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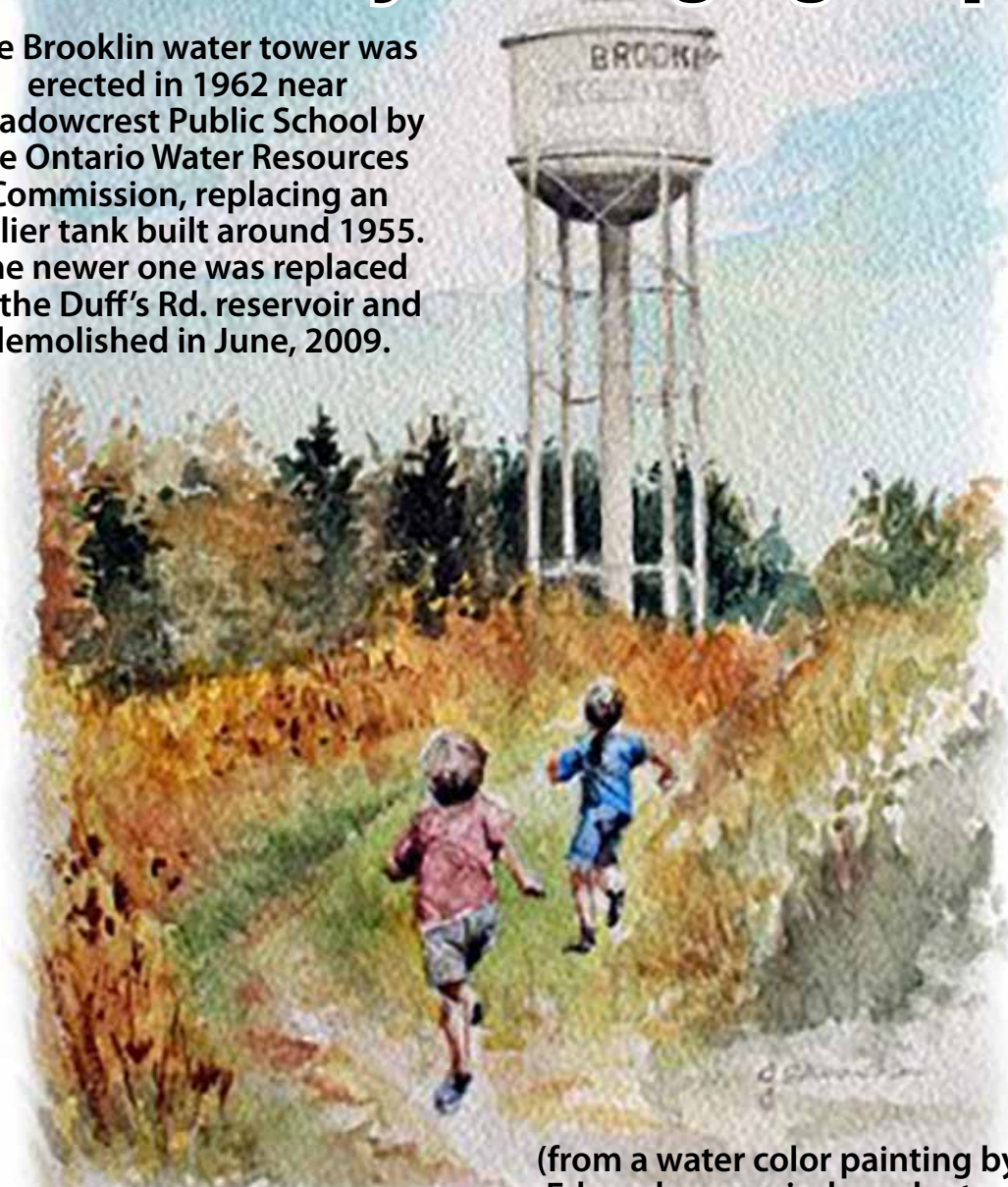
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Brooklin's history being revived by Heritage group

The Brooklin water tower was erected in 1962 near Meadowcrest Public School by the Ontario Water Resources Commission, replacing an earlier tank built around 1955. The newer one was replaced by the Duff's Rd. reservoir and demolished in June, 2009.




