And the winner is...Caroline Mulroney and her PC party

Caroline Mulroney won her premiere entry into the world of politics on June 7 when she handily secured the York-Simcoe seat for her Progressive Conservative Party during the provincial election. But she, like the rest of York-Simcoe had to wait more than two and half hours to see the numbers. A provincial election campaign, which had been full of controversy and stunning announcements from the start, didn’t end for York-Simcoe voters when the polls closed at 9:00 pm.

An on-going police investigation in Bradford forced two schools, doubling as polling stations, into a lock down and hold situation. The delay, which required one polling station to stay open until 11:25 pm, meant the rest of the province was celebrating a PC majority government before local York-Simcoe candidates saw their own results.

In an interview with Ms. Mulroney after the results were posted, she said it was a little anti-climatic watching the results come in from other ridings as she waited for hers.

“But it was great to see my fellow candidates who had worked so hard get elected and then to learn that the party would form a majority government, so I had a lot to keep me busy,” she said, adding “I saw a wave go across the province and saw a lot of other communities near my riding do well, so I was encouraged.”

She said she will spend the next few days talking with residents to find out what changes they would like to see in their communities.

Long-time Georgina resident and NDP candidate Dave Szollosy said he was very pleased with his results and said he believed his candidacy raised the profile of many issues needing attention in Georgina. The Ontario NDP party will form the official opposition in Queen’s Park.
Home is where the heart is! And on July 1, you will be able to experience the “heart” of Georgina when you visit the Homecoming Tent during Georgina’s 200th Birthday celebrations. The tent will be located at the Georgina Pioneer Village and will be open from 2:00 pm until 8:00 pm on Canada Day. The G200 Planning Committee and the Georgina Historical Society will be on hand to make sure you enjoy the many historical displays inside the tent. These include old photos, family trees, old documents and the continuous showing of film footage featuring Georgina in the 1920s and 1949. You can take a moment to listen to music, have a glass of lemonade, meet up with old friends and neighbours and bid on one of the fabulous desserts donated by leading chefs in Georgina. This dessert auction will take place at 4:00 pm. At 5:30 pm you won’t want to miss an original skit of comedic proportions that re-enacts the antics of an early council meeting.

Once outside the tent, you can walk through time and experience life as it was in another century when you take a guided tour of the Georgina Pioneer Village. There will be a lumberjack show, stilt walkers, jugglers and old-time games for the kiddies.

Georgina’s 200th celebration marks the progress and development of three unique pioneer geographic areas—North Gwillimbury Township (now known as the Keswick area), the Villages of Sutton and Jackson’s Point and the old Georgina Township which was everything east of the Briars. Prior to amalgamation in 1971 when these three areas were combined to become the Georgina we know today, each of them had their own Town councils, police force, fire department and school districts.

James O’Dell Roach is often referred to as one of the first leading citizens of North Gwillimbury and William Bourchier is known for settling the Sutton and Jackson’s Point regions. William Johnson is credited with being the founder of Pef- ferlaw.

Although North Gwillimbury was opened up for settlement before Georgina Township, the date of August 28, 1818 is the date historians mark as the birth of Georgina as that is when the mapping for the area was completed.

For those of you with a Facebook page full of contacts, why not invite your old school chums and those neighbours who have moved away to come back to Georgina and celebrate Homecoming with you? The other thing you can do is bring along old photos, family trees and school year books to reminisce and chuckle over old memories. Georgina has experienced tremendous changes over the past 200 years but one thing has remained constant—it is the best place in the world to live and I am so proud and happy to call it home. See you at Homecoming!

Karen Wolfe, Editor
Lawyer letter to Town raises concerns

A lawyer representing indirect lakefront owners on Lake Drive North and East who have been working with the Town to settle a decades-old issue over shoreline jurisdiction and ownership, submitted a letter to council on Wednesday, May 30 claiming “inflammatory comments” made by the Town and its Councillors, have encouraged an increase of trespassing incidents by residents throughout York Region.

“Specifically, it is my client’s position that certain inflammatory comments made by the Town and its Councillors in public consultation have emboldened and encouraged residents throughout York Region to trespass on privately held and exclusively occupied lakefront lands and the improvements situate thereon,” wrote Mr. Noah D. Hobson of Fahey Crate Law in Keswick.

He went on to say, “We respectfully caution that any publication or statements made by the Town to the public must not induce trespass or contribute to the mistaken public belief that indirect lakefront properties on Lake Drive North and East are lands dedicated to public use or available for public access to Lake Simcoe.”

