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FREE Thursday, April 25, 2024 Volume 44, Issue 18



Caledon Mayor Annette Groves speaks to residents at Democracy Caledon's April 17 meeting.

PHOTO BY ZACHARY ROMAN

## Strong Mayor powers, zoning bylaws questioned at packed Democracy Caledon meeting

BY ZACHARY ROMAN  
LOCAL JOURNALISM  
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Caledon residents against the use of strong mayor powers made their voices heard at a recent community meeting.

On April 17, a newly-formed group of concerned Caledon residents, Democracy Caledon, hosted a community meeting at St. James Anglican Church in Caledon East.

Democracy Caledon held the meeting as it was concerned with Caledon Mayor Annette Groves' March 26 decision, made using Strong Mayor powers, to advance zoning bylaws for 12

development applications slated to bring 35,000 housing units to Caledon over time.

The Town is hosting a public meeting about the 12 applications at 7 p.m. today (April 25) at Caledon Town Hall in Caledon East. The applications will be coming to Caledon Council's April 30 meeting, where they can be approved if one-third of Councillors support Groves' decision.

Town of Caledon staff said Groves' decision is expected to expedite planning procedures by one to two years for the 12 development applications, which are generally in the areas of Mayfield West, Tullamore, Alloa, Wildfield and

Bolton.

Democracy Caledon volunteer Debbe Crandall was first to speak at the April 17 meeting.

"This thing called Strong Mayor powers has dramatically put the public on the sidelines of land-use planning decisions," said Crandall. "Mayor Groves has set in motion a very dangerous precedent."

She said it's unfair to the public that only one public meeting was planned to discuss 12 massive zoning bylaws with a huge impact on Caledon's future.

Continued on Page A8

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**Shining Through:  
Caledon woman's book made to inspire**

BY ZACHARY ROMAN  
LOCAL JOURNALISM  
INITIATIVE REPORTER

A Caledon woman has written a book about her journey as a mom with a daughter with special needs.

Liana Cancian recently released "Shining Through" at an April 16 launch event at The Exchange in Bolton.

Cancian and her husband have four children. Their 17-year-old daughter, Olivia, has a rare genetic seizure disorder and lives through having seizures every day.

"The book is about her life... from when she was born to getting the diagnosis and then all the things we have experienced," said Cancian.

Cancian and her family have tried so many different things to help treat her daughter's seizures — sadly, nothing has been successful.

Continued on Page A4

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# Hike for Bethell Hospice happening May 5 with \$245K fundraising goal

BY ZACHARY ROMAN  
LOCAL JOURNALISM  
INITIATIVE REPORTER

One of Caledon's largest fundraising events is coming soon.

On Sunday, May 5, the annual Hike for Bethell Hospice will take place in Inglewood, starting at the Lloyd Wilson Centennial Arena.

It will be the fourteenth iteration of the hike, which is held each year amid National Hospice & Palliative Care Week.

"The hike is a signature event for the Bethell Hospice Foundation (BHF), raising awareness and funds for palliative care in our community," said BHF Senior Manager of Marketing and Communications Kelly Stronach.

The goal of this year's hike is to raise \$245,000 through a combination of pledg-



Over 400 people participated in the 2023 Hike for Bethell Hospice.

PHOTO COURTESY OF BTHELL HOSPICE

**Question:** My father passed away recently without a Will. I am the oldest child and therefore I believe that his estate goes to me as the eldest child. Can I assume ownership of the estate property after I pay the estate expenses?

**Answer:** You are referring to a custom called primogeniture where the right of succession belongs to the oldest living child of the deceased. This custom is outdated and does not play a role in modern Canadian estate law. Since your father passed away without a Will, he passed away intestate. The result of an intestacy is that there are no gifts, and after paying the expenses of the estate, the property is divided according to marriage and blood relations, or consanguinity. If your father was married, and his wife is still alive, she is entitled to the first \$350,000 of the estate. This allocation is referred to as the preferential share. The remaining estate property is divided equally among your father's wife and his biological children. As mentioned earlier, there are no gifts in an intestacy so any property of the estate is liquidated (sold) and the net proceeds are divided. Only if all the beneficiaries agree, can property be transferred directly to a beneficiary. There are other potential challenges to an estate, but primogeniture is not the basis for one. Even if a Will provides for it, such a Will may be challenged on the basis of unconscionability as against public policy.



If you have questions about an estate, as an executor or beneficiary, or have other estate related matters, give us a call to discuss how we can help. Enjoy your weekend.

**J. David Keith** Lawyer  
Email: [dkeith@lhlaw.ca](mailto:dkeith@lhlaw.ca)  
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This advice offered in this column is intended for information purposes only. Use of this column is not intended to replace or substitute and professional, financial, medical, legal, or other professional advice.

es, sponsorships and donations. Funds raised through the hike ensure that the hospice and palliative care services at Bethell Hospice remain free to everyone.

Stronach shared the words of a 2023 hike participant: "Bethell Hospice is one of the services that really helps people who are in their final few weeks. We thought the hike was a great way to help raise funds needed by the hospice."

Registration for this year's hike opens at 8 a.m. at Lloyd Wilson Centennial Arena. An opening ceremony with remarks will take place at 9 a.m. and then the hike itself will begin. Hikers will take a short walk up to the Caledon Trailway, an accessible and beautiful location for the hike. It will be five kilometres in length and when it's finished, hikers can enjoy a post-hike lunch sponsored by Palgrave Rotary and Maple Lodge Farms.

Each year, many people undertake the hike while remembering friends and family members who were residents at Bethell Hospice.

There is no cost to register for this year's hike, though hikers are encouraged to pre-register at [hikeforbethellhospice.ca](http://hikeforbethellhospice.ca) and gather pledges of support by fundraising.

Stronach said Bethell Hospice is the

only residential hospice serving Caledon, Brampton, and Dufferin County. She shared it also provides community programs like support groups, one-on-one counselling, art and music therapy and more.

Stronach said the BHF wants to give thanks to the many platinum-level sponsors supporting the hike: Access Storage; Benson Steel; Brampton Funeral Home & Cemetery/Scott Funeral Home — Brampton Chapel; Egan Funeral Home; Fines Ford Lincoln; Meadowvale Cemetery, Cremation and Funeral Centres; Rotary Club of Brampton; and the Town of Caledon.

There are many Gold, Silver, Bronze, matching gift and route sponsors supporting the hike, too.

Last year, the hike raised over \$224,000 and over 400 people participated in it. The BHF hopes to break both of those records this year, and the community is well on track as enthusiastic hike participants have so far raised nearly \$145,000.

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# Town of Caledon receives award for Diwali drone show



Hunar Kahlon, a volunteer with the CSAA, said as there's a significant number of South Asians in Caledon, something was needed to celebrate Diwali in Caledon. "It's a good way to tell other... municipalities around us we can still celebrate our festivals in an environmentally friendly way," he said.

Town of Caledon employees Giuliana Giacotta and Jason Schildroth, middle, accepted Parks and Recreation Ontario's Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility award on behalf of the Town of Caledon.

TOWN OF CALEDON PHOTO

**REMEMBER TO SHOP LOCALLY!**

## Show was held last November to celebrate the festival of lights

BY ZACHARY ROMAN  
LOCAL JOURNALISM  
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Town of Caledon staff have won an award for a unique community event held last year.

On April 19, the Town of Caledon announced its staff had received the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility Award from Parks and Recreation Ontario for its Diwali drone show.

The show was held last November in Southfields Village to celebrate Diwali, the festival of lights.

Town staff partnered with the Caledon South Asian Association (CSAA) — a local non-profit whose goal is to increase South Asian cultural awareness and help facilitate access to resources and services that South Asians in Caledon are most in need of — to host the event.

Parks and Recreation Ontario is a non-profit association with the goal of ad-

vancing the health, social and environmental benefits of quality recreation through evidence-based practices, resources and collaborative partnerships.

The drone show came to Caledon as there was a need to celebrate Diwali while respecting Caledon's fireworks ban.

Catherine McLean, Caledon's Commissioner of Community and Human Services, said the drone show exemplifies Caledon's commitment to fostering a vibrant and inclusive community.

Jason Schildroth, Caledon's Manager of Recreation and Culture, said there was a huge opportunity to host a unique event in Southfields with the drone show.

"It presented a neat opportunity for us to take a look at our community events, how we operate them, and try something different," said Schildroth.

Giuliana Giacotta, Manager of Community Projects for the Town of Caledon, said the partnership with the CSAA was a great one.

"We worked for months to make sure the drone show would be easily accessible for everyone to attend," said Giacotta. "We brought together different partners to make it happen and ensure everyone was able to attend and have fun over Diwali."

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# ARTS & CULTURE



## Cancian shares her life as a mom of a child with a rare genetic seizure disorder

Continued from FRONT

A major theme in Cancian's book is learning to accept the unacceptable and balancing gratitude and grief. At her book launch, Cancian spoke a lot about coexisting with grief and finding silver linings in glimmers of hope.

"For Olivia, it's nature. When she's outside in nature she shines through and becomes happier," said Cancian. "When she's with the right caregiver, she radiates. Music is also big

for her, music is a gateway to her happiness."

Olivia's eyes are something that people have always noticed, said Cancian.

"Every teacher that's ever worked with her, every therapist... has always said her eyes are the gateway to her soul," she said. "It's our way of seeing how she really feels."

Cancian said one of the most rewarding parts of sharing her and her family's story is that she's hearing people become inspired by it.

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Liana Cancian recently launched her book, "Shining Through", on April 16 at The Exchange in Bolton. **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**

"It's about hope... putting one foot in front of the other and moving forward, hoping for a better tomorrow," said Cancian.

The cover of Cancian's book was designed by her 11-year-old daughter, Lauren. The cover features a picture of a brain — one half of which is grey, the other which is illuminated in a rainbow of colour. Symbols in the cover art relate to the many different experiences in Olivia's life. The grey side represents all the struggles Olivia and her family have been through, while the rainbow-coloured side represents all of the beautiful and amazing moments they have shared.

The brain is held by hands, which represent all of the people that have worked with and supported Olivia and her family. The cover also features a butterfly, which symbolizes Cancian's wish for her daughter to live a life free from seizures.

Cancian has always loved writing. She keeps a journal and has always enjoyed writing poems and letters to her family. Until *Shining Through*, however, she had never

written a book. She decided to write her book to inspire other families in similar situations to keep moving forward. Another reason Cancian wrote her book was to leave a legacy for her children, sharing what her parenting journey is like and giving them inspiration.

Cancian decided to host her book launch at The Exchange as she's a long-time Caledon Community Services (CCS) volunteer and she used to be a CCS employee. She said the launch was a full house, with many friends, family, caregivers and more attending.

"It was very exhilarating and at the same time terrifying," said Cancian, adding that she really enjoyed talking with people at the event.

Cancian said she wanted to thank her publisher, Andrea Seydel, who played a big role in bringing her book to life.

Cancian's book is available online on Amazon and locally at Forster's Book Garden in Bolton. A portion of all the sales from Cancian's book launch on April 16 went to CCS' Kidz in Caledon initiative.

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## "Choice and Chance": Abstract painting and mixed media exhibition opening soon

Opening reception set for April 27 at Alton Mill Arts Centre

BY ZACHARY ROMAN  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Choice and chance combine in a creative new exhibition opening soon at the Alton Mill Arts Centre.

From 1 to 3 p.m. on April 27, there will be an opening reception for "Choice and Chance", an art exhibition by Nancy MacNabb and Patrice Baker. MacNabb and Baker are both members of Headwaters Arts, which is hosting the show in its gallery at the centre.

Baker is a collector who finds inspiration in everything for her art. She's known for hand-making bronze and copper constructions that hold or compliment objects she finds.

"Any material is fair game, and my final work is a wall piece or shelf box that invites the viewer to step forward and look deeply into the complexities hidden within," said Baker, who works out of a studio in Fergus.

MacNabb is a retired physician who lives in Guelph. She's known for abstract paintings made with acrylic paint that are filled with colour and movement; portraying cohesion in complexity. In her work, MacNabb aims to present small stories through vibrant colours and dynamic markings.

"Thinking and feeling meet in my art, and my artistic journey has been one of experimental learning, moving from intellectual to intuition, and discovering middle ground," said MacNabb.

Sue Powell, Headwaters Arts' marketing lead, explained the new exhibition features over 80 works. She said they explore the concept of bringing order to chaos amidst the wildness of life.

"Both artists wrestle with the obstacle of control in being creative, yet they ride the waves and ultimately enjoy the joy of the journey," said Powell. "That joy is the goal of these two artists and their abstract artworks come into existence by both choice and chance."

Choice and Chance will be shown from April 24 to May 26 at the Alton Mill Arts Centre, which is located at 1402 Queen St. West in Alton.



# Dufferin–Caledon MP Kyle Seeback critical of spending in 2024 Budget

BY SAM ODROWSKI

The Liberal Government of Canada announced its 2024 Budget on April 16 with \$535 billion in total spending and a nearly \$40 billion deficit.

Over the next five years, the budget projects \$52.9 billion in new spending, \$8.5 billion of which is aimed at addressing Canada's housing affordability crisis.

A key component of the 2024 Budget is the Canada Housing Plan, which looks to unlock nearly 3.9 million homes by 2031. The Liberal Government says this can be accomplished through converting underused federal offices into homes, building houses on Canada Post properties, redeveloping properties and buildings on National defence lands, and building apartments with a \$15 billion to up to the Apartment Construction Loan Program. Other measures will give cities more tools for housing construction, make investments in rent-to-own properties, improve flexibility in the First Time Home Buyer Incentive program and help with down payments through the tax-free First Home Savings Account.

Dufferin–Caledon MP Kyle Seeback didn't mince words when sharing his reaction to the budget in an interview with the Citizen on April 19.

"I think it's a terrible budget," he said. "We're now in the ninth year of massive budget deficits that Justin Trudeau has spent. He has more than doubled the national debt now."

"At a time where the current governor of the Bank of Canada is trying to get interest rates down, Justin Trudeau has now poured another 40 plus billion dollars of inflationary government spending onto the inflationary fire."

Seeback said the deficit spending in the 2024 Budget will make it harder for the Bank of Canada to lower interest rates, further worsening the housing crisis. The prime lending rate currently sits at 7.2 per cent.

The Liberal Government says its budget is delivering on plans to make life more affordable for Canadians while growing the economy and creating good middle-class jobs, but Seeback told the Citizen it's doing the exact opposite.

