

THE Georgina POST

Serving all Georgina Communities and the Greater Pefferlaw Area

Georgina residents face 2.95 per cent tax increase in 2018

A \$104.7 million budget, passed by Georgina council on February 7, will mean taxpayers will pony up an additional 2.95 per cent in property taxes in 2018. For a property valued at \$352,425 that will mean an increase of \$60 a year. Council deliberated for a day and a half on January 23, 24 and, with few exceptions, the budget garnered widespread approval and agreement.

The big ticket items in the \$27.9 million capital budget are: West Park rebuild design—\$850,000 (total cost \$7 to 8 million); road maintenance and repair—\$3.7 million; new vehicles—\$1.14 million; Phase 2 and 3 of the Link—\$1.78 million; new Pefferlaw Fire Hall—\$1.89 million in 2018 and \$1.85 million in 2019; new fire vehicles (includes a new aerial)—\$1.47 million; new Civic Centre design—\$1.5 million; land acquisition budget—\$1 million. The \$27.9 million in capital expenditures includes \$11.6 million worth of previous year capital projects that need to be completed.

Out of 80 requests from staff for new capital funding, only five were brought forward for further discussion.

Councillor for Ward 4, Frank Sebo, did not support council's willingness to spend \$7 to \$8 million to rebuild West Park. Mr. Sebo

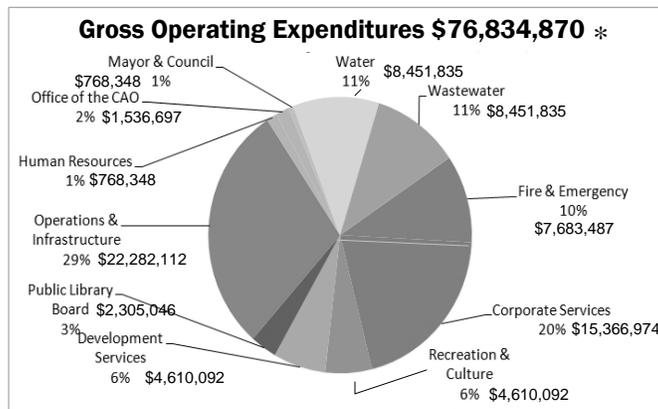
preferred to spend \$780,000 to upgrade the park and extend its life for another five years. At that point, he said, the MURC would be able to provide the south end of

support 11 new staff members for a total cost of \$628,710. Staffing costs in 2017 totalled approximately \$30.6 million which included benefits. A comparative review of 2016 salaries across other York Region municipalities revealed that 52 per cent of Georgina's operating budget that year supported staff salaries. This was the highest percentage compared to all other York Region municipalities.

Taxpayers will spend \$1 million in operating costs for the Sutton Leisure Pool, \$862,000 for the Ice Palace, \$914,920 for the ROC, \$2.3 million for the libraries and \$545,000 for the Sutton Arena. The Link will cost taxpayers approximately \$354,590 in operating costs after a projected \$155,300 in revenues. This, together with the \$1.7 million in capital expenditures to renovate Phases 2 and 3, means taxpayers will add \$2 million more in 2018 to the total cost of this project which is approaching \$7 million. Council will also tuck away \$8.87 million into reserves.

When reviewing the operating budget, Councillor Sebo suggested the cost of telephones across all departments "seemed a little high." In total, the Town spends close to \$300,000 on telephone expenditures. For those on water and waste water

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*Includes contributions to reserves of \$8,878,870.00

Keswick with the required baseball amenities. However, the rest of council disagreed and the project was passed. Councillor Sebo was also against spending \$200,000 to provide lighting for a fourth baseball diamond at the ROC and he also wanted \$60,000 targeted for streetscaping on Woodbine Ave. in Keswick to be distributed more evenly among other Georgina communities. Both of these requests were denied by the rest of council.

The operating budget of \$76.8 million will



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Letter to the Editor

In response to the Jan. 24th issue of Georgina Post's front page article about Council's struggle to resolve the lakeside lot ownership issues, my sympathy lies with Councillor Davison and her idea of leasing these lots on an exclusive use agreement to those eligible owners to protect the Town's long-term interests and possible needs.

This discussion reminds us of our similar small scale struggle to get the Town to look seriously at their ownership of "Block F" here at the dead end of Polva Promenade, in Udora, which has only a 14' wide access point. We think that they created this situation when an original subdivision plan was abandoned and they were eager to allow building permits fronting on an unassumed road.

