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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Motown, Caledon-style, aids local families and seniors

Whoever said that Motown was south of the border did not drop in on Glen Eagle on November 21st. The place was full of soul, not to mention made-in-Caledon community passion in support of Caledon Community Services' 12th Annual Motown Gala. Spirits were high and generosity was in abundance from all of the guests who stepped up and raised funds to support our community's families and seniors who rely on CCS services throughout the year.

There were unique live auction items that generated quite a buzz, ranging from hockey tickets, a Niagara-on-the-Lake Cottage and a hot air balloon ride to personal in-home cooking classes. Also featured in the live auction were two special ways to help our community: **Feed a Family of Four for One Month** and **Help Alleviate the Loneliness of Seniors** which raised thousands of dollars for the purchase of wholesome foods, afternoon teas, movie nights, birthday dinners, luncheons, and holiday celebrations for the less fortunate.

Our Gala Committee is a group of exemplary women, the kind that binds communities together and ensures their compassion endures for all. I cannot possibly say enough about their efforts during a very tough year for charitable organizations. Chaired by Carine Strong with a supporting cast made up of Barb Gough, Danila Maric, Barb Goodhand, Pat Valliere, Evelyn Collingwood, Barb Crocker, Cynthia Koelsch, Rose Dupont, Sharon Clark-Koufis, Alison Bing, Jennifer Steele, Deb Yeager, Vicki Bradley and Kelly Malcher, these women offered their time in monthly meetings that turned into weekly meetings over the summer and then daily meetings in the last month of frenetic work. Their efforts were rewarded by a community that stood very tall for those in need.

Gala sponsors included the Bill Parnaby Sales Team, Scotiabank in Orangeville, Simply Gorgeous, Tarten, Cavalier Transportation Services, Northeast Engineering and Development Ltd., RP Graphics Group, The Schad Foundation, Robert Hanrahan, TWC Imports, ConCreate USL Ltd., Region of Peel, Soncin Construction Corporation, Grand Entrance Design, and Everlasting Image Photography. A special thank you to Glen Eagle Golf and Country Club for their hospitality. In a year in which the Toronto Star recently reported that charitable contributions are down by 35% throughout the GTA, these sponsors saw the need in their own community and stepped up in a big way for Caledon.

While it might have been the music that got people on the dance floor, it was all heart that had them extending kindness for their neighbours in our community.

Thank-you to all committee members, sponsors, donors and other volunteers who made the 12th Annual Motown Gala the biggest success the GTA has seen this year! Clearly, Caledon ranks second to none in heart, soul, kindness and generosity.

Monty Laskin, Executive Director
Caledon Community Services

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