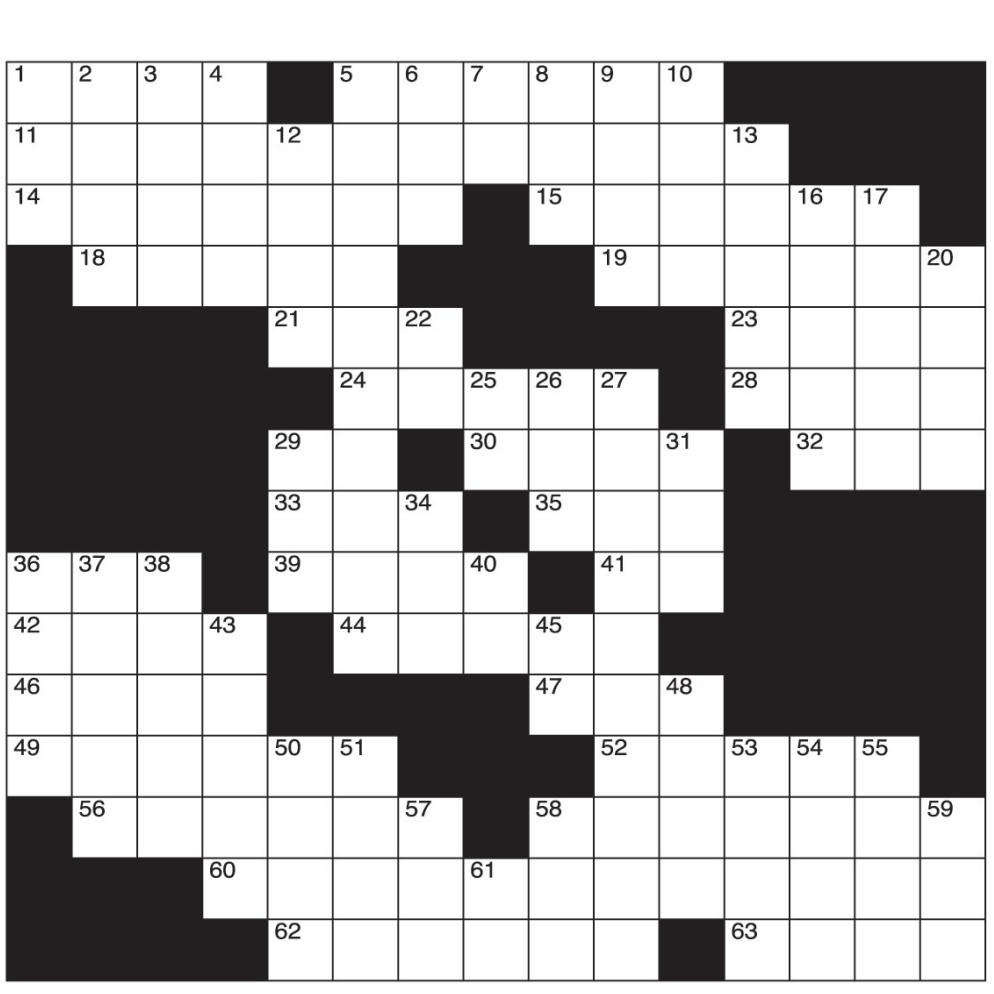
The OPP urges individuals and businesses to remain vigilant to instances of fraud. If you suspect fraudulent activity or have been a victim of fraud, report it immediately to your local police and the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at 1-888-495-8501, or online at https://reportcyberandfraud.canada.ca.

To learn more about fraud prevention and how to keep yourself protected, please visit: www.opp.ca/fraud and www.antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca/protect-protegez-eng.htm.



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29. Helps a body recover
30. Baseball Cy Young winner
32. Very fast airplane
33. Offensive baseball stat
35. Body of water
36. Record of one's heartbeat
39. Signs a contract
41. Atomic #24
42. Bind securely
44. French Jesuit theologian
46. Fragrant brown balsam
47. Post office box
49. Sells tickets at inflated prices
52. Places to hang coats
56. Jewish salutation
58. Yellow fruits
60. Poorly educated
62. Microorganism
63. Talk show host Barrymore

CLUES DOWN

1. A way to plan
2. Three-banded armadillo
3. Mobile
4. Romanian city
5. Making sour
6. Take a seat
7. "The Golden State"
8. When you hope to arrive
9. Pointed ends of pens
10. Extinct flightless bird
12. Sharp-pointed dueling sword
13. Nape of neck
16. Problems (Spanish slang)
17. Narrow carpet
20. To avoid the risk of
22. Spiritual academic degree (abbr.)
25. Equally
26. Traditional cars still need it
27. Eligible voters
29. Greek alphabet letter
31. Body part
34. Referee-declared outcome
36. Means to moving money
37. Popular footwear brand
38. Cockatoo
40. NFL's big game
43. Botswana currencies
45. News-reporting organization
48. Batman villain
50. Urgent request
51. Not all
53. Hallmark's specialty
54. Knot in a tree
55. Satisfy
57. Notable space station
58. Baby's dining accessory
59. Stitch clothing
61. __ and behold

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

ALCOHOL-RELATED CHARGES

Officers from the Caledon OPP have charged six individuals with alcohol-related offences in the span of just five days.

"On November 9, 2025, at approximately 11:45 p.m., Caledon OPP officers responded to a traffic complaint regarding a vehicle driving aggressively without their headlights on," say Police. "Shortly after, officers located the vehicle on Highway 50, near Patterson Sideroad, in the Town of Caledon. Officers conducted a traffic stop upon the vehicle and formed grounds that the driver's ability to operate a motor vehicle was impaired by alcohol."

Following the investigation, Jacob Quinn, 32, of Georgetown, was charged with:

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

The charge has not been proven.

"On November 10, 2025, at approximately 3:00 p.m., Caledon OPP officers responded to a report of a single vehicle collision on King Street, near Creditview Road, in the Town of Caledon. Shortly after, officers arrived on scene and subsequently formed grounds that the driver's ability to operate a motor vehicle was impaired by alcohol."

As a result, Stephen Aghimien, 65, of Brampton, was charged with:

- Operation while impaired – alcohol;
- Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus).

The charges have not been proven.

"On November 12, 2025, at approximately 10:30 p.m., Caledon OPP conducted a traffic stop upon a vehicle who travelled through a Reduce Impaired Driving Everywhere (RIDE) program in the Town of Caledon," say Police. "Officers investigated and formed grounds that the driver's ability to operate a motor vehicle was impaired by alcohol."

As a result of the investigation, Kylie Kirby, 33, of Bolton, was charged with:

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

The charge has not been proven.

"On November 14, 2025, at approximately 9:00 a.m., Caledon OPP officers responded to a report of a three-vehicle collision on Mayfield Road, near Hurontario Street, in the Town of Caledon. Shortly after, officers arrived on scene and subsequently formed grounds that the driver's ability to operate a motor vehicle was impaired by alcohol."

As a result, Sewa Singh, 38, of Brampton, was charged with:

- Operation while impaired – alcohol;
- Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus);
- Have care or control of a vehicle with cannabis readily available;
- Drive motor vehicle with liquor readily available;
- Driving while under suspension.

The charges have not been proven.

"On November 15, 2025, at approximately 1:30 a.m., Caledon OPP officers were on general patrol in the area of Mayfield Road and Torbram Road, in the Town of Caledon. During this time, a vehicle was observed stopped in a live lane of traffic. Officers subsequently conducted a traffic stop upon the vehicle and formed grounds that the driver's ability to operate a motor vehicle was impaired by alcohol."

Following the investigation, Kevin Soosaipillai, 30, of Brampton, was charged with:

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

The charge has not been proven.

"On November 15, 2025, at approximately 9:45 p.m., Caledon OPP officers responded to a report of a two-vehicle collision on Old School Road, near Kennedy Road, in the Town of Caledon. Shortly after, officers arrived on scene and subsequently formed grounds that the driver's ability to operate a motor vehicle was impaired by alcohol."

As a result of the investigation, Harsh, 27, of Caledon, was charged with:

- Failure or refusal to comply with demand;
- Dangerous operation of a motor vehicle.

The charges have not been proven.

All accused parties are scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville to answer to their charges. The vehicles were also impounded for a period of seven days, and their driver's licences were suspended for a period of 90 days.

"Drivers continue to take chances. It's simply not worth the risk. Motorists are reminded that no amount of alcohol or drugs in your system is safe when driving. If you plan on drinking or consuming drugs, plan to not drive. Instead, arrange for a designated driver, take a taxi or public transit, or come up with another plan that takes impaired driving out of the picture. If you suspect that someone is driving while impaired by alcohol or drugs, it is important to call 9-1-1 to report it."

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

MAYOR ANNETTE GROVES
MAYOR GROVES' COLUMN



Building safe, connected communities while respecting residents' privacy

I would like to share an important update about how we're working together with the Caledon detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) and the Province to keep our community safe, while respecting your privacy and concerns. I would like to thank Sylvia Jones, Member of Provincial Parliament for Dufferin-Caledon for assistance in getting the funding.

Thanks to a strong partnership with the Caledon detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police, the Town has installed 42 CCTV cameras in select public locations. These cameras are part of the Ontario CCTV Grant Program - a strategic investment in public safety that empowers the Caledon OPP to proactively deter crime, expedite investigations, and strengthen community trust.

We know that any initiative involving public cameras raises important questions, and we want to be clear about how this program works and how we're protecting your rights every step of the way:

A thorough review of all camera locations has been conducted to ensure residents' privacy is protected. Cameras are positioned to monitor public spaces only;

Every camera location is clearly marked with signage to ensure transparency and awareness that the cameras are recording;

The cameras only records car number plates, not faces and private property and securely stores information for up to 14 days;

Only authorized Town staff can view the footage. If the OPP requires access for an investigation, they must provide a formal request with justification. All access is logged to ensure accountability.

Similar CCTV-driven efforts are underway across the province, from Windsor and Sarnia-Lambton to Waterloo, Niagara Region, Kenora, and beyond, highlighting a unified, modern, and community-centred approach to policing in Ontario. It reflects the province's dedication to modern, intelligence-led policing that prioritizes prevention, partnerships, and public confidence.

CCTV brings real benefits: it helps deter crime before it happens, supports faster and more effective investigations, and it protects the public spaces we all use and enjoy.

In addition to these CCTV camera installations, the Caledon detachment of OPP has also launched the CAMSafe program. The program is set up to be a registry of anyone who owns security cameras, CCTV systems, or doorbell cameras in the province of Ontario. Only the OPP will have access to the database of registrants. CAMSafe requires basic contact information and camera locations – nothing else. Your home will not be monitored by the OPP and you can change or delete your information at any time. Think of it like Neighbourhood Watch 2.0.

As well, I want to encourage residents to get involved through the OPP Community Watch program, where residents partner with officers, attend safety briefings, and help report suspicious activity.

Ultimately, our goal through all these initiatives is to help make Caledon a place where families, businesses, and visitors feel safe. Thank you for doing your part.



HOLIDAY TREE DIRECTORY











Caledon Seniors Centre celebrates 30th anniversary at upcoming gala

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Caledon Seniors Centre (CSC) opened its doors in 1995 with the mission to relieve loneliness and isolation through social, educational, recreational, and fun programs and activities for seniors, and they've been doing so ever since.

The Centre shares that for three decades, it has been a vibrant hub of connection, care, and community, with its success primarily due to the efforts of its volunteers over the years.

In 1990, the Bolton Rotary Club accepted a $100,000 donation to build a recreation centre for the seniors of Caledon, and in 1992, construction began.

After a fundraising campaign to cover residual costs, Rotary Place was officially opened in 1995, with senior programming beginning shortly after.

When construction was complete, Rotary turned over the facility's operation to the CSC, which managed the building until the transfer to the Town of Caledon in 2011, "ensuring its lasting legacy for generations to come," says the Centre.

Centre Manager Beverley Nurden was hired in 1997, and she has remained Manager to this day, to which she says has truly been 29 years of "honouring the past, celebrating the present, and embracing the future," CSC's motto.