In 2005, the Town lawyers created an Easement for Access over the Town's "Block F" here at a cost of \$1500.00 per lot, to the owners of lots to be allowed permits to construct on lots #79 and #83, plus others entering from Keila Promenade to our west.

This practice continued when the owner of #85 applied for a permit in 2012-13 although this lot has never been developed even though it was allowed a variance and paid all fees.

The rest of Polva Prom., #1-40 (also narrow) plus # 41, 46, 51, are considered to be on the unassumed road, Polva Prom. An older cottage made their entrance directly opposite our driveway sometime before we bought here in 2012 but was never charged any easement fee. Nor has an older original cottage beside us ever had to pay the easement fee. Really, this amounts to discrimination on the part of the Town. It is our position that they have encumbered our title here by these easements and that the easements no longer serve any useful purpose. Lots #79, #83 and new #85 are considered to be on a private road though this has never been clearly delineated despite our requests. The Town does plow/sand down here to the end of our lot, but gives us no gravel

or grading. We have to take our garbage out to another section for pickup.

If we could get some support for widening the 14' wide stretch adjacent to #59 and #71, and clearing the small tree patch at the end of our lot and entrance to #83, the garbage truck, fire truck, grader/gravel truck, propane delivery truck, etc. could service us down here. Occasionally, when there is a relief garbage truck driver, they have come down here, but then have to back out most of the way because of the tree hazard.

We have noticed that one owner on this dead end seems to think that the access easement from 2005 gives him permission to occupy the whole turn around area with a shelter, trailers, various equipment and recreational vehicles, with no additional charge from the Town. People at the north-west section of Polva also feel free to park stuff even on the hydro right-of-way. It seems to be common practice here and has been allowed for years. No one even notices. Perhaps the Town could create easements that would allow the lakefront owners to occupy, maintain and have exclusive use of these lots currently in question for a one-time fee?

**M. Downes,
Udora**

Georgina
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Mulroney makes it official— She's in!

It was at a private Super Bowl party in Jackson's Point on Sunday, February 4 that Caroline Mulroney ended a week of speculation by officially announcing her bid to win the leadership race for the Ontario Progressive Conservative party. Ms. Mulroney told a packed house of supporters that her decision to run for the top job was made after carefully consulting with her family, her friends and advisors. "We are very excited about it. It took a couple of days and a lot of conversations with the most important people in my life to know that I had their support and a lot of people who know a lot about politics," she told the Georgina Post on February 4. "After 15 years (of Liberal government) we really need something different. And, I am that candidate and I am that leader. I think that I am somebody new, somebody fresh and it is may be a generational change in a way, and I am excited about it."

Ms. Mulroney has never held elected office and when asked how she feels about concerns that have been raised over her lack of political experience she said her professional career as a lawyer and her numerous volunteer experiences over the past 20

years has given her the kind experience a person needs to get things done.

"It is the kind of experience that is relevant to the kind of work that happens at Queen's Park," she said, adding, "In terms of legislative experience, the Liberal Party has a lot of legislative experience between them and look where it's gotten us. I think people want change and I think my kind of experience is exactly



the kind of experience we need at Queen's Park." She said she has pulled together a team that is creating a lot of forward momentum among party members.

"And I am going to convince them that I have the energy and the ability to deliver change on the 7th of June and that I can stand up to Kathleen Wynne and defeat her," she said. "I can bring the change we need to the party and to the province." The PC party was thrown into chaos on January 25 when then leader Patrick Brown stepped down amid allegations of sexual misconduct. This was followed days later by the resignation of party president Rick Dykstra over similar allegations. Both Mr. Brown and Mr. Dykstra have denied the claims which have not been proven in a court of law.

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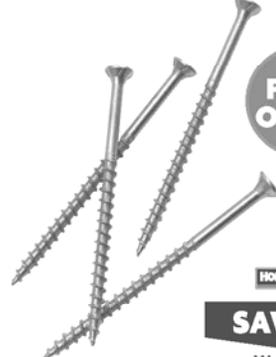
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2018 budget results continued from page 1.

