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Last month, local youngsters visited The Court at Brooklin to read and colour with its residents. The event, named Reading with the Retired, was put on by Erin Taylor's Reading Readiness Tutoring Services. In the photo, two little ones share stories with some seniors. We're not sure who was reading to whom.



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Less than half the picture: *By Richard Bercuson*



2020 Stories We'd Love To See

Brooklin's Big Dig

Residents who've noticed the mountains of earth dug up on the north side of Winchester Rd., west of Baldwin, near Ferguson, might be wondering what it's all about.

Gas leak? Nope. Oil discovery? We wish.

Tunnel for a subway extension? Not quite...but not so far off.

A vast underground cave and flowing creek have been literally unearthed. Apparently it flows beneath Winchester and connects with a similar one on the south side, right where the new Longo's development is supposed to go. One approach being explored by the devel-

oper is to create an amusement ride with a percentage of the profits going to the town. In winter, it might be a skating rink. There is no comment from anyone so far on this possibility.

The road to a solution?

Would you buy a lottery ticket knowing that proceeds would go towards Brooklin roads?

Generally, they're in decent enough shape. The one exception might be Winchester where you need to slalom around sunken manholes and uneven pavement on either side of the Lynde Creek bridge. However, aside from those repairs, big ticket items such as roundabouts could be partially (at least) paid for by resi-

dents through a lottery.

Far-fetched? Not to some councillors who've tossed around the idea, apparently over adult beverages. While the lottery might be open to anyone, it would be made clear that the dollars will go to road issues in our fair town. You buy a \$10 ticket (for example) and 90% of tickets sold is funnelled directly into/onto Brooklin's streets. If, for instance, 10,000 tickets sold at \$10 apiece, then \$90,000 would go to road work and \$10,000 to the winner.

Bring on The Beast

With the North Whitby sports complex on the verge of beginning construction, there's been much talk about the ice pads. The current plan is for twin sheets with Luther Vipond's to be shut down. The net improvement will be merely a single rink pad addition to the area, which is not much of an improvement. However, there has also been talk

about how to increase visitors and business to the area, especially when the "Longo's" complex is built, not to mention the underground river ride (see Big Dig above).

West of us, in Brampton, sits an ECHL professional hockey team, the Brampton Beast, an affiliate of the NHL's Ottawa Senators. Attendance in Brampton is between abysmal and horrific and its existence hangs by a skate lace. Some local hockey aficionados, of which there are plenty, want to bring the team to Brooklin - to the new complex. Enter the Brooklin Beast.

It would mean creating seating in the new facility for about 2,000 which would also provide enough for both the Brooklin lacrosse club (which belongs back here) and the Whitby Fury junior club.

The question now is this: which of those do you believe?

Brooklin Heritage Society Our name came from postal delivery *By Jennifer Hudgins*

Some time in 1847, the Town of Winchester decided it needed a post office. However there was already a Winchester in eastern Ontario, south of Ottawa. This meant there could not be another one in a town of the same name, each having a post office.

So residents held a public meeting on Aug. 11 of that year and decided to change the name of the town to Brooklin. At the time, Canada's postal service, Royal Mail Canada, was controlled by the British Government, which had to be assured that a route would pay its way. It was assumed that Brooklin and Columbus were opened jointly in order to make the one route profitable.

Mail first reached Whitby by stagecoach on a route that ran from Toronto to Kingston, then delivered to Brooklin's post office three times a week by the first carrier Mr. Thomas, who was paid 15 pounds a year.

Postage stamps were not used until 1851, the year the Postmaster General of Canada took over the service. So the delivery charge was by weight, not by destination.

Rural delivery began On October

10, 1908, with A. Hannom as the first mail carrier, who was followed by M. Ross.

The first Postmaster appointed by the Governor General in 1847 was J. Ware and the post office was situated in the Campbell store on Mill Street. In 1854, R. Darlington was the next man appointed and the post office relocated to 42 Cassels Road. This building has been designated under the Ontario Heritage Act and is possibly the oldest house in Brooklin.

By 1867, the mail arrived daily. In 1882, R.Harrison became Postmaster, followed by A. Darlington in 1884, who was then followed by A. Sommerville in 1886.