"None of it's worked so far. You're paying more for groceries, more to fill up your car, more to heat your home," he said. "We have the worst affordability crisis we've seen in several

decades in Canada. Part of that problem is that so much of what's been spent is just to serve the federal government, which has increased in size by 48 per cent."

He added, "The spending is not helping Canadians, what it is doing is causing the inflationary crisis we have."

A primary source of inflation is money printing – pumping the economy with additional dollars to cover deficit spending. Inflation acts as a hidden tax, as the government can cover additional expenses by creating new money, instead of new taxes, which devalues the currency. Those who own properties and assets benefit from inflation as their holdings climb in value, while those living paycheck to paycheck, who own no assets, have less purchasing power to cover their daily expenses.

"Inflation actually is the most insidious thing. It hollows out the middle class because they're the ones least able to deal with inflation," said Seeback. "The rich 100 per cent benefit from the inflation of assets, and working people are the ones who are the most hurt in an environment like this."

A key contributor to inflation, according to Seeback, is the Carbon Tax.

"We have to axe the Carbon Tax, because when you think of the layers of the carbon tax that go throughout the economy, it's costing Canadians a fortune," said Seeback. "The farmer pays a carbon tax, the trucker that picks up the product pays a carbon tax, takes it to a processor, the processor pays a carbon tax. Then when a truck picks it up from the processor, that trucker pays a carbon tax, and the grocery store pays a carbon tax to heat the premises."

This results in massive food inflation, according to Seeback, as increased costs posed by the carbon tax are passed onto the consumer.

"The Parliamentary Budget Officer's (PBO) made it clear that most Canadians are worse off when you factor in the economic impact of the carbon tax plus the tax itself," said Seeback, citing the PBO's updated analysis of the impact of the federal fuel charge on households

However, when asked about the program, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau points to the PBO's report from 2019 that states eight out of 10 families get more money back through the Carbon Tax Rebate than they pay into the program.

But Seeback said this report doesn't consider

how the Carbon Tax impacts the economy and increases everyday costs for Canadians.

"The carbon tax doesn't operate in a vacuum," he said. "When [the PBO] factored in how much the carbon tax affects the economy and the carbon tax, people paid, take off the rebate, and most families are worse off."

A report released by the Parliamentary Budget Officer on March 30, 2023, says "most households will see a net loss," when factoring in the Carbon Tax's impact on the economy overall.

The amount of money the federal government has spent on consultants was another area of concern for Seeback.

Since Trudeau took office in 2015, the Liberal Government has more than doubled the amount it spends on consultants each year.

Seeback recommends slashing that budget in half, which would amount to almost \$10 billion in savings, as he argues a lot of the consulting work that's being outsourced could be done internally by government employees.

Aside from the Conservative Party of Canada, Seeback said there's been no shortage of criticism for the Liberal's 2024 Budget.

He referenced comments made by former Bank of Canada governor David Dodge who said the 2024 Budget was "likely to be the worst" in decades after seeing spending announcements a couple of days before the 2024 Budget was officially presented.

Dodge revised his comments after the budget was released on April 16 to say it's "certainly a bad one," as he's concerned with how new measures will move Canada in the wrong direction for raising incomes.

Investment and innovation could be curbed for young people setting up new businesses as they will take in less money through the government's new changes to the Capital Gains Tax.

Capital gains have risen from 50 to 66.7 per cent for all corporations and trusts. Individuals will see the same increase, but only concerning the portion of capital gains realized annually that exceed \$250,000.

Dodge said while the change is small, it will have an impact.

"It is not massive... but it hits precisely the folks that are trying to raise the income of Canadians by investing and taking chances in new innovation," said Dodge in a CTV interview on April 18.

Looking at future interest rate cuts, Dodge said the size of this year's provincial and federal budgets won't help as they're creating additional demand in the short term in areas and markets where supply is already tight.

An area of the budget Seeback would have liked to see additional funding for is the federal disability benefit, which starts in July 2025.

A little over \$6 billion has been earmarked over the next six years, falling short of what many disability advocates were looking for. The Canadian Disability Benefit (CDB) was first announced during the Liberal Government's Speech from the Throne in September 2020, when they promised a program modelled after the Guaranteed Income Support (GIS), which costs the treasury roughly \$16 billion per year.

Defend Disability, an advocacy group for people with disabilities, said the new benefit "will do next to nothing to alleviate poverty" as it is capped at a spending of \$1.6 billion annually.

"People with disabilities were really looking for the government to step up in this budget, and what they've offered works out to be a maximum \$200 a month, which is far short of what people with disabilities need," said Seeback.

Member of Defend Disability Andrea Hatala said the \$200 more per month will leave her living in "deep poverty" and requiring "meal programs and food banks" to make it through each month.

A vote on the 2024 Budget will happen in the coming weeks, which Seeback said the Conservative Party will oppose.

"We'll be voting against the budget because they're not meeting our demands, which include axing the tax and balancing the budget," he said.

However, Seeback does anticipate the budget will pass with the support of the NDP when a vote is called.

He said while NDP Leader Jagmeet Singh has recently wavered on his support for the Carbon Tax, he anticipates he will vote to approve the budget to help him remain in his position until October of 2025 when he qualifies for his MP pension.

Seeback said it's time for a "carbon tax election" and let Canadians decide if the policy should be kept in place.



NEWS

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## Calling all Studios!



**CULTURE DAYS**

The Town of Caledon is launching their inaugural Culture Days Studio Tour on September 21 and 22, 2024. Applications are invited from Caledon artists and craftspeople with an established studio within the borders of Caledon. This is not a juried tour but an opportunity to showcase your studio and artwork as part of the Town's Culture Days programming.

There is no fee to apply.

Studios must be available during the **Tour dates, September 21 & 22, 2024 from 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.**

Artists must be present in their studio for the duration of the tour and the artist must be prepared to demonstrate and/or discuss their work during the tour.

All mediums are acceptable.

For full requirements and to apply today, visit [caledon.ca/CultureDays](https://caledon.ca/CultureDays)

**RAIL to TRAIL**

Take the survey or attend an open house and let us know what you'd like to see on our newest trail.

[haveyoursaycaledon.ca/crt](https://haveyoursaycaledon.ca/crt)

Do you walk or cycle on Caledon's trailways? If yes, we want to hear from you! Help shape Caledon's newest trail by taking our survey and letting us know what you'd like to see. Visit [Haveyoursaycaledon.ca/CRT](https://Haveyoursaycaledon.ca/CRT) from April 22 - May 31 to participate!

Visit [caledon.ca/CRT](https://caledon.ca/CRT) for more information.

## NOTICE OF INTENTION

# Firearms By-law Amendment

**Date: May 7, 2024 General Committee Meeting at 2:30 p.m.**

The purpose of this Town-initiated amendment is to enhance public safety and better manage the use of firearms within Caledon.

The proposed changes aim to: Prohibit the use of any property for the following activities unless otherwise exempted in the by-law:

- Shooting Range
- Shooting Club
- Shooting Meet
- Target Shooting
- Organized Hunt

Contact  
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## Interim Property Taxes are Due

Property tax due date is **Thursday, May 2, 2024.**

Regular late payment fees apply.

For payment options visit: [caledon.ca/tax](https://caledon.ca/tax).



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BROCK WEIR  
BROCK'S BANTER

## Brightening the gloom

I've never been asked to complete a Proust questionnaire – you know, one of those surveys of the great and good that typically lands near the back of each month's edition of Vanity Fair magazine.

Popularized by French novelist Marcel Proust, it's often been used as a quick and concise way to get to know someone. Think of it as one of our earliest of the dreaded "ice-breaker" activities that few have come to love! But, all in all, it's effective and can indeed shed light on what truly makes a person tick.

Among the 20-odd questions that form the basis of the questionnaire popularized by French novelist Marcel Proust, are:

1. What is your idea of perfect happiness?
2. What is your greatest fear?
3. What is the trait you most deplore in yourself?
4. What is the trait you most deplore in others?
5. Which living person do you most admire?
6. What is your greatest extravagance?
7. What do you consider the most overrated virtue?
8. What do you most dislike about your appearance?
9. Which living person do you most despise?
10. Which words or phrases do you most overuse?
11. When and where were you happiest?
12. Which talent would you most like to have?
13. If you could change one thing about yourself, where would it be?
14. What do you consider your greatest achievement?
15. If you were to die and come back as a person or a thing, what would it be?
16. Where would you most like to live?
17. What is your most treasured possession?
18. Which historical figure do you most identify with?
19. Who are your heroes in real life?
20. What is your greatest regret?

It's a pretty comprehensive list, but I find any time I attempt to mentally tackle the questions, my answers are almost never the same. It often depends on my mood, experiences picked up since the last time answers were attempted, and even sometimes influenced by the time of year. Some questions are hard to answer at any given time, such as, "What talent would you most like to have?" That's often contingent on whatever hurdles I faced in any particular day.

Answers to three questions, however, often remain the same: #7 – What do you consider the most overrated virtue? Patience – if only because mine is usually in short supply, unfortunately; #4 – What trait do you most deplore in others? Hypocrisy. Oh, and the third? Well, the answer to Question #3 is the same as my answer to Question #4, but I hope that that particular trait exhibits itself only rarely.

Yet, unfortunately, I feel like I have inadvertently been indulging in that more frequently these days.

In this space, and indeed in my day-to-day life, I try to accentuate the positive. Anyone who read this column during the height of the Global Pandemic, for instance, probably got

sick of me grasping for silver linings amidst all that chaos, but, hey, somebody had to do it.

But lately, as much as I've been accentuating, I've been feeling gloomy about the state of the world.

We have wars raging in several parts of the globe, with reports coming out of those war zones increasingly dire with each passing day. We're grappling with the double-blow of rampant inflation and a housing crisis, both of which are working overtime to keep many of us from getting ahead in the world, despite our best efforts. We're seeing an environment where discourse over just about any subject is increasingly fraught with metaphorical landmines and rhetoric that, previously heated, is now scalding. We're living in a time where more and more people seem quicker to anger, keener to narrow their perspectives, and hungry to seek out validation for better and, all too often, for worse.

There are few silver linings to grasp there. Yet, last week our communities served up a wonderful tonic.

National Volunteer Week is a chance to highlight all those people who have stepped up to the plate to simply give their time to a cause close to their heart or foster the change they would like to see – and there's plenty of overlap here.

Here in the newsroom, it always brightens the day when we have the chance to shine a light on person or persons doing good in the community – whether it's the simple act of shovelling a driveway for someone who can't, or going all in and building the resource to establish a foundation where giving is specialized and can potentially take place in perpetuity.

Last Thursday, for instance, I had the privilege of attending a presentation ceremony for the 2024 Give Back Awards, an initiative of Magna International that presents scholarships to upcoming graduates in York Region recognizing not their academic prowess but rather the ways they have given back to their communities – whether within the school or much further afield.

This outstanding crop of 20 students have done some herculean lifting in the places they call home, tackling issues ranging from: food insecurity; to period poverty; to international philanthropy; to knowledge-sharing; to fostering invaluable – and sometimes intergenerational – human connections at the community, national and international levels; to just lending a hand wherever and whenever it is needed.

Therein was the silver lining: tireless people motivated to make that all-important difference.

As so many problems plague our world, these students have been propelled to step up and foster change wherever they see the need, and in many cases those needs go well beyond our borders.

The 20 students honoured last week is just a small sample of the countless individuals of all ages who are working overtime – often on their own time and dime – to build better communities. Having the privilege to learn of and cover all their accomplishments certainly helped lift the gloom I was feeling – and hopefully derailed future encounters with that unfortunate answer to Question #3.

To all of our volunteers, thank you for all that you do.



## Boomers have become wise "elders"

by Mark Pavilons



*"If future generations are to remember us more with gratitude than sorrow, we must achieve more than just the miracles of technology. We must also leave them a glimpse of the world as it was created, not just as it looked when we got through with it."* – Lyndon B. Johnson

Respect for our elders seems to be waning. When I was young, this was a given, an unwritten rule.

As we Baby Boomers age and wade into retirement, our accomplishments, and legacies should be recognized, not ignored.

Okay, I realize that respect has to be earned, but most of us born in the 1960s have become society's wise "elders."

Boomers are generally defined as those born between 1946 to 1964 and are often parents of Gen Xers and Millennials.

Some have referred to us as "The Elders." I kinda like it. Very catchy.

Elders, in Indigenous North American cultures, are repositories of cultural and philosophical knowledge within their tribal communities, as well as the transmitters of this storehouse of information.

They are regarded as living libraries, with information on a wide variety of practical, spiritual and ceremonial topics, including "basic beliefs and teachings, encouraging ... faith in the Great Spirit, the Creator."

And certain people in those communities are seen as being "ultimately qualified reservoirs."

I've been called a lot of things in my life, but reservoir was not one of them!

Elders emphasize listening and not asking why. Apparently, the Cree language doesn't even have a word for why.

A learner must sit quietly and patiently while the elder passes on his wisdom. Listening is considered to be very important.

This is key to every generation, every relationship, every human interaction.

A Native American is usually considered an Elder when they are above 60 to 65.

Elders are the heartbeat of their tribes. Their age and wisdom allow them to perceive clearly from a cultural perspective and understand deep truths about God and nature. It is of utmost importance that Elders be treated with respect and reverence.

Well, I don't like to brag, but yes, I am happy to be revered. If only this were true in our household.

Back to we Boomers, who grew up in the '70s and studied in the '80s.

We went out into the world in the '80s and '90s and likely settled down in the 2000s. It's said that we became wiser in the 2010s.

I never gave it much thought, but we lived in seven different decades, two centuries and two millennia.

We have evolved from the rotary dial phone to smart phones and video chats. We had slides and took our photos to be developed and printed. We also had vinyl records and record players. I am happy to note these are standing the test of the time and even making a comeback, just like our music.

When was the last time anyone wrote a letter? Yes, we did it, posted it and waited patiently for a response.

I had a black and white TV growing up and when we moved to Caledon, rabbit ears and a rotating antenna were our means of accessing the airwaves.

We rented video tapes and then DVDs and was sad when these places went by the wayside. During my career, we used floppy discs and made our way through every version of Mac computer.

We had a thermal fax machine and that high-pitched, dial-up computer transmission system. We lived through the swine flu, mad cow and SARS.

If we were lucky, we had a nice bike, perhaps roller skates and then inline roller blades.

We were literally thrown into the deep end to learn to swim. We were busy, out from sun up until the street lights came on. We were too busy to develop attitudes.

