



# Centennial News

A publication of the Centennial Community and Recreation Association

**Save the date!**

The next monthly meeting of the CCRA will be on January 8, 2019, 7:15 p.m., at Port Union C.C. All Centennial residents are welcome.

[www.ccranews.com](http://www.ccranews.com)

## Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Or maybe we should say Meowy Christmas and Yappy New Year! Many thanks to Ron Craig, Ashley and Don Paul, Heather Courneya, Margot Russell, Stephanie Lake, Zinta Erdmanis, Lucie and Al Megahy, and Linda and Tom Carlton for contributing their festive pet photos.

### Seasonal events you won't want to miss



#### Community Carol Sing

The annual Community Carol Sing, co-sponsored by St. Dunstan of Canterbury Anglican Church and the Centennial Community Recreation Association, will be held at the church (56 Lawson Rd.) on Sunday, December 9 at 7:30 p.m. This is a joyful gathering filled with Christmas songs and carols and amusing stories and videos. It's a popular event so come early to get a seat.

#### Tree Lighting Party

The Second Annual Community Tree Lighting Party, organized by Alan and Jodi Gear, takes place on Saturday, December 8 at the Port Union Community Centre (5450 Lawrence Ave. E). The fun gets underway at 5 p.m. with the tree lighting starting at 7:30.

They've got 30 vendors, photos with Santa, face painting, games, hot chocolate and a Christmas movie. This year the event will take place in the gym as well as in the hallway so there will be more room to move around.

Vendor fees and money raised from the draw and the raffle will be going to a local safe house for women and children. There will be lots of food to buy because it all gets underway around dinnertime. Please bring a non-perishable food item or a new unwrapped gift, especially for 12-16 year olds. The food will be donated to the fire department and the toys to the police for their food and toy drives.

## Community supports family affected by illness



Bill Theodorou, his wife Karen Firmeza Theodorou, left, and their daughter Kira.

By Kathy McGrath

Less than a year ago, the Theodorou family lived like many others in our community, busy with work and focused on raising a young daughter. Bill, the family's main breadwinner, ran a heating and cooling business and his wife, Karen, worked as an integration specialist, often commuting by GO train.

All of that changed last spring when Bill fell ill with a persistent

staphylococcus infection that, despite treatment with antibiotics, worked its way into his heart and brain. The illness, which produced flu-like symptoms, caused a stroke, a brain aneurysm and required two open-heart surgeries to replace a heart valve. Needless to say, their family life has changed dramatically.

Bill, 49, is finally home after spending many months in hospital, but a long scar running over his scalp is a

» continued on page 8



The Scarborough Centre for Healthy Communities is our nearest food bank and it served about 1,800 households last year. Learn more about this vital resource on page 11.

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# CCRA Centennial News

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## Publishing Policy

CCRA Centennial News invites submissions of articles, signed letters, art and photography from Centennial community members and all elected representatives. We will consider all submissions for publication that are information-based and relevant to the community. Not-for-profit and community groups are also invited to submit event listings to be published free of charge, space permitting. CCRA Centennial News reserves the right to decline material considered to be unpaid advertising, politically partisan or likely to offend. CCRA reserves the right to edit all submitted material. The opinions expressed in CCRA Centennial News do not represent the views of the CCRA Executive. All submissions will be considered for both print and online publication unless otherwise instructed by the author. CCRA will notify all authors prior to publication.

## Advertising Rates - \* NEW sizes available April 2016

Size	Per Issue	Prepaid 10 issues
Business Card	50.00	475.00
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Full Page	400.00	3,800.00
Front Page Banner	200.00	N.A.
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To be published in CCRA Centennial News, articles must reach the Communications team by the 15th day of the preceding month. To submit an article or suggest a story, please contact any member of the Executive by phone, or by e-mail to [news4ccra@gmail.com](mailto:news4ccra@gmail.com).

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## Notice to Advertisers

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](mailto: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. **It is the advertiser's responsibility to advise CCRA of any problems with an advertisement before the 20th of the month in which the ad appears.** For more about advertising, visit [www.ccranews.com/advertising.html](http://www.ccranews.com/advertising.html)

## Lights bring joy to darkest nights

By Kathryn Stocks

It's December, the darkest time of year in Canada. The only thing that brightens up those long nights is our seasonal tradition of decorating with lights. Thanks to all those who put up lights this year! Those lights are so important right now and I'm

always joyful as I walk down the street after dark and admire the twinkling lights that keep the darkness at bay. For those who suffer from seasonal affective disorder or depression, it's a tough time of year. So I encourage everyone to try to put out some lights just for their cheering effect. And if you can't do that, at least try to keep your outside lights coming on earlier and staying on later. The triumph of light over darkness goes a long way to brighten the season.

## Thanks, team!

As we bring you our last issue of the year, I'd like to give a shout-out to our Communications Committee. We have a solid team that works hard to come up with ideas, write stories and take photos for this paper and I'd like to thank them for their efforts. The committee includes Kathy Rowe, Kathy McGrath, Denise Bacon, Don Lawrence and Jey Dharmaraj.

Not on the committee but equally important are Janice Bennink, Kelsey Dorval and Wanda Wierzbicki. Janice writes the excellent e-blasts that go out to CCRA members between issues, Kelsey does a superb job of selling the ads that keep this publication going, and Wanda capably manages the distribution side so the papers arrive at your door. They're a terrific group and I love working with them all!

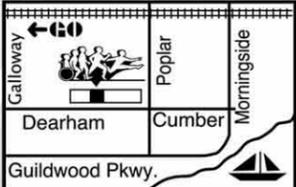


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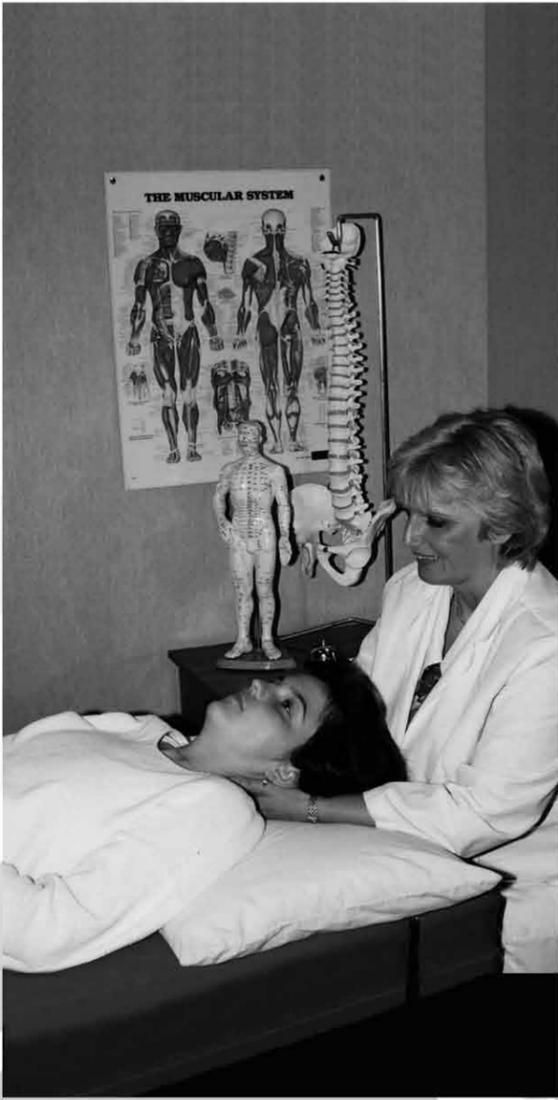
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## President's Message

# Seasons greetings, Centennial!

By Kathy Rowe

The CCRA is approaching its 70th anniversary and my first year as president is coming to a close. I have to say that I am humbled to be a part of such an integral and vital organization.

This role continues to be a welcome challenge and I am learning all the time!

Our executive committee is comprised of bright and caring individuals who give their time to stand up tirelessly for a community they call home. Over the years, the CCRA has achieved many remarkable accomplishments in the name of protecting and supporting this beautiful pocket of southeast Scarborough. Too many to mention!

This year has proven to be yet another year of great strides for our group. The purchase of a state-of-the-art bed for the Tony Stacey Centre is at the top of this list. The CCRA also supported a resident this year with a property dispute. We have donated to the 2nd Highland Creek Scouts, and to an award for a graduating student

of Sir Oliver Mowat C.I.

