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Brooklin High's James Cook Wins Teacher Award

(see story on page 3)

Farmer's Market in Brooklin

(for more photos, see page 7)



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bmcbride@mbjlawyers.com



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Less than half the picture: *By Richard Bercuson*



Residents Share Arterial Road Names

Here are the suggestions we received about possible names for the arterial road. However, I still think that my suggestion of “Brooklin Bye Bye Pass” has a certain “je ne sais quoi” to it.

I would like to nominate the name ‘Kent Mills’ for the new mid-block

arterial road.

The Kent Mills was built before 1855 at which is now 210 St.Thomas Street. It was a flour, gristing and chopping mill. It was operated by The Francis family until 1938. The Francis family were long time residents of

Brooklin until the original house was sold and demolished for the 407 in 2013.

I believe with all of the change coming to Brooklin, naming the road after one of Brooklin’s first historical sites would be a nice reminder of our beginnings.

I am suggesting ‘Batty Farm Boulevard’ or ‘Emily Batty Boulevard’. I think these have both an historic and a modern twist and are a perfect way to recognize one of Brooklin’s newest citizens of note.

My idea for the new arterial road should be named after John Hall, the founder of Brooklin models. He used to live on Robmar Street and founded his company in his basement. He moved to the UK in 1979. His company is known worldwide and put Brooklin on the map by naming his models after this community.

Brooklin Models is still in business in Bathe, England. The models are 1/43rd scale and you can google them.

Burnson Bypass

We Want to Hear From You, Whitby!



CONNECT WHITBY

Connecting with the Town is now easier than ever. Share your feedback on the municipal decisions, projects and programs that matter to you.

Learn about and participate in current engagement opportunities like **Building Whitby’s 2021 Budget** and the **2020 Community Survey**.

Have your say!
Register now at connectwhitby.ca

Stop the Spread of COVID-19

With COVID-19 case counts back on the rise, it’s more important than ever to follow public health advice to stop the spread:

- Practise physical distancing
- Properly wear a mask
- Wash your hands
- Stay home if sick

We’re all in this together.
whitby.ca/coronavirus

Bump a day!

Holiday Waste Collection Schedule
Waste collection will be bumped one day forward starting **Monday, October 12**. Please ensure your waste is set out by 7:00 a.m.

For more information, check out your Whitby Waste Calendar, download the Whitby Waste Buddy app or visit whitby.ca/waste

Questions?
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E pw.operations@whitby.ca

Yellow Collection – Areas 2, 4, 6, 8, 10

	mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat
	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Bump a Day!					

Blue Collection – Areas 1, 3, 5, 7, 9

	mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat
	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Bump a Day!					

Indicates Holiday Collection Change

BHS Teacher Wins Prestigious PM Award

Brooklin High School's James Cook, a Grades 10–12 history, social justice and human rights teacher, has been awarded a Prime Minister's Award for Teaching Excellence Certificate of Achievement.

The Prime Minister's Awards for Teaching Excellence have honoured exceptional elementary and secondary school teachers in all disciplines since 1994, with over 1,600 teachers honoured to date. Teaching Excellence Awards recipients are honoured for their remarkable achievements in education and for their commitment to preparing their students for a digital and innovation-based economy.

In the equity and social justice course he created, students research topics that engage them, such as climate change, pay equity, mental health and electoral reform. In weekly community-building circles, students discuss nuanced social issues, complex curriculum concepts, short stories, and values, all helping them develop empathy, communication skills and collaboration techniques.

One nominator wrote of him, "When my class leaves high school to embark on further prospects, we will remember every life lesson learned in Mr. Cook's class. We will also remember the way he made us feel — valued, heard, and empowered."

According to the Government of Canada site describing the award, James Cook inspires at-risk teenagers and keen students alike to not only learn about the world but also to advocate for change. He introduces them to leaders - everyone from United Nations employees to Canada's chief electoral officer - both as guest speakers and as resources they can interview for projects. Students and teachers comment that he has made them better people.

In the classroom:

- Facilitates class community-

building circles: at least once a week, students discuss nuanced social issues, complex curriculum concepts, short stories, and values, all helping them develop empathy, communication skills and collaboration techniques.

