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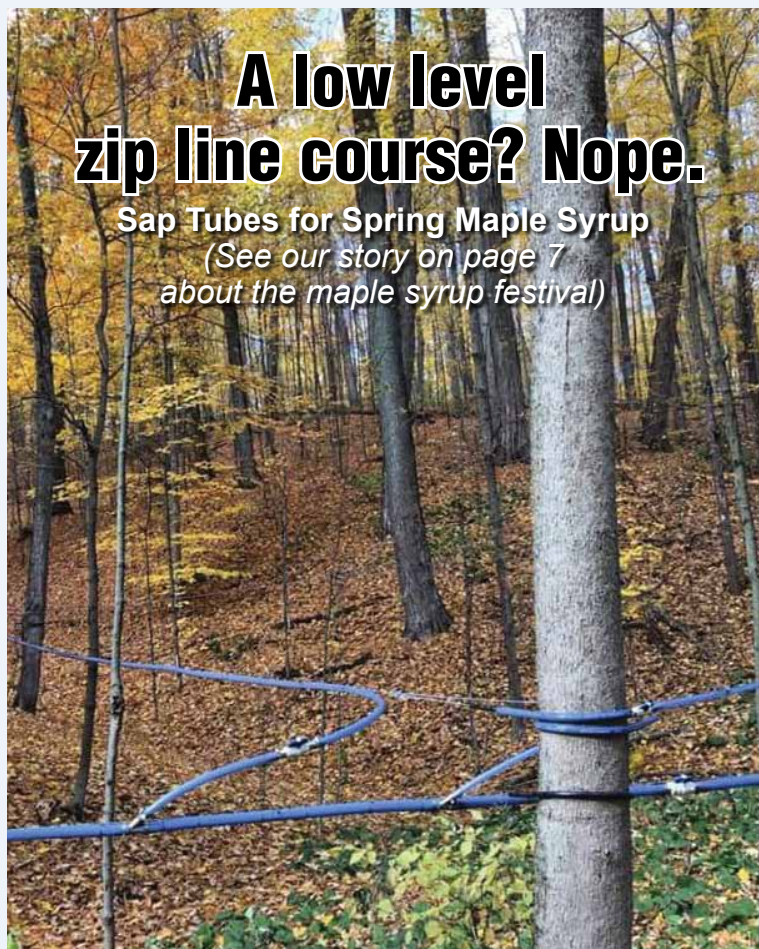
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A low level zip line course? Nope.

Sap Tubes for Spring Maple Syrup

(See our story on page 7
about the maple syrup festival)

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Less than Half the Picture By Richard Bercuson

If you see something...



Local vigilance is everyone's business.

For instance, our Ottawa home was in a dead end street with one side of it being hectares of National Capital Commission (NCC) fields, shrubs, and rough pathways. At the actual dead end was the entrance to a formal path used by walkers, runners, and cyclists. Oh, and teens bent on a crazy night in the bush, which the community knew about.

Once spring arrived, gaggles of them, laden with backpacks, brazenly traipsed past our house to the path to begin the adventure. Sometimes a few would push through the hedgerow across from us, looking for alternative routes to the parties. One night, a couple of kids were so hammered (the evidence was obvious), they fell into a ditch and clambered up to the street on hands and knees. I'd just got home from the rink - naturally - and watched a few feet away from my driveway. I doubt they noticed me, their eyes were so glazed over.

The whole time, every time, someone was watching. It could have been Bill #1 or Susan a few doors down or Ed, their neighbour, or Joan and Gerry on one side of us or Roger on the other. Another Bill, #2, lived in a magnificent place overlooking the pathway entrance and he seemed to know everything that was going on. He admitted to me it was he who often called either the police or NCC officials.

On a couple of occasions, kids in sports cars used the street as a mini-drag strip, streaking by with tires spinning. If it happened when Bill #1 or I happened to be out front, he'd storm onto the street armed with a tire iron, making a clear point about a second attempt. Yours truly chose the safer approach: I'd take photos of the cars and wave when they went by. One time, a kid stopped a few houses away, stepped out of the car and yelled something that didn't sound like good wishes. I pretended to take a video of him. He drove off and never came back.

We had no break-ins or vandalism on our street. I once left my car unlocked at night and someone swiped \$3 in change from the cup holder and nothing else. Mea culpa. There was never an attempted incident with kids. No thefts of lawn chairs, shovels, or sports equipment.

It's not a secret why: everyone kept a lookout. Without ever saying so, we had each other's back.

Consider the U.S. Homeland Security saying, "If you see something, say something." In light of a few recent Brooklyn incidents, it's particularly apropos. This is a wonderful and safe community, but it's not immune from petty thugs or weirdos.

Let's get out and about. Be a known presence. You might very well see more, and thus less.

Traffic Services to Tackle Aggressive Driving on Taunton Road

Traffic Services Branch will be focusing its attention on Taunton Road for aggressive drivers.

For the month of March 2017, numerous officers from Traffic Services and Divisional officers will be addressing traffic concerns on Taunton Road across Durham Region. They will primarily focus on enforcing any aggressive drivers on our roadways and also any High-

way Traffic Act infractions in efforts to make the roads safer for commuters.

Since January 2015, there have been 1,805 collisions; 341 personal injury collisions and five fatal collisions region-wide on Taunton Road.

Due to the numbers provided and community concerns, this initiative commenced on Wednesday, March 1.



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The Next Generation of Real Estate

Get Involved: Local Service Clubs Always Need Volunteers

By Richard Bercuson

Anyone who claims there's little to do in Brooklin outside work and family hasn't looked around much. For a relatively new community, in terms of recent growth anyway, there's a wide array of groups and clubs one can join to be involved in just about anything.

You like organizing? Fundraising? Helping youth? Keeping a watchful eye on the neighbourhood? Addressing local needs? Working with the disadvantaged or those with illnesses such as Alzheimer's? Local service clubs are where to be.