When contacted by the Georgina Post, the Deputy CAO for the Town of Georgina, David Reddon, responded with the following statement: “I can advise you that neither the Town nor any Council members have made comments that could in any way be reasonably construed to encourage or invite entry upon lands in which the ownership of such lands has yet to be determined. I would further add that the Town cannot be held liable for the actions of persons over whom the Town has no control.”

In an interview with Carr Hatch, an indirect lakefront property owner on Lake Drive North, he said there have been “lots of incidents” where people have attempted to access Lake Simcoe from lakeside properties. Mr. Hobson’s letter also alerted the Town to potential liability issues that could arise due to increased trespassing occurrences and he said he has been advised by Lake Drive property owners that they have experienced “bullying and harassment” by the general public accessing their lands.

“As the Town can appreciate, increased occurrences of trespass on privately held and exclusively occupied lakefront lands brings with it increased exposure to civil liability. This exposure is real for lakefront property owners in fee simple, those who enjoy exclusive use and possession as established by decades of continuous use and the Town.”

Mr. Reddon’s statement also delivered the follow message to both the public and property owners. “Until the ownership of lands along Lake Drive has been determined, the public should not treat all lands along Lake Drive as being publicly accessible lands. Further, if residents are experiencing any difficulties with trespasses over lands which they own, the Town encourages the residents to call the police to seek their assistance in removing the person or persons that are trespassing.”
Rumblings surfaced recently to indicate something could finally be happening at the Keswick Business Park. No details were released by the Town’s Economic Development department, except to say “it is a spark of good news.”

I would like to personally congratulate my friend Georgia Lyons upon receiving her 25-year pin for her outstanding contributions to the Shriners Club.

Oooops! Please note that the land set aside for the new fire hall in south Keswick adjacent to the proposed MURC lands as reported in the May 24 issue was not part of the developer’s parkland dedication. It is a separate parcel in the South Keswick Area Development Plan. We regret any inconvenience this may have caused.

We were deeply saddened to learn of the passing of George Lester who passed away on Sunday, June 3. George was a former teacher at Sutton District High School and long-time member of the Pefferlaw Lions Club. Our sincere condolences go out to his wife Lynne and family and friends. See page 12 for visitation & service details.

DEATH NOTICE
HALES: Cyril “Bud” Wallace—at his residence in Sunderland on Tuesday, June 5, 2018. Loving father of Wendy Ewing (Archie), David (Katherine) Hales, Darrell Hales, predeceased by his son Randal. Cherished grandfather to Bobby and Sara Ewing, Daisy and Emma Hales and Jessica and Julie Hales. Great grandfather to River Ewing. A private family burial will be held at a later date. If so desired, memorial donations in memory of Cyril to the Canadian Paraplegic Association would be greatly appreciated by the family. Online condolences are welcomed at www.manganfuneralhome.com
Keswick Cenotaph moves to the Stephen Leacock Centre

After a year-long search to find a suitable site for re-location of the Keswick Centotaph, Town council and the Legion have agreed to move it to the Stephen Leacock Centre.

In an address to council on June 3, Royal Canadian Legion member Walter Mackey told council the Legion membership agreed with the decision to move the Keswick Church Street cenotaph to the Stephen Leacock Centre.

“I want to thank you for all of your hard work in the past year,” he said. “It is an ideal spot and in 25 years from now, we will be happy we were able to do this.”

The current site has been deemed unsuitable due to its limited size and sloping grade. Ken McAlpine, the Town’s Landscape Architectural Planner, said a number of sites were considered but when measured against approved criteria did not score as well as the Stephen Leacock Centre. A Town budget of $155,000 for the project was approved in 2018.

In response to council’s queries regarding the completion date, Mr. McAlpine said there was a desire to “fast track” the project in an attempt to have the work completed prior to Remembrance Day 2018.

Director leaves Town employ after two months

Marc Pourvahidi, the Executive Director hired just two months ago to manage Special Capital Projects and Initiatives, is no longer employed by the Town of Georgina.

According to sources, Mr. Pourvahidi left on Friday, June 1 and was not in the office on Monday, June 4.

An official statement from the Town when contacted by the Georgina Post reads “The Town of Georgina can confirm Marc Pourvahidi, Director of Special Capital Initiatives, has resigned his position, effective June 4, 2018. We thank Marc for his contributions and wish him well in his future endeavours. In the interim, Terry Alyman, who is concluding an acting role as Director of Recreation and Culture, will be assisting the Town with moving our capital initiatives forward.”