- Creates unusual exams: Grade 10 history exams ask students to trace the origin of a current issue (such as the Indigenous water crisis) and explain its significance using skills learned in class, rather than simply asking them to repeat memorized information.
- Gives students flexibility: provides time frames rather than hard deadlines for projects; students comment that this reduces their stress and makes them feel empowered.
- Connects with students on multiple levels: coaches soccer and baseball; runs the school newspaper; chairs the Literacy Committee; outside class hours, students often discuss career plans, problems with friends or other personal issues with him; one student wrote, "Our class has become like a family."

Outstanding achievements

- Runs school's Model United Nations: school's team has won multiple awards; a shy student who had never participated in extracurricular activities became a more confident public speaker; another student says he is now more aware of world events and injustice.
- Builds capacity among fellow teachers: created board-wide workshops on professional resiliency and on helping students use social media; collaborated with the other teachers in his department to develop new ways to assess students on skills acquired rather than simply facts learned.
- Introduced completely online, open-book exams, the first head of a Canadian and world studies department in his school board to do so.

The Prime Minister's Awards are offered at the national (Certificate of Excellence) and regional (Certificate of Achievement)



levels and carry cash prizes of \$5,000 and \$1,000 respectively. Each recipient receives a letter of congratulations and a certificate signed by the Prime Minister.

Letter to the editor: A Community without a Centre

Due to the current pandemic, in March the Town of Whitby rightly closed the Brooklin Community Centre and Library. Now, seven months later, these remain shuttered with the Library open only for pickups. Other communities have re-opened their libraries and community centres with some restrictions.

In the hot summer we missed out on the opportunity to have a cooling centre for residents who may not have air conditioning. Now that winter is approaching, my suggestion would be to temporarily repurpose the BCC by opening with a limit on the number of people entering the facility. This would provide a safe environment for residents' access to internet and for students to meet with tutors, etc.

There would be a need for socially distanced seating in some of the rooms on the Centre's main floor which could easily be achieved by placing small tables and chairs in say the gym with tape on the floor to keep people distanced. The BCC already has the furniture

so all that would be required is tape. BCC users would be required to wear masks at all times. Once the doors to the BCC are opened, the Library can also open, again with numbers being restricted according to available space.

Of course, regular activities — Pickleball, computer courses, etc. — would not be provided until safe to do so. There would be a requirement for additional cleaning and surveillance to ensure safety rules are not being abused as well as asking health related questions upon accessing the building. Perhaps access to the building could be provided by the front doors and with the rear doors as emergency exits only. Finally, access to the BCC second floor would have to be closed off. It's time for the Brooklin community to have a Centre again.

To be fair, I have emailed the Town of Whitby Mayor who looked upon my suggestion to open the BCC with a temporary re-purposing and forwarded my email to the Town of Whitby Chief Administrative Officer, but I have yet to receive a response

• Vince Pileggi



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Next Issue: Friday, October 23, 2020
Deadline: Friday, October 16, 2020
During COVID-19 dates are subject to change.

Plant-Based Eating by Sheree Nicholson

Building a strong immune system



As we move into the colder months, we also head into flu and cold season. One of the best defenses is a healthy immune system. Of course, continue to wash your hands and wear masks. But there are also simple things you can start right now that will support the strength of your immune system.

1. Get a good night's sleep. Sleep is important. Aim for at least 7, but ideally, 8 or more hours. According to Sleepfoundation.org, without sufficient sleep, your body makes fewer cytokines, a type of protein that targets infection and inflammation, effectively creating an immune response. If your mind races at bedtime, try creating a personal "wind-down ritual", that

could include reading, meditation, journaling or gentle yoga. Electronics may interfere with your ability to fall asleep and to get into a deep sleep, so try to shut them off 60 minutes before bedtime

2) Eat a predominantly plant-based diet abundant in a variety of plant-based foods. Even if you're vegan and you eat only a handful of the same vegetables over and over again, this is not good enough. You need a wide variety of plant-based fibres in your diet. The reason is that plant fibres feed the microbiome in your gut, and 70% of your immune system is in your gut. So cut back on fibreless processed foods and fill your plate with a variety of fruits and veggies

able to respiratory problems and could compromise your recovery if you develop respiratory disease.

5) Find ways to reduce stress in your life. Look at your schedule and cut out non-important activities. Stress decreases the body's lymphocytes, the white blood cells that help fight off infection. The lower your lymphocyte level, the more at risk you are for viruses.

6) Get moving. Regular moderate physical activity is associated with immune enhancement. In fact, every system of the body relies on movement to function at its peak. Try to do 30 minutes of exercise daily or, at the least, aim for 4 to 5 times a week.