Recently, some of them met at the Brooklin Pub, the second year they've come together to update each other on their work.

Among them was the Brooklin Agricultural Society, celebrating its 105th anniversary this year. The name is misleading. Its biggest role is to organize the annual Brooklin Spring Fair, a mammoth undertaking that begins days after the previous one is cleaned up. The group has 24 directors, 12 of whom are over the age of 40 and 12 under. The Fair's budget is well into six figures and involves hundreds of volunteers, including a few dozen high school students earning credit towards their community service hours requirement. In fact, this year's fair is in dire need of individuals to organize and run the parking lot.

The Society says it works with

a number of other local groups to make the fair run, such as the Brooklin Oddfellows who've been the fair's gatekeepers for 50 years, the Optimist club, and the BAM (Brooklin-Ashburn-Myrtle) Lions. The Lions group also collects and recycles eyeglasses in addition to its adopt-a-road program and work with the annual Artfest event in Grass Park.

Effie Coughlan, president of The Brooklin Optimist Club, describes her group as "friends of youth." She adds, "We aim to bring out the best in kids."

To that end, they run twice monthly youth dances at the Brooklin Community Centre, sometimes with as many as 450 kids from grades 5-8 in attendance. The Optimists donated \$100 k to the centre for upgrades, money that came from extensive fundraising and event charges. They stay in touch with high school guidance counsellors in helping their students obtain service hours. This group also takes charge of the Breakfast with Santa, Christmas sleigh ride, and Easter egg hunt events.

Danielle Harder, a journalism professor at Durham College, spoke on behalf of the local Rotary Club, which that night at the pub was collecting personal hygiene products for Joanne's House, a youth housing and homeless shelter in Ajax. Whereas food banks do a wonderful job in their field, a key compo-



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For a Better Community

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OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL
Friend of Youth

brooklinoptimist.org



LIONS INTERNATIONAL

e-clubhouse.org/sites/brooklin_ashburn_myrtle/



Brooklin Spring Fair

brooklinspringfair.com



ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION BRANCH 152 (Brooklin)



rotarywhitby.org



Alzheimer Society
DURHAM REGION

alzheimer.ca/durham

ment of living includes having sundries like toothpaste and shampoo. "You can't really go to a job interview or such," Harder said, "without looking and feeling clean."

Rotarians are collecting toiletries to place in what's known as shelter boxes, containers with about \$1200 worth of goods to help youths survive. Aside from the toiletries, a shelter box provides blankets, groundsheets, cooking utensils, a small tool kit and other necessary

"survival" items.

There was, as well, the Alzheimer's Society of Durham Region whose stated goal, according to Christie May, is to improve the quality of life of those living with this horrible disease. About 10,000 people in Durham Region have dementia, a figure that's expected to grow as over 1 in 5 persons over age 65 nationally will be diagnosed with dementia-related illnesses.

Special Report: Whatever Happened To Internet Voting?

By Richard Bercuson

There will be no internet voting in the 2018 municipal election. While that's old news, the process leading to the demise of the online option is both interesting and perhaps informative.

A year ago, Whitby council chose to dip its toes into what became a somewhat controversial voting method, using internet and telephone as the principal means of electing the next Ward One councillor.

A ripple of events that led to the June by-election began with another one. On February 11, 2016, Lorne Coe won the Whitby-Oshawa provincial by-election, thus stepping out of his Whitby and Durham regional councillor seats and into one in Queen's Park. His vacant spot on regional council was then taken by Derrick Gleed who had to vacate his North Ward position, one he'd been appointed to in 2013 when Tracy Hanson became head of Whitby's Chamber of Commerce. A by-election was called for June. Rhonda Mulcahy won the week-long election, garnering 36% of the 5379 votes cast, with her closest opponent managing 21%.

After researching alternative voting methods, town staff brought to council last March a recommendation to use internet and telephone voting. On March 21, 2016, a motion was put forth by Councillor Chris Leahy and seconded by Councillor Derrick Gleed that Council accept the staff recommendation to use alternate voting methods for the June, 2016, by-election as a pilot project.

Here's why:

1 - The Town of Whitby has had a contract with Dominion Voting Systems since the 2010 election year. Dominion Voting provides services to help run elections at various levels. Dominion Voting was prepared to provide Whitby its services for online voting in 2018 at the same cost as for 2014.

2 - In 2014, a number of Ontario municipalities hired an independent auditor, Digital Boundary Group of London, Ontario, to provide technical expertise in examining potential issues in using online voting. Digital pointed out a few minor security issues which were resolved. That year, dozens of Ontario municipalities used

an online voting system with no security breaches reported.

3 - Early in 2016, Town of Whitby staff conducted further research and audits, using Whitby's internal IT people as well, and found no problems with the system. This was the foundation of the staff report to council to try online voting in June.

Last September, Town staff provided council with its report and findings from the June by-election. It concluded that council should indeed go ahead with online voting again for the 2018 municipal election. The report showed how voter turnout in June was 29% versus 25.77% in 2014 with 4,664 electors voting using the internet and 725 by telephone. Those not wanting to use either method or for those where there were issues regarding votings lists and the like were able to access Voter Assistance Centres at the Brooklin Library and McKinney Centre throughout the week.

Surveys done

Electors were able to complete a post-election survey about the process,

the results of which were compared with surveys done of 43 Ontario municipalities using online methods after the 2014 election. Comments were overwhelmingly positive about online voting. The few negative comments concerned voter packages, getting names on the voting list and related problems.

Of 119 Ontario municipalities surveyed after the 2014 election, 97 used online voting with 88% expressing satisfaction and 56% stating they'd use it in 2018.

With the staff report in hand, council had to decide at its Dec. 12, 2016, meeting whether or not to use a similar approach for 2018. After all council members commented, the vote came out a tie and thus the motion to use online voting for 2018 was defeated.