(from a water color painting by Jody Edwards: www.jodyvanb.etsy.com)

For more on the new Brooklin Heritage Society, see pages 4-6


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Leave Clearance Alongside Cyclists

The Region of Durham is reminding drivers they are required to keep a distance of one-metre between their vehicles and a bicycle when driving on the roadway. Additionally, a driver of a motor vehicle shall not pass a bicycle travelling in the same direction unless there is sufficient space to do so safely and the driver keeps at least one-metre of open space between themselves and the cyclist.

“We are encouraging cyclists and motorists to respect the three Rs of safe cycling; same roads, same

rights and same rules,” says Ramesh Jagannathan, Director of Transportation and Field Services for Durham Region. “By understanding and practicing these three Rs, cyclists can help ensure their own safety and, at the same time, help motorists understand their intentions. Motorists should always follow the rules of the road and ensure that cyclists are given the courtesy and space required to ride safely.”

Motorists and cyclists have to work together to keep each other safe.

They have the same rights and responsibilities and must follow the same rules of the road. Keeping a long distance relationship helps ensure everyone will get to their destination safely.

Durham Region’s Works Department has reviewed collision data from the past several years and identified intersections as locations where there is higher potential for

cyclist collisions. Nearly 20 per cent of drivers charged in cycling collisions failed to yield the right of way at an intersection.

The Making Ontario’s Roads Safer Act identifies suggestions for cyclists to improve visibility and safety, such as turning on headlamps and taillights at least 30 minutes before sunset. The Region of Durham also offers safety tips on its website at durham.ca/DurhamCycling.



Town of Whitby

June 22, 2018

UPCOMING EVENTS

Seniors Month

Residents age 55+ are invited to take part in a number of activities and events, including a free Seniors Art Display (running June 1 to 30) at the Whitby Public Library and Jazz Night at the Marina (June 25). Registration is required for some activities. whitby.ca/seniors

Recreation and Parks Month

Participate in free drop-in programs at the Brooklin Community Centre and Library and Whitby Seniors’ Activity Centre until June 22 and free public skates at Iroquois Park Sports Centre and McKinney Centre from June 23 to 30. whitby.ca/recreationandparksmonth

Pollinators Workshop

Wednesday, June 20, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Whitby Public Library. What native plants will create pollinator and bird-friendly habitats in our gardens? Hands-on activities at this event will include building a mason bee house and planting native seeds in peat pots. Free admission. Register at whitbylibrary.ca

Art Talk with Station Gallery Curator

Thursday, June 21, at 7 p.m. at Station Gallery. Join SG Curator Olex Wlasenko as he ventures across the globe to uncover the margins of the unconventional practices of self-taught makers. Register online at stationgallery.ca

whitby.ca/calendar

Council Meetings

Special Council: Whitby Hydro Proposed Merger with Veridian
June 25 at 5:30 p.m.

Council
June 25 at 7 p.m.
For more information, contact the Clerks Department at clerks@whitby.ca or 905.430.4315
whitby.ca/civicweb

News

Have Your Say in the 2018 Community Survey
Residents and business owners are invited to complete a community survey until July 6. The Town’s community survey is undertaken every two years. Forum Research, a leading public opinion research company is conducting a randomized telephone survey of at least 400 residents. All residents are invited to complete a short and confidential online survey at whitby.ca/communitysurvey

Nominations for Seniors’ Volunteer Awards Now Open
Each year, the Mayors’ Senior Volunteer Awards recognize the valuable contributions made by Whitby seniors (age 55+) to the community through volunteerism. Nominations for the award are now open. The deadline for nominations is August 3. whitby.ca/seniors

Notices

Special Council Meeting – Whitby Hydro Proposed Merger with Veridian
The Town would like to advise residents that Whitby Hydro and Veridian are proceeding to seek shareholder approvals for the proposed merger of the two companies. The upcoming meeting is scheduled for June 25 at 5:30 p.m. at Town Hall. The meeting agendas will be made available online at whitby.ca/civicweb. Residents are invited to attend the meetings or submit comments to clerk@whitby.ca. For more information on the proposed merger, visit learnmore.whitbyhydro.on.ca