Countless hours have been spent supporting area events such as Winterfest, Earth Day, Highland Creek Heritage Day, the Port Union Waterfront Festival, the Summer Concerts and the Pumpkin Parade. 2018 has been a very rewarding year indeed. I'd like to give a big thanks to the CCRA executive for their hard work and support over the past year.

### Annual General Meeting

On November 21, we held our annual general meeting. The turnout was great and I am pleased to announce that six residents have come forward to join our board for 2019. Thank you to Jennifer McKelvie for speaking to our audience. Jennifer's new role as councillor of Ward 25 begins in December and we look forward to working with her.

### Community Carol Sing

The Community Christmas Carol Sing at St. Dunstan of Canterbury Church will be held on Sunday, December 9 at 7:30 pm. This is



Executive members present at the November 21 AGM. Seated from left: Denise Bacon, Heather Lemieux, Kathy Rowe, Gerry Divaris, Marilyn Hodge. Standing from left: Lakshmi Anandaraj, Elizabeth Todoroska, Kelsey Dorval, Jeff Forsyth, Jake Forsyth, Zinta Erdmanis

always an enjoyable event and all residents are welcome to attend.

### Spring Social

Please mark this date on your calendars! Saturday, March 30 is the date for our CCRA dinner/dance event. We will likely be incorporating a 70th anniversary theme to the evening. Planning has just begun,

so please stay tuned to our publications in the New Year for details about the occasion.



*In closing, I'd like to wish you all a safe and festive holiday season!*



## Seasons Greetings & Thank You!

One of the real joys this holiday season is the opportunity to say thank you to all our valued customers. We greatly value your trust and confidence and wish you the very best for a wonderful holiday and a very happy new year.

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**Port Union Library**

**Robot Soccer combines coding, science and fun on PA Day**



**Holiday Closures:** The library is closed on Dec. 25, Dec. 26 and Jan. 1, 2019. On Dec. 24 and Dec. 31 the library is open from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

**Upcoming Programs**

**PA Day Program** on Dec. 7 from 2:00-4:00 p.m.: Robot Soccer with Logics Academy mBot Robot Soccer: He shoots, he scores! It's Robot Soccer! Using a powerful learn-to-code program (mBlock) and a versatile robot (mBot), students discover how computers think and use fundamental coding concepts to create a winning computer program. Equal parts coding and science, students also discover how

internal forces act on everyday objects and get creative to build clever additions to their robot.

Coding, science and fun collide in this epic match-up! Game on! For children ages 9-12 years. There is a limit of 20 participants. Presented by Logics Academy.

**Toddler Time** will be offered on Wednesdays, from 10:30-11:00 a.m. The weekly program will run from Jan. 23 to Feb. 27, 2019, and will include songs, stories, rhymes and fingerplays for toddlers from 19 months to 3 years, with their parent or caregiver. Register in person on Jan. 23 at 10:00 a.m. There is a limit of 15 toddlers.

**Monday Night at the Movies** is a weekly program for adults and it is held from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Come to enjoy some great films and meet new people. The movies are free and you are welcome to bring your own refreshments. The last movie night of 2018 is Dec. 17 and the program resumes on Jan. 7.

**Knitting and Crocheting Drop-In** is held on Saturday mornings, from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Now is the time to complete your holiday projects and there are volunteers available to help you learn new skills and untangle difficult stitches. A variety of pattern books and magazines are available to borrow. The last meeting of 2018 is on Dec. 15 and the program resumes on Jan. 5.

**9th Annual Bingo Marathon** will be held on Saturday, Jan. 26, 2019 from 1:30-3:00 p.m. This multi-generational program is held to celebrate Family Literacy Month and is great fun for the whole family! Bring your friends to play Bingo, win book prizes and enjoy some time together at the library.

**The Sun Life Museum and Arts Pass (MAP)** allows your family to explore some of Toronto's cultural and arts treasures for free. Passes are available to adult library card holders beginning on Saturdays at 9:00 a.m. At the Port Union Library, passes are distributed for the Art Gallery of Ontario, the Toronto History Museums and the Textile Museum of Canada.

For more program information, consult our "What's On" publication, visit the Library website at [www.torontopubliclibrary.ca](http://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca) or phone Answerline at 416-393-7131.

*Submitted by Seema Datta, Senior Library Assistant, Port Union Library*



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## Profile

# Former Mowat grad is shaping the future

By Kathy McGrath

**A** former Centennial resident has developed a new wearable technology product that could change the way we interact with the world.

Stephen Lake, who attended Sir Oliver Mowat Collegiate, is the CEO of a Kitchener-based corporation called North, which makes custom-made smart glasses.

The high-tech glasses, named Focals, allow people to check the time and date, view calendar reminders, and check the weather, all in their field of vision. They also provide intuitive navigation and work with Alexa, Amazon's popular voice assistant.

Apart from their technical function, the glasses could eliminate the hazards that ensue when people look down at their devices.

Stephen, 28, along with partners Matthew Bailey and Aaron Grant, spent four years developing the intricate technology required to make the product.

While news of Stephen's venture has been in the headlines of late, his talents have been evident for a while. In 2007, he was named one of Canada's Top 20 Under 20, an award recognizing young people who have achieved high levels of innovation, leadership and achievement.

In 2011, he was selected one of The Next 36 entrepreneurial leaders in Canada, which gave him the opportunity to study entrepreneurship under the direction of established Canadian business experts.

In developing North, Stephen and his team were able to attract \$140 million in investment funding from companies like Intel Capital and Amazon. They have filed 300 patents and plan to invest \$500 million in research and development by 2030. Last month the Canadian government pledged \$24 million to help North hire 185 employees (in addition to 450 current staff), increase research and development and expand its manufacturing capabilities.

Stephen's technological savvy and visionary thinking have afforded him the opportunity to host people like astronaut Chris Hadfield and former Prime Minister Stephen Harper at his company headquarters.

Stephen's parents, Mike and Stephanie Lake, who still live in the neighbourhood, recognize the role Mowat played in shaping their son.

"I give Mowat credit for encouraging both my children to do what they love and for challenging them to do it well," says Stephanie. "Mowat's robotics and tech programs were stepping stones to where Stephen is now. The instructor gave him the

flexibility to follow his passion."

Stephanie remembers her son ordering a welding kit and working

with it at the school. She says Mowat also encouraged him to show leadership in the community by helping others.

After Mowat, Stephen studied mechatronics on a Loran scholarship at the University of Waterloo. To balance out his heavy academic schedule, he coached the university dragon boat team, an interest that stemmed from Mowat's strong dragon boat culture.

After university, Stephen made his first venture into wearable technology by launching the Myo armband, a product that allows users to control technology wirelessly with hand or wrist movements. The company is now putting all its efforts into their new optical product.

The stakes are fairly high with this venture, since smart glasses have been tried before--and then abandoned--by tech giants like Google. Fortunately Stephen is not afraid to tackle new

challenges that may, one day, change human development. He is hopeful the product's stylish design catches on with customers.

Focals, which cost \$999 U.S. a pair, are available in retail stores in Toronto and Brooklyn, N.Y.



Stephen Lake, who grew up in Centennial, is the CEO of North, a Kitchener-based company that has attracted millions in research funding for its custom-made smart glasses called Focals, below. Photo credit: Calyssa Pickles for North



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## Community

# Waterfront committee wins volunteer award

The Port Union Waterfront Festival Committee won the volunteer group of the year award at the Scarborough District Annual Volunteer Recognition Night on November 15. Organized by Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation, the event recognizes the vital role that volunteers play in building a healthier, more welcoming city. More than 80 volunteers were presented with certificates of appreciation.

Here is the description of the waterfront festival committee from the program pamphlet: "The Port Union Waterfront Festival Committee is a group of local citizens who meet on a regular basis to plan this annual event, which is held in June. Attendance of up to 5,000 residents is expected each year!"



In the photo from left to right: Ben Ryzebol (city parks supervisor ward 44 and the person who nominated the group for the award), Karen Wright (committee treasurer), Kathy Rowe (CCRA), Jada Pierre (committee volunteer coordinator) and Ekron Malcom (committee chair).

Committee members who were unable to attend the event: Paul Maguire, Gabriel Ng, Gary Dale, Angie Sheridan, Jon Hinz, Robert Hinz, Melanie Goldhar, Lance Smith, Blair Anderson and Jay Banerjei.

# Madison Johnstone wins CCRA award

This year's winner of the CCRA William Dempsey award is Madison Johnstone. The \$250 prize goes to a student in Mowat's graduating class who displays strong community involvement and respect for the environment.