For: Mayor Don Mitchell, Councillors Joe Drumm, Rhonda Mulcahy, and Elizabeth Roy

They made the following comments at the Dec. 12 council meeting:

- 98% satisfaction among Brooklin voters says a lot
- Concerns are more theoretical than real and haven't been realized
- A big problem was the voter list
- We're taking a step back without a lot of information

continued on page 10



Our Brooklin Kids By Leanne Brown

Is news exposure good for our kids?

In a recent press conference, U.S. President Donald Trump, complaining that certain media outlets lie, blasted them for "fake news." This had my daughter asking, "but I thought the news was real."

I love to watch the news but sometimes my daughter's exposure to it has me scrambling to ask myself difficult questions, like if it's even good for her.

People get their news from multiple sources these days. So it's hard for children not to be exposed to it. There is evidence suggesting that watching news can be disturbing to children who may have difficulty determining what is real or not. However, keeping an eye on kids' TV news habits can go a long way toward monitoring the worth of what they hear and see.

Many experts agree that kids younger than six should not see the news. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends waiting until kids are between 8 and 10 before allowing them to watch news programs

as older school-aged children are more comfortable with difficult topics. At those ages, kids can benefit when exposed to subjects with a guided hand to help them better understand them.

The news doesn't have to be sensationalized with disturbing pictures. Public TV programs, newspapers, books, magazines and websites are great ways of getting information to children. When my daughter asks about something she's heard or seen, I ask questions, too. This goes a long way to finding out what she already knows and how she feels. Try asking, "What do you think about these events? How do you think these things happen?" I often find that her inquiry is in fact about something she doesn't understand or relates to, something taking place in her little world rather than in the news.

In our home, we tend to stick to political analysis news. As a result, our daughter gets exposed to issues that raise questions rather than seeing images of war and tragedy. With

a new American president striving to make his mark, lately we've been answering lots of questions about human rights, diversity, and what's fair. Dinner table conversations are fueled by her curiosity and she needs to understand what is right and why some people feel the way they do. These provide wonderful teaching opportunities that make her think about her world and the people around her.

It's important to put news stories in proper context. When her school reacted with "stranger danger" education after the local incident of child luring, we explained that these events are isolated but that it is still good to review how to keep safe. Explaining how one event relates to another helps kids make better sense of what they see or hear. You can use a story of someone getting hurt or in need as a chance to talk about helping others and how people cope with hardships. Talking about what you can do to help gives kids a sense of control.

So yes, it's okay to expose kids to the news - in moderation. How much they see depends on how we as adults filter it for our children's ability to handle it. News makes our kids informed citizens, broadens their worldview, makes them critical thinkers, teaches leadership lessons (good and bad), and, best of all, gives them a front row seat to history.



A Brooklin Toddler's Random Thoughts

"I don't got money."

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.

Wed., March 15: 7:30pm

Bid Euchre. All welcome-no partner or ticket required-just appear. Ashburn Community Centre, 780 Myrtle Rd W. \$2 Prizes. 905-655-4652

Sat., March 18: 10:00 am - 4 pm

Brooklin Woodcarvers 27th Annual Woodcarving Show and Competition Heydenshore Pavilion 589 Water St, Whitby. Free admission and parking. Refreshments. Door prizes and raffles. Vendors. Contact: Rob Woodill at 905-728-7764 or email: robw1965@outlook.com

Sat., March 18: 9:00 am

Landmark Cinemas 24 Whitby
The Optimist Club of Brooklin Proudly Presents: A Morning at the Movies with Beauty and the Beast (Movie will start at 10:00 am)
ADVANCE TICKETS ONLY - \$10.00 per child (3-13 years old) and \$10.00 per adult. Babies in arms are free. Calling all princes and princesses of Brooklin. Princess Belle requests the honour of your presence at a private screening of Beauty and the Beast. Wear your favourite costume or gown. You will have an opportunity to meet Princess Belle and other surprise

guests and enjoy other special surprises.

Contact

gracebrooklinoptimistclub@gmail.com or purchase tickets at <https://www.eventbrite.ca/event/optimist-club-of-brooklin-morning-at-the-movies-beauty-and-the-beast-tickets-31176681293>

Sat., April 1: 11:00 am

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

Wed., April 5: 4:30 - 8:30 pm

Durham Farm Connections at Luther Vipond Memorial Arena, 67 Winchester Road East in Brooklin. Free Admission. Food Bank donations accepted. Activities for kids, farm animals and tractors on display. Demos every 15 minutes; sheep shearing, cow milking, cheese making. Meet a large animal veterinarian.

For more information visit

www.durhamfarmconnections.ca

Sat., April 29:

Beef dinner: Beethoven Odd Fellows and Kinoven Rebekahs lodge hall at 42 Bagot St., Brooklin (east of Cassels St. bridge). Lots of beef & potatoes, lots of pies! Tickets: \$17.50 Adults, \$7.00 Children 5:00 & 6:30 sittings. Advance tickets only please. Call Harry 905-666-0814 or email: h.agar@sympatico.ca or Ray 905-655-8025

Mondays 6:30-7 pm:

French Family Storytime: Children of all ages and their caregivers are invited to join Madame Sue for our weekly French Family Storytime! Enjoy a half hour of stories and songs in French, with a dash of English too! Registration is not required. Just drop in! LOCATION: Central Library - Children's Program Room

Tuesdays: Brooklin Toastmasters, 7:15 pm for Meet & Greet, Meeting from 7:20 to 9:14 pm at the Brooklin Community Centre & Library, 8 Vipond Road, 2nd floor Boardroom. For more information, contact John at 905-683-4439 or jahj@sympatico.ca or Loran Weston-Smyth at lorn@lornawestonsmyth.com or 416-910-4109. Brooklin Toastmasters provides a supportive and positive environment where members have the opportunity to develop their communication and leadership skills.

Basic Foot Care: Community Care Durham provides basic foot care services by registered foot care nurses on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month at St. Thomas' Anglican Church. Please call 905-668-6223 for more information.

