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September 10, 2023

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Georgina Ice kicks off 30th season with Hockey Day in Georgina



CONNOR GARDINER SCORES IN PRE-SEASON WIN

By MIKE ANDERSON

Coming off a strong playoff run last season, the Georgina Ice Junior Hockey Club will kick off its 30th anniversary season at the Ice Palace on Saturday, September 16, with its first-ever Hockey Day in Georgina.

The event will feature two alumni games and four minor hockey games with the club's season opener against the Port Perry Lumberjacks set for 7:30 p.m.

For the price of a \$10 wrist ban, fans can watch seven hockey games and enjoy live music from the Connors Brothers, a Kids Fun Zone featuring target shooting, air hockey and a photo booth, as

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I recently received a letter in the mail from a Town employee describing a “fun day away from the office at the taxpayer’s expense.”

According to the letter, certain members of a specific department at the Town were able to get paid for time off and be treated to tickets for a Blue Jays ball game with bus rental transportation included.

This employee was not included in the junket and described how the event contributed to damaging the culture and morale in the office.

“Many of us walk on eggshells at work while others continue to reap the benefits because they are on the chosen teams or are the chosen people. It’s things like this that continue to divide us, not bring us together,” said the anonymous letter writer.

Councillors Naomi Davison and Dale Genge were also c.c.’d on the letter and in my discussions with Ms. Genge I learned that \$50,000 has been earmarked in the 2023 Town budget for department heads to spend on “employee appreciation” and “team building” exercises.

Given that we have homeless people living in encampments in the woods and under bridges, I have to wonder if perks such as the all-expense-paid Blue Jays baseball game is appropriate in this economic climate —

especially when it didn’t achieve the intended goal of energizing employees and improving corporate morale.

I think a less expensive and perhaps more appropriate team building exercise could be for staff department heads to lead their staff in a volunteer initiative at the food bank for example — stocking shelves and helping out a very long line-up of food bank clients.

Or, maybe donate some money for a community meal at a local church and then volunteer to help prepare it and serve it.

If nothing else, it might remind these employees how lucky they are to have such good paying jobs.


Karen Wolfe, Pefferlaw

GEORGINA
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PUBLISHER | EDITOR
Mike Anderson
mike@georginapost.com

ADVERTISING | SALES
416.859.6291
mike@georginapost.com

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HOCKEY CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

well as face painting, giveaways, a tailgate BBQ and a variety of vendors.

Michael Cornacchia, VP of Business and Hockey Operations, came up with the idea after being inspired by the success of Hockey Day in Canada.

"The goal of Hockey Day in Canada, with Canadian teams playing each other, is to bring Canada together with hockey and introduce new people to the sport. And that's exactly what we want to do here," Cornacchia said.

"We want to bring our community together for a day to celebrate not only Georgina Ice but our youth and our kids in hockey, and just let them experience playing in front of our fans."

"Maybe one day they may want to come back and play for the Georgina Ice, and their families will be in the stands cheering them on."

Established in 1994, the Georgina Ice, a Junior "C" hockey club, plays in the East Orr Division of the Provincial Junior Hockey League (PJHL), which boasts more than 60 teams.

Over 30 years, Georgina Ice has built a rich hockey tradition, with more former players, like Joel Hanley and Sean Walker, in the NHL than any other team in the league.

Last season, the Ice finished with a winning record and its first playoff series win in five years. The team also received Rookie of the Year and Coaching Staff of the Year awards. And, so far, the signs are pointing to another great season, with the Ice winning four straight pre-season games.

"Last season was a transformative year for us. The boys played well. Everybody came together," Cornacchia said.

"But one of the most significant building blocks was winning our first playoff series in five years. That was a huge step for our team

and for our returning players this year."

While the team had 17 rookies last year, Cornacchia believes the experience gained from last year's playoff run will pay dividends this season.

"Those players are going to be a little more seasoned, and it will show on the ice," he said.

"We're going to improve over last season, and we should finish in the top three of our division."

Last season, the Ice also enjoyed record attendance, with some games drawing over a thousand fans.

"The fans are coming out to support us," he said.

"This year we've added more fan experiences; we've really cranked it up."

"We have two shootouts during the first intermission. There's Bailey's Hometown Shootout, and we've added Turkey Shoot Hometown Shootout."

Cornacchia says the second intermission will feature "Chuck-A-Puck," where fans purchase a numbered puck and toss it over the glass towards "Icy," the team's mascot at centre ice. The closest puck to Icy's stick wins a prize.

"We've turned our building into one of the best arenas in the league, and it's probably the loudest," Cornacchia laughs.

While the excitement level may be higher this season, one of the biggest draws continues to be affordability, with a Family Pass, two adults and four kids, costing just \$30.

"This year, we reduced our family packs even further; we're doing \$30 now, which ties into our 30th anniversary," Cornacchia said.

"You're getting six people to the game for \$30, or \$5 a person. I don't think there's anything a family can go to in town for that."

For tickets, visit www.georginaice.ca/tickets.



