

# Plans for what to do for New Year's Eve are still pending

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in Toronto for a living, I was working New Year's Eve, usually tending bar at some party or another. It wasn't such a bad deal, since I didn't have to be alone and feeling sorry for

myself. The down side was they were usually short handed for the following day, so I usually got pressed into service to help out a breakfast New Year's morning, pouring strong coffee into the same louts who had given me a hard

time the night before.

I also fulfilled one of the items on my life's to-do list and one year joined the massive observances at Nathan Phillips Square in Toronto (and resolved never to do that again).

Beth and I spent a couple of New Year's Eves skating, but I doubt my legs are up to the challenge now. There have also been evenings where we have gone to movies (I think Beth is leaning in that direction for this New Year's Eve)

or found another couple (usually Beth's brother and his wife) for rousing game of Monopoly or euchre.

We'll think of something to do with the evening, and since we'll be together, we'll have a good time.

And as we come to the end of this year, I guess that is the best wish I can extend to all of you. Be happy in your celebrations, and be happy in the year to come.

Got through another column.

## Alastair Sim helped capture the true meaning of the season

For the longest time, I held a bit of a Christmas tradition watching Charles Dickens's A Christmas Carol, the 1951 classic starring Alastair Sim. Seeing Ebenezer Scrooge converted from a bitter old miser after being haunted by ghosts on Christmas Eve was scary, thrilling and at the same time an uplifting tale of the good that exists in all humankind.

The most wonderful part of this timeless movie is revealed as Scrooge awakens on Christmas Day and discovers that the true meaning of the season is treating those around you with kindness, generosity, and compassion. It has always been a movie that makes me think about the many blessings I've enjoyed throughout my life.

At this time of year, we are all drawn to our families; those close to us and those far away – in geography or perhaps in spirit. Each day I am reminded of the unconditional love, support and the gentle "corrections" my family provides me as I go about my day-to-day business as mayor of this great community. I can assure you, I could not do this job if it were not for the unconditional support of my family.

As I crisscross the town during the holiday season, I'm constantly inspired by

the hundreds of residents I meet who exhibit great kindness, generosity and compassion. Fund-raising events for local charities, kindly donations to worthy causes, fabulous community events for families and children, helpful neighborhood services and spiritual celebrations of every faith throughout Caledon. I am so very fortunate to be invited to participate in many of these special occasions and each one fills me with a sense of community pride that truly reflects the wonderful people who live in this Town. Caledon is blessed with generous, kind-hearted and caring residents and I am proud to serve as mayor of such a wonderful community.

Caledon is a well-respected community; our municipal colleagues and our partners at the Provincial and federal government levels hold us in the highest regard. Much of this is due to the spirit and resolve of our residents, but equally it is a result of the professionalism and commitment of our Town staff. Each day I witness countless examples of the sincere dedication and loyalty our staff have for the work they do in serving the residents of Caledon; not only through their day-to-day responsibilities but, as importantly, through the



### Mayor's Report

By Marolyn Morrison

extra efforts they make in supporting those who may be less fortunate in our community. This year once again, Town staff exceeded their fund-raising goal for the United Way and all members of council and our senior management team are extremely proud of our staff team in surpassing their objective. Our staff embodies the spirit of Christmas and work diligently to demonstrate their professionalism and goodwill to our residents throughout the year.

Christmas is a time for family. This Christmas is truly special and I'm thankful that my sons and my daughter-in-law are home from Afghanistan and that our family was blessed this year with a Christmas baby. I am thankful for the countless residents of this great Town who do so much to enhance the quality of life of our community and I'm thankful we have the finest municipal

staff to support the work that we do at Town Hall.

As Charles Dickens wrote at the end of A Christmas Carol "It was always said of him, that he knew how to keep Christmas well, if any man alive possessed the

knowledge. May that be truly said of us." These words remind me of our Town and the amazing people who live and work here ... what a great community!

And so, as Tiny Tim observed, "God Bless Us, Every One!" John and I wish you all a very merry Christmas and a joyful New Year.