D. W. MacDonald's, at 55 Baldwin Street, housed the post office at the back of the store (see photo). MacDonald held the Postmaster job from 1888 until 1928. S. Rodd took it over and was later followed by his son, D. Rodd, who held the position until 1968.

In 1947, 100 years after Brooklin came into being, B. Hannam took over the deliveries, followed in 1962 by Mr. and Mrs. Wilman who delivered the mail until 1978. By this



Photo courtesy of Megan Pugh, Whitby Library Archives

time, RR#1 encompassed a 60-mile drive for the mail carrier who delivered to approximately 565 customers.

The post office at 2 Price Street was built in 1964, which became a community hub where residents would meet to chat and catch up on the

news, long before community mail boxes arrived.

Today, while Brooklin now has numerous postal codes, residents may still remember the first one: LOB 1C0.

Rogers Hometown Hockey Was A Hit!

More than 6,500 residents, minor hockey players, community members and visitors joined in the fun of Rogers Hometown Hockey's Whitby event on Dec. 28-29.

The free event was held at the Town of Whitby's Iroquois Park Sports Centre and featured live entertainment, giveaways and hockey-themed activities, culminating with a live outdoor viewing party of an NHL broadcast from the Sportsnet

Mobile Studio.

A highlight of the event was the Parade of Champions where Whitby minor hockey teams joined together to march through the festival site. Visits and free autograph signings by Toronto Maple Leafs player Zach Hyman and NHL Alumni Keith Primeau and Wayne Primeau were also highlights. The tour stop was hosted by Sportsnet's Ron MacLean and Tara Slone.



"Proud to be a Brooklinite"

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Next Issue: Friday, January 24, 2020
Deadline: Friday, January 17, 2020

What we covered in 2019

(All 2019 and 2018 past issues are available online at brooklincrier.com under "Past Issues")

January

- Brooklin resident Jim Smillie raised funds for Covenant House which helps the homeless by sleeping downtown - outside, alongside NHL alumni Brian Burke and Paul Coffey.
- A monthly Trivia Night, originated by former Brooklinite Carol Mathur as a fundraiser for Pulmonary Hypertension Canada, gets new life under the leadership of BTC editor Richard Bercuson. It's a fundraiser for Prostate Cancer Canada
- Whitby debates whether to opt in or out of having cannabis retail outlets in the town. Survey results indicate residents don't want them.

February

- Brooklin High students Daniella Calabrese and Maggie MacEachern are feted at school after winning world gold as members of Canada's U18 women's team



- Brooklin hosts Ontario Wheelchair Rugby championships
- Whitby's budget is a hot topic
- Maya Elliott heads to Miss Teen Canada pageant

- Scott Bennett is featured in a story about his passion for woodworking

March

- Durham mayors participate in regional government review
- BHS student Robert Forbes wins provincial silver in sledge hockey
- Whitby's rebranding project is underway
- We featured a story about the Toastmasters International Brooklin chapter
- Regional councillor Rhonda Mulcahy rips into the provincial body, LPAT, which rejected Whitby's appeal regarding the parcel of land on Baldwin and Carnwith

April

- Beech Street Theatre Company, under the direction of Michael Khashmanian, prepares for a series of shows in Brooklin
- Students participate in province-wide walkout about Premier's Ford's cuts to education
- Brooklin woodcarvers host a show and displays
- Councillors Rhonda Mulcahy, Elizabeth Roy and Steve Lee host an information evening about human trafficking at the Legion
- Three Brooklin girls are members of the U12 provincial volleyball championship team
- Kaiya Bogers represents Canada at the 2019 Gatorade 5 v 5 soccer tournament in Spain

May

- Whitby announces major developments in Brooklin
- Brooklin Heritage Society writes about the best bakery in Brooklin and "Papa

Roy" Ormiston

- Group 74 spearheads art fundraiser in Grass Park
- BTC publishes its annual Spring Fair issue
- St. Bridget students raises money for Me to We charity



June

- Spring Fair ("Show us your dairy, eh") another hit
- A statue for the late Len Cullen is to be unveiled
- Chris Hadfield Public School staged "Willy Wonka Jr."
- Brooklin High raised \$96,000 for the



Canadian Cancer Society through a series of events

- Brooklin-based student Ryan O'Connor examines suburbanization and future urbanization in the community

