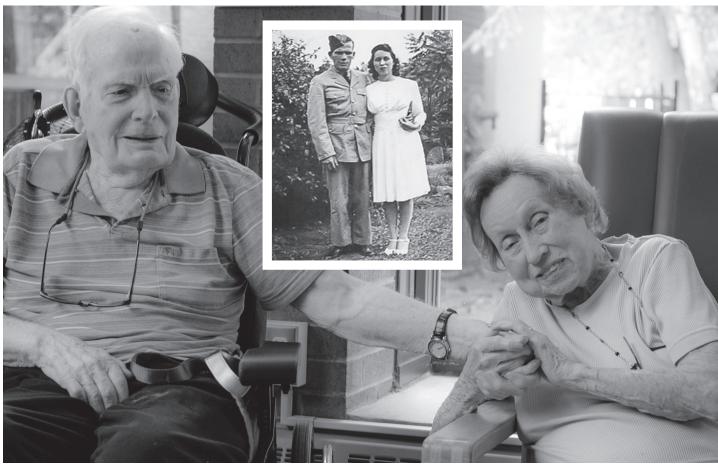




Voice of the Community since 1949 **February 2017 Vol. 02, No 2**

entennia

A publication of the Centennial Community and Recreation Association



George and Elizabeth Lake were photographed holding hands in 1942 and they still enjoy holding hands today at the Tony Stacey Centre for Veterans Care.

A Valentine's Day tribute to a loving couple

By Kathryn Stocks

eorge and Elizabeth Lake are the perfect couple for a Valentine's Day feature. They've been married for 74 years, they still care deeply about each other and throughout their life together George always gave red roses to Elizabeth on Valentine's Day.

George is now 95, Elizabeth is 96 and they reside at the Tony Stacey Centre for Veterans Care on Lawson Road. Diana LeBlanc, who works in Development and Public Relations at the centre, said, "They're a very loving couple. They're always sitting together and they hold hands constantly. If she's upset, he'll call for help."

George was born in Scarborough in 1921 and Elizabeth in Hillier, Ontario, in 1920. The couple met in 1939 and were engaged during the war in 1941. They married on August 1, 1942, at the old church at St. Margaret's in the Pines in West Hill. George was serving in the Canadian Army throughout the Second World War from 1940 to 1945 in England, France, Holland and Belgium. Like many Canadian servicemen during that time, he only had a three-day leave to get married.

The couple had one child during the war years, Robert in 1944, and three more when the war was over. Lynda was born in 1947, Daniel in 1955, and Michael in 1958.

George and Elizabeth lived in East Toronto at Woodbine and Danforth until 1951, then moved to

Kingston Road and McCowan where they lived for 51 years in the same home. Their next step was a condo in Scarborough where they spent 12 years.

After returning from the war, George worked as an engineer for CNR until his retirement. Elizabeth worked in shipping at Smith Transport and at Eaton's catalogue.

Elizabeth stopped working in the mid-1970s and George retired in 1982. They remained in their Scarborough home and were very involved with the Scarborough Village Seniors' Centre. They also spent time travelling in Canada, with some U.S. trips and Caribbean cruises. What they enjoyed most though was home time with their grandchildren. Their son Michael says they were always willing to watch his kids. George and Elizabeth had eight grandchildren and three greatgrandchildren.

When George moved to the Tony Stacey Centre in April 2010, Elizabeth visited him faithfully. Stephanie Burgess, the centre's receptionist, said, "She was a huge advocate for him before she started living here. I really like her and he's such a gentle soul." George has limited mobility, but he has been stable since moving to the centre. Elizabeth remained on her own until 2015 when her health began to decline and she joined him there.

George and Elizabeth are an affectionate couple who are happy to be able to spend another Valentine's Day together.



Join us for CCRA's Spring Dinner/Dance on Saturday, April 1 at West Rouge C.C., 270 Rouge Hills Drive. It will be a country rock evening with the Vanessa Marie Carter Band. See events calendar for info.

www.ccranews.ca

Canada's 150th is here! How will you celebrate?

This is it, the year Canada will be celebrating the 150th anniversary of Confederation. From local and community events to national festivities, there will be many ways to enjoy our country's sesquicentennial.

The biggest party will be in Ottawa on July 1. "A full weekend of events in Canada's capital will highlight Canada Day in an outstanding way," according to the ottawa2017.ca website.

Here in Toronto, "TO Canada with Love" is the city's year-long program of celebrations, commemorations and exhibitions honouring Canada's birthday. The program is offering more than 30 city-produced events taking place throughout 2017. Its Canada Day Festival Celebration will be held at Nathan Phillips Square from June 30 to July 3.

From now until May 31, the city is presenting My City My Six (MCM6), a participatory public art project that will reveal Toronto and its residents in celebration of Canada 150, six words at a time. The project asks Torontonians to share something about themselves in a mere six words. It will culminate in a citywide exhibition in the fall. For more details visit toronto.ca/culturalhotspot.

The 150th anniversary of Confederation is an ideal time to celebrate Flag Day on February 15. Tweet pictures of your family and friends with the flag #CanadianFlag or #Canada150.

Historica Canada and Library and Archives Canada are both featuring daily submissions of things that happened on that day in our history #OnThisDay on Twitter, online at Canada.ca/OnThisDay or historica-

If you know of an event you'd like to share or if you're planning any special activities to celebrate Canada's sesquicentennial, drop us a line at news4ccra@gmail.ca with Canada 150 in the subject line. We'd love to hear from you.

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We will consider all submissions for publication that	
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Not-for-profit and community groups are also invite	d
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advertising, politically partisan or likely to offend.	
CCRA reserves the right to edit all submitted materia	al.
The opinions expressed in CCRA Centennial News	
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All submissions will be considered for both print and	b
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Advertising copy must reach the CCRA no later than the 10th day of the preceding month for publication. Files should be in high resolution PDF, TIF, EPS or JPG format for best results. Please e-mail your advertisement to Kelsey Dorval at ccra-advertising@hotmail.com. Cheques in the correct amount are to be addressed to "CCRA" and deposited in the CCRA mailbox at 5450 Lawrence Ave. East, in the Port Union Recreation Centre, opposite the centre's main office. For more about advertising, visit www.ccranews.com/advertising.html

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Thank You for taking such good care of everything with the sale of our Mom's home. My sister and I are very appreciative of all you did for Mom and all your efforts and hard work. Also selling her house for a Record High Price for the street was the ultimate great news. We have Mom moved into the retirement home and she is quite happy. It was great that you were always in touch and we could reach you whenever we needed to speak to you, right down to the closing date. You even followed up after that. Thanks again! - Gord Bird

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Downspout disconnection deadline

Centennial has now passed the December 3, 2016, deadline for Toronto's mandatory downspout disconnection. If you haven't already done it, you still have some time. Call 311 if you can't find the information package sent to all homes across the city or if you have any questions about applying for an exemption.

Toronto Water is still educating residents on the benefits of disconnecting their downspouts. If the city receives a complaint on a house that hasn't made the change, the resident will be given information and time to comply with the bylaw.

Toronto Water has received reports that at least one independent contractor may be distributing potentially misleading communications that appear to be designed to look like they are communications from the city about its mandatory downspout disconnection program. The city is not sending out any mass communications entitled "Notice" or "Final Notice" to residents about mandatory downspout disconnection.

The City of Toronto does not endorse, recommend or partner with any private company to either carry out downspout disconnections or enforce mandatory downspout disconnection. Only city bylaw officers are authorized to identify a property for non-compliance with a city bylaw.

President's Message

Stay connected with CCRA

By Jennifer McKelvie

To find out about the latest news and events in our community, make sure to sign up for CCRA e-news. You can sign up on our website at www. ccranews.ca under "contact us" or by e-mailing webmaster@ccranews.com.

As a Centennial resident, you are welcome to come to our meetings. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, February 7 at 7:15 pm at the Port Union Recreation Centre.