Madison was one of our writers on the CCRA Centennial News last year. She also wrote The Looking Glass, a play that won the BJ Castleman New Play Award at the National Theatre School Drama Festival in April.

The CCRA award was presented during the school's fall commencement ceremony on Nov. 2.



# Smoke alarms will go to food bank users

Thousands of residents who use Toronto's food banks are going to receive free smoke/carbon monoxide alarms in a new Project Zero initiative. The City of Toronto's Fire Services, the Ontario Fire Marshal's Public Fire Safety Council and Enbridge Gas Distribution announced a partnership last month to improve home safety and bring fire-related and carbon-monoxide-related deaths down to zero.

Toronto Fire Services has received 1,026 combination smoke and carbon monoxide alarms through Project Zero – a public education campaign that is providing more than 6,600 alarms to residents in 30 Ontario municipalities. Toronto Fire Services will be donating its allotment of alarms to the Daily Bread Food Bank for distribution to people in greatest need.



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Local politics

# Jennifer McKelvie excited about the next four years

By Kathryn Stocks

As of December 1, Jennifer McKelvie will be this ward's new councillor. In a recent interview, she said she is feeling "gratitude for all the support I received from the community" and "excitement about what the next four years will hold."

She will be ceremonially sworn in with all the other councillors at City Hall on Dec. 4. One of the first things on the agenda at the initial council meeting is how committees will be restructured with the reduced number of councillors at city hall. With only 25 councillors now, some committees will have to be combined. They'll also talk about the public appointment process and ways to improve citizen engagement with more residents on their boards.

Jennifer has been sitting on the Toronto Region Conservation Authority as a citizen member and hopes to be able to stay on as a councillor. Right now there are five citizen members and eight councillors on the TRCA, so they might switch that to have more citizens and fewer councillors. "There's a lot of possibility to increase public engagement and have a greater diversity of people sitting on



Ward 25 Councillor-elect Jennifer McKelvie spoke at the CCRA's annual general meeting on Nov. 21. Photo credit: Don Lawrence

those boards," she said.

Jennifer will automatically be on Scarborough Council because she is a councillor in Scarborough, but she won't submit her choices for committees until after the restructuring has been decided.

Also to be discussed early in December is staffing. More than 50 resident associations are calling on Toronto City Council to at least double the number of staff in councillors' offices to help with the increased workload larger wards will bring.

Jennifer's constituency office will be located at Scarborough Civic Centre. "Last I heard, five out of six councillors will have their offices there," she said. This brings jobs to the civic centre and it will enable her and her staff to interact with other councillors and their staff on Scarborough issues. In the first month, there will be a lot of training at city hall so the office won't be up and running regularly until the new year.

Jennifer grew up on the edge of Scarborough at Victoria Park and Lawrence. Her mother was 17 and

her father was 20 when she was born 40 years ago. "We were very fortunate because there was affordable rental housing at that time." This allowed her mother to go to college to become a nurse when Jennifer was in elementary school. "Their success story is very hard to replicate today," she said. "The middle is being squeezed out of Toronto." That's why she's excited that Mayor John Tory intends to focus on affordable housing as well as public transit this term.

She went to UTSC for her bachelor's degree in environmental science and downtown to U of T's St. George campus for her masters and PhD.

Having her work based in the community for the next four years is a real plus for Jennifer. She and her husband, Warren, moved to their current house in Centennial about 11 years ago and they have two children, Colin, 14, who is in Grade 9 at Mowat, and Caitlin, 11, who is in Grade 6 at Charlottetown.

After travelling a lot in the last few years for her work at Nuclear Waste Management Organization and the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research, she's glad to be able to go home every night and her family is looking forward to having her around.

*After travelling a lot in the last few years for her work, she's glad to be able to go home every night.*



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## Community supports family affected by illness

*continued from page 1*

reminder of the brain surgery he underwent to contain the hemorrhage.

While he has recovered from the paralysis that affected his right side, he still suffers from aphasia, a condition that makes speech extremely difficult. His cognitive functioning is still not what it used to be and, as might be expected, depression has set in.

He has been unable to work for the past six months and the business is at a standstill because his partner (his only sibling) died several years ago. Right now, Bill's wife Karen, a tiny powerhouse of positivity and support, speaks for him in telling his unusual story – one that has baffled the city's top cardiologists and neurologists. While Bill can't speak, the frustration is evident in his eyes.

"Bill's a proud person and he wants to work," Karen explains. "He is a people person so it's really important

for him to regain his communication skills." To that end, Bill recently started intensive speech therapy on top of cardiac therapy. Doctors say it could take him a year to recover.

Bill had many local customers and it has become evident how highly they think of the affable contractor. When Bill's friend posted the family's story on the West Rouge Residents Facebook page, accolades started pouring in from those who depended on Bill to fix their furnaces and air conditioners.

"He really does care about his customers," wrote Marie Nufer. "He is the most honest man I have ever dealt with." Another resident describes how Bill often gave seniors a break on labour charges.

Karen Hill added, "I remember Bill coming to our house during Thanksgiving dinner because the furnace had conked out."

Penny Lee, a neighbour of Bill and Karen's in the Lawrence and Port Union area, set up a GoFundMe account to help the family, which now relies solely on Karen's income. Fortunately, she is able to work from home and schedules her work around Bill's many appointments because he is still not able to drive.

Comments on the GoFundMe page also attest to Bill's work ethic.

"Bill is a wonderful, giving person who came through for my family during the big ice storm a few years ago," wrote Mike Thomas. "We had no power and our gas fireplace was also on the fritz. He was able to come by at a moment's notice and get it working. He also resurrected my AC on several occasions and never let me spend more than I had to. When it came time to purchase a new AC and furnace, Bill was very fair and extremely fast. Our thoughts are with him and his family and we wish him a swift recovery."

So far, almost \$4,000 has been raised for the family. The money will help them pay bills, fund medical expenses and help with vehicle repairs. Unfortunately, Bill cancelled his disability insurance several years ago when Karen was out of work and money was tight.



**Readers who wish to help Bill and Karen can visit:**

<https://www.gofundme.com/>

[manage/je6dp-support-for-bill-and-family](https://www.gofundme.com/)

The GoFundMe account can also be reached through the West Rouge Residents Facebook page.

December 2018

Dear Friends, Neighbours, Past and Present Clients,

Once again, another year has come and gone. In January 2019, I will have completed my 39<sup>th</sup> year in Real Estate. Imagine, more than half of my life in Real Estate and I have loved every minute of it. So many of my past clients call me for advice, ask me to help their children and family buy a property or ask me to help their aging parents sell their family home. It is so rewarding to be able to apply my extensive experience and expertise in Real Estate to help them.



On May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018 I joined the Global RE/MAX network - RE/MAX Rouge River Realty Ltd Brokerage.

As for the Real Estate market, after 2-3 years Seller's market, by early May 2017, the Government effectively put the brakes on the overheated housing market by introducing a foreign buyer's tax, and Ottawa has further tightened the mortgage rules by instituting a "Stress Test" not only on insured mortgages but also on conventional mortgages, which seems to cool down the market. "While higher borrowing costs and tougher mortgage qualification rules have kept sales levels off the record pace set in 2016. Many households remain positive about homeownership as a quality long-term investment" says Gary Bhaura, TREB President

As for the Tan family, my son Kevin decided to move back to the states, after 4 years in Toronto, so his whole family (wife Monika, 3 kids Maddie, Eric and Alex) moved to Boston, they bought a house and have been settled there since summer this year. My daughter Genevieve, her husband Kevin and 3 kids Ethan, Michelle and Nathaniel are still living in Markham.

I have not been to San Francisco, California for more than 3 years, since my mom passed in San Francisco in April 2015. Now I go to China a couple of times a year to further develop relationships with Chinese Real Estate Investors/Buyers. Since I can speak 3 different Chinese dialects, it is easy for me to communicate with them.

I have remained as an active Realtor. Once again, my success in Real Estate is largely dependent on all of your support and trust. Your loyalty is the reason for my success. Over 95% of my business is from my past clients, referrals and neighbours. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you have helped me achieve this goal.

Finally, I would like to wish you and your loved ones a Joy-Filled Christmas and Holiday Season and the Very Best for 2019!