Thursday evenings: Love to sing! The Brooklin United Church adult choir welcomes new voices to join us. Practices are Thursday evenings 7:30 - 9:00 pm. You do not need to read music to be part of the choir. Practice CD's are made available. For more information, please call the church office at 905-655-4141 or by email at office@brooklinunited.ca

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Sunday School & Nursery Program (10:30am)
Wednesday 10:00 a.m.
Communion and Healing Service
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www.stthomasbrooklin.ca

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Brooklin's Guide to Home Based Businesses



Photos by Dianne

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STOP Program Returns for Smokers Wishing to Quit

For many smokers, the cost of nicotine replacement products can be a barrier to quitting. The STOP (Smoking Treatment for Ontario Patients) Program workshops offer eligible participants in Durham Region five-weeks of cost-free nicotine replacement therapy and smoking cessation information to help smokers in their quit attempts.

Nicotine replacement therapy has been shown to effectively help people quit smoking by easing withdrawal symptoms. Workshop participants also receive educational material with quit smoking and relapse prevention strategies, along with information to address other unhealthy lifestyle factors that are known to accompany smoking.

A STOP workshop will be held in

Whitby on March 6. For more information on the program and to find out if you are eligible to participate in the workshop, call Durham Health Connection Line at **905-666-6241** or **1-800-841-2729**.



The STOP Program is led by the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH), and is funded by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care as part of its Smoke-Free Ontario Strategy.

CAMH is Canada's leading addiction and mental health teaching hospital. Integrating clinical care, scientific research, education, policy development and health promotion, CAMH transforms the lives of people impacted by mental health and addiction issues.



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4:30pm to 8:30pm

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Plant-Based Eating by Sheree Nicholson

Changing Habits



There are things we habitually do like brushing our teeth, showering, and heading off to work. These habits become so ingrained that we feel awkward if we skip them. They're generally done mindlessly every day. Indeed, habits are hard to break and even harder to create. Once created though they become a part of your day or who you are. Changing the way you eat means breaking some habits that are also deeply ingrained.

As a busy mom, I had my "go to" recipes and when I became plant-based I had no "go to" recipes. I

had to look up recipes, figure out the ingredients, and trust that it was going to taste good. Even more important, I had to hope that the family would eat it. It was hard at first. I was in the habit of making certain meals and eating a certain way, so changing meant giving up all that was easy and habitual. There certainly were times when I thought this was way too hard. But it became easier when I soon noticed the extra energy I had and loved the light feeling of eating plant-based.

You can jump into the deep end by becoming plant-based all at once or you can slowly make the change by incorporating more and more plant-based meals into your diet.

One of the things I like about a slower change is that it allows you to get used to new recipes and experiment with what works for your family. It also gives you the chance to

become a student of this new way of eating, to feel the difference between how you feel after a heavy processed or meat-based meal and a lighter easier to digest plant-based one.

As you make the change, you may want to buy a cookbook or two. If you do, look for recipes that are easy, with easy-to-find and not too many ingredients. The internet is a great resource for recipes. Some days I just type words into Google such as: vegan, black beans, peppers, and recipes. Like magic, the search engine serve me a bunch of recipes.

Blogs are also a fantastic way to help you make the change. Among

5-Ingredient Oatmeal Balls

1 cup soft medjool dates, pitted
1 cup rolled oats
(gluten-free if necessary)
1/2 cup creamy peanut butter
(can use other nut or seed butter)
1 tsp vanilla extract
2-3 tbsp water,
only if necessary to blend

Preparation

Process medjool dates in a food processor until a sticky and creamy consistency is formed (may form a ball). Add in oats, peanut butter, and vanilla, and process until well combined. If the dough is dry, you may add a few tablespoons of water to help everything stick together.

Use your hands to form the dough into balls. Place onto a baking sheet lined with parchment paper and place in the refrigerator for about 30 minutes to set. Enjoy!

my favorites are ohsheglows.com and minimalistbaker.com. I have perhaps six plant-based cookbooks but have generally found the internet provides more than enough.

See the box above for a quick and easy oatmeal ball recipe that makes a great snack before or after a workout. It's from onegreenplant.org.

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Town of Whitby Notice

Appointments to Town of Whitby Advisory Boards and Committees

Whitby Council is currently accepting applications from residents interested in volunteering on an Advisory Board or Committee.

Citizens are encouraged to participate in their community by volunteering for one of our boards or committees to recognize, promote and strengthen the sense of community. Applications will be accepted from Whitby property owners and/or residents 18 years of age or older. Please note that Committee participation may require involvement in Town events outside the regularly scheduled Committee meetings.

Board / Committee	Vacancies
Brooklin Downtown Development Steering Committee The Brooklin Downtown Development Steering Committee (BDDSC) is responsible for monitoring the implementation of the Downtown Brooklin Strategic Action Plan which has three main goals: to address the traffic issues on Baldwin Street; to enhance the Downtown both physically and in terms of uses/activities; and to enhance communication in the Downtown. In accordance with the Terms of Reference, applicants should reflect community members with a knowledge or interest in the downtown area and those who own and run a business in the defined downtown area. The Brooklin Downtown Development Steering Committee meets the fourth Thursday of each month at 8:00 a.m.	1
Community Connection Executive Board of Directors The purpose of Community Connection is to provide affordable recreation, leisure and special interest programs in Whitby and Brooklin, and to oversee all the Community Connection sites as well as all related expenditures and revenue generated by these programs. Community Connection partners with the Town of Whitby, Community and Marketing Services Department and the Durham Board of Education or other governing agencies. The Community Connection Executive Board of Directors meets monthly on Thursday at 7:00 p.m.	2
Whitby County Town Carnival Committee The mandate of the County Town Carnival Committee is to plan and operate a safe and enjoyable free event on Canada Day with a family focus, including but not limited to children's activities, live entertainment, demonstrations, information displays and concessions. The Whitby County Town Carnival Committee meets the last Tuesday of each month at 4:30 p.m.	1