Over the years, programs, volunteers, and memberships have grown significantly, welcoming hundreds of new members over the decade.

They've been able to keep their programs accessible and affordable to seniors; many of the programs currently offered by the Centre cost just $4 to attend.

The CSC operates from its central location at Rotary Place, as well as six satellite locations across Caledon, ensuring it can reach seniors throughout the community, with the recent addition of expanded South Asian programming.

CSC shares the past five years brought definite challenges due to COVID-19, but they were able to keep their community connected through outdoor activities, Zoom sessions, and their over-the-phone programs.

Another significant change over the past five years was their expansion in 2021, growing their space from 6,000 square feet to 13,800.

Their grand opening of the new space in 2022 was described as a "proud milestone" in their history.

CSC shares the work of their Centre is supported by the Town of Caledon, grants from the Provincial government, and dedicated support from local businesses, community service clubs,

and more.

Now, they're able to celebrate the accomplishments and hard work over the last 30 years.

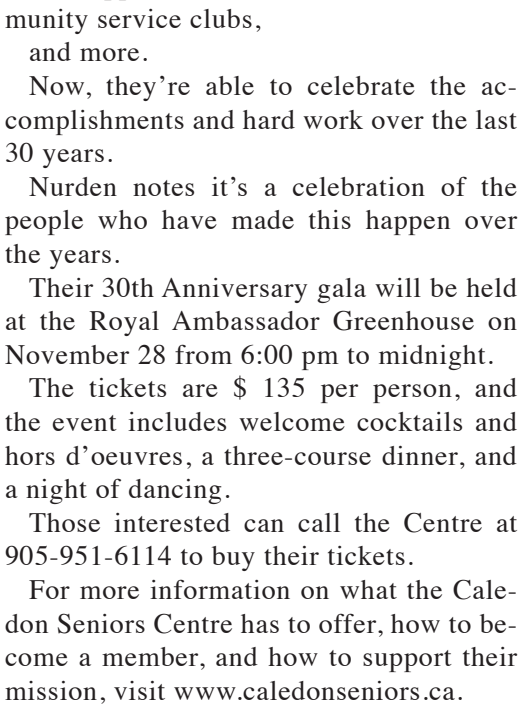
Nurden notes it's a celebration of the people who have made this happen over the years.

Their 30th Anniversary gala will be held at the Royal Ambassador Greenhouse on November 28 from 6:00 pm to midnight.

The tickets are $ 135 per person, and the event includes welcome cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, a three-course dinner, and a night of dancing.

Those interested can call the Centre at 905-951-6114 to buy their tickets.

For more information on what the Caledon Seniors Centre has to offer, how to become a member, and how to support their mission, visit www.caledonseniors.ca.



Butterfly Bereavement Project art Installed at Town Hall

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

In recognition of National Grief and Bereavement Day and National Children's Grief Awareness Day in November, Bethell Hospice, in collaboration with Hills of Headwaters Collaborative Ontario Health Team, Headwaters Health Care Centre, the Town of Caledon and Town of Orangeville, have installed this year's Butterfly Bereavement Project art displays.

Bethell Hospice shared that, through a collaboration with several community partners, including King Nursing Home, Caledon Meals on Wheels, and Dufferin Area Family Health Team, they were able to decorate and collect more than 3,500 butterflies for the installations.

The butterflies are created by Dufferin and Caledon residents, and represent the hope and transformation experienced by those on a grief and bereavement journey, as well as a reminder to care for those grieving their loved ones.

The installations of arrays of personalized paper butterflies went up starting the week of November 10 across Dufferin and Caledon at Headwaters' Ambulatory Care Wing, Orangeville Public Library, Mill Street, and the Town of Caledon Town Hall.

Margaret Paan, Executive Director for Bethell Hospice, said in a statement that "Bethell Hospice is so proud that the Butterfly Project, originally launched in 2022, has taken off and spread across the entire regions of Dufferin and Caledon."

Paan shared the art installation is a testament to the fact that grief touches us all.

"As the only Hospice in Dufferin/Caledon, we can reach out and support the grief and bereavement needs of the community," she added.

Mayor Annette Groves said "the Butterfly Bereavement Project, in recognition of National Grief and Bereavement Days, honours both those we have lost and those who grieve."

"This heartfelt initiative brings our community together to raise awareness and offer comfort, understanding, and support to anyone navigating the difficult journey of loss," said Mayor Groves in a statement.



TOWN OF CALEDON PHOTO

For grief and bereavement services in Dufferin and Caledon, visit hillsofheadwaterscollaborative.ca/bereavement-services/grief-bereavement-resources/

Public Notice

Region of Peel
working with you

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE – Master Plan

2025 Water and Wastewater Master Plan for the Lake-Based System

Background:

Peel Region is completing the 2025 Water and Wastewater Master Plan for Lake-Based Systems (where Lake Ontario is the source of drinking water and the discharge point for treated wastewater). The 2025 Lake-Based Master Plan will provide an update to the previous 2020 Water and Wastewater Master Plan. The study area includes the City of Mississauga, the City of Brampton and parts of the Town of Caledon, as shown in Fig.1.

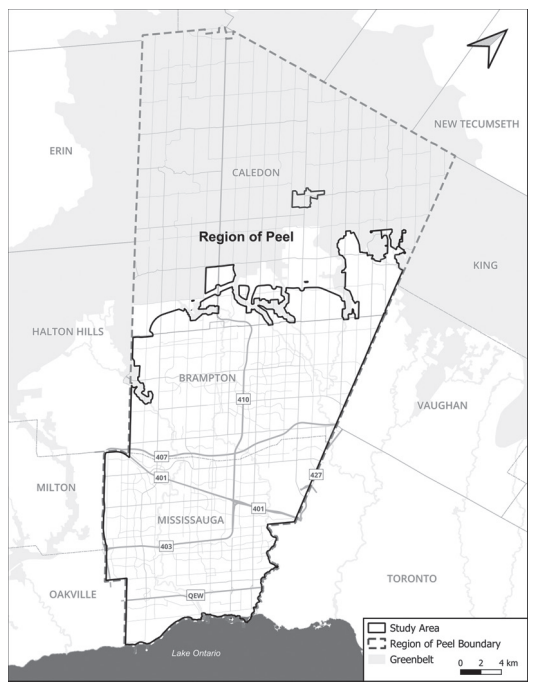


Figure 1: Peel Region Study Area

Process:

The study will be carried out in accordance with the Municipal Class Environment Assessment (MCEA) master planning process and will involve Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the MCEA process.

The objectives of the Master Plan study are to:

- Determine a preferred lake-based water and wastewater servicing strategy to address current servicing needs and accelerated growth driven by the Province's Bill 23.
- Align with the latest Council-approved population and employment forecasts to 2051.
- Assess potential growth post-2051 to inform long-term infrastructure planning.
- Provide the business case for the need, timing and costs associated with servicing and infrastructure.

Your Input is Important:

Consultation and engagement with interested stakeholders, indigenous communities, and rights holders is a key component of this Master Plan Study. One Public Information Centre (PIC) will be held to share the study process, its findings, outline the water and wastewater servicing strategies and present the preferred solution. The PIC will also provide an opportunity for participants to offer feedback to the project team.

The PIC will take place in person within each municipality, with information presented on display boards and staff available to answer questions and discuss next steps. Details for the PIC are provided below. Information will also be available on the project website starting December 2, 2025.

PIC No. 1 Locations:

Peel Region will be hosting three separate sessions for the PIC, scheduled as follows:

Municipality	Date	Time	Location
City of Mississauga	Tuesday, Dec 2, 2025	5:30 – 7:30 p.m.	Paramount Fine Foods Centre, Meeting Room 5500 Rose Cherry Place, Mississauga
City of Brampton	Wednesday, Dec 3, 2025	5:30 – 7:30 p.m.	Region of Peel, Brampton and Caledon Room 10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A, Brampton
Town of Caledon	Thursday, Dec 4, 2025	5:30 – 7:30 p.m.	Caledon East Community Complex, Lion's Den 6215 Old Church Road, Caledon East

Contact:

To be added to the mailing list or to receive further information about the study, please contact:

Italia Ponce, P.Eng.
Advisor, Water and Wastewater Strategic Infrastructure Planning
Peel Region
Email: italia.ponce@peelregion.ca

For more information on this study, please scan the QR code with your smartphone to access the project webpage on peelregion.ca.

Peel Region is committed to ensuring that all its services, programs, and facilities are inclusive and accessible. Please contact the Project Manager if you need any accommodations to provide comments and/or feedback for this study.

This notice was first issued on November 20, 2025.

See you at the Parade!

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52nd Bolton Kin Santa Claus Parade

boltonkin.com

Santa Claus is Coming to Town

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6TH, 2025 AT 11AM



Bolton Cubs & Boy Scouts will be collecting food donations for the Caledon Food Bank

www.boltonkin.com

Check out our social media for all the latest Santa updates!

Enjoy the Bolton Kin Santa Claus Parade



Mayor Annette Groves and Council

TOWN OF CALEDON

Enjoy the PARADE

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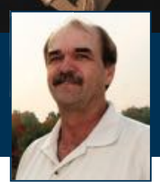
203 QUEEN STREET SOUTH, BOLTON



HAVE A GREAT TIME AT THE 52ND BOLTON Santa Claus Parade!



NICK DEBOER
COUNCILLOR WARD 4



RESIDENTS WITH INQUIRIES CAN CONTACT ME AT
nick.deboer@caledon.ca OR PHONE 416.357.3524



Have a Great Time at the 52ND BOLTON SANTA CLAUS PARADE Next Week!

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OPP
Caledon Fire
Palgrave Express
Father Bressani High School Drumline
Town Crier of Caledon
Bolton Kin Parade Banner/Flags
1st Bolton Beavers, Cubs, Scouts
Peel Regional Paramedic Services
Top Hat Marching Orchestra
Cassie's Place
Caledon Cavaliers Rugby Club
Tor Can Roofing
Humberview HS Alpha Dogs
Tian Guo Marching Band
Mayor Groves/Council
Caledon Hockey 7U Team
Canadian Dance Unit
Peel Dufferin Plowmens
Albion/Bolton Agricultural Society
Sylvia Jones – MPP
160 Squadron Royal Canadian Air Cadets
Marching Band
Town of Caledon
Dependable Group
Bolton Sea Cadets
Caledon Hawks 8U Team
Motion Ball
SGL Charitable Society
Banda Lira Portuguesa Da Brampton
A & G Road Cleaners
Bolton Wanderers Soccer Club
892 Snowy Owl Squadron
Dunk Disposal Company
The Well Community Church
St. Roch High School Drumline
Davis Orthodontics
Caledon Minor Baseball
TRCA
Tecumseh Shrine Club
CCRSA
York Lions Steel Band
Antique Car
Caledon Dance Academy
GIP
Hit That Note Studio
Cardinal Carter High School Marching Band
Renewed Hope
Domino's Pizza
John Glenn Desjardins Insurance
Starlight Destiny
Sudbury Blue Saints Marching Band
Rotary Club of Bolton
Need A Bin
Xecutive Auto Spa
Fletcher's Meadow High School Drumline
Caledon United Girls Soccer U12/U13
Harvey's Restaurant
Fortinos
Caledon Community Services
Optimists Alumni Drum & Bugle
Canadian Black Belt Academy
Holy Family Parish Life Teen
Kin Santa Claus Float
Trinity Auto Towing
Humberview HS Football Team
Caledon Coyotes Hockey
Robert F. Hall HS Football Team



Bolton

www.boltongm.ca

12420 HWY 50 South 905.857.3677

THE ROSE PERDUE TEAM

Wishing everyone a great time at the Bolton Santa Claus Parade next Saturday!

Rose & Stephanie



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We will also be serving freshly roasted chestnuts and popcorn for a small donation to our local Caledon Community Services.

Our garden centre is packed with all things Christmas including beautiful fresh Christmas trees!

Garden foods

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Kingly Cash

It was nice to revisit the 1980s last week – even for just a little bit.