services, costs will rise again by eight per cent. A home serviced by both municipal water and sewers, using an average of 62 cu. m. of water over a three month period, will pay approximately \$320.74—up from \$296.96 in 2017. The increase in Town water and waste water bills will support \$3.2 million in capital expenses which include an upgrade to the Wexford pumping station, replacement of water services on Church Street in Keswick and \$702,750 into reserves for future projects. The discussion around the council table during the budget deliberations referred to the Town's adoption of a 10-year capital budget plan, a first for the Town of Georgina. Another first is the amount of long-term debt that the Town will have to carry in 2018 which amounts to approximately \$7.6 million. The debt requests in 2018 represent partial financing for projects that will be built over the next two years, projects which are estimated to cost close to \$70

million. Development charges of \$34.2 million can be used to help build "growth related" projects such as the MURC, a new fire hall in south Keswick and a new library—projects all scheduled in the 10-year plan to appear in the budget by 2020. But taxpayers alone will need to support \$35 million of long-term debt which will fund, among other things, a new Civic Centre. "Council directed staff to give us your best budget - and we received just that. It takes a great deal of money and staff to run the many services we have from garbage pick-up to fixing and plowing roads, to enjoying the pool or ice rinks. We know that there is a long list of other items that need to be addressed, but we just can't do everything at once and had to pick the ones we felt we could do. In the end, Council has delivered a responsible budget that has something for each area of our community and we are happy with that accomplishment," said Mayor Margaret Quirk.

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Loralea Carruthers to seek York-Simcoe nomination for York Simcoe riding

Loralea Carruthers, the former Chair of the York Region District School Board and long-time board trustee, is seeking her second nomination to represent the Liberal party in the York Simcoe riding going into the June election.

In the 2014 election, Ms. Carruthers captured 16,240 votes—the closest any candidate had come to up-ending Julia Munro's hold on York Simcoe since she took office.

"I know our growing communities need continued representation by an experienced, local leader who understands the issues our riding faces firsthand from living here, someone who has worked to improve our schools, enhance our public services and protect our natural environment," she said. "I am ready to contrast my local experience and judgement with the Conservatives' parachute candidate." In an interview with the Georgina Post, Ms. Carruthers said the timing of her decision was influenced by the upheaval among the Conservative Party after Patrick Brown and several members close to him resigned their positions in the party. "With all of the stuff coming out of the PC Party and then the candidate here, without even being elected, seeking the leadership—that is not fair to the people in my riding," she said. "I was really hearing a sense of annoyance from people, that there is a sense of entitlement. Because someone who hasn't received any votes here wants to step up into the leadership, and that is a slap in the face to local constituents. It seems like our votes are being taken for granted." Ms. Carruthers said she has been representing York-Simcoe residents at Queen's Park for decades through her tenure as the vice president of the Ontario Public School Boards' Association where she served as their spokesperson to the Ministry of Education. She said the Progressive Conservative platform is cutting funding to services and infrastructure and she wants to remind voters of the progress the Liberal party has made over the years. "We want to move forward and not backward," she said.

She said the province needs to invest to improve traffic congestion and work to improve access to education, to raise wages and ensure high-quality health care. "With decades of local experience advocating for people here in York Sim-



coe, I'm ready to use that experience to fight for our communities at Queen's Park."

Ms. Carruthers paid homage to Julia Munro and said it was always a pleasure working with her on shared issues. "I want to salute Julia Munro for her years of public serve as our local MPP and wish her and John well in her coming retirement." Ms. Carruthers was acclaimed as the Liberal candidate for the riding in 2014 and it is expected she will be again during the party's nomination meeting which is expected to be held next month.

Ms. Carruthers has lived and raised her two adult children in Holland Landing for decades and holds a Masters of Education.

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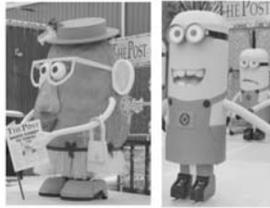
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Georgina Brass Band: A not so brief history

In March 1955, Ralph Falle Sr. moved his family from Toronto to Franklin Beach in the Jackson's Point area. This small event resulted in many young people getting a taste of brass band music, which they would not have otherwise been able to experience.

His dream was to form a Town Band (Brass instruments only). As the word spread small donations of money and used instruments started coming in. In a short while, there was a group of about 15 to 20 of us young lads, feet barely reaching the floor trying hard to learn the "C" scale. The Sutton Legion Boys Band was born in January 1956. No ride? No problem! Ralph would travel the area picking up and taking home his budding musicians. That was true dedication.