Sincerely,

**Sophia Tan**



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Environment

# Community planting added native trees and shrubs to Wanita Park

By Wanda Wierzbicki

On October 24, several community groups and individuals gathered at Wanita Park to join Toronto Forestry personnel in planting 235 native shrubs and trees.

Steven Parkes, a staff member from the Toronto Forestry Department, demonstrated the correct way to plant the trees and shrubs to ensure the best possible outcome. The city provided the volunteers with shovels, buckets and work gloves. A huge pile of mulch was delivered and under Steven's guidance the volunteers started digging. Each new plant was removed from its starter pot, the roots were encouraged to branch out and the plant was placed in a newly dug hole. Finally, two large buckets of mulch were placed around the newly planted shrub or tree to encourage water retention.

The largest group of volunteer planters was from North Toronto Christian School. Twenty-five Grade 9 students accompanied by two teachers, Mrs. Crouse and Mr. Vant Erve, worked for several hours digging holes and planting the trees and shrubs. North Toronto Christian School, which is located in Don



Mills near Fairview Mall, encourages students to take part in projects that help the community. In past years, they have collected clothing donations, organized food bank donation drives and distributed sandwiches to the poor and homeless. This time they decided to take on a project that would support the environment.

Fifteen employees from Beam Suntory Canada, a premium spirits company, came all the way from Etobicoke to plant trees and shrubs in Wanita Park. Beam Suntory has long promoted giving back to the community and protecting water resources, native species and habitats.

Carolyn Moss, who lives in the Guildwood area, brought her 6-year-old son Luke and four of her employees to plant trees. Carolyn is a partner with Moss Sund Architects, an architectural firm from Leslieville. They all took the morning off from work to give back to the community.

There was also a group of volunteers from the Bob Rumball Canadian Centre of Excellence for the Deaf, located near Bayview and Lawrence.

The native species planted by these volunteers include black willow, bur oak, meadowsweet, red dogwood, grey dogwood, pussy willow, black raspberry and ninebark.



An enthusiastic team from Beam Suntory Canada, left, joined others to help plant trees in Wanita Park on Oct. 24.

Forestry Toronto staff also spent some time removing an invasive species of common reed grass that was growing in the area. Phragmites is very aggressive and grows quickly near water sources, choking out native plants.

Anyone interested in finding out more about environmental opportunities in and around our area is encouraged to contact [greentoronto@toronto.ca](mailto:greentoronto@toronto.ca).

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# Results within Ward 25 show a divided electorate

By Paul Lewkowicz

The 2018 municipal election featured many close and exciting races for voters in Centennial Scarborough. The campaigns for city councillor, public school trustee and Catholic school trustee all resulted in the winning candidate being elected with less than 50 per cent of the vote.

The vote for mayor was an exception with nearly three-quarters (71.7 per cent) of voters in Scarborough Rouge-Park voting for incumbent John Tory compared to 63 per cent of Toronto as a whole. When looking at the seven polls that make up nearly all of Centennial Scarborough, Tory received 75.1 per cent of the vote.

The closest race of all city councillor wards in Toronto happened here. Jennifer McKelvie, 2014 runner-up and former CCRA president, defeated incumbent Neethan Shan by 154 votes or 0.5 per cent. The results within the ward show a divided electorate.

Shan won every poll north of Sheppard Ave. with more than 50 per cent of the vote, resulting in 68 per cent of the votes in the northern part of Ward 25 that made up most of the now-defunct ward that Shan was elected to represent in a 2017 by-election. In the central part of Ward 25, between Sheppard Ave. and Kingston Road, Shan and McKelvie split the vote, with McKelvie winning 42 per cent of the vote compared to 36 per cent for Shan. In the southern part of Ward 25, south of Kingston Road, McKelvie dominated, winning 57 per cent of the vote and all but one poll. Among polls that make up nearly all of Centennial Scarborough, McKelvie won 66 per cent of the vote.

McKelvie also had a strong presence among advance voters, winning 44 per cent of advance polls compared to 37 per cent for Shan. Overall, McKelvie won 30 polls on election day and the largest advance poll, while Shan won 23 polls on election day and three advance polls.

In the race for public school trustee, Dr. Anu Sriskandarajah was victorious with 36 per cent of the vote in a crowded field to replace retiring incumbent Jerry Chadwick. Sriskandarajah won 42 of 53 polls on election day and two of the three advance polls and had support across the ward. She garnered 42 per cent of the vote in the polls that make up nearly all of Centennial Scarborough. Sriskandarajah, or “Dr. Anu” as she advertised herself prominently on her signs, won by 12 per cent over her nearest challengers, Roxanne Wright and Kirsten Doyle. Sriskandarajah will now sit on the Toronto District School Board alongside her husband, Parthi Kandavel, besting her husband’s vote total and percentage of the vote on her first campaign. (Kandavel was re-elected with 22 per cent of the vote in Scarborough Southwest.)

In the race for Catholic school trustee, Garry Tanuan was re-elected with 36 per cent of the vote. Tanuan, who was first elected in a 2012 by-election, has never been elected with more than 50 per cent of the vote. The four candidates for Catholic school trustee generally received the same support across wards 23 and 25, with Tanuan having slightly stronger support in Ward 25 and Potenciano having slightly stronger support in Ward 23. Tanuan won 33 per cent of the vote in the polls that make up nearly all of Centennial Scarborough.

# Local food b

**The 2nd Highland Creek Scouts collected door-to-door in Centennial on December 1 for their annual Christmas food drive. The items they receive are donated to the food bank at the Scarborough Centre for Healthy Communities. Have you ever wondered where that is and who uses it? This story takes a look at the SCHC.**

By Kathy Rowe

“At SCHC our philosophy is holistic,” states Debra McGonegal, Fund and Volunteer Development Manager at the Scarborough Centre for Healthy Communities.

“We look at the physical health, mental health, emotional health, social health. All of these things are important to an individual. That’s why we have so many programs. The food bank is a way to connect people to all of the other services that we provide.”

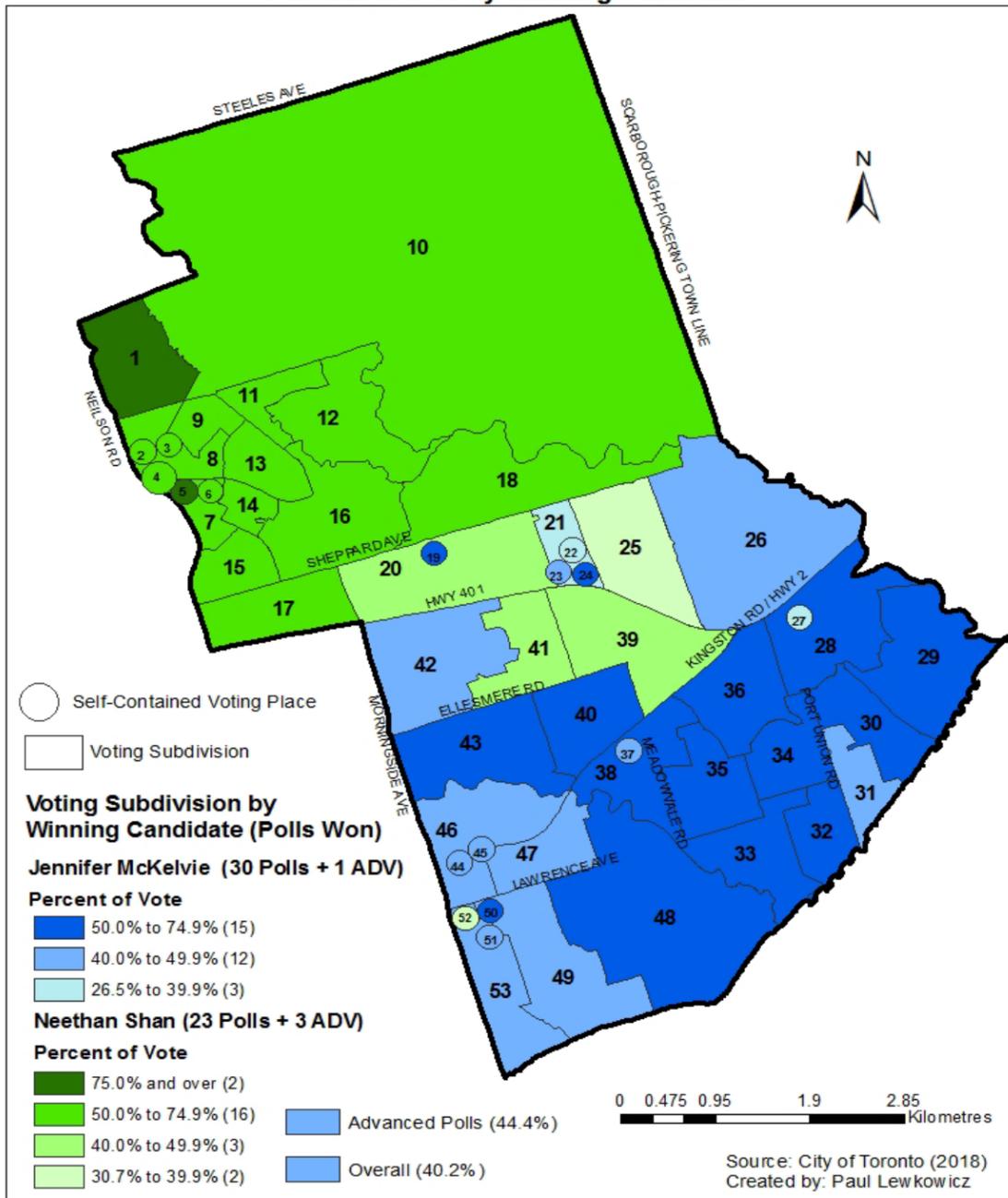
Approximately 1,800 households accessed the SCHC Food Bank last year. Residents from all over Scarborough can benefit from their resources, however, in the case of the food bank, the majority of residents tend to live in the KGO – Kingston Galloway Orton Park neighbourhoods. The food bank operates out of a Toronto community housing building at 4100 Lawrence Ave. E. Although it is well used (39,000 visits last year), Debra does not see another food bank opening anytime soon.

