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Volume 15 Number 1



P.O. Box 849 Stouffville, ON L4A 7Z9

A magazine for and about the residents of The Ballantrae Golf & Country Club Community. A positive community voice to inform and entertain.

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Home on the Green welcomes submissions from residents of our community for possible inclusion in the magazine. Send articles and news items in WORD format only to homeonthegreen@rogers.com. Home on the Green reserves the right to accept, edit or reject any submitted article. All such contributors are deemed to have consented to the publication - either in print or online - of any information submitted by them.







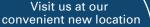
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A MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

This summer promises to be a "double header" at Ballantrae with two great reasons to celebrate. The Ballantrae Summer Games return to our community for the sixth time. Thanks to the efforts of Chairman Wayne Burgess and his committee, there will be a plethora of fun and games for all.

July 1 is Canada's 150th birthday and Doreen Cunneen (former editor of *HOTG*) with her team of volunteers is bringing us lots of ways to commemorate this sesquicentennial via their Proudly Canadian project. For updates on both projects, go to www.ourbgcc.com.

At the annual "thank you" cocktail reception, last May, for the many volunteers who bring you HOTG, two very special ladies were honoured for their long-term contributions to our magazine. Both Marna Moldon and Betty Ann Jarvis were thanked and presented with flowers (see Past Events Gallery page). Had it not been for the vision and dedication of people like Marna and Betty Ann we might not have HOTG today.

What's new here at *HOTG*? Plenty. Alison Scowcroft, known by her friends as the "energizer bunny," has joined our team as Activities Coordinator. In this issue, she writes about both the Stitch 'n Chat and Mah Jongg clubs. Both groups welcome new members. If you are part of a club or group that you think our readers should know more about, please let us know for coverage in future issues. Alison, who is also a passionate cook and foodie, covers the new Passionate Cook's Bistro that opened in Uxbridge this past spring in the Neighbourhood Noshing column. Confession: she and I had lunch there twice and we are going back. If you like authentic French bistro cuisine, consider a bowl of their savoury onion soup and a cheesy croque monsieur.

Speaking of food...we get feedback that many of you like the Pot Luck page in this magazine. In fact, Judy Flow wrote: "Just tried Karen Clark's Asparagus and Ham Casserole—delicious! A Keeper!" We need more recipes. How about sending us something for the upcoming autumn or winter issues?

We received this very nice note from Denise Casey, who is a board member for the Stouffville Food Bank.

After 27 years in the Baptist Church, the Whitchurch Stouffville Food Bank has out-grown the church. We have moved to 86 Ringwood Drive, Unit 25. Our success for all those years has been influenced by the generosity of Ballantrae/Stouffville residents. We are very grateful for your donations and support. The endless generosity from the golfers, social committee and Christmas parties – to name a few – is overwhelming. Our success in providing for our clients is mainly provided by you. To all of you, please accept our sincere thanks on behalf of our clients.

There is so much going on in Ballantrae, it keeps Kathy Billington, our tireless and ever enthusiastic Social Liaison and Alison Scowcroft hopping. And we know that everyone likes to see pictures of themselves and friends at our various events and activities, so hats off and a round of applause please for Brian Freedman and his team of photographers. They will have their plates full this summer capturing your participation in The Games.

We are introducing a new feature in this issue, entitled *Home on the Green* Goes Global. The idea is to pack your copy of the magazine the next time you go on a trip and take some fun pictures of you and it on location. To kick-start this page, Shirl and Rocky Sankoff took their issue on a Caribbean cruise. *HOTG* has now ridden a Harley-Davidson in the West Indies. Can you top that?

We ran our first Claim to Fame page in last spring's issue in which Peggy Topping wrote about meeting Queen Elizabeth. In this issue, June Dyer writes about being selected in the early 1990s as part of the International Committee of World Day of Prayer in Cape Town, South Africa.

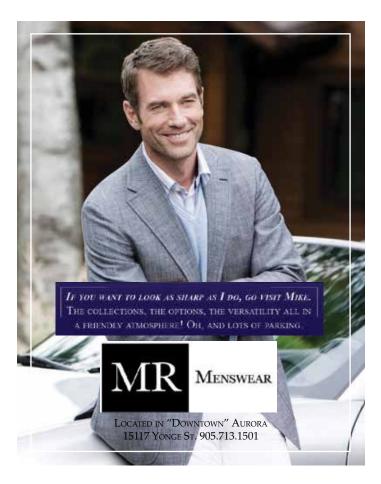
What's your Claim to Fame? Come on...don't be bashful.