On December 27, Junior Ward, an exceptional community volunteer, passed away. Junior served on the CCRA executive for more than seven years in various positions, most recently as Director responsible for monitoring transportation issues affecting our community. Junior was always quick to volunteer to walk in local parades with the CCRA banner and help at our community events, most memorably as bartender at our spring socials. Junior had a smile and sense of humour that could

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Local refugee sponsorship group update and call for volunteers

By Beyhan Farhadi

Port Union Cares (PUC) is a private refugee sponsorship group mobilizing community support and resources to ensure the successful settlement of refugees. During the fall, we partnered with the Anglican United Refugee Alliance - one of the most experienced and established Sponsorship Agreement Holders in Ontario. Since then, we have raised more than \$22,000 toward our \$40,000 goal through two fundraising campaigns. We owe this success to both the members and supporters of PUC.

We are currently seeking a few people to join our efforts to fundraise this spring. You would be part of our fundraising committee, working with members of PUC to develop and carry out a few events from March onward. We are a committed, diverse, and welcoming group of people. This is in large part due to our ethos: Do what you can, when you can, to the best of your capacity. You will find the work of community building a richly rewarding experience.

If you would like to receive more frequent communication from our group and/or are interested in volunteering with us, please contact portunioncares@gmail.com

light up any room. We will miss him terribly, and extend our deepest sympathies to his wife Elsa, his children Deborah and Richard, and their families. You can read more about his life in the article by Kathy Rowe on page 5.

On January 15, Janice Bennink was recognized for her volunteer contributions to CCRA by MPP Tracy MacCharles at her New Year's Levee and Volunteer Recognition Event. Janice championed the "Passage to Port Union" mural on the plaza wall at Port Union and Lawrence, which was unveiled in 2016. Janice was instrumental in gaining local support, fundraising and initiating the partnership between the CCRA, StreetARToronto and Mural Routes. The mural depicts the historical timeline of



CCRA President Jennifer McKelvie (left), Janice Bennink, CCRA volunteer (middle) and Tracy MacCharles, MPP for Pickering-Scarborough East, at Tracy's New Year's Levee on January 15.

the Port Union community, from Aboriginal history to the present day. Janice was also the CCRA communications chair for several years. Under her leadership, the CCRA communications team launched our social media site, refreshed our website and launched this

newspaper. On behalf of the CCRA, congratulations Janice!

Our newspaper welcomes news or events that affect the Centennial community. Please consider submitting an article to news4ccra@gmail.com.







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Community

Enjoying life in Canada, my new home

By Veronica Chavez

Almost 10 years ago I came from Ecuador to work as a caregiver. I was very fortunate to be hired by a wonderful Canadian family who have treated me as part of their own. I always dreamed of living here. It is not easy to start over again, however having a pleasant and stable job made it possible to adjust and get settled faster. I have been working for the same family since I arrived in Canada. Thanks to my job I was granted permanent residence. I feel blessed to have seen the child grow all these years. She is sweet, kind and caring.

I became a Canadian citizen two years ago and I was able to vote for the mayor in the municipal election and recently in the federal election. It feels good to participate in my



Veronica Chavez came to came to Canada from Ecuador almost 10 years ago

duties as a citizen.

I have hiked with the Toronto Bruce Trail Club to different areas, such as Blue Mountain, the Dundas Valley and Niagara Falls. Many close members of my family have suffered from cancer and to support that cause I have walked in the Terry Fox Run and volunteered for the CIBC Run for the Cure.

Even though I will always remember my roots and my homeland, I feel I belong in this great country. Thanks to my Canadian family, I have not only been able to learn about Canadian culture, they have also been an inspiration to me. I want to live the Canadian way, embracing the weather, engaging in the community and moving forward to succeed.

Ecuador is a beautiful country with amazing landscapes and great weather. Unfortunately, the economic and political instability makes many of us decide to emigrate in search of new and better opportunities. I often go back to visit my family and I can see the differences between the two countries. In Ecuador, the public health-care

system is not as great as in Canada. I like the fact that public education is amazing here. In Ecuador, teachers are not well paid. Canadian roads are the best as well as access for disabled people.

One thing Ecuadorians and Canadians have in common is that we like to persevere to achieve our goals. I am a continuous learner. When I came to Canada I had an intermediate level of English. I studied high school in the U.S. in my teenage years. In Canada, I attended English classes at a newcomer's centre and reached an advanced level. I have a university degree from Ecuador and am getting a certification in one of the city's community colleges.

As I look back, it brings a smile to my face when I see how much I have accomplished. I have volunteered in different schools of the community and at the moment I am working as a lunchroom monitor at a local school.

The Centennial community has everything anyone would desire: a community centre and library with friendly and helpful staff, the shops and restaurants in the Centennial Plaza and good transportation. I still remember the fun times I spent playing with the child in all the parks in the neighbourhood, attending the different activities for children in the Recreation Centre and the Port Union Library.

What I appreciate about Canadians is their respect for diversity. Everyone here is accepted and included. Canadians are polite, kind and compassionate. It is great to be here.



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Winter Fair at Charlottetown

Charlottetown Junior Public School will be holding its 35th Winter Fair on Saturday, February 11 from 10 am to 3 pm. It's going to be a day of fun with a silent auction, vendors galore, Zoo to You, indoor bouncers, sports games, photo booth, fun zone, bake room, raffle, book and games room, basket room, craft room, and face and nail painting. For information, call (416) 396-6135

Memorial

Remembering Junior Ward, a dedicated volunteer

By Kathy Rowe

n December 27, 2016, the Centennial community lost Junior Ward, a vibrant and dedicated volunteer who will be missed by his many friends in the neighbourhood and on the CCRA.

Junior was born in 1936 in Basseterre, St. Kitts. In 1955 he moved to England to be a motor mechanic. During that time he spent five years with the Royal Air Force where he received extensive training in motor mechanics. In 1961, Junior married Elsa, a practising nurse, and they began a family together. Soon Deborah and Richard were born. In 1972, Junior and Elsa decided to immigrate to Canada where there were better opportunities for their family.

Once in Canada, Junior was employed by the TTC as a mechanic for a few years. He then moved on to work for GO Transit and remained there until his retirement in 1998.

Initially the Ward family lived in Don Mills. They moved in 2005 to the Centennial community into a brand new home in Port Union Village.

Junior and Elsa made St. Dunstan of Canterbury Anglican Church their place of worship. Junior was a dedicated church member who always helped with the annual bazaars. He took great pride in helping out within his church community. Junior soon caught on to the Centennial Community Recreation Association (CCRA) and volunteered his time as the transportation chair.

Past President Jeff Forsyth remembers Junior as "diligent in reporting to the CCRA executive on transportation issues." Junior communicated with Councillor Ron Moeser on a weekly basis so that he would be on top of any proposed stop sign installations or traffic studies in the community. Jeff also recalls that Junior worked hard at CCRA-sponsored events such as the spring dances, outdoor summer concerts and the Waterfront Festival.

Ralph Jeffers, also a former CCRA executive member, worked with Junior at many of these events. Ralph recalls that Junior had his Smart Serve certification and often tended bar at the CCRA dances. Together Junior and Ralph set up the Korney Klown stations at the Waterfront Festival numerous times. Crowd control was an issue every year so Ralph and Junior devised an

effective method to help funnel children to the feature for face painting and balloon animals. Junior was able to handle just about any situation with good humour and patience.

Ralph remembers Junior at last year's summer concert "dancing to

Caribbean music with more than 20 women!" He could really move on the dance floor. Ralph told Junior that "he was too old to look over that many women ... and then he looked at me with his great big smile!"

Junior delivered newsletters,



drove bundles to volunteer carriers and was always willing to do more for the committee. He volunteered on the CCRA executive for more than seven years. His wife Elsa said that "Junior really enjoyed helping out in the community.

He loved people and he was very social." He retired from his position in 2016.

Junior was a popular Port Union Fitness Centre member. He loved coming to exercise in the gym four times weekly. Junior had many

friends and acquaintances at the gym who looked forward to chatting and sharing stories with him. Junior's sense of humour was a big part of who he was. His jovial laugh could be heard clear from the front doors of the building when he was in the gym. As his wife Elsa mentioned, "Junior loved a party. He loved being surrounded by people. He was passionate about music, too. All kinds of music." He was also passionate about his three grandchildren, Natasha, Rachel and Maya.