It could be said that our generation witnessed more than anyone else – from JFK to Trump; muscle cars to electric sedans; tie dye and bell bottoms to whatever is in style these days. I admit that I did own a pair of black leather pants.

Boomers are still willing and open to learning new things. We're still amenable to making major life changes when situations call for them, whether they involve work, relationships, where to live, romance, or spirituality.

Baby Boomers have been known for their creativity, in all forms. Research shows that creativity helps mid-lifers and older people stay engaged, feel good about themselves, and serves as a prime way for them to remain optimistic and excited about life.

We were encouraged to be ourselves. I am a leftie, and I remember my mom telling they wanted to get me to write with my right hand. My mom stood firm and would have none of that. She recognized my "uniqueness."

We embrace our wisdom and don't brag about it. But we're happy to share it with others and spin some tall tales.

A lot of people talk about spirituality and the Boomers are leading the charge. I remember very well "pyramid power" and having a home-made one under my bed to benefit from its power!

Today, I look for new avenues to explore and expand my understanding of the universe.

We've been brought up as being close-knit members of society and our communities. I miss the days when we knew and spoke with each and every neighbour on our street.

They say Boomers are keen on giving back and passing on the gene for volunteerism.

We've brought up our kids with this in mind and I remember raising donations for Kosovo; cheering when the Berlin Wall came down, and the arrival of the internet.

Yes, we "elders" experienced a great deal in our journeys. So many stories to tell and so many fond memories.

While we're often referred to as "old school" and our reminiscences as "nostalgic," we are wise beyond our years.

And perhaps the youngins in our midst would do well to sit, listen and learn. Any takers?

Submit your **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

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## Your grandson is in jail

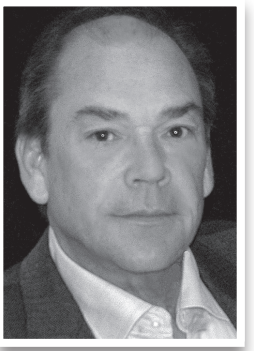
Some people have no soul. When you lock a door, it's for a reason – it's for honest people. An honest person, upon finding a locked door, will realize it's meant that they should not enter. A dishonest person will find a way to get past that lock. An honest person will come to your home, and admire that new gadget you purchased. A dishonest person will come to your home, and think of a way to steal it from you. Years ago, I worked with a guy of questionable virtue. He was an okay guy to work with but at the same time he had a kind of creepy vibe about him. One day near quitting time, I asked him if he had plans for the weekend. His reply was that he had to go out that night to steal a car battery because the one in his car had died. I suggested he go to Canadian Tire and buy one like any normal person would do. His response: "Why should I pay for one when I can get one for free?" I don't know whether he actually stole a bat-

tery and I didn't ask him. I did however, make sure to distance myself from him as if he couldn't be trusted around someone else's property, I didn't trust him at all. I'm pretty sure that guy has been in and out of jail several times over the years, and probably complains every time he is arrested – rather than just making an effort to live a quality life. Scams have always been a thing, but over the past decade, maybe a little longer, they have been taken to a new level. Much of the time, it doesn't take a lot to realize someone is trying to pull the wool over your eyes and steal your money. I received a call from a lawyer demanding funds for an imaginary fine be paid immediately, or the "FBI" would be paying me a visit, I laughed and said, "wrong country," and hung up. Recently I received an official call from Microsoft, informing me that my computer had been infected with a serious virus and I would need to let him take over my computer and pay a fee to have the virus removed. This guy I jerked around a little. I told me he was calling the maintenance shack

at the local golf course. I then pretended to follow his directions, having a little fun myself. Finally, I called him a few inappropriate names, and hung up. The problem is some of these scammers have taken things to a very sophisticated level. The "grandparent scam" is a particularly egregious method of trying to steal someone's money. The criminal calls an elderly person and poses as one of their grandchildren, telling them they have been arrested and need money for legal fees. Sometimes another person claiming to be someone in law enforcement gets on the phone, and says if a sum of money isn't paid immediately for legal reasons, the grandson will be heading off to jail. Many people have been victims of this scam. They pay the money because they are worried their, usually it's a grandson, is in serious trouble. It's thought many cases haven't been reported because some people are too embarrassed to admit they fell for it. What kind of creep would try to scam a senior citizen out of their hard earned life savings?

That's about as low as you can get. The OPP announced they have arrested 14 members of an organized gang that were targeting seniors with this grandparent scam. An arrest is not enough. It may temporarily stop this gang from operating, but other will step in and take over. Unless the courts start taking these cases seriously, it will continue. The information on the arrests does not say what charges were laid in the case, but presumably they are fraud related. The courts never seem to do much about fraud cases. A slap on the wrist and the criminals are free to roam. It is horrible that a person is fooled into giving up their life savings in a scam of this sort. The courts need to set a precedent and slam these 14 fools with some serious penalties and let others know that this will not be tolerated in our society.

### BRIAN LOCKHART FROM THE SECOND ROW



## Ukraine: The Outlook

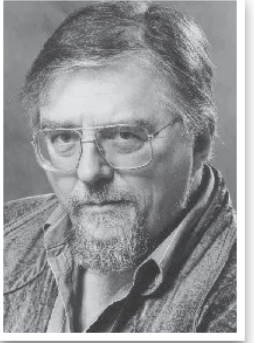
"I've said before, you do the right thing and you let the chips fall where they may," said Mike Johnson, the Speaker of the US House of Representatives. The chips being the ten- or twenty-thousand extra Ukrainians who died needlessly during the six months when the Republican Party blocked the sending of any more US military aid to Ukraine. To be fair, that's a fuzzy number. Neither side issues regular updates on military casualties, and Ukrainian civilian deaths from Russian bombs, shells and rockets are only about 11,000 in the past 26 months. However, Ukrainian military deaths have at least doubled since the US Congress stopped sending artillery shells and other weapons six months ago. To be even fairer, a significant number of Republican members of the House support Ukraine, and only a small number are actively pro-Russian. (The rest are simply isolationists or are cowed by Donald Trump, who does favour the Russians.) Johnson may lose his job for defying the hard-liners in his own party, but they cannot reverse Saturday's vote. The Senate has come back from recess to approve the amended House vote, which authorises \$61 billion in military aid to Ukraine. President Biden will sign the bill before the end of this week,

and the US armed forces claim that fresh supplies of 155 mm shells and other urgently needed kit will start reaching exhausted Ukrainian troops by next week. Is that soon enough to avert collapse? Probably, but it has been a very near-run thing. As the US-supplied munitions ran out, the Russians have been able to fire ten shells for every one expended by the Ukrainians – and since the fighting increasingly resembles First World War-style artillery duels with added electronics, that gave the Russians the upper hand. "We are trying to find some way not to retreat," said Ukraine's President Volodymyr recently, but in fact they are retreating. They lost Andriivka in February after holding the front line there for two years, and since then the Russians have advanced to the suburbs of Chasiv Yar, the last high ground held by the Ukrainians in Donetsk province. The Russians have been building up for a big June offensive, but they might launch it early in the hope of breaking through before the US arms arrive. That would probably be a mistake, however, because the rasputitsa ("mud season") that makes off-road movement by vehicles almost impossible is now often lasting into early May due to global warming.

So, if the renewed American military aid prevents a Russian victory at least until the end of 2024 – and if Donald Trump does not return as president next January – what are Ukraine's chances of surviving over the longer term as an independent country? If the analogy of the First World War is relevant, then the next step, for one side or the other, is military mutiny and/or political collapse. So far the analogy has held up quite well. A first few months of rapid movement (August 1914/ March 2022) is rapidly followed by a surprise shift into trench warfare and stalemate. This lasts for three years, punctuated by occasional big offensives that cause high casualties but gain little or no ground. And then, by mid-to-late 1917, the sheer futility of the war has undermined morale so badly that the armies start to mutiny or just collapse. The Russians leave the war entirely and have a revolution instead. The French and Italian armies mutiny and their officers dare not order any more offensives. The equivalent point on our 21st-century Ukraine War timeline would be early next year. True, the analogy is far from perfect, but that's a problem with all historical analogies. This war directly involves only two countries, not all the great

powers, but the experience of the soldiers is very similar – and it was the soldiers who mutinied in 1917, not the generals. Which side will collapse first this time around? Hard to say. There has already been one mutiny in the Russian forces. (Prigozhin's aborted putsch last June). He was duly killed for his presumption, but he came close enough to success to inspire others. Ukrainian morale has already taken a battering because of the capricious stop-and-start character of US military and financial aid, and Ukrainian soldiers will always face three-to-one odds or worse because of their country's smaller population. "Gallant little Ukraine," is a great slogan, but God (as Voltaire remarked) "is on the side of the Big Battalions." All that this analogy can tell us, therefore, is that the war is unlikely to be decided by a military victory for either side. It will probably be settled by which side's soldiers get sick of it first – and if you are not actually living amongst them, you cannot know how close either side is to that point.

### GWYNNE DYER OUR WORLD TODAY



## Canada moves closer to point of no return when it comes to our national debt

There's an old bit of wisdom courtesy of Ernest Hemingway that you go broke two ways: first gradually, then suddenly. With last week's federal budget, Canada is inching closer to the sudden phase of fiscal disaster. The Canadian government projects another five years of deficit spending and over a hundred billion dollars added to our already crushing debt. Worst of all, there is no end in sight to government borrowing, and no plan in place to repay that money. It reminds you of the old German proverb: "He who is quick to borrow is slow to pay." Last week's budget also projects that public debt charges – the interest we're paying on the debt – will climb from just over \$54 billion currently to nearly \$65 billion five years from now, a 20 percent increase. Ten cents of every dollar of revenue the government brings in is now going straight to interest payments, according to TD Bank, and those interest payments are eating up a big-

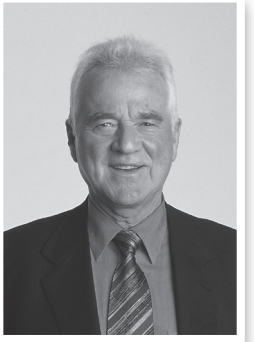
ger and bigger portion of the budget. What's worse, for the first time ever, interest payments on the debt exceed the amount of money the government spends annually on healthcare. A Fraser Institute report on government debt published earlier this year had this grim warning: "Rising government debt has severe consequences for Canadians as more and more resources are directed toward interest payments and away from programs that help families or improve Canada's economic competitiveness." Although the mushrooming federal debt is cause for concern, when you start adding in other levels of debt, it becomes even more dire. Combined federal and provincial net debt is projected to come in around \$2.18 trillion in 2023/24. Meanwhile, total debt in Canada – household, corporate and government debt at all levels – is now around 341 percent of total GDP. In other words, our total debt is more than three times what we produce each year. The consequences of the build-up of debt extend to all corners of the economy: our run-

away debt stunts investment, hobbles economic productivity and lowers living standards. Earlier this year, University of Calgary economist Trevor Tombe said, "we should be thinking about the longer-term future of federal finances and start making difficult choices, because the longer we wait, the harder it will be." Far from making some difficult decisions, the federal government just made our financial future a lot harder – and probably a lot more painful when the sudden day of reckoning finally arrives and jolts us from our sleep. Many things in life are not fair. One of the unfairness of all is that the older generation leaves all of the debts it has incurred to the youngest generation, asking them to pay the bill for many of the goods and services they have never even enjoyed or made us of. It's ironic that a budget which aims to make life easier and more affordable for young Canadians has instead placed upon them a heavy burden that they will never be able to throw off

in their lifetimes. But a national Economic Charter of Rights and Responsibilities, which I've been strongly advocating for the past year, would get Canada back on the straight and narrow. The charter would require government to balance the budget and reduce our national debt by 5 percent per year over 20 years with the result that we would be debt-free within two decades. We'd wipe the slate clean for the young Canadians and give them a shot at a better quality of life. To learn more about how the Charter could help turn our economy around, contact info@economiccharter.ca.

**Author Bio**  
Frank Stronach is the founder of Magna International Inc., one of Canada's largest global companies, and the Stronach Foundation for Economic Rights ([www.economiccharter.ca](http://www.economiccharter.ca)).

### FRANK STRONACH PRINCIPLES OF AN ECONOMIC CHARTER OF RIGHTS





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# 150 people attended a Citizens' Forum held at St. James Anglican Church on April 17

Continued from FRONT

"This is unconscionable and completely undemocratic that the minority of Council has the power to decide on something of this significance," said Crandall, speaking of the one-third vote required to approve the applications.

Crandall noted Caledon signed a housing pledge to the Province that said it would build 13,000 new housing units. She asked why it was necessary for Caledon to nearly triple this number.

"Who will benefit from this? Us? I don't think so," she said. "Mayor Groves, you are a strong mayor. You don't need Strong Mayor powers to be a strong leader — please slow this process down."

Next to speak was another Democracy Caledon volunteer, Nicola Ross.

"We're worried about the erosion of democracy under our current levels of government," said

Ross. "One of the things about democracy is we have to look after it... we have to protect it."

Ross said she thinks Strong Mayor powers are undemocratic.

"If we want to protect democracy, if we want to be a part of what Caledon is going to become, we have to be diligent," said Ross. "The public meeting on April 25... bring as many friends as you can."

The third speaker at the meeting was Victor Doyle. From 1988 to 2017, Doyle held a variety of senior positions in the Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing — including Manager of Planning for Central Ontario and lead planner for the Greenbelt Plan.

He said while the decision has been made already that areas in the south of Caledon will become more urban, Caledon needs to do the best possible job to plan the areas and make the most efficient use of them.

"We can't keep expanding outwards and out-



Planning professional Victor Doyle, an architect of the Greenbelt Plan, provided opinions and insight at Democracy Caledon's April 17 community meeting.

PHOTO BY ZACHARY ROMAN

wards," said Doyle, who shared concerns about the urgency of the recent mayoral decision.

"I have not seen anything like this to zone for tens of thousands of units ahead of all the detailed planning that is typically occurring prior to zoning big tracts of land," he said. "It's not clear to me what the urgency is to do that at this point in time."

Doyle said if there is to be any advanced zoning, it should only be for the 13,000 units required by the housing pledge. He also said the zoning designation for much of the land in the 12 applications permits nearly any kind of housing unit, which he called premature. Doyle shared additional concerns about proposed zoning changes to some Greenbelt lands which would allow a wide range of rural uses.