Anita Draycott

GET INVOLVED!

How to contribute to HOTG? Send your stories, general suggestions or let us know if you are interested in volunteering to homeonthegreen@rogers.com

Send your specific comments on any of our stories to hotgfeedback@gmail.com As mentioned in the last issue, we will publish Reader Feedback on www.ourbgcc.com









A MESSAGE FROM OUR COUNCILLOR MORE FROM MAURICE



I attempt to address your questions via this column and through my website.

WATER SYSTEM - PROVIDER

The Region of York is responsible for the supply and treatment of water within the town's drinking water systems. The town, however, owns and operates the distribution system consisting of approximately 46 km of water main, 340 fire hydrants and 16 sampling stations. One of these sampling stations is located in Ballantrae Golf & Country Club immediately outside the front doors of the golf clubhouse. The town is obligated under provincial legislation to complete a minimum of seven water quality tests every seven days. They do this on a rotational basis using the 16 sampling stations. The most recent report received by council indicated no incidents of adverse drinking water from the samples taken.

The Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) is also responsible for inspecting and rating our distribution system on at least an annual basis. The Accreditation Agency audited the Operational Plan in February 2017. No changes were recommended.

WATER SYSTEM - PAYMENT

All W-S residents are issued an invoice each quarter. However BGCC residents do not pay for sewage as this is paid through their condo fees.

VACANT WOODWORKING ACREAGE AT OUR FRONT GATE

On April 10, a public information meeting was held to present Ballymore Homes' proposal to build a series of houses on the site near our front gate. Details can be found on my website.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

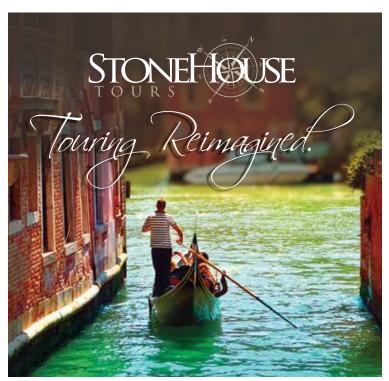
A number of town events, especially those happening at 19 on the Park are advertised on my website. I look forward to seeing you during the 150th Canada BGCC celebrations taking place

over the summer chaired by Doreen Cunneen. Also, we have the exciting Summer Games coming up in August, chaired by the enthusiastic Wayne Burgess. I urge you all to participate.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Following a fatal house fire in Brampton, Chief Rob McKenzie of the W-S Fire Department noted that "Many fatal fires occur at night when everyone is asleep, so early warning is crucial to survival. We want to make sure these types of tragedies do not happen in Whitchurch-Stouffville." His recommendations included:

- installation of smoke alarms on every floor and outside all sleeping areas of your home and even in each bedroom;
- installation of carbon monoxide alarms outside all sleeping areas and one on every floor of your home if your home has a fuel-burning appliance, fireplace or attached garage;
- testing smoke and carbon monoxide alarms monthly by pressing the test button;
- replacing smoke and carbon monoxide alarms according to manufacturer's recommendations; and
- planning and practicing your home fire escape. Everyone should know two ways out of each room. Practice your home fire escape plan. If someone has a disability, develop an escape plan that takes into account their unique needs. Determine who will be responsible for helping older adults and anyone who needs assistance to escape. Designate a meeting place outside where everyone can be accounted for. Call the fire department from outside the home. Never re-enter a burning building.



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Out and About The Magic of a Child's Imagination

BY LYNNE BALFOUR

Many of us have small grandchildren. With luck we can follow them into their imaginary worlds.

Sitting on stairs for three hours to "drive a huge boat through storms and fallen trees," pretending that a clothes cupboard is a castle with the clothes hamper as the throne, and moving all the shoes out of the cupboard because we are in a shoe store are all "realistic" adventures.

The heron on our northern lake is our friend from Florida of course. The chickadee is telling secrets. The loon is not really sad.

One of my favourite events was the introduction of "fairy doors" at the base of cottage trees. First seen at a craft show, a fairy door is about five inches high, decorated with jewels for doorknobs and windows and attached to a likely tree. Thinking that I could encourage reading, the fairies left poems and notes for my granddaughter. In return, Kenzie laid paths of moss, tables of wood and dishes of acorn lids for her fairy friends. My friend, Linda, expanded their fairy horizons by making up a whole fairy language. Unfortunately, the fairies sent the girls a goodbye note at the end of summer saying that they were moving south away from snow. The girls were so upset that they wouldn't accept the fairies' goodbye gift or talk about them anymore! Our fairies just faded away the next year.