Junior will be sorely missed by his family and many people in our community. Thank you Junior for being who you were and for doing all the wonderful things you did.

May you rest in peace.





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Community

Come out and enjoy activities at the Legion

By David Adamson

I am a current serving member of the executive and past president of Branch 258 of the Royal Canadian Legion. The Legion has participated and continues to be involved in many community activities. For example, every year Branch 258 hosts Canada Day activities that include a parade, fun events and entertainment for children and adults. As we celebrate Canada's 150th birthday this year, remember that our doors are always open for everyone to come in to view the premises along with the war memorabilia on display.

Branch 258 extends its community involvement by making annual donations to the local churches at Christmas to assist the less fortunate over the holiday period. As well, the Legion supports student participation in public speaking and poster designs through their Youth and Education programs.

Branch 258 is one of the few locations in our area that offers social dancing on a monthly basis in our lounge and the general public is welcome to attend. Events such as mixed darts, shuffleboard,

.......

February events at the Legion

By Ellery Hollingsworth

It's February already and Legion Branch 258 is continuing with our most successful weekend activities.

Saturday starts off with the Meat Roll, a game of chance where the prizes are meat: roasts, hams or chicken from the Butcher Shop. Every other Saturday evening it is dancing in the lounge with music supplied by a DJ or a live group.

Two successful events happen on alternate Sundays once a month and they are Sunday Brunch and Pub Sunday. Sunday Brunch is a great deal. For \$8 all you can eat, juice, sausage, scrambled egg, home fries, pancakes, beans, toast and coffee.

When it's Pub Sunday, there is dancing with music supplied by a DJ or live entertainers and a meal for \$8-\$10. The meals vary from homemade lasagna or roast beef to garlic chicken or homemade steak and mushroom pie all with all the trimmings.

Finally, our big event for February will be the Valentine's dance on Feb. 11. The price is \$20, with drinks at 6, dinner at 7 and dancing at 8 pm.

All of the above events are open to everybody not just members although you may want to consider becoming a member. Membership is open to all Canadian citizens of legal voting age.

Check the website at www.RCL258.ca for corrections and updates.

snooker, line dancing, yoga classes, Pub Sunday and karaoke are also available. Banquet hall facilities are available for weddings, anniversaries and other functions. You can call the Branch at 416-281-2992 or, better yet, drop by to get additional details on events taking place.

Due to the high costs of operation and maintenance along with a drop in membership, the Branch is currently facing a serious financial situation never before experienced. This has been brought to the attention of the general body and under the leadership of the president, Richard Viles, along with the executive, an action plan is being developed to address this matter. As a community member, you can help out by attending and participating in the functions that we have available.

Tony Stacey Centre for Veterans Care

As vice-chair of the Board of Directors at the Tony Stacey Centre and as a member of the Legion, I have a sincere interest in the care and treatment of our veterans. The centre is located at 59 Lawson Road, adjacent to Branch 258. You may have noticed the sign in front of the centre indicating the need to repair the roof and asking for donations. Tax receipts are provided and any financial assistance you can provide will be much appreciated.

Highland Creek Heritage Day Festival

The committee continues to meet, under the chairmanship of Paul McGuire, in the planning of

the festival to be held on June 17 this year. A fundraising dinner/ dance will be held on June 10. As always, we are looking for people to join the committee to assist in the planning and for volunteers on the day of the event.

Highland Creek Public School

The school will be celebrating its 100th anniversary on April 27 and 28 in 2018. The next scheduled meeting is on March 20, 2017, in the school library. Former students and interested community members are welcome to attend and participate in the planning details.

You can call me at 416- 281-7758 or email me at dw.adamson@rogers.com



JILL'S TEAM INVESTS IN OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

One of the key goals of Jill's TEAM is to promote the benefits of living in West Rouge-Centennial and, by extension, the value of homes in our neighbourhood. We also believe in giving back to the community in which we live and work. As a token of thanks for the trust and support given to our team by the residents of West Rouge-Centennial, Jill's TEAM is pleased to donate \$250 from each sold listing to a community-based non-profit group or organization of the SELLER's choice.

Some examples of groups and organizations that can benefit from this donation program include:

- Schools (for equipment, instruments, books, special programs or events) 1.
- 2. Sports teams/clubs
- 3. Community associations (CCRA and West Rouge)
- 4. Churches/Places of worship
- 5. Port Union library
- 6. Guides/Scouts
- 7. Seniors groups
- Group homes and long term care facilities
- Local food bank



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Community

Tony Stacey Centre for Veterans Care

In 1976, Metro Toronto Legion Village welcomed its first 14 residents. It was renamed Tony Stacey Centre for Veterans Care in 2003 in honour of one of its founders. More than 1,000 residents have called it home.

The Centre is built on two floors, in the shape of a cross. It has 50 rooms, 100 beds, and provides long-term care for married couples or single residents. We also welcome Silver Cross Mothers, peacekeepers and mothers of veterans who have died in combat. The average age of our residents is between 81 and 90 years.

The Centre is a complete community. It has lounges, reading areas, arts and crafts rooms, a therapeutic swimming pool, a bar and a gift shop. Residents can get their hair done in the beauty salon, attend meals in the dining room, and attend many different types of activities planned throughout the day.

In addition to our management staff, the Centre's team of professionals includes: registered nurses, medical director, dietitian, physiotherapist, social worker, massage therapist and many more.

The mission of Tony Stacey Centre for Veterans Care is to provide the highest quality of long-term care for our veterans, their families and the community.

The not-for-profit centre, named for Tony Stacey, the World War II sergeant who with other veterans fought tirelessly to found the centre, is located in Toronto and accepts veterans from across Canada. It is distinguished by the fact that it is the only veterans' long-term care facility that accepts non-serving spouses of veterans, non-overseas veterans, veterans of conflicts post-Korea and peacekeepers.

"It's an honour to be associated with soldiers who, through my career, made me look good by their courage and conduct. The Tony Stacey Centre for Veterans Care, in particular, fulfills an unbelievably important and unique role in looking after our nation's heroes," said Major General (ret'd) Lewis MacKenzie.

"The Tony Stacey Centre is a vital hub in the lives of veterans," said Jan DeVries, noting how essential it is to have a long-term care facility where spouses are not separated simply by virtue of illness. "Canada has rallied to preserve our World War II history through the building of monuments, the stamping of coins and the saving of medals – all of which are important. The time has come to help the actual men and women who served our country.



On a December afternoon, a Christmas party was held at the Tony Stacey Centre for residents, family members and volunteers.

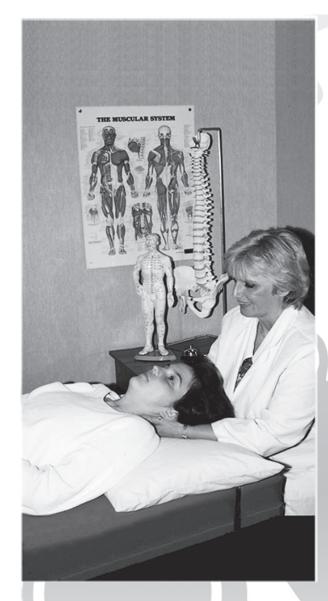
World War II veterans need the Tony Stacey Centre – and so will those who have served our country since and who are serving now," he added.

We are interested in expanding/ beginning:

- Partnering with veteran programs and/or organizations.
- Funding for much-needed materials, repairs and upgrades.
- Funding program to help cover costs for a new security system.
- Funding for health-promoting activities like a mobile sensory cart (to help dementia patients).
- Funding program to build a multi-media kiosk/screen.

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Nature

East Point Park: Looking back in time

By Toronto and Region Conservation

As one of Toronto's natural wonders, East Point Park is known for its stunning views of Lake Ontario from atop the Scarborough Bluffs and for an abundance of birdwatching opportunities. Yet many might be surprised to learn the park was not always the natural area that we know today.