## Waste collectors get New Year's Day off

Caledon residents who normally get their garbage collected Friday, will be having their pick-up one day later this week.

The will be no collections tomorrow (New year's Day). It will be Saturday.

Residents who regularly receive waste collection Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday will not be affected by the Holiday schedule.

Peel Region's Community Recycling Centres will be closed Friday.



**Caledon Community Services: A Community-Impact Organization "Helping People Help Themselves".**

Employment · Transportation · Seniors Supportive Housing · Eco-Stores  
Health and Counselling · Language Instruction · Crisis Support · Volunteering  
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[www.ccs4u.org](http://www.ccs4u.org)

905.584.2300

## "Back to Basics" By Kate Kane



It's that time of the year again. Another new year and more additions to the list of things we have every intention of doing in the coming year, but will never get done.

Let's face it, these clothes are now vintage and a new generation will be interested in them. I will have to blow off the dust, but they will make someone else very happy.

The ReUstore, our agency's other retailer where there are extraordinary finds, will be the recipient of my home exercise equipment. With all the equipment that I have accumulated over the years hoping to get into shape, I could open my own gym. I have, however, learned a very expensive lesson: purchasing exercise equipment does not mean I am going to be fit. The trick is in the execution.

While I'm going through this back to basics campaign, I will finally donate those dishes sitting in my basement never to be used by anyone. I'm going to buy myself some storage solutions at The ReUstore and get my basement "thinned out." I'm determined that someone or something will get thin in the New Year!

"Don't chuck it, truck It" will be my own personal motto for the New Year. The donation truck pick-up will need to be on my speed dial. So if you see me in the stores in the New Year, ask me how my back to basics campaign is going. I'm thinking this just may be the year when I'm able to succeed in my resolution, er . . . my back to basics campaign.

### How Do You See It?

Tell us how you see it.

You can reach Kate Kane, Manager of Stores, at 905.857.7824 or [kkane@ccs4u.org](mailto:kkane@ccs4u.org)

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

## Our Readers Write

### Thanks for the Miracle

Wow! Royal LePage RCR Bolton realtors really know how to perform a miracle.

Nov. 28, Royal LePage realtors and hundreds of student volunteers from local high schools arrived in Caledon neighbourhoods to collect toys, food and cash donations for Caledon Community Services' (CCS) annual Santa Fund, which serves families in the Caledon Community. The generosity of residents is

astounding. It just gets better every year, and in today's economy when the need is higher than ever, the community stepped up to the plate, not just matching last year's donations, but exceeding them.

CCS would like to thank Royal LePage and the many households who donated, for their continued support of local families in need.

CCS is accepting donations of new, unwrapped

toys, non-perishable foods, laundry detergent, toiletries, cash, gifts for teens and gift cards, at their Santa Fund warehouse in the President's Building, Albion Bolton Fairgrounds (150 Queen St. South, Bolton). The warehouse is open Dec. 3 to 15, Tuesday to Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Jo-Anna Lenz  
Manager,  
Community Services  
Caledon Community Services

### Santa keeps on truckin'

Once again this year, George Ledson of Cavalier Transportation Services Inc. and Ledson Holdings has generously paid for all the Meals on Wheels clients' meals for one full week as his Christmas gift to seniors.

George's Cavalier Christmas Week has become an annual event, with all the clients truly looking forward to this Christmas "treat." All of the Caledon Meals on

Wheels clients are touched by George's generosity and this gift has also allowed the seniors to have some extra pocket money for the purchase of special items for the Christmas season.

George has been a great supporter of Caledon Meals on Wheels for many years, but is also a generous contributor to many organizations throughout the Town of Caledon and huge contribu-

tor to Headwaters Hospital. To top that off, George is just one great guy.

We salute you George and on behalf of our clients, the Board of Directors, the staff and all the volunteers, our most heartfelt appreciation for the difference you make in the lives of seniors in our community.

Carol Kidd,  
Executive Director,  
Caledon Meals on Wheels