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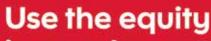




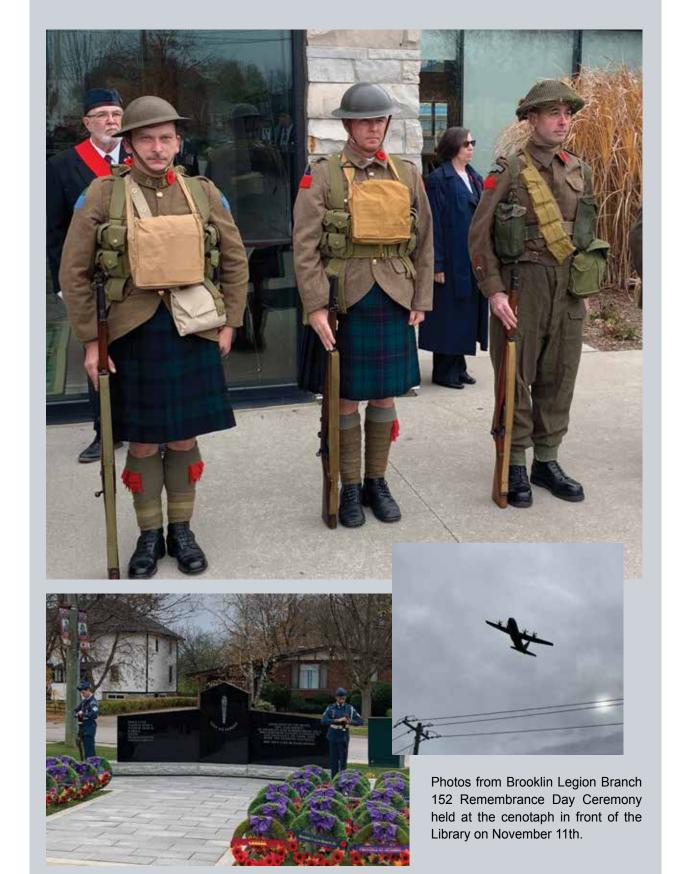


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#### Letter to the editor:

"Dangerous Intersection at Winchester and Saint Thomas Needs to Change"

Editor's Note: This letter, written by Brooklin resident Steve Murray, also appears in an online petition on the website change. org. Created by his wife Katelyn Krisman, it has garnered nearly 400 signatures as of Monday.

Her introduction is as follows: "A group of concerned Brooklin community members have written a letter about the dangerous intersection at Winchester, Saint Thomas and Queen Street. Our greatest hope is to gain wider community support and have our letter printed in the Brooklin newspaper, The Town Crier. Please read our letter below

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and if you feel the same concern and would like to ensure that something is done to make this intersection safer, please sign the petition. Upon publication of our letter your name will appear alongside the names of other concerned Brooklin residents. Thank you for your time and consid-

To see the names of signatories, please use this QR code.

eration."

To Whom it May Concern:

I live on the south side of Brooklin in the small cache of homes bordered by The Fairgrounds on West side, Anderson St on the

East, the 407 on the South, and the thoroughfare of Winchester

road on the North. It's a nicely secluded area that sits on the hip pocket of Brooklin, with only a couple of points of access: off

Anderson street onto Duggan, or off Winchester road onto St. Thomas. A lot of the residents like living in this pocket, holes and all, but the latter intersection has become such a mess that I'm starting to wonder how long before we start to lose something

infinitely more valuable than spare change.

As any resident knows, making a turn out of St Thomas on to Winchester or daring to access the area on foot is something more than just difficult: it's become absolutely

> dangerous. With WInchester being largely used to by-pass Brooklin on the way to Oshawa or Markham, the drivers mostly speed through what is ultimately a residential area, and residents are compelled to squeeze into that flow. Should someone attempt to turn into the pocket, cars simply skip up onto what is ultimately sidewalk and danger-

ously pass around the stationary car rather than waiting for turns.

Despite only passing by the area a couple times a day myself, I have time and again seen friends and family forced to dodge cars or walk through the (beloved) C-Store parking lot as a way of staying safe. Should you feel less in danger of being hit by a car in a parking lot than on a sidewalk? I have in the past two years seen at least three accidents that required an ambulance/emergency vehicles, one in recent memory of a van struck so hard it was flipped over on its roof, while the daycare kids watched and pointed excitedly from their chain-link enclosure.

Clearly, we've gotten something terribly wrong with the infrastructure here.