East Point Park has enjoyed an interesting past. During the 1800s, the land was privately owned and undeveloped. While some land was transferred to the Township of Scarborough in 1911, by the 1950s more parcels were purchased by private industrial companies. By 1974, these former industrial properties were transferred to Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA, then MTRCA). Today the land at East Point Park is owned by TRCA and managed by the City of Toronto.

Since taking over the ownership of East Point Park land, TRCA has taken steps to restore the site to a more natural state. This work has entailed soil remediation and

planting of native vegetation, however, much of the changes that have occurred are due to nature itself. What we see today is actually the result of natural ecological succession – the process by which plant communities change over time.

As a result, suitable habitat has been created for many animal species that weren't found there previously. A few decades ago, Whitetailed Deer were rarely seen in this area, but now they are common. There has also been an increase in the population of Eastern Coyotes as well as migratory birds. The growth of species to observe, paired with the popularity of birdwatching has made East Point Park a place to treasure and protect.

Torontonians and visitors are discovering East Point Park in increasing numbers. While it is important for people to be able to view and experience nature, allowing unfettered access can eventually result in the degradation of natural habitat. Over time, the expansion of an informal network of trails that divide larger tracts of valuable habitat increases disturbance to plants and animals and promotes the spread of invasive species. Failure to adapt to the increasing number of visitors would ultimately lead to the decline in the ecological integrity of



East Point Park has been designated a Toronto **Bird Sanctuary as part** of the Toronto Bird Flyways and Sanctuaries Project due to the large numbers of migratory birds that use the park as a migratory stopover site.

East Point Park.

TRCA and the City of Toronto have extensive skill and experience managing natural areas within the urban context. As partners, they've concluded the best way to facilitate access while protecting the natural

environment is to decommission informal trails and consolidate access along a formalized trail system.

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Passage to Port Union

Tales from the mural - Laskey Hotel

In our fourth article in the series about Port Union heritage, Don Allen, Scarborough Historical Society and Archives, writes about the Laskey Hotel.

By Don Allen

With the opening of the Grand Trunk Railway in 1856, the area we know as Port Union expanded as a reliable transportation point for travellers and local farmers wishing to ship their goods to the city markets.

Mr. Thomas J. Laskey came to the Highland Creek area and resided on Lot 5 Conc. 1 in the mid-1800s to operate a cooperage, constructing barrels for the shipment of apples and various other goods. Thomas was 34 years old at this time and his wife Martha was 28. They prospered and soon purchased a newly constructed 1859/60 hotel building from a Mr. Isaac Stoner, "while it was fresh from the painters' brushes." He named his new business venture the Laskey Hotel.

This was the second hotel in Port Union at the time, as the Union Hotel had been built by Mr. Will Hetherington approximately 10 years earlier. It should be noted that Hetherington's hotel was located on the west side of Port Union Road (Scarborough) while the Laskey was on the east side of Port Union Road (Pickering).

At this time the population of Port Union had grown to approximately 100 residents. Yet with the Scarborough, Markham and Pickering Wharf Company plying the shipping trade and the railroad station tending to the needs of the farmers and travelling public, there could be up to 300 people in the small community on a business day.

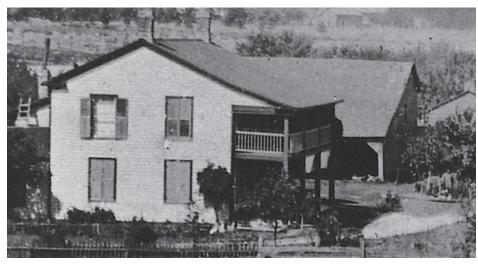
The Laskey Hotel was located at the southeast end of Port Union Road on Orchard Street (later called Duthie Street). The building was constructed in the Georgian style of architecture with full-width verandahs on both the first and second floors. The first floor of the hotel had a large kitchen, dining room and bar. The second floor had six bedrooms, caring for the needs of up to 12 travellers at any one time, and a ballroom that was located at the rear of the building directly over the kitchen.

Many social activities would take place in the Laskey Hotel, such as political meetings, church socials and community dances followed by moonlight cruises from the nearby wharf. Thomas's daughter, Jane, was married in the building in 1891 and following the service

and dinner, the newlyweds were followed to the Port Union train station by well-wishing friends showering the customary rice and "old shoes."

Like many hotel keepers, Mr. Laskey had his share of violations with the law. During 1864 he was charged with such offences as selling liquor on a Sunday, a \$5 fine; gambling on premises, a \$2 fine; raffling and gambling on premises, a \$20 fine. Pretty basic activities by today's standards.

Although it is unknown as to when the hotel ceased operation, it seems logical that with the loss of the wharf during an 1895 storm and the resulting lack of lake traffic, the hotel had outgrown its importance to the area. As late as 1942 the building was still in the Laskey



The Laskey Hotel, circa 1859/60 was on the east side of Port Union Road Photo: Scarborough Archives

family, being owned by Mr. Secor Johnston, grandson of Thomas.

In 1974, the area from Port Union Road east to the Rouge River (known as The West Rouge) was annexed into Scarborough. Council passed by-law No.18297: "A By-Law to designate the Laskey Hotel as being of historical and architectural value." Unfortunately, as is so often the case, the unattended building was destroyed in a suspicious fire on December 29, 1993, and was eventually demolished in 1998.



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Canada's 21st year of celebrating Black History



Residents of a Black settlement in Ontario, circa 1900. Source: Archives of Ontario.

By Madison Wong

¶his year marks Canada's 21st year of celebrating Black History Month. Every February we honour the accomplishments and well-deserved successes of African-Canadians, as well as their traditions, heritage and culture. It gives recognition to those who helped shaped Canada's Black history as well as reminding Canadians of key moments from our past. It is important to note that Black history did not begin in the recent times of Canada but in the ancient times of Africa. Nonetheless, this celebration is important for remembrance, honour and respect.

Here are some of the key events in Black Canadian history. In 1605, Mathieu Da Costa was the first Black person to arrive on Canadian ground when he was recruited to be a translator for Samuel de Champlain's excursion. In the late 1700s, thousands of Black Loyalists fought on the British side in the American Revolutionary War. Subsequent to the war, they were among the first settlers in Nova Scotia. One of their largest communities was called Birchtown, which was located near Shelburne.

One of the most significant events to take place in the 1800s for Blacks was the Underground Railroad in which Canada became a safe haven for African slaves escaping from the U.S. It started in the 1780s but didn't become known as the Underground Railroad until the 1830s. Traffic on the railroad peaked between 1840 and 1860.

The abolition of slavery went into effect in Canada in 1834 following the passing of the British Imperial Act in 1833. In 1851, the Anti-Slavery Society of Canada was formed to help abolish slavery around the world. These are just some of the many momentous events from our history that have made an impact in defining roles in Canada.

From the 1900s to where we

are today, Black Canadians have continued to contribute to the culturally diverse and progressive country that Canada strives to be. They were actively involved in both the First and Second World Wars. Next, Ontario became the first province in Canada to make more significant social change when the province passed the Racial Discrimination Act of 1944. Other compelling moments of our history include the founding of Toronto's Caribana (now called the Toronto Caribbean Carnival) in 1967, the federal government's commitment to multiculturalism in 1971, the founding of the Ontario Black History Society in 1978, the Canadian Negro Women's Association and some of the first Black members to enter our government, including Lincoln Alexander, Jean Augustine, Senator Donald Oliver and Michaëlle Jean.

We celebrate moments from early settlement, abolition of slavery, notable Black Canadians and more. But although Canada has made significant advances to overcome the discrimination, segregation and racial issues that African-Canadians face, there is always more to be done. By becoming educated on African-Canadian history, we can become more aware and more progressive in our society. It is vital to contribute to the support of African-Canadians in order to achieve a better understanding of our culturally diverse society and to eliminate inequalities and injustices. This may be one month to celebrate the achievements of Black Canadians but it does not mean their accomplishments and stories cannot be praised throughout the entire year. After all, diversity is one of the many aspects that make our country beautiful.

For more information or ways to get involved, visit blackhistorysociety. ca, blackhistorycanada.ca and cic. gc.ca/english/multiculturalism/black.