Rossland Road Construction to Begin July 3
The Town is advising residents that Rossland Road West, from Lake Ridge Road to McQuay Boulevard, will be fully closed starting July 3. The road closure is expected to end in November. For the most up-to-date information, visit whitby.ca/construction

Are You on the List to Vote in the 2018 Whitby Election?
You can quickly find out if you are on the list to vote in the upcoming October 22 Whitby municipal and school board elections by visiting voterlookup.ca

Starting at 1 p.m. | Fireworks finale at 10 p.m.
Victoria Fields and Port Whitby Marina

Fireworks Sponsored by Community of Whitby Presented by Tim Hortons

whitby.ca/canadaday

Have your say!
Help us serve you better by telling us what you think about the Town’s programs and services.

Complete a short, confidential online survey today. Survey closes Friday, July 6.

whitby.ca/communitysurvey

Summer 2018 in Whitby

Join us for amazing FREE activities all summer long!

whitby.ca/events

Holiday Waste Collection Schedule

Waste collection will be bumped one day forward starting **Monday, July 2**. Please ensure your waste is set out by 7:00 a.m. Check out your Whitby Waste Collection Calendar, download the Whitby Waste Buddy app, or go to whitby.ca/waste for more information. Questions? Call 905.668.3437 or email pw.operations@whitby.ca

Blue Collection - Areas 1, 3, 5, 7, 9

	mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat
	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Bump a Day!					

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

	mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat
	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Bump a Day!					

Our Councillor's Report *by Rhonda Mulcahy*

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



A Residential Hospice: Doing the Right Thing

In a packed Operations meeting at Town Hall Monday night, residents in the Prince of Wales Drive area filled the room along with the committee to build a hospice in Whitby finding a few seats.

While I appreciate that residents considered the parcel of land attached to the residents' park an extension of the park, it is in fact Town-owned surplus land. I also understand how some felt we were stealing their greenspace only to 'pave over paradise,' as one resident quoted Joni Mitchell.

The process to donate the land for the hospice is not a normal one. While policy was followed, ideally more notice would have been better. This was a unique and challenging situation in that the hospice's provincial funding is at risk of being withdrawn if progress to build the hospice is not shown. It has to be operational in 2019 to get that funding.

Our staff reported looking at over 40 sites throughout Whitby. The chosen site was due to several factors: the proximity to transit and amenities, the services on site, the size of the property, and, indeed, the greenspace itself.

I found much of the talk disheartening. It struck me that many residents are fearful of what will be built. Consider that a residential hospice does not exist in Durham Region. Both Scugog and Clarington are building five bed hospices. Whitby's will house 10 beds in a one-storey building. With Durham Region having over 600,000 residents, we are long overdue.

A hospice is where people go to spend their last days alive. Being adjacent to a park with children playing and overlooking a valley with birds and wildlife is part of what will make this a special place. This hospice will undoubtedly be looked upon with respect and love. It's an opportunity for the community adjacent to it to embrace how special it is and consider the important things in life.

One resident who spoke against the project stated that if it was built there, it would be our (the residents') eternity, yet only a few months for them (the patients). I hope once the hospice is built she comes to understand how the opposite will be true.



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1-888-208-7904

Oshawa

470 King Street West
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1-888-207-8836

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Less than Half the Picture *By Richard Bercuson*



Keeping local history alive

History and I have long had a love-hate relationship. While I've always revelled in snippets about the wild things the world has endured, I hated having to study and memorize them.

When was the Treaty of Utrecht? How did it affect Canada? Who were Wolfe and Montcalm? Name two major causes of the First World War. (My wise ass answer: arrogance and stupidity).

Wherever I go, I'm drawn to historical sites, plaques, houses, and first hand accounts. Once, while in France doing a hockey gig, my wife and I took a tour of the Maginot Line. Our tour guide, an older gent, claimed to have been captured by the Germans when they overran it in 1940. If I'd had the time, I would've spent a few hours with him.

So it goes, too, in little ol' Brooklin whose history, I'm learning, is more genteel yet not without its curiosi-

ties. Did you know there were once 10 mills up here as well as a tannery and a dairy? Grass Park used to be the site of a hotel. A local doctor was murdered in Brooklin. We have an enclosed and overgrown graveyard, home to dozens, with no grave-stones to mark their places. It sits next to a daycare. In fact, Brooklin started out being called Winchester.