As a 1985 baby, I nevertheless have a few first-hand memories of that potent time in our pop culture hanging on for dear life. Even if the memories that don't explicitly involve members of my family are typically related to movies seen and TV shows enjoyed (who could have guessed that in this social media age we live in that remembering watching The Golden Girls in prime time would have a degree of cachet?) I hold the memories close as if they were endangered species.

Last Wednesday night offered a trip back in time when we went to see a great play in Toronto – Ava: The Secret Conversations – at the CAA Theatre. The show centres on classic movie icon Ava Gardner, expertly portrayed by Elizabeth McGovern, who recently completed her long run as Downton Abbey's Cora, Lady Grantham, as she hires a celebrity journalist to help write her memoirs.

It was the 80s after all, and the tales she could tell of being married to such luminaries as Frank Sinatra still had the power to set the literary world, along with Hollywood, on fire – but, given the clout of said ex-husbands in the business, there was no small degree of reluctance to tell her story.

The show was exceptionally acted, directed and produced – and found creative ways to evoke the spirit of the decade, and it stayed with me as our little group left the theatre.

The evening was still young and we ventured down Yonge Street to find a nice place for a warm drink and some dessert. Easier said than done – I couldn't believe the sheer number of eateries of all varieties that closed their doors at 9 p.m. on a Wednesday on one of Toronto's busiest thoroughfares.

We eventually settled on a retro diner – just to keep the vintage vibes going – for some coffee and a piece of pie – and they kept going until it was time to settle up. While two of us paid with cards, I just happened to have a $20 in my wallet and prepared to use it. The reaction of the server certainly told a tale. Out of instinct, he handed me the machine until he noticed the money in my hand and the mental gymnastics I could see him going through as he alternated hands between giving me the machine and taking the money, like two people who come face to face on a sidewalk and get caught in the perpetual loop of who's going to go around first, made me chuckle.

Evidently it had been a while since someone paid cash on his shift, but as much as it made me chuckle, it snapped me out of the 80s reverie I was still steeping in and back to reality.

Despite the prevalence of plastic in our everyday lives, we still often hear the phrase "Cash is King." You won't find an argument from me, nor, I suspect, will you find an argument from many small business owners who recognize some distinct advantages of filling their tills with a few slips of polymer rather than relying on a perpetual plastic tap dance, but if one person sees legal tender as a throwback, there are still more who are of the thought that if you have it, someone's out to grab it.

The phrase "cash grab" has been bandied about over the last couple of months as the Province of Ontario moved to make automated speed cameras a thing of the past.

The Premier has been insistent that the move, which was previously authorized by Queen's Park, was nothing more than a "cash grab" on the part of municipalities. This, despite the only cash being grabbed being those who were caught speeding on local and regional roads.

Whether or not these cameras were tantamount to a cash grab rather than being an effective deterrent against speeding is up for debate – and, in my personal opinion, the experts in this case have a distinct edge at the debate table – but I am glad to see the Province is not necessarily adverse to a cash grab for the greater good.

The Ontario Government last week announced new measures that will require impaired drivers to pay ongoing child support if they kill a child's parent or guardian.

"No child should have to bear the weight of losing a parent to impaired driving," said Doug Downey, Ontario's Attorney General, in a statement. "The devastating impact reaches far beyond the immediate loss – it can leave children struggling emotionally and financially. That's why our government is looking at practical solutions that can ease their burden in the wake of such tragedies and provide financial stability for children who are left behind."

The potential legislation, the Province added, was inspired by similar laws implemented in Texas in 2023 pertaining to drivers convicted of "intoxication manslaughter" and requiring them to pay child support until the child turns 18 or graduates high school.

This is a model the Province said they will be exploring – and the idea received an early, if tempered, show of support from Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD).

"MADD Canada works with those impacted by impaired driving every day, and we know the harsh reality families face because of someone else's harmful choices," said MADD Canada CEO Steve Sullivan. "We applaud the Ontario Government for looking into additional measures that would hold offenders accountable and support victims – particularly minors – impacted by the loss of a guardian that was killed by a drunk driver."

While I too applaud this move as an out-of-the-box approach not only to deter drunk driving but require those who make the conscious choice to get behind the wheel to pay for the ongoing impact of their decisions, this is not the only situation where a driver can make a conscious decision that very well might result in harm – and, worse, the loss off a life.

As the proposal works its way through the system, it will be interesting to hear the conversations along the way.

It will also be interesting to see if similar penalties for those who get behind the wheel and make a conscious decision to go well beyond the posted speed limit, resulting in the loss of a life, will be considered under this umbrella as well. Or, will the Province deem its decidedly within-the-box alternative to speed cameras – speed bumps and increased signage, measures that don't seem to be doing anyone a whole world of good – are sufficient.

Let's hope it's not the latter.

If cash is king, let's make it count across the board.

Until then, I'll stick with The Golden Girls. They may have only won an electric skillet and a lifetime supply of soup when they appeared on the fictional game show Grab That Dough, but it wasn't due to lack of trying – or grabbing.



"Life" doesn't care about your other plans



by Mark Pavilons

We busy bees are darting this way and that, trying to keep all of our ducks in a row.

It's been said that "life is what happens when you're making other plans."

So true.

We talk about "multi-tasking," a term that was originally created to describe CPUs and computer processing. When did we inherit the moniker?

It's funny that one of the most often heard responses these days is about how busy we are.

What have we done to ourselves, that busyness is now the driver, and our own health and peace of mind take a back seat?

Research suggests that an individual's perceived level of busyness is heavily connected to their feelings of self-worth, as well as to how others view their status. Individuals who are always busy by choice tend to feel needed, in demand, and important, thus elevating their feelings about themselves.

Being busy and being productive can often be confused with one another. If we are busy, we may have a lot on our plate but this doesn't necessarily mean that we are productive or using our time efficiently.

For some, staying busy is a way to feel in control of their lives. Psychologists explain that when people experience anxiety or uncertainty, they may try to control their environment and schedule to feel more secure. This is particularly common in people with high levels of perfectionism or high-functioning anxiety. Constantly staying busy provides a sense of structure and purpose, even if it's not always productive.

People stay busy for many reasons, not the least of which are to bury difficult emotions or pain.

Some want to retain control over the little things, because the big picture is out of their control.

My wife is a doer. She never stops and I wonder how she keeps going sometimes. Moms are built differently and are like the Energizer Bunny.

While idle hands are the devil's work, idle brains can be both positive and negative. Being contemplative and introspective tend to be good for the soul. But too much "deep diving" can backfire. The meaning of life, especially these days, is still elusive.

Those of us who've fallen victim to busyness have likely felt fatigue, stress and anxiety. There's a long list of side effects to burying oneself in work or other things to avoid life's realities.

So, back to the opening sentiment, where life's events don't really care about your best laid plans.

Many of us who've fallen victim to a life-altering ailment know full well how reality just sneaks up on you and smacks you in the face. There's no avoiding it.

Our bodies are only good for so many miles, and like most warranties, they expire long before replacement parts are needed.

I have no choice but continue my regular routine, while juggling tests, scans, hospital visits and treatments. I can't stumble and fall because my family needs me and there's always "so much to be done."

Ah, there's the rub as Shakespeare pointed out.

Our current lifestyle is very much a Catch-22 – too much on our plates, too little time and too few resources. We try to "schedule" down time and family time.

How sad that we've somehow fallen victim to the "rat race" and turned things backwards. But we are not rats and life isn't a race, but a marathon.

Only recently have we westerners realized the importance of family, relationships, quiet time and peace.

We're still faced with record-high retail and grocery prices, and the cost of housing has squeezed many out of the market. I sympathize with the younger people who are just starting out, earning a decent living, and trying to find a home.

We Boomers were lucky, I suppose, in that we had a less stressful time, with more opportunities. We were grounded, thanks to our parents and their solid work ethics. They provided for us.

I'm not sure how well my wife and I have provided for our nestlings, but I hope it's sufficient.

That too, adds another level of stress to life – giving our kids the tools and resources they need to strive and thrive. It's getting tougher, to be sure and we give, at our own expense.

There's really no choice between me and my kids. The kids always come first.

Will Rogers advised us that if we find ourselves in a hole, that we "stop digging."

If we do have a moment, we should ask ourselves whether it's the world that's busy or is it our minds? I think probably both.

Some believe that we're not busy, but merely distracted. I find I have to distract myself with small things like games on my smart phone or painting tiny model planes, just to maintain my sanity. To be alone with my thoughts is not something I relish.

I have heard that Nature doesn't hurry, and yet everything gets accomplished.

But I'm not a mighty redwood or majestic weeping willow.

Our endless pursuit of "more" leaves us dissatisfied. We work harder, rush more, all in the hopes of attaining some future happiness, but the destination keeps moving farther away. And then, when faced with a clock that's counting down, you realize that it was all in vain.

I have gone through pretty much every emotion in the human dictionary during my journey. I fear I'm headed down the final, long road with little to show for my busyness.

While we may want to, we just can't stop the world because we want to get off. I've leapt off a merry-go-round in my youth, and it was quite painful.

Life, time and everyone in it, never stop. It's just how things are.

Like it or not, our western busyness will be our downfall.

Boy, a tree house in the woods is looking mighty fine!



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Making Connections

SHERALYN ROMAN
TALK CALEDON



In the middle of the budget hullabaloo, work continues in a number of other areas of concern to Caledon residents. Many of us, including groups such as Democracy Caledon, are vocal in fighting to ensure these resident concerns are heard by our Mayor and Council. Others work quietly and diligently behind the scenes, delegating at Council and using social media as a tool to disseminate information (not misinformation!) on our behalf. Finally, there are some individuals who have taken on a role that is starting to extend far beyond our borders, including at both the provincial and federal level, in an effort to ensure our voices are heard. Each of these individuals and groups are making connections across the province and the country, all in hopes of making a difference here at home.

It takes a village, not only to raise a child, but to foster a community that provides a safe, welcoming, space for everyone. Where drinking water is not at risk of contamination and you don't have to take your life in your hands simply trying to get to work every day. While we are in dismay at the costs of running the Town of Caledon, and facing a significant tax increase while questionable items remain on the budget (as referenced in last week's column) the work of protecting other resident interests continues.

The Caledon Community Road Safety Advocacy (CCRSA) and the people behind Caledon Swan Lake have both taken the fight to the next level, making connections across both local and large media outlets (including the CBC) and by forging new relationships with parliamentarians at the federal level and provincially too. These relationships are crucial to ongoing discussions around traffic safety, water safety and aggregate policy, because ongoing barriers here at home, with at least a few local council members, is making the work of protecting Caledon residents difficult.

Keri Parfitt, working on behalf of Swan Lake, a fully rehabilitated, Ministry of Natural Resources approved area (home to a variety of flora, fauna and species including trumpeter swans), has made an excellent connection. In a new development, Tedd Hsu, MPP for Kingston and the Islands (not, as you might have expected, our own local MPP) has formally "asked the provincial legislature to answer the question about how they define Swan Lake (lake/wetland, etc)." The answer must be delivered before the holiday break and knowing how the Ministry of Natural Resources defines this area could be pivotal in the fight to preserve it. By forging such a connection, and having the question raised in the provincial legislature, Ms. Parfitt has helped create an opportunity for precedent setting protections to be made. That's because even as the town continues to tinker with a proposed site alteration bylaw that does nothing to address the very real danger that construction waste will be allowed to be dumped here, the question remains not just what happens to Swan Lake but also, "what are the implications for all of our pits and quarries across the province if the Town of Caledon is permitted to send the message to aggregate companies that their commitment to the Aggregate Resources Act and investment back into communities is meaningless?" Ms. Parfitt, and others involved in efforts to protect our drinking water in Ward 1, made a valuable connection with Minister Hsu, one that might help us when our own MPP can't - or won't.

Speaking of connections, the women behind the CCRSA – Carmela Anzelmo-Palkowski, Amanda Corbett and Franca Pisani – have taken their connection skills to a whole new level. Forging a number of positive relationships with folks like the Ontario Trucking Federation and Canadian Trucking Association, local Dufferin-Caledon MP Kyle Seeback, and MPP Jennifer French who is the provincial transportation critic are just a few of the people acting, or attempting to act, on our behalf.