A few notable Black Canadians

By Madison Wong

Black History Month in Canada is a good time to remember and praise the numerous accomplishments of African-Canadians. Knowledge of African-Canadian history gives us a better understanding of our culturally diverse nation and may help to eliminate inequalities. Here are a few notable Black Canadians who contributed



Lincoln Alexander

After serving as a corporal in the RCAF during the Second World War, Alexander went to McMaster University for his BA and then earned a law degree from Osgoode Hall Law School. He practised law before going into politics. In 1968, he became the first Black Canadian Member of Parliament; in 1979, he became the first Black cabinet minister. In 1985, he was officially sworn in as

Ontario's 24th lieutenant-governor, becoming the first Black Canadian to be appointed to the position. Alexander was known for his compassion and humanity.



Viola Desmond

Born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Desmond was arrested and thrown in jail in 1946 for refusing to sit in the balcony of Roseland Theatre in New Glasgow. Despite the main floor being reserved for whites and the balcony for blacks, she held her ground and stayed on the main floor until she was dragged her out of the theatre. She fought the charges with the help of the new Nova

Scotia Association for the Advancement of Coloured People, but lost. All the attention, however, forced the province to repeal its segregation laws in 1954. In 2018, Desmond will be the first Canadian woman to be featured on a \$10 bill.



Donald H. Oliver

After attending Acadia University for philosophy and Dalhousie University for law, Donald H. Oliver began practising law in 1965. He had a distinguished career as a civil litigator as well as an educator. Oliver was appointed to the Senate by Brian Mulroney in 1990 thus becoming Canada's first African-Canadian senator. He is an advocate for the equality of Blacks, First Nations

and other minorities in Canadian society. Throughout his career he has been active in community service and politics.



Mary Ann Shadd Cary

Cary was born in Delaware in 1823 but came to Canada a year after the Fugitive Slave Act was passed in 1850. Cary was the first Black woman publisher in Canada with a newspaper called the Provincial Freeman, a weekly publication for escaped slaves. She also established an integrated school here that was open to all, encouraged American blacks to immigrate to Canada and fought

tenaciously for civil rights. She returned to the United States in 1863 during the Civil War and later earned a law degree in 1883 at the age of 60.



Ferguson (Fergie) Arthur Jenkins

Jenkins is one of Canada's most celebrated baseball players who played for the Philadelphia Phillies, Chicago Cubs, Texas Rangers and Boston Red Sox from 1965 to 1983. He has multiple achievements including becoming the first Canadian inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York. He is actively involved with the Canadian Black community and raises

funds for those in need who have a love of sports.



Rosemary Brown

This wonderful woman became Canada's first Black female member of a provincial legislature when she was elected in B.C. in 1972, and the first woman to run for leadership of a federal political party, the NDP in 1975. She faced obstacles of both sexism and racism in her life but did not let it affect her overall achievements as she fought for equality and human rights. As a

feminist and public advocate, she dedicated her time to helping others and standing up for what she believed in.



Winterfest 2017

he Centennial and West Rouge communities came out in force for a day of entertainment, games, food and fun at the Community Winterfest on Saturday, January 28 at West Rouge Community Centre.

Visitors enjoyed fun outdoor and indoor activities, community performers and festival food with their neighbours. Winterfest committee gratefully acknowledges our

community sponsors: Bennett Gastle Lawyers, Dr. Hall Optometrist, Pine Ridge Dental Centre, Jill's Team: Royal LePage Signature Realty, Kotansky Dental, Paul Hart—RBC Wealth Management, BeaverTails Pastry, Starbucks, Sue Atkinson Insurance Agency Limited, Creative Minds Montessori Academy, Lucas Automotive, DIY Wine Cider Beer, Rouge Health Solutions, Metro.

Special thanks to buskers Scott Hammell and Kohel Mintz; and performers Memory Lane, Land & C, Rose School of Highland Dancing,

Bennett/Lawrie Band, Port United, Reverend Fish and The Kitchen Sink.

Winterfest is run by volunteers and would not be possible without the energy and enthusiasm of our organizing committee and event volunteers. We would also like to thank the following presenting sponsors for their generous support: Centennial Community & Recreation Association, West Rouge Sport & Recreation Association, Highland Creek Community Association and City of Toronto-Parks, Forestry and Recreation.

Port Union Community Centre construction update

While continuing construction work forced the relocation of this year's Winterfest to West Rouge, the final phase of upgrades to Port Union Community Centre is on track for completion by early March 2017.

Family Day programs and the Fitness Centre will be open on Monday, February 20, 2017.

For information, call Port Union C.C. at 416-396-4031.









Cinterfest MOMENTS

PHOTOS: MICHAEL MCCABE











Political Reports

Member of Parliament

Gary Anandasangaree MP Scarborough-Rouge Park

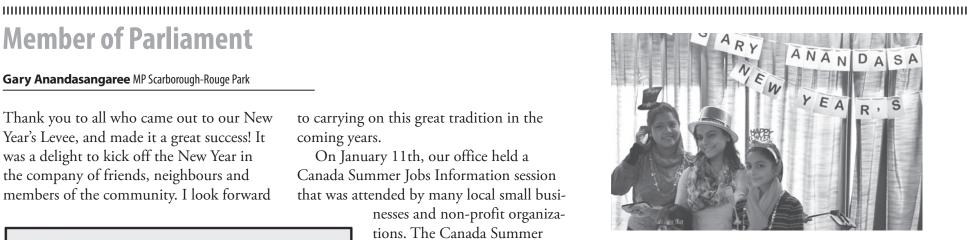
Thank you to all who came out to our New Year's Levee, and made it a great success! It was a delight to kick off the New Year in the company of friends, neighbours and members of the community. I look forward

to carrying on this great tradition in the coming years.

On January 11th, our office held a Canada Summer Jobs Information session that was attended by many local small busi-

> nesses and non-profit organizations. The Canada Summer Jobs program offers funding for small businesses and non-profit organizations to hire youth and provide them with job skills. It was encouraging to see the number of organizations that participated and I hope that many more continue to take advantage of the funding and create job opportunities for our youth. The deadline for this year's funding is extended until February 3rd.

> Starting in March our office will be hosting a volunteer tax clinic for the duration of the 2017 tax season. The clinic will offer free income tax filing for low income households and seniors. To inquire about eligibility for the clinic, learn about the Canada Summer Jobs program, or for other enquiries, please contact my office.







Gary Anandasangaree with members of the community at his New Year's Levee on Jan. 8.

GARY ANANDASANGAREE Member of Parliament Scarborough-Rouge Park Contact my team and I for help with any federal issues **Office Hours**



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Tracy MacCharles

MPP Pickering-Scarborough East

I would like to thank everyone who joined me, my staff and the many volunteers at my annual New Year's Levee and Volunteer Recognition Event. Great music, great food and of course great company was enjoyed by all. A big part of my levee is the presentation of certificates to people who volunteer their time in the community. This year we were pleased to say thank you to 20 individuals who have taken the time to give back to our community.

Now that the holidays are behind us and the students across the province are back at school, I am very excited to share with you some information on how Ontario is making college and university more accessible and affordable for our students. This year, as announced in the 2016 Budget, Ontario is modernizing the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP). Beginning in the 2017-18 academic year, college and university students will be the first



recipients of a newly created Ontario Student Grant (OSG), which will make average college or university tuition free for eligible students.

Attending college or university should be based on your ability to learn,

and not on your ability to pay. If your family income is under \$50,000, your tuition is covered. Even if your family earns more, the new Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) is still there to help with a combination of grants and loans for both full-time and part-time students. When you apply for OSAP for full-time studies, you can choose to receive only non-repayable grants if you do not want a loan. OSAP is available to dependent students, mature students, married students, and students with children.

More information is available at: www.ontario.ca/osap

As always, my staff and I are here to support you by answering your questions and resolving issues related to provincial government services. Please do not hesitate to contact my Constituency Office. You may stop by in person at 300 Kingston Road, Pickering, Unit 7, call us at 905-509-0336, or send me an email at tmaccharles.mpp.co@ liberal.ola.org. If you would like to receive our quarterly e-newsletter, please send your email to the above address with the subject line "e-newsletter". I look forward to hearing from you soon.