Deadline for receipt of applications is March 17, 2017. Whitby Town Council will consider the names of citizens who wish to stand for appointment. An application form must be completed with supporting documentation or a resume. Applications are available online at whitby.ca/advisorycommittees or at the Town of Whitby Municipal Building, Office of the Town Clerk, 575 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

Christopher Harris, Town Clerk
Town of Whitby

575 Rossland Road East, Whitby, ON L1N 2M8
Phone: 905.430.4315 • Fax: 905.686.7005 • Email: clerk@whitby.ca

Coming Soon to a Tree Near You! The Annual Maple Syrup Festival

Pancakes will soon be flipping at the 42nd Annual Maple Syrup Festival at Purple Woods Conservation Area in Oshawa. Central Lake Ontario Conservation (CLOCA) will be hosting the Festival starting on March 11 to 19 (March Break) and the weekends of March 25-26 and April 1-2.

General Admission tickets must be purchased in advance as there will be no ticket sales at the door. A General Admission ticket is \$5.00/person plus HST and children 2 years of age and under are free. New this year will be a half price admission day on Saturday March 25, courtesy of one of our sponsors, Tribute Communities. Admission tickets may be purchased online at www.cloca.com or at the Administrative Office, 100 Whiting Avenue, Oshawa, during business hours.

When purchasing tickets, visitors will have to decide on the day they wish

to attend along with their preference for a morning (9:30am – Noon) or afternoon (Noon – 2:30pm) visit. There are 1,000 admission tickets available each day and visitors are asked to bring a printed copy of their ticket for scanning. The ticket can also be scanned from a smart-phone.

Admission tickets do not include pancakes or horse-drawn wagon rides. Those are paid for separately on the day of your visit. Purple Woods Conservation Area is located on the southeast corner of Coates Road and Simcoe Street at the Oshawa/Scugog boundary. Complete Maple Syrup Festival information is available at www.cloca.com.

As in past, visitors will be able to enjoy a walk through the woods to the Sugar Shack and experience interactive historical displays about maple syrup production along the way. The family favourite, horse-drawn wagon rides will be operated by the Sugar Shack. All event details are on the Festival web page at www.cloca.com.

If the trails are too challenging for you or those with physical limitations, a shuttle service for individuals is available. Please inform staff when you arrive if you require this service.

The Heritage Store will be open daily for visitors to purchase maple syrup and maple products such as

sugar candy and fudge. A visit to the Festival would not be complete without enjoying a stack of hot delicious pancakes covered in 100% pure maple syrup. Pancakes will be served up morning and afternoon by local non-profit organizations in the now heated Heritage Hall, with proceeds going back to their community programs. Please join us in our efforts to reduce waste. Although recyclable plates and utensils are available, we ask the public to bring reusable plates and utensils to enjoy your pancakes on, as well as your own shopping bags to hold Heritage Store purchases.



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1/15/2015 (17:13)

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Yes Woman By Marissa Campbell

Brooklin Audio Video: It's about the sight and sound

Whoever said the eyes are the gateway to the soul never looked through someone's music playlist. Music is my life. I can't go a day without it. That's why, when **Brooklin Audio Video** opened its new location on Baldwin Street, I had Mike South, owner of **Brooklin AV**, come into my home for a free consultation.

Mike has over 25 years experience in the industry, and **Brooklin Audio Video** is geared to provide customers with a complete living experience. Any big box store can move merchandise off a shelf. But if you

want an entertainment specialist, **Brooklin AV** is the company to call. They can whip together a home theatre to provide that wow factor, or create an indoor/outdoor sound and video experience to blow your mind.

When I first met my husband, I was convinced that two people couldn't live happily ever after if they didn't share a modicum of musical interest. On the first date, I asked to see his cassette collection. That's right, I'm talking old school Walkman-style cassette tapes. Turned out we both liked some of the same bands. It was des-

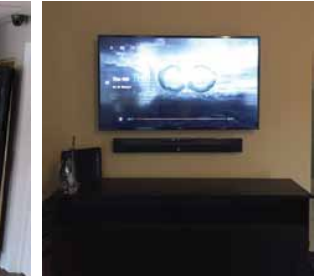


tiny. We've been together 26 years.

When we bought our house in Brooklin, I had big dreams for a whole home listening experience. During my consultation, Mike helped me map out a plan to place speakers in different rooms, so no matter where I was, I could always listen to my music. I also wanted to tap into that sound experience outside in the summer. I figured getting my television system cleaned up and hung properly wouldn't hurt either.

Mike showed me a cool system that lets you program everything on your phone. I'd be able to have different zones in and out of the house, each one completely customizable. If I wanted it louder in the kitchen when I was cooking (oh, that's funny, I don't cook.) or louder in the living room when I was vacuuming (who knew this would be a comedy piece? I mean, really, me vacuuming?) I would be able to set each zone individually. I could even program different playlists to play in the different areas, if the mood overtook me.

I popped into the store to listen to their selection of speakers, enjoying

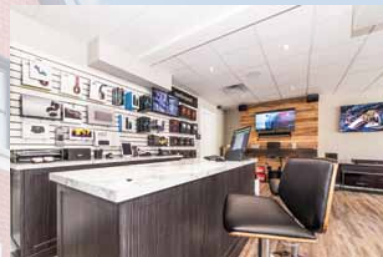


some classic vinyl on one of their turntables. Prices range depending on the sound you're looking for. The store has stations set up, so you can see and hear the different audio video systems. You can even take control of the iPad and play with the different zones in the store to get a feel of the power available at your fingertips.

Once the snow clears, I'll have **Brooklin Audio Video** install a full sound experience for my home. In the meantime, Greg Price, **Brooklin AV's** installer extraordinaire, fixed up my television and related paraphernalia. Gone are the wires and mess. In their place, I now have a slick wall-mounted T.V. and sound bar. Amazing how something so simple can make your living space look less cluttered.