The hard work in the basement of the old Legion Hall in Sutton was rewarded with our first public parade for the opening of the Sutton Fair and Horse Show on August 10, 1957. It must have been a very proud day for Ralph, to see his dream realised when about 24 brave men and boys marched down Main Street and into the fairgrounds that day. We were decked out in dark pants, white shirts and berets supplied by the Legion. Dusty Pivnick was a strong supporter of the Band in the early days at the Legion Hall and this enthusiasm must have worn off on his nephew Mark Goodman who spent his bar mitzvah money to buy a Brass of his own so he could play with the Band. This was really special because at the time he was only a summer resident of the area. In the early years, Ralph had lots of encouragement and help from his friends to get the Band off the ground. Among those were his nephew Bram Smith JR., Ted Robbins, Bob Richmond, George Chappell, Ralph's son Bernie, Roy Barbeau and Pharmacist Bob Luke. I can recall Sunday afternoons in the Legion Hall with Bob Luke encouraging myself and

the rest of the trombone section, trying to get us to play simple hymn tunes.

As the band became more proficient, annual spring concerts were presented in the high school starting in 1960 and eventually, the band entered the Kiwanis festival in 1967. By this time, I had been appointed the assistant band master. We came away with first prize in our class. This championship was successfully defended in 1968.

During these years the band also performed regularly on Sunday evenings in the Jackson's Point Parkette throughout July and August to large appreciative audiences. We also gave concerts at the park beside the dam in Sutton, Keffer's Marine in Keswick, and Lakeview House in Jackson's Point. We were also regulars at the Sutton Fair and Horse Show as well as leading the annual Remembrance Day parade in Sutton and Santa Claus parades in Sutton, (day and night) and Keswick. The Band has also travelled to Newmarket, Aurora, and Orillia for Christmas parades and has also participated many times at Canada Day celebrations in Sutton at the Cenotaph and Fair Grounds.

The Band also played between wrestling matches in the Sutton Arena on Saturday nights. Who can forget Whipper Billy Watson, Pat Flanagan, Dick the Bulldog Brouwer, Little Beaver, and Sky Low Low? We even entertained between periods of the old Greenshirt hockey games in the old Sutton Arena. If you want cold though, try Christmas carolling on the main street of Sutton the week before Christmas in the 50's, carrying a tin can and looking for donations, the Santa Claus parade in Keswick while marching through a foot of snow on the Queensway or the Santa Claus parade in Sutton when, as we were crossing the bridge on High Street, a gust of wind blowing down the river froze our instruments solid. We did

the only acceptable thing, started whistling. Kids' day at the Briars Resort was fun while marching around the grounds with "Mr. Muggs". The Georgina Council Inauguration in 1971 was a special event for the Band. The Band also played for the parade for the funeral on Georgina Island for the RCMP officers who drowned on the lake during a rescue attempt. That was an interesting ride on the barge across the lake to the island if I remember correctly. Another memorial service was avoided, however, when we stopped gathering in one place at the front of the barge and spread out a bit. By now, the band was receiving financial support from the Village of Sutton with a mil rate on the tax bill, hence the name was changed to the Sutton Boys Band. This money allowed Ralph to purchase some new instruments and more music. Five of these new instruments are now over 50 years old and still going strong. We even got our own new uniforms after years of using hand-me-downs from other bands. Can you remember the Centennial tartan?

The first red uniforms we wore were hand-me-downs from the RCMP and a regiment of the Canadian forces. We then received a supply of used uniforms from the Weston Silver Band. These were blue with silver trim. Quite smart but quite out-dated. We just wear black pants and a white shirt with the Town logo on it now.

Unfortunately, the original group of we kids was getting older, graduating from high school and leaving the area. This meant the band was losing members and we were having a hard time keeping up the membership of 30 or so we had enjoyed. There was also competition from other bands which had sprung up in the area as well. Len Doner had a great run with his band from Pefferlaw and Bill Robinson was very successful with his band in Sutton. Both were Fife and Drum Bands and were very active, marching in many parades. The official opening ceremony at the Sutton Fair was always great fun with all three bands and the Sutton Majorettes marching in one at a time in front of the old grandstand overflowing with spectators.

The Sutton Majorettes under Mary La-Chapelle led us in many parades and probably helped take the minds of the spectators off the Band if things weren't going quite right with the music. It was great fun for us young gentlemen to march behind those lovely young ladies, especially for those of us in the front row of the Band.