“Surprisingly, there were 1,470 children who used our food bank last year. Running a food bank is huge. It’s one of those labours of love,” she said. “It is heavily dependent on volunteers. The volunteers speak many languages as well as English. The idea is that families in need can visit the food bank once per week. In reality, most people don’t want to have to go to the food bank. In the colder months, many people have to choose between heat or food.”

Debra went on to explain that the majority of food donations come via the Daily Bread Food Bank and Second Harvest. In addition, help from organizations such as Scouts, churches, businesses, schools and fire halls bring in thousands of pounds of food each year that is collected from generous citizens for the SCHC food bank.

“Our food bank runs many food programs throughout the year. There are a total of three hot meals and two snack/coffee dishes served out of 4100 Lawrence Ave. E. each week. This is year round. There are also

**2018 Election: Ward 25 (Scarborough - Rouge Park) City Councillor**  
Percent of Vote by Winning Candidate



# Bank had 39,000 visits last year



Evelyn and her son, Reynaldo, were first-time visitors to the food bank at the Scarborough Centre for Healthy Communities in November. They were served by, from left, Danny, Sai and Heba, volunteers from TD. Faye, below, is a regular client.



specialty programs such as Wishes for the Holidays, which just kicked off for this holiday season.”

During this time the food bank hopes to receive canned fish, canned meat, peanut butter, cereal, pancake mix, syrup, holiday treats, coffee/tea, canned vegetables and canned fruit. For more than 20 years, the Wishes for the Holidays program has supported more than 23,400 households in the Scarborough area by providing them with special holiday packages. All families who apply for assistance through the SCHC’s Wishes for the

Holidays are enrolled in one of the programs in the Scarborough area and are living at or below the poverty level.

The packages include food, personal hygiene items, and gifts for children. Sponsors are matched with a family or families, a single or elderly couple or someone ill and/disabled in need of extra support. A sponsor then creates an age-appropriate hamper of goods

and gifts for the recipient(s).

“The people who do this really love it because they get to deliver right to the family if they wish to,” Debra said. “We have one sponsor who started as a young adult sponsoring one family. Then she decided to get a group together who fundraise year-round. Now they hope to sponsor 40 families this year.”

Those families who either miss the

“Surprisingly, there were 1,470 children who used our food bank last year...”

registration or choose not to participate as recipients of the Wishes for the Holidays are helped by the CHUM Christmas Wish program. There are always local businesses, schools or groups who establish toy drives this time of year and many families benefit from their collective generosity.

For more information about supporting a family through SCHC this holiday season, please email Christine Hewitt, Manager of Community Engagement. [chewitt@schcontario.ca](mailto:chewitt@schcontario.ca) or call 416-847-4141.

## It rained on our Pumplin Parade but you still came out

By Denise Bacon

Residents in our neighbourhood are a very hardy group! Despite the cold and rainy weather on November 1, more than 60 people came out with their Halloween jack-o-lanterns for our first-ever Pumpkin Parade in Port Union Common.

Bundled up under umbrellas and raincoats,

adults and children proudly showcased their pumpkin masterpieces along the pathways of the park. Pumpkins were absolutely delightful, glowing by candlelight and ranging from Mickey Mouse ears and gemstones to intricately carved Halloween landscapes. This was a great way to admire pumpkin art from across neighbourhoods all in one place, especially since many of us stick close

to home handing out treats on Halloween night.

Vijay Thanigasalam, our MPP for Scarborough-Rouge Park, came directly from Queen’s Park to enjoy the camaraderie. It was a great opportunity for people to chat with him as he stayed for a long time on that wet evening, while wearing his business suit and dress shoes!

The night ended with volunteers depositing the pumpkins into a compost bin that had been brought to the park for the event. The things left from the Pumpkin Parade were footprints and wonderful memories.

Much gratitude goes to the organizers and volunteers from the West Rouge, Highland Creek and Centennial community associations. This is another reminder of how lucky we are to live in this beautiful neighbourhood! We’re hoping the Pumpkin Parade becomes a yearly event.



Flashback

# Lessons learned from the ice storm of 2013

By Kathryn Stocks

This month marks five years since the massive ice storm that hit on Dec. 21/22, 2013, and the subsequent loss of power. The length of the power outage varied across the city, but in our house it first went out for an hour on the evening of Saturday, Dec. 21, came back on and then went out at 5 a.m. on Dec. 22 and didn't return again until Christmas.

The extended outage was a time of discovery for me. When it first went out I discovered we had four dead flashlights and the only one that still worked was a pocket-size one. Not a lot of light but it sure was handy.

I discovered the value of good-quality candles. They were usually more expensive but not always. Cheap

tea lights drown themselves and give off little light. Good ones give off more light but only burn for a few hours. The red tapers I'd bought at IKEA were fabulous. They burned brightly without dripping for about four hours. The expensive snowball candle I'd bought at a candle party years ago shone beautifully for hours and gave off a lovely bright light. The cheap floating candles were totally useless while the more expensive ones lit up our table for Christmas. We used almost every candle we owned at that dinner!

I discovered the value of decent matches, which we didn't have. On the second day my husband went out and bought a butane lighter that was great for lighting candles and the fire.

I discovered how incredibly



It's been five years since our trees were thickly coated with ice and the power was out for days.

beautiful the world looks when all the trees are thickly coated in ice. I also saw how much damage Mother Nature can do to our trees as we walked around the block and surveyed the destruction.

I discovered the value of gas appliances. The gas fireplace in our kitchen warmed up the room when we closed

the doors to the hall and the dining room, and the gas fireplace in our bedroom warmed up the upstairs. Our gas stove allowed us to cook our meals on the burners although we couldn't use the oven. We cooked our Christmas turkey on the gas barbecue for more than three hours and it was delicious. Without our gas appliances we couldn't have stayed in the house.

I discovered how terribly dark and cold it gets by 4:30 p.m. at this time of year. How did the pioneers cope?

I discovered that having no power was exciting for the first little while as we played cards with two of our children and talked longer than we normally would. After the first 24 hours, though, everyone missed their electronic devices.

I discovered that it was fun to have friends over for Christmas dinner, even though we had to prepare everything by candlelight. The trickiest part was stirring the gravy while holding a candle high enough to see in the roasting pan but not drip wax in it.

And I discovered that it was a hal-lelujah moment when the power came back on again at 6:30 p.m. on Dec. 25, just in time to use the dishwasher for all those dirty dishes!



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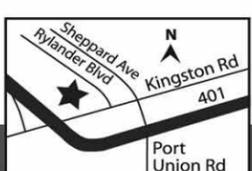


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## News from the CPLC

The Community Police Liaison Committee at 43 Division thanks residents who report suspicious activity to the police. On many occasions these calls stop crimes before they are committed and help solve crimes that are committed. To report suspicious activity call 416-808-4300 or 416-808-2222. Report anything strange or unusual, including things like a car or person who is not from your area or aggressive sales people who do not leave your door.