Just this week, the women also connected in Ottawa with Bloc Quebecois MP Xavier Barsalou-Duval who put forth a motion federally to address serious concerns with "Drivers Inc." impacting all Canadians. Drivers Inc. is widely considered to be a business model that causes many of our illegal trucking and improperly trained truck driver woes. As a result of this connection, they were invited to participate in a press conference in Ottawa, drawing attention to the ongoing road hazards we face here in Caledon every single day. Later they were also introduced to the shadow minister of transportation for the Conservatives, MP Dan Albas, for a conversation. Deepening connections across all levels of government and helping to draw nationwide attention to the trucking industry and related safety concerns is crucial in the ongoing fight to create safer roads for all, both here in Caledon and across the country.

These are just two examples of area residents who have day jobs; family commitments, and many other responsibilities, but who are also taking it upon themselves to try and make Caledon a safer, healthier, community. They are making connections in all the right places - even when some of our own local representatives are doing little toward (sometimes even seeming to actively working against) helping to address resident concerns. Making connections just might help to make a difference.

Thank you to all those who speak up and speak out; whether publicly, behind the scenes, by delegating at Council or making the connections required to do the hard work of trying to make Caledon a great place to live.

COMMUNITY events

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

The Bolton Seventh-day Adventist Church invites you to our Stargazing Evangelistic Meetings on
THE SECOND COMING OF JESUS CHRIST
Fridays - Nov 28th @ 7:30 pm, on ZOOM
ID: 455-878-9150 Password: 366801
Sat Nov 22nd and 29th in person

11:00 am – 1:30 pm and 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.
Place: 8 Nancy Street, Bolton
Lunch will be served
Phone: 905-598-0582
Admission: FREE
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ARTS & CULTURE

Bolton Resident Angelica Ganea releases new children's book "Love Is Light," promoting compassion and courage

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Angelica Ganea, Pop/Classical Singer-Songwriter and author, has just come out with her newest book, "Love Is Light," where she reminds readers to love everyone.

Ganea grew up in Romania, where, since she was six-years-old, she had been acting, singing, and dancing on stage full-time.

She even attended university for musical theatre.

When she moved to Canada almost 30 years ago, Ganea says everything changed.

She says the mix of not knowing English and the ever-difficult musical industry made it nearly impossible for her to break through.

Since then, she has tirelessly taught herself English and now creates music and writes books.

The transition to writing was not unfamiliar to her, she says, as she grew up writing since she was eight years old and performing essays in her classes.

"She was like one of those angels in disguise," says Ganea of her Grade 5 teacher who encouraged her to read her essays in class. "Now looking back, she gave me so much confidence."

Ganea says today it's now easier for her to write in English than in Romanian.

In 2003, Ganea was struggling to write songs, and she ended up turning some of the short stories she had written into lyrics.

"I turned it into lyrics, and then something totally unbelievable happened. It's like the song was already in my head," she says. "Everybody is different, but this is the way that it worked for me."

Ganea compiled both the songs and the short stories that inspired them into a book she published in 2012.

She wrote her next book on habits in 2017, and has now released her newest children's book.

"Love is Light," Ganea says, adding the idea first began when this author was having visions and strange dreams, and she even a near-death experience in 2012.

"In 2017, I had one of these spiritual experiences that lasted about six weeks," she continues. "For six weeks, I felt like I was just walking in pure love."

She says all of these elements and experiences of her life formed the idea to love everyone, which is apparent in her newest book.

"It doesn't matter who the person is, not to push against what we call the villain. In all movies, we see that the villains are always sought out and destroyed and killed," says Ganea. "It doesn't apply just to the rhetorical villain, it applies to anything, even to things that we don't understand about ourselves. When we get angry, we get upset, we always push against this darkness, and the idea is to have compassion for it and understand it because it's in us, every single one of us has both good and bad."

Growing up, Ganea shares that she had a tremendous fear of evil, whether it was the threat of the "boogie man" or "bau-bau" if she did something wrong, or the elements of the world around her.

"I don't remember a time as a child being at peace, believe it or not, I was always afraid," she says.

For years into her adulthood, Ganea struggled with fear, until the idea came to her one day to face her fears with love

"I was in complete and utter peace and love. I felt nothing else, and I'm thinking this is my purpose. This is my purpose to write something about this."

From here, Ganea put the idea into her children's book Love is Light, illustrating and writing the story herself. She even wrote a song to accompany the book, also named "Love is Light."

Ganea describes the book as the ancient struggle between darkness and light.

She says the book teaches children that by looking at something with love, they can change what they don't like into something they do.

"It teaches kids to live without fear, to grow up without fear, because anything that we are afraid of is just there to teach us something."

"The only way to learn about love is to experience its opposite, we would not know what light is if we don't know darkness."

Ganea also hopes the book will help against bullying, and that kids will look at one another with kindness and compassion.

In the author's forward, designed for parents, Ganea describes the darkness and light of life through the right and left hemispheres of the human brain.

"The idea is to balance them both because we can't live in this world with just one of them," she says.

"Duality exists in us in that form of these two hemispheres of the brain. We can't run from ego. We can't run from what we call darkness because it's there," says Ganea. "We can learn to deal with it and use it respectfully."

The villain in the story, bau-bau, represents the ego, and Ganea says, "we have to love it in order to understand it and balance it."

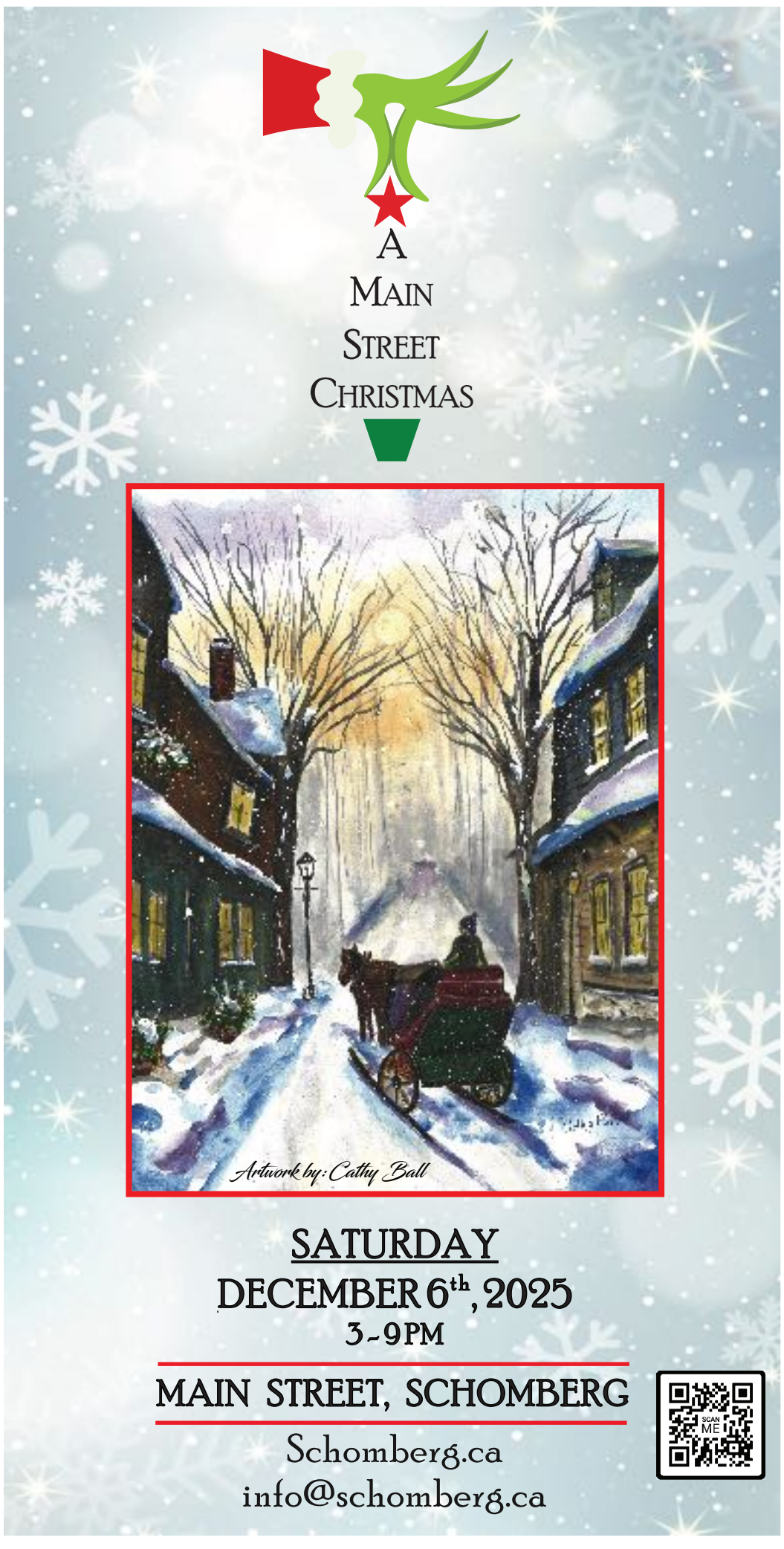
After first self-publishing Love is Light in 2020, Ganea decided to re-write and re-illustrate the book, complete with beautiful metaphors and lessons.

Her accompanying song for the book will be released on December 19, which Ganea says she learned music production, orchestration, arrangements, and software for it.

"It was massive for me, but it's a gift for me because I learned so much."

She'll also release the song in Romanian in January, along with the English and French versions of the book.

The book is available at select Chapters and Indigo stores, or on Ganea's website at www.iamangelica.com.







DAWN FOSTER

PHOTO BY RILEY MURPHY

Scotch Bonnet Kitchen and Bar brings authentic Jamaican cuisine to Bolton

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Scotch Bonnet Kitchen and Bar officially opened its doors in Bolton this August and has since been serving authentic Jamaican food and endless entertainment to the Caledon community.

Owner Dawn Foster is used to wearing many different hats; she's run her hair salon, Hair Revolution in Brampton, for the past eight years.

"I try everything," says Foster. "I came up with the idea of opening a restaurant while operating my salon."

After moving from Jamaica to Canada at the age of 24, Foster says she always has new ideas and is eager to try them.

"We grew up being told to go for whatever we want, and it's not going to be easy. Anything that I put my mind to, I know it's not going to be easy, but I work towards it, and I'm happy doing it. If it seems hard, as long as you're happy, it just comes natural to me."

Foster says that every time she went to a Jamaican restaurant, she was never satisfied and knew she could do better.

Coming from a big family, she shares that she has been cooking her entire life and knew she could bring her vibrant ideas for a restaurant to life.

But for Foster, it's not just about the food; it's about the experience.

That's why she knew she had to find somewhere special for her business.

Scotch Bonnet Kitchen and Bar is located at 15 Allan Drive, Unit 16, in Bolton, and the large space is adorned with colourful seating, a stage for entertainment, a bar, and even a dart board.

Foster notes she loves to entertain, which truly comes across at the restaurant.

On Saturday nights, you can find people dancing and singing live karaoke, and she plans to add a pool table.

She says that the food is delicious and well-spiced, and it complements their overall ambience perfectly.

Foster says both those who work there and the way they treat customers are extremely important to her.

When building the menu, she says she wanted to be sure to include "everything."

From their hot-and-spicy beef and vegetable patties, to oxtail, to curry goat, they even put their own spin on classics such as their jerk chicken panini and oxtail linguine.

"We try to twist the menu around to entertain everybody," says Foster.

One of her favourite parts since opening, Foster shares, is when she opens up in the morning and sees the faces of those coming in.

"It's fun seeing people come in and see returning customers, they enjoyed the food and they're telling me that, 'the food is so good.'"

"It makes me feel like, yes, you're doing something for the community," says Foster.