Over the years, the Band has benefited from three generations of Thatchers, Mortons and Holborns. Families to have contributed two generations include the Kernohans, Falles, Rickards and Marsdens. There have been many brothers, sisters, and cousins in the Band. These include the Thatcher, Morton,

Holborn, Rickards, Pape, Noble, Phillips, Nealon, MacEachern and Eustace families. The Band has even had two married couples over the years, Paul and Pherne Thatcher, David and Sharon Chown. Presently there is one pair of brothers in the band, Paul and Don Thatcher. There is only one father and son combination at the time of writing, Gary and Geoff Morton.

In later years, the Coachmen Drum and Bugle Corps sponsored by Simcoe Coach Lines was in competition with us for members as well. These years I refer to are the years when there were no music programs at the schools. How lucky we were to have Ralph and the others leading the way for the kids in the area.

By the mid 70's, all of this hard work had finally taken its toll on Ralph and he reluctantly stepped down as leader, conductor and mentor to the band. The torch was passed to Paul Thatcher, another charter member, to carry on the tradition. The Band was now known as the Georgina Brass Band thanks to Regional Government and sponsorship from the Town of Georgina.

Over the years the Band has played for church services in Knox United, Beaverton United and St. James Anglican churches. An outdoor service at Sibbald Point Park for Knox was performed. The annual Orchard Beach picnic featured the Band as guests for a parade along Lake Drive and we have played for the guests of Halsey Lodge in Jackson's Point. Two Christmas specials for TV 10 were recorded and the Band played evening concerts at Sibbald Park to entertain the campers. We played a memorable barn dance for the Orange lodge in Claireville one cool evening and had the guests dancing along to our marches.

We played a concert for the local farmers association in the Udora Hall and for the annual corn roast for the local Orange lodge one year when we were billed as the "Willow Beach Silver Band" in their local newsletter.

We have also played for Craftorama when it was held in the halls of Sutton High School, the opening of the minor soccer season in Keswick and a community celebration in the Zehr's parking lot.

Throughout most of the 70's, 80's and 90's, the band has had as many as 12 and as few as 7 members. A core group of 5 in the band has been together for approximately 50 years with only 2 charter members left. We have 11 members now.

Over the years we have rehearsed in the Sutton Legion Hall, The Sutton Orange Hall, the old Town Hall recently destroyed by fire, Sutton High School, Knox United Church in Sutton, the Municipal Hall in Belhaven, the Civic Centre and in the new Keswick High School. Our home now is the Leacock Theatre where we have space in the

Green room on Monday nights.

We have entertained the folks of River Glen Haven, Cedarvale Manor, York Manor (now torn down), Green Acres and are regulars at Lakeview Manor in Beaverton and at Fairhavens in Bolsover. We played for the Octoberfest parade in Newmarket when John Candy was parade Marshall, the Santa Claus parade in Pefferlaw, entertained at the Pefferlaw pioneer days and at the Historical Village for Thanksgiving and Christmas celebrations. Of course, we can't forget the Citizen of the Year awards night and lighting of the Christmas lights at the Civic Centre every year.

Our most satisfying but busy time was when the Band played the music for a play at the Stephen Leacock Theatre in 1986. "I Think I Heard Someone Ring a Bell" was written by David Holborn and Mayor Bob Johnston and included 10 original songs. I had the privilege of arranging the songs played by the Band for these performances. As I looked out into the crowd when we marched on stage opening night, I saw Ralph in the audience, a big smile on his face, just as proud of his "boys" as he was in 1957 at the first Fair Parade. Sell-out crowds enjoyed every performance.

The band enjoyed a bit of resurgence with new members joining our group in the early 2000's. We had 19 members for a while with some high school students joining us. Just as in the early days though, they left for college, university or jobs in other towns.

We are presently down to 11 members and could use a little help in every section of the band. It would be a shame to have to shut it down after 62 years but it is so hard to find people who are interested in making music when there are so many other things to do now. Sutton was pretty quiet back in the mid 50's with few activities. The Band was a blessing for the local kids.

Our members are mostly seniors now and we don't know how much longer we can keep playing. With the small group we have, we can't give a large concert now like we used to but are suited for church services and retirement homes.

Ralph has left a wonderful legacy for the people of Georgina. We should be grateful for all the hard work and dedication he put forth to give enjoyment to so many.

Are you an experienced brass instrument player and looking for a place to play? The Georgina Brass Band is seeking help in the cornet/trumpet, Eb alto horn, Eb Bass and trombone sections. We rehearse on Monday nights, 7:00 to 8:30pm in Keswick from September to June.