"Why should we zone for 35,000 units based on what's going to happen today when it's going to take probably at least 20 years or longer to see those units built? There's no upside in that," said Doyle. "Zoning is a critical tool for the municipality to achieve its own interests in terms of dealing with development... pre-zoning all this land in a single zone removes some of the control and leverage that municipalities need to protect theirs, and by extension, everyone's interests... so I don't really see the reason to move forward with this type of bylaw at this point in time."

After Doyle spoke, there was time for members of the audience to share questions and comments (each person was given two minutes) and this went on for about an hour. Many different concerns were raised by community members, such as: loss of farmland; increased traffic congestion; loss of rural community character; lack of affordable housing; and strong mayor powers subverting democracy.

Groves attended the Democracy Caledon meeting, as did members of Caledon Council. Groves was given five minutes to speak amid the question-and-answer period.

"Some of the lands that are within this draft zoning bylaw, they go back to 2004... some of

these properties have also had public meetings," said Groves. "Some of the other properties have had applications... when an application is filed, you have 'X' number of days, and if we don't deal with the application it's taken to the (Ontario Land Tribunal). So, we will have someone at the tribunal making decisions for what the town of Caledon should look like in terms of development."

Groves said there's holding provisions in the proposed zoning bylaws that address things like secondary plans and servicing.

Groves said she spoke to every member of Caledon Council about her mayoral decision before she made it.

"I had no objections from any member of Council on that... they were fine with it," said Groves.

This statement was disputed by Ward 2 Councillor Dave Sheen after the meeting.

"That was a misleading statement to make, at least as it relates to me. The Mayor called and spoke to me for about 10 minutes on the Sunday evening, two days before the March 26 Council meeting. She explained what she was planning to do and tried to assure me that there would still be safeguards in place to allow further public and Council input and/or control," wrote Sheen in an email. "To be clear, I did not express support for the move. Instead, I told her I had only received the agenda on the weekend and did not have any time to review or understand the dense material nor discuss it with anyone to help me understand all the implications..."

Groves said she encourages people to reach out to the town for information about the 12 applications.

"We will be addressing servicing, we will be addressing the financial implications. We will be addressing what our community is going to look like through this process," said Groves.

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## Check-in phone calls for older adults now available in several languages

BY SAM ODROWSKI

A program aimed at supporting adults 55 and older in Dufferin-Caledon just became more accessible.

The Telecheck program, which provides older adults with scheduled check-in phone calls to help them live independently, can now make calls in a variety of languages.

The recent improvement to the program was made possible in partnership with the Polycultural Immigrant & Community Services.

"TeleCheck's collaboration with Polycultural Immigrant and Community Services demonstrates innovation and leadership in our community's health and social system. Our volunteers are thrilled to extend our team capabilities with the language interpreters at Polycultural so that more diverse older adults can be supported with system partners," said Jennifer McCallum, Manager of TeleCheck.

TeleCheck is an award-winning, free, and confidential telephone check-in service to support adults 55+ independently living at home, and connects clients with vital community health services, or a friendly social connection. Clients can tailor calls based on individual needs. TeleCheck volunteers support their clients, every day of the week.

Polycultural Immigrant & Community Services is a charitable, not-for-profit, community-based agency that provides support and services for seniors, newcomers, refugees, and immigrants in Orangeville and across the Greater Toronto Area.

The new collaboration ensures that TeleCheck services now reflect linguistic diversity by breaking down language barriers, ensuring that older adults from various cultural backgrounds feel comfortable and understood in Bengali, Hindi, Portuguese, Urdu and Yoruba.

The above language interpretation options are available through Polycultural staff, with the potential for additional languages to be added in the future.

"In the year since launching our Orangeville site, we've witnessed the richness of the multicultural tapestry in Dufferin-Caledon," said Fatima Medeiros, Program Manager at Polycultural's Orangeville site.

"Our exciting collaboration with TeleCheck will link new Canadians with social health services that are personalized to their needs and made accessible in their preferred language."

To arrange a call with language interpretation or language-specific services, current and new TeleCheck clients can fill out a self-referral form at [headwatershealth.ca/Areas-of-Care/TeleCheck](http://headwatershealth.ca/Areas-of-Care/TeleCheck).





## Caledon Seniors Centre celebrates dedicated volunteers

This year's volunteer appreciation lunch had a "wild west" theme

BY ZACHARY ROMAN  
LOCAL JOURNALISM  
INITIATIVE REPORTER

A group of volunteers were celebrated in style last week. On April 18, the Caledon Seniors Centre (CSC) held its annual volunteer appreciation lunch at the centre. This year, the event had a "wild west" theme, with many impressive decorations contributing to an amazing vibe in the room.

CSC manager Beverley Nurden said it's so important to celebrate the CSC's volunteers as without them, the centre would cease to exist.

"We always come up with a theme and plan a menu around it... this year there's chicken and ribs, bean soup and cornbread," she said. There was also a variety of wild west-themed drinks available at the "saloon" set up in the centre.

The CSC enlisted the help of Palgrave Rotarians to serve lunch at the event. A longstanding partnership between the two organizations sees CSC volunteers

help out at Palgrave Rotary's "Wines of the World" event, and Palgrave Rotarians serve lunch on volunteer appreciation day.

Nurden said volunteers look forward to the lunch each year. The theme is always kept secret until people arrive.

"It's such a fun afternoon," said Nurden. "Our volunteers are the heartbeat of this place."

Nurden gave a speech at the event, thanking volunteers further.

"Your dedication shines bright and your kindness touches countless lives... you're the unsung heroes who make every day happen here," said Nurden. "Thank you for your unwavering support, your tireless efforts, and your boundless energy and compassion. You inspire us all to reach higher, give more and make a difference in the world."

Jane Chapman, outgoing president of the CSC's executive committee, spoke after Nurden and said it's been a wonderful experience serving in the role.

"During the years of the pandemic and the expansion, there were so many people helping me behind the scenes... it was a job everybody did, so thank you again," said Chapman.



(left) CSC volunteers learned how to line dance at their volunteer appreciation lunch on April 18.

(right) Caledon Seniors Centre manager Beverley Nurden delivered a thank you speech for centre volunteers at the volunteer appreciation lunch.

PHOTOS BY ZACHARY ROMAN

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Young @ Heart





Celebrating SENIORS



**Tips for pain-free gardening this spring**

(NC) Many of us feel a fresh desire to tend to yard work or gardening in springtime. These are great ways to get some exercise and de-stress.

And, even if health issues like back pain, arthritis or mobility can get in the way, there are many things you can do to continue your hobby.

Cushions or a chair may reduce strain on your back and knees.

Tools like garden scooters and long-handled trowels may help when bending forward.

An occupational therapist can also help you figure out different ways of doing things that work best for you.

These health-care professionals are trained to find strategies to keep you doing everyday activities. They assess your needs and recommend ways to adapt your environment, to learn or rebuild skills, or to use tools that make tasks easier.

In this province, all occupational therapists have to meet professional standards and be licensed by the College of Occupational Therapists of Ontario. Find more information at [coto.org/ot](http://coto.org/ot).

[www.newscanada.com](http://www.newscanada.com)



# Women's Show coming to Monora Park

Local women-led businesses and young entrepreneurs to be highlighted

BY ZACHARY ROMAN  
LOCAL JOURNALISM  
INITIATIVE REPORTER

An upcoming show will highlight local women-led businesses and support Hospice Dufferin. On May 3 and 4, Sparkle & Sass Handcrafted and Let's Be Crafty are hosting the "Women's Show" at Monora Park in Mono. Heather Asling, the owner of Sparkle & Sass Handcrafted, is hosting the show alongside RaDeana Montgomery, who owns Let's Be Crafty.

"All of our vendors are women-run or at minimum 50% women-owned businesses. We want to pay attention to those smaller businesses in the local community that really are bringing things to town that we don't necessarily have," said Asling. She said she was inspired to start the show to bring something to the Dufferin-Caledon area that puts the spotlight on women-led businesses. The show will also feature space for young entrepreneurs. "One is a high school student and she creates her own artwork and cards," she said. "Another... has a little company where she makes bath salts and things like that." The Women's Show is being held on the same weekend as the Hospice Dufferin walk, and as such it will

be raising money for the cause. Attendees of the show are encouraged to make a donation in the amount of their choice at the door when they come. There will be raffle prizes at the show donated by vendors, and swag bags for the first show attendees on the Friday and Saturday. A number of workshops will take place at the show, including a candle-making workshop and a make-your-own sign workshop. The show will feature health and wellness products, baby items, fashion, Mother's Day gift ideas and more. Those interested in finding out more about the event or registering for one of the workshops can visit [letsbecrafty.ca](http://letsbecrafty.ca).



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# Mono Mills firefighters hosting open house for seniors, families

Event will feature pancake breakfast

BY ZACHARY ROMAN  
LOCAL JOURNALISM  
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Firefighters from the Mono Mills Fire Station are inviting the community to join them for an open house and pancake breakfast on June 1.

The open house runs from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Victoria Parks Community Centre (35 Victoria Crescent).

At the open house, there will be chances to learn about fire safety, emergency vehicles on display, auto extrication and fire extinguisher demonstrations, and a free pancake and sausage breakfast.

The Caledon OPP and Dufferin County Paramedic Service will also be attending the event.

Todd Hillhouse, a volunteer firefighter and public education officer at Caledon Fire Station 308 in Mono Mills, explained the open house has been happening

annually since 2005, when he became the public education officer for Station 308.

Hillhouse said the open house takes place in June to coincide with Seniors Month.

"In our catchment area, there are a lot of seniors... the idea is to provide some programs related to fire safety in the home that can help ensure their safety and help contribute to them staying in their home," said Hillhouse.

A main focus for Caledon Fire is education surrounding safe cooking. Hillhouse said cooking is still the number one cause of fires in residential units in Caledon.

"We'll run sessions where we provide some tips on that using our fire safety trailer which has a little kitchenette," said Hillhouse. "We are also going to have a display with smoke and carbon monoxide alarms and talk about the do's and don'ts, and just how to maintain your alarms in your house, and if you're not able to maintain them, what programs are available."

Hillhouse said the fire extinguisher demonstration will be great as in an emergency, there's no time to learn how to use one if you don't know how.

"We'll teach you how to properly use a fire extinguisher, and what applications it works in and what you shouldn't use it for," he said.

Hillhouse said kids always enjoy watching the auto extrication demonstration at the open houses.

"It's really interesting to see, it's more than you would get watching it in a movie or on TV," said Hillhouse.

They also enjoy being able to sit in the fire trucks and ask as many questions as they like about the machines, he added.

The free pancake and sausage breakfast is also a highlight of the event, said Hillhouse.

"It's a great event, everybody's welcome," he said. "It really helps to get to know who are your local firefighters here in the community who live in the community with you."

## Are you a grandparent? Don't fall victim to this rising scam

(NC) THE GRANDPARENT SCAM, also called the emergency scam, isn't new. But attempts at this scam are on the rise, so it's more important than ever to be aware of the risks and how to spot the signs.

This is how the grandparent scam works:

Impersonating a friend, neighbour or family member - often a grandchild - a fraudster phones in a panic saying they're in trouble and that they need money sent to them immediately. Often the scenario involves an accident or arrest while travelling abroad. Often the fraudster will say "Don't tell my parents" and "You're the only one who can help." Before the victim can recognize the voice, the phone is handed over to an accomplice pretending to be their attorney or representative.

Wanting to help their grandchild, the victim sends the money requested and often doesn't verify the story until later. But once the money is sent, there is often no way to get it back.

"To avoid becoming a victim of the grandparent scam, or any scam, never share information with an unknown caller and make sure to verify who you're speaking to and the legitimacy of their story before you complete any transactions involving money," says Kevin Purkiss, vice president, fraud management at RBC.

Canadians who believe they have been a victim of fraud should contact their financial institution immediately and report the details of the scam to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca.

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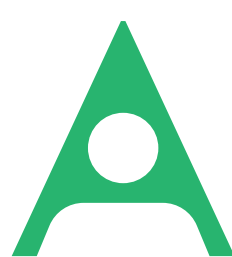


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Celebrating SENIORS

# Caledon seniors make a difference 'hand-in-hand' with Caledon Community Services

A 2015 World Health Organization report 'World Report on Aging and Health' talked about adding 'health to years.'

This echoed a conversation Caledon Community Services (CCS) has been having since 1984 on the importance of offering Caledon seniors opportunities to stay active and engaged.

In 1989, we began offering transportation for seniors and those with disabilities, making it possible for them to remain independent in the community they love. In 1992, Supportive Housing was launched and today CCS provides assisted living support in six Peel Living buildings and in homes across Caledon with a referral from Home and Community Care. In 1994, CCS started Respite Companionship recognizing the need to 'care for the caregivers' and in 2008, Seniors Helping Seniors was launched, offering activities from carpet bowling to computer classes, led by volunteers.

In 2009, Caledon's only Transitional Care Centre opened at Pinnacle View in Alton and in 2013 we brought specialist care to Caledon at the Caledon Specialist Clinic. In 2015, Seniors Health and Wellness activities began at the Exchange and now operate at various locations across our community.

To ensure the highest quality of service was maintained, in 2016, CCS became the first agency providing services to seniors in Cale-

don to earn accreditation in the area of aging and personal support services. Then in 2018, CCS launched Velocity Ride to Support Caledon Seniors - an annual cycling event that has grown into a community favourite.

A great example of senior leadership in action is Gordon Morton. A Seniors Helping Seniors volunteer leader for more than 15 years, Gordon is also an avid cyclist participating in Velocity. Last year his son David flew all the way from Vancouver to join the ride and they were one of the top rider-fundraisers. This full-circle moment perfectly illustrates the power of seniors giving back.

The health benefits of volunteering and being active cannot be understated. Both activities promote social connections and trigger the release of dopamine in the brain which can boost your mood and contribute to lowered stress levels. It's a win-win when you get involved in your community! So how can you take action?

Join us on June 15 for Velocity - visit [www.ccsvelocity.ca](http://www.ccsvelocity.ca) to register or volunteer.

Visit [www.ccs4u.org](http://www.ccs4u.org) to learn how we can support you and your loved ones of every age in the areas of health, jobs and life!



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Celebrating SENIORS



## Exciting spring of events planned at Caledon Seniors Centre

**Spa day, paint night, trunk sale and more coming soon**

**BY ZACHARY ROMAN**  
LOCAL JOURNALISM  
INITIATIVE REPORTER

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### Are your sore joints trying to tell you something?