Always lock your car, particularly now if you are warming it up during this season. Keep belongings out of sight with Christmas and the holidays coming up.

Next year's annual Police Community Picnic will be on June 1 at the 43 Division station office.

## Sustainability

# Best way to pursue a zero waste lifestyle is one step at a time

By Kathryn Stocks

A zero waste lifestyle is not completely zero, but it does mean always striving toward that goal. That's what Sophi Robertson, the Zero Waste Event Coordinator for the Toronto Tool Library, told 15 residents who came out to the Port Union library for her talk on Nov. 22.

Sophi started pursuing a zero waste lifestyle in 2016. "It's not that I don't create any waste, it's just that I'm more mindful than I used to be," she said. "It's definitely possible to reduce a significant amount." She then showed a photo of herself with a full grocery bag and said it was five months' of landfill waste for her family.

### The 5 Rs of zero waste include:

1. Refuse what you don't need
2. Reduce what you do need
3. Reuse with reusables
4. Recycle what you cannot reduce or reuse
5. Rot (compost) the rest

Plastic produces a significant amount of waste and only about 10 percent of it gets recycled. Plastic bags are used so briefly but they last a long time so she always reuses them if she has them or carries reusable bags.

She finds glass jars with lids (such as the kind spaghetti sauce comes in) are really handy for water, lunch, snacks, leftovers and even coffee. Rubber bands or an old sock around the jar will protect your hands when the drink is hot.

Since black plastic takeout containers are not recyclable in Toronto, she suggested reusing them until they fall apart. You could even take them to a restaurant to hold your leftovers.

A cloth napkin is really useful for grabbing a sandwich on the go, drying hands, protecting a jar or wiping faces. If you carry one, you won't need plastic or foil wrapping for your sandwich and you won't use paper towels or napkins when you're out. At the dentist, she uses her cloth napkin for the bib and her water bottle for rinsing her mouth.

If you need to purchase, try second-hand first at places like thrift shops, Kijiji, Facebook marketplace, and a trading website called bunz.com. If you need to buy new, she suggests buying local or Canadian goods made

from sustainable materials like glass, steel and wood.

Christmas is one of the worst times of year for garbage. First we buy gifts that have an excessive amount of packaging that isn't recyclable, and then we wrap them in paper that is only used for one day and then discarded. You can recycle the non-metallic wrapping paper in the blue bin after removing the tape, but the foil wrapping paper goes in the garbage along with ribbons and bows. Try wrapping gifts this year in tea towels, scarves or a colourful cloth napkin. Be creative this holiday season.

Sophi suggests trying to cut down one step at a time. Start with one change and then try something else. It could become a habit.

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## MPP Vijay Thanigasalam

# Grateful to attend local Remembrance Day ceremonies

It is with excitement that I write to you this December. The holiday season is one full of friends, family, joy and hope for the New Year for many of us. I wish you all a safe and healthy month and a very happy and prosperous year to come. I do hope that during this holiday season we all take a minute to pause and remember those who may not have anyone to celebrate with or the means to do so with their family. There are many chances to help those who are less fortunate than us and I encourage everyone to seek out such an opportunity. The holiday season is a fitting time to come together and remember we are all one community and should support each other as such.

November has certainly been a busy time but in particular I would like to highlight an important part



Listening to a veteran's story at RCL Branch 258 on Remembrance Day.

of that month. In early November, there were Remembrance Day ceremonies across Scarborough. I was grateful to be able to attend ceremonies at the Scarborough Civic Centre, the Toronto Zoo, the Royal Canadian Legion, and the Tony Stacey Centre for Veterans Care to honour those men and women who have served in our Armed Forces as well as meet many of the veterans who came to remember their fallen comrades. Words simply cannot express the debt of gratitude that we all owe these brave soldiers

who have fought to preserve our values and freedoms. Along the same theme of honouring our veterans, I had the privilege to plant a few trees as part of the Highway of Heroes Tree Campaign, which aims to make a living tribute to all who served by planting 2 million trees along the Highway of Heroes and the surrounding communities.

I also had the privilege of attending many other significant and successful events in our riding. I was delighted to attend and award medals at the Ontario Open Judo Championships, which drew hundreds of competitors from around the world, while Wheelchair Basketball Canada's signature fundraiser, Hoopfest, had a fun and inclusive 3-on-3 tournament. On a rainy and cold Nov. 1, many from our community braved the weather to attend the first Southeast Scarborough Pumpkin Parade where carving skills were on display while enjoying good conversation with neighbours. I also want to give special mention to FIRST Robotics Canada, which held their Open House in the Malvern community attracting kids and parents from the neighbourhood.

This past month we had a constituency week where I got to meet with many residents and stakeholders. I want to highlight just a few in particular. I had a wonderful tour of the Malvern Family Resource Centre; I had the opportunity to meet with some of the management team at Legal Aid Ontario; and, on more of a fun note, I got the chance to tour the Toronto Zoo. These are all important organizations in our riding and I look forward to working with them further.

I also had the opportunity to be in touch with many of our healthcare partners, including the team from the Scarborough and Rouge Hospital, and had an insightful tour of Providence Healthcare. Additionally, I met with some of the staff and volunteers from the Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Care Centre and learned more about the important work they do in Scarborough.

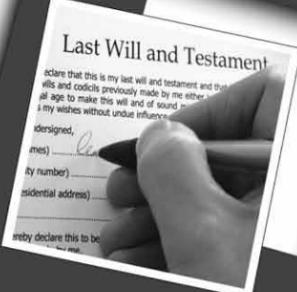
Before I sign off until next month, I did want to thank all members of the community who came out to the official opening of my Constituency Office and helped make it a success. My office is here to help so please do get in touch to get assistance with any provincial matter or to set up an appointment to meet with me: 416-283-8448 or [vijay.thanigasalam-co@pc.ola.org](mailto:vijay.thanigasalam-co@pc.ola.org).

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**MP Gary Anandasangaree**

**Open house an excellent opportunity to hear from residents**

I would like to begin by thanking the members of the Centennial community who joined my team and me for our annual Fall Open House. Our open house is an excellent opportunity for us to hear from local residents about government programs, policies and services. I look forward to sharing the comments and suggestions made during our open house with my colleagues in Ottawa.

**Citizenship Ceremony**

On Saturday, November 17, my team and I welcomed a number of Scarborough- Rouge Park's newest citizens to my constituency office for a special Canadian citizenship celebration. During the celebration, my office was filled laughter, warmth and the incredible stories of a number of Canada's newest citizens! Speaking with these proud Canadians reminded of my own journey to Canada 35 years ago. I am honoured to be part of a government that has committed itself to ensuring that all Canadians feel safe, welcome, and have an opportunity to achieve their true potential. Congratulations to those

of you who attained your citizenship this year! Canada is lucky to have you!

**Christmas Pancake Breakfast and Toy Drive**

This Christmas I invite you and your family to join Team Gary as we help celebrate the Christmas season alongside our neighbours and friends. Team Gary will be hosting a free Pancake Breakfast for the Scarborough-Rouge Park community on Saturday, December 8 at St. Mother Teresa Catholic Academy, 40 Sewells Rd., from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. In addition to pancakes, we will have holiday crafts and activities for all those in attendance. Our Christmas Pancake Breakfast will also feature a Toy Drive to benefit children and youth in our community. Those interested in donating to our Toy Drive are asked to please bring a new,



Local Member of Parliament, Gary Anandasangaree, hosts a number of Canada's newest citizens at his constituency office on Saturday, November 17.

unwrapped toy.

For those of you who would like to connect with my team, I encourage you to contact my office at 416 283 1414 or [Gary.Anand@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Gary.Anand@parl.gc.ca). We are always happy to hear your ideas,

assist you with various federal services or answer any questions you may have!

Please accept my best wishes for a safe and happy holiday!

.....

**Photo quiz**  
*Where in Centennial?*



Pictured above is this month's mystery location in our Centennial landmark quiz. It is located somewhere in the neighbourhood. Enjoy testing your knowledge of the community. To find out if you were right, the answer is on page 19.



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## Exercise of the Month

# Praying wrist stretch

By *Lucie Sciberras*

During this festive season, the increase of baking, cooking and cleaning takes a toll on our wrist and hands. Below is a simple stretch that can be done anytime and anywhere.