July

- BTC lists all of Brooklin High's award winners
- Whitby declares climate change emergency
- Council pushes further on highway 412/407 tolls and lands



- A preview of Harvest Festival
- Matt Doran releases first album
- Whitby ranked among best Canadian family communities



- Council also approves new branding logo after an earlier version was rejected by the public

August

- Need a job? Buy a chip truck!
- Mackenzie Beam participates in world u19 lacrosse championships in Peterborough

September

- Heritage Society tells how Harvest Festival began
- North Whitby sports complex gets go-ahead

STAY CONNECTED

January 10, 2020

UPCOMING EVENTS

Family Science Nights
Children in grades 2 to 6 are invited to the Whitby Public Library for Family Science Nights from January 14 to 30. Presented by Scientists in School and sponsored by the Mayor's Community Development Fund. Register online at whitbylibrary.ca/familyscience

Community Garden Information Session
January 30 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Centennial Building's Regal Room. Join Town staff and Mary Drummond of Durham Integrated Growers to learn more about community gardens in Whitby. Registration is required. whitby.ca/communitygardens
whitby.ca/calendar

COUNCIL MEETING

Public Meeting
January 13 at 7 p.m.
This dedicated public meeting is aimed at collecting resident feedback on development applications, initiatives and projects being considered or undertaken by the Town.

The meeting will take place at Town Hall, 575 Rossland Road East.

For more information, contact clerks@whitby.ca or 905.430.4315 whitby.ca/civicweb

NOTICES

Applications Now Being Accepted for Community Development Funds
Community groups in need of financial support for initiatives and projects are encouraged to apply today. Applications are due at the end of each month. Lead cause applications for the 2020 Mayor's Golf Tournament are due March 31. whitby.ca/communityfunds

NEWS

Town Launches New Brand
The Town of Whitby is kicking off the new year with a new look through the launch of its new corporate brand and logo. The brand will roll out over the coming months and focus on showcasing Whitby as an active, connected and innovative community. Residents are invited to experience the new brand at whitby.ca/brand

Call for 2020 Whitby Idol Applicants Now Open
The Town's 2020 call for Whitby Idol applicants has begun! Between now and Thursday, January 31, Whitby youth ages 12 to 18 are invited to apply (as individuals or groups) for Whitby Idol - the Town's annual singing competition that showcases the vocal talents of local youth. Interested youth can apply online at whitby.ca/youthevents

Christmas Tree Collection
Natural Christmas trees will be collected after the holiday season on your regular garbage collection day from January 13 through to January 24. Please clean natural Christmas trees of any tinsel, decorations, wire, stands or bags, and cut trees longer than 3 metres (10 feet) in half. To confirm your collection day, visit whitby.ca/waste

FAMILY DAY
— IN WHITBY —

Monday, February 17
Free, family-friendly activities at Town facilities

Sponsored by: Scotiabank®

whitby.ca/familyday



• Natalie Shin, from Winchester Public School, competes for Canada in world dance event in Italy

• Brooklin's Berkeley family has art displayed at library

October

• Brooklin make-up artist Shane Zander lives in the tv/movie world

• 20th Harvest Festival is packed with crowds

• The Gibsons invent a portable safe to go on sale in the new year

• "Ladies who golf" raised \$130,000 for the Whitby location of the Durham hospice

• Wolfpack Golf, with 156 golfers, sponsors and volunteers, raised \$55,084 for Lakeridge Health

• Brooklin Horticulture Society hosted a reception for the Monarch Ultra Marathon Run

November

• Celina Caesar-Chavannes bows out as Whitby MP with a first person feature about her life as an MP

• Only one federal candidate, NDP's Brian Dias, sends his platform to the BTC despite all candidates being re-

quested to do so. Still, Liberal Ryan Turnbull wins the riding

• Red-light cameras and automated speed enforcement coming to Durham

• Brooklin's new cenotaph in front of the library is used for the first time at the Remembrance Day ceremony. 93-year old World War II veteran Steven Cosgrove is front and centre at the ceremony



• Mayor hosts a telephone town hall

• There will be no municipal amalgamation

• Kaden May wins national performing arts award



December

• Whitby minor pee wee AA players (all from Brooklin but two) collect socks for the homeless to donate to Socks Brooklin