3) Get outdoors every day for a leisurely walk or something gentle. Enjoy some natural sunshine and this non-stressful activity. Hiking in a forest is actually good for your gut microbiome, so try a nature walk for your mental and physical health.

7) Connect with people you love, make you laugh and are positive. Humans thrive on social interaction; think of solitary confinement as a form of torture. While right now we can't interact physically with all the people we love, we can reach out by phone, Facebook and Zoom.

4) Moderate your alcohol intake which kills the good bacteria in your gut. Smoking also adversely affects the immune system, lowering your defences. As well, smoking weakens your lungs, making you more vulner-

Sheree's Hack: Commit to eating 7 to 10 servings of veggies a day, in soups, smoothies, raw or cooked. Vary these from day to day so you obtain a variety of fibres.



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For The Latest Covid 19 Town Updates Visit: www.whitby.ca/coronavirus

North Ward Councillor - *By Steve Lee*

Speed Bump Pilot Project



Speed bumps are finally here! As a father with young children, I am a huge proponent of finding ways to improve safety in our residential neighbourhoods. In fact, I ran my 2018 election campaign on that very platform.

We all live on streets with many young families and kids. We also all have our share of stories about how fast people tend to drive these days in Whitby and Brooklin. There are more drivers speeding through our residential



streets and others looking for shortcuts around traffic by cutting through side streets.

Markham experience

I've been working with Town staff to investigate what can be done about it. One thing I have always been a fan of is speed bumps. Before moving to Brooklin, I lived in Markham, which has had speed bumps for quite some time. In my view, they do work and help. However, they need to be used in conjunction with other traffic calming measures to be fully effective. Plus, some roads have provincial rules and guidelines we have to follow; others have specific circumstances before we can install them.

One street I've seen and heard so much about was Robert Attersley Dr. Drivers speed along it and use it as a shortcut to avoid Taunton Rd. It was getting so bad that many residents parked their cars on the road to try to skinny it up, forcing drivers to slow down.

This was, I felt, the perfect street on which to test speed bumps. While they haven't



been used in the North Ward, I wanted to see if they could be as effective as I believed they could be. My motion to council asked staff to use Robert Attersley Dr. as a pilot program for testing speed bumps and traffic calming.

Controversial

Speed bumps are one of the most common types of traffic calming devices. Although they're effective in keeping speeds down, their use is sometimes controversial. They can increase traffic noise, may damage vehicles if traversed at too great a speed, and slow emergency vehicles. Poorly-designed speed bumps that stand too tall or with too-sharp an angle can be disruptive for drivers and may be difficult to navigate for vehicles with

low ground clearance, even at low speeds.

This pilot program will test two different kinds. We want to test both to obtain feedback on which is the more effective one to calm traffic. One model being tested allows for emergency vehicles such as fire trucks to pass over without having to hit them. The models tested are also optionally removable for the winter and we'll be testing them with the snow plows as well.

I am hopeful this pilot program will be successful and that we will see speed reduction and an increase to safety. With positive results, we'd be able to install these in other streets in Brooklin and Whitby.



Tanya Tierney Team

REALTY INC., BROKERAGE



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8990 Ashburn Rd, Ashburn



4 Dopp Cres, Brooklin



28 Park Rd, Macedonian Village



35 Matthewson Pl, Brooklin



44 Bagot St, Brooklin



57 Ward St, Macedonian Village



64 Preservation Pl, Whitby



111 Mackey Dr, Whitby

Brooklin is Tanya Tierney Country!

Not intended to solicit those under contract.

Brooklin Parents: School Is Going Just Fine

The BTC reached out to the community last week to solicit views on how the school year has started. Here are the views of parents who replied.

Jen:

Normal. Fun. Safe.

Those are the words my children have used to describe their experience with in-school learning this year! I have 2 immuno-compromised children, and with the guidance of their specialists at Sick Kids, I opted to send them to school this September. Their spacious classrooms have 16 and 21 children, and both class-

es spend about 2 hours/day outdoors. They've been happy to go to school every day and are excited to tell me about all the new things they're learning. I hope Durham region can keep the covid numbers low so children can stay in school!

Danielle Friel:

I must say I am very impressed with the way our school has handled everything since welcoming the kids. Expectations and processes were communicated in advance, which made me feel really good that they are taking this quite seriously, even with

changes to staffing days before school starts. To hear from my son he wears his mask all day and it's not required (grade 2) means all kids are most likely doing the same and are being led by example. Follow up emails to adjustments needed to maintain safe protocols are also communicated in a timely manner which gives me the peace of mind as a parent that my children are in good hands. I am very proud of all the teachers and staff for their continued effort as we navigate this uncertain storm. Hats off to all!