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Written and submitted by Gary Morton

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Tennyson Tidbits

Town council has proclaimed Tuesday, February 20 Kinsmen and Kinette Day in Georgina. This proclamation is in keeping with a nation-wide week of Kinsmen and Kinette recognition from February 18 to 24. February 20 also coincides with the national KINDness Day!

In the last issue you may have noticed a "Thank You" ad from the Pefferlaw Lions that was submitted by Gail Moore. It was thanking those who donated and volunteered to make the Christmas Angels program a success. However, Gail Moore forgot to include herself as a crucial member of that team and one of my readers suggested we make sure everyone knows that her leadership does not go without notice. Thank you, Gail!

If you haven't noticed yet, the outdoor natural rink at the

Pefferlaw Lions Community Centre is open. Just remember to bring a shovel if you want to skate.

We extend our deep sympathy and sincere condolences to Karen and Bob Doyling and their two daughters Samantha and Mackenzie on the loss of their beautiful daughter Hayley, 25, on January 6, 2018. May you find peace and comfort in the memories you shared with her. Donations in Hayley's name can be made to the Ontario SPCA and the Humane Society.

We would also like to extend our condolences to the friends and family of Thomas "Jamie" Huntley who passed away on Monday, January 22, 2018. Donations in memory of Jamie can be made to the Egypt Church of the Nazarene or to the Karen Huntley Memorial Award at Queens University.



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Study could determine new location for the Georgina Arts Centre and Gallery

Although a funding request to conduct a study to address an idea that would relocate the Georgina Arts Centre to the ClearWater Farm was denied, Ontario Water Centre (OWC) founder Annabel Slaight says “good ideas always prevail.”

The OWC, in partnership with the Georgina Art Centre and Gallery (GACG) and the Chippewas of Georgina, had applied for \$81,000 in funding from South Lake Community Futures to advance an idea that would help transform the ClearWater Farm on Lake Dr. into “a destination for agri-tourism and culture.” The OWC was prepared to match the funding request.

According to Ms. Slaight the three groups have been working closely together and are eager to see a business plan that would validate the idea, identify economic opportunities and provide an architectural concept for a new \$7 million art centre.

She said the plan would allow the three partners to decide if this is more than a good idea and if it is something that should happen. “It would also be a presentation that would allow us to go to some major funders.”

York Region approves an all-way stop in Udora

After studying traffic patterns and records of speeding violations in Udora since Ravenshoe Rd. was upgraded and Hwy. 404 was opened, the Region of York has approved a four-way stop at the intersection of Ravenshoe Rd. and Victoria Rd. 1. According to a report submitted to York Region Council on February 1, traffic volume at this intersection has increased by approximately 85 per cent since the Highway 404 extension opened in 2014. Ravenshoe Road carries approximately 4,500 vehicles daily and Victoria Road carries approximately 4,000 vehicles daily, the report states.

Ward 5 Councillor Dave Harding reported that the Region of York will consider reducing the speed limit through the intersection to 40 km from 50 km per hour. Traffic engineering studies assess factors such as traffic speeds and volumes, restricted sight lines and collision experience when determining benefits for implementing an all-way stop control. York Region reports that the cost of converting the intersection to an all-way stop will be approximately \$3,000.00.

Anita David, Vice Chair of the GACG said the Gallery will have to move at some point in the future and the idea of the ClearWater Farm location is just one of the options under consideration.

She said the current building is in disrepair and unless the Town wants to spend the money to fix it, the gallery will have to

move. “The Town wants us to look at some other options,” she said.

Now that the funding request has been turned down, Ms. Slaight said they would have to come up with another plan. “But I can tell you we are not throwing in the towel.”

MOMS AND KIDS TOO (MK2)

A group for women who are parenting, or pregnant, who have past or present concerns with drugs or alcohol

Description: The group supports pregnant and/or parenting women/caregivers who:

- Struggle with alcohol or drug use concerns
- Have a partner who uses drugs or alcohol, or
- Have CAS involvement
- Runs for 7 weeks, 3 full-day per week

Next Start Date: March 2018

Time: **Monday, Tuesday and Thursday:**
9:30am - 2:30pm

Location: **Keswick Maple Hill Baptist Church**
215 Glenwoods Ave Keswick, ON L4P 2W6

Topics include:



- ✦ Parenting & Attachment
- ✦ Women's Health/Empowerment
- ✦ Self-care
- ✦ Trauma
- ✦ Lapse prevention



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Residents come out to celebrate winter at annual Snofest

Saturday, February 3 was a little chilly with the wind but that did not deter hundreds of residents from participating in the fun and games held during Georgina's Annual Snofest winter party at the ROC on Saturday, February 3.

