



The View from Belfountain

Summer 2016



Under the Maples

Belfountain Outdoor

Music Festival

Saturday, June 25th

4-9 p.m.



Come on out and enjoy the second annual "Under The Maples" outdoor music festival on Saturday, June 25, 4 – 9 p.m.

Andy Pollock & the Bad Weather Band will open the show (from 4 – 6 p.m.) for the **Practically Hip** (6 – 9 p.m.).

Enjoy the great food—menu by Thorntin Macdonald of the Belfountain Inn and Bistro Riviere, beer tent, and fun, in an idyllic setting!

Tickets are \$20, available at www.ticketpro.ca, at Higher Ground in Belfountain and the Inglewood General Store, and at the gate. All net proceeds from this year's concert will be dedicated to the Canadian Red Cross Relief Fund for Fort McMurray.

Guests are encouraged to arrive early, and bring a chair or blanket as there is no reserved seating.

Under the Maples is generously hosted at the property of local businessman Bill Moffat, at 17360 Mississauga Rd, opposite the Caledon Ski Club which has provided complimentary parking.

For EVENT INFORMATION call 519 993 1715, or visit:

<http://www.belfountain.ca/belfountain-music-under-the-maples/>

UPCOMING!

Watch for the grand re-opening of the beautifully-renovated Belfountain Community Hall this summer, featuring music by Rod Salisbury and the Golden Country Classics Band.

Date and time TBA on www.belfountain.ca

SOMETHING SPECIAL IS TURNING 20 IN BELFOUNTAIN Salamander Festival 2016

Yes folks, it was twenty years ago when a little event in Belfountain to celebrate community was born.



Myfanway Douglas, the chair of the first Salamander event, called it a jazz festival in the Credit Valley Conservation park. "Fostering community spirit was key to the celebration," she added.

Over the years, the Salamander Festival has become the soul of community spirit with residents and visitors eagerly participating in the fabulous food, live music, various booths and activities which make the day truly a family affair. Whether you spend time on the grounds of the Belfountain Village Church or in the CVC park, it is a wonderful day for the young and young at heart.

Salamander Festival is slated for Saturday, September 24th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and is sponsored by the Belfountain Community Organization, the Credit Valley Conservation, and the Town of Caledon.

Celebrating the Jefferson Salamander is a major fundraiser for the Belfountain Community Organization whose mandate is to preserve the rural heritage and environmental integrity of the Hamlet of Belfountain and its environs.

Saturday, September 24th
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Save the date and come out to celebrate 20 years of honouring the Jefferson Salamander!

If you would like to volunteer at this year's Salamander Festival, please contact us through www.belfountain.ca Extra hands would be very much appreciated.

Grecia Mayers

Salamander Festival committee member

GREENBELT FUTURE

Folks from across Caledon milled around the Caledon Community Complex the evening of June 9th, while smiling staff explained where the Greenbelt is going.

The review conducted over the past year under chair, David Crombie, is titled, *Shaping Land Use in the Greater Golden Horseshoe*, and covers considerable land beyond the Greenbelt—which itself includes the Niagara Escarpment Plan and the Oak Ridges Moraine.

The review proposes 87 recommendations ranging from, intensification of urban centres, to transportation corridors, and preservation of farmland and heritage buildings.

The starting point, review spokesmen told the large gathering, is the fact that four million more people are expected in the Greater Golden Horseshoe over the next 25 years.

The Greenbelt area is currently 800,000 hectares. The new version intends to leave those hectares intact and proposes adding 45,000 more hectares.

But the claimed new green acreage—hectareage?—appears somewhat exaggerated.

The Greenbelt will gain some 1,500 hectares with four chunks of land named by the City of Hamilton and Niagara Region. But, as the booklet handed out at the meeting states, the remaining addition is mainly “21 major river valleys and seven associated coastal wetlands” flowing into Lake Ontario.

The maps distributed at the gathering clearly show the new green corridors extending 60 metres to either side of the Credit, the Humber and the other rivers. But, outside of some government-owned tracts, the banks of many of the rivers are already massively developed. So dubbing these lands as “green” seems a bit illusory.