In time, the world of imagination disappears and older interests evolve. Hopefully, some of those expanded imaginary ideas will help them enjoy writing, dancing and singing their way through life.











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So we're going to be 150 years old this July. Still a pup by European standards, we nevertheless plan to celebrate our sesquicentennial nationally and locally with great fanfare and style.

I'm a firm believer in celebrating milestones. Looking forward to the celebration is almost as good as savouring the memories, so I am pumped for Canada Day this year.

As with most milestones, it is a time of reflection. Most of us can remember the centennial: where we were, what we did, how young we were. Hubby and I celebrated with friends and most of Toronto on Nathan Phillips Square. It was only a slightly smaller party than the one earlier that year when the Maple Leafs won the Stanley Cup. (The league expanded the next year, and we haven't had a sniff of the Cup since.) Life was good and the rest of the century was ours, as we landed a man on the moon two years later.

Where did those fifty years go and how could they have gone by so quickly. Kids arrived, homes changed, jobs expanded, new friends joined old friends. We lost some people in those fifty years, but hopefully gained others. Life ticked along and poof, we are at this 150th birthday.

Only birds tweeted back then, before technology overwhelmed us. I remember literally putting diapers through the wringer of the washing machine. Now, my high tech washer practically runs itself. There will probably be a robot soon to put the laundry in (I'm sure there is already in Japan), leaving us only the onerous task of folding.

Alexa or Siri can turn on the lights or music for us and we can adjust stuff in our home while away from it. We haven't got any of these gadgets yet, but I'm sure the computer doctor will convince me we need to save the energy of pushing on the light switch one of these days.

We were kinder and gentler then, but much less well informed, (some days not so bad a thing). We have adapted though and I feel proud of that personally, navigating our techy world

reasonably well, helped occasionally by Al and my grandchildren.

As we celebrate our country, I am very thankful it is my country. Hubby and I have had the privilege of travelling a fair bit to distant and varied places, some lovely, some not so. Travel enlightens, and it certainly enlightened me as to how very lucky we were to have won the lottery of this birthplace.

Looking back at the centennial, we had lots of energy for partying. Today, maybe we can't party so long or strenuously, but I do think we can party better. Much better organized than our kids' generation as far as parties are concerned, we take the time to decorate, plan and prepare the food and drink, and generally savour the whole experience. Their parties consist of showing up with a shrimp ring and six pack from a call that afternoon. Okay, but not good enough for a milestone day. I prefer to think we go for the quality not quantity party experience and I am definitely looking forward to sharing this milestone with the very serious partiers among our neighbours here in Ballantrae.

Some friends are going to Ottawa for the celebration. We've spent Canada Day in Jasper, Alberta and Annapolis, Nova Scotia, but have never done so in Ottawa. I'm not tempted this year, much preferring to celebrate my home at my home here in Ballantrae. I plan to get a new red shirt, perhaps for Hubby too and look forward to all the festivities being planned for us at the Recreation Centre.

On July first I might just sing the national anthem with a tear in my eye, but then again, I am getting more sentimental in my old age, blubbering away at the darnedest things. I might not look as good, feel as good, or function as well as I did back at the 100th, but at the 150th because I had the good fortune and luck to be here those fifty years, I'll still feel so very proud to be Canadian. See you at the party!



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Canadians are proud of our country. We don't stick out our chests or brag the way others do - this is just not the Canadian way. 2017 marks Canada's sesquicentennial, and it's time we tooted our own horns. Canada has achieved much in its 150 years.

Canada, first and foremost, is a democracy where each of us has rights protected by the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Our country has diverse geography and magnificent scenery but our diversity extends to much more - our people. We celebrate our diversity where people of all colours, heritage, gender, sexual orientation and religious beliefs can find a place in our society. We welcome immigrants from other countries and this enriches our multicultural fabric. We are secure and safe because of our healthcare, social infrastructure, and anti-gun laws. In fact, numerous surveys have ranked Canada highly, and U.S. News and World Report ranked Canada in its 2017 survey as having the second-best quality of life amongst the top 80 countries.

Canada has contributed significantly to the world with its discoveries and inventions. We know that Alexander Graham Bell, a Scot by birth, immigrated to Canada and invented the telephone near Brantford, Ontario. But did you know he also invented an early form of air conditioner, a metal detector, and a composting toilet? Bell experimented with hydrofoils and was one of the group who designed, built, and flew the Silver Dart in 1909. Bell considered his greatest invention to be the photophone, a means of transmitting sound on a beam of light. Today, we know this as fiber-optic communications.