Call for stories

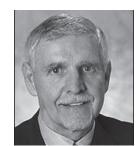
The CCRA Centennial News is a publication for stories from your community. If you have a story you'd like to share or know someone with an interesting hobby or background, please contact us at news4ccra@gmail.com.

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Ward 44

Vision Zero Road Safety Plan measures for 2017



Councillor Ron Moeser Ward 44 Scarborough East

Toronto
City Council
unanimously
endorsed the
five-year Road
Safety Plan
with the vision
to reduce the
number of road
fatalities and
serious injuries

to zero. The city's Vision Zero Road Safety Plan will introduce 45 new or enhanced measures targeted at eliminating fatalities and reducing serious injuries, with an emphasis on pedestrians, school children, older adults, cyclists and aggressive and distracted driving.

The following is a list of some improvements scheduled to be implemented within the Ward 44 community in 2017:

Creation of Seniors Safety Zones -Morningside Ave. and Lawrence Ave.

Seniors Safety Zones will be created to raise awareness of and to curb aggressive driving in neighbourhoods where there has been a history of fatal and serious injury collisions affecting older residents. Improvements in 2017 will feature designated Senior Safety Zone signs, "Watch Your Speed" driver signs, increased pedestrian walk times and enhanced pavement markings. Pedestrian street lighting will also be reviewed.

Road Safety Audits - Morningside Ave. and Lawrence Ave.

Road safety audits involve in-depth investigations into locations where pedestrians have been killed or seriously injured to determine reasons for collisions and to make recommendations on appropriate safety improvements such as geometric road modifications, speed reductions, street lighting improvements, enhanced pavement markings and signage, implementation of prohibited turn movements and/or signal timing modifications.

Geometric Safety Improvements at Intersections - Morningside Ave. and Ellesmere Rd.

The City of Toronto will initiate 13 new engineered safety improvement projects in 2017. One of these intersections, Morningside Ave. and Ellesmere Rd. in the UTSC area, will be realigned, reconfigured and/or modified to improve pedestrian safety by reducing crossing distances, making the pedestrian crossing more accessible and reducing vehicle conflicts with cyclists and pedestrians.

Expansion of the School 'Watch Your Speed' Program

The speed radar signs aim to slow traffic on approaches to schools, making the crosswalks and routes to school safer for children. City of Toronto studies have shown that the signs have reduced the number of vehicles travelling over the speed limit by up to 34 per cent in school zones. In 2017, permanent Watch Your Speed signs will be installed at 20 more locations. These locations are yet to be determined and will be confirmed through consultation with City Councillors and Transportation Services staff.

Expansion of the Mobile 'Watch Your Speed' Program

The mobile Watch Your Speed trailers serve to slow vehicle traffic on local roads, making roads safer for pedestrians and cyclists.

Implementation of Increased Pedestrian Walk Times

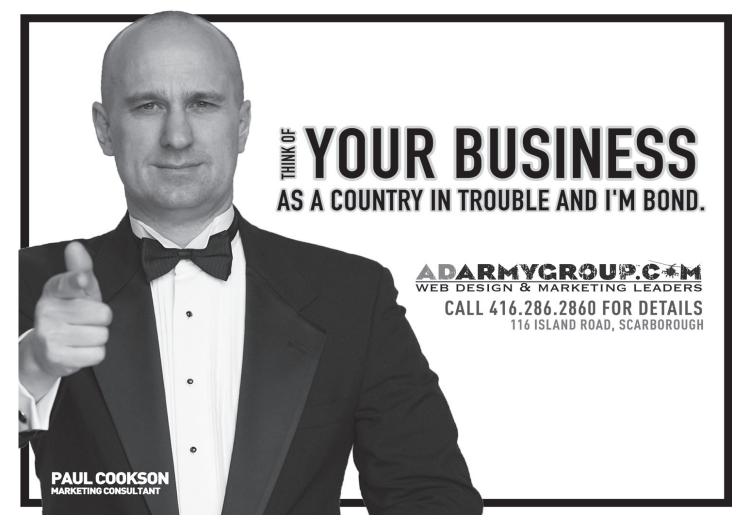
As part of an ongoing program to increase pedestrian walk times citywide, walk times will be increased at various locations in 2017. This initiative provides pedestrians with more time to cross streets to better accommodate older residents and pedestrians with special needs.

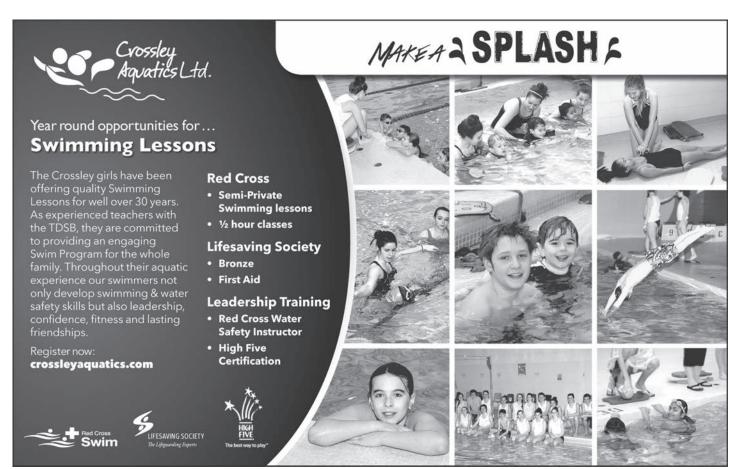
For further details on the 'Vision Zero Road Safety Plan' visit the website at: toronto.ca/transportation/roadsafety

Keep in touch, Ron Moeser 416.392.1373 councillor_moeser@toronto.ca



Senior crossing on Lawson Road near the Royal Canadian Legion complex.





CCRA Transportation Report

Metrolinx GO Service Expansion



Gerry Divaris

It certainly looks like 2017 and 2018 are going to be busy as we get ready to witness the implementation of the Metrolinx

plans to increase rail capacity between the Guildwood and Pickering GO stations. The plans call for the elimination of the rail traffic bottleneck, which tends to create operational challenges along the entire line, by the addition of a third rail track.

This project has been given the green light with the completion of the Environmental Project Report in accordance with the Ontario

Jan. 9, Minister of the Environment and Climate Change Glen Murray signed the minister's notice to proceed with the transit project, allowing Metrolinx to go ahead with the construction. On Jan. 11, the notice to proceed was issued.

Regulation 231/08. On

Apart from the addition of the third rail, the Highland Creek Bridge will be widened and the Rouge River Bridge will be torn down and replaced with a wider bridge. The existing Rouge Hill station building will be relocated further north and there will be upgrades to the station tunnels and the bus stop area as well as improved access to the Port Union Waterfront Trail.



Rouge Hill GO train station, managed by Metrolinx, serves Centennial and surrounding communities.

Progress will come with some discomfort. Residents in proximity to the Rouge Hill GO station will be subject to construction noise and possible road restrictions. Commuters will endure the permanent loss of some 170 parking spots from the main lot. Construction will begin in 2017 and plans call for its completion by the spring of 2018.

But be of good cheer, we shall have a modern conveyance system of which can all be proud. We hope!

Highland Creek Village Transportation Master Plan

The City of Toronto staff report and recommendations for the Highland Creek Transportation Master Plan will be presented to the Public Works & Infrastructure Committee in February. There is a high degree of certainty that this study will be adopted by Public Works.

For more information on this transportation plan, visit the City of Toronto website and search for Highland Creek Village Area Study.

Metrolinx studies ways to reduce noise

By Kathryn Stocks

Throughout November, Metrolinx held a series of community open houses to share information on three of its projects to build new track and electrification infrastructure for GO trains. The Lakeshore East corridor is one of those projects.

Noise was one of the issues discussed because with trains running every 15 minutes, noise is going to be a problem in some areas. It will come from the train engines, wheels on the rail, cooling fans on the engine, and horns/whistles on the trains.