(NC) We all feel aches and pains from time to time. But if you often feel stiffness, swelling or pain in the knees, hips or other joints – don’t brush it off. Research suggests there could be as many Canadians living with undiagnosed arthritis as there are with the diagnosis.

It is important to recognize early signs of the disease because the condition can have a dramatic impact on your life, bringing pain, fatigue and restricted mobility.

“Simply put, early action can lead to early relief,” says Dr. Sian Bevan, chief science officer at Arthritis Society Canada. “Even young Canadians shouldn’t ignore persistent stiffness and pain. This disease does not discriminate and can strike at any age.”

Maintaining a healthy weight, keeping active and eating a balanced diet can all help relieve pain and slow joint degeneration.

Check your symptoms and learn how you can manage joint pain at [arthritis.ca/symptomchecker](http://arthritis.ca/symptomchecker).

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Celebrating SENIORS

# How the body changes with age

Aging is an inevitable component of life. Young children often cannot wait until they get older because of the freedoms that seemingly come with being more mature. On the flip side, adults often wish they were young again. Time waits for no person, and with aging comes many changes, many of which manifest physically.

A doctor may suggest a bone-density test or supplementation with calcium and vitamin D to keep bones as strong as possible. Physical activity that includes strength training can help keep muscles strong and flexible.

**BODY FAT**

As muscle mass diminishes, body fat can increase. The Merck Manual indicates that, by age 75, the percentage of body fat typically doubles compared with what it was during young adulthood. The distribution of fat also changes, which can adjust the shape of the torso.

**HEART**

Organs in the body also age, and cells begin to die off, making those organs work less efficiently. The heart is one such organ that changes with age. It pumps more than 2.5 million beats during one's lifetime. As a person gets older, blood vessels lose their elasticity, and the heart has to work harder to circulate blood throughout the body, reports Johnson Memorial Health. Exercise can help keep the heart as strong as possible.

**URINARY TRACT AND KIDNEYS**

The kidneys become smaller as a person ages, which means they may not be able to filter urine as effectively. Urinary incontinence may occur due to hormonal changes or because of an enlarged prostate. Furthermore, the bladder may become less elastic, leading to an urge to urinate more frequently.



**MEMORY AND THINKING**

Older adults experience changes to the brain as they age. Minor effects on memory or thinking skills are common and not usually cause for worry. Staying mentally active by reading, playing word games and engaging in hobbies can help. Following a routine and making lists (as multi-tasking may

become challenging) are some additional ways to address memory issues.

These are just some of the changes that can come with aging. Generally speaking, exercising, using the brain and adhering to a balanced, healthy diet can help keep the body functioning well into one's golden years.

**THE FOLLOWING** are some components of healthy aging that go beyond greying hair and wrinkling skin.

**BONES, JOINTS AND MUSCLES**

According to the Mayo Clinic, with age bones may become thinner and more fragile. Joints will lose their flexibility, while muscles lose mass and strength, endurance and flexibility. These changes may be accompanied by a loss of stability that can result in balance issues or falls. It's common for the body frame to shrink, and a person may lose a few inches from his or her height.

## 5 TIPS FOR HEALTHIER EYES



(NC) Your eyes are your window to the world – they allow you to do everything from perform everyday tasks to enjoy the beauty of the world around you. When it comes to your vision, it is important to be proactive. Use these simple tips to keep your eyes healthy:

**BOOK AN ANNUAL EYE EXAM:**

Stay on top of regular eye exams. Less than half of Canadians report visiting their eye care professional every year. But it's only with exams that they spot underlying issues – even if your vision seems good.

**TAKE A SCREEN BREAK:**

Our eyes need a break from all our devices. Consider following the 20-20-20 rule. Every 20 minutes look at something 20 feet away (6 metres) for 20 seconds – to minimize eyestrain.

**EAT HEALTHY:**

Like our bodies, our eyes need nutrients to maintain good health. Eating foods rich in omega-3 fatty acids, beta-carotene, vitamin C and E, such as fish, leafy greens and citrus fruits, can help support healthy vision.

**PROTECT YOUR EYES FROM UV LIGHT:**

Sunglasses and hats are not just fashion statements – they protect eyes from harmful UV light, which can contribute to the development of certain eye conditions.

**STAY INFORMED:**

Vision changes as we age, and common conditions like presbyopia and cataracts can develop. Yet in a survey by Alcon Canada, nearly two-thirds of Canadian seniors aged 55 to 79 said they knew very little or nothing about cataracts.

Vision changes as we age, and common conditions like presbyopia and cataracts can develop. Yet in a survey by Alcon Canada, nearly two-thirds of Canadian seniors aged 55 to 79 said they knew very little or nothing about cataracts.

Many weren't fully aware of options for treatment either, including that you can choose between different types of lenses for your cataract surgery. But some more advanced lenses may be able to improve vision enough that you no longer need glasses.

Find more information about your options at [seethefullpicture.ca](http://seethefullpicture.ca).

[www.newscanada.com](http://www.newscanada.com)

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# Hearing Loss and Cognitive Decline

## What is the Relationship? And is Dementia Avoidable?

Hearing Loss impacts over 48 Million people in North America and is listed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as the 3rd most common chronic disorder affecting today's seniors. Unfortunately, for most of us, age related hearing loss is inevitable; impacting nearly 50% of seniors between the ages of 60-70, almost 2/3 of people between the age of 70-80 and nearly 80% of individuals over the age of 80. Age-related hearing loss is characterized by the progressive loss of receptor (hair) cells in the ear that consequently reduces the quantity and quality of neural connections from the ear to the brain. This slow onset disease can have a significant impact on several key brain areas, including the memory, hearing, speech and language portions of cognition. Several key research studies have pointed to the potential links of hearing loss and Dementia that indicate hearing loss can increase the risk of Dementia by 200-500%, including the groundbreaking work from Otolaryngologist Dr. Frank Lin and his colleagues at Johns Hopkins Medical Center (see summary data in Figure 1).



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Every 3-4 seconds another patient is diagnosed with Dementia. Rates of Dementia are estimated to triple in the next 30 years. Unlike some other diseases, with Dementia the physical body is estimated to outlive the individual's mental capabilities by 10 or more years. There is no cure for this catastrophic disease, but treatments are available, including several ways which may decrease your risk of developing Dementia.



This report, from researchers at Johns Hopkins Medical Center and the National Institute on Aging found that individuals with hearing loss (when compared to patients with normal hearing) are at a significantly higher risk of developing Dementia over time. The more hearing loss they had, the higher their likelihood of developing the memory-robbing disease. "A lot of people ignore hearing loss because it's such a slow and insidious process as we age," Dr. Frank Lin (of Johns Hopkins Medical Center) says. "Even if people feel as if they are not affected, we're showing that it may well be a more serious problem."



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## Did you know?

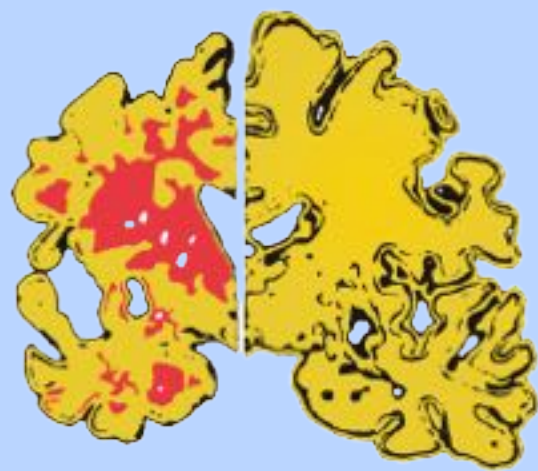
There are 3 risk factors that are associated with Hearing Loss & Dementia:

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*Celebrating* SENIORS

# The Benefits of Living in Abbeyfield Caledon's Non-Profit Seniors Residence:

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At Abbeyfield Caledon, we've mastered the art of blending care, community, and comfort to create an unparalleled living experience for seniors. Set in the heart of Caledon East's tranquil neighborhood, our non-profit seniors residence promises more than just a place to stay - it offers a chance to thrive among peers in a family-like atmosphere. Let's talk about the myriad of benefits that life at Abbeyfield Caledon provides, highlighting why it stands out as an exceptional choice for seniors seeking companionship, independence, and a vibrant lifestyle in their later years: We offer....

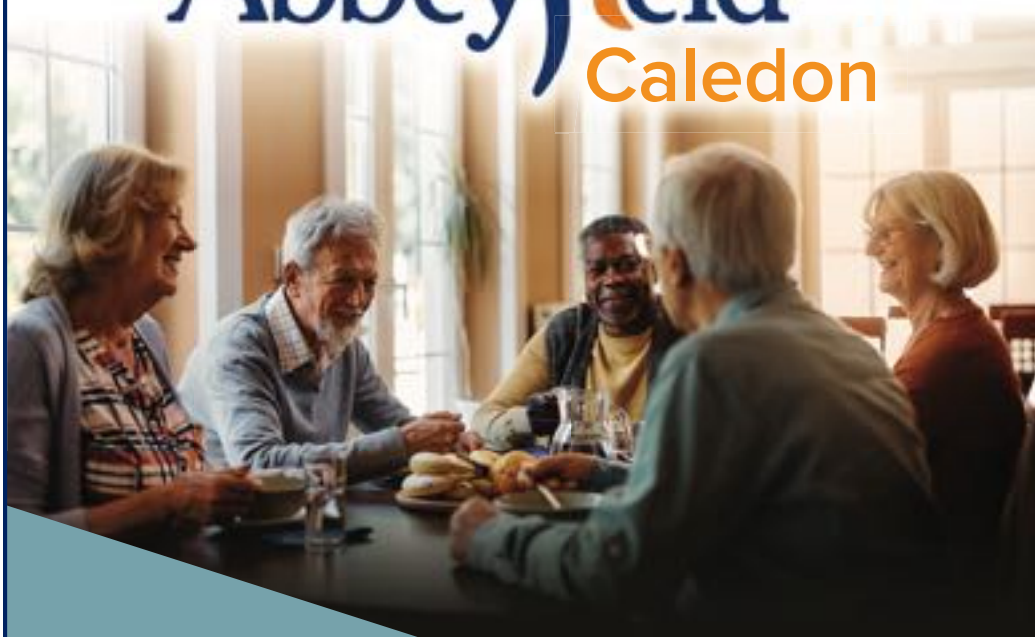
- Companionship and Community
- Home-like Setting
- Nutrition and Well-being
- Affordable Living
- Independence and Dignity
- Volunteer Support

Living in a non-profit seniors residence like Abbeyfield Caledon offers the privilege of a supportive, caring community, nutritious meals, and a comfortable living space. It ensures a secure, dignified, and affordable lifestyle for seniors, helping them preserve their independence while living in a social, stimulating environment. This combination of benefits makes Abbeyfield Caledon an attractive choice for senior living in Ontario.

We can't wait for you to make Abbeyfield Caledon your new home. We are here, ready to welcome you with open arms into our family. Get in touch with us if you are interested in becoming a resident or if you want to join us as a volunteer serving the community. Call Lisa Chevalier, House Manager at: 905-860-0181 or visit us at: [abbeyfieldcaledon.org](http://abbeyfieldcaledon.org).



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SENIORS**



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MAYOR GROVES



Celebrating SENIORS



# TRAVEL opportunities for retirees

Retirement provides individuals with ample time to engage in activities they enjoy. Many seniors spend that newfound free time relaxing and seeing the sights.

**SENIORS** are a travel-friendly demographic. The World Tourism Organization says that, in 1999, more than 593 million international travellers were aged 60 years and older. Seniors are projected to take two billion trips annually by 2050. As Baby Boomers and Generation Xers continue to retire, a larger portion of the overall population will have time to travel.

When seniors plan trips, they have many ways to get around in style.

**CRUISING**

Cruising can be an ideal way for older adults to travel. Cruise ships depart from ports across the world and travellers can choose from an array of itineraries.

People can travel on cruises that are at sea for as few as three to five days to others that are out for weeks at a time.

One reason seniors enjoy cruising is because it's all-inclusive with little extra planning required. Step aboard a cruise ship and enjoy a floating hotel complete with food, lodging, entertainment, shopping, gambling, and much more. Organized excursions at ports of call can add to the thrill of cruising.

**GUIDED TOURS**

Escorted tours are another option seniors may want to consider. By working with reputable tour operators, seniors can engage in affordable, safe and comfortable tours via bus, train or other modes of travel. Tour companies take the work out of the trips by handling the details and showcasing the best locales. Tour experts know when to schedule meals and sightseeing to avoid crowds so that everyone can sit back and relax on their adventures.

**RV EXCURSIONS**

Travel by recreational vehicle is a great way for individuals with time on their hands to see the sights

up close and personal. When RVing, the time spent travelling is the adventure, and the destination is simply the cherry on top.

The RV industry exploded during the pandemic because it provided a safe way to enjoy a vacation and get away from home. MARVAC Michigan RV & Campgrounds says currently more than nine million households own an RV in the United States. There's no age limit to buying an RV, although the RV Industry Association says the average owner is 48 years old and married.

RV-friendly campsites and parks enable travellers to mingle with each other, providing affordable and fun ways to travel.

**TIMESHARES**

Seniors who got in on the timeshare bandwagon early in life can choose to enjoy their travel years even further. The timeshare model enables buyers to purchase the right to use particular homes, condos, hotel rooms, resorts, or other accommodations for specific periods of time. For example, some timeshare agreements are for one week each year in a designated

location. Seniors with more time on their hands may want to revisit timeshare agreements to increase the frequency in which they can use properties or to find timeshare companies that enable swapping properties with others so that different locales can be enjoyed.

**VISITING FAMILY**

Retirees may aspire to spend more time with family members who do not live nearby. Families may want to consider mother-daughter residences or properties with small guest houses so that seniors can stay in the residences when visiting but have some privacy at the same time.

Seniors have many travel options, and retirement is the ideal time to get out and enjoy time away from home.



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## Caledon Special Olympics athlete selected as ambassador for fundraising campaign



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BY ZACHARY ROMAN  
LOCAL JOURNALISM  
INITIATIVE REPORTER

A young athlete from Caledon is making a big difference as an advocate for Special Olympics. Brooklynn Belcher, 11, first joined Caledon Special Olympics through its Active Start pro-

gram. Her mom, Charlett Belcher, explained Caledon Special Olympics athlete Jason Scoria played a big role in welcoming her and Brooklynn to the community. Charlett then reached out to Caledon Special Olympics volunteer Eduarda Domingues, who suggested Brooklynn try swimming.