**Step 1** At face level, put your hands together, palm to palm.

**Step 2** Slowly press your hands together, like you are praying and lower your hands until you reach your chest level.

**Step 3** Keep pressing your hands

together until you feel a little stretch, not pain, and hold for approximately 10 to 20 seconds. Repeat three to four times.

Continue this exercise throughout the busy holiday season and keep it up all year.

Before starting an exercise program, always check with your physician or physiotherapist to ensure it's safe for you to start. If you have any questions before you start, feel free to drop by the Port Union Fitness Centre.

*Lucie Sciberras is a CSEP Personal Trainer and*



## Helping the homeless this holiday season

Torontonians who want to help people experiencing homelessness this holiday season can find gift ideas and volunteer opportunities on the 11th annual 2018 Holiday Wish List. The City of Toronto surveyed not-for-profit agency partners that run shelters, 24-hour respite sites, drop-ins and other services, and asked what gifts would help their clients during the holidays. More than 50 agencies are on this year's list, which details specific items that clients need, along with contacts and information about volunteer opportunities and holiday events. The most requested items on this year's list are winter coats and clothing, gift cards, toiletries, baby products and non-perishable food. The 2018 Holiday Wish List is available at [toronto.ca/holiday-wish-list](http://toronto.ca/holiday-wish-list).

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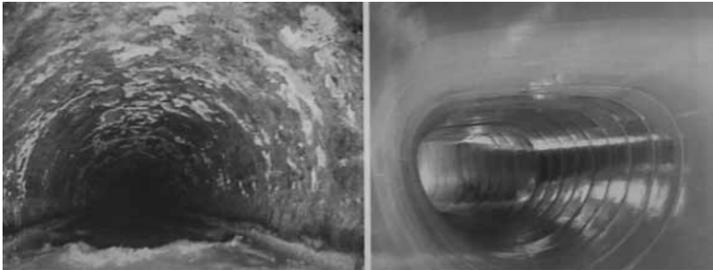
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**Construction**

**Lawrence sewer project might be done by end of December**

By Kathryn Stocks

For those who drive along Lawrence Ave. E. and wonder what is happening with the sewer rehabilitation at Beechgrove Dr. that seems to have stalled, this story is for you. The project at that site is the installation of new liners inside the existing sewer pipe that runs along Lawrence at that point and turns the corner down Beechgrove. No one ever appears to be working on it because they can only work at night when the flow of sewage is low. That's part of the reason the work has progressed at a slower rate than normal.



Sewer rehabilitation work at Lawrence and Beechgrove is installing new pipe liner, right, into deteriorating sewer, left. The existing sewer was constructed in the '50s.

Between August and mid-September, work was paused when concrete irregularities were found at the sewer bottom. Work resumed again in September with crews removing those irregularities.

Odour at the construction site was a major problem in the summer and the city has been working with the contractor to find a solution to help control it. A large new odour control unit has been installed at a maintenance hole at Beechgrove and Flerimac Rd. that will reduce the gas released at the work site and reduce the

overall odour. If needed, another unit might be installed. While the odour is unpleasant, it poses no health risk, according to Toronto Public Health.

Currently, the contractor is replacing temporary bypass pumps in the sewer with higher capacity pumps so work crews will be able to work longer hours overnight. The contractor is hoping that the sewer portion of the work will be completed by Dec. 31, but makes no promises as there are always unexpected issues that can affect progress. Then they have to figure out the problem and cost it out before it can be completed. Work crews are also at the mercy of the weather as snow and rain can add to the amount of water coming into the sewer.

The following work remains to be done: install higher-capacity pumps; complete installation of the new pipe liner inside the sewer; backfill the access shafts/pits; remove the temporary bypass system; rehabilitate the existing maintenance hole; clean the area and install temporary road restoration; and return in 2019 to permanently restore the road and sidewalk.

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Parent's Night Out	Dec. 14 <sup>th</sup> 5:30 -9:30 pm
Holiday Camp	Dec. 27 <sup>th</sup> , 28 <sup>th</sup> , Jan. 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup>

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## COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR

Organizer	Event	Date & Location	Event Details	Contact
West Hill - Highland Creek Lions Club	<b>Craft &amp; Gift Sale</b>	<b>Saturday, December 1</b> , from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm Heron Park Community Centre, 292 Manse Rd..	Crafters & artists offering unique items including home and seasonal decor, fashion accessories, jewelry, jams & more.	Phone 416 282-7202 Email sale@lionsclub.ca
Mowat Collegiate	<b>Mamma Mia!</b>	<b>December 5, 6 and 7</b> at 7:00 p.m. Mowat Collegiate	Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for students and seniors, and can be purchased at Mowat's main office . Musical numbers originally performed by ABBA.	Phone 416-396-6802 ext. 20101.
Port Union Library	<b>PA Day Program</b>	<b>Friday, December, 7</b> from 2:00 to 4:00 pm Port Union Library	Robot Soccer with Logics Academy mBot Robot Soccer using a powerful learn-to-code program. Children ages 9-12 years. Limit of 20 participants.	Phone 416 396-8885
Scarborough Concert Band	<b>Scarborough Concert Band Christmas Concert</b>	<b>Friday, December 7</b> , from 7:30 to 9:15 pm Wilmar Heights Centre 963 Pharmacy Ave.	Christmastime Concert with favorites such as Leroy Anderson's Sleigh Ride and Christmas Festival. Admission \$15	Phone 416 265-7586 Email laured@sympatico.ca
Gear Realty	<b>2nd annual community tree lighting party</b>	<b>Saturday, December 8</b> , from 7:30 to 9:00 pm Port Union Community Centre 5450 Lawrence Ave	Holiday Raffle Baskets and A Weekend Getaway! Cookie Decorating with FourSweets Cookies, Pictures with Santa, Christmas Movie, Colouring contest.	Phone 416-282-9292
Gary Anandasangaree	<b>Pancakes with Santa</b>	<b>Saturday, December 8</b> , from 9:30 am - 11:30 am St. Mother Teresa Catholic Academy	Join Team Gary for a free pancake breakfast! Take a photo with Santa and participate in some fun holiday crafts.	Phone 416 283-1414 Email Gary. Anandasangaree.C1@parl.gc.ca
St. Dunstan of Canterbury	<b>Annual Community Carol Sing</b>	<b>Sunday, December 9</b> , from 7:30 to 9:30 pm St. Dunstan of Canterbury Anglican Church	Seasonal songs & stories for the entire family. Refreshments follow. Funds raised go to food bank. All welcome!	Phone 416-283-1844 Email parishadmin@stdunstan.ca
West Rouge Sports Association	<b>Breakfast with Santa</b>	<b>Saturday, December 15</b> , 9:00 to 11:00 am West Rouge Community Centre 270 Rouge Hills Drive	Bring your camera. Celebrate this holiday season Pancakes, Juices, Coffee and tea. \$2 per person.	Phone Louise 416-283-1938
Branch 258 Highland Creek Legion	<b>New Year's Eve Dinner and Dance</b>	<b>Monday, December 31</b> , Bar opens at 6:00 pm Dinner at 7:00 pm. Branch 258 Highland Creek Legion	Featuring live entertainment with the 'Soulmates'. Tickets - Members \$50.00 Guests/non-members \$55.00 Come out and support your branch!	Phone 416 281-2992
Guildwood Village Community Association	<b>New Year's Eve party</b>	<b>Monday, December 31</b> , starting at 7 pm at the Guild Inn Estate, 201 Guildwood Pkwy.	Four-course dinner, open bar, lots of dancing with a live band, plus a mid-night toast with lots of prizes and fun. Tickets now available for \$130/person.	<a href="https://guildwood.on.ca/gvca-2018-new-year-party">https://guildwood.on.ca/gvca-2018-new-year-party</a>
Branch 258 Highland Creek Legion	<b>New Years Levee</b>	<b>Tuesday, January 1</b> from 1:00 - 6:00 pm Branch 258 Highland Creek Legion	Everyone is invited to stop in and meet the president, members and friends.	Phone 416 281-2992
CCRA	<b>Monthly Meeting</b>	<b>Tuesday, January 8</b> from 7:15 to 9:00 pm at Port Union Community Center, 5450 Lawrence Avenue	Come out and learn what your CCRA is doing. Volunteer positions are now open.	Phone Kathy 416 283-9987
Port Union Seniors	<b>Port Union Seniors Centre</b>	<b>Monday to Friday</b> , 9 am - 4 pm, Port Union CRC, 5450 Lawrence Avenue East	Drop-in activities and classes for Seniors	Phone 416-396-4034