Further expansion of the Greenbelt by extending its outer fringe north and east is to be addressed at a later date, staff said. As for the environmental assessment for a contemplated new Highway 413 east/west across the study area, on that, too, staff were vague.



PINKNEY HOUSE FUTURE

Eight years after Caledon ‘listed’ it just in time to stop the bulldozer, the historic stone Pinkney House on Shaw’s Creek Road remains in limbo.

The 97-acre property that the Pinkney family inhabited for nearly a century and a half is owned by Lafarge gravel, while the house sits derelict beside the Cataract-Elora walking trail.

But hope’s small flame was ignited at the June 13 meeting at the Town of Caledon headquarters when the Heritage Caledon Committee, a joint government-citizen committee, voted to ask Council to designate the property as a heritage site.

A team of Belfountain residents has long advocated salvaging the Pinkney House along with an underlying acre or two. Heritage designation could be step-one in that process. Perhaps surprisingly, the Heritage Caledon Committee’s new proposal is to designate the entire original farm.

The heritage designation recommendation will undergo a somewhat protracted process, and a happy ending is by no means guaranteed.

The committee’s recommendation will go to Council where it is expected to receive assent to publicize the intent to designate.

If the corporate owner objects, the two sides can send lawyers to argue the case before the provincial Conservation Review Board, says Caledon Heritage Officer Sally Drummond.

But, she added, unlike contested development proposals that go to the Ontario Municipal Board, Council can disregard the ruling of the Conservation Review Board. Other jurisdictions, such as Toronto, do so quite often.

However, she cautioned, Caledon Council has never designated a house over the head of a protesting owner.

The heritage committee meeting also endorsed a proposal to create a Heritage Conservation District (HCD) in Alton, which has “over 100 heritage buildings.”

The View from Belfountain...

is available online: <http://www.belfountain.ca>

Have News For The View? If you would like to write an article or have news of the comings and goings of Belfountain and area residents, we invite you to contact us at: theview@belfountain.ca

Our organization accepts no liability for the content. Any views or opinions presented in this newsletter are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the organization.

BELFOUNTAIN'S HERITAGE DESIGNATION NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

There's no argument that Belfountain is rife with history and that thousands of people visit every year to enjoy a little heritage exposure.

So, in 2014, Belfountain sent a delegation to the Town of Caledon's Heritage Committee, to apply for Heritage Conservation District Designation.



While the delegation was well-received, we were not able to ask for a motion to approve in Council, at the time, because the election was hovering and the Town was in the midst of processing Bolton's Heritage application (which took about 2 years and is still in process.)

But the time to move forward is now!

A little background...

Belfountain was established around 1825.

Almost 200 years later, in 2009, the Town of Caledon commissioned a Heritage Inventory Report that recommended designation of Belfountain and much of the Credit Gorge as a "Cultural Heritage Landscape."

With this excellent recommendation to back us up, the option that Belfountain seeks is called a "Heritage Conservation District" or HCD.

What's an HCD?

An HCD can be a group of buildings, or a larger area that includes buildings and properties. Or – as in our case – it includes rural landscapes or entire villages or hamlets with features or land patterns that contribute to a cohesive sense of time or place.

The HCD contributes to an understanding and appreciation of the cultural identity of the local community, region, province or nation.

Why does Belfountain need an HCD?

Belfountain is facing unprecedented pressures that include development, increased tourism without the planning needed so our area can handle the burden without being squashed by a huge visitor "footprint", regional intensification plans, and massive development just south of us – all of which encroach on this quietly beautiful rural and historical area.

As the delegation pointed out to the Town, two years ago, "The existence of this unique resource is under dire threat and will be obliterated if not protected. A Heritage Conservation Designation is Required!"

Is there a downside?

Some have expressed concerns that Heritage Designation will restrict what they can do with their houses or on their properties. However, we have learned that because Belfountain is on the

Niagara Escarpment, nothing will change much because the restrictions the NEC *already* has in place are quite similar to those of a Heritage District. So, apparently, it won't be much different than it is now.