• Stellar Drive connection opens



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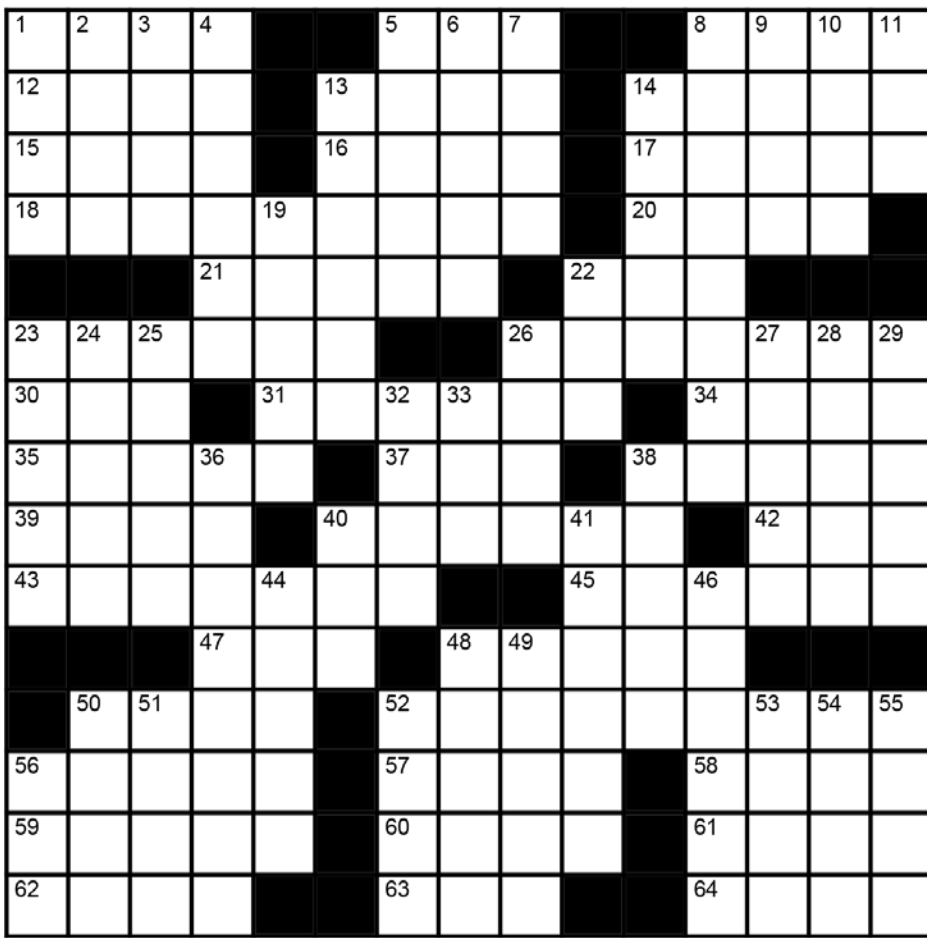
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For more information about this feature contact the Brooklin Town Crier brooklintowncrier@gmail.com

Brooklin Bafflers: by Liz Lowe

Crossword


Across

- 1 The sixth month of the ecclesiastical year in the Jewish calendar
 5 U.S.S.R. successor
 8 "Immediately!"

Down

- 12 Whittle (down)
 13 Influential German idealist philosopher
 14 Parting word
 15 Tabloid twosome
 16 Pitch-black