As Foster is always coming up with new ideas, Scotch Bonnet Kitchen and Bar is looking forward to hosting its upcoming all-you-can-eat brunch on Sunday, November 30, complete with live music.

But she doesn't plan on stopping there. Foster shares that she looks forward to being able to hold "martini nights", special happy hours, and live bands as well, to serve the community.

They currently run 10-dollar lunch specials, and look forward to various happy hours and "wings and beer specials."

As of December 1, they will be serving all-day breakfast on Saturday and Sunday.

Whether you're looking for your new favourite Jamaican food spot or an evening of entertainment and drinks, Scotch Bonnet Kitchen and Bar is sure to be a new community favourite.

Christmas cheer set to abound in Caledon this season

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

As the Holiday Season approaches, there is a never-ending list of events, markets, and shows for the community to take in.

Kicking it off will be BrightStart Caledon Family Centre's Snowflake Social this Saturday, November 29.

At $10 per person, this social features crafts, reindeer games, cookie decorating, photos with Santa, warm drinks, a scavenger hunt, and more.

Every dollar raised supports BrightStart Caledon's Early Learning and Family Support Programs.

The event will be held at Caledon Centre for Recreation and Wellness from 10 am to 12 noon.

Also on November 29, the annual Alton Legion Christmas Market will be held, hosted by the Ladies Auxiliary.

The market will run from 9 am to 4 pm at the Alton Legion.

Rather than an entry fee, they are instead asking attendees to bring a food bank donation.

Rusty Jade's Ranch Christmas on the Farm will be back this Sunday, November 30, from 11 am to 4 pm.

The event will feature local vendors, wagon rides to tour the ranch, hot chocolate, and photos with Santa, as well as their horses.

Next on the agenda this season is the Town of Caledon's Annual Tree Lighting on December 2from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm outside Town Hall.

This year's tree lighting will feature story time with Mrs. Claus and Santa, the tree lighting with the Town Crier, and photos with Santa.

Also available at the event will be a giant snow globe for family photos, a warming station, and the opportunity for residents to drop off their letters to Santa.

Bethell Hospice is encouraging the community to celebrate their annual Light and Love Tree Lighting on December 4, starting at 7 pm at the Inglewood Community Centre.

It will begin with the lighting of trees and the reading of names in remembrance.

Bethell Hospice shares that their event is a way to offer comfort, compassion, and healing during a time of reflection.

On Friday, December 5, from 6 pm to 10 pm, Christmas in the Valley will be hosted by the Downtown Bolton BIA, taking place in the Downtown Bolton Municipal Parking Lot, on Ann St and at the Humber River Centre.

Attendees can celebrate the holidays with a vendor and artisan market, food trucks, and a Christmas tree lighting at the Humber River Centre.

Also available at the event will be free photos with Santa, in exchange for which the Humberview Huskies Football team is asking for non-perishable food items or an unwrapped toy for their food and toy drive, which will be distributed to the community.

December 6 is full of holiday fun, starting with the annual Bolton Kin Santa Claus Parade.

This year's event will feature 11 bands, more tan 50 parade groups, and, of course, the man of the hour, Santa Claus.

The parade will begin at Queensgate Boulevard and run to Centennial Drive on Regional Road 50, and will take place at 11 am.

Afterwards, on December 6, the Caledon Village Tree Lighting, presented by the Caledon Village Association, will be from 5 pm to 8 pm at Raeburn's Corners.

The event will also feature a visit with Santa, carol singing, a children's raffle draw, and a toy and food drive.

On December 13 from 2 pm to 4 pm, St. James in Caledon East will hold "The Sweet Sounds of Christmas," a budget-friendly Christmas market featuring affordable gift baskets and items.

The market will also feature guest performers and free cookies and cocoa.

The Caledon Concert Band will perform "Twas the Night Before Christmas" on Sunday, December 14 at 2 pm at Caledon Hills Fellowship Baptist Church.

On December 19 from 10:30 am to 11:15 am, there will be a "Jingle Bells" Surprise Story time with Brightstart Caledon at the Caledon Public Library's Village Branch.

The Storytime will feature songs and stories, as well as a craft, which they share will be "something every child will love to take home so close to a visit from a certain 'jolly soul!'"

It is free to attend, but attendees must register in advance.

Headwaters Arts "Artful Giving" show and sale is currently running at the Alton Mill Arts Centre in Alton. The last day will be on January 4.

Artful Giving, Headwaters Arts' annual Christmas show, features 40-plus local and regional artists and artisans and their work.

The gallery is filled with over 250 handmade items for your Christmas shopping.

From November 29 to December 21, Downey's Farm will host Christmas at the Farm, which features wagon ride scavenger hunts, make your own reindeer food, an elves square, and pictures with Santa.

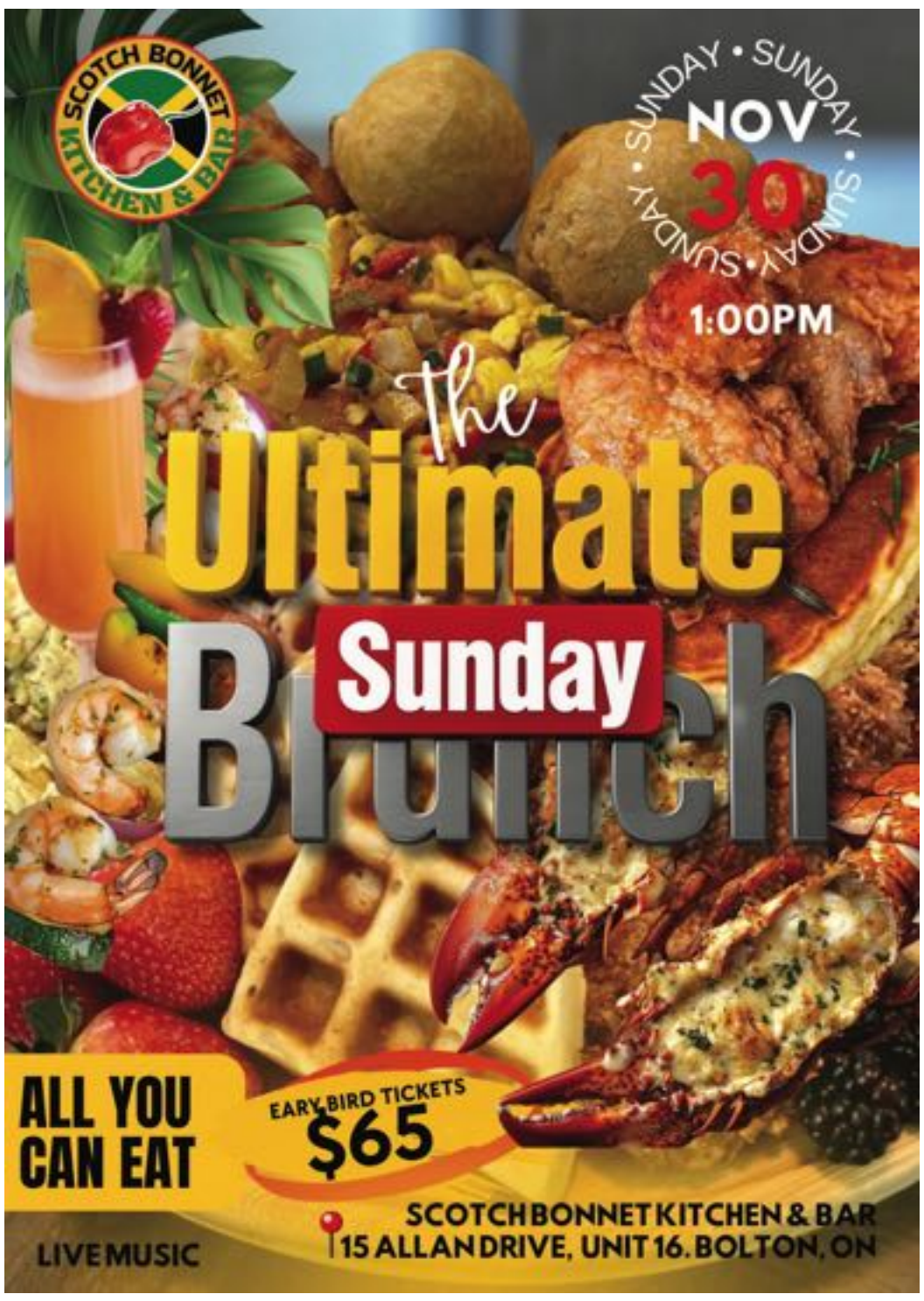
Christmas at the Farm will be open from 10 am to 3 pm, and admission tickets are required.

The Sisters Touch of Christmas is now open and will run until December 23.

The Sisters' Touch of Christmas is a seasonal fundraising store established at St. Kosmas Aitolos Greek Orthodox Monastery in Bolton, where community members can purchase one-of-a-kind, hand-painted ornaments by the Sisters, as well as other holiday baked goods and items.

On Christmas Day, Mount Alverno Luxury Resorts will host a Christmas Buffet Brunch from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm.

Reservations are needed, and tickets are $70 for adults and $25 for children.





BUSINESS

YOUR SOURCE FOR BUSINESS IN CALEDON

Fall for Caledon Meals on Wheels allows organization to "Never Say No" to seniors in need

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Following its inaugural event in 2024, Caledon Meals on Wheels (CMOW) recently hosted their Fall for Caledon Meals on Wheels event at TPC Toronto at Osprey Valley, a sponsor of the event.

The night was complete with dinner and dancing, with music from The Windjammers, and a passion for raising money for a good cause.

Although it was Game Seven for the Blue Jays, Kim Rodrigues, Executive Director, says that more 100 people attended that night.

"Unfortunately, it wasn't a win for the Jays. It was a win for us though that night," says Rodrigues.

The event raised $17,500 for CMOW, approximately twice what they raised at their inaugural event.

Rodrigues says that seeing the event grow from its inaugural year to this year's event was a "big deal" for their fundraising goals.

Operating as a non-profit team, she says these fundraisers mean not only a tremendous amount, but also the opportunity to see everybody come together.

They have six full-time employees, seven part-time employees, and over 120 volunteers," she adds.

"It's a lot of work, but seeing everybody there, seeing the people that actually support us and appreciate the work that we do and are celebrating," she says. "It was also, I would say, a celebration of the work and those that we support."

"It's wonderful that we raised that money – that means a great deal to us. But I think also having people show up, it's telling us, 'you're doing a good job, continue to do the good work you're doing.' That means, I would say, just as much for us too."

Funds raised will stay locally in the community, supporting vital programs for residents of Dufferin and Caledon.

Rodrigues explains that although CMOW is partially funded, they still need to raise $200,000 a year to keep their doors open and their programs free or at low cost, making these fundraising events extremely important.

"We do rely heavily on the kindness of our community and their support to help us serve our seniors," she says.

She explains that this money will go toward various areas of their organization, including their subsidy program, which partially or fully subsidizes meals for seniors.

"We have a strong perspective in that we will not turn anyone away," says Rodrigues.

Their homemade meals begin at a subsidized rate of $8 and include delivery and check-ins with one of the CMOW volunteers.

Rodrigues notes that the $8 amount is still sometimes too high for some in the community.

"Regardless of what they can afford, we will make sure that they are fed, and also that they have a check in," she says.

She adds that check-ins are an essential part of what CMOW adds with their meal delivery service.

"For some of our seniors who are more isolated, it's the only person they may see, certainly that day or a couple times a week," says Rodrigues. "It provides for loved ones the reassurance that somebody is checking in on their parents or their grandparents. Not everybody lives locally with their grandparents or their parents, and so we are able to provide that check in and make sure that they're doing okay, and getting them their meals."

Another area the funding will go towards is their senior wellness program, which sees more than 250 seniors a week, making it their largest program.

It provides seniors and older adults with a space to remain active, operating in different communities across Caledon, Dufferin, and surrounding areas.

This program includes items such as social time, speakers, trivia, bingo, and much more.

CMOW has another fundraising opportunity approaching soon that will run through December.