Whether you're looking for that wow factor or just a way to increase the enjoyment of your home, **Brooklin Audio Video** has a solution for you. Turn up the volume and add a little more soul to your life.

(Yes Woman is a paid advertisement)



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Brooklin Bafflers: by Liz Lowe March Break Puzzle Page

Crossword Puzzle

Across

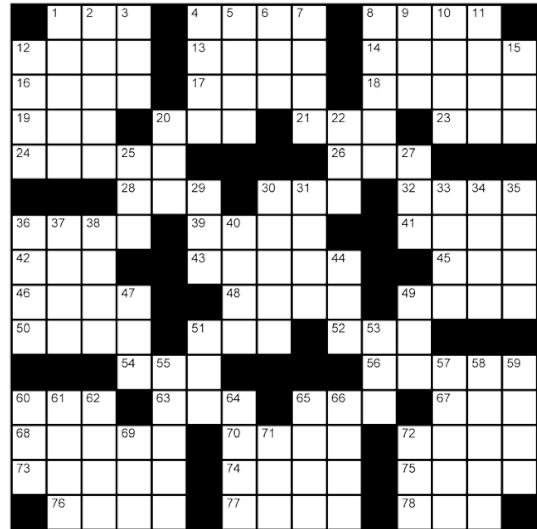
- 1 A master's degree in science
- 4 Physics calculation
- 8 Bickerer in the "Iliad"
- 12 Computer offering
- 13 Pack away
- 14 "_____ Heartbeat" (Amy Grant hit)
- 16 Computer menu option
- 17 Pepsi, for one
- 18 Donnybrook
- 19 Criminal charge
- 20 Order between "ready" and "fire"
- 21 Not just "a"
- 23 Deviation
- 24 Choice
- 26 Butt
- 28 "_____ the fields we go"
- 30 Jail, slangily
- 32 Face-to-face exam
- 36 Arise
- 39 _____ fruit
- 41 Canceled
- 42 "Eureka!"
- 43 Mark
- 45 "Sesame Street" watcher
- 46 Duration
- 48 Abbey area
- 49 Endurance
- 50 Shells, e.g.
- 51 Infomercials, e.g.
- 52 Grassy area
- 54 Antiquated
- 56 A round shape formed by a series of concentric circles
- 60 Watch chain
- 63 Windows forerunner
- 65 Dowel
- 67 _____ Wednesday
- 68 Antique shop item
- 70 Cajole
- 72 The basic level of a subject

taken in school (UK)

- 73 To the point
- 74 Oscar winner Paquin
- 75 Affirmative votes
- 76 "Brave New World" drug
- 77 Abound
- 78 Be nosy

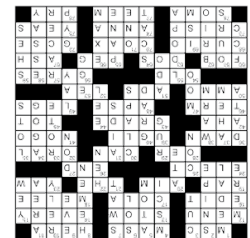
Down

- 1 Awarded to successful competitors
- 2 Marsh bird
- 3 Director's cry
- 4 Master of Science
- 5 Elementary particle
- 6 Note after fa
- 7 Kind of team
- 8 Macho guys
- 9 Apple picker
- 10 Bank (on)
- 11 Length x width, for a rectangle
- 12 Insignificant
- 15 Churchyard tree in "Romeo & Juliet"
- 20 Absorbed, as a loss
- 22 Egg maker
- 25 Voting "nay"
- 27 Mafia boss
- 29 Toupee, slangily
- 30 Sudden very loud noises
- 31 Gives a hand
- 33 Learning method
- 34 Awestruck
- 35 Gobs
- 36 Contents of some banks
- 37 "Excuse me ..."
- 38 Cordial
- 40 Alum
- 44 Aquarium denizen
- 47 Bossy remark?
- 49 Nonclerical
- 51 "Much _____ About Nothing"
- 53 Grade A item



- 55 A drug used to treat Parkinson's disease
- 57 Indy entrant
- 58 English exam finale, often
- 59 The Beatles' "_____ Leaving Home"
- 60 TV monitor?
- 61 "One of _____" (Willa Cather novel)
- 62 Get-up-and-go
- 64 "Beat it!"
- 65 Glazier's item
- 66 Final, e.g.
- 69 Any doctrine
- 71 "The loneliest number"
- 72 Swindle

Upside Down Answers



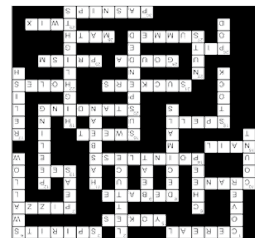
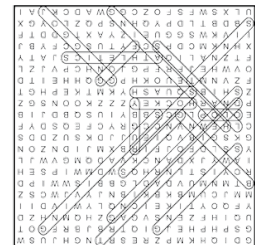
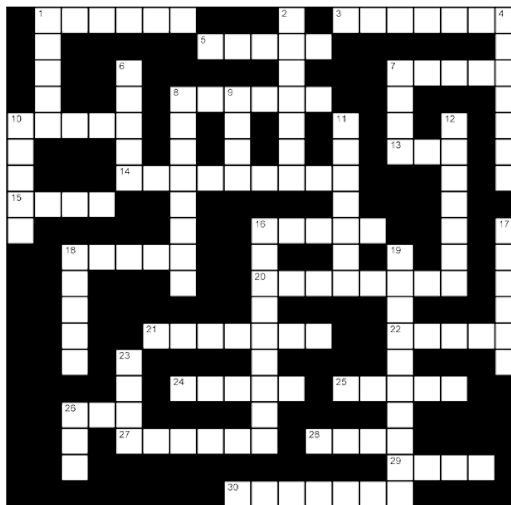
Punny