- 17 A kind of lively dance, in 2-4 time; also, the music to the dance
 18 Herb Tea
 20 ___ reflection
 21 Quarters
 22 Check for accuracy
 23 Relax
 26 What's left
 30 Stick in the water
 31 Terrestrial isopod
 34 A content word that denotes an action
 35 Grammar topic
 37 Aquarium denizen
 38 Sun: Prefix
 39 Window ledge
 40 Any of various rich and elaborate cakes
 42 Summer cooler
 43 One who tries
 45 A workplace where metal is worked by heating and hammering
 47 Workout unit
 48 Vision-related
 50 Tableland
 52 The processes of bearing of spring; reproduction
 56 Flips (through)
 57 Sixth Jewish month
 58 "Unforgettable" singer
 59 Swagger
 60 "Ol' Man River" composer
 61 Oaf
 62 Hollow
 63 Web browser entry
 64 Squeezes (out)
- mammalian urine
 4 Type of propositions that are assumed to be true in order to prove another proposition
 5 Type of: carnivore
 6 A linen tape used for trimming as a decoration
 7 Eyelid problem
 8 Accommodative.
 9 Round building
 10 Many millennia
 11 Part of a litter
 13 A loose robe
 14 Fits
 19 Corpulent plus
 22 Engage in passive relaxation
 23 Contemptible one
 24 Spring locale
 25 Face-to-face exams
 26 Preside over
 27 Dutch pottery city
 28 Husband of Bathsheba
 29 Key material
 32 Have on
 33 Wager
 36 The quantity a glass will hold
 38 Containing or characterized by a great deal of water vapour
 40 Acquire
 41 To the rear
 44 Brewer's need
 46 Resembling a pendent spear, formed by dripping water
 48 Harmony
 49 Oyster's prize
 50 Ration (out)
 51 Viscount's superior
 52 Capital of Azerbaijan
 53 Small recess
 54 Stick together
 55 Hardens
 56 Trip producer

Regional Councillor: Rhonda Mulcahy

Happy Birthday to Me!



The year 2020 marks my twentieth birthday... I wish. But it does mark the twentieth anniversary of the Brooklin Town Crier and I still like to consider it my baby.

It is my fourth child. In the year 2000 I found myself home with three children under four years old. I had extensive experience in the newspaper industry but not so much that I could afford to put three children in daycare and pull in a decent salary. So I was faced with a decision.

Choices included shelving my career for a while and enjoy the simplicities of motherhood. No car. Walking with a toddler AND a double stroller everywhere. A wardrobe of sweatpants and Birkenstocks.

Or, I could start my own publication and grow it slowly while my kids were little. As much as I enjoyed making showering daily an option, I really needed more of a challenge. And so began a quarterly Brooklin Town Crier.

It evolved to monthly and finally to bi-weekly as it is today. Page counts went from one to four to as high as 24 in it's peak. Social media has taken it's toll on the paper as it has on others. It draws advertising dollars in different directions. However we still have some loyal customers who I encourage you to visit. And I still hear that people enjoy this little paper because it is part of the fabric that paints Brooklin as a community.

I'm a rolling stone. In 2016 as you know I successfully ran for council. But I'm still here laying out pages and putting the baby to bed. Richard has taken over the content of the paper. This is hard for me. I really like Richard, but it has to be his opinion and influence now if I'm truly to be unbiased.

What sorts of things should we see in the twentieth anniversary of the Brooklin Town Crier? I think you may see some throw back photos, some old columns and whether they still hold weight or not and maybe even some return guests columns. I think there will be plenty to reflect on and I hope I can count on you the reader to continue to challenge us with story ideas and support us with advertising.

In the meantime I wear sweatpants occasionally. But heels most of the time. I still get to play with my kids albeit it's now on ski hills and they are a little less demanding. And, I get to be a big part of the future of our community. Something I have never lost passion for and I hope that the paper sees another twenty years as part of the community too.

I want to end my column by wishing my good friend Connie Heron a wonderful retirement. Connie, the owner of Connie's in downtown Brooklin, has been supportive of this little paper for twenty years. And she is also responsible for keeping me out of sweatpants. I hope she's offering personal shopping services or I'm in trouble. All my best Connie.

The Brooklin Town Crier wishes Connie Heron a most joyful retirement.

She's the Connie's of Brooklin owner in our downtown, one of Brooklin's oldest businesses.

It will close its door when the merchandise and store hardware are gone.


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 www.brooklinvillagechurch.com

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 905.655.3883 www.stthomasbrooklin.ca

Our Brooklin Kids By Leanne Brown

Plant-Based Eating by Sheree Nicholson



**TikTok
- What You Need to Know**

TikTok is a social media app that allows users to share short videos with friends, family or even the world. The videos range from funny sketches to lip syncs with special effects. The app actually began three years ago as a lip-syncing site called Musical.ly. In 2018, it was acquired by a Beijing-based company and became TikTok.