Mr. Pourvahidi was being paid $204,00 a year plus benefits on a contract basis to manage the construction of major projects such as the Multi Use Recreation Complex, the new Civic Centre and the new Peflaw Fire Hall.

According to media reports, Mr. Pourvahidi was previously employed by the Town of Whitchurch Stouffville as its Chief Administrative Officer from March 15 to November 16 when he was dismissed. Mr. Pourvahidi’s surprising departure in Georgina comes on the heels of another director who left under similar surprising circumstances. Dan Pisani, the Director of Operations and Infrastructure, left without notice in February after five years.

No reason for either sudden departure has been provided by the Town.

When asked by the Georgina Post to provide the details of Mr. Pourvahidi’s remuneration departure settlement, the Town’s Director of Human Resources replied by saying, “As a municipality, we are required to protect the personal information of our employees. Under MFIPPA, we are unable to disclose the details of anyone’s employment contract as the Act does not apply to employment related records.”
The property known as 6017 Smith Blvd. is forbidden to conduct a fill operation but that court judgement has not stopped dump trucks from illegally hauling fill onto the property.

After a lull in fill activities for more than a year, neighbouring residents began witnessing truck loads of fill again being transported onto the property and called the Town to complain. Council addressed the issue at the June 3 council meeting and heard from the Town’s Director of Planning what measures the Town has taken, together with those of the York Regional Police and the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority.

Mr. Lenters told council staff immediately responded and advised truckers that fill activities were not permitted and the owner was issued an order to cease operations.

“That wasn’t complied with,” Mr. Lenters said and the Town’s solicitor was then instructed to take whatever legal steps were necessary to stop the import of illegal fill.

“The papers that need to be filed and served against the owners are being done now,” he said. “The Town can’t physically stop it and it is frustrating because of what is happening. Nobody likes it but unfortunately there is a due process that has to be taken.”

Mr. Lenters explained that the property has been the subject of previous litigation between the Town and the Ministry of Natural Resources and there was a decision by the Superior Court which issued an order to cease the fill activities.

Mayor Quirk said residents who had contacted the Town were concerned about the environmental impacts of the fill being brought in.

“There is a lot of concern about the fill going in there. It hasn’t been tested, it’s not regulated and what is it doing to the environment,” she asked adding, “we also need to know what can we do to get that fill out of there… We need to know how we can force them to remove what they have put in.”

Mayor Quirk’s frustration at the owners “thumbing their noses at us” and refusing to stop the work, prompted Regional Councillor Naomi Davison to suggest closing the road but it was agreed a legal opinion would be needed before they took that step.

While the property at one time was owned and operated by Marvin Blanchard, Mr. Lenters said there is a question of who actually owns the property now. The Georgina Post contacted Mr. Blanchard and he said, while he still lives there, he sold the property to a numbered company last fall. “I have no involvement,” he said. “I have no idea. I’ve washed my hands of it.”

Staff will continue its efforts to force compliance through legal means and will update council next week on the progress.

Municipal race contenders so far...

Now that the June 7 provincial election is over, we expect to be hearing more from those interested in running for municipal council. Already a number of hopeful candidates have put their names forward. For mayor, Margaret Quirk has announced her re-election bid and Boris Godzinevski has also filed his nomination papers for the top job. Regional Councillor incumbent Naomi Davison is being challenged by Keswick resident Lee Dale for that seat.

Ward 1 Councillor Charlene Biggerstaff will seek re-election and will go up against declared candidate Mike Waddington. Dan Fellini has declared he will seek re-election in Ward 2 and newcomer Greta Zinck has announced her candidacy for Ward 4. No announcements have yet been made for Ward 3 or Ward 5 but nominations will not close until Friday, July 27. So there is plenty of time left.
Forrest Jones, the volunteer organizer of BBQFest, a community event designed to raise monies to support local charities, has been frustrated recently. He ran his event last year without financial support from the Town and expected to do so again this year until he was notified seven weeks prior to this year’s event that he would be required to hire the services of York Regional Police for security and pay a licensing fee of $350 for each food truck at the event.

“I didn’t want to use their money and up until now I didn’t need their money, but because of the red tape and the York Regional Police security…and now the food truck issues, I have to find a way to come up with the money,” Mr. Jones said.

Stressing that every dime raised over and above his expenses at BBQFest will be split between three local charities—Routes, Jericho Youth Services and Shades of Hope—he regrets the added expense will take away from these charities.

Last year he hired his own security force but the requirement to use the services of York Regional Police will represent an additional $3,000 of expense to his bottom line. The food truck licensing will cost him another $1,000.00.