Across

- 1 A box of food you buy for breakfast will have a _____ number on it (6)
- 3 Why did the ghost go trick or treating on the top floor? He was in high _____ (7)
- 5 Eggs make lousy comedians. They always crackup at their own
- 7 How do you fix a _____? With tomato paste! (5)
- 8 When fish are in schools they sometimes take
- 10 Small babies are delivered by storks and the bigger ones are delivered by _____. (5)
- 13 I made a batch of fish eye soup, it should _____ me through the week. (3)
- 14 To write with a broken pencil is _____. (9)
- 15 A dentist and manicurist fought tooth and _____. (4)
- 16 Winning candy as a prize is always a _____ victory. (5)
- 18 If you leave alphabet soup on the stove and go out, it could _____ disaster (5)
- 20 The mushroom is a vegetable of high morel _____. (8)
- 21 There was a fight in the candy store. Two _____ got licked. (7)
- 22 The history of cheese is full of _____ (5)
- 24 Cheddar is as _____ cheese as any (5)
- 25 Where does bad light end up? Answer: In a _____. (5)
- 26 She swallowed a peach seed and could feel it in the _____ of her stomach (3)
- 27 I didn't understand the math, so the teacher _____ it up for me. (6)
- 28 I was kicked out of _____ class for one too many infractions. (4)
- 29 The magician who loved his chocolate could perform a lot of _____ (4)
- 30 What sort of vegetable can your father make with scissors? (7)

Down

- 1 What does a spy do when he gets cold? He goes under _____. (5)
- 2 Ever tried honeymoon salad? It's _____ alone. (7)
- 4 He told me he could eat a 32 ounce steak, but I found that hard to _____. (7)
- 6 When is a good time to buy a bird? When its _____ (5)
- 7 Mothers everywhere want their children to give _____ a chance (4)
- 8 He used to hate maths but then he realised _____ have a point (8)
- 9 A boiled egg in the morning is hard to _____. (4)
- 10 I've failed the mathematics test so many times I lost _____. (5)
- 11 The baby peas were fresh and sweet, but their fava was a _____ (3,4)
- 12 As a fruit, oranges are very a-_____ (7)
- 16 Skipping school to bungee jump will get you _____. (9)
- 17 He always ate hot dogs with _____ and gave his condiments to the chef. (6)
- 18 I went to the store to buy some soup but they were out of _____ (5)
- 19 _____ of the party: when grampa flipped out his false teeth. (4,6)
- 23 If you are what you eat, I'm staying away from the _____! (4)
- 26 To photograph peas, you need a good try _____. (3)



Sports

- Athletics
- Bowling
- Golf
- Hockey
- Horse racing
- Jogging
- Polo
- Rugby
- Scuba diving
- Skiing
- Snow-boarding
- Soccer
- Softball
- Squash
- Swimming
- Tennis
- Track and field

continued from page 3

- Let's not bury our heads in the sand
- Council should not fear to make a decision
- We got a great turnout
- People want and like technology
- We do the census online and our medical records are online

Against: Councillors Michael Emm, Derrick Gleed, Chris Leahy, and Steve Yamada

Their comments included:

- Is it the future? Absolutely. Is it the present? No.
- Too many questions and concerns
- No real way of assuring the legitimacy of a vote
- We're patting ourselves on the back because of a 30% turnout; 70% didn't participate even with the convenience.
- Tons of liability if we're hacked or shut down
- An M.I.T. (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) review showed internet voting systems tend to be vulnerable
- An issue of security, with the trust and secrecy of the vote
- What about the validity, verifiability, and auditability of a vote, as in "Let me vote on your behalf."

While one could argue there were valid concerns on both sides of the issue, a curious question arose: If, a year ago, council voted in favour

of the method as a trial for the June by-election and if facts, both statistical and anecdotal, bore out the process's success, what changed between then and the December vote?

The BTC contacted all members of council last month via email, requesting answers to five questions. Only Mayor Mitchell and Councillors Gleed, Leahy and Mulcahy replied.

The questions were as follows:

- 1 - A year ago, given the staff recommendation and report, were you in favour of online voting? If so, why? If not, why not?
- 2 - Did you conduct any separate research, formally or anecdotally, on the subject? If so, what did you learn and from whom?
- 3 - If you were in favour last year but voted against the proposal in December, what changed for you?
- 4 - If you were not in favour last year and maintained that position in December, could you explain the nature of your doubts in light of the staff report and what other Ontario municipalities are doing?
- 5 - Given the very nature of online anything, such as medical records and even e-mail, do you feel that technology might be taking us, in some matters such as voting, in the wrong direction?

Certainly the gist of their answers wasn't much different from comments made at the December council meeting. (Note: Councillor Mulcahy was not on council when the pilot was first presented and voted on and thus could not answer some questions).

There were assurances from Whitby town staff, its own IT department, and two companies with expertise in these matters that the security of online voting was solid. Still, it seemed the discussion was based on "a sense" of possible security risks and wondering about voter fraud in homes if one family member asked another to log in or phone and vote on another's behalf. This might have occurred, or not. No one knows for sure nor, if it did occur, how many votes were affected. The point was that it could very well happen.

Didn't solve apathy

True, the ease of online voting didn't solve voter apathy as much as everyone would expect or desire. Yet that problem is different from either internet security or the legitimacy of a one voter-one vote system as exists with the traditional paper voting method.

Did other municipalities examine those latter points? We don't know. Did anyone ask if they did? We don't know that either. One councillor stated online voting may be the future, but it's

not the present, a puzzling comment which doesn't address either security concerns or potential voter fraud, as in, "I'll vote for you with your login."

Maybe online voting is not the route to go. Maybe not everything is improved or solved by technology. Maybe this isn't the right time for Brooklin, even though it seems to be for dozens of other Ontario municipalities. Ajax, for instance, uses only online voting. If so, what would make the time right? Maybe there is something to be said for the hands-on experience of ticking a box with a pencil, making democracy a fully tactile experience.

As another councillor on the "nay" side commented, Elections Canada has no plans to go to an online system. According to Diane Benson, media relations officer for Elections Canada, "You need to be able to verify that the person that is casting the ballot is the eligible elector, you need to make sure there's a secure system for submitting that vote over the internet and you need make sure that they're not being induced to vote one way or another." (Global News, October 1, 2015)

Will we ever again see online voting in Whitby elections? Right now, that would not be a safe bet.