Metrolinx is working on ways to identify noise and reduce it. Noise mitigation must be considered if the project is expected to cause a 5-decibel increase or greater relative to existing noise levels. Early results show there are about 100 kilometres of track where an increase in noise will be experienced.

Noise barriers should be effective at mitigating the noise impact for about 65 km but will be ineffective for about 35 km. The ineffective spots will be places like rail crossings, on bridges that can't support the weight of a noise wall or when there's not enough space. Walls are usually the most effective way to reduce noise and they take up less space than a berm, but they can be visually intrusive so Metrolinx is considering the best options for each community.

Additional public engagement on proposed solutions will happen after detailed design has progressed and updated analysis is available.



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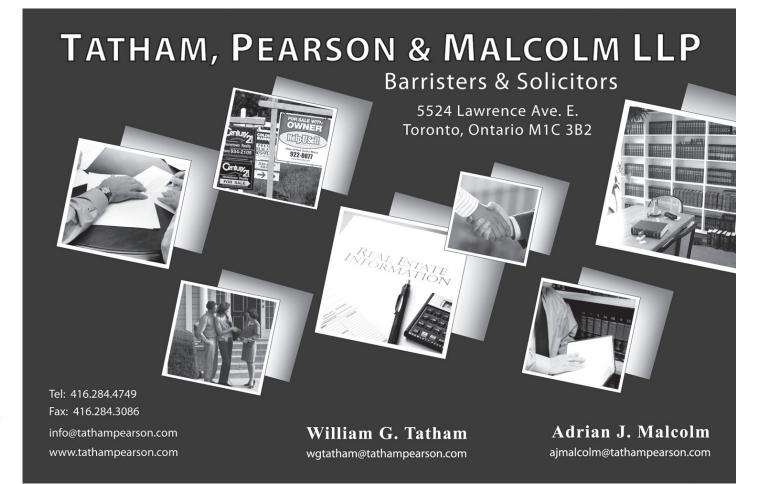
449 Lawson Road (House on the southwest corner of Port Union & Lawson Roads.)







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Views from West Rouge Parents & Residents Facebook

group

Ready for spring home repairs?

This month's question is:

Q: Who is your recommended go-to handy man (or woman) – who should we trust?

A: Mike's Handyman Services – Mike Longaphie

Big or small job, he is your man. I've seen bathrooms and decks that clients are extremely happy with. Great guy, extremely professional and trustworthy.

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(Wood work with reclaimed barnwood, live edge wood slabs)
He's great at helping you create your feature wall. Mike is honest, professional and reliable!

Rick Berto – for any masonry jobs. Built an amazing BBQ and outside bar in my back garden!

Owen Appliance Repair for appliance repair, **Will Rodgers** for plumbing and Chris Genno of **Genno Contracting** for any contracting work big or small (not in our area but he's not far).

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- 416-573-8269, billsheatingand cooling.com Used him this summer during the hottest day and came within 24 hours to repair our AC. Gave us great tips and was very reasonably priced! Local to the area as well.

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I always say they finish our list faster than we can make it. Electrical, plumbing, eaves - he's our go-to guy for household jobs.

One Handy Guy – Larry Houston,

larryhouston@rogers.com
Larry comes highly recommended
for all home repairs and minor renovations. A local Centennial resident
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43 Division



Community Police Liaison **Marilyn Hodge**

Crime Statistics

There's some good news and some not-so-good news from the Community Police Liaison Committee.

There has been a huge increase in community safety. Thanks to the work of 43 Division officers and community members, there has been a 37 per cent reduction in robberies over the last five years. Robbery can be violent and individuals or groups

are often targeted for their cell phones or purses.

Month after month in 2016, break and enters were down 30 per cent and sexual assault was down 12 per cent.

Unfortunately, there has been a significant increase in auto thefts and homicide has increased by a small amount.

If you see a stranger with a flashlight in your yard or in a neighbour's yard, please call the police.

If you have an alarm in your home, you are allowed to have three false alarms in one year.

The RIDE Program never stops and is ongoing year-round. Please don't drink and drive or text

while driving. There will be heightened enforcement on Markham Road to Highway 401.

Toronto Police Auxiliary Toy Drive

The 43 Division Auxiliary officers would like to thank the community as well as local churches, businesses and sports teams for donations to the many Toronto Police holiday events and for the donations of toys and goods for several locations across Scarborough.



Thank you to Scarborough Town Centre and Walmart today for thier support with our stuff the cruiser events.



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2nd Highland Creek Scouts









Cub Scouts from 2nd Highland Creek Scouts enjoyed their weekend at Camp Samac in Oshawa in January. Animals were the theme and the Cubs made their own Arctic fleece hats, played predator and prey, hiked and made bird feeders from orange peel. Clockwise from top left: snack time, Cub Scout Leah and Scouter Ikki have a horse race, Cub Kaitlin shows her orange peel bird feeder, and group of Cubs preparing to hang the bird feeders they made on nearby trees.

Sharon Macdonald RMT

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COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR					
Organizer	Event	Date & Location	Event Details	Contact	
Centennial Community Recreation Association	CCRA Monthly Meeting	Tuesday, February 7, 7:15 pm at Port Union Community Centre	It is one of the best ways to learn about what's happening in your community. All Centennial residents are welcome.	416-931-0960	
Charlottetown Junior Public School	Winter Fair at Charlottetown	Saturday, February 11 35th Winter Fair on Saturday, February 11 from 10 am to 3 pm	A day of fun with a silent auction, vendors galore, Zoo to You, indoor bouncers, sports games, photo booth, fun zone, bake room, raffle, book and games room, basket room, craft room, and face and nail painting.	416-396-6135	
Miller Lash House	Valentine's Day Celebrations	Saturday, February 11 Miller Lash House Bar opens 5:00 pm/dinner 6:00	This year features a Prix Fixe Menu at \$39.95+HST/person. Special Cocktails & Accoustic Entertainment by Leena Santocono. Limited seats are available.	416-287-7000	
Royal Canadian Legion Branch 258	Valentine's Dance	Saturday, February 11 Royal Canadian Legion, 45 Lawson Road	The price is \$20, with drinks at 6, dinner at 7 and dancing at 8 pm.	416-281-2992 www.rcl258.com	
Probus Club of Scarborough Tuesday	Guest speaker Glad Bryce, author of First In Last Out	February 21, 10 - noon, Royal Canadian Legion Branch 258, 45 Lawson Road	Story of the RCAF, Women's Division and Nursing Sisters in WWII, which was launched May 8, 2010, on the 55th anniversary of V Day. Guest fee \$5 at the door.	ann266@sympatico.ca	
St. Dunstan of Canterbury	Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner	Tuesday, February 28 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm St. Dunstan of Canterbury 56 Lawson Road, . \$8, Children (12 & under) - \$4.	Please join us for Pancakes with Sausages / Bacon; Tea, Coffee or Juice & Ice Cream. Call the church office at 416-283-1844 for information or tickets.	416-283-1844	
CCRA	Country rock dinner/dance	Saturday, April 1, West Rouge Community Centre, 270 Rouge Hills Drive	CCRA presents an evening with the Vanessa Marie Carter Band. Winner of the 2016 Boots and Hearts Festival Emerging Artist award, singer/songwriter Vanessa Marie Carter brings her band for a lively evening of country rock. Dinner, show, raffle and more!	Heather Lemieux, heatherlemieux@royallepage.ca	
West Hill - Highland Creek Lions Club	Membership Meet & Greet	Last Tuesday of the month 7 pm, Heron Park CC., 292 Manse Rd.	Meeting and drop-in of the Lions Club	Membership Chair, 416-282-7202 www.lionsclub.ca	
Royal Canadian Legion Branch 258	Saturday	Saturday afternoon Meat Roll between 3 and 5 pm. Saturdays evenings dancing at 8:00 pm Royal Canadian Legion, 45 Lawson Road	Dancing in the lounge - DJ or live bands every Saturday evening	416-281-2992 www.rcl258.com	
Royal Canadian Legion Branch 258	Pub Sundays	January 15 and 29 Royal Canadian Legion, 45 Lawson Road	Pub Sundays provide a meal, usually around \$7-\$8, and entertainment for dancing.	416-281-2992 www.rcl258.com	
Port Union Seniors	Port Union Seniors Centre	Monday to Friday, 9 am - 4 pm, Port Union CRC, 5450 Lawrence Avenue East	Drop-in activities and classes for Seniors	416-396-4034	
Cancer Support Group	Breast Cancer Support	Last Wednesday of the month	Support group for women with Breast Cancer	Marilyn 416-284-9984	
2nd Highland Creek Scouts	2nd Highland Creek Scouting Groups	Beavers and Cubs Tuesday; Scouts, Venturers and Rovers Thursday Charlottetown Jr. PS	Scouts weekly meetings focusing on outdoor activities, special guests, community outings & weekend camps. Volunteer leaders 14 + needed.	Barbara Broadley 416-724-0416	

To submit your community event, email details to: webmaster@ccranews.com

PORT UNION SENIORS PLANNED TRIPS.