Since learning of these added expenses he has been trying to figure out a way to meet the requirements of the Town and still earn enough money to donate to his charities. A letter he sent to Town council, asking them to review and update the food truck by-law, appeared on the June 6 council meeting agenda supported by three other letters asking for a one-day fee event to be added as an option for food truck vendors.

“We are requesting an immediate adjustment to, at the very least, add a section/tab for a significantly reduced fee, to $25 a day, or a weekend pass for $75 for ‘event stationed parking’ like I am proposing at BBQFest,” Mr. Jones wrote. “For them to pay $350 for a one-day event is outrageous and not in line with other municipalities that surround us.”

Staff conducted a preliminary poll of surrounding York Region municipalities and their fees for food trucks. The results were submitted to council for its deliberation. It demonstrated that while some do not charge for one-day events, rates for those that do start at $50 a day and go up to $80.00.

After discussion and a vote, council ap-proved a motion to establish a one-day fee structure of $75.00 for food trucks attending the Canada Day and BBQFest events only. The motion passed with a vote of five to two, with Councillor Neeson and Councillor Fellini voting against the motion.

Staff was also directed to study the issue and prepare a further report and recommendations to address the one-day fee structure going forward.

Mr. Jones was at council on Wednesday, May 30 objecting to Town staff’s recommendation to support the 2018 Georgina Farmers’ Market by waiving the annual rental fee of $5,198 in addition to an Economic Development grant for $8,000.00.

“Why are we giving money to a private individual who is running this event?” Mr. Jones asked, adding “It might be a bit different if oodles of money was going to charity but I don’t see any record of any of that.”

He went on to explain to council that he owns the name ‘Georgina Farmers Market’ and following the meeting, he sent a “cease and desist” letter to organizers of the market to request the “immediate and permanent removal of all references to Georgina Farmers Market in marketing materials.

Natalia Zammit, who organizes and operates the market together with Donna Callfass, says she registered the name ‘Georgina Farmers Market’ in 2016 and has a Master Business License to operate as a farmers’ market.

She says she doesn’t know why Mr. Jones is doing what he is doing.

“Never in my wildest dreams could I have imagined this would happen,” she said.

Mr. Jones says he also has a Master Business Licence in the name of “Georgina Farmers Market” and said his objection to the funding provided by the Town is based on his belief that a farmers’ market should not require funding if it is run right and a part of the proceeds were going to charity.

“Let me be crystal clear about this. My entire motivation for everything I have done and will do is for charity—one hundred per cent.”

As a result, Mr. Jones applied for a $10,000 Economic Development grant and received $1,500 after it was revealed there was only $3,000 left in the 2018 grant account.

He said he was pleased with the two decisions to help him reduce his costs.

“Mission accomplished,” he said, adding he was thankful and appreciated Mayor Quirk’s influence in both decisions.

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**ClearWater Farm**

* 1km walk led by the Chippewas Water Keepers
* Experience ClearWater Farm
* Learn about water, Earth, Local Food and Community
* Free lunch!

6 am: Check in begins at Willow Beach Park
8:45 am: An Elder from the Chippewas of Georgina Island leads a water prayer and blessing
9:30 am: The walk begins along Lake Drive to ClearWater Farm

**FREE, fun event for kids and their families!**

The ClearWater Farm Water Walk Saturday, June 23rd, 2018

REGISTER on eventbrite.ca “ClearWater Farm Water Walk”
If the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT) hearing was a hockey game then certainly the team with the North Gwillimbury Forest Alliance (NGFA) jerseys was winning the game as they neared the end of the third period. They out manoeuvred, out checked, out passed and out scored their opponents wearing the DG Group sweaters. But in the final moments of the contest, players facing off against the NGFA team pulled out all the stops and tied the game.

I spent four days at a hearing that dealt with an appeal of the Town’s Official Plan 129. Normally this hearing would have been labelled an Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) hearing but since April 2018, hearings have been conducted by the newly formed Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT).

The NGFA is appealing the Town’s approved Official Plan 129 (OP 129) and is asking LPAT to approve an amendment that would re-designate DG’s holdings known as Maple Lake Estates (MLE) as an “Environmental Protection Area” as opposed to its current designations of “Towns and Villages” and “Urban Residential Area”.

The current designations permit the construction of a 1,073 housing unit to be built on 200 hectares of land located in the North Gwillimbury Forest—90 per cent of which is considered significant wetlands and woodlands. A historic plan of subdivision and a subdivision agreement were approved by the Town in 1992.