“We started and she never looked back, she’s got a drive to do it and she absolutely loves it,” said Charlett. “They all work to achieve their goals, doing laps and practicing and making sure their technique is proper... and still making friends along the way.”

When swimming season ends in April, Brooklynn switches to track and field where she competes in running, long jump, and shotput.

“She’s so competitive, she loves it all... she had some meets and she competed and she did well,” said Charlett.

It wasn’t long before Brooklynn was playing bocce with Caledon Special Olympics, too.

Charlett said she and Brooklynn want to spread the word about Special Olympics to the community as they believe strongly in the benefits of sport and friendship.

“There’s a lot of kids with special needs that might enjoy sports... there are activities to join, come try it,” she said. “It’s great because you’re building friendships with people that have similar interests.”

Charlett said it’s wonderful how athletes learn

new skills through the sports they play.

“It’s very inspiring because they weren’t given an easy path,” she said.

Brooklynn is currently an ambassador for Special Olympics Canada’s fundraiser with Empire Company Limited, which owns major grocery stores like Sobeys, Foodland, IGA, and Safeway.

Between April 25 and May 5, donations made at the checkout of any Empire store will be matched, up to \$500,000. The goal of the fundraiser is to raise \$1 million or more for Special Olympics.

“It’s a great opportunity... it helps support all the programs, whatever is required for these athletes to succeed,” said Charlett. “When (Caledon Special Olympics volunteers) found out Brooklynn was the advocate, they were so excited.”

Charlett said she is so proud of her daughter for being an ambassador. She loves to see her thrive through Special Olympics.

“Although she has health issues, she doesn’t let it set her back,” said Charlett. “She’s so friendly, she’s a shining star.”

## 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](mailto:admin@caledoncitizen.com) if you wish to have an announcement published.

**TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) ON 1344 Bolton – Real People, Real Weight Loss** is a non-profit group. We meet weekly on Wed. evenings in the basement of Bolton United Church. Weigh-ins are 6:00-6:30 followed by a meeting. The initial annual fee incl. a bi-monthly magazine and starter kit is \$59, and monthly dues are \$20. Today is the best day to make changes to your lifestyle! If you have weight to lose and/or want to improve your health, we can help! We promote healthy eating and support the efforts of all our members, and your first meeting is free. Come join us. For more information call Marion at 905-857-5191 or see [www.tops.org](http://www.tops.org). Online memberships are also available.

The Bolton AI-Anon Group has recently moved the regular meeting location to the Bolton United Church at 8 Nancy Street (across from Bolton Post Office). We still meet every Thursday at 8:30 pm. We welcome anyone who is/has been affected by someone who has problem with alcohol. If you have any questions please come any Thursday evening or email: [boltonalanon@gmail.com](mailto:boltonalanon@gmail.com).

**Caledon Church of Canada.** Every Sunday morning @ 10 am. Monday prayer meeting @ 7 pm. Resources: Prayer counselling, Baby/child dedication, Visit the sick, Wedding Services, Food bank and more! For all your pastoral services: 647-891-9400 • [caledoncoc@gmail.com](mailto:caledoncoc@gmail.com) Location: 34 Nixon Rd., Bolton

Open to all - Electric Vehicle Society Caledon Chapter meetings. Come out to learn from the expertise of electric vehicle owners and enthusiasts about helping Canadians transition to electric transportation through education and advocacy. Local meetings are held in the Southfields Community Centre - Community Room from 7pm-9pm. Meetings are free. For more info: <https://evsociety.ca/caledon/> or email Kenneth. [bokor@evsociety.ca](mailto:bokor@evsociety.ca)

**Free Chair Yoga Program** at Bolton United Church. Every Saturday at 8:30 am and Monday at 9:30 am starting on January 6, 2024. To reserve your spot call 905-857-2615 Mon to Thurs mornings or email us at [office@boltonunitedchurch.com](mailto:office@boltonunitedchurch.com). Taught by an experienced and qualified Yoga Instructor. Brought to you by an Ontario Trillium Fund grant.

**Saturday, April 27 – Antique Appraisal Event**  
The Caledon Seniors Centre at Rotary Place in Bolton is hosting an Antique Appraisal Event on Saturday, April 27th from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

Come out, have some fun and find out if your items are valuable treasures! Appraisals will be done by Treasure Antique & Appraisals of Burlington from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. Tickets are \$25 and include two items appraised as well as an enjoyable boxed lunch and refreshments. Additional items appraised at \$5.00 each. Limited number of tickets are available. Call the Centre at 905-951-6114 to purchase your tickets!

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## Caledon Special Olympics athletes preparing for Provincial Games

BY ZACHARY ROMAN  
LOCAL JOURNALISM  
INITIATIVE REPORTER

After a long wait, Caledon Special Olympics athletes will be attending the Special Olympics Ontario Spring Games.

The games will be held from May 23 to 26 in Waterloo. The games were originally supposed to be held in 2020, but had to be put on hold because of the pandemic.

Over 750 athletes from all over Ontario will be going to the games to participate in powerlifting, gymnastics, basketball, 10-pin bowling, and swimming competitions. Four athletes from Caledon will be competing in swimming and one will be competing in 10-pin bowling.

Eduarda Domingues, a long-time volunteer with Special Olympics, was one of the people to help start Caledon Special Olympics and remains enthusiastic about the program.

“It’s all about the athletes,” said Domingues. “We’re trying to get more and more people involved... once you start volunteering you never go back.”

Caledon Special Olympics athletes have been training hard for the Spring Games and will soon be finishing up their swimming training, which has been ongoing over the winter. Athletes heading to the games will also receive individual training sessions soon.

Domingues said the excitement of the Spring Games is amazing for the athletes.

“It’s so fun,” she said.

Seeing new athletes have an amazing time playing sports and making friends is Domingues’ favourite part of being involved with Special Olympics. She said it’s been great to see new faces getting involved in Caledon.

Domingues shared a story of a new athlete who came out to play basketball this past winter.

The athlete quickly picked up the sport in a scrimmage and his mom was amazed to see how great her son did at a new team sport.

What stood out for the mom was the smiles on everyone’s faces, and from that day they kept on coming back each week. Domingues said Special Olympics is great because athletes are encouraged to try new things while still having safety and fun as the top priority.

“Some athletes are very competitive, but for a lot of these athletes this is their social time, this is their friend circle,” said Domingues. “It’s just as much social as it is sports and competition... friendship is just as important.”

Caledon Special Olympics is a non-profit and its goal is to keep sports as inexpensive as possible for athletes and their families.

There’s an upcoming bingo fundraiser for Caledon Special Olympics.

It’s taking place from 1 to 3 p.m. on May 5 at Delta Bingo in Brampton. Tickets for the event are \$20, with all proceeds going to Caledon Special Olympics. More information about the event can be found on Caledon Special Olympics’ website.

Jason Scoria, a well-known Caledon Special Olympics athlete, is competing in bowling at the upcoming Spring Games. He said he’s been enjoying practicing over the winter, and he recently got second place at a bowling tournament.

Scoria and his fellow Caledon Special Olympics athletes will be going for gold this May, as they travel to the games that are the pinnacle of competition for Special Olympics athletes in Ontario.

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**IMPAIRED CHARGES**

Officers from the Caledon Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have charged a driver with Impaired Operation following a single motor vehicle collision on Dixie Road.

“On April 19, 2024, shortly after 11:00 p.m., officers received a report advising that a vehicle was in the ditch on Dixie Road, near Old School Road, in the Town of Caledon,” say Police. “The lone occupant of the vehicle sustained minor injuries. During the course of the investigation, officers formed grounds that the driver’s ability to operate a motor vehicle was impaired by alcohol and was subsequently arrested.”

Pardeep Dhillon, 36, of Brampton, was charged with:

- Operation while impaired;
- Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus);
- Having care or control of a motor vehicle with open container of liquor.

The accused is scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville on May 9, 2024, to answer to the charges. Their driver’s licence was also suspended for a period of 90 days and the vehicle was impounded for seven.

The charges have not been proven.

“The OPP remains committed to keeping our communities safe through enforcement and public education. Drivers who are impaired by drugs

or alcohol continue to pose a significant threat on Ontario roads. Whether a driver is impaired by alcohol or drugs, impaired is impaired, and impaired driving is dangerous regardless of the source of impairment. If you suspect that someone is driving while impaired, 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](http://www.ontario.ca/page/impaired-driving).

**OFF-ROAD VEHICLE CHARGES**

Members of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Central Region Snowmobile, ATV, Vessel Enforcement (SAVE) Team have laid 24 charges in 10 days relating to Off-Road Vehicles (ORV) use despite trail closures.

“Officers have been patrolling closed trails in Simcoe County due to an increase in reports from the public,” say Police. “As a result of these patrols, 24 charges were laid under the Off-Road Vehicle Act (ORVA) and Trespass to Property Act (TPA) since April 12, 2024, including:

- Fail to stop;
  - Engage in prohibited activity on premises.
- Other ORVA charges laid by officers include:
- Failure to wear proper helmet;
  - Fail to securely fasten chin strap;
  - No insurance;
  - No licence plate;

• Unregistered vehicle.  
“Officers on patrol will continue to remind all ORV riders that an essential part of the enforcement job is to save lives and reduce injuries on our trails. Simcoe County Forest trails remain closed for ORV use until May 1, 2024. Trails need to be assessed for hazards prior to opening day.

“With your help, we hope to spread the word about ATV safety and respecting the laws to prevent injuries. Here are some critical safety guidelines and best preparation for enjoyable riding.”

- Always wear a properly fitted helmet with a secure chin strap.
- Always carry your registration and proof of insurance.
- Ensure proper display of licence plate according to the ORVA.
- Have a valid trail pass where applicable.
- Stay on designated trails.
- Reduce speed and ride within your skill level.

Exercise caution when riding on permitted roadways, adjusting to the difference between dirt and pavement. Drive cautiously and familiarize yourself with the required speeds for off road vehicles.

Operating an ORV while impaired by alcohol or drugs is as unlawful as driving any other vehicle and carries the same impaired driving penalties that apply to driving a motor vehicle.

**BEWARE UNREGISTERED ONLINE CASINOS: POLICE**

The Ontario Provincial Police, Investigations and Enforcement Bureau (IEB), in partnership with the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO), is reminding the public to use caution when choosing to access online casino gaming sites found through social media advertisements.

“On April 11, 2024, the OPP’s Investigation and Enforcement Bureau was notified of a suspected fraudulent gaming advertisement depicting an online gaming platform hosted by Casino RAMA,” say Police. “When clicked, the fraudulent advertisement redirects the user to a false application download page. This webpage is associated to WinSpirit Casino which is an unregistered gaming website. Casino RAMA is not associated with WinSpirit Casino or any other unregistered online casinos.

“In Ontario, regulated gaming sites are held to high standards of game integrity, data security and player protections. Ontario residents who choose to gamble online are being reminded to be aware of such advertisements and to always ensure the gaming site they are playing on is registered with the AGCO. A full list of Ontario’s regulated casino and internet gaming sites can be found on the OLG and iGaming Ontario websites.”

The IEB is a division of the OPP, embedded within the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario, and is responsible for conducting criminal, provincial and regulatory eligibility investiga-

tions to ensure integrity and public safety within the AGCO-regulated industries.

**GRANDPARENT SCAM ARRESTS**

Police have arrested 14 individuals in Montréal linked to the emergency grandparent scam that targeted victims across Canada.

“In September 2022, the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Anti-Rackets Branch began an intelligence probe into a group involved in the fraud,” say Police. “In February 2023, the probe was formalized as an OPP Criminal Investigation Branch (CIB)-led joint forces operation (JFO), known as Project Sharp, and consisted of 11 Ontario and Quebec police services in total.

“Aimed at seniors with a landline telephone, the group using the emergency grandparent scam pretended to be an officer or a lawyer and claimed to have the victim’s grandchild or family member in custody. They would request bail money to secure the victim’s family member’s release. In most cases, ‘money mules’ (unsuspecting couriers) were used to collect the money. The victims were instructed not to speak to anyone due to a ‘gag order’ they said was in effect.”

Since February 2022, the group of suspects is responsible for over \$2.2 million in reported losses Canada-wide.

From January 22, 2024, to April 8, 2024, there were 126 identified victims who lost approximately \$739,000 to the organized crime group running the fraud. Of these 126 victims, 15 were re-victimized multiple times losing more than \$243,000. Investigators have worked with financial institutions and the Canadian Bankers Association to prevent or recover more than \$559,000 in losses.

Though victims were located across Canada, the majority of the targeted individuals live in Ontario, with an age range of 46 to 95 years old. All of the victims were provided supports and fraud prevention material.

As a result of the investigation, 14 individuals were arrested and 56 charges were laid.

Project Sharp is a JFO led by the OPP and involves support from the Sûreté Du Québec, Halton Regional Police Service, York Regional Police, Toronto Police Service, Hamilton Police Service, Peel Regional Police, Durham Regional Police Service, Ottawa Police Service, Service de Police de la Ville de Montréal, Service de Police de Laval, and Criminal Intelligence Service Ontario. Additional assistance was provided by United States Homeland Security Investigations, Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC) and the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre.

Anyone who suspects they have been the victim of the emergency grandparent scam or any fraud is urged to contact their local police, the OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or ontariocrimestoppers.ca.