With 1.4 billion downloads, TikTok is the hottest social media site for tweens and teens. Through the app, kids have found a way to express themselves and build communities around their passions. It also has impressive special effects. Its users post content created in TikTok on other platforms to share with more people.

However, TikTok's content includes much more than just a modern version of karaoke or clips designed to elicit laughs or shock. It's also trouble.

What your kids are getting into might surprise you. From inappropriate content to data security issues, here's what you need to know, along with safety measures to take.

Targeted by predators

TikTok encourages kids to show off their talents which, for those who like to perform, is heaven. However, this makes it easy for predators to compliment them as a way to get to know them. Predators attempt to make them feel special while getting them to let their guards down. For example, the app features a 'duets' capability which allows you to remix another user's video and lip sync or dance alongside them in a new clip. This has been exploited by sexual predators lurking on the app and use this feature to send explicit messages.

Inappropriate content

Even if your child's account is set to private, they may still be exposed to sexual or violent content posted to the public feed. My daughter has on occasion shown me content that makes her uncomfortable, such as racist and discriminatory commentary, as well as dangerous stunts kids may try to recreate. Not to mention sexually explicit videos that required a strong conversation on my part.

Impact mental health

TikTok provides a creative outlet where users can use the "Reactions" feature to respond to videos they like with their own takes on them. This may be fine for tinkering with artistic creativity, but it can cause anxiety if their creative expression is met with criticism. Kids feel the pressure to create more and better content. As they chase that popularity by taking part in (often dangerous) challenges, their self-worth is impacted.

What's more, TikTok can be a vehicle for cyberbullying. A video that isn't 'liked' can provide bullies with material that can be shared

over and over. Some users create multiple accounts, using fake names to target others they don't like.

TikTok users often share personal situations. Not only are these videos disturbing but comments might also encourage self-harm. Some users have even been publicly encouraged to attempt suicide.

Privacy concerns

Last year, the U.S. Federal Trade Commission fined Tik-Tok \$5.7 million for violating the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA) in the largest civil penalty in a children's privacy case in history. American companies are required by law to obtain parental consent to collect the data of kids under 13. TikTok failed to do this and to notify parents of exactly how they collected children's data. TikTok also did not allow parents to ask to have that data deleted.

Necessary safety settings

TikTok has since addressed privacy and security by making it easier to manage settings. In your child's profile, you'll see three dots in the upper right-hand corner of the screen, which will take you to the 'Privacy and settings' section of the app. There you'll see the option to set the account to "private" which will prevent others from finding them unless you know the user names.

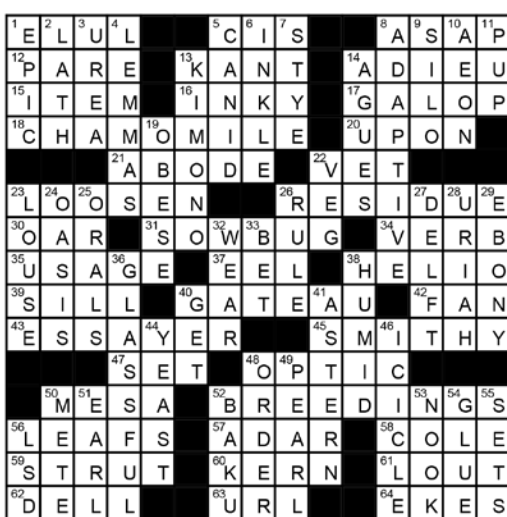
Also under the "Safety" section, you can customize who can: post comments, 'Duet' with your child, react to their videos, send them messages, and view videos they liked.

The app is meant for kids 13 or older. Still, some might set up their accounts with a fake age to appear older than they are and this makes it more likely they'll be exposed to unsuitable content.

In the 'Privacy and settings' screen, turn on the Digital Well-being setting. This offers a passcode-enabled screen time management system as well as a restricted mode to limit inappropriate content.

Knowledge is power

You need to fully understand the app and ask your child about what they're seeing or posting on it. Remember: this becomes their digital footprint and it will follow them into adulthood.



**New Year
= New Eating Goals**

Happy New Year! For many, the new year is a time to set new goals, resolutions, or to get back on track from a busy Christmas season. If you're considering adding more plant-based foods to your diet in the new year, this column is for you.

