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See the story on page 3

HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS BTC:

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2018 MAZDA CX-9



Welcome to the Clubhouse

Less than Half the Picture *By Richard Bercuson*



Stormy weather

“Don’t know why
There’s no sun up in the sky
Stormy weather”
• From the song “Stormy weather”

Being a storm spotter was never an ambition. It ranked along with road marking painter and dog nail clipper as occupations just too obscure to warrant my attention.

How wrong I was. Here’s Durham Region inviting us - anyone, even rational people - to attend a free two-hour training session by a real live Environment Canada meteorologist so we can become storm spotters. It will be on Thursday, May 3, 7:30-9:30 pm at the Whitby Centennial Building, 416 Centre St., South.

It seems our weather people may need assistance deciding when or if to issue weather bulletins. Those are their words, by the way. Volunteer storm spotters can then choose to join their volunteer CANWARN team. Let’s give credit where it’s due. At least CANWARN isn’t an acronym. They could have called it ECVSS or Environment Canada Volunteer Storm Spotter, but CANWARN has a more serious tone, with a tinge of panic built in.

“WE WHO ARE TRAINED STORM SPOTTER VOLUNTEERS ARE

WARNING YOU THAT THE TORNADAL RAINS THAT HAVE SENT YOUR CAR FLOATING DOWN BALDWIN AND THE VICIOUS WINDS THAT BLEW VILPOND ARENA ONTO THE NORTH SIDE OF COLUMBUS IS CALLED A STORM, A VERY VERY BAD STORM. REALLY BAD.

“WE URGE YOU TO TAKE COVER IN THE NEAREST BATHTUB. WE ARE TRAINED AT THIS - TOOK TWO HOURS OF OUR LIVES - SO TRUST US WHEN WE TELL YOU THIS BULLETIN COMES NOT JUST FROM ENVIRONMENT CANADA BUT FROM YOUR NEIGHBOURS WHO, JUST LIKE YOU, ARE QUIVERING IN THEIR UNDERWEAR.”

Call me naive, but I truly want to believe our government constantly looks for ways to make our lives better and safer. It’s never about power or terrific pensions or the perk of getting close to Justin Trudeau’s hair. No, by training people around me to look for signs of potential disaster, the government is doing what it’s supposed to do.

However, sometimes I just don’t get it. In an age of smartphones, apps, 24/7 weather reports, and, yes, windows, why do we need storm spot-

ters to tell us what we likely already know or suspect?

If I have nothing to do that May 3 evening, I might just show up to find out for myself. That is, if my family doesn’t mind holding off on the grandiose celebration. It’ll be my birthday, you see.

Or, I could just get what an old Ottawa

neighbour had. A retired police officer and part native, his Indian weather rock sat in a backyard garden.

It read:
If white, snowing
If wet, raining
If hot, sunny
If can’t see it, foggy
If moving, windy
If gone, tornado

Open House About Road-Related Construction

Residents are invited to learn more about and provide feedback on the 2018 projects. These include:

Road Modifications

- Watford Street road modifications (from Winchester Road to Carnwith Drive)

Downtown Whitby Landscape Modifications

- Perry Street (from Dundas Street East to Mary Street, east side)

Sidewalk and Cycling Facilities

- Rossland Road multi-use path (from the Otter Creek Bridge to Cochrane Street)
- Victoria Street multi-use path (from Seaboard Gate to Brock Street)
- Henry Street multi-use path (from

Bridge Construction

- Des Newman Grade Separation over CPR

The Road-Related Construction Projects Community Open House details are as follows:

When: Thursday, April 19, 2018, drop in between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Where: Town Hall Lobby, 575 Rossland Road East, Whitby

For more information, contact Horace Look, Project Engineer (Capital), at **905.430.4300 x2336** or email **lookh@whitby.ca** or visit **whitby.ca/construction**.

Town of Whitby

UPCOMING EVENTS

2018 Road-Related Construction Projects Community Open House

Thursday, April 19, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Town Hall. Drop in and learn about the Town’s 2018 road-related construction projects. whitby.ca/notices

Whitby in Bloom Garden Seminar

Wednesday, April 25, at 7:30 p.m. at the Brooklin United Church. Register at whitby.ca/whitbyinbloom

Call for Doors Open Volunteers

Interested in volunteering for the Town’s Doors Open event being held May 5? Email volunteers@whitby.ca or visit whitby.ca/volunteers

whitby.ca/calendar

Council Meetings

Council

April 16 at 7 p.m.