Without going into the minutiae of four days of testimony and cross examination, suffice it to say that the NGFA case to have the property re-designated was based on their belief that the Town’s approved Official Plan, which is required to conform with senior-tier planning documents such as the Provincial Policy Statement, the Greenbelt Plan, the Growth Plan and York Region’s Official Plan, does not conform and does not represent “good planning.”

Their expert witness Tony Usher was well prepared and clearly supported his expert opinions with documentation and a fulsome and comprehensive list of reasons why the amendment to change the designation in the OP should be approved.

The players on the other team who wanted the appeal denied and the designations to remain intact, were expert witnesses and lawyers representing the DG Group, the Town of Georgina and York Region. Their case was based on the fact that the Georgina OP 129 was approved by the various levels of government because it does conform and is consistent with other planning documents which take precedence as far as many planning protocols are concerned.

It must be clearly stated here that Georgina council was required to approve the OP 129 in 2016 because it did conform and was consistent with the designations approved by the senior-tier levels of government planning documents. However, council together with York Region, the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority and the DG Group were all in favour of transferring DG’s development rights to another property close by to protect the wetlands and the woodlands. The Province denied the request and since that is not the issue before the Tribunal, it will not be ruled on.

From a policy perspective, planning is a “top down” mechanism and once a senior level of government, in this case the Province, recognizes a land use designation, all of the other Official Plans, regional and municipal, must follow suit.

The NGFA lawyer argued that the “unwinding” of this planning policy regime should start at the
Georgina’s Official Plan to protect municipal level. However, this argument was countered by both the DG Group and Town’s lawyers stating the reality of planning policy in Ontario begins at the provincial level.

The Town of Georgina’s expert witness Jim Dyment provided a very convincing and thorough examination of why the Town’s OP 129 does conform and is consistent with senior levels of government policy. “We can’t ignore the reality of current approvals that are in place and the permissions in place to build out the property,” he said.

The expert witness sworn in for the DG Group should have been given a penalty for inept play. Keith McKinnon’s testimony was flat and paled in comparison to Mr. Usher’s in terms of depth and profundity. But the one point he did make regarding the OP’s conformity and consistency could not be ignored. And that is the question before the Tribunal—would the amendment sought by the NGFA to change the designation of the MLE lands to “Environmental Protection Area” take the Official Plan out of conformity with senior level planning documents?

And so, this game has gone into overtime. The Chair of the Tribunal will take his time to go through a Banker’s Box full of the evidence and testimony. His decision is probably months away and while no one knows what direction he will take, he did ask some probing questions which in my opinion demonstrated a sensitivity toward the NGFA position.

We’ll just have to wait and see how this game will play out.
Community hub welcomes two new tenants

A great crowd was milling around the Link on Saturday, June 3 when two new tenants at the community hub officially held a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the opening of their offices. Board members and staff of both Routes and Hospice Georgina were on hand to help do the honours.

But prior to the ceremonies Jennifer Anderson, the Executive Director of the Georgina Chamber of Commerce, brought the audience up to speed on the history of the Link and its role as a community hub.

Currently the Link is home to the Georgina Food Pantry, GTTI’s food programming, Routes, Hospice Georgina and the Georgina Chamber of Commerce. Jericho Youth Services is expected to move in this fall and Community Living and York Region Community Health Services are in line to take over space once Phase 2 and 3 are completed in 2019.

“The goal of the Link is to create a space of ongoing collaboration among community service providers, artists and cultural professionals, business owners and local resident,” she

Members of Town council plus Routes board members watch as Executive Director Danielle Koren cuts the ribbon to officially open their new Link office.
Council takes another look at how to regulate short-term rental accommodation

A resident-driven desire to rein in the disruption caused by short term rental accommodation (STRA) vacationers has prompted council to consider a new by-law that sets down fees and regulations for property owners.

The issue first came to light last year when the Town received complaints from neighbouring residents who said short-term rental vacation homes were being turned into “party palaces” by raucous tenants.

As a result, the Town hired consultant Michael Smith earlier this year to research the issue and provide a report and recommendations on how best to address the issue.

The first report of his investigations was discussed at council on Wednesday, June 6 when he also presented a draft by-law for discussion purposes only, which would require property owners to purchase a licence to allow the Town to regulate and govern the management of short term rental sites.

The draft by-law, which will be presented to the public twice before it is passed, would require owners who rent their properties for less than 30 days to acquire a licence prior to offering their properties for rent—either on an on-line platform such as Air BnB or otherwise. Currently, Mr. Smith said, as many as 100 Georgina properties are listed as short term rentals on various on-line sites.