Interest in plant-based eating is on the rise. Some of the reasons are health-related, environmental or for the love of animals. There are different ways to start a plant-based lifestyle, such as slowly eliminating meat from some meals or giving up all animal products altogether.

I've seen people be successful at both. Whichever way you choose, I suggest having a few meal plans and easy recipes ready along with prepping some staples. It's going to seem hard at times, but hang in there as I have personally experienced many benefits to being plant-based.

Online offerings

You may need support and there are different ways to get the help you need. For instance, there are online meal planning programs that plan menus around the foods you like. They even make grocery lists. In larger urban centres, you can have your ingredients delivered right to your door. These services are inexpensive and provide you with creative ideas to use long after you decide to end your subscription.

Along the same lines are meal delivery services where meal recipes and all the required ingredients to make them are delivered to your home. All you have to do is open and prepare. No planning is required. Consider these types of services since life can be busy with work, family, and extracurricular ac-

tivities.

Health coaches and nutritionists are another great way to get started as they can offer moral support and sound advice. If local, they can take you on a grocery tour, and come to your home to see what's in your cupboards.

Seek support

Most importantly, it's okay to need support. Many of the successful people I know have used nutritionists or health coaches. They like accountability and having someone guide them at the beginning of their journey. Give yourself permission to de-stress your life and reach out for help.

From the Oh She Glows blog, comes this "Back on Track" smoothie recipe. It's a fresh-tasting smoothie that will energize you and is full of good stuff.

Ingredients:

- 1 cup kale
- 1 large Gala apple (or other sweet apple), roughly chopped
- 1 English cucumber, peeled and roughly chopped
- 1 tbsp fresh lemon juice
- 1 tsp fresh grated ginger
- 1/2 tsp coconut oil
- Maple syrup, to taste (I used 1/2 tbsp or so)
- 4-5 Ice cubes
- Protein powder, optional

Place all ingredients, except maple syrup and ice, into a high-speed blender and blend on high until very smooth. Mix in ice and maple syrup to taste.

Sheree's hack: Use frozen kale so it breaks down better in the smoothie.

Community Calendar

Sun., Jan. 26: 7:30-9 pm: Trivia Night
At Michael Kelly's Eatery on Winchester and St. Thomas
\$20 per person cash only. Teams of 4-6 ONLY. Each team receives a large pizza and an order of garlic bread, with a beer per person. Winning team members each get a \$10 gift certificate to MK's. Register by emailing your name and number of team members to: editorofbtc@gmail.com
Capacity is 42 people, so registration is first come-first served.
Hosted by the BTC with all proceeds to Prostate Cancer Canada Network (PCCN) Durham.

programs. Grade 7-12 students earn community service hours. No registration required. For information, email: teenservices@whitbylibrary.ca

Tuesdays: 7:25 pm: Brooklin Toastmasters Club
Practice public speaking at Brooklin Community Centre & Library. Contact John Johnstone at jajhj@sympatico.ca or phone 905-683-4439 or Elaine Goulbourne
289-404-8527 at elainegoulbourne@rogers.com

**1st, 2nd & 3rd Tuesdays
Community Care Durham (CCD)**
Basic Foot Care at St. Thomas' Anglican Church. 905-430-5732

Tues., Jan. 28: 6:30 pm: Whitby Library
Archivist Megan Pugh will talk at the Brooklin branch Library on how to find historical information at the Archives. This event is co-hosted by the Brooklin Heritage Society and the Brooklin Library

Mon.-Fri.
CCD delivers hot or frozen meals.
To order: Karen Andrews 905-668-6779

**Tues., Jan. 28: 6:30-7:30 pm
(4th Tuesday of each month)
Teen Advisory Group at Brooklin Library**
Whitby Library's Brooklin Branch seeks Teen Advisory Group members to share ideas, and assist with special events and

French Family Storytime: Children and their caregivers can join Madame Sue for weekly French Family Storytime! A half hour of French stories and songs, with a dash of English!
Drop in at Central Library's Children's Program Room

If you have a community not-for-profit event you would like included in the calendar, please email it to editorofBTC@gmail.com with the subject line "calendar." Priority will be given to Brooklin events. Some editing may occur.