Planning and Development Committee

April 23 at 7 p.m.

Operations Committee

April 30 at 7 p.m.

These meetings will take place at Town Hall, 575 Rossland Rd. E. For more information, contact the Clerks Department at clerks@whitby.ca or 905.430.4315 whitby.ca/civicweb

News

Celebrate National Youth Week May 1 to 7

This May 1 to 7, the Town will celebrate National Youth Week with a number of free activities, including free pizza at all Youth Rooms on May 2 and Art Attack (in partnership with Station Gallery) on May 3. whitby.ca/youth

Notices

2018 Municipal Election Information Session

Thinking of running for local office or registering as a third party advertiser in the upcoming municipal election? Attend the information session being held Tuesday, April 24, from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., at the Whitby Centennial Building (416 Centre Street South) to learn about:

- the roles and responsibilities of elected officials;
- registered third parties;
- the nomination process;
- campaign rules and more.

Who should attend: Those considering running for municipal council or a school board, campaign managers, and those planning to register as a third party advertiser. For details visit whitby.ca/vote, email elections@whitby.ca or call 905.430.4315.

Get involved!

PITCH-IN BROOKLIN
April 21

DOWNTOWN WHITBY
SPRING CLEAN-UP
April 21

PROJECT PROPERTY
SWEEP WHITBY
April 16 to 22

whitby.ca/earthweek

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Durham Farm Connections Provides Agriculture Education

More than 1,200 Grade 3 students from across Durham Region attended Durham Farm Connections, an educational program that meets Ontario curriculum requirements and allows students to be farmers for a day.

The three-day event, held April 3 to 5 at Brooklin's Luther Vipond Memorial Arena, included live animal displays and hands-on demonstrations by local farmers. This included beef and dairy cattle, pigs, cider, crops, egg production, land stewardship and vegetable stations.

A Durham Region farmer was at each station to speak with students and answer questions.

"Durham Region is home to 1,323 farms and contributes \$257.6 million in farm cash receipts to the economy in Durham Region, making it a key sector," said Nancy



Rutherford, Manager of Agricultural and Rural Affairs.

The Durham Farm Connections program provides agricultural education opportunities for both farm and non-farm communities in Durham Region. It has been recognized with an Ontario Premier's Award for Agri-food Innovation Excellence, as well as a Watershed Award from the Central Lake Ontario Conservation Authority (CLOCA). Durham Farm Connections is also the 2018 recipient of the Farm & Food Care Champion Award.

Durham Farm Connections also organizes an annual High School Program that aligns with the Grade 9, 11 and 12 science curriculums, and focuses on agricultural research and technology.

For more information, visit durham-farmconnections.ca.



Pitch-In Brooklin Returns

The 16th Annual Pitch-in Brooklin will take place Saturday, April 21, 9 am -11 am. This event is organized by the BAM Lions Club in recognition of Earth Day.

We are looking forward to having all Brooklin residents come out to help clean up their local parks and neighbourhood. So, grab your family, friends and neighbours and come out and Pitch In! You may win a prize!!

To ensure you don't miss a thing, your first step is to meet up on the Pitch-in Brooklin Facebook page.

Friend us, post an idea and connect with others in the community so that can all work together to pitch in for Brooklin.

Where: Every park in Brooklin
What: Join your neighbours to help clean up our parks and neighbourhood

Special thanks to the Brooklin Spring Fair Board for providing prizes for this event. If you are interesting in sponsoring this event or being a Park Captain, please e-mail Michael_argue@hotmail.com.

WANTED

30 PEOPLE WITH HEARING LOSS

Qualified Participants Needed for Technology Field Test

NOW Enrolling

We're looking for people like you, who may be experiencing difficulty hearing in noisy environments to evaluate a remarkable new digital hearing aid⁽¹⁾ and a rehabilitative process that could be the solution to your difficulties. There's no cost or obligation to participate!