The draft by-law suggests licence requirements include insurance coverage of $2 million, adequate parking, approved floor plans, fire code and other by-law compliance inspections including the Ontario Disabilities Act and proof of a renter’s code of conduct.

In his report to council, Mr. Smith said a by-law to regulate STRA owners should also consider Georgina’s position as a tourist destination.

“This report seeks to find a balance between encouraging short term rental accommodation to promote economic growth and placing limits on the scope of a STRA to preserve the character of local communities and to ensure the health and safety of STRA renters,” the report says.

Council members discussed and questioned various aspects of the issue such as liability, fines and not the least of which was the cost of enforcement to ensure all STRA locations were in compliance once the by-law comes into effect.

“We can write a wonderful by-law on many things but if we don’t have enforcement to follow up there is no sense in having a by-law,” Mayor Quirk said.

Mr. Smith responded by saying the licensing fees, which have yet to be determined, will be calculated to include the cost to the Town for enforcement.

A unique feature of the by-law, Mr. Smith said, is its ability to calculate demerit points which will work similarly to that of a driver’s licence. Each and every time a home owner is in contravention of a requirement for a STRA, demerit points will be issued and once these reach a plateau of 15 points, the licence will be revoked.

The draft by-law also proposes a zoning change that will require licensed bed and breakfast operations currently operating in Georgina to be re-designated as a STRA entity.

In response to concerns regarding the impact of short term rentals on properties serviced by septic systems, Mr. Smith said a regulation in the draft by-law is recommending a limit of two persons per bedroom. In addition, renting accessory buildings within 100 metres of Lake Simcoe or a permanent stream would not be allowed.

Council agreed the report and suggestions contained in the draft by-law were a “good first step”.

Mr. Smith said all of council’s concerns and questions would be considered in the next report and staff agreed to come back to council next week to recommend a date for the first public meeting.
Friends and family of Nan McLean (right) gathered at the Briars Resort on Saturday, May 26 to help her celebrate her 95th birthday. York-Simcoe MP Peter Van Loan (left), as well as other dignitaries, dropped by to offer his congratulations and a plaque to commemorate the occasion.

Well wishers were served a delicious assortment of hors d’oeuvres and instead of the traditional cake, Nan’s favourite dessert, lemon mousse was the order of the day. Congratulations Nan!

It was a perfect day to take Rover for a walk and made even better knowing it was all for a good cause.

The Pefferlaw Lioness Club would like to thank those who participated in this year’s Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guide Walk on May 26. Their corporate sponsors included Petvalu, Canadian Tire, The Kibble House (who provided many goodie bags for all of the canine friends), and the Bank of Montreal. Many thanks are extended to the walkers and the event was topped off by a surprise visit from a local family who received a guide dog from the Lions Foundation.

The Lions Foundation of Canada trains dog guides to assist Canadians with a wide range of disabilities. With six programs in place, Canadians with disabilities are offered the opportunity to find greater independence, mobility and safety through the help of a dog guide.
Members of the Sutton Legion, the York Regional Police Pipe Band and Town council were all on hand on Saturday, June 3 to march in the annual D-Day parade that culminated with a service held at the Briar Hill cemetery.

On June 6, 1944—D-Day—a massive Allied force crossed the English Channel to engage in Operation Overlord. Their destination: an 80-kilometre stretch of the heavily-defended coast of Normandy. There were five landing zones, given special code names: Juno Beach (Canada); Gold Beach (United Kingdom); Sword Beach (United Kingdom and France); and Utah Beach and Omaha Beach (United States). More than 450 Canadians parachuted inland before dawn on June 6 and engaged the enemy. A few hours later, some 14,000 Canadian troops began coming ashore at Juno Beach in the face of enemy fire. Against difficult odds, the Canadians advanced against the best troops the enemy had. Victory in the Normandy campaign, however, would come at a terrible cost. Three hundred and forty Canadians were killed on Juno Beach on D-Day alone and the Canadians would suffer the most casualties of any division in the British Army Group during the Battle of Normandy. More than 5,000 made the ultimate sacrifice.

Members of the Sutton Legion D-Day Parade

Lioness Verna Creber (left) presents a cheque for $150.00 to Eva McDowell (right) of Georgina Feral Cat Committee.