Tubing, snowboarding, tobogganing, ice skating, bouncy castles, free hotdogs, snowcones, pony rides, games, old fashioned maple taffy and a visit by Elsa and Anna of Frozen fame topped the list of favourite winter fun for the kiddies and their fami-

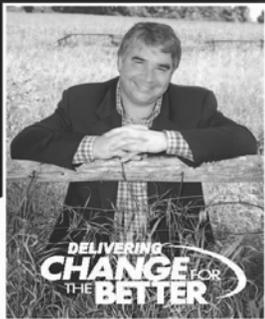
lies. Sponsored by the Town of Georgina, the annual event is hosted by the Recreation and Culture department and is an opportunity to bundle up and get busy outdoors. A good time was had by all!



(Above) Bundled up and enjoying an open-air horse drawn carriage ride to the ROC chalet. (Centre) Mom Tanya Thompson holds on to delighted daughter Maddie as she gets a kick out of her first pony ride. (Right) A tiny tot tries a hand at curling.

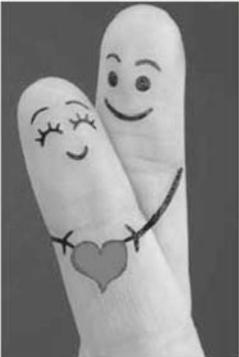


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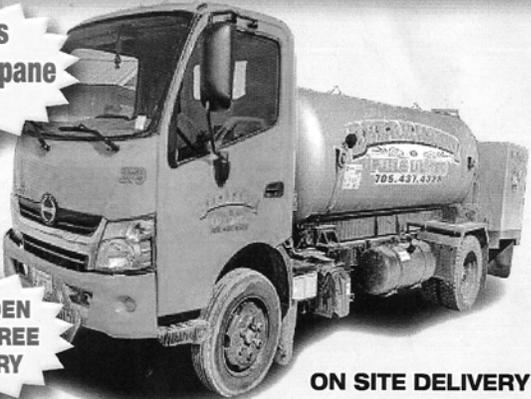


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Club 55 Keswick recognizes volunteers

Seventy volunteer members of Club 55 Keswick were invited to a Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon on Saturday, January 27 at the Stephen Leacock Centre. The club recognized the energy and commitment of these members who provide support as convenors, board members and kitchen helpers. "Without these people we would not have a success club," said past president Margaret Van Den Hazel. In addition to the accolades these volunteers received, the club also made a special presen-

tation to Susan Crichton who has served the club as their kitchen co-ordinator for years. Photo: (L to R) Past President Margaret Van Den Hazel and Mayor Margaret Quirk make a presentation to Club 55 member, Susan Crichton.



Retouching a Touch of Elegance

In 2009 Elise Rodman was a start-up entrepreneur when she opened her own 950 sq. ft. hair salon in Keswick and fulfilled a dream she has had since she was five. Today, she celebrates nearly 10 years in business and has expanded her operation to 2,300 sq. ft. and 13 staff members.

A Touch of Elegance by Elise on The Queensway is now a one-stop-shop for beauty treatments. "This is my baby," she says as she proudly waves her

hand to reveal the newly decorated shop and added beauty spa-like services during a grand re-opening on February 2.

Below, Ms. Rodman (centre left) cuts the ribbon on her new shop and is joined by staff and Ward 1 Councillor Charlene Biggerstaff.



Pefferlaw loses a favourite son

The community of Pefferlaw is in mourning over the loss of one of its favourite sons, John Dallimore. John passed away on January 22, 2018 at the age of 98.

He was born in Toronto and joined the military in 1941. He was assigned as a gunner to the 4th Canadian Division of the 5th Canadian Anti-Tank Regiment which was attached to the 3rd Anti-Tank Battery. After training John was shipped out to

the Aldershot military camp in the U.K. where his company received orders to become part of the allied attack on the beaches of Normandy which began on June 6, 1944.

In his own words during an interview with the editor of this paper years before he passed away, John described his experiences during those six dark days at Normandy. "We landed in a blaze of anti-aircraft fire and we were in action from the time we landed until we finished up. It was quite a battle. We went through days of bitter, bloody fighting and the bombs felt like miniature earthquakes." He then went on to describe the moment when he learned the war was over. "The order was CEASE FIRE and it was repeated three times. We were in Germany with our guns in position and all of a sudden, we got the cease fire. It was hard to

believe it was finished."

After returning from the war, John worked for a washing machine manufacturer and continued to do so until he joined

Toronto Hydro.

In 1959, he purchased the old Dominion Bank building in Pefferlaw where he lived and operated Dallimore's Appliances on the main street until his retirement in 2001. As soon as he took up residence in Pefferlaw he became an active

and committed member of the community, starting with his induction as a volunteer member of the Pefferlaw Lions Club in 1960. At the time of his death, John was the longest serving member of this service club.

In 1964 he joined the volunteer firefighters at the Pefferlaw fire station where he served as Deputy Fire Chief and Fire Chief before retiring in 1984.

John has been described as a kind, humble and gentle man who was always there to offer a helping hand whenever it was needed. In 2017, his unwavering support for his community was recognized by the Town of Georgina when he received the Citizen of the Year Award. John will be sadly missed by his many friends and family, niece Shirley Jakonen, her husband Kal and daughter Kallee-an.



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Coming Events & Announcements

Check out the **Georgina Art Gallery** and stroll through the art exhibit from 100 students of Keswick High School. Exhibit is on from January 20 to February 11.

Get our your February calendar and save these dates for activities at **Club 55 Sutton**: Thursday, February 15—Valentine's Catered Lunch at 12:30 pm. Thursday, February 22—Birthdays Bingo starts at 1:30 pm.

Routes is organizing a group bus trip to Ripley's Aquarium of Canada on Wednesday, February 14. Cost is \$35 for non-seniors and \$30 for seniors. Call (905) 722-4616.

Winter Silent Retreats at Loretto Maryholme Spirituality Centre start February 6 to 8 and March 6 to 8. Come for 'me' time in this sacred space. Call (905) 476-4013.

The February meeting of **Georgina Pins and Needles** will be held a Knox United Church at 7:00 pm on Tues. Feb. 6. Trunk Show by Jean Stevens.

Georgina artists will exhibit their talent from February 16 to March 25 at the Georgina Art Gallery. This exhibition presents paintings, drawings and artistic photographs capturing places and people in

Georgina.

The **Lake Simcoe Championship Ice Fishing Derby** will take place at Rayner's Park in Keswick on Sun. Feb. 18. Visit icefishinglakesimcoe.com

Loretto Maryholme Spirituality Centre is hosting Lenten Breakfasts on Wednesdays 8:00 to 9:30 a.m. February 21, 28, March 7, 14 and 21. Call (905) 476-4013.

The Beaverton, Cannington and Georgina Brock Horticultural Societies invite you to Seedy Saturday on February 24 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Royal Canadian Legion in Cannington. Bring and swap your heritage and open pollinated seeds.

"**An Afternoon with Alva**" a well known medium and psychic is hosting a fundraising event in support of Shades of Hope on Sun. Feb. 25 at 1:00 pm at the Canadian Academy of Therapeutic Arts, 120 Newkirk Rd. Richmond Hill. Book tickets at www.shadesofhope.ca

The GTTI on Baseline Rd. invites you to a Paint Nite on Sat. Mar. 3 from 6:30 to 9:00 pm. Cost is \$45 and includes materials and a light snack.

Save the Date for the Pefferlaw Association of Ratepayers Spaghetti Dinner on March 3 at 5:30 p.m. at the Pefferlaw Hall.

The Perchin for MS ice fishing derby will be held at Sibbald's Point Provincial Park on Sat. March 3. Visit <http://www.perchinforms.com/>

Shine Through the Rain, a charity that provides financial support for patients with life-threatening illnesses invites you to a fundraising Euchre Tournament on Fri. March 23 at the Market Brewing Company in Newmarket from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm. Visit events@shinethroughtherain.ca

An Evening of **Comedy and Magic** with Jason Palter at the Link on Sat. March 24 at 6:30 pm. \$25+ HST. Licensed event. Tickets at georgina.ca—code 13552

Vendors are wanted for the 2018 edition of **BBQFest**, a charity event at the ROC on July 28, 2018 featuring entertainment, sports tournaments and much more. Call (905) 251-3564 for details.

Don't forget the **Royal Canadian Legion Branch** in Sutton offers Friday night dinners at 5:00 pm with a meat roll at 6:00 pm and Bid Euchre at 7:00 pm.

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