2017 - CELEBRATE CANADA'S 150TH BIRTHDAY

Thurs. Feb. 23 Casino Rama Buffet Lunch.....\$ 10

at Hot House..... \$140

Wed. May 10 Bodyguard at Mirvish, Lunch

Thurs. June 29 Beautiful at Mirvish, Dinner at Hot House.....

Sat. March 25 Joseph & Amaz. Tech. Dreamcoat, Drayton..... \$125

OVERNIGHT TRIPS

April 28 to May 3 Washington, Gettysburg

For information about day and overnight trips, visit the Port Union Seniors at Port Union C.C.

from Monday to Friday, 9 am - 3 pm.

May 12 to 14 Ottawa Spring Tulip Time June 4 to 16 12 Day Atlantic Canada July 9 to 19 Calgary Stampede and

Western Canada

Please see flyers for complete details of these trips.



Please patronize our community advertisers.

If you would like to advertise in the March 2017 issue of CCRA Centennial News, see information on page 2 and email Kelsey Dorval at ccra-advertising@ hotmail.com or visit: ccranews.com/advertising.html. Deadline for advertising submissions is February 17, 2017.

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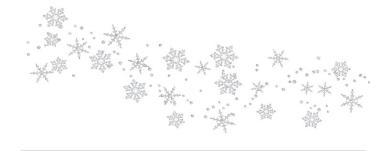
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West Rouge Sports and Recreation Association Present our 6th Annual:

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Saturday June 10th

8 am - 1 pm

\$20 for 2x parking spots (for vehicle and selling





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Community Groups

Views from West Rouge Parents & Residents Facebook group



Summer is just around the corner. Let's talk kids' summer camps:

Q: What are your favorite summer camps for the kids?

A: We are huge fans of **Camp** Riverwood - they take kids starting at 3 1/2 and have bus pick-up at Centennial Rd. PS. They offer specialty programming each week and you can register for as many or as few weeks as you like. Registration starts in January.

We also like the **Pickering Athletic Centre Gymnastics Camps** for summer. They do gymnastics, crafts and games. Registration is usually open in Jan.- Feb.

YMCA! Registration starts now and the closest bus location is at Rouge Valley YMCA near Port Union and Sheppard. They pick up at William G Miller P.S. for Petticoat Creek YMCA Camp.

We have done **Energy Martial Arts** every year for the last 3 years. We also do the Soccer Camp at West Rouge **Community Centre** - but that is only half days.

Zoo Camp every year – a full day camp with optional before and after care for an additional cost. The older kids can sleep over on the Wednesday night for an extra \$65. They have big family discounts or if you hold a zoo membership.

We did Camp U of T for the first time two summers ago. Lots of activities to be done inside and outside. They have time in the computer lab also doing math and science. They have an option for a tennis camp as well. We always start the summer with VBS at Grace Church, half day camp.

Our family vote is **U of T Scarborough** tennis/sport camp. Amazing staff and the kids are active and engaged all day. We also really enjoyed Scarborough Gym Elites summer camp. What's nice about this camp is you can pick and choose days if you don't want to commit to a full week where the other camps are a full week commitment.

We have had great experiences with the City of Toronto arts camp at West Rouge Community Centre. Good balance of outdoor play, the arts and a trip or two and the counsellors remember our son each year.

The Canoe camp at the Pickering Rouge Canoe Club is my son's favourite. He also likes Hillside Camp. I signed my daughter up for Charlottetown Daycare summer camp as she is young for some of these camps, and she likes it.

The day camp at Absorbent Minds Montessori School is great. It's not just camp, it also includes the Montessori curriculum.

We went to Rouge Valley Conservation Centre last summer and the kids loved it! They did a two-hour hike in the a.m. and activities in the p.m. It's non-profit and every week is a different theme. They have PA day/ March Break camp as well.

My 10-year-old likes the Lego robotics programming camp at UOIT in Oshawa.



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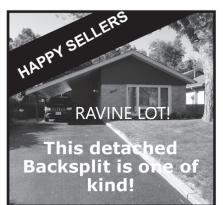


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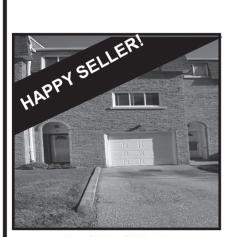
Heather Lemieux



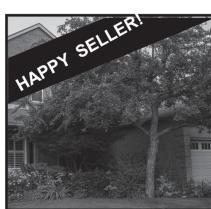




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CCRA looks forward to bringing more events to Centennial this year. **Our Spring Social dinner/dance on** April 1 will be country rock with up-and-coming singer/songwriter Vanessa Marie Carter and her band. Save the date and watch for more information in next month's CCRA **Centennial News.**

Membership

Your annual \$15 household membership is vital to keeping these and other activities right here in Centennial join CCRA using the form on this page, or online at ccranews.com using a credit card or your PayPal account.

CCRA meets at Port Union Community Centre the first Tuesday evening of each month from September to June. For more information, contact Jennifer McKelvie at 416-931-0960.



Wanda Wierzbicki

CCRA Centennial Distribution

It takes less than an hour per month to deliver the CCRA

Centennial News to the homes of your neighbours. It is a great way to get to know your neighborhood and get in some extra 'steps' 10 times per year.

High school students can receive one volunteer hour for every month they deliver the CCRA Centennial News. Students who begin delivering the CCRA Centennial News in Grade 9 and continue until Grade 12 will receive 40 volunteer hours, which meets the requirement to graduate.

With the cold weather season, occasional delivery volunteers are needed to fill in for those who are ill or away on vacation.

The CCRA Centennial News is currently looking for delivery carriers for the following streets:

Vessel Crescent – 83 homes (Lawrence/Port Union) – across from Mowat Collegiate

Lawrence Avenue – 30 townhouses (Lawrence/Port Union) – across from Mowat

Kilsyth Drive--48 homes (Port Union/Lawson Road)

If you are interested in delivering the CCRA Centennial News, please contact Wanda at distribution@ ccranews.com or at 416-282-2951.



Website: www.ccranews.ca



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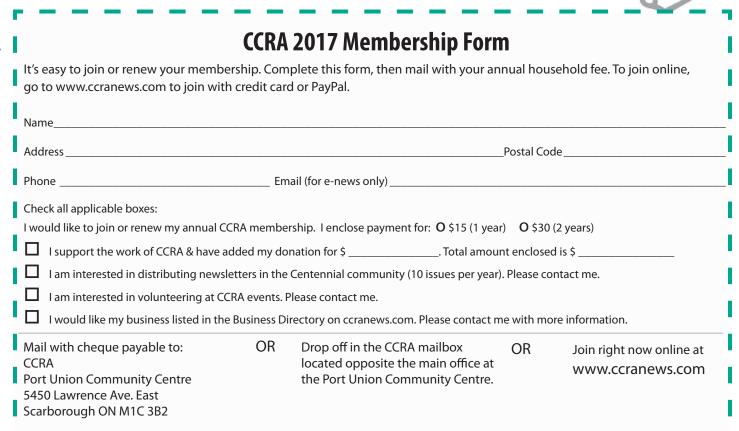


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Centennial Community and Recreation Association

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