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**CLUES ACROSS**

- Excessively theatrical actors
- Footwear
- A way to disfigure
- Exchange rate
- Hawaiian wreaths
- North-central Indian city
- Bungle
- Extremely angry
- A short note of what’s owed
- Criminal organization
- Mimic
- Try to grab
- U.S.-born individuals
- Some are covert
- Order of the British Empire
- Don’t know when yet
- Payment (abbr.)
- Winged angelic being
- Variety of Chinese
- A way to be anxious

- Famed wrestler Hulk
- Partner to cheese
- Slang for sergeant
- Canadian flyers
- Actress Ryan
- Highly unpleasant vapor
- Body part
- Halfway
- Cool!
- Consume
- Salts
- Upper bract of a floret of grass
- Housepet
- Cavalry-sword
- Symbol of a nation
- Frocks
- Used to carry food
- Portuguese folk song
- Sharp mountain ridge
- Ireland
- Where golfers begin
- Greek mythological sorceress

- Fluid suspensions
- “Mad Men” leading man
- Water (Spanish)
- Annoy
- Bulgarian capital
- Japanese title
- Capital of Zimbabwe
- Giraffe
- A mixture of substances
- Midway between south and southeast
- Staffs
- Turkish title
- Type of acid
- Thin, flat strip of wood
- Russian river
- Ribonucleic acid
- Partner to flow
- Airborne (abbr.)
- Earthy pigment
- Genus of earless seals
- “Key to the Highway” bluesman

- By or in itself
- Hot fluid below the earth’s surface
- Partner to trick
- British Air Aces
- Ammunition
- Supervises flying
- Health care for the aged
- Flanks
- Millimeters
- Where wrestlers perform
- Not around
- Flightless bird
- Bell-shaped flowers of the lily family
- Expressed concern for
- Satisfies
- Flew off!
- Wings
- Load a ship
- Vigor
- British title
- Whiskeys
- \_\_\_ Adams: founding father
- Body of water

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



AREA WIDE

# CLASSIFIEDS

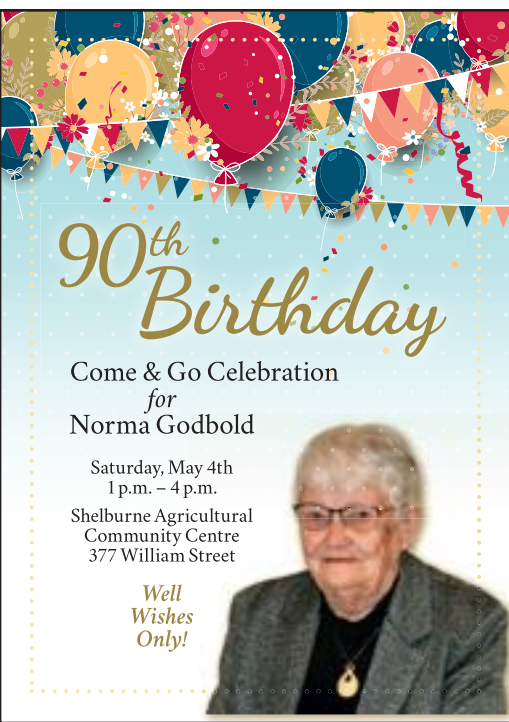


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**COMING EVENTS**

**ODE YELLOW BRIAR MOTHER'S DAY SILENT AUCTION**, raising funds for the Orangeville Library. Children's Department, Mill Street Library. April 23 to May 4, 2024.

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**MEGA MULTI-FAMILY INDOOR YARD SALE** - Friday, May 3rd, 4pm - 6pm. Saturday, May 4th, 8am - 12pm. Orangeville Christian School, 553281 County Rd 16 (Veteran's Way) Mono Mills, ON. Why drive around from sale to sale. This is one stop shopping! Rain or Shine!

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*Won't be long until we join you, Toots, John & I*

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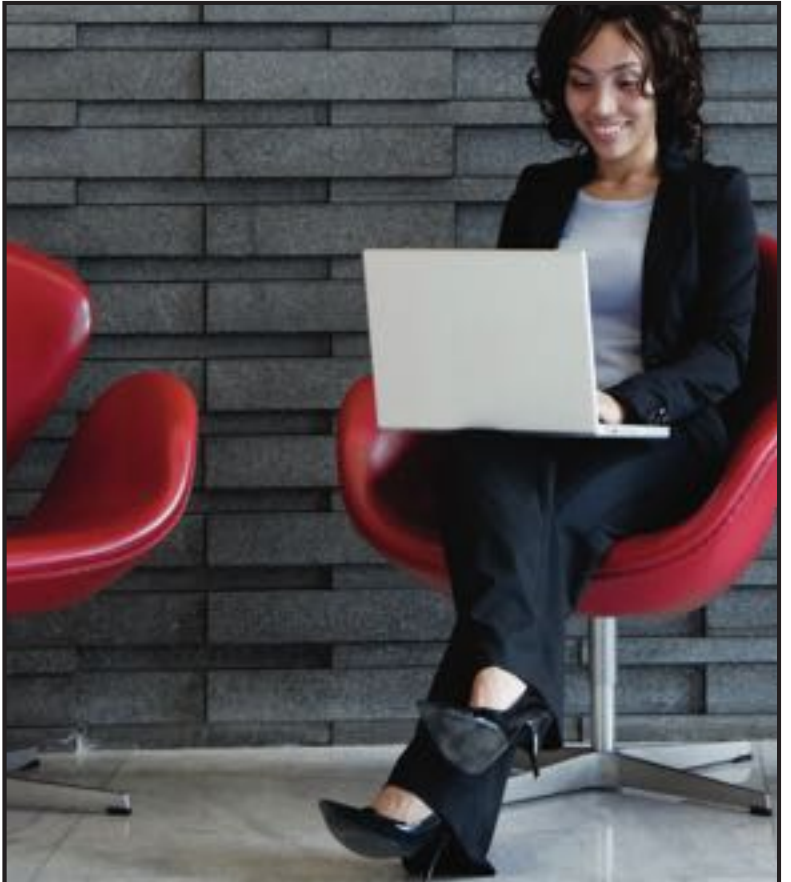
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**"Velocity 2024 - Pedalling for a Purpose"**  
 by Wayne Noble, Velocity Volunteer



There's nothing quite like getting back out on your bike after a long winter. There's something special about riding the scenic roads and trails of our Caledon community, enjoying warmer weather, and sharing laughs with old (and new) friends.

This is what I enjoy most about Velocity, a fundraising ride to support Caledon seniors with vital programs and services offered by Caledon Community Services (CCS).

Ever since Velocity started, it has been driven by a group of passionate local volunteers working alongside CCS - as homegrown as it gets. It's so much more than your average cycling event. It's about the journey, the camaraderie, and the joy of giving back. It's my way of giving back to my community. And yes, it's no coincidence that Velocity takes place on Caledon Day AND Father's Day weekend every year!

We all have seniors in our lives that we care about. Thanks to funds raised through Velocity, Caledon seniors have access to safe and reliable transportation, are enabled to stay healthy, connected, and independent, and can age in place in our beloved community.

Velocity is all about neighbours helping neighbours - even if this means going out of your way. That's why I love seeing riders, young and old, at send-off as they get ready to pedal for a great cause. (Did you know that our youngest rider last year was four years old, and our most experienced rider was 91 years old?)

Velocity has something for everyone - from a leisurely 10 km family-friendly trail ride to conquering steep Caledon hills with a 100km challenge. Whichever route you choose at Velocity, it's all about going the extra mile. Because when you're pedalling for a purpose, nothing seems impossible.

Velocity isn't just any cycling event. It's about spreading kindness, chasing goals, and having an enjoyable time along the way. And as long as there are seniors out there who need a hand, you can bet I'll be there, with a smile on my face!

I hope you'll join me on June 15. Together we can make a difference for our senior neighbours.

Visit [ccsvelocity.ca](http://ccsvelocity.ca) and register to ride, lead a team, support a rider, become a sponsor or make a donation.



**How Do You See It?**

Tell us how you see it.  
 Carol Petrini, Event Lead Coordinator, Caledon Community Services at 905-584-2300 ext. 236 or [cpetrini@ccs4u.org](mailto:cpetrini@ccs4u.org)

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



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COMING EVENTS

Trinity Primrose U.C. invite you to our

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**Saturday, May 11th**  
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Pre-orders due by Sun, May 5th  
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COMING EVENTS

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**May 22nd 2024**

- Pick up Shelburne 200 Fiddle Park Lane at 10.00a.m.
- Pick up Grand Valley 90 Main St at 10.30a.m.
- Price includes buffet lunch from 12.30p.m. – 2.00p.m.
- Show from 2.00pm – 3.30pm
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Online bidding begins closing on May 2nd at 5pm. Come on over to our Home Office Base for preview & pickup. KFA is located at 438280 4th Line, Melancthon. (North of Shelburne).

**Features:** Antique Furnishings - dressers, wash stands, sideboards, drop leaf tables, entrance tables, trunks & steamers; benches, shelves, Piano Stools; Little Big Books; CNR /CPR spittones; Decoys; Moorcroft Pieces; Cast Grates; Wool Blankets; Bicycle Lanterns; Vintage Tools; Bottles; Leaded Windows; Persian Rugs; Pillar Candle Holders; Fire King Dishes; Coalport (Indian Tree) and Aynsley China; Crocks & Ginger Beer Bottles; Wagons; Eaton's collectibles; Royal Doulton figurines; Equestrian collectibles; Musical Instruments; Whiskey Barrels; qty of Railway Memorabilia; qty of Steam Ship Collectibles; Cast Iron Stove Fronts; Snow Shoes; Cistern Pumps; Cameras; Steam Whistles; Fire Extinguishers; Scales; Rare books; Office Chairs & shelving - new; and so much more;

**Art Pieces:** ink; oil; watercolour; pastel; charcoal; - by Ethan Allen; Pitseolak; Sker; Tygeson, etc.

**Jewelry:** gold and silver - wedding, engagement and dinner rings, necklaces, earrings, pocket and wrist watches.

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## LIVE AUCTION SALE Equipment Consignment Saturday May 11th, 9:30am

**554447 Mono-Amaranth TLine, Mono, ON** Go west through Orangeville on Hwy 9 to County Rd 16 (Veterans Way at Greenwood Cemetery), turn north 5 miles to farm on East side. OR From Shelburne go east on Hwy 89 for 2 miles to Mono-Amaranth Townline, turn south & go 5 miles to farm on East side.

**TRACTOR:** 896 Case tractor, 16K hrs, runs well

**TRAILER/LAWN TRACTOR:** Canada trailer, 12'x6.5', folding ramps; JD 345 lawn tractor

**ATV/GOLF CART:** 2014 Arctic Cat 500, 1968kms; E-Z-Go golf cart

**MACH/EQUIP:** Kongsild Vibrahank cultivator with harrows; Hardi 500gal sprayer; Midwest Ind 3pth backhoe attachment, 21" bucket; NH bale stack cruiser; V-ditching plow; NH 278 sq baler with thrower; NH 273 sq baler with thrower; (4)steel thrower 18' wagons; Deutz Fahr KS 85 rotary hay rake; NH 273 9ft haybine; 45' skeleton bale elev on wheels; NH hay rake; 20' skeleton bale elev; **FARM REL:** 300gal Rubbermaid water trough; (2)Marweld elev round bale feeders; 6ft 3pth chain harrows; (2)feeder wagons; chute & crowding tub; (3)round bale feeders; (6)steel trough feeders; (2) mineral feeders with oilers; manual steel chute; skid steer bucket; dual auger snowblower-older; (4) hydro poles

**SHOP/HORSE ITEMS/MISC:** (9)fence feeders; qty ground feeders; 4'x8' steel plates; conveyor track; (10)chicken waterers; (2)chicken feeders; JD grass bagger for lawn tractor; (2)car ramps; (4)tires-2 on rims; (2)Ryobi 4-cycle string trimmers;

**Now Accepting: Tractors, Machinery, Equipment, Farm Rel/Shop**

Note: Please contact auctioneer if you are wanting to consign any equipment/items

\*\*Watch the website as items will be added regularly\*\*

Preview: 1-6pm, Friday May 10th

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### CELEBRATION OF LIFE

## Celebration of Life Susan M. Peavoy



Please join us Saturday, May 11th, 2024 at the Hillsburgh Community Centre located at 95 Main Street, Hillsburgh, ON N0B 1Z0 from 2:00pm-6:00pm.

Words of remembrance start at 3:30pm.

Donations in memory of Susan can be mailed to the Hillsburgh Firefighters Association located at PO BOX 589 - 29 George Street, Hillsburgh, ON N0B 1Z0 or to Special Friends at PO Box 248 - Hillsburgh, ON N0B 1Z0.

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AUCTIONS

## ONSITE AUCTION

for **Victor Luukkonen**

**5555 3rd Line Tottenham ON**

**SATURDAY MAY 11/2024 @ 10AM**

Of household, antiques, collectibles, numerous tools, extensive artwork, vehicles, tractor & misc.

**Vehicles:** 1957 Studebaker Silver Hawk serial # 7203827. Vehicle has undergone engine and body work with all bills to prove. Odometer shows approx 100,000 miles

1999 Chevrolet Camaro convertible, 350 V8 w/automatic transmission serial # 2G1FP32G6X2109131. Low km, both vehicles selling as is. 1956 Studebaker transmission.

**Tractor:** Massey Ferguson # 362 WD, open station c/w 932 qt loader and material bucket. Hour meter reads 2769hrs. 6' George White snowblower, Dearborn farm equip 2 furrow plough, 3pth grader blade, Ford flail mower, 2 barrels of diesel fuel.

Garden Tractor: John Deere E140 rider mower c/w 48' mower deck, garden trailer, Stihl FS 56 RC whipper. 4000 watt generator,

**Household:** Solid dining room suite w/table, chair, buffet/hutch, futon, coffee and end tables, bedroom furniture, lamps, desks, sewing machine and supplies, quilts, fine china and glassware, small appliances, nick knacks, Corelle dishes, occasional chairs, Spalding 11x11 screen house (new in box), Cook master electric smoker (new in box), camera equip; dvd player etc; and general household items and furnishings.

**Antiques:** Hoosier cabinet c/w flour sifter,cookbook holder and sugar bin, ornate china cabinet, wicker, cabinet, gate leg table, book shelves, blanket box, drop leaf desk, hall bench, jug, bowl, basin and stand set, coffee grinder, fish scale, typewriter, office specialty chairs, desks, Northumbria fine china (Lake Louise pattern), figurines, fur coats, carboys, bottle capper, new wine and beer bottles, and much more and boxes not yet opened.

Special Interest: 1980's original IBM computer with keyboard, printer, monitor and disks.

**Tools:** Genie garage door opener(new in box), lawn mower lift, Makita 16 mm drill, 4.5'angle grinder, Craftsman sabre saw, tap and die set, B&D/DeWalt skil saws, new anvil, vise, clamps, screwdrivers, levels, files, air hammer, Bosch hammer drill, trouble lights, Poulan 50cc chainsaw, storage racks, pipe wrenches, 7' new tile saw, Campbell Hausfeld portable air compressor, miter saw, garden hose/reels, pressure washer, B&D new pruning saw, B&D router, easy out set, new socket sets, wrench sets, Mastercraft 1/2' impact gun, battery chargers, air tools, jacks, Toro blower vac, shop vac, car ramps, Waterloo tool chest, wedges, King bench grinder,sprayer back pak,, rope, chain, gas cans, ladders and so much more. Many items are brand new. Qty of cement block, bricks, paving stones

Parial list only. Keep watching our web pages as we find more items.