Raised cement curbs? Nope. Traffic barriers? Nope. Traffic lights. Nope. Well painted white lines? Nope. Supportive police presence that watches for and tickets those going up on the curb to pass turning cars? Nope. I'm not trying to be glib. Frankly, I'm scared, and I know I'm not alone. Sit at Michael Kelly's restaurant for an hour at almost any time of day and tally how often you see something dangerous happen at the intersection of St. Thomas and Winchester, and your total will shock you. I don't know if any of the above are the solutions, but the problem is obvious.

My friends, my family, and members of the Brooklin community are in danger on a daily basis: that's the problem. Now how is the town going to find a solution?

- Steve Murray

### Correction:

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Here are the answers to the Nov. 4 puzzle. We printed the wrong ones in the last issue. We apologize.

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# The Beginnings of Coronation Gardens

By Jennifer Hudgins



Near the end of of them. On World War I (1914 50 acres of - 1918), the Cana-Crown land, government 13 20 x 24 began to think about ft the many soldiers in lows were built on the Europe who would north

were

small

mals.

account that a large part of the

property was to be utilized for

growing crops and raising ani-

Known as "strawberry boxes,"

these single storey dwellings

had steeply pitched roofs, clap-

board walls, small sash win-

dows and metal chimneys. Each

house sat on up to four acres of

land, with driveways and a well

shared between two houses.

Each two-bedroom structure had

take

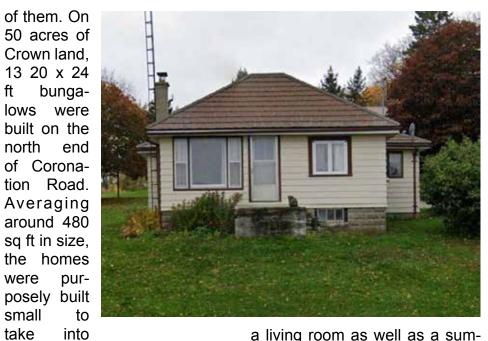
be returning home. Jobs were scarce and money was tight.

The Dominion Soldier Settlement Act (1919) put measures into place to finance housing for veterans returning to civilian life. With low interest loans of up to \$2,500 and manageable repayment terms, vets could afford to buy government-funded houses.

Priority was given to the wounded who would not have been able to return to their places of work. Special consideration was given to soldiers who had to abandon their homes, wiped out by unpaid debts, as they were fighting overseas.

#### **Building small homes**

Small subdivisions began to pop up in communities across Canada. Whitby Township was one



a living room as well as a summer kitchen attached as a leanto. Outhouses were used since indoor plumbing did not come to the area until well into the late 1950s.

In the centre of the house, on a basement dirt floor, was a coal-fired furnace. Heat rose up through a large grate on the main floor that did not manage to reach all of the rooms.

Warming up

Former Brooklin resident and RCAF veteran Alex Brough lived in #12 and remembers his Mom standing over the grate on cold winter days to warm up after spending time cooking in the unheated kitchen.

Owners who farmed the land grew produce they stored over the winter months in the basement cold cellar. They may also have raised rabbits and chickens for the meat and eggs. Some rented out a section of their land to farmers to supplement their income.

In 1948, Brooklin resident Don Wick, the eldest of six kids moved into #4 with his parents and siblings. Gradually his father Cyril added to the house until the building eventually expanded 900 sq ft.

When King George was crowned in 1937, the cluster of small houses was renamed Coronation Gardens in honour of his coronation.

Although the initial buyers were veterans, the families they later sold to were not required to have served in the armed forces. Today, some of these houses still exist, but may be unrecognizable as, over the decades, residents have built additions onto the original footprints.



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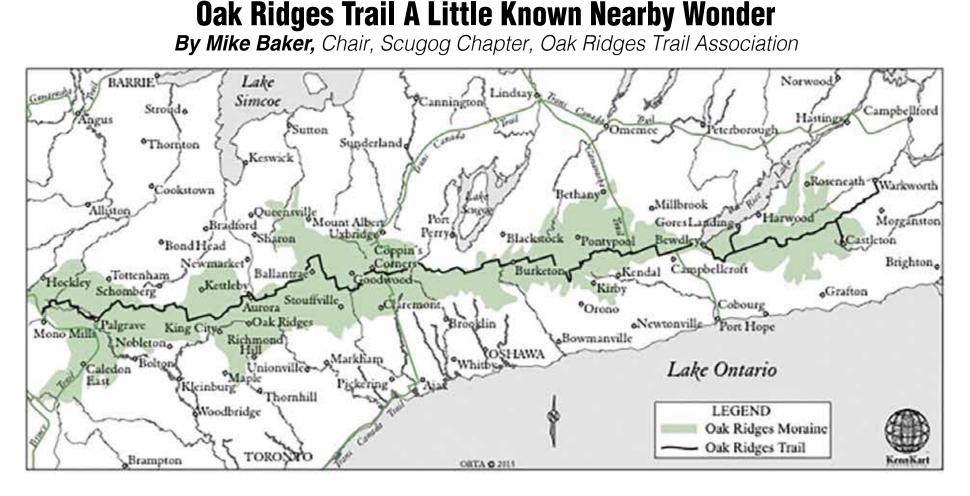
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# GETTING YOU MORE.



