#### **THURSDAY**

#### SEPTEMBER 2, 2021

# THE INDEPENDENT & FREE PRESS







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Graham Paine/Metroland

Darlene Hartung of Williams Mill Creative Art Studio is among those who've benefited from the Digital Main Street program.

## HELPING BUSINESSES WEATHER THE COVID STORM

### SECOND ROUND OF FUNDING ANNOUNCED FOR DIGITAL MAIN STREET

HERB GARBUTT

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Darlene Hartung had just opened her art studio in Williams Mill. Her plan was to wait a

year and then evaluate whether she should keep it.

Then, six months in, the CO-VID-19 pandemic brought a lockdown, closing the studio. For someone who relied on foot traffic and word of mouth for exposure for her work and the lessons she taught, it was far from ideal.

Looking for some ways to boost her business, she took an entrepreneurship program offered by Halton Region. It was there where she heard of another program she thought might help.

Digital Main Street, a provincially and federally funded program administered by the Town of Halton Hills through its eco-

See PROGRAM, page 7

### **VOTE** 2021

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**AMION THE VOTERS' LIST?** 

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