Henry Woodward invented the first incandescent lamp in 1874 and sold a share of his patent to Thomas Edison. In 1879, Sir Sandford Fleming invented Standard Time in which he divided the world into 24 time zones. James Hillier and Arthur Prebus built the first practical electron microscope in 1939. Where would we be today

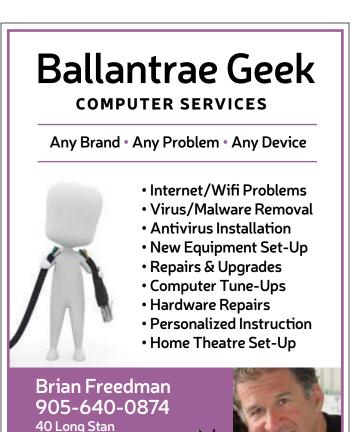
without other Canadian inventions such as the Canadarm, camcorder, snowmobile, snow blower, alkaline battery, electric oven, caulking gun, paint roller, Robertson screw, jolly jumper, IMAX, Trivial Pursuit, and the Wonderbra?

In the field of medicine. Alexander Graham Bell invented numerous aids to detect hearing problems and to teach the deaf to speak. One of his earliest students was Helen Keller. One of the great medical discoveries was that of insulin by Doctors Frederick Banting and Charles Best in 1921. As a result, diabetes is no longer a life-threatening disease. In 1963, James Till and Ernest McCulloch published their landmark stem cell research. With this knowledge, doctors now routinely perform bone marrow transplants and there are many more applications, yet to come.

We have also excelled in the sports arena. Lacrosse, ice hockey, basketball, and five-pin bowling all originated in Canada. Many recall the first time that Jacques Plante wore his invention, the goalie mask, in 1959. At the other end is another Canadian invention, the jockstrap hard cup.

The Netherlands always remember our contributions. Each year, they send 10,000 tulip bulbs to Canada in honour of Canada's role in providing refuge to the Dutch royal family during the Second World War and in liberating Holland. Recently, the Dutch developed the Canada 150th Anniversary Tulip. It is white with red flames and resembles the Canadian flag. So, as we celebrate Canada's 150th birthday, it is good for us to recall our achievements...with justifiable pride. After all, we are more than just the country with the most doughnut shops!









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BY ENID SANDERS

Australia is represented by the largest living marsupial, the red kangaroo. Bangladesh is represented by the largest member of the cat family, the Bengal tiger. Belgium is represented by the majestic lion. The United States is represented by the soaring bald eagle.

Almost all countries have a national animal. These symbols are intended to bring a sense of national community and to inspire feelings of unity and patriotism.

Did you ever wonder how the buck-toothed large rodent, the Castor Canadensis – North American beaver came to be our representative?

On July 1, 2017 we will celebrate the 150th anniversary of Canada. On March 24, 1975 we celebrated the 42nd anniversary of the common beaver's becoming the national symbol of Canada. This was accomplished by an Act of Parliament that received royal assent.

In fact, the beaver has been part of our history since the late 1600s. The fashion of the day was the fur hat and guess who provided the fur? King Henry IV of France used the fur trade to generate revenue and to establish a North American empire. Because beaver pelts were so profitable, many Canadians felt compelled to pay tribute to this odd looking animal. Some examples include:

- Sir William Alexander used the beaver in the coat of arms of Nova Scotia in 1621;
- Hudson's Bay Company put four beavers on the shield of its coat of arms in 1678 indicating how important this hard-working rodent was to the company;
- a coin was created known as a "buck" its value was equal to one male beaver pelt;
- a beaver was included on Quebec City's coat of arms;
- when the city of Montreal was incorporated in 1833, it included the beaver's image on its coat of arms;
- Sir Sandford Fleming featured the beaver on the first Canadian postage stamp in 1851– the Three Penny Beaver;
- a beaver was featured in the masthead of the Le Canadien newspaper;
- and Canadian Pacific Railway still includes the beaver on its crest today.

Due to the popularity of the fur trade, our national symbol almost became extinct. During the peak, 100,000 pelts were being shipped to Europe each year. Then silk hats became popular and the beavers were saved.

Thanks to conservation and human beings changing their minds about fashion, the largest rodent (our national symbol) is alive and well and building dams all over the country. The beaver has survived and continues to represent our country.