### What You Need To Know This Week in Whitby

#### Last Chance To Have Your Say: New Skatepark And Pump Track Design

The Town is planning to construct a Skatepark and Pump Track at the future Whitby Sports Complex, and we want to hear from you. View the proposed design and share a comment by November 18 at connectwhitby.ca/SportsComplex



#### Get Involved

The Town is looking for 100+ volunteers to support the 15 boards and committees that advise Council on diversity, active transportation, heritage, accessibility, and more. Scan the QR code to apply by November 28 or learn more at whitby.ca/AdvisoryCommittees



#### Town's Financial Statements

Did you know the Town's financial statements are available to the public? The Town's consolidated financial statements reflect the assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses. Learn more at whitby.ca/Budget



Did you know that Brooklin is minutes away from one of Ontario's great hiking trails?

The Oak Ridges Trail Association ORTA) is a volunteer based charitable hiking organization with a mandate to build and maintain a public hiking trail system on the Oak Ridges Moraine. As a newly transplanted Brooklinite, I was thrilled to find such an abundance of hiking and walking trails in the Durham region and jumped at the opportunity

to get involved with this great group of people who share my love for the outdoors.

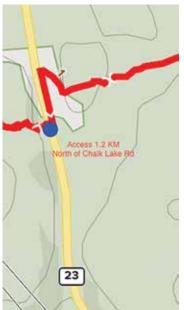
The ORTA offers guided hikes of all difficulties and lengths, weekdays weekends, and and opens its trails to individual selfquided hikers. Some of the guided hikes are targeted at families; others are oriented towards adults; others have a strong nature focus.

with the Bruce Trail, and extends eastward through Peel, York, and Durham Regions and Northumberland County.

For us in Brooklin, there are several great access points to the trail system at Lake Ridge Rd, Ashburn Rd, and Purple Woods Conservation Area. The Moraine is a special geological feature that provides the region with safe drinking water, healthy ecosystems and provides a beautiful space for recreational use.

> So, get out there and get hiking! ORTA memberships are available at nominal cost to those who would like to financially support the organization while and volunteers are welcome to help with maintenance trail and stewardship.

> I can be reached at scugog@oakridgestrail.org



### &HOLIDAY FESTIVAL

### Looking for something fun to do this holiday season? We've got you covered!

From Whitby Lights the Night, to Christmas in the Village, to the Downtown Whitby BIA's Christmas Market, to the Santa Claus Parade, mark your calendars and learn more about all the activities available to get you in the festive spirit: whitby.ca/Events



whitby.ca



The ORTA trail spans about 275 km starting in the west at a junction

Visit oakridgestrail.org for more information including maps, guided hike dates, and volunteer opportunities.



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# Christmas in the Village! Brooklin General Store Limited

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It's magical: You don't have to compromise a perfectly curated home to save the planet or at least lower your carbon footprint. At Brooklin General Store Limited, we work with a short list of products aimed to make sustainable and intentional living more accessible without having to sacrifice style or function.

Reviving old fashioned general stores with modern charm, Brooklin's newest store has quickly become the buzz of the town. Owner Rutvi (Rudy) Yadav is a Toronto transplant who moved to our village in January, 2018, with her husband, son, and the lights of her life, her two dogs Wonton and Aly. Her love for history, community, eco-conscious living, and now her Brooklin pride are obvious the moment you visit the store in person or online.

With a focus on eco-conscious alternatives for all aspects of your lifestyle, this small but impressive store carries, well, everything really. The ever-changing inventory includes spices, artisan soaps, kitchenwares, decor, gifts, jewelry, fur-



niture, and even a dry plant bar. And if there is something you can't

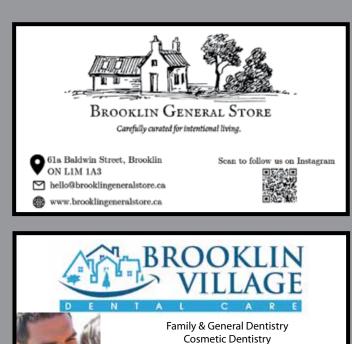


you, just like old general stores once did.