The tales of our area's previous lives are being slowly and painstakingly uncovered by a dedicated and passionate group of long time Brooklinites. Now officially the Brooklin Heritage Society and incorporated as an historical group by the Ontario Historical Society, members share not only an abiding love for history but also a fervent desire to share Brooklin's.

Preserving the historical integrity and small town feel is of paramount importance, and rightly so. City slicker newbies like me need to learn about and respect the com-

munity's origins. But more significantly, we all should embrace how local history can be enjoyed. I sit in my fenced backyard and wonder what was here before. On whose land am I interloping? Is it true train tracks once ran along my street, by Michael Kelly's restaurant where the station stood, then up Queen?

Who were the teenagers who got on this reputedly slow-as-molasses train in Port Whitby and hopped off at the front to hop back on at the rear, because daring stunts are what teens do?

Time won't stop developers from gobbling up chunks of land to build on. However, it takes a group of volunteers like the Heritage Society to ensure that, while new developments emerge, Brooklin will retain its charm and small town feel.

Here's one for you: The current library

rests on the site of the original one, which had a sign "Brooklin Library" over the front door. That sign disappeared. However, the rumour mill (not one of the 10 mentioned earlier) claims it's in the home of another longtime Brooklinite. Who could it be?



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Brooklin United Church
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Sunday School & Nursery Care
www.brooklinunited.ca 905-655-4141
Come catch the Spirit!

St. Thomas' Anglican Church
101 Winchester Road East
Sunday Services: 8:30 and 10:30 am
Sunday School & Nursery Program (10:30am)
Wednesday 10:00 a.m.
Communion and Healing Service
905-655-3883
www.stthomasbrooklin.ca

Renaissance Baptist Church of Brooklin
40 Vipond Road (Just West Of Library)
Sunday Worship & Kids Program 10:30 a.m.
905-655-4554 www.brooklinrbc.ca
We're here for Brooklin!

Community Calendar

Fri., June 22: 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.

Tues., June 26: 7 pm - Brooklin Heritage Society
A general membership meeting at the Brooklin Legion upstairs.

Wed., June 27: 7:30 pm - Brooklin Horticultural Society
Guest speaker Bill Peel: "Catch the Photo, Capture the Memory." He will share stories that have coloured his life and different mediums to share memories.

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.

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

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A Special BTC Feature

Brooklin Heritage Society: It Takes A Village...

By Richard Bercuson

What began as a Facebook connection of longtime Brooklin residents has evolved into a unique organization dedicated to preserving the area's history. Today, the Brooklin Heritage Society is a registered non-profit group, having been recently given the designation by the Ontario Historical Society.

Its beginnings were innocent enough. "A bunch of us met on Facebook," recalls Lynda Cormack, "and we decided we should get together at local coffee shops. Next thing was, we connected with others we'd known as children in the area. Pretty much everyone has been here for 50 years or more."

She sharpened up old photos using iphone apps, uploading them to the Facebook group that is now nearly 400 strong.

Reunion to homecoming
From that came an annual reunion during the Spring Fair which started at the Fairgrounds but moved to the Legion's patio in its third year to enable some of the less mobile folks to have easier access. The sixth reunion took place this year with an age range of 30 to 92. However, as Cormack and fellow member Betty-Jean Blyth point out, they opted to change the wording from reunion to homecoming since reunions tend to occur every once in a while. They wanted this gathering to be annual.

As everyone reminisced about days gone by, sharing photos and the like, they urged Cormack, a self-professed history buff, to do something, anything.

"They kept telling me, 'You gotta do something with all this,'" she said. "It sat in the back of our minds for several years." But do what, since nothing of this sort had been done out here before?

A bunch of them, now 11, began gathering dribs and drabs of memorabilia dating back decades. They unearthed an amazing array of photos and artifacts that pointed to Brooklin's important role as an agricultural centre as far back as the early 19th century.