Mandi Francis:

Both of my kids returned to in-person school this September - one is in high school and the other is in elementary school, here in Brooklin. They were both a little anxious to return to school but they've adjusted quickly. My high schooler attends school a few mornings a week and does virtual learning at home, the rest of the time. He's enjoying it, although he's still getting accustomed to this 'quadmester' thing. As for my daughter, her teacher has really helped her make a smooth transition into grade 7. Although this is a very uncertain time, the past month has been a positive time for us.

Town Launches Digital Engagement Platform

The Town of Whitby has launched its new digital engagement platform: **connectwhitby.ca**. Its purpose is to make it easy for Whitby residents to connect with the Town and share feedback on the municipal budget decisions, projects and initiatives that matter to them.

Residents are encouraged to visit and register at **connectwhitby.ca** to view and participate in the Town's current engagement opportunities. Feedback collected from Connect Whitby will be used by Town staff and Council to help make informed, evidence-based decisions.

"Connect Whitby is yet another way we are working to support an open and connected community," said Mayor Don Mitchell. "Especially during this unprecedented time, it's more important than ever that we find new ways to connect virtually with our residents and I encourage everyone to get involved."

Building Whitby's Budget

Each year, the Town undergoes an extensive budget planning process to prepare the annual municipal budget. New this year, residents are invited to learn more about the Town's budget planning process and share their budget priorities at **connectwhitby.ca/2021budget**. Through the site, residents can access the Town's new Citizen Budget tool, a virtual budget simulator that shows the financial impacts of participants' choices in real time. The tool will be available until Friday, October 30.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in significant financial

impacts and pressures on individuals, businesses, and municipalities, including the Town of Whitby," said Chief Administrative Officer Matt Gaskell. "That's why it's so important that we hear from our residents as part of our budget engagement process - to listen and learn more about the programs and services that matter most to them."

The launch of **connectwhitby.ca/2021budget** and the Citizen Budget tool are part of the first phase of the Town's budget engagement process. Subscribe at **connectwhitby.ca/2021budget** to stay informed on upcoming budget engagement opportunities.

2020 Community Survey Now Open

Whitby residents and business owners are invited to participate in the Town's biennial Community Survey, an opportunity for residents to share feedback on the Town's current programs and services, and priorities for the future.

The survey is available online at **connectwhitby.ca/communitysurvey** until Sunday, October 25. Public-opinion firm Ipsos will also conduct 400 randomized and confidential telephone surveys of residents.

As part of the survey, respondents will be asked to share their opinions on the Town's customer service, use of tax dollars, programs, priorities, communications and services. Data collected will help inform the development of the Town's annual budgets, strategic plan priorities, and program and service delivery.

Our Brooklin Kids *By Leanne Brown*



When a Parent Loses a Job

With COVID 19 dragging on into its 8th month, more people are finding the term "economic downturn" being brought home in a very personal way. What started out as mostly frontline workers being laid off as we stayed home has now extended outwards. Last week, I joined those ranks as my company announced layoffs that eliminated many roles.

On the day I was laid off, I was in shock. After being told via an online meeting, I sat alone at the kitchen table, the same table which has been my office for the last few months. It took a while to sink in. I'd been with the company 15 years. What do I do now?

Job loss creates anxiety and economic hardship for any family. I wasn't sure how I was going to tell my daughter, but I knew that being proactive and telling her what's happened was probably the best thing to do. She's going to see that Mommy's not getting up and working. Kids are too smart to say nothing's wrong. They'll come to their own conclusions. If you lie or hide the truth then they won't trust you at exactly the time they need to.

Lunch chat

I was visibly upset so I told my daughter when she came home for lunch what had happened. The short lunch period gave me a small window to share the news, but not long enough for me to get upset while we talked.

I stuck to the facts. "The company I work for is changing how it does business," I said, "because the way customers use the products it provides has changed. So lots of people who work there aren't needed and their jobs are going away. My job is one of them." I shared a few more details and then let her know that everything was going to be okay and we'd talk about it more after school.

By the time school was over, I'd had time to absorb the reality. The first thing I did was tell her how I felt about it: upset and angry. However I also knew this could be a great opportunity to do something new.

I further explained that things like this happen. Companies make tough decisions. People change jobs. The company provided me with money so we would be fine until I found new work. She needed to know that we'd be okay and she'd be safe.