Their annual "Match our Meals" campaign kicks off December 1, where the Stafford Group, owners of several local Tim Hortons, will be matching every donation CMOW receives up to $7,500.

Rodrigues adds that this campaign helps funds go much further.

Their goal for this December is to reach $20,000, which will go towards their subsidy program and help to cover the costs of fresh fruits and vegetables.

"We're really proud of the food that we provide," says Rodrigues. "It's meals that I would eat and bring home to my family without question. We want to make sure that people enjoy our food, but also get their nutritional needs met."

She adds that they also provide gluten-free meals or meals cut, chopped, or pureed, addressing the needs of every individual.

Donations can be made through their Canada Helps page, on their website, by phone, or in person at their office.

Rodrigues adds that for those unable to give this year, they are also looking for people to donate their time.

They are also running various initiatives, including their podcast, Aging Out Loud Caledon, which they are actively seeking to interview seniors to share "their stories, their wisdom, their jokes, whatever they like."

Lastly, they are also looking for volunteers for their Family Visiting Programs, who can work one-on-one with seniors once a week to meet for coffee and chats.

If any seniors are also interested in that program, CMOW would love to hear from them.

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MAYBERRY HILL
Grand Valley

Christmas in the Valley returns to Downtown Bolton

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Downtown Bolton BIA invites the Town of Caledon to join them for another year of Christmas in the Valley in Downtown Bolton.

This year's event, held on December 5 from 6 pm to 10 pm, will feature a vendor and artisan market, food trucks, and a Christmas tree lighting.

At Christmas in the Valley, there will also be free photos with Santa, and in exchange, the Humberview Huskies Football team is asking for unwrapped toys and non-perishable food donations to their food and toy drive.

The team's goal is to fill their coach's truck, and, in classic team-effort fashion, Caledon OPP will collect those items on their behalf and drop them off where they need to go in the community.

The football team will also be volunteering at the event, helping vendors with setup and teardown.

"It takes a lot of hands, but you know what? It doesn't feel like work. We all have a lot of fun doing it," says Sarah Leslie, Downtown Bolton BIA's event coordinator.

She shares that what began as the Bolton tree lighting ceremony many years ago has since grown into Christmas in the Valley, "a whole night of fun for families."

It truly will be a night of fun, with guest appearances from Christmas carolers, a marching band, and even the Grinch.

Leslie encourages all families to come out and enjoy the event.

The BIA is very hands-on with the event, and Leslie notes that they make a great team.

"I've personally had my hand in planning this event for several years," she says. "And together we just bring this whole thing to life for the community every year."

A local business will be giving away hot chocolate and gingerbread cookies for attendees to enjoy while they shop and support local vendors.

One of the businesses at the market will be Coldwell Banker Select Real Estate Bolton; they have taken part in the event for numerous years now.

Bryan Gnida, General Manager/ Broker at Coldwell Banker Select Real Estate, says that, as a local business and local real estate brokerage in the Downtown core, they feel an "affinity" with the community and enjoy meeting and greeting all of their clients attending the event.

Their business will feature a photobooth, numerous draws and games, and some much-needed information on the real estate market.

"For us, the biggest thing is meeting everybody in the community," says Gnida.

Coldwell Banker Select Real Estate Bolton will be one of many vendors and businesses at Christmas in the Valley, looking forward to bringing Christmas cheer to Downtown Bolton.

An important part of the event, Leslie says, noting today's economic atmosphere, is that it's completely free to attend.

"No matter what the circumstances, you can come out and enjoy the evening with your family and friends. Bring your neighbors, bring your pets and just enjoy the beginning of the holiday season."

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Budget amendments come forward in 2026 deliberation

Continued from FRONT

It was shared that the Town of Caledon is facing a physician shortage crisis.

A motion was carried that the 2026 budget be amended to add an operating expense of $200,000 to implement a physician recruitment and relocation program funded from the Tax Funded Contingency Reserve for 2026.

But in another motion, it was shared that the Town of Caledon has already contributed $50,000 toward physician recruitment through a joint initiative with Dufferin County and Headwaters Health Care Centre. Therefore, Council voted to remove the proposed creation of two full-time physician recruitment staff positions, with one position later added back in through a carried motion.

Regarding the Caledon Public Library (CPL) funding, it was unanimously approved to increase the Library's funding for information technology equipment of $141,000 and cybersecurity enhancements of $50,000.

CPL had previously shared that the absence of an amendment to fund the Library Board's proposed core capital investments would result in direct cuts to library services and reduce capital funding to levels not seen since 2016.

Council also approved that the 2026 Budget be amended to increase funding by $252,898 to include three of the four changes in service level investments recommended by the Library Board.

Regarding a $920,000 refurbishment project for the Caledon Village Library Branch, a motion was carried contingent upon the Staff and the Caledon Agricultural Society discussing the feasibility of cohabiting in the same facility as the Agricultural Society's community centre.

Finally, regarding the Library, an amendment was carried to include the revenues and expenses associated with the Town's provision of finance and human resources services to the Library, ensuring that Town revenues fully offset Library expenses in a manner that remains budget-neutral to taxpayers.

Discussed were also amendments regarding the allocation of two full-time Corporate Security Officer positions for $236,800, plus $72,000 for a security vehicle.

The positions, recommended by Staff, were that the Security Officers would be responsible for monitoring the Town's new Closed-Circuit Television Video (CCTV) surveillance systems.

A motion to remove the positions was defeated.

Regarding the design and construction of a new Provincial Courthouse and OPP Expansion, a motion was brought forward to defer the $24,000,000 allocation for the project until a comprehensive staff report is received.

It was defeated.

Multiple conversations were held regarding an amendment to the Capital Project for the new performing arts centre.

A motion to remove the allocation of the funding was defeated, and shortly followed a motion to change the funding amount for the project from $1,500,000 to $750,000 which was carried.

It was unanimously approved that Staff will add an allocation of $15,000 to the Town of Caledon's 2026 Operating Budget to support the Caledon Chamber of Commerce.

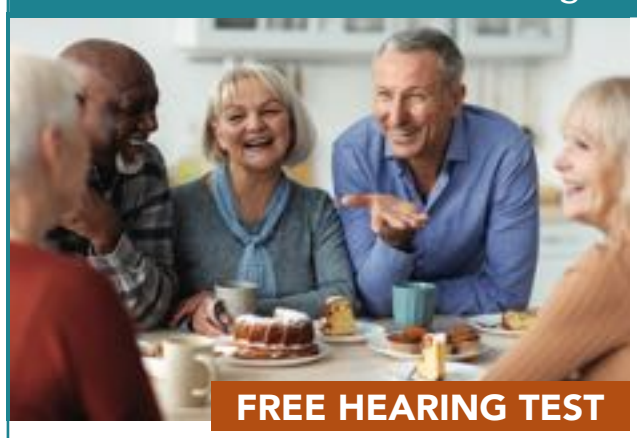
During the continuation of budget amendment deliberations on November 24, the 2026 budget was amended to include $25,000 in funding for the CAFFI Community Support Network from the Accessibility Reserve to augment and grow the pilot programming that has been progressing with the Town of Caledon.

CAFFI Community Support Network has previously presented on the current need for day and after-school programs for individuals aged 18 and older with multiple exceptionalities.

Council also approved a motion on November 24 to amend the 2026 budget to draw $2,183,433 from the Tax Stabilization Reserve to mitigate the 2026 tax increase.

Prior to the motion, the increase in the Town's tax levy was sitting approximately at a total of 4.2 per cent.

By using the full amount in the Tax Stabilization Reserve for the purpose of mitigating the impact of the tax increase and reducing tax implications for residents, the tax levy increase was lowered to a total of 2.21 per cent with the dedicated 1 per cent infrastructure levy, resulting in a total of 3.21 per cent for the Town's overall property tax rate.

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Thomas the Tank Engine made a special appearance at the CVA's Santa Photo Day event.
PHOTO BY RILEY MURPHY

Caledon Village Association kicks off the Christmas season with 2nd Annual Santa Photo Day

BY RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Santa, his elves, and his team at the Caledon Village Association (CVA) were at the Caledon Agricultural Society Fairgrounds this past weekend to take free Christmas photos with the community.

Residents were invited to bring their families, including beloved pets, to have their photo taken with Santa this holiday season.

Kate Hepworth, President of CVA, says the event is all about bringing the community together and creating new Christmas traditions.

Santa Photo Day was a tradition for many that day, including Kate Holmes, her son Lincoln, and his Nana, Lisa Graham.

Holmes brought her son to the event last year to have his photo taken with Santa, and joked he enjoyed it far more this year.

Hepworth noted the event's growth since its inaugural year last year.

This year, they wanted to bring more of the community into the event by inviting different Christmas Craft vendors and offering the opportunity to get some early Christmas shopping in.

One of the vendors was the Caledon Agricultural Society Hall Exhibits Division, where you could fill a bag with ornaments for either $5 or $10.

The money raised from the ornaments goes towards the numerous causes supported by the exhibits division, such as the Caledon Community Services Food Bank, Seasons of Hope, Kidz in Caledon, and more.

Next year, Hepworth says they're hoping to grow the event even more.

Just outside the Caledon Agricultural Society Building stood a large Thomas the Tank Engine, complete with steam and a horn.

The Caledon Lions Club brought Thomas for all attendees to enjoy and take photos with.

The CVA will continue to bring Christmas cheer to the community with their upcoming Tree Lighting on December 6.

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www.ccs4u.org | 905-584-2300

"Will we waitlist people for food?" *by Mariia Kupriianova, Chief Development Officer, Caledon Community Services*



Sounds unthinkable, doesn't it? But here in Caledon, the line between "unthinkable" and "real" is getting thinner every day.

As you read this, a senior is standing in the grocery aisle doing quiet math in his head. A neighbour opens their hydro bill and feels her stomach drop. A mom next door is packing her son's lunch with whatever's left, hoping he won't notice how little it is. These aren't headlines. That's just another Thursday in Caledon.

Hunger and poverty live next door. But so does hope and you can help bring it to Caledon. Because here at Caledon Community Services (CCS), your support extends far beyond simply filling plates.

You help keep the lights on. You help parents return to work. You help ensure kids can play, learn and grow. You help restore dignity, stability and hope.

Felicia, a single mom of two, knows that all too well.
"CCS helped me with bills in arrears, children's day camps, back-to-school clothes… and most importantly, help with food, because we all know how expensive that is now," she says. "And they are ready to help me with any papers, like resumes or help with forms such as disability."

Felicia is not alone. According to recent polling by Nanos Research for CTV News, one in five Canadians has skipped paying a bill just to afford groceries. CCS' Exchange Food Bank visits have reached a historic record high last year and we are setting new tragic records every day.

Your gift could be the thing that prevents someone from being waitlisted for help.

This season, you can fill a plate and so much more. You can add warmth to a home, calm to a parent's voice and hope to someone's tomorrow. More than 1,300 Caledon neighbours are counting on you. And right now, thanks to a generous match from Mars Canada, your gift goes twice as far – and reaches across Caledon. Every donation made before December 31 will be doubled, up to $25,000.

Please don't wait. Double your impact and bring hope home. You can donate online at www.ccs4u.org/donate, by calling 905-584-2300 ext. 260 or in person at 55 Healey Road, Bolton, ON, Unit 10, L7E 5A2.

How Do You See It?

Tell us how you see it.
Mariia Kupriianova, Chief Development Officer, Caledon Community Services
at 905-584-2300 ext. 269 or mkupriianova@ccs4u.org

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

HollyFest attracts thousands to Orangeville Fairgrounds over two-day Christmas market



Ty Clement of Clem's Wood and Santa Claus share some smiles from HollyFest on Saturday, Nov. 22. The event was organized by the Orangeville Citizen and featured over 100 vendors.

SCOTT MARTIN PHOTO

BY SAM ODROWSKI

The Orangeville Citizen's inaugural HollyFest Christmas market welcomed thousands of shoppers over two days, offering handcrafted and unique products from a curated selection of 100 vendors.