It started as an ecommerce shop in October, 2021. Since then, Rudy has grown quite the online community with her love of sharing historical clippings and photographs of Brooklin on both the website and Instagram account. But don't let those keep you from visiting in person. This tiny store is worth a visit (and, depending who you ask, worth a visit at least once a week).

Shop online at Brooklingeneralstore.ca or visit us in the store at 61a Baldwin St. in historic downtown Brooklin.

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# MARKETING YOUR HOME FOR ALL IT IS WORTH!

#### HOUSING MARKET BEGINNING TO STABILIZE Buyers, sellers adjusting to higher interest rates.

Residential sales across Durham Region dropped last month compared to the year before but new listings increased in that same time period. Both are encouraging signs that stability is returning to the housing market, despite rising interest rates and worries about a recession.

According to the Durham Region Association of Realtors, 632 homes exchanged hands in October through the MLS System. That's a significant drop of 40 per cent compared to 2021 but new listings reached 1,183 - a four per cent increase compared to the same time last year.

Compare that to the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) overall. Bealtors reported 4 961 sales though the Toronto Regional Real Estate Board's (TRREB) MLS system in October down 49.1 per cent compared to the previous year. New listings across the GTA were down 11.6 percent year over year.

The average GTA selling price, meanwhile, can be described as quite stable, increasing from \$1,074,754 in July to \$1,079,500 in August to \$1,086,762 in September and reaching \$1.089.428 in October. That number is down slightly from June's average selling price of \$1,146,254 and down 5.7 per cent year over year, when the average GTA home netted \$1.155.624

DURHAM A TOP MARKETPLACE Here in Durham Region, the average price in October was \$893,673, which means it remains a top marketplace with affordable options for buyers, which is good news for sellers, especially if they're also planning to buy. Here's the average price by municipality: Ajax (\$968,767), Brock Township (\$805,653), Clarington (\$835,359), Oshawa (\$782,227), Pickering (\$981,563), Scugog (\$958,500), Uxbridge (\$1,100,627) and Whitby (\$991,105). The average days on market was 16 - up from nine last year. Here in Brooklin, the average selling price in October was \$1,139,420, down from the peak of \$1,403,356 in February. It's also down from the previous year, when the average home sold for \$1,214,081, and up from October 2020, when the average home netted \$955,297. Those are a lot of numbers to absorb. But as you consider them, remember the Bank of Canada has increased its policy rate six consecutive times since March in a bid to tackle inflation and is expected to increase it again on December 7. Even as house prices have dropped, the cost of borrowing has risen and - especially after historic low interest rates during the pandemic - both buyers and sellers are adjusting to the new reality.

Association (CREA). Declining price trends appear to be broadly moderating, with major markets reporting smaller rates of depreciation in October, a new RBC report finds.

IF YOU'RE A BUYER Canada's major chartered banks are currently advertising five-year fixed mortgage special interest rates of around 5.54 per cent. Home buyers can often negotiate the interest rate for mortgage financing based on the creditworthiness and the degree to which they do other banking business with the mortgage lender, CREA advises.

If you're a buyer, we encourage you to get preapproved, speak to your lender so you understand what you can comfortably afford and to stay below that rate when making an offer. Getting preapproved will allow you to secure a rate for 90 to 120 days while you look for a home

K

IF YOU'RE A SELLER If you've decided to sell, there's certainly no need to wait, but it is important to be realistic about pricing. We will conduct market research on the area in which you're selling, compare how much properties have recently been listed for and determine their selling price to help you list your home accordingly.

As home buyers or prospective buyers come to terms with higher borrowing costs, they'll move from the sidelines into the market. "With new listings at or near historic lows, a moderate uptick in demand from current levels would result in a noticeable tightening in the resale

housing market in short order," TRREB President Kevin Crigger tells us. Obviously, there is still a lot of short-term economic uncertainty. In

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It's also important to remember that market activity remains well below pre-pandemic levels not just in the GTA but across the country, according to the Canadian Real Estate

term, however, the demand for housing will rebound."

After experiencing a market that was described by adjectives like 'red hot' and 'frenetic,' many buyers and sellers welcome the return to stability. The lack of urgency provides breathing room on every transaction, allowing all parties to make more thoughtful decisions.

As the housing market continues to evolve, we understand that you may be hesitant to buy or sell. But Durham Region remains an ideal market, with a wide variety of home types and neighbourhoods. As always, your local realtor is your best bet for information and guidance about how to navigate the current market. Count on The King Home Team: Royal Heritage Realty to help you make sound decisions that are in the best interest of you and your family

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