And one of the beauties of a Heritage Conservation District is that it *raises* property values. There's a growing population who value heritage buildings and are willing to pay more to live in one.

All of West Caledon needs Designation

The Board of the Belfountain Community Organization strongly believes that ALL the villages in west Caledon should be protected by Heritage designation. Caledon's heritage buildings, hamlets and landscapes are what make it so special and are the reason people come here from all over the world.

So watch your email for an upcoming meeting where Belfountainites can show the Town that we support conserving this unique place, now, and for future generations.



The Caledon Library Needs Your Input

by Colleen Lipp, CEO

Work on the Library's Facility/Service Review and Master Plan is moving along quickly. The first and most important element of this process is engaging the community to learn about their library service needs. We will be seeking public input regarding our Master Planning efforts through an online survey as well as a number of focus groups. The survey is available through the Library's website.

The following public sessions have been scheduled:

- Caledon East, Caledon Community Complex, Lion's Den, Monday, June 20, 2 PM
- Bolton, CCRW, Training Room, Monday, June 20, 7 PM
- Caledon Village, Caledon Village Place, Tuesday, June 21, 10 AM
- Mayfield West, Margaret Dunn Valleywood, Community Room, Tuesday, June 21, 7 PM

Each session will be facilitated by our consultants from LGA Architectural Partners and Lighthouse Consulting and will last approximately 60 – 90 minutes. Interested residents are asked to register in advance by contacting the library. Though we are hosting one session in each ward of Caledon, participants are welcome to attend which ever session is most convenient.

From Regional Councillor Barb Shaughnessy

Don't Miss:

Whitebelt Visioning Exercise
June 27, 2016

Caledon Council has directed that a Visioning Exercise for the Whitebelt be undertaken. The Whitebelt is the area outside the Greenbelt and existing settlement areas in south Caledon.

The Study will generate a land-use vision for the Whitebelt, looking at all land uses including residential, commercial, employment lands, institutional, agriculture and environmental protection.

Read the full post here:

<http://www.caledonward1.ca/post/whitebelt-open-house>

Ward 1 Think Tank Meeting

One of Ward 1's strengths is the passion and depth of knowledge and experience of residents. Join our Think Tank to address the challenges we face and brainstorm possible solutions. Get listed in the directory and participate on Ad Hoc committees created for specific issues. This is a great opportunity for someone who is not a member of a club, who does not want to join a group, but wants to contribute.

There is still time to join if you haven't already done so. Meeting date: July 20, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. The location of the meeting will be confirmed via email.

<http://www.caledonward1.ca/think-tank>

Lobsterfest 2016

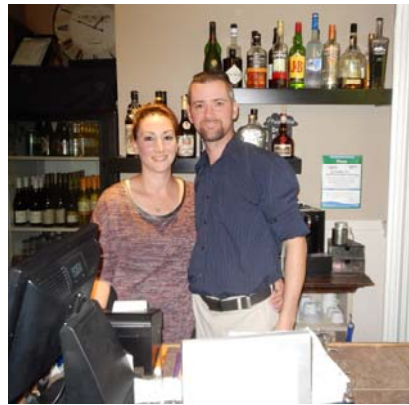


Thanks to all who participated in our very successful 3rd Annual Lobsterfest – staff, volunteers and, of course, diners!

As always, the Belfountain Inn's Thorntin and Sonia MacDonald, chef Nic Reynolds and his assistant, did a fabulous job hosting Belfountain's most delicious fundraiser. The lobster was sweet and succulent—many said it was even better than last year's! The Prime Rib was tender and irresistible... and a wonderful time was had by all.

We look forward to seeing you at next year's Lobsterfest. Don't forget to tell all your friends!

Lobsterfest photos....



Belfountain Inn's Sonia & Thorntin MacDonald.



Maurica Connell.



Satisfied diners—Carole Bellamy with new neighbours, Maurice and Layla Bim.



Yumm!



Lobster chefs: Doug Connell, Mike Ellis (Lobsterfest organizer) and Toby Cadham.



A full house!