Dufferin-County-based businesses, charities, non-profits, and crafters filled up the Orangeville Fairgrounds on Saturday, November 22, and Sunday, November 23, for a one-of-a-kind shopping experience.

"HollyFest was a wonderful addition to an already festive weekend in Orangeville. With Joy and Lights (Festival), the Christmas tree lighting, and our Santa Claus parade all bringing the community together, HollyFest added another warm and welcoming place for families to shop and celebrate," Orangeville Mayor Lisa Post enthused.

"I was so impressed by the incredibly diverse array of vendors, the overall energy of the event, and, most importantly, the generosity shown by the community to support the Orangeville Food Bank... Events like this one remind us what makes Orangeville so special."

HollyFest was free to attend, and instead of charging an admission fee, donations to the Orangeville Food Bank were encouraged at the door.

In the end, the food bank collected 1,131 pounds of food and over $3,300.

Carrie-Anne DeCaprio, donor engagement and community outreach manager at the Orangeville Food Bank, told the Citizen she was impressed with the success of HollyFest and enjoyed having conversations with attendees about the important work being done at the food bank.

"HollyFest was great because when it opened on both days, there was a lineup out the door," she said. "I think for myself and the other vendors who were there, that just gives you an initial rush, goosebumps, and excitement that it's going to be a great day."

DeCaprio continued, "Then it just kept getting better and better, with Santa Claus wandering around, the Grinch wandering around, and getting to see all the different artisans and crafters. It's just amazing to see what the people in our community had on display and what they bring to the table."

"It was a beautiful event, and I really look forward to it next year," she smiled.

The Orangeville-based 1849 Lorne Scots Royal Canadian Army Cadets directed traffic through the parking lot, and Dufferin DJs played Christmas music for the duration of HollyFest.

"HollyFest Christmas market was truly magical this year — huge crowds came out to support us, the weekend was full of festive energy, and we were able to contribute to such a great cause in our community," said Janine Taylor, HollyFest event manager. "Thanks to our incredible vendors, whose talent and heart made the market sparkle brighter than we could have imagined."

HollyFest Event Director Doug Rowe said he's thrilled with the community support he witnessed over the weekend.

"What an amazing community," he said. "Thank you to everyone who stopped by and supported the event. Whether you shopped the vendors, dropped off a donation for the food bank, or just chatted with us at the Orangeville Citizen booth, we are grateful to everyone who checked out HollyFest."

Rowe added, "We look forward to hosting it again in 2026."

Gentle Density Community Improvement Plan Area Designation bylaw returns to Council through Strong Mayor powers

Continued from FRONT

The Gentle Density CIP is stated to accelerate gentle intensification to expand the housing range and supply within Caledon.

At the September 23 Council meeting, a motion was brought forward and carried that Council enact the Gentle Density CIP Area Designation By-law.

Then, at the October 28 meeting, By-law 2025-088 was brought forward to enact the Town-Wide Gentle Density Community Improvement Plan, and this was defeated on a tie vote.

The Gentle Density CIP Area Designation By-law was added to the November 25 Council meeting agenda by Mayor Annette Groves under the authority of the Municipal Act section 284.10, or "Strong Mayor Powers".

The Mayoral Decision, posted on November 21, 2025, states "to require Council to consider a particular matter that could potentially advance a prescribed provincial priority."

In the decision, it reads that the Gentle Density CIP Area Designation By-law is required to be enacted to meet Federal Government Housing Accelerator Fund commitments previously made by the Town of Caledon.

It goes on to state that By-law 2025-088, to enact a Town-Wide Gentle Density Community Improvement Plan, was defeated by Council "without all its members present at the time of the vote, or a majority of its members voting in the negative, at the October 28, 2025 meeting, resulting in the will of Council to conflict with their prior decision to enact the Gentle Density CIP Area Designation By-law..."

The Mayoral Decision states that the Town of Caledon's Procedure By-law provides that the majority of members have the right to decide, and also requires an affirmative two-thirds vote to reconsider a previous decision of Council at a subsequent meeting.

In the Mayoral Decision, Groves states that she "deeply values the democratic principles of majority rule and [is] of the opinion the Gentle Density CIP Area Designation By-law could potentially advance the prescribed provincial priority of building 1.5 million new residential units by December 31, 2031."

Under the Mayoral Decision, Council was required to reconsider the Gentle Density CIP Area Designation By-law at the November 25 Council meeting.

At the meeting, the By-law was carried by a vote of five in favour and three opposed, enacting the Gentle Density CIP Area Designation By-law.

Public Notice

Region of Peel
working with you

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE #3

Schedule C Class Environmental Assessment

Kennedy Road Sanitary Trunk Sewer Project

Background:

Peel is growing, and we want to ensure our community remains a great place to live, work and play. Peel's Flow | Central Brampton Program is advancing 30+ essential water and wastewater infrastructure projects, faster, throughout Brampton.

The province has committed to building 1.5 million more homes in Ontario over the next decade—with 113,000 in Brampton. These provincial housing targets have significantly increased the demand for water, wastewater and road infrastructure.

Flow | Central Brampton will meet these demands by combining more than 30 water and wastewater projects into one large-scale construction program across Brampton, including the Schedule C Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA) Study for the Kennedy Road Sanitary Trunk Sewer Project. This Project will help ensure sewage capacity requirements are met by 2051 to support growth in Peel Region. Refer to Figure 1 for Project Study area, including the recommended preferred route.

Process:

This study has been following the 2024 process for a Schedule "C" MCEA project, which includes:

- Indigenous community engagement and public and stakeholder consultation
- Background studies
- Development, evaluation, and selection of sewer route options, impact assessment and mitigation measures
- Development, evaluation, and selection of the preferred sewer construction methodology, including shaft locations

Public Information Centre #3

We invite you to join us for Public Information Centre #3, where we will present the results of the completed evaluation of construction methods and shaft locations, with opportunities to provide feedback and ask questions.

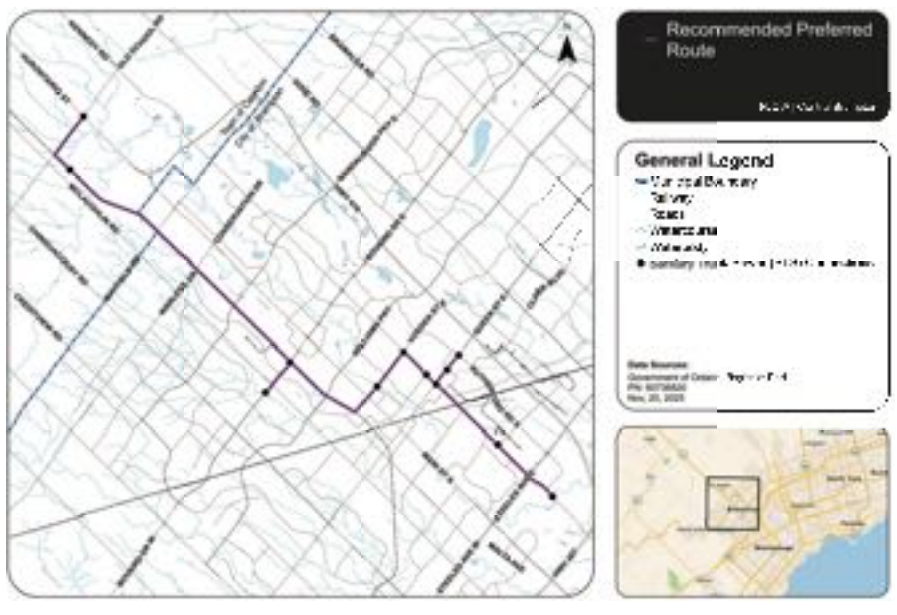
All materials will be posted online, including a survey open until January 5, 2026.

- **When:** Thursday, December 11, 2025, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- **Where:** Paul Palleschi Recreation Centre (30 Loafers Lake Lane, Brampton ON L6Z 1X9), Meeting Room 2

Once the study is complete, results will be published in an Environmental Study Report (ESR) and will be made available for public review and comment.

We invite you to attend the Public Information Centre, review the materials posted on the Project website and respond to the survey.

Figure 1: Project study area and selected route



This notice was first issued on November 27, 2025

Contact the Team:

To be added to the mailing list or to receive further information about the study, please contact:

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Project Manager, Region of Peel
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Faranak Amirsalari, MES, MCIP, RPP
Environmental Planner, AECOM
Tel: 416-420-1286
Email: faranak.amirsalari@aecom.com

The Region of Peel is committed to ensuring that all Regional services, programs, and facilities are inclusive and accessible. Please contact the Project Manager if you need any accommodations to provide comments and/or feedback for this study.

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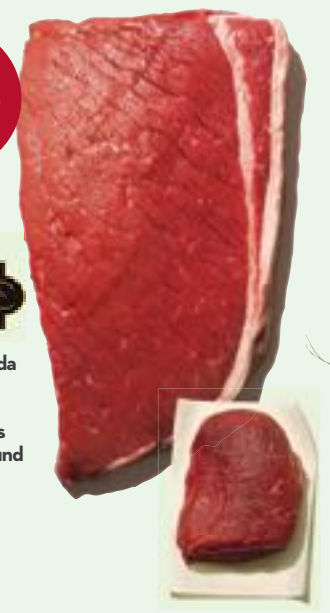
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Hall Wolfpack captures Metro Bowl by shellacking Chaminade College Gryphons 42-0 at Varsity Stadium



Wolfpack Team captains and Coaching Staff display their Metro Bowl trophy and pennant - more keepsakes for a Caledon team that is OFSSAA-bound after vanquishing all GTA opponents. PHOTO BY JIM STEWART

BY JIM STEWART

In optimal mid-November conditions at Varsity Stadium, the ROPSSAA champion Hall Wolfpack whooped the Chaminade College Gryphons 42-0 to capture the GTA's Tier 1 Senior Football championship.

Hall's 42-point victory at the 40th Metro Bowl on Wednesday afternoon was a shock and awe performance for the ages.

After the Wolfpack D stuffed the Gryphons' vaunted I-formation, triple option running game on Chaminade's crucial first possession, Hall's first turn with the football foreshadowed a very long day for the Toronto champs.

Speedy defensive back and returner Owen Kenney picked up the punted pigskin on his 25-yard line, picked up a few key blocks as he crossed midfield, and it was off to the races down the right sideline – all the way into the end zone. Kenney's 85-yard punt return for a touchdown was a perfect start for the Green and Yellow-clad warriors from Caledon which turned the tables on their traditionally quick-starting opponents.

Head Coach Jonathan Beresford explained his team's game plan versus the Gryphons: "The real focus point for us was that Chaminade scored on their first time with the ball in their last four games. I saw them as a team that thrived on early leads and then they'd wear down the other teams with the Veer Triple Option—a very old school, double wing offense. That was the key to the game – to limit #99 – Malike Ocloo's yardage. We stacked the box and took away long gains by 99, 3 [halfback Isreal Ayorinde], or 0 [quarterback Matteo Pagliaroli]."

On cue, the Wolfpack flipped the script on the Gryphons with Kenney's dramatic TD and Eric Rizzardo kicked the convert. Hall led 7-0 before most of the fans were settled in on the sun-drenched bleachers.

After a 50-yard single by Adam Lackey put the Wolfpack up 8-0 with 4:03 left in the first quarter, Metro Bowl MVP Aiden Alcarez made his presence known.

The intense Hall defensive corps forced a fumble on a gang-tackling mission to contain Pagliaroli. The agile Alcarez scooped up the ball and sprinted 25 yards into the end zone. Coach Beresford praised his linebacker's MVP performance.

"His scoop and score was one of the highlights of the game. He was taking on two blockers all day and focused on containing their quarterback from making big gains. He led the defense that just kept the mass moving against their offensive line. Aiden used the same tackling leverage and angles we've taught all year to knock down bigger opponents. He's also overcome a tough life in Mexico and we've taken him under our wing. This football team has kept him accountable and he's overcome so much personal adversity to be the MVP today."

Due to Alcarez's early heroics and another convert by Rizzardo, the Peel champs led the Toronto champs 15-0 with 2:21 left in the opening frame.