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THE PASSIONATE COOK'S BISTRO

BY ALISON SCOWCROFT

I have been a patron of The Passionate Cook's Essentials since the store first opened eight years ago. I have purchased unique cookware and kitchen items and have attended numerous cooking classes there, so I was very excited about the opening of the new Passionate Cook's Bistro in April.

The owner, Lisa Hutchinson, has had a great love of food since she was a child, cooking with her grandma. She has taken many culinary courses at places such as Le Cordon Bleu and Bonnie Stern Cooking School in Toronto. Her extensive travels and her enthusiasm for discovering new recipes and exotic ingredients from around the world have fuelled her passion.



Lisa opened up her first kitchen store in a 300 square-foot location below The Tin Mill in Uxbridge. She gave cooking classes in her home. When the shop at 68 Brock Street became available, she moved and expanded her business, adding more products, and relocating the cooking school to the store. With that expansion she began selling ready-made foods, frozen and fresh, including a magnificent selection of cheeses sourced globally.

This year saw another expansion for Lisa. When the wool shop next door closed, she moved into that space and opened The Passionate Cook's Bistro. When asked why she chose the French bistro theme, Lisa didn't hesitate to tell me that although she loves foods from all over the world, her "heart is French."

Recently a "foodie" friend and I treated ourselves to lunch at the chic new Bistro. It had only been open a few weeks and every table was full. My companion and I shared several items from the lunch menu, including house-made Fromage Fort— a blend of cheeses with garlic, wine and spices served bubbling hot with crackers and sliced baguette. (You can also purchase this dish in the shop, heat it in your microwave and you have a super appetizer). For our mains, I had the Grilled Cheese

which had been prepared with Comte cheese, crispy prosciutto and red onion chutney and served with a side of fresh greens. I paired it with a glass of Tempranillo from Spain. My companion ordered Mushroom Tartine, made with wild mushrooms, garlic and herbs, served on a thinly sliced baguette. With it she enjoyed a glass of Cazal Viel Viogier from France.

All wines may be purchased by the glass or by the bottle, and the mark up is reasonable. For a splurge, consider a glass or bottle of Veuve Clicquot. Beers are brewed in Uxbridge at The Second Wedge Brewery.

The menu varies, depending on the season and new creations concocted by Lisa and Head Chef Erin Monaghan. You might create your own charcuterie board by choosing a selection of cheeses, cold meats and condiments. Pickled grapes, the most popular condiment, will remain a secret recipe, says Lisa.

The Bistro will do home catering and it is also available for private parties if you want to host an event there. There is seating for 28 people.

The decor is simple with clean lines. Chalkboards on the walls indicate daily food and wine specials. A quote by Julia Child says, "People who love to eat are always the best people." *Touché*.





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EDITING SMART PHONE& TABLET PHOTOS BY PAT WHITTINGHAM



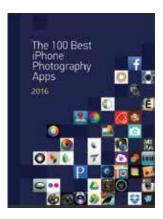
I was asked recently what applications I could recommend for basic editing of images taken on a smart phone or tablet. The popularity of the iPhone and iPad in particular has spawned numerous applets to enhance the images now held in the Photos App on these devices. For the most part apps designed in recent years for the iPhone work on iPads as well. Check with Google Play to see what is available for Android-based smart phones and tablets.

I outlined briefly on our web site Q&A that Adobe **PS Express** and **LR Mobile** are good basic programs to adjust and crop your pictures. You'll find that information under Reader Feedback here:

https://ourbgcc.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/ HOTG-Reader-Feedback-January-2017.pdf

But, as I've discovered, there are now many compelling and fun new apps for free or at very low cost to explore. It is very telling that a free booklet entitled **The Hundred Best iPhone Photography Apps** is available here:

http://iphonephotographyschool.com/best-photo-editing-apps/



Of further interest is this site dedicated to iPhone photography:

http://iphonephotographyschool.com

As I am new to this site, I can't as yet endorse it or the authors, but it looks very promising if not a bit daunting.

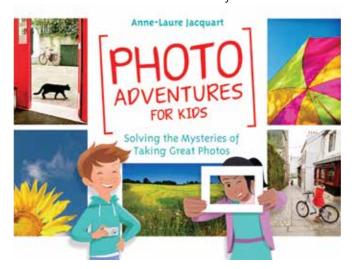
The 10 Best Photo Editing Apps for iPhone (2017 Edition) may be a good starting point if you are going beyond LR Mobile or PS Express. It can be found here:

http://iphonephotographyschool.com/best-photoediting-apps/

I'm continually amazed by the emergence of phone photography as a viable art form and as a phototaking tool. For many, this will satisfy their creative impulse. For others, it is just a taste of what is in store with the emergence of exciting dedicated photo/video cameras with advanced optical designs.