The Mill's mementoes
Cormack, in fact, was given a large box of photos and mementoes by the family of the original owner of the Brooklin Mill, Charles Wilson. The box was hand delivered to her by Wilson's heirs who drove it



Some members of the Brooklin Heritage Society at their recent reunion/homecoming. (from left to right) Chris Alderson, Susan Kydd Richards, Jennifer Bailey Hudgins, Betty-Jean Blyth and Lynda Cormack Armstrong

up from Kingston. Today the mill is the Brooklin Montessori School. That box has never been seen outside the Wilson family, but it will be shared with other Heritage Society members at its June 26 general meeting upstairs at the Legion.

Blyth says her own family lore points to her mother's grandfather being the region's first postmaster general. She hasn't yet been able to verify it though a cousin claims to have proof. Her history has an important local flavour, too. She originated Group 74, a women's service club, in 1974 when it appeared there'd be no Spring Fair parade for lack of organizers. How hard can it be, she wondered to some friends? They decided to take up the challenge, and the parade was reborn.

A well-traveled lady in her younger years, Blyth says that wherever she went in the U.S. or Canada, people would ask where she's from. They couldn't identify with Whitby (nor Oshawa, for that matter). "But Brooklin?" she recalls. "Oh yes, everyone knew Brooklin. I put it down to the fact that for years we had some of the top teams in lacrosse, hockey and baseball. Everyone seemed to know of one of them."

Once, Winchester
One interesting fact, among so many: Brooklin wasn't always known by that name. "The community was

actually named Winchester," Cormack describes. "Till 1947 when it was found out about a community near Ottawa of the same name. We had a post office here and apparently once there's a post office you can't remove the name of the community. Whitby, at one time, tried to remove Brookoin completely. Then in 1968 it became part of Whitby but

they did not take away the name." As the photos and artifacts pile up, Blyth says it's important to remember their purpose. "We're focused on Brooklin as a community from years back and trying to keep the community going and retain its roots. But really we're the soul, the core, of the village."



This bag came from what is now the Brooklin Montessori School

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continued on page 6

Provincial Election Night Results - Whitby

Lorne Coe	26,471 (46.29%)
Niki Lundquist	20,562 (35.96%)
Leisa Washington	7,427 (12.99%)
Stacey Leadbetter	1,958 (3.42%)
Ronald Halabi	522 (0.91%)
Doug Thom	246 (0.43%)

Registered Electors on List 94,349
Voter Turnout 60.61%

continued from page 7

What's interesting about her comment is the use of the word village, which one wouldn't easily associate with a burgeoning population of over 35,000. However, the group is working hard not only for older residents to remember but also for newer ones to have that village feel.

"I've noticed a lot of new people come from small towns," she says, "and want to continue that feeling they had with their children."

"I give a lot of credit to the town of Whitby," chimes in Cormack. "Over a decade ago, they created heritage districts in Whitby and Brooklin. They were smart to do that."

Preserving buildings

The result of that initiative has been the preservation of building facades and architecture that help harken back to a different time. For instance, the Oakridge 1847 pub on Baldwin at Roebuck was once a bank. Baldwin Street Burger used to be a bakery. According to Blyth, they made the best Chelsea buns around and Torontonians on their way to cottage country would stop by to fill up.

Cormack adds that Brooklin was always a closely knit community. "I think people here miss that. There's a certain sadness - you will hear it - that things are disappearing."

"Yes, but people don't realize there's a core that's still here," Blyth says. "When I came here with a young family in 1963, people said, 'Oh you're back.' But then I realized they'd never left. They didn't know what it was like to be a stranger."

"I tell people, there's an underlying current. But also, new little communities are growing within Brooklin. It may not be our thing or our way, but if it works for them... Having an historical society for people to get back to their roots is important."

A museum

Moving forward, both ladies hope that someday they'll find a home for the mounds of discoveries, perhaps with a small museum, an expensive undertaking that would need extensive local support. In the



A 1915 photo of the Queen St. train, this was looking south in Brooklin. The tracks for the Port Whitby and Port Perry Railway were laid and the rail line was built in 1871. The tracks were removed in 1941.
(from the Lynda Cormack collection)



What's left of the railway tracks outside Michael Kelly's Eatery. The track bits and the rest of the parking lot were paved over last fall.

meantime, they participate in events like the Harvest Festival and Boofest to help educate people about Brooklin's past.