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### OBITUARIES

#### WILLIAM (CLIFF) CHAPMAN

It is with great sadness we announced the passing of William (Cliff) Chapman on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at the age of 88.

Cliff was the youngest brother of 4 other siblings Bob (predeceased), Ross (predeceased), Ola, and Orval (Patricia predeceased).

Cliff made many happy memories with his wife Cecelia at their home in the country, where he was most happy in the garden or enjoying a good meal (steak, bacon and eggs) with family and friends. Cliff always liked to raise a glass at the end of the day, tell a good story and have a trip down memory lane.

Cliff worked in his community helping many with odd jobs, and brought joy to all the family, friends and neighbors as he assisted with fixing many projects.

Cliff was a loving father to Gwen/Wendy (Rob), and step-dad to Julianne (Mark), and Wayne. Proud grandfather of Mackenzie (Zoe), Laurysa and Myles who held a special place in his heart. Fondly remembered by his nephew Thomas and his nieces Beverly, Shirley, Pat, and Sue to name a few.

A special thanks to the staff on the Lake unit at Maple Grove Community, Brampton. We would also like to extend a special thanks and appreciation to his private personal assistant Indy, who always advocated for Cliff as well as had him smiling and looking dapper.

Friends and family were welcomed at Egan Funeral Home, 203 Queen Street S. (Hwy 50) Bolton on Monday April 22 for a funeral service in the chapel at 12:00 noon. Interment followed at Morningside Cemetery, Palgrave.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation or Alzheimer Society.

Condolences for the family may be offered at [www.EganFuneralHome.com](http://www.EganFuneralHome.com)



### OBITUARIES

#### BERNICE (BUNNY) LEARMONT

With family by her side and with heavy hearts, we announce the passing of Bernice (Bunny) Learmont (née Green) on Wednesday, April 17, 2024, at the age of 96. Beloved wife for 68 years to the late Stuart Learmont. Loving mother to Wendy (Chris). Cherished Nana to Brad (Michelle), Greg (Laura), Kevin, and Melanie. Proud Great-Nana to Ella, Jackson and Carter. Sister to Derek Green (Nancy) and the late Kathy.

Cremation has taken place. A celebration of life to be held at a later date.

Condolences for the family may be offered at [www.EganFuneralHome.com](http://www.EganFuneralHome.com)



#### CLARK, RICHARD DAVID EDWARD (RICK)

Peacefully at Southlake Hospital Newmarket on Tuesday, April 16th, 2024 at the age of 73. Beloved husband of Janice Clark. Dear step-father of Willow, Leif (Shelley) and Jesse (Ada), Cherished Grandpa to Erin, Ayla, Bryliegh, Avia, Scarlett, Kingsley and Lux. Dearest great-grandfather to Brooklyn. Remembered by his sisters Carol Jamieson (Joe) and Susan Clark (Bill). Rick will also be greatly missed by his nieces and nephews Joseph, Timothy (Joanne), Bill, and Julianne, other relatives and many friends.

Rick worked in various capacities for the Town of Orangeville for 26 years and retired at 65. Rick was a passionate Leaf and Blue Jays fan. He was deeply involved in his community with his sports activities and at Compass Community Church. He had a deep faith and spent his life serving in his church; teaching, providing leadership for men's ministry, serving on the board of elders and providing prayer and encouragement for others. Rick touched many lives and will be dearly missed by all who knew him.

A celebration of Rick's life will be held at Compass Community Church Hwy. 10 & Hockley Rd., Mono, Ontario on Monday, April 29th, 2024 at 2:30 pm. with visitation beginning at 1:30 pm. Memorial donations to your local Food Bank would be appreciated by the family. Condolences may be offered to the family at [www.dodsandmclair.com](http://www.dodsandmclair.com)



#### ROSIE JONES

MARCH 26, 1924 - APRIL 16, 2024

It is with deep sadness that the family of Rosie Jones (nee Cook) announce her sudden passing on April 16th, 2024, at the age of 100. She will be fondly remembered by her grandchildren, Leslie, Glenn (and wife Natalie) & Jeffrey Groves, Keith (and Michele) & Kevin Jones and her 5 great grandchildren, Brittany, Erin, Madelaine, Dalton and Delaney, her brothers Ron Cook (and wife, Jean) and Bernard Cook, her nieces Pauline, Gillian and Theresa and their children and grandchildren, and sister-in-law June Jones and her son, Martin Jones.

She was predeceased by her loving husband Roy Jones, her daughter Vivianne Groves (nee Jones) and son, Barry Jones as well as brothers James Cook and William Cook; and will be sadly missed by her son-in-law Paul Groves and daughter in law, Linda Jones.

A private service will be held at a later date, when she will be reunited with her late husband in Owen Sound.

Memorial donations can be made in the name of Rosie Jones, to the Alzheimer Society of Dufferin County, 25 Centennial Rd, Unit 1, Orangeville, ON L9W 1R1

The family wishes to extend a special thank you to the staff at Dufferin Oaks Long Term Care Centre in Shelburne for their loving and compassionate care of our Rosie. Rest in Peace Nanny.

Online condolences can be made at [www.infunerals.com](http://www.infunerals.com)

In Memoriam Funeral Services Inc. has been given the honour to serve the Jones family.



#### UNA LOUISE (BABE) GARDNER (NEE MCCLENNAN)

Peacefully at Caressant Care, Arthur at the age of 101. Beloved wife of the late Victor (Bud) Gardner. Dear mother of Ken Gardner (Sandra Pilatzke) and Georgia Percy (Ian). Cherished grandmother of Adam Gardner, Jennifer Gardner (Caleb Ward), Erin Haug (Mark) and Ryan Kelly (Lisa Baudet). Loving Great-grandmother of Matthew, Tyler. Predeceased by her brother Ken McClelland. Babe will also be greatly missed by other relatives and many friends.

Memorial donations to Headwaters Health Care Centre of would be appreciated by the family.

Condolences may be offered to the family at [www.dodsandmclair.com](http://www.dodsandmclair.com)

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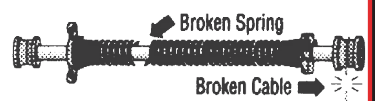
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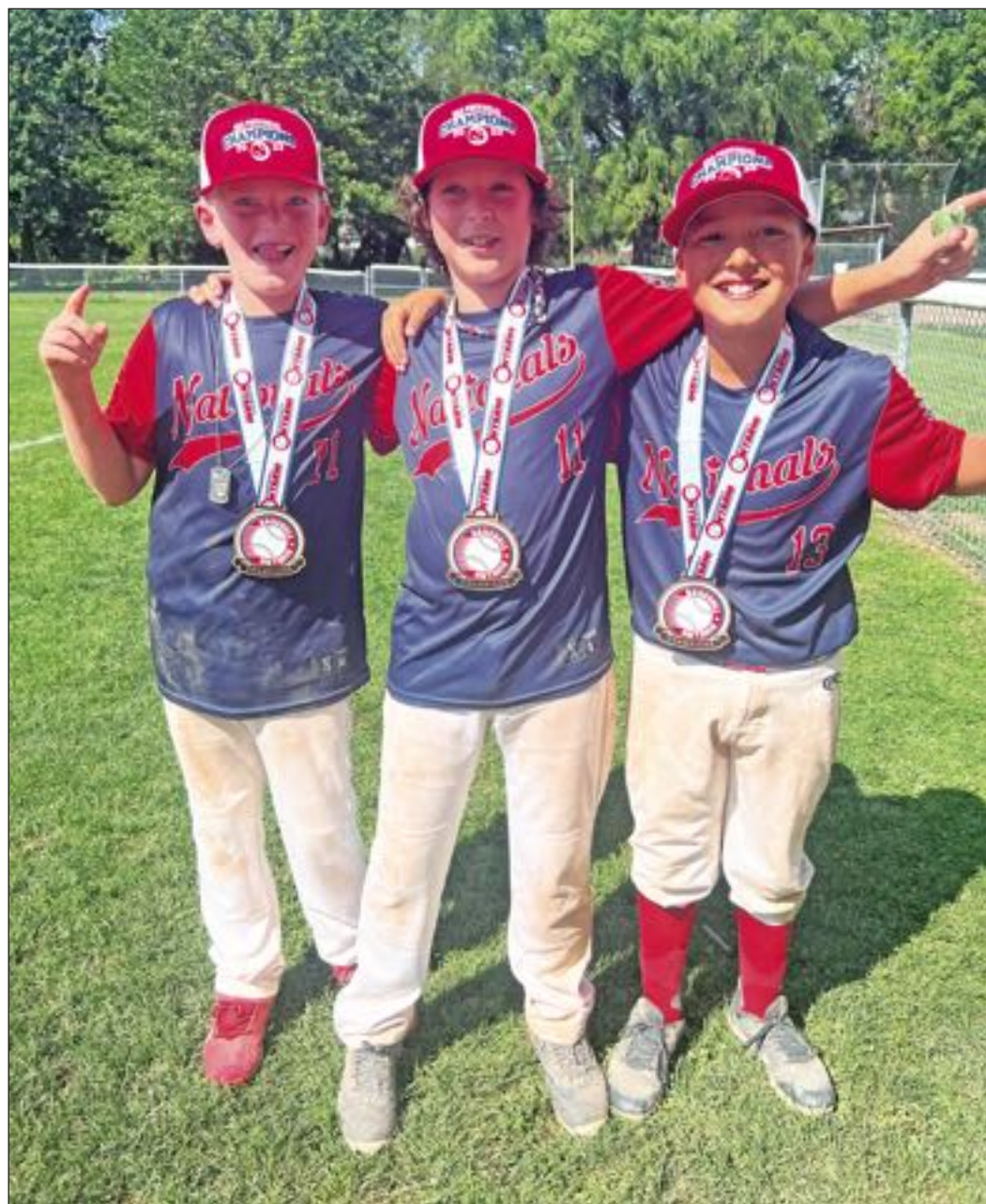
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# Caledon Minor Baseball Association celebrates big moments from 2023 and looks ahead to '24



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BY JIM STEWART

Caledon Minor Baseball Association (CMBA) 1st Vice President John Ruta is looking forward to three big events this spring to kick off the 2024 baseball season. However, the amiable executive took time during our interview to relish the Association's successes of 2023.

Most significantly, Ruta pointed to a provincial title won by Head Coach Adam Panacci's potent Caledon Nationals 10U AA team.

"Our biggest success story from last sea-

son was Adam's team winning their 2023 10U AA OBA Championship. It was a really a great year for this young squad and it's great to start our 2024 season talking about this group's accomplishments."

The OBA Championship squad featured the formidable and collective talents of #2 Eli Matchett, #6 Dan Raso, #7 Cale Beech, #11 Gabriel Panacci, #13 Michael Para-Mancini, #14 Kaden Dawe, #16 Evan Roy, #20 Dylan Calway, #24 Max Rebella-to, #71 Nicholas Lewis, #92 Michael Santos, and #99 Elijah Cook.

Coach Panacci was pleased with his

young team's impressive overall performance.

"We were 17-3 in league play, including winning our last 17 league and playoff games combined which featured a sweep of the YSBA playoffs and the OBA championship."

The 10U Nationals marched with great momentum through the Provincials and Coach Panacci delineated their impressive five-game dominance to capture the OBA AA championship: an 11-2 opening round win over the Riverside Whitecaps; an 8-4 victory over the Niagara Falls Falcons; a 10-1 rout of the Waterdown Wolves; an 11-2 semifinal win over the Orangeville Bengals; and a wild 12-7 slugfest victory in a rematch with the Wolves in the championship game.

The Nationals' Head Coach also noted, "We were the winners of the 2023 Caledon Nationals Baseball Association Tournament and the 2023 Greater Niagara Baseball Association Tournament."

With the 10U Nationals OBA Championship pennant hung for posterity, the CMBA is looking ahead to some very big Spring events including the May 5 Blue Jays Academy Clinic at Caledon East.

Ruta explained the clinic's finer details: "We have 114 registered which is a great number of participants. The Jays do a really nice job for the local organizations and they make our role relatively simple: we provide the diamonds in Caledon East, we make sure the bathrooms are available, we provide cold water as needed, and, most importantly, we promote the event, which Vicky did a great job of doing. The clinic is for kids 8 - 12, although there is some flexibility, and the instructors will run drills focused on fundamentals.

The Jays also give the local baseball association \$1,000. for putting on the clinic. The clinic runs from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

When asked what was the best part of this win-win arrangement with the Blue Jays Academy, Ruta zeroed in on the value of promoting the game of baseball in Caledon: "It really helps the CMBA promote our local organization and the game in this community. The timing this year is great, as it helps build a lot of excitement and visibility for the start of the season here in Caledon. It's a great way to kick off the

year."

Another key kick-off event for the CMBA will occur on May 25 when the organization celebrates Opening Day for House League teams at the North Hill diamonds starting at 8 a.m. Ruta outlined the details regarding the teams - ranging from 5U-18U - which will play their first game of the season at the north Bolton ball diamonds.

"We have an opening ceremony that starts about 8 a.m. and has a short agenda: [a] welcome to the season from Jason Sweeney, our VP of House League; a few words from Mayor Annette Groves; then we're off to Diamond 2 for the national Anthem; we'll have Mayor Groves throw out the first pitch to one of our 7U catchers; then the games run the rest of the day with a live band and BBQ for the enjoyment of participants."

Although enrolment is up this year with over 600 players registered, Ruta made a last minute request for players to augment the rosters in two divisions.

"We still have room in the 13U division and 18U/15U division, so parents or players can reach out via our website to register for the few spots available: [www.caledonminorbaseball.com](http://www.caledonminorbaseball.com) and go to registration."

A third big event on the CMBA calendar, according to Ruta, "is the June 1st Opening Day for our Challenger program."

This event reveals the evolution of the CMBA and demonstrates the organization's drive to make baseball more accessible to physically-challenged or developmentally-delayed children. Ruta made an impassioned request for "volunteer 'buddies.'" Each player has a buddy assigned to help them navigate their way around the diamond and ensure they are safe and can enjoy the experience. Anyone interested in helping out can email [Caledonbuddies1@gmail.com](mailto:Caledonbuddies1@gmail.com).

Exciting times are ahead for the Caledon Minor Baseball Association in 2024 - another sure sign that Spring is here. It will be a welcome sight to see the Boys and Girls of Summer gracing the diamond when the calendar turns from April to May.

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