Twenty-four energetic and community-minded riders get ready to pedal the Big Bike 2.5 kilometres around Keswick on Saturday, June 3 to help raise money for the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

Laurie Carriere, the organizer of the event, was front and centre on the bike with husband Mike and rallied the group with enthusiastic cheerleading. The group raised $8,000.00. For 20 minutes, all 24 riders power one Big Bike. The bike is captained by a Heart and Stroke Foundation driver who accompanied the team as they pedalled through the community and celebrated their accomplishments.

The event, while designed as a fundraising event, allows riders to know they are literally stopping traffic to support critical heart disease and stroke research so they feel good while doing good!
Keswick resident hosts World Pinball Championship Tournament

Event organizer and host Adam Becker concentrates as he tries to keep five balls in play in the quarter final round of the World Pinball Championship Tournament.

The three-day World Pinball Championship Tournament held in Keswick last week resulted in Raymond Davidson from the U.S. taking home the title for the second year in a row. But it wasn’t without some stiff competition. Daniele Acciari, from Italy, who is a four-time World Champion, placed second and Trent Augenstein from the U.S. was third. Organizer and host to the 64 international players at his home on Pollock Rd., Adam Becker (left), placed fourth overall! Mr. Becker had over 60 vintage pinball machines set up for the tournament.

Four-time World Pinball Champion Daniele Acciari from Italy does his magic on a Gottlieb Arena machine circa 1980s.

Kenny Kelly takes aim at a ball for a hit during the Shine Through the Rain Co-Ed Slo-Pitch tournament at West Park in Keswick on Saturday, May 26. The event was in support of Shine Through the Rain programming. The goal of the organization is to help those who are affected by life threatening illnesses. Whether it’s through services or funds, they provide guidance, support, and financial aid to those in need.

Friends and partners of Clear Water Farm were on hand on May 29 to announce their Water Walk to be held on Sat. June 23. The 1.2 km walk will honour ‘water’ and its life giving properties.

It was a little cool for golf but this team was up to the challenge on Tuesday, June 5 during the Mayor’s Golf Tournament at the Briars. Pictured (L to R) are: Henry Kooistra, Luis Moniz, Joe Moniz and Alex Stiemer.
Nearly 100 participants supporting the Walk for Alzheimers at the Briars Resort on Sat. May 26 get ready to cut the ribbon before setting out to complete the 3 or 5 km trek. This year the group raised more than $33,000 to help support those in the community struggling with the disease.

Laura Campbell (left) and Laura Sears (right) set up at the Beer Store parking lot in Sutton on May 26 to take in bottle and can donations to help raise money for victims of leukemia. The event also included a petting zoo, crafts, live entertainment and BBQ. Total raised was $562.20.

One of the most popular events of the Lake Simcoe Gardeners is their Pots and Pies event that was held at the Keswick United Church on Saturday, May 26. Even though all of the pies were gone by the time I got to the event, there were still some baked goods available.

Above, left to right, manning the bake table are: Sandra Brown, Estelle LeMaire, Diana Horrex and Trudy Hoffmann.

With the ongoing loss of ash trees due to the invasive Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), planting new trees is more important than ever.

On May 24, Mayor Margaret Quirk, Regional Councillor Naomi Davison and Councillor Dave Harding joined property owner Catherine McNeely and her husband Chris, along with representatives from the non-profit organization LEAF and York Region, to celebrate the Backyard Planting Program by planting a paper birch tree on their Georgina property.

The Local Enhancement and Appreciation of Forests (LEAF) subsidizes the Backyard Program to help residents maintain and enhance tree canopy. The program is available to all residents in York Region.

Nearly 100 participants supporting the Walk for Alzheimers at the Briars Resort on Sat. May 26 get ready to cut the ribbon before setting out to complete the 3 or 5 km trek. This year the group raised more than $33,000 to help support those in the community struggling with the disease.

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Coming Events & Announcements

The Beaverton Curling Club’s Annual Beef BBQ will be held on Sat. June 16. Dinner at 7:00 pm. Tickets are $25 and can be purchased by calling (705) 426-7647.

Check out the three, free June workshops at the Link called the Great Nature Scapin’ Challenge on the Black River. June 14, 21, and 28 gives you an opportunity to learn more about landscaping design and plants. Call Mitch at (705) 727-2384.

Shine Through the Rain is hosting a Human Foosball tournament on June 16 at West Park in Keswick. To register please call (289) 378-6160.

The Port Bolster Hall Board is hosting a fundraising Tupperware Gala on June 16 at 11:00 a.m. Cooking demo, prizes, draws.