While they and their colleagues aim for when the Heritage Society can serve as a registered charity, until then they solicit help with research, documentation, and, of course, the dream of having a home for it all.

All told, this new group is working hard at making newcomers aware of Brooklin's interesting past while joyously reliving the old days themselves





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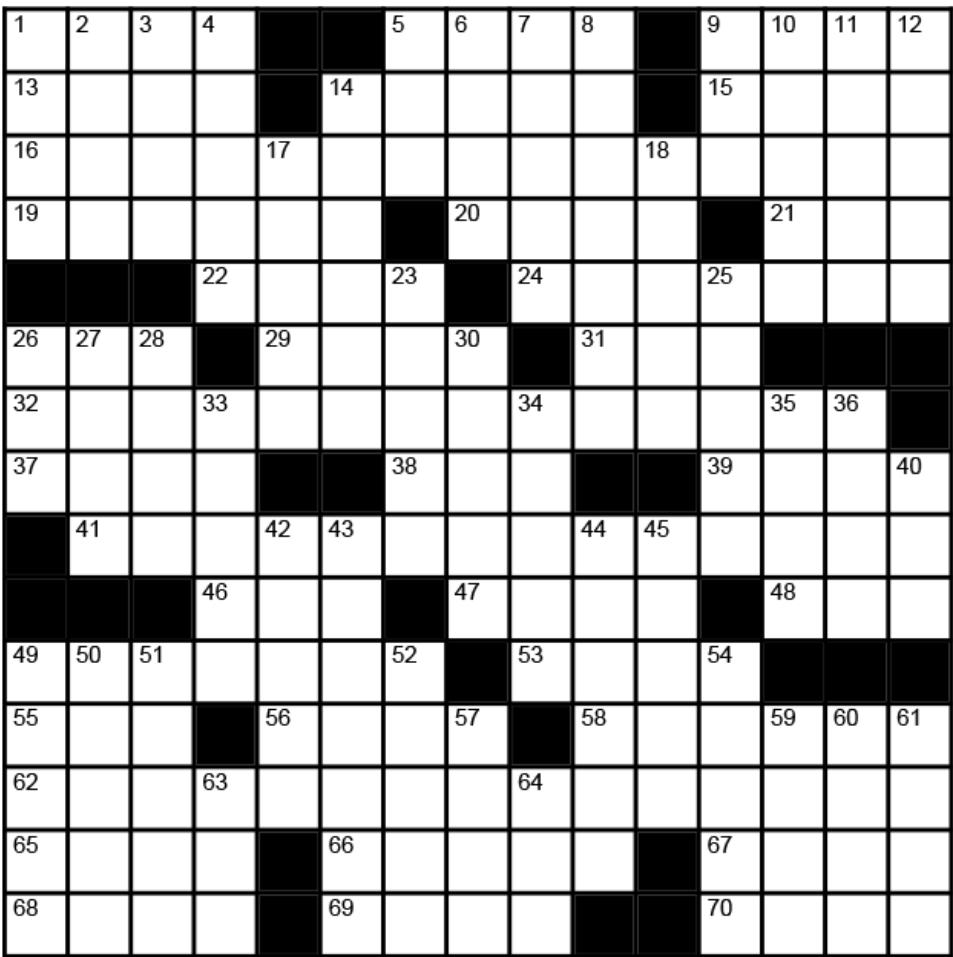
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Brooklin Bafflers: *by Liz Lowe*

Crossword



- Across
- 1 Unwillingness to do something contrary to your custom

5 Right on the map

9 Grab (onto)

13 Fishing, perhaps

14 Battle of the ____

15 Heavenly glow

16 A detective who wears civilian clothes on duty

19 Relating to the system for delivering mail

20 Execute perfectly

21 School grp.

22 Bad day for Caesar

24 The hideous snakehaired monsters who pursued unpunished criminals

26 Biblical beast

29 Pupil's place

31 As well

32 The scientific study of plants or animals

37 Missing from the Marines, say

- 38 Anatomical duct

39 Identify

41 Study of the physical world and its phenomena

46 Density symbol

47 Chinese dollar

48 Driveway material

49 City in central Iran; former capital of Persia

53 Outback birds

55 Bossy remark?

56 In or relating to or obtained from urine

58 Indulge in a fantasy.

62 Human conception without fertilization by a man

65 Balanced

66 A font which is upright, as opposed to oblique or italic.

67 Prefix with legal

68 "____ we forget"