MY CANADA BICENTENNIAL PROJECT

Most reading this issue of *HOTG* will have memories of Canada's 100th birthday and will soon experience our sesquicentennial celebration. As an enthusiast photographer, I hope to inspire other grandparents in our community to encourage our grandkids to take up the photography hobby, creating images that they can capture now at Canada's 150th and draw upon as Canada celebrates its 200th birthday in 2067.



To this end, I recommend a wonderful new book **Photo Adventures for Kids** by Anne-Laure Jacquart. https://www.rockynook.com/shop/photography/photo-adventures-for-kids/

We have gifted this along with a rugged, weatherproof Olympus TOUGH camera and small Canon SELPHY CP1200 printer to our artsy granddaughter along with my commitment to help her develop this interest. If you buy the hard copy and eBook bundle, you can gift one and then use the other to work on projects together.

Aside from participating in this year's 150th celebration, this is my personal project for our nation's historic event.





MUSIC, AIRPODS & Timely Tips BY ALEX FLOW



QUALITY MUSIC

Brian Freedman reviewed the digital music scene. There are many possibilities for music, such as mainstream services Spotify and AppleMusic. Apps are available to receive a wide range of radio stations. But for the audiophile or someone who just wants good sound, these sources which use data compression do not provide "quality" sound with richness and depth. That is why many of us still play CD's (1141 kb/sec) that do have quality sound.

Brian described two new services, Deezer (\$10/month), and Tidal (\$20/month). Deezer, teamed up with Sonos, is available only on Sonos products and provides high quality streaming services, i.e., 320 kb/sec - but not CD level. Tidal has teamed up with Google Chrome so CD quality streaming is accessible through the Google Chrome web browser on your computer. You can access Tidal on all your devices. Both have apps for iPhone, iPad and Android devices. Both also provide download capability for offline listening.

APPLE AIRPOD

Al Moldon demonstrated the new Apple AirPod (approximately \$200) which has new technology that provides ear buds with excellent Bluetooth reception and integration with Apple devices. The buds come in a holder that is magnetized and holds the buds in place when not in use. While the buds are in the holder and closed, they are recharged. The holder battery can recharge five times, each charge good for five hours before recharging the holder. You can get a fast charge by putting the buds in the holder for 15 minutes.

When you open the holder it immediately pairs with an iPhone or other device. If you tap the bud, you get Siri. With an AppleTV4, the buds will connect to a TV. The buds are very light and don't fall out —use one, get mono; use two, get stereo.

TIPS



YouTube is the second largest search engine in the world. Check out YouTube for new advances, functionality and extended services such as new movies, 4K capability.



Email - a quick review. There are two ways of handling emails from the central server. The first, Webmail, provides for services like Edge and Google, which then handle the mail for specific users like us. These emails are available on any device, in any location. Delete an email from one, it disappears from all. In the second method, the central server provides service through client servers such as Windows Mail, Microsoft Outlook, etc.



Yellow Pages: We all use the Yellow Pages App to find addresses. Don't forget to make use of the reverse option of using an address to find the person or business. You might use the reverse address option using the street name only. Surprise – you get the addresses, names, etc. for the entire street – useful for creating a directory.



How to save photos received in text messages on an iPhone. Select the photo you want; touch and hold your finger on the photo; a menu comes up – select Save; the photo has been transferred to the photos icon. Look in your photos, find the photo, tap it to get the menu, then send an email.

Improve YOUR BALANCE

BY DAYNA STODDAR



Balance is the ability to maintain your centre of gravity over your base of support whether you are standing still or moving. Maintaining balance is the result of a complex interaction of many systems and subsystems of the human body. With aging, changes occur that reduce the efficiency of these systems, which jeopardizes balance and increases the risk for falls.

Statistics show that one in three people over the age of 65 will fall this year. Approximately half of the 65+ folks who have fallen will fall again in the next 12 months. Strength and balance training programs could reduce the number of falls by up to 40%. Yes, you CAN train your balance.