Living Wage Addresses Durham Poverty

On February 23, the Community Development Council Durham (CDCD) announced the living wage for Durham Region, a conclusion of a year-long community study, with Regional and Oshawa Councillor Dan Carter in attendance.

Thanks to a \$46,700 Seed grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF), this project has engaged stakeholders and community members to calculate Durham's Living Wage. Part of a global movement, Canada's living wage calculation is overseen by the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

Canada's leading grantmaking foundation and an agency of the Ontario government, the OTF strengthens the capacity of the voluntary sector through investments in community-based initiatives.

The Living Wage project was guided by a steering committee that included United Way Durham, the Region of Durham's Health Department, YMCA Durham, North Durham Social Development Council, Queen's University Department of Family Medicine, North House, Durham Labour Council and Durham Workforce Authority.

Durham Region's living wage is \$17/hour. This number was arrived at by hosting focus groups as well as consulting Statistics Canada data. It is based on a model family of four, with two working parents and two children under eight years of age. The living wage is designed to give Durham families a decent quality of life by providing for basic needs like healthy food, medical insurance, one modest camping va-

cation per year, and internet access so the family can stay connected. It is by no means an extravagant income, but is designed to allow families to engage in their communities and stay healthy as they grow.

"It is exciting the CDCD has calculated a living wage for Durham Region," said Regional and Oshawa City Councillor Amy McQuaid-England. "I am hopeful it will encourage local businesses to invest in their workers right to living wages. By investing in our workers, we invest in our local economy. And as a regional councillor I hope my colleagues will be supportive of this great initiative."

"I commend Community Development Council Durham for its tireless efforts to improve the lifestyles of some of Durham's most vulnerable populations. I know that a lot of work has gone into the living wage project," said Durham MPP Granville Anderson. "I am sincerely looking forward to hearing the results of the study as I am sure they will be a useful tool in determining how quality of life can be improved for Durham residents."

The CDCD has engaged with and supported thousands of individuals and families for 45 years. The organization prides itself on being active participants and partners in many community initiatives that support social, economic and cultural development in our community. It strives to promote community engagement and sharing, ensuring that members of the community are connected and supported. For more information, please visit www.cdcd.org.

Mayor's Fundraiser Set To Go

Tickets are now on sale for Mayor Don Mitchell's annual fundraiser, *A Night Out on The Town*, on Saturday, March 25.

The event will take place at Trafalgar Castle, 401 Reynolds Street, Whitby, L1N 3W9.

It will bring together approximately 250 guests to celebrate and give back to the community. The evening will be filled with food, friends, entertainment and music. Most importantly, the funds raised will support local charities, organizations and community events. This year, Lakeridge Health Foundation and

Grandview Children's Foundation have been recognized as the lead causes and received a grant of \$25,000 each. The remaining funds will be distributed during the year through the Mayor's Community Development Fund.

A limited number of tickets are now on sale and available on a first-come, first-served basis at: Whitby Town Hall (575 Rossland Road East), Iroquois Park Sports Centre (500 Victoria Street West), and the Brooklin Community Centre and Library (8 Vipond Road).

Community Development Fund Seeks Applications

Organizations that positively impact the lives of Whitby residents are encouraged to apply to the Mayor's Community Development Fund (MDCF) for lead cause or charity grants. Applications to receive funding support for community initiatives and projects are due March 31. Requests for smaller, community grants of up to \$5,000 are accepted throughout the year.

"I encourage community groups and individuals to think of the Mayor's Community Development Fund as a resource when planning initiatives and projects," says Mayor Don Mitchell. "All applications are carefully considered so the fund may support as many activities as possible that strengthen our community."

All applications are reviewed by a Council-appointed citizens committee according to evaluation guidelines approved by Council. High pri-

ority is given to community-focused activities with a strong, local presence and those that promote inclusion and civic engagement. Financial support may also be awarded to individuals in special circumstances.

Since 2010, the Mayor's Community Development Fund has supported community activities that benefit Whitby residents. In 2016, \$25,000 was awarded to the Victorian Order of Nurses to help build a residential hospice in Durham Region. Another \$25,000 was given to the Alzheimer's Society of Durham Region to launch their Blue Umbrella Campaign in Whitby. An additional 31 community grants were awarded totaling \$61,079.

More information and the application form can be found at whitby.ca/mcdf.

Meet Your Local Merchant

Louis Bradica

Louis Bradica is a fulltime Real Estate Sales Representative with Keller Williams Energy. He lives in Brooklin with his wife and two sons, is passionate about the community and knows what it takes to help you achieve success from start to **sold**.

Brooklin is the perfect balance for many families looking for a change of pace away from the city and offers many different styles of homes. People are drawn to Brooklin for its wonderful community spirit and public parks as well as great youth sports programs.

Being a firm believer in "give where you live," Louis will once again participate in the Keller Williams Energy annual Red Day being held on May 11.

Right now, Brooklin is a seller's market (**Louis currently has 3 different buyers looking for town-homes**). And, as people look to move to the community from the west, prices are lower and the

homes bigger. "The addition of the 407 has been beneficial to our commuting times," explains Louis. In addition to the new Brooklin High School (Go Bears!), plans for a new, state-of-the-art recreational facility will be a fun addition as well.

Whether you are buying or selling, a home is one of the biggest investment decisions most people make. Bradica understands his client's important need for information on issues such as local real estate values, taxes, and utility costs. He will assist you with the pro-

cess of planning for a worry-free move from pre-listing preparation to creating a marketing plan to promote your home.

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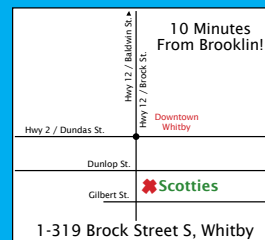
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