Early in the second quarter, the Gryphons' punishing offence was gifted with great field condition due to a series of penalties and a shanked punt that put the ball on Hall's 24 yard line.

Ocloo rumbled for a 13-yard gain to the 11 but the Wolfpack D stepped up again with two big plays to repel the Gryphons.

Defensive back Angelo Garofalo made a big open field tackle to stifle another veering sweep and Trey Robinson intercepted Pagilaroli's pass in the end zone to send the Gryphons' offence back to the bench empty-handed. After the three-minute warning, the Hall D forced another fumble on their own 27-yard line.

The Wolfpack offence caught stride—balancing the run and pass game—early in the second half. With 7:20 remaining in the third quarter, Hall quarterback Joseph Ferlito found wide receiver Lucas Macklem at the back of the end zone to boost the Caledon club's lead to 21-0.

When Rizzardo kicked his third convert of the game, the Wolfpack held a 22-point advantage over their adversaries from Toronto.

After Hall's D stopped the Chaminade run game in its tracks for the umpteenth time at Varsity, Hall punt returner Kymani Stanley caught the ball near the sideline of the Gryphons' 50-yard line, and sped down the left side of the field to deliver the knockout punch. Hall's second punt return for a TD – this time a 50-yarder – augmented their lead to four-converted touchdowns. Rizzardo's convert made it 29-0 with 5:07 left in the one-sided championship game.

Coach Beresford commented on the two punts that were returned for dramatic touchdowns by Kenney and Stanley: "We have a wall return play and we start practice with it to stress the importance of special teams. We're looking to score off this play and take pride in scoring on punt and kick returns. We're lucky to have two dynamic return players—Owen Kenney and Kymani Stanley—that are both sprinters who have transferred their track skills to the football field. Speed kills in Canadian football. As the kids say, 'We took two to the crib.'"

It was lights out for the Gryphons when durable running back Lucas Carson-Pedri barged his way into the end zone from five yards out to put Hall up by 35-0 on the last play of the third quarter. Another convert from the reliable Rizzardo and the Wolfpack was 12 minutes away from a Metro Bowl title with an insurmountable 36-point lead.

Wolfpack backup running back Avery Benn closed the scoring on a tush-push play by his burly offensive linemen who impelled their younger teammate into the end zone on a third and goal with 2:03 left to make it 41-0. Rizzardo's sixth convert of the game provided the emphatic margin of victory.

Coach Beresford took a trip down memory lane to contextualize the celebration at Varsity: "I grew up next door to Iona in Clarkson. They won the 1996 Metro Bowl and I thought how lucky they were to be champions. Thirty years later, I'm the head of a great football team. That trophy means something to me. It's a prestigious trophy—one of the best in Canada. To hold it above your head—it really is surreal."

Potts' two-goal performance leads Golden Hawks to 5-3 win over Cougars

BY JIM STEWART

Kieran Potts scored two goals to spur the Caledon Golden Hawks to a tidy 5-3 win over the Schomberg Cougars at the Mayfield Recreation Complex on Sunday afternoon. It was Caledon's first win of the season after eighteen consecutive losses.

The sixth-place Cougars were poised for a weekend sweep in Caledon after shutting out the third-place Eagles 3-0 in Clarington on Saturday.

However, the feisty Golden Hawks put up much resistance and the two East Orr Division rivals battled to a scoreless first period. Playing their best game of the season, the Golden Hawks established a commanding 3-0 second period lead on goals by Kieran Potts, Carson Mussell, and Gabriel Scandanaro.

Potts opened the scoring at 9:53 the end a period and a half of scoreless hockey.

Less than five minutes later, Mussell made it 2-0 for Caledon.

Twenty-nine seconds after Mussell's marker, Scandanaro beat Cougars' netminder Rafael Defina to give the Golden Hawks a three-goal lead and end Defina's day between the pipes. Defina shut out the Clarington Eagles on Saturday in a spectacular 33-save performance, but the acrobatic tender was swapped out for Ryan Potvin during the middle frame after giving up three goals on sixteen shots.

The goalie substitution shifted some momentum towards the Cougars when Samuel Lamy's power play goal got Schomberg on the scoreboard at 16:59 of the middle frame. Mason Bondy and Brandon Petrov earned assists on Lamy's ninth of the season.

The Cougars pulled to within one of their hosts when Neil Amor Steinberg scored at 1:39 of the third period with helpers from Bondy and Matthew Lychek.

Five minutes later, however, Caledon defender Liam Noonan kiboshed any Cougar comeback by firing the game-winning goal past Potvin.

Potts opened the scoring for his club and he closed it on Sunday afternoon when he tallied his second goal of the game at 17:15 on the power play to make it 5-2.

Schomberg responded with a power play goal of their own when Will Stratos beat Max Zemp with 1:18 left on the clock to narrow his club's deficit to 5-3, but that was as close as the Cougars could get on a triumphant afternoon for the Golden Hawks at the Mayfield Recreation Complex.

Max Zemp turned aside 38 of the 41 shots he faced to earn Caledon's first win of the PJHL season.

The sixth-place Cougars fell to 6-14-1-0 with the loss and the seventh-place Golden Hawks improved to 1-18-0-0 with the home ice victory.

The significance of the Golden Hawks' victory was even more evident in that Caledon remains ranked 61st in the 61-team PJHL with two points, one less than the 60th-ranked Walpole Island Wild which sports a 1-22-1-0 record. Schomberg—a contending playoff team for the past five seasons in both the North Carruthers Division and the East Orr Division—has slipped to 52nd in the Junior C loop as it struggles through an arduous rebuild.





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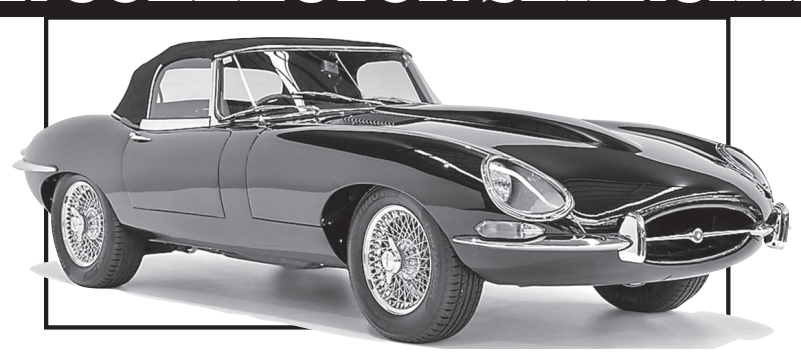


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OBITUARIES

WILLIAM (BILL) CHARLES MCKAY

On Sunday, November 9, 2025, at Mississauga Hospital, Bill passed away at the age of 48 years, surrounded by love with his best friend and wife, Michelle by his side. Loving and devoted dad of Mason Charles and Emmett William. Dear son of Dianne and Ken McKay. Cherished brother of Linda and Adam Fewster, Margaret and Bernard Patterson, Katherine and Jim Obando. Fondly remembered by many nieces and nephews. The family will receive their friends at the Egan Funeral Home, 203 Queen St. S. (Hwy. 50), Bolton (905-857-2213) on Saturday, November 29 for a Celebration of Life from 1:00 – 5:00 o'clock. If desired, memorial donations may be made to SickKids (kindly request donations are specifically directed to the cardiac unit) (sickkidsfoundation.com). Condolences for the family may be offered at www.EganFuneralHome.com



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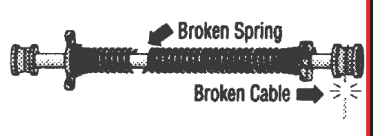
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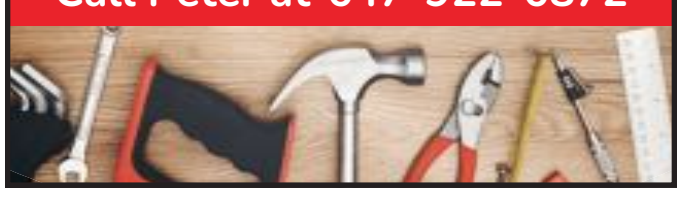
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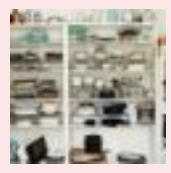
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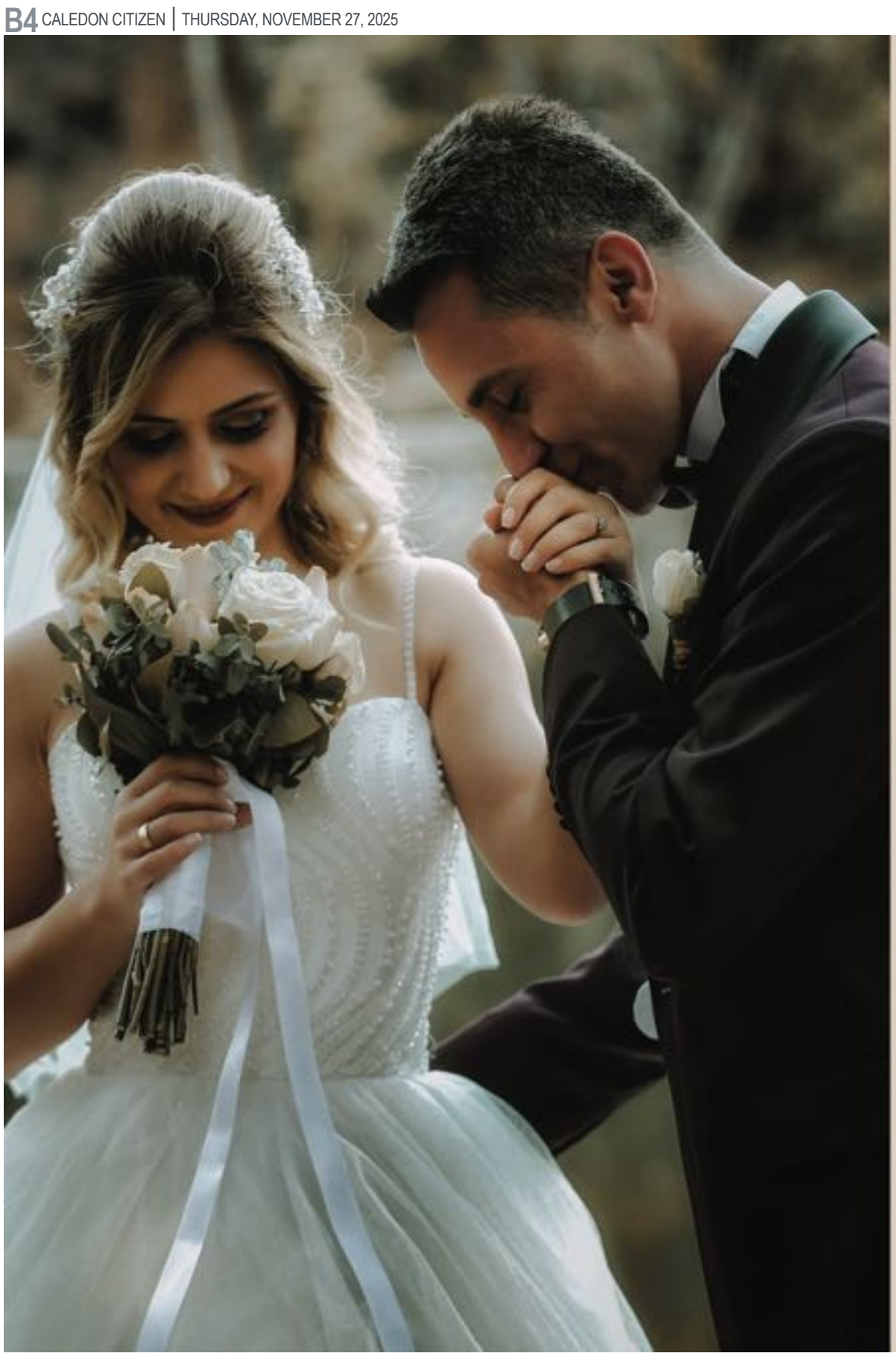


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