Very few older adults have their balance screened by a physician prior to a fall despite the fact that they may have an increased fall risk. The leading risk factors for falls include:

- the use of sedatives
- the use of at least four prescription medications
- a lack of strength in arms or legs
- poor posture
- blood pressure that drops upon standing (hypotension)
- problems with balance or gait
- medical conditions and chronic diseases (stroke, MS, Parkinson's, peripheral neuropathy, arthritis, osteoporosis, inner ear conditions, etc.).

In adulthood we stop doing some of the activities that would help us maintain good balance. Children include balance practice in their play-swinging, tumbling, spinning as well as sports, dancing and bicycling. However there are many skills that we can continue to do to maintain and improve balance.

Do you have these five skills for better balance?

- 1) Can you walk and turn your head at the same time?
- 2) Can you stand on one leg for more than 5 seconds without holding on to something?

- 3) Can you reach down and pick something up off the floor?
- 4) Can you reach up to get something off a high shelf?
- 5) Can you stretch one leg back behind you and stretch your shoulders back? (ability to extend the hip and back)

Each skill suggests a wealth of exercises and activities that fall within the scope of a multidimensional balance intervention program.

TRY THESE HOME EXERCISES

- 1) The most important muscle for balance is the dorsi-flexor muscle on the front of your ankle. It pulls the toes up and toward the shin. A great way to strengthen the muscle is tap your toes 50 times every time you sit down.
- 2) Standing Balance exercise (use support as needed: a wall or chair back). Keep it safe. Standing tall, visualize a rope attached to the crown of your head. Head is centred between shoulders, shoulders above hips and connect belly to spine. Place right foot on an exercise ball (knee above ankle). Keep ball still under right foot. Set a solid foundation under the left foot by anchoring a point under the big toe, baby toe and heel. Visualize the foot growing roots into the ground. Keep the left knee loose; do not lock it out. Focus on a point on the floor or wall, stand still and hold. Switch legs. Repeat with left foot on ball and standing on right leg.

For more information on the importance of improving your balance and posture, read the "Power of Posture" article that is posted under Health & Wellness Articles under the Activities tab and Recreation Centre tab on www.ourbgcc.com.

If you are concerned about your balance, book a complimentary balance assessment with me, your Wellness Director. **daynas@rogers.com**. I will guide you with appropriate recommendations and suggestions.

HOME GOES GLOBAU GREEN GOES GLOBAU

BY SHIRL & ROCKY SANKOFF





We followed up on the suggestion of travelling with the latest copy of our *Home on the Green* magazine!

We cruised on the Nieuw Amsterdam to twelve islands in January/February. Here's proof that our community magazine has become a jet setter and luxury cruiser.















Banff Springs Algonquin Cabot Cliffs

"Golf is deceptively simple and endlessly complicated."

the late Arnold Palmer once remarked.

"It satisfies the soul and frustrates the intellect. It is at the same time rewarding and maddening – and it is without a doubt the greatest game manking ever invented."

I agree. And, on the occasion of Canada's 150th birthday, this proud Canuck is waving the Maple Leaf in honour of our country's long and storied golf heritage.

Golf was an Olympic sport at the 1900 and 1904 Summer Games. Ontario-born George Lyon won the Gold in 1904. Canada's victory remained uncontested until the sport returned to the 2016 Games in Rio de Janeiro. Also in 1904, The Canadian Open Championship was initiated making it the third oldest National Open championship in the world.

We are a nation of 5.7 million avid golfers and 2,300 courses. To celebrate "the greatest game mankind ever invented," take a swing through some of Canada's best.

STANLEY THOMPSON'S LEGACY

The late Stanley Thompson was Canada's finest golf course architect. Between 1920 and 1953 he designed or remodelled 145 courses from coast to coast.

Known as the "Toronto Terror," the florid-faced Thompson had a proclivity for fancy cars, thick steaks, fine cigars and Canadian rye whisky. His genius was in refusing to impose a course on its setting. He moved trees and rocks only if essential because he believed in preserving the natural beauty of the landscape. As a result, his courses unfold in sublime harmony with Mother Nature. He also believed that courses should be pleasurable to play by golfers of a wide range of abilities. Maybe that's why I have never met a Thompson course I didn't like. Some of his best are Banff Springs and Jasper in Alberta and Highlands Links on Cape Breton Island.

SWING BACK IN TIME AT THE FAIRMONT BANFF SPRINGS

In 1928, Stanley Thompson was hired to design the Banff Springs Golf Course on the "roof of the world" in Alberta's Rockies. Banff held the distinction of being the first track on the planet to cost more than one million dollars to construct in a setting so scenic it would bankrupt the English language to describe.