69 Go bananas

70 Rigging support

- 36 Pool site, maybe

40 Poetic contraction

42 "Yeah"

43 Bellowers, screamers; who communicate vocally in a very loud voice

44 A city in southwestern New Jersey on the Delaware River

45 Bury

49 Motivate

50 Italian wine

51 The front part, especially ships

52 Sheer fabric

54 Oozes

57 Unwakable state

59 "Immediately!"

60 Red giant in the constellation Cetus

61 Ivan the Terrible, e.g.

63 Demolition stuff

64 Mountain pass

- Down
- 1 Arctic native

2 Nobel Peace Prize city

3 Some are green

4 Port-au-Prince is its capital

5 Aquarium denizen

6 Impulse transmitter

7 Caterpillar hairs

8 Vacation souvenirs

9 Neon, e.g.

10 Not smooth and even in texture

11 Be bombastic

12 Power, authority; a supernatural life force (usage: NZ)

14 The outer covering and protection of the eyeball

17 Low point

18 Silas Marner" author

23 The forest trees growing in a country or region

25 Nary a soul

26 Book collector's suffix

27 Cut, as a log

28 Greek portico

30 Resembling shale in structure

33 The "U" in UHF

34 Matter of debate

35 Diatribe

Free Public Skating
During Recreation/
Parks Month

Each year, Recreation and Parks Month highlights the more than 120 parks and over 2,200 recreation programs offered in the community.

The Town of Whitby invites residents to celebrate by participating in free public skates at Iroquois Park Sports Centre and McKinney Centre until June 30

For more information, visit whitby.ca/recreationandparksmoonh or contact the Town's Community and Marketing Services Department at parks.rec@whitby.ca or 905.430.4310.

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Plenty Of Free Summer Things To Do

Residents are invited to take part in the more than 35 free, family-friendly events being hosted by the Town this summer.

Back by popular demand, the summer programming includes Music in the Park, Culture in the Square, Movies in the Park and Fresh Air in the Square.

New this year, Music in the Park will include performances by the top 16 musical acts selected from the more than 90 applicants who responded to the Town's inaugural Call for Performers.

The Movies in the Park series will also find a new home at Whitby Civic Park, providing moviegoers with additional parking, access to indoor washroom facilities and an enhanced viewing experience. Weekly Culture in the Square activities will invite residents to try something new with poetry, flamenco dancing, lessons on saree-wrapping, and more. Families will also enjoy getting outside together for free yoga and zumba classes with Fresh Air in the Square.

Details are:

• **Culture in the Square:** free music and cultural performances and activities aimed at celebrating culture and diversity. Culture in the Square begins July 3 and will take place every Tuesday at 7 p.m. at Celebration Square (405 Dundas Street).

For the complete line-up of performances and activities, visit whitby.ca/cultureinthesquare.

• **Music in the Park:** free, outdoor musical performances showcasing artists from a wide variety of genres, including rock, pop, jazz, blues, R&B, folk and more. Music in the Park begins the week of July 2 and will take place at 7 p.m. every Wednesday in Rotary Centennial Park and every Thursday in Grass Park until August 23. For the complete line-up of performances, visit whitby.ca/musicinthepark.

• **Fresh Air in the Square:** free, outdoor fitness classes for the whole family to enjoy. Fresh Air in the Square begins on July 5 and will be held every Thursday through to the end of August. Classes will take place from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. in Celebration Square (405 Dundas Street). Fresh Air in the Square will feature free yoga classes in July and free Zumba classes in August. For more information, visit whitby.ca/hesquare.