To submit your community event, email details to: [webmaster@ccranews.com](mailto:webmaster@ccranews.com)

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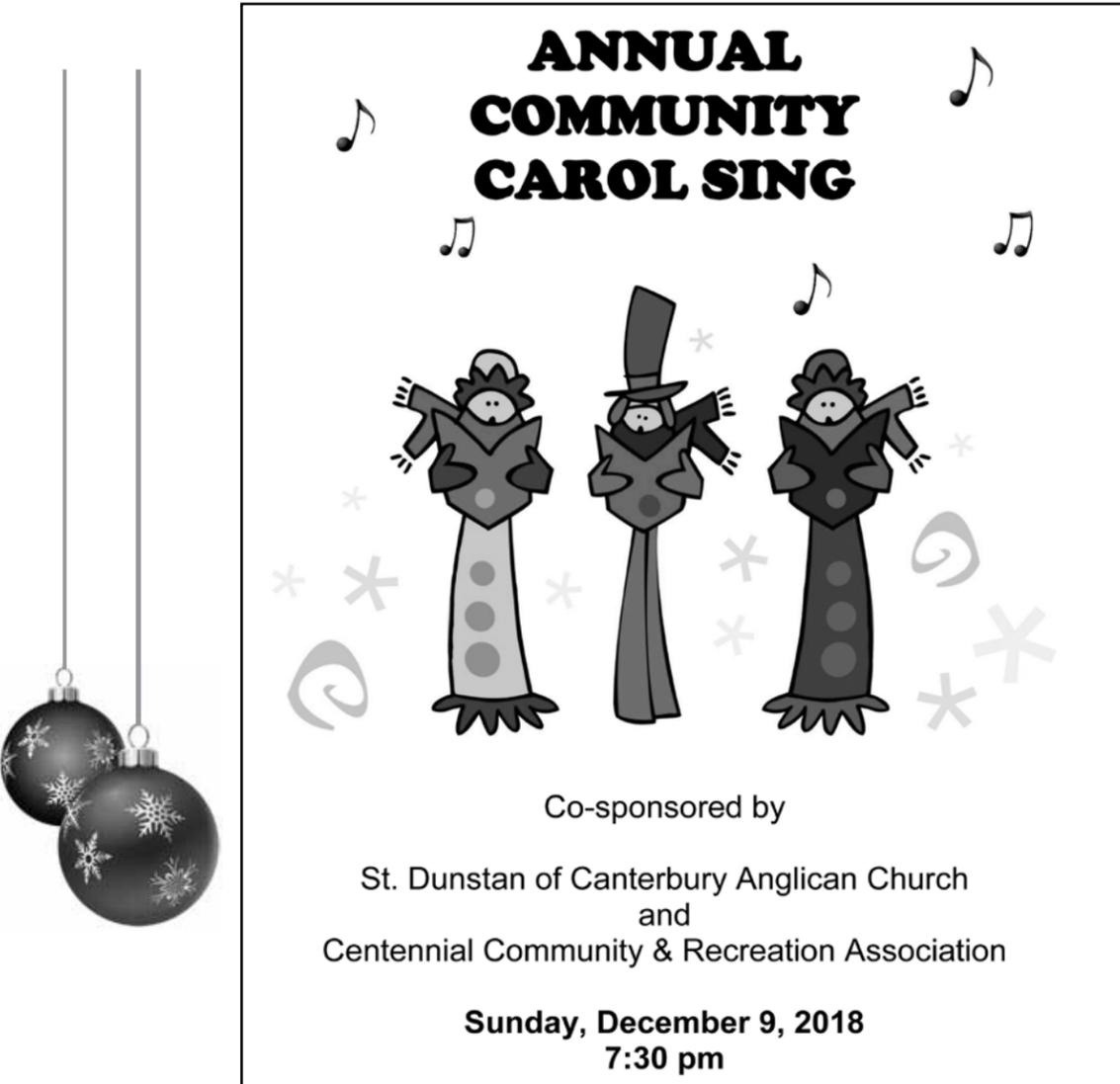
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## Distribution

# Seeking 'retired' distributors for our volunteer appreciation event



Wanda Wierzbicki

As I sit down to write this report, the weather forecast is calling for snow. It is beginning to feel like winter. Earlier today,

I made an appointment to put the winter tires on my car. Halloween is in the past. The first Pumpkin Parade, which was successful despite cold and rainy weather, is also behind us. Everywhere I look in the neighborhood, I see people raking and collecting leaves. Many people have already put up their Christmas lights hoping to have it completed before the cold and blustery weather arrives.

This winter season also brings with it the "Snowbirds" – those lucky individuals who are fortunate enough to be able to leave our cold, dark and dreary Scarborough weather for warmer climates. We all wish we were going with you.

Next year is an important one for the CCRA. It is the 70th Anniversary of the community association! A number of celebrations will be held to commemorate this historic year. One of these will be a Volunteer Appreciation Evening, which will be held on Thursday, May 2, 2019, at 7.30 p.m. at the Port Union Community Centre. More details on this will be published in the new year but please save the date.

In the October and November editions of the CCRA Centennial News, I focused on some long-serving members of the CCRA Centennial News distribution team. I want to expand this focus to include those individuals who distributed the CCRA News in the past and who are now "retired" from actively distributing. If you distributed the newspaper (or the newsletter as it was once called) in the past and do not distribute currently, please send me an email so I can add you to the list. If one of your neighbours is a retired distributor, please send me an email. I want to ensure we

invite all our CCRA volunteers, past and present.

Iain Bain, a retired long-time distributor writes, "I enjoyed delivering the newsletter. It was a useful form of exercise and gave me the opportunity to chat with my neighbours. I started in 1990 and passed the baton shortly before the format changed a couple years ago." That is more than 25 years of distribution. Thank you Iain!

At this time I would like to THANK the entire distribution team – PAST and PRESENT (120 individuals) – for your hard work and dedication. Together we deliver the monthly CCRA Centennial News to more than 4,600 homes and businesses in our community. We couldn't do it without you!

I would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and all the best in the New Year! Happy Holidays!

Email: [distribution@ccranews.com](mailto:distribution@ccranews.com)

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## Photo quiz

### Where in Centennial?

answer from page 15



Sir Oliver Mowat Collegiate Institute  
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Dear Friends, Clients & Neighbours;

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I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome Ross Macdonald as our newest team member. Ross has joined us after 9 years with a Canadian software company and over 20 years as a National Water Polo Coach. Ross brings his goal setting and performance skills that he developed working with the Olympic level athletes along with his process-based approach to problem-solving that was fine turned with his successes in the software industry.

I had the opportunity this year to attend the Royal LePage conference, which was held in beautiful Halifax. Top producing agents from across the country gathered to learn and network - it was an amazing event. Through the generosity of these realtors, over \$150,000.00 was raised during the conference for the Royal LePage Shelter Foundation. The Foundation promotes education and assists women and children fleeing violence and abuse in the home. Every penny raised goes directly to those in need, as Royal LePage Canada picks up all the administration costs. I am proud to assist this worthy cause by making a donation with each home we sell.

This year we are hosting a Shoebox Party on December 11<sup>th</sup> (7-9 pm) to help support women in our local shelters. Want to join us? Please call us at 416-284-4751

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# Thank you for joining CCRA in 2018!

By Denise Bacon



Hundreds of resident households joined as members of CCRA this year giving CCRA the biggest membership numbers

we have had in quite a few years. THANK YOU!

Membership indicates a close-knit community where neighbours are engaged with each other. Your fees support donations to the Scouts, the William Dempsey award for a Mowat student, a bed at Tony Stacey Centre, and the Community Carol Sing at St. Dunstan's of Canterbury. CCRA hosted and/or supported many terrific events throughout the year where neighbours and friends had fun, including Winterfest, the Port Union Waterfront Festival and the summer concert series.

The 2019 membership year starts in January and I invite you to join early. Let's stay engaged with each other and with our community.

The CCRA voice is strong and we are committed to preserving our beautiful neighbourhood!



**Denise Bacon**

membership@ccranews.com  
647-982-3561



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# Centennial is better together - become a member!

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I am interested in distributing newsletters in the Centennial community (10 issues per year). Please contact me.

I am interested in volunteering at CCRA events. Please contact me.

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