Banff's Heritage Golf Experience allows you to play the course as Thompson originally routed it—and with the appropriate equipment in tow. Your caddie, clad in plus-fours, will help you choose from a selection of hickory-shafted clubs, including a brassie, spoon, jigger, mashie and niblick. You'll also get three balls pressed to replicate those gutta percha orbs used in the 1930s. To enhance your Heritage Experience, the distance from the tips has been reduced to compensate for the antique technology. You might want to bring along some vintage duds for a photo op.

GLEN ABBEY AND THE CANADIAN GOLF HALL OF FAME & MUSEUM

The inaugural Canadian Open was played at Glen Abbey in Oakville, Ontario in 1977. The course was Jack Nicklaus' first solo foray in golf design. Several historic sporting moments have occurred here, including what some consider to be Tiger Woods' greatest hit. He blasted his second shot from a bunker on the par-five 18th and holed his third to score an eagle at the Canadian Open in 2000. For the 29th time this July (24 to 30), Glen Abbey will host the RBC Canadian Open.

On the same property, enthusiasts should visit the Canadian Golf Hall of Fame & Museum. Its unique artifacts include our crown jewel, the 1904 Olympic trophy donated by George Lyon's family, plus several interactive displays.

GO EAST WHERE GOLF IS BOOMING

While the golf industry has been in a bit of a slump since the economic meltdown of the 1980s, golf is thriving In the Maritimes.

Opened in 2015, The Links at Brunello, minutes from Halifax, winds its way through stands of pines and over wetlands and rocky outcroppings. Big greens, wide fairways and only 38 bunkers are all part of the plan to make golf fun, fast and playable. Another innovation is the opportunity to play by the hole. If you don't have time for eighteen, you can play as little as one.

The Algonquin Golf Course in St. Andrews by-the-Sea, New Brunswick has a distinguished pedigree. First opened in 1894 with design input by legendary Donald Ross (of Pinehurst No. 2 fame), it was currently renovated by Canadian architect, Rod Whitman. The seaside tract overlooking the Bay of Fundy reopens August 2017 with eight new holes.

No celebration of Canadian golf would be complete without a nod to the tremendous success of Cabot Links and Cliffs in Inverness, Cape Breton.

When Cabot Links opened in 2012 it caused a sensation in the golf world as Canada's first and only true links course. When the sister course, Cabot Cliffs, opened officially to the public last summer, Golf Digest had already awarded it "Best New Course in America" for 2015 and number 19 on its list of the "Top 100 Courses in the World"!

Fifteen minutes away, the Glenora Distillery names its "water of life" Canada Single Malt because only whisky distilled in Scotland can be called Scotch. Now this area of Cape Breton not only boasts Canada's only true links courses, but also North America's first single malt whisky distillery. Two more reasons to toast "our home and native land."

Highlands Links Jasper Park Links at Brunello







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INCONDO LAND A CONDO DIRECTOR'S FABLE

BY FERGUS GAMBLE

Once upon a time a creative builder came up with a new type of housing development called "condominium." The new idea, would give many nice families a new home. Each of the families would own their "exclusive use" area in the condominium and the rest of the development would be shared by everyone! They would all live in a lovely area and be very, very content. In this story we will call it "Condo-land" as their homes will be called "condos."

The clever developer's new idea had the owners take care of their own "exclusive use" areas and do whatever they wanted in their spaces. The other part of Condo-land was shared by everyone and called the "common element." The condo owners all contributed a share of the required efforts and paid "condo fees" to maintain the common element.

For a while everything went along well in Condoland and all the condo owners were very happy. However, after some time, the Condo-land owners found that some owners wanted to do different things to the exteriors of their new homes. Some owners liked the idea of change and others didn't. This difference of opinion caused the Condo-land owners to become very sad, as their beautiful new Condo-land was becoming less than ideal. Some owners even shouted loud and rude words to each other.

However, being clever people, the happy owners decided that it would be helpful if they elected some of their members to manage Condo-land and magically change it back to being a happy place. These volunteers would be called "directors"! They would take care of all the things that had to be done to the common element, monitor changes and even help settle disagreements! So a Board of Directors for Condo-land was put into place – and everyone thought all would be happy once again – and it was!

However, soon the directors were overcome with all the things that they had to attend to in Condoland: approving changes, setting up new rules, managing costs, hiring contractors, supervising maintenance, communicating with the residents and much more. The directors needed help!