About resiliency

While losing a job is never a good thing, this is a chance for children to learn what resiliency looks like. I'm letting her know I have a plan. I'll take a little time off and then will start looking for a new opportunity. She sees that Dad is still working and that we are a team.

How a family sticks together in hard times is important. We'd had plans to go to the mall. We could still go but while I'm looking for work, we won't be buying as much right now. She picked out an item she wanted and offered to pay half. She understood. I hugged her and tucked her money back into her purse. I could still treat her today.

While keeping adult matters like lawyers and financials from her, my focus now is ensuring her everyday life isn't impacted. I reassured her that her activities will still mostly take place (COVID notwithstanding), though special treats might be limited.

I know I need to take care of myself first and I'm exploring ideas that have been rattling around in my head and heart for a while. It's time to launch the next phase of my career. And honestly...I'm quite excited!

Brooklin Heritage Society

From Mischief To Mayhem

By Jennifer Hudgins

Halloween is an annual event whose history stems back from ancient pagan rituals where festivities featured mischief-making, huge bonfires and as much destruction as possible, in order to frighten away spirits who returned from the dead. Years later, Halloween became more about community than ghosts, pranks and devastation. But apparently Brooklin teenagers in the 1960s failed to get the memo!

While the younger generation was busy mapping out the fastest routes to the best candy apples and creamiest fudge, older kids made less innocent plans. For the youngsters of Brooklin, Halloween was about getting the most pennies in their UNICEF boxes and the candy. To them the “trick” part of trick or treat was an empty threat. But to older kids, “trick” was taken to a completely different level. Anarchy prevailed!

Odd pranks

It wasn’t uncommon to have an outhouse spirited away from a farm then re-appear burning on Baldwin St. Cows would turn up in the strangest places. A car stolen from Guy Stevenson Motors was discovered nosedived into the creek. Brooklinites might find toilet paper, scarecrows from someone’s garden and shoes strung from hydro lines. Hay wagons leaned against telephone poles and piles of reeking manure were scattered everywhere. One year, the Continuation School on Winchester Rd. became home to a flock of chickens and the Royal Canadian Legion, a pig.

The town’s Halloween hooligans took pumpkins from fields to smash onto roads and driveways. They soaped the windows of businesses and, one time, a brick was thrown through the

front window of Short’s Pharmacy. The phone booth at Brown’s Red and White Store was torched, never to be used again. An old car filled with tires was set on fire, rolled down Baldwin, and passed the Brookside Restaurant, ending up on the bridge. Grocery stores stopped selling eggs days before to try to minimize damage, but obliging farmers didn’t mind making a few extra dollars, providing the pranksters with plenty of ammunition.

Danger driving

Even driving through town on the night of October 31st was an adventure. Eggs, pumpkins and rotten tomatoes were flung onto

passing cars from kids hiding in the shadows. In some cases, the damage came from balloons filled with paint and thrown from the roof of the old bank.

Firemen were on standby all night and the OPP was out in full force. If caught, kids were given a free, mandatory ride to Myrtle for the punishment of a long walk back to Brooklin.

Finally, in the early 1980s, possibly after a particularly harrowing incident involving the burning down of an unoccupied house, Brooklin’s tradition of destructive Halloween “tricks” came to an end.

Zoom Meetings hurting your eyes?

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Return of the
Brooklin Farmer’s Market



On Sept. 26, The Brooklin Library and Community Centre parking lot was home to numerous vendors as the Farmer’s Market - COVID edition came to town.

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We continue to provide advice in the areas of: family law, real estate law, and wills and estates law.

Our team of family lawyers are all able to offer a path toward a resolution that is tailored to each client and their specific needs. Sophie and Helen are joined by Tasneem Alibhai, Suzette Moss and Aruna Persaud in providing clients with their best options for resolving family law issues while working to avoid costly and protracted litigation.

For clients seeking an alternative to traditional litigation, the family lawyers at **Hills Nolan** are trained in Collaborative Family Law. Whether a client is seeking a separation agreement,

divorce, marriage contract or assistance with any other family law matter, Hills Nolan lawyers bring a personalized, professional and resolution-focused approach.

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To learn more or to discuss how we can help you, please contact **Hills Nolan** at (905) 571-1774 or visit our website at **www.hillsnolan.com** (**www.elliottandhills.com** until our new website launches later this month).



Sophie Hills



Helen Nolan





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