• **Movies in the Park:** four free movie screenings being held at Whitby Civic Park (30 Bassett Boulevard). Movies will begin at dark (approximately 8:45 p.m.) and include:
• Boss Baby on July 13
• Jumanji - Welcome to the Jungle on July 27

• Space Jam on August 10
• The Greatest Showman on August 24

Residents can enter to win VIP seating at either the Jumanji or Space Jam screenings by following [@townofwhitby](https://twitter.com/townofwhitby), tweeting "I'm attending Whitby's Movies in the Park" and mentioning [@townofwhitby](https://twitter.com/townofwhitby).

whitby with the hashtag **#whitby-vipseats**. The prize pack includes front row seating, blankets, popcorn and drinks for four, and more. The deadline for entries is Friday, June 29, at 4:30 p.m.

For more information on Movies in the Park, visit whitby.ca/moviesinthepark.

Canada Day in Whitby

Residents are invited to celebrate Canada Day in Whitby on Sunday, July 1, with free, family-friendly activities being offered at Victoria Fields, Port Whitby Marina and Whitby Yacht Club. Festivities will begin at 1 pm with fireworks at 10 pm

From 1 p.m. to 7 p.m., residents can enjoy the new Arts Trail activation along the Waterfront Trail with interactive arts projects, Station Gallery Pop-Up Kids Studio and a free caricaturist artist. The Kids Zone will feature inflatables including toddler area and obstacle course, carnival games, face painting, petting zoo, balloon artists, stilt walkers and more.

At the new Adventure Zone, those brave enough can test their climbing skills on a 25-foot rock wall or meet reptiles from Reptilia (a reptile zoo expected to open in Whitby this June). Event-goers will also enjoy activities along the waterfront, such as free dragon boating at Port Whitby Marina, and Whitby

Yacht Club activities are free and open all day to the general public. The 5th Annual Port Whitby Marina versus Yacht Club Dragon Boat Race begins at 3 p.m.

Many vendors

A number of food and community vendors, including an ice cream truck and Whitby Farmers' Market vendors, will be on site and a variety of live music will be played on two stages until the fireworks. A Fly-Board Show and lighted boats parade will serve as the pre-show to the 10 pm fireworks finale.

As the event is pedestrian-focused, residents are encouraged to walk, bike or use other forms of active transportation to get to the site. A free Bike Parking Station will once again be available. Parking will be at the Whitby GO Station, with a free shuttle to Port Whitby Marina and Whitby Yacht Club.

For the complete list and schedules of the activities being offered visit whitby.ca/canadaday.

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Home Prices are Steady

Home Prices are Steady Greater Toronto Area REALTORS® reported 7,834 sales through TREB's MLS® System in May 2018. While the number of sales was down year-over-year, the annual rate of decline was less than reported in February, March and April. On a month-over-month basis, seasonally adjusted May sales were basically flat compared to April 2018 and the average selling price was up by 1.1 per cent.

Supply of homes available for sale continued to be an issue. New listings were down by 26.2 per cent. The fact that new listings were down by more than sales in comparison to last year means that competition increased between buyers. Recent polling conducted by Ipsos for TREB suggests that listing intentions are down markedly since the fall.

"Home ownership remains a sound long-term investment. Unfortunately, many home buyers are still finding it difficult to find a home that meets their needs. In a recent Canadian Centre for Economic Analysis study undertaken for the Toronto Real Estate Board, it was found that many people are over-housed in Ontario, with over five million extra bedrooms. These people don't list their homes for sale, because they feel there are no alternative housing types for them to move into. Policy makers need to focus more on the 'missing middle' - home types that bridge the gap between detached houses and condominium apartments," said Mr. Syrianos.

"Market conditions are becoming tighter in the Greater Toronto Area and this will provide support for home prices as we move through the second half of 2018 and into 2019. There are emerging indicators pointing toward increased competition between buyers, which generally leads to stronger price growth. In the City of Toronto, for example, average selling prices were at or above average listing prices for all major home types in May," said Jason Mercer, TREB's Director of Market Analysis.

Looks like we are turning the corner and prices will start to increase.

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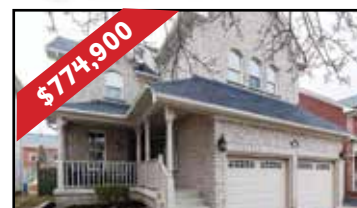
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