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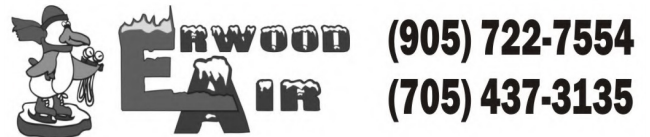
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PAUL BRADY GIVES TOUR OF RAILWAY CABOOSE

Harvestfest brings the past to life at Pioneer Village

By EWA CHWOJKO-SRAWLEY

Harvestfest at Georgina Pioneer Village is a delightful journey into the past, where the simple pleasures of yesteryear come to life, thanks to the dedicated volunteers from the Georgina Historical Society.

The heart of the festival lies in the Pioneer Village itself, a living museum that showcases the daily life of early settlers.

Visitors can watch skilled crafters in period costumes demonstrating nearly forgotten tasks such as blacksmithing or basket weaving. It's like watching a live reenactment of your great-grandma's Instagram feed!

Kids, brace yourselves to dive into the thrilling world of your grandparents' favourite games. Say 'goodbye' to screens, and 'hello' to classics like 'Kick the Can' and sack races.

TikTok celebs, take a backseat. Our local musicians are cranking out tunes that have been rocking for generations; it's time for some good ol' tunes that don't require a million 'likes' to be awesome.

If you're tired of online shopping, or you miss a friendly smile and a hearty handshake, this festival is for you.

Local artisans will be offering everything from exquisite handmade quilts to farm-fresh produce.

As a bonus, a new mobile app provides historical details about each building in the village.

Admission is by cash donation, allowing you to contribute what you can to support the Georgina Historical Society.

If you're looking for a dose of nostalgia, head on down to the Pioneer Village on Saturday, September 16.

For more information follow the link: www.georgina.ca/events/harvestfest



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Police respond to dirt bike complaints in Pefferlaw

YRP will increase their presence in Pefferlaw to address increased complaints of dirt bikes operating on public roads, says Sgt. Hoyt Miller.

According to the Highway Traffic Act and Off Road Vehicles Act, it is illegal to operate a dirt bike on public roads and fines of \$110 can be issued to operators/owners for each infraction. Parents of unlicensed youth can also be issued a summons.

Pefferlaw residents say they have witnessed teens driving their dirt bikes erratically and speeding through residential streets with little regard for neighbouring properties.

“One of our biggest issues is the very noisy dirt bikes using Forestry as a speedway,” said one resident. “We have seen many people having to jump out of the way, along with their dogs. I know kids like to have fun but it is getting out of hand. They are riding around on the roads with no supervision and I am afraid someone is going to get hurt.”

Many residents say say youngsters are operating these

vehicles with no license, no registration, no insurance and no respect for public and private property.

Sgt. Miller says the dirt bike issue is a problem other neighbourhoods are dealing with as well. After increased complaints in Keswick’s Simcoe Landing subdivision, he said officers have laid charges and as a result incidents have been reduced.

Dirt bikes and ATVs are off road vehicles and currently are not allowed to operate on public roadways in Georgina. However, there is support in the community to change the laws. In July council received an update from a working group which was formed to investigate permitting off-road vehicles on Georgina roadways. It also approved a public consultation process and directed staff to report on the results and provide updated options and recommendations by November 30. Several municipalities around the lake, including Innisfil, permit off-road vehicles on their public roads.

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COMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sutton Legion - Friday Night Dinners, 5 - 6:30 p.m.: Sept 15, Roast Beef & Mashed Potatoes; Sept 22, Fish & Chips (\$15) (21 East St, Sutton)

The Good Food Collective - Community Lunch, Sept 20, Tomato, Spinach and Cheese Gnocchi; Sept 27, Chicken Vegetable Stew with Matzo Balls & Egg Noddles. (The Link, 20849 Dalton Rd, Sutton)

Georgina Wholistic Healing Summit, Sat, Sept 16, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Topics include: alternative health, naturopathy, spiritualism, sound healing and various healing modalities. Tickets: \$20. www.gwhs.ca. (The Link, 20849 Dalton Rd, Sutton)

Hospice Georgina - AGM, Sept 18, 7 - 9 p.m. (The Link, 20849 Dalton Rd, Sutton).

Georgina Terry Fox Run, Sun, Sept 17, 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Register online www.run.terryfox.ca/georgina. (North Gwillimbury Park, 823 Lake Dr.)

Ravenshoe United Church - 150th anniversary, Tues, Sept 19: Georgina Historical Society presentation, 7 p.m.; Sat, Sept 23: Open House and time capsule opening, 1-4 p.m.; Sun, Sept 24: Anniversary Service, 10:30 a.m. (3252 Ravenshoe Rd)

Lake Simcoe Gardeners Meeting, Keswick United Church, September 25, 7:30 p.m. Become a member @ \$20. Enjoy the speakers, meet new friends. Contact: ralphcox_86@yahoo.ca (177 Church St, Keswick)



DAVIES SPEAKS AT DEDICATION

Plaque dedicating site to Dr. Burrows unveiled at GNPLC

By MIKE ANDERSON

Dr. George Burrows, who passed in 2015, was fondly remembered by his family, and the community he served for nearly 60 years as a family doctor during the unveiling of a plaque dedicated to him at the Georgina Nurse Practitioner-Led Clinic (GNPLC) in Jackson's Point on Sunday, August 27.