Club 55 Pefferlaw is hosting a Big Bucks Bid Euchre Tournament on June 16 at the Pefferlaw Lions Hall. Doors open at noon and play begins at 1:00 pm. Cost $10.

Join Max and Helen Bulmer as they celebrate 50 years of ministry on Sun. June 17 at the Salvation Army Church at 10:30 a.m. Everyone is welcome!

Come on out and help the Georgina Historical Society celebrate their 50th Anniversary on Tues. June 19 at 7:00 p.m. Festivities will be held at the Georgina Pioneer Village. Everyone welcome!

Interest in genealogy? Then register with the Keswick Library for their free Fri. June 22 Introduction to Ancestry Library Edition.

It’s that time again! The Georgina Military Museum will host its popular Military Day at the museum on Woodbine Ave. on Sat. June 23 at 10:00 a.m.

Kids and their families have a date on June 23 to experience Clear Water Farm and participate in their 1 km. Water Walk from Willow Beach Park to the farm where you will enjoy a free lunch and learn about eco-farming.

The Georgina Arts Centre invites you to meet the artists of The Shades of Water exhibition on Sun. June 24 at 1:00 p.m. All are welcome!

I love strawberry season...The Virginia United Church invites you to the 36th Annual Strawberry Supper at Eggyt Hall on Mon. June 25 at 6:00 p.m. Admission by ticket only. Call Lorraine at (705) 437-1267 or Sue at (905) 722-3026.

The Summer Flower Show and naturalist Paul Harpley will be featured at the June 25 meeting of the Lake Simcoe Gardeners. Starts at 7:30 p.m. at Keswick United Church.

And here’s another Strawberry Festival. Christ Church in Roches Point invites you to join them on June 30 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for strawberry shortcake, a bake sale and craft sale.

A film night to support the Story Book Farm Primate Sanctuary in Sunderland will be held at the Gem Theatre on Sat. June 30 at 6:45 p.m.

Be at the ROC on July 1 to celebrate Canada Day and at the Georgia Pioneer Village to take in all of the festivities associated with Georgina’s 200th Birthday.

The Wilfrid Hall Board regrets there will be no Village Festival this year.

Notices

LESTER George William — (retired teacher York Region Board of Education) at Beaverton on Sunday, June 3, 2018. George Lester was the beloved husband of Lynne (Gregson) Lester of Beaverton and the late Sybil (Wood) Lester. Loved father of Cathy (Bob) Stager of Bracebridge and predeceased by his daughters Patricia and Virginia. Grandfather of Charmaine and Stacey Singer of Bracebridge. Brother of Don Lester, Joan (Howard) Ackroyd, Nancye Nixon and Frank (Heather) Lester. Survived by many nieces and nephews. Family and friends will be received at the Mangan Funeral Home, Beaverton on Thursday, June 14, 2018 from 6-9 p.m. A memorial service will be held at St. Andrew’s United Church, 523 Simcoe St. Beaverton on Friday, June 15, 2018 at 2 p.m. If so desired, memorial donations, in memory of George, to a charity of your choice would be greatly appreciated by the family. Online condolences are welcomed at www.manganfuneralhome.com

Legal Notice

BE ADVISED THAT ANCIENT COASTAL SEASHEORE REDEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, the registered owner of those lands and premises described as Lots 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and Parts of Lots 4, 5, 6 and 7, Registered Plan 83, Part of Lot 77, and Gravel Beach, Registered Plan 73 and Port of Lot 86, Registered Plan 82, Town of Georgina, Regional Municipality of York, described as Parts 1 to 35 both inclusive on Reference Plan 05R-2015 (P.N.s 03517-0033(R), 03517-0116(R), 03517- 0256(R), 03517-0256(R), 03517-0256(R), 03517-0256(R) and 03517-0256(R)) (the “Real Property”), which lands include those parcels referred to as “Woolf’s Lane” (Part of Lot 76 on a Plan registered by J. R. Stevenson Esq. on June 6, 1905) will be seeking an order of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice affirming its ownership of the Real Property. Any person or corporation who believes that he, she or it has any interest in those lands including without limitation any easement rights or rights-of-way over the Real Property is requested to forward a notice of such interest, together with evidence supporting the claim of interest on or before June 6, 2018 to the solicitors for ANCIENT COASTAL SEASHEORE REDEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, namely SCHNEIDER RUGGERIO LLP, Unit 1, 161 Pennsylvania Avenue, Concor, Ontario, L4K 1C3. Attention: David Spencer, Telephone: 416-363-0645 and Email: dspencer@jalawpractice.com.

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