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Town of Whitby Summer Student Employment Deadline for Applications in January

The Summer Student Employment Program runs annually from the beginning of May to the end of August. If you are interested in taking on an exciting challenge and making a difference in the community, we have positions available in a variety of areas. (pending budget approval)

Community & Marketing Services Department
Facilities • Marina Services • Mechanical Services • Parks Development • Seniors' Services

Corporate Communications
Special Events

Corporate Services Department
Purchasing Services • Revenue Services
Treasury Services

Legal Services
By-law Services (Part-Time)

Planning and Development Department
Building Services • Downtown Development
Heritage • Long-Range Policy

Public Works Department
Engineering Services - Asset Management
Engineering Services - Construction
Engineering Services - Traffic
Operational Services Division - Parks
Operational Services Division - Roads/Traffic
Note: A majority of the positions are in Operational Services - Parks.



Summer Student Hiring Process Steps:
<https://www.whitby.ca/en/summer-student-recruitment.asp>

Rhonda Mulcahy
Regional Councillor
TOWN OF WHITBY

Yes, I was once that summer student in Whitby!

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2020 Housing Predictions

From Penelope Graham, Real Estate News

What can Canadian home buyers and sellers expect as we enter a new decade? **Home Sales Will Continue to Recover from 2018 Slump.** After sustaining roughly two years of softer sales and price growth following the introduction of the federal mortgage stress test, demand for homes for sale found its footing in the second half of 2019.

The Greater Toronto Area started to experience sustained rebounds in home buyer demand due to a number of factors, including lower interest rates that kept the consumer cost of borrowing at historic lows all year long. That's helped soften the blow of the stress test, which requires insured mortgage borrowers to qualify at the Bank of Canada's five-year benchmark rate, while uninsured borrowers must qualify for a rate roughly 2 percentage points higher than the one they'll get from their bank. With renewed purchasing power in hand, this drove buyers back into the market, causing year-over-year sales and price growth to spike in most of Canada's major cities.

According to several real estate analysts and associations, home buyers and sellers can expect this trend to extend well into 2020. This optimistic outlook is echoed by the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, which forecasts both sales and prices will "fully recover" from their recent declines, supported by growth in income among buyers, as well as population booms in Canada's busiest job markets.

BC and Ontario Will Lead Housing Market Growth. In the Ontario real estate market, sales will hit between 204,200 – 213,800 units (+4.2 – 7.3%), with prices between \$614,000 – \$633,700 (+5.4 – 6.5%).

It'll Be a Sellers' Market. It's no secret that market conditions in Canada's largest cities have been largely defined by a growing supply and demand gap. While factors such as foreign and domestic investment have also contributed to too-hot-to-handle price growth, that there have been too few homes to satiate demand, particularly in the GTA markets, set the stage for bidding wars and a stratospheric rise

in home values over the course of 2016. That infamously led to the implementation of the Ontario Fair Housing Plan, which included a number of measures including a foreign buyers' tax and rent controls, to cool the demand end of the market. TREB's analysts are raising concerns that should undersupply persist, it could set the stage for the type of unsustainable price growth seen in the 2016 market, which was what prompted new regulatory change in the first place.

Mortgage Rates Will Remain Cheap. Bank of Canada will take to the same cautious stance it did in 2019; economic factors at home and abroad aren't quite strong enough to warrant higher interest rates, but are stable enough to prevent a rate cut. The BoC points to ongoing trade wars – and particularly tensions between the U.S. and China – as the biggest risk that could upend the global economy and stall growth.

Other factors that make a rate hike less likely include the latest fiscal update from the federal government, which reveals there will be a \$26.6-billion deficit recorded for 2019, and \$28.1-billion expected in 2020.

It Might Get Easier to Qualify for a Mortgage. The government may take a second look at the controversial mortgage stress test to allow for more flexibility when qualifying borrowers. While no details have been released as of yet, this could include lowering the qualifying rate or making it more dynamic based on individual borrowers' profiles. As well, they could remove the current requirement for borrowers to be re-stress tested when switching lenders, a measure that has drawn heavy criticism from the mortgage industry for discouraging consumer empowerment and competitiveness.

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* Photo similar to house to be built. Not intended to solicit those under contract.

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