Dr. Burrows established the Georgina Medical Clinic on the same site in 1961, providing full medical and emergency care. It was soon considered one of the province's most innovative and progressive clinics. And, while lost to a fire in 2017, it helped pave the way for the current GNPLC.

During his career, he developed a reputation as a dedicated family doctor who made thousands of house calls and delivered hundreds of babies.

In 2006, the College of Family Physicians acknowledged Dr. Burrows' commitment to family medicine, naming him Ontario's "Family Physician of the Year."

Nearly 40 people were invited to the dedication, which Steve Jacobson, Chair of Health Georgina, organized.

Jacobson said that while Health Georgina was not able to name the building after him, it was dedicating the site to his memory.

"He established the clinic

himself, growing it from a little office on High Street to the building that was here, which housed, at one time, six family doctors and two nurse practitioners," Jacobson said.

"He was one of the most beloved people in this community. It didn't matter what time of day you rang the phone in front of his office; he would come."

His daughter Heather Burrows Davies also spoke about her father's dedication, describing how he would accept eggs, produce and baked goods when, before OHIP, a family could not afford to pay their medical bill.

Davies said during a difficult period, when there was a doctor shortage and the clinic's future was in doubt, her father supported it with his own money.

"He began supporting the clinic out of his own pocket and kept it going by sheer force of will. He would not see it close. Medicine was a calling and a lifestyle for my dad," she said.

"Our dad never believed in turning a patient away. He always fought for his patients and has firmly believed in preventative care. Dad's last house call was ten days before he died."

Dr. Burrows' family has created a website in his memory, visit www.drgeorgeburrows.com.

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AROUND TOWN



Hospice Georgina present Melissa and her son Rory (centre) with a cheque for \$29,421.50. She was the big winner of the Catch the Ace draw on August 30. Stay tuned as new round of Catch the Ace will begin soon.



The 2023 Mayor's Charity Motorcycle Ride & Poker Run began at the Pefferlaw Lions Hall on Sat, Sept 9. More than 40 riders travelled to Kinmount, Fenlon Falls & Glenarm Rd, before returning to the Sutton Legion for a BBQ, Funds raised will be donated to the Legion's building fund for badly needed repairs.



Jared BigCanoe leads people in a circle dance during the unveiling of Old Fox Woman, a new sculpture in front of the GCAC in Sutton on Sept 7. Old Fox Woman is a trickster spirit. Being part fox, she is a sly and intelligent matriach. Her purpose is to help younger generations find their way in life. The sculpture was created by artist Ron Baird in collaboration with BigCanoe.



Georgina Fire & Rescue Services

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To apply please submit your online application by visiting us on our website www.georgina.ca, and select Careers - Current Opportunities - Volunteer Fire Fighter. Applications must be received no later than 11:59pm on Thursday, October 5, 2023. Please quote job posting #2023.90. Please be sure to review the Volunteer Fire Fighter Recruitment Information Package which also details the qualification requirements to be a Volunteer Fire Fighter.

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GEORGINA

Ask The Expert

with Morgan D. Lipchitz



What are my obligations when stopped by police?

Police in Ontario are entitled to stop you in three general circumstances: (1) they see you committing a crime or offence; (b) they reasonably suspect you've committed a crime or offence; or (3) you are driving.

Police are allowed to approach any person and ask them questions. Unless you are being detained to investigate a specific offence, you are not required to answer any of their questions.

If you are detained, section 10(a) and 10(b) of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms grants all persons the right to be promptly informed of the reason for their detention and to retain and instruct counsel without delay.

You should ask the officer why you are being detained and then request to speak to counsel. Do not answer any questions until you have spoken with your lawyer - you have the right to remain silent, use it.

It is good practice to keep the business card or contact information of your lawyer on your person. If you do not have a lawyer, you have the right to phone a family member or friend to get the name and contact information for a lawyer. Most often people are not expecting to get stopped by Police. If you do not plan ahead, you will not have the information necessary to contact your lawyer when you need it most.

Do not mislead police – while you are not required to answer questions, it is the criminal offence of “obstructing justice” to provide police false information including a false name or address.

While Driving:

All motorists in Canada are required to stop for police when directed to do so. Drivers are required to provide their driver's license, registration, and insurance. The police are also entitled to ensure the mechanical fitness of the vehicle.

If Police suspect you've been drinking and driving, upon request you are required by law to provide a sample of your breath into an approved roadside screening device (either drugs or alcohol) and/or to comply with a field sobriety test.

If you are involved in an accident, you are required to report the accident and provide the necessary information.

Drivers stopped at roadside do not have an immediate right to counsel unless they are being charged with a criminal offence.

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