Call us toll-free today to see if you qualify for this Field Test. Potential candidates will be given a FREE hearing test to determine their candidacy. This latest digital technology solves the biggest challenge for hearing aid wearers – hearing well in noisy environments.

Nobody will notice it because of its minute size, fitting snugly and comfortably just behind the ear. Everything works automatically, so you can get back to enjoying your relationships, rather than thinking about your hearing.

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Apply today - Candidates are being selected.
The selection process ends on April 30th 2018.
Call a local clinic below or book your appointment online at: HearingLife.ca/Wanted

Ajax 235 Bayly Street West Call Samia at 1-877-503-5977	Pickering 1848 Liverpool Road Call Jennifer at 1-877-501-8725
Oshawa 470 King Street West Call Lyndsay or Abigail at 1-877-534-2111	Whitby 604 Garden Street Call Karla at 1-877-504-2654

Formerly **HearingLife** **ListenUP! CANADA**

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* Offer valid until April 30th, 2018 and is subject to change without notice. Hearing tests are provided free of charge for adults ages 18 and older. Candidates must be private sale, or eligible for ADP or AADL. Some conditions may apply. Please see clinic for details. Offer not valid in Quebec. (1) <https://www.oticon.ca/solutions/opn>

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Next Issue: Friday, April 27, 2018
Deadline: Friday, April 20, 2018

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Promo Code: NSP-WNTD-BRTC

Our Brooklin Kids By Leanne Brown



Sequins, Squishies and Toy Stores

My daughter gets a weekly allowance and is very good about saving it. One day, as I helped her count out a wad of bills and change, we discovered she had a sizable amount.

“Are you saving for something special?” I asked.

“There are a few little things I would like,” she answered. So I suggested we go shopping on the weekend.

I mentioned Toys R Us. “I don’t like that store,” she said and I almost fell over. What kid doesn’t want to go to Toys R Us? Apparently a lot of them. With Toys R Us closing in the U.S., I wondered if most kids feel the way my daughter does. If so, was the Canadian side of the chain doomed, too?

So I asked her where SHE wanted to go shopping. Justice and Mastermind Toys made her list. At Justice, she walked around looking at the t-shirts with sequins and fun sayings. She stroked the fur on the stuffies and squeezed the squishies. A bubbly employee helped find the right size t-shirt after allowing her to flip the sequins on every shirt in the store. My daughter came out smiling with a bag of favourites.

Cheerful greeting

The moment she walked through the door at Mastermind, a lovely lady cheerfully greeted her. “Hi,” she welcomed. “Looks like you’ve already been shopping. What did you buy?”

My daughter pulled open her bag and showed her the sequined hockey t-shirt and rainbow whale squishy. The Mastermind lady made the appropriate comments of appreciation. My daughter beamed over the admiration of her choices.

The lady asked us if we had something special in mind. My daughter explained she was searching for a bracelet charm, so the two of them looked through the rack. They discussed which ones she already had and chose a special one. Then the lady suggested we try the items on the table.

It wasn’t long before a young employee had her engaged in a game of air hockey. They laughed and did a victory dance together when she won. Then she walked about, picked up things, played with the demo toys and finally brought her purchase to the cash. The lady we met on arrival admired her plush wolf purse as she pulled out her wallet. She waited patiently as my daughter counted her money and then threw two “free” small tubs of playdough into her shopping bag to share with her friend she was to see later that day.

Warehousing toys

We then went to Toys R Us and she slowly viewed the racks with disinterest. I got it. Instead of actually doing anything, all she did was meander. They sell a lot of toys, but they are just big warehouses and there is no one to introduce you to anything,

play with you or open up your imagination. It’s boring. Toys R Us forgot it is a toy store. It forgot who its client is: kids looking to play.

What Mastermind and Justice get right is simple: the product is accessible and at kid level. You can play with the toys and the staff likes interacting with kids, making the experi-

ence magical. We left loving those stores and wanted to return.

Toy stores are kids’ first real shopping experiences, where hard earned allowances are spent and wishes come true. They aren’t just stores. They’re hands-on experience, experiential labs in childhood, discovery, and fun.

Letter to the Editor:

No More Outdoor Balloons

Dear BTC:

Last summer I was rather surprised to see a conservation booth at a local event decorated with balloons. While balloons are eye catching and fun, they are also a problem. Every balloon released out of doors becomes litter. Litter that is appealing to curious wildlife who can mistake it for food. Why would a conservation authority, responsible for protecting our natural environment, birds and animals, introduce this danger? I spoke to the young man at the booth, he looked confused, apparently no one had thought of the balloons in this way. In the fall I attended the Brooklin Fall Festival, a wonderful community event. Throughout the morning I kept hearing shouts of ‘there goes another one!’ as balloons escaped and floated off in the sky. I knew that they would not continue to rise, that at some point they would return to earth as a problem. Is giving potential litter to children the best way to advertise your services to adults? Then last winter, in Long Sault Conservation Area, there was a balloon, tangled up in a bush; not what I wanted to see while hiking.

According to balloons blow.org: it is illegal to release balloons in: California, Connecticut, Florida, Tennessee and Virginia; balloons are not easily biodegradable, it can take up to

4 years, plenty of time for fish and animals to ingest them and cause blockages in their digestive systems that lead to death. Last winter I read that the Clarington Fire Department had brought forward a motion to that council regarding banning balloons. According to Google, both Vancouver and Kingston are looking into the problem. I hoped that Durham Region would also look at the problem but have been told that it must be done by a municipality, so I asked Whitby to consider banning the use of helium balloons out-of-doors. This would not prevent families from celebrating special occasions indoors. Balloons could be used in homes and banquet halls etc. Children could be taught that balloons are indoor toys.

There are many other, more appropriate, items that can be used as decoration or give-aways at community events. If you would like some suggestions, check out the website: <https://balloonsblow.org> You will also find more information on the pollution factor of balloons. In the meantime, please join me in trying to eliminate this pollution/litter problem by just not accepting the use of helium balloons out-of-doors.

Margot Dixon
Brooklin ON

Community Calendar

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.

Sat., Apr. 14: 11 am
Big Bucks Euchre
Odd Fellows Hall, 42 Bagot St., Brooklin
Regular progressive euchre.
No partner required.
\$10 includes lunch and excellent prizes.
Advance tickets only.
Proceeds to Camp Trillium
camps for kids with
cancer and their families.
Call **905-655-4652**

Sat., April 14: 7-11 p.m.
Mayor’s Community Fundraiser
Central Library,
405 Dundas Street West, Whitby
Join Mayor Don Mitchell for an evening of
food, friends, entertainment and music in
support of the Mayor’s Community Development Fund, benefiting local community
groups, events and initiatives.
Tickets on sale now!
mayorscommunityfundraiser.eventbrite.ca
\$85 per person or \$150 per couple.
For more information, contact:
WhitbyMayorsFundraiser@gmail.com

Sun., April 15: 2-3 pm: Brooklin Poetry Society book launch
10th Anniversary edition of
“Written Tenfold” to celebrate
national poetry month
At Brooklin Library, readings
in the library program room
Anthology edited by society president
Renée M. Sgroi and features works
by society members
Visit: **brooklinpoetrysociety.com/about**

Thurs., April 19:
BHS Fashion Show & Tea
2 shows: 3:30 and 7 pm
Brooklin High’s grade 12
fashion program students
bring 100 years of fashion
history to life
\$10 admission
High Tea, including treats
and snacks, provided
by Culinary Arts Program students

Fri. - Sun., April 20-22 - Saint Vincent de Paul Bundle Weekend
Truck will be parked at
St. Leo the Great Church
for the weekend to receive
donations of gently used clothing,
linens and small household goods.
Donated items will
benefit the less fortunate.
Bagged items can be left with
members at the truck.
If unmaned, bagged items
may be left by truck.
Call **905-655-9692** or **905-620-0724**
for further information.

Sun., April 22: 1-3 pm
Spring Fashion Show
featuring fashions by Alia
(of the Oshawa Centre)
St. Leo the Great Parish Hall
130 Watford St.
Tickets \$15. Lunch
and beverages provided
Doors open at noon to shop vendors
Door Prizes.
Call **905-620-0724** for tickets or info

Fri., April 27: 4:00 - 5:00 pm
(4th Friday of each month)
Teen Leadership Council
at Brooklin Library
Whitby Library’s Brooklin Branch seeks
Teen Leadership Council members to
share ideas & assist with special events
and programs. Grade 9-12 students earn
community service hours.
Snacks provided. No registration required.
For information,
email **teenservices@whitbylibrary.ca**.

Fri. - Sun., April 27-29
Saint Vincent de Paul Bundle Weekend
Truck will be parked
at St. Leo the Great Church
for the weekend to receive donations of
gently used clothing, linens and small
household goods. Donated items will
benefit the less fortunate.
Bagged items can be left with members
at the truck. If unmaned,
bagged items may be left by truck.
Call **905-655-9692** or **905-620-0724**
for further information.

Sun., May 6: 11 am - 1 pm: Bryson Blooms
At 10 Roebuck, in front of Bryson Insurance. A community celebration feature
music, animals from Windreach Farm,
popcorn, Rapunzel & Spiderman, colouring
stations, and more
12 pm unveiling of newly adopted as part
of Whitby’s Adopt-a-Park program.
Visit Facebook and say you’re
going: **facebook.com/events/162771337649054/**

Sat., June 16: 10 am - 2 pm :
Nova’s Ark 8th Annual Friendship Walk
From Grass Park,
a 3 km walk led by Bing the Camel
Afterwards, music by Workin’ Dawgs
and BBQ by Starr Burger
Also, face painting and interaction
with therapy animals
To register, visit **novasark.ca** or email:
friendshipwalk.novasark@bell.net

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

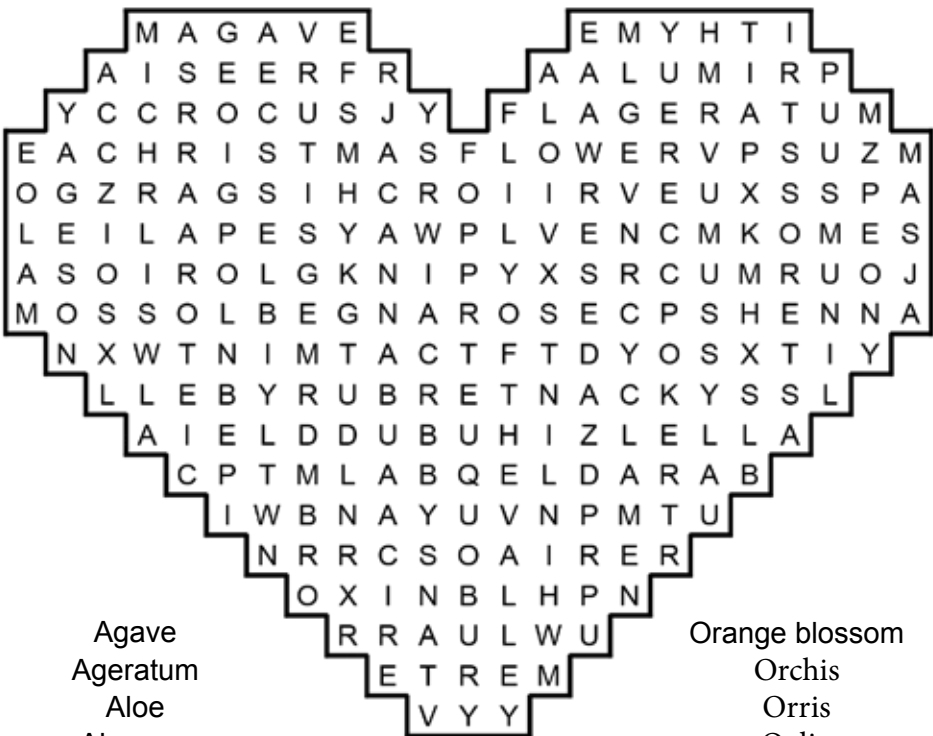
Tuesdays: 7:25 pm:
Brooklin Toastmasters Club
Practice public speaking at Brooklin
Community Centre & Library.
Contact John Johnstone at
jajhj@sympatico.ca
or phone **905-683-4439**
or Patricia Romano
at **promano257@outlook.com**
or phone **905-626-7055**.

1st & 3rd Tuesdays
Community Care Durham (CCD)
Basic Foot Care at St. Thomas’ Anglican
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Mon.-Fri.
CCD delivers hot or frozen meals.
To order: Karen Andrews **905-668-6779**

Brooklin Bafflers: Hearts and Flowers *by Liz Lowe*

Word Search



- Agave
Ageratum
Aloe
Alyssum
Aster
Avens
Balm
Bouquet
Buddleia
Buttercup
Canna
Canterbury bell
Catmint
Chaplet
Christmas flower
Cosmos
Crocus
Cyclamen
Dittany
- Erica
Flag
Freesia
Geum
Gloriosa
Henna
Iris
Jessamy
Laburnum
Lily of the valley
Linum
Mallow
May
Musk
Nosegay
- Orange blossom
Orchis
Orris
Oxlip
Peony
Petal
Pink
Poker
Primula
Reseda
Rose
Sepal
Sweet briar
Tansy
Thyme
Tulip
Veronica
Viola
Whin

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AND BEYOND.



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- Laura & Chris (Brooklin, ON)



76 Elder Crescent



94 Daruis Harns Drive



117 Carnwith Drive East



41 Montana Crescent



291 Montgomery Avenue



10 Northland Avenue



28 Rainbow Crescent



17 Leithridge Crescent

Brooklin is Tanya Tierney Country!

Not intended to solicit those under contract.

Blooming in Brooklin By Ken Brown

Spring's early tasks



Forget the robins. The true harbinger of spring in my garden is the witch hazel which also indicates when I should start watching the asparagus patch to see those first delicious spears.

Some years, the witch hazel has bloomed in late February which means I have my asparagus by mid April. Here we are and the witch hazel is just now in full bloom. She's been sputtering along since late March but has never really put on that show of deep red blooms that tell me spring approaches. The asparagus may not show up till Mother's Day.

Meanwhile, on the other side of the backyard, Mother Nature is putting on quite a show of strength. Two years ago, I renovated the lawn, spreading grass seed and planting a mess of crocus. The new lawn was a disaster. Never buy inexpensive grass seed!

Last fall, that grass died. I rototilled the area so it could be levelled and sodded. The sod was heavy duty stuff with a dense layer of soil and roots. It was difficult to cut to fit the corners.

Blooming crocus

Guess what! Now those little abused crocus bulbs have managed to push through the thick layer of dormant grass and are blooming beautifully in the new lawn.

In the basement, where I have more control than Mother Nature, many

seed varieties are happily germinating in anticipation of spring's arrival. The fast growing, early vegetables, like Chinese cabbage (napa), pak choi and cauliflower have already been transplanted from the seeding cells to larger cell packs that will nurture them until they make their way to the garden.

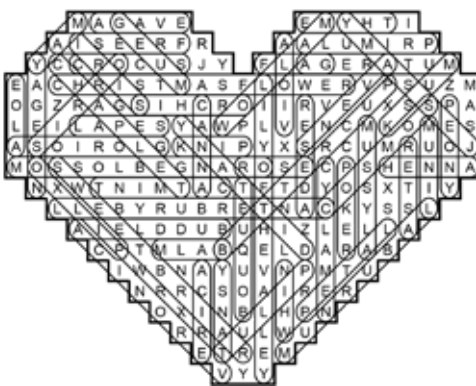
This week is tomato week. I planted a few earlier to try to grow large transplants that might give us ripe tomatoes in July. But the main crop will find the warm moist soil this week. Other warm crops such as peppers, eggplant and a new variety of marigold are slower to grow and were seeded last week.

The heat mat that warms the soil in the seeding trays and the fluorescent tubes that provide enough light to produce short healthy seedlings have been spinning the hydro meter for a few weeks. When asked if I save money growing my own vegetables, I assure people I do, but I may overlook the hydro meter and just account for obvious things like seeds and fertilizer. Of course there's no labour cost because time spent gardening is both exercise and therapy and should be recorded on the plus side of the ledger.

New sod's needs

I have a list of gardening activities for the first warm, windless day. New sod needs early spring fertilizer so buy a bag of Mark's Choice extra iron spring formula to help grass green up quickly.

There's a new product this spring for tired lawns: grass seed mixed with fertilizer. While it does its magic, a couple of trees will need pruning. In a perfect world, I'd have planted trees that wouldn't grow so large as to shade the gardens, but that would have required much more thought. So I use pruners and loppers in late winter or early spring and attempt to trim the trees to my, not their, desired size. Just another of my little disagreements with Mother Nature!



Station Gallery Event Supports Original Artwork

Station Gallery Event Supports Original Artwork

Join Station Gallery on Thurs., April 26, 6-10 pm, for the 25th anniversary of Drawing for Art.

This signature spring fundraiser puts original artwork into the hands of ticket holders and raises funds for Station Gallery to continue to bring creativity and inspiration to our community through exhibition and educational programming.

Ticket holders pick an artwork to take when their ticket is drawn. They'll select from over 120 original artworks

donated by artists from Durham Region and beyond. The in-gallery preview displayed from April 3 to April 26 offers an opportunity to view the art and to have a sneak peek at the choices on event night.

A \$250 Drawing for Art ticket admits two people and includes one artwork selection. Tickets are limited and available through Station Gallery's e-shop at stationgallery.ca.

Local businesses interested in becoming an event partner invested in building our creative community, please contact Station Gallery at **905-668-4185**.

Our Councillor's Report by Rhonda Mulcahy

North Ward Councillor, Town of Whitby • mulcahyr@whitby.ca



There's No Place Like... Cleaning Up Home

Last week I think many of us felt like Dorothy in The Wizard of Oz. The storm that literally blew into town wreaked havoc. For those now in the throes of replacing your shingles, I feel for you. I've been there.

In January of 2016, I woke to what sounded like a ticking bomb in my bedroom closet. After rubbing the sleep from my eyes, I realized I was listening to the winter thaw dripping in through my roof. Replacing a roof in an emergency situation is not fun.

Some residents lost trees. One in Ashburn sadly witnessed a 150 year old maple land across her driveway.

Durham Regional councillors were tweeting from their council meeting on Rossland Road to stay away as the roof was behaving like a wave and it wasn't safe to be near the building.

Holiday saved us?

The one saving grace was the municipal holiday on the Monday of Easter weekend. It meant our recycling bins shouldn't have been out until the next day.

Unfortunately, many people didn't get that memo. While driving through, Brooklin I was attacked by a piece of cardboard that popped up out of nowhere and plastered my windshield. Thankfully it fell right back off again, but my heart stopped for a few beats. This got my attention!

It also made me think about why people missed the timing of pick up. Most of the flying debris could have been avoided.

The Town shares the message in its town page advertising that goes in Whitby This Week, SNAP, and The Brooklin Town Crier.

Whitby's great app

We also have a wonderful app that will send notifications to your phone and computer each week and tell

you not only the day before pick up but also what exactly is being picked up that week. It's called the Whitby Waste Buddy app and is available on the Google Play store or Apple App Store. It's incredibly helpful to keep track of waste day pick up.

The other on-line feature you really need to check out is Whitby Waste Wizard. You can find it here. whitby.ca/en/residents/waste-wizard.asp

All you need to do is type what it is you're throwing away and the directory will tell you if it's garbage, brown bag, green bin or recycling. One of the comments I've heard time and again is that we don't have enough garbage pick up. I am in a family of five grown people and I often have a hard time filling two bags of garbage every two weeks. I know I don't have babies in diapers so that counts for some of the difference. However, I wonder what people are throwing away that could be green bin, brown bag or recycling. If you use the correct receptacle, you shouldn't have much more than soft plastics in your garbage bags.

While I've taken a wind storm to demonstrate what we can all do better in our waste pick up, it is all tied together. Our weather patterns are changing. What impact are we humans having on our planet? If we can take a positive out of the storm last week, maybe it should be seen as a reminder that we can all do our part for a better planet.

Pitch-In coming

On the same note, the 16th Annual Pitch-In Brooklin is set for April 21st, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and is hosted by the B.A.M. Lions Club. Get out your rubber boots and help clean up some of the debris created by the storm. You can pitch in in any of our local parks. If interested in sponsoring this event or being a park captain, please e-mail: Michael_argue@hotmail.com. See you out there.

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