

# Photographing the night sky

*Astrophotography tips at May 11 meeting of HAA, writes Carr*

If you would like pointers on how to take your first night sky picture, you'll want to attend the Hamilton Amateur Astronomers (HAA) meeting on May 11, 7:30-9:30 p.m. at the Hamilton Spectator, 44 Frid St., where speaker Matthew Mannering will discuss the "Nuts and Bolts of Astrophotography us-

ing a DSLR."

Mannering will talk about equipment, setup and data acquisition. He'll also talk about camera sensors, settings and various combinations of mounts.

Free admission, door prizes and everybody welcome. An optional food bank donation of non-per-



**MARIO CARR**  
Column

ishable goods will be collected and appreciated.

Here are May stargazing events, which are listed

in the 2018 Hamilton Amateur Astronomers calendar.

Mars rises at about 7 a.m. in the southeast sky. If you observe the planet through a telescope, you'll notice that it becomes larger and brighter with every passing night. You'll also see more detail on its surface as we become closer to the red planet.

May 5: The Eta Aquarid meteor shower peaks after midnight. Saturn is close

to the moon in the predawn sky.

May 6: The moon and Mars are close in the predawn sky.

May 8: Jupiter is at opposition and is at its brightest and closest to the Earth for 2018. It can be seen all night rising in the southeast at dusk and setting in the southwest at dawn.

May 17: The moon is close to Venus low in the evening twilight sky.

May 27: The moon is

close to Jupiter in the evening sky.

May 31: Saturn and the moon are close late evening.

For more information, see the Hamilton Amateur Astronomers website at [amateurastronomy.org](http://amateurastronomy.org) or call 905-627-4323.

*Mario Carr, the author of this report, is the club's director of publicity and can be reached at [mario-carr@cogeco.ca](mailto:mario-carr@cogeco.ca) or on Twitter (@MarioCCarr).*

## Nassagaweya roadside cleanup set for May 5

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Once again, the Nassagaweya community consultation committee is organizing the cleanup of rural roads.

Over the years, thanks to the generous help from local resident volunteers, hundreds of tonnes of garbage have been removed from local roads.

Sadly, littering and dumping continues by those who continue to use their car windows as garbage chutes and our beautiful area as a dump for household items they no longer want.

In the past, volunteers have removed couches, fridges, toilets and thousands of pop cans, beer bottles and general litter.

We are asking for your help to keep our area beautiful.

This year, we will be working Saturday, May 5. We will meet at 8 a.m. at the Nassagaweya Tennis Centre and Community Hall on Guelph Line north of Highway 401, set for May 5

As always, we need help from strong backs to remove the garbage from ditches.

We also need people with pickup trucks to get the garbage to the bins. We always need more pickup truck drivers, so please help if you have a pickup truck.

This is a great opportunity for high school students to earn their volunteer hours.

We will sign their volunteer sheets for school.

The bins are supplied by Milton and the vests, gloves and bags are supplied by the town and Halton Region.

Thank you to gourmet cooks at the Tennis Club, who will host the barbecue for the volunteers at noon.

We understand not everyone can manage Saturday, but feel free to do an hour or two on your road the week prior to the scheduled cleanup. We will collect your bags on Saturday.

To arrange for bags and vests before Saturday, call Jean Woods

at 905-854-2107.

*Jean Woods, Campbellville*

### Islamic Community Centre of Milton expresses heartfelt condolences

The Islamic Community Centre of Milton expressed heartfelt condolences for the horrific event in Toronto.

The Islamic Circle of North American, on behalf of the Muslim Community of Canada, expressed its deepest condolences on the death of 10 innocent people when a van mowed down pedestrians along a busy street in Toronto.

We and all other Canadians share the trauma of this attack. We share the pain, feelings and sympathize with the families of those killed. We also pray for a fast and full recovery to all those injured.

We applaud the efforts of all

professionals and the law enforcement agencies who are continuously working to ensure the safety and security of all Canadians.

*Tahir Alvi, president, Islamic Circle of North America*

### Public transit funding a wise investment

RE: Increased ridership comes at a high cost to taxpayer: councillor, Letter to the Editor, Champion, April 19 issue

Coun. Rick Malboeuf is telling only part of the story in order to push what I would describe as a small populist view about Milton Transit.

He talks about the cost for each bus rider over a year. What Malboeuf omits in his analysis is the cost savings by keeping those extra cars off the streets of Milton.

How about the cost of health

care caused by pollution, the driver frustration and increased accident costs that go along with more cars? And without all those extra cars perhaps the huge double garages could be turned into apartments to slow down the conversion of good farmland to housing?

Most importantly, does the councillor not notice the changes we are experiencing in weather patterns caused by climate change? The most recent storm cost will cost me and my insurance company the equivalent of one of his \$3,750 cars.

I believe council is acting responsibly and with wisdom to spend my tax money supporting public transit.

It will probably take years of that support for the future generation of car drivers to realize that public transit is a better way to travel.

We must encourage that now.  
*Keith Rasmussen, Nassagaweya*

**ENDS MAY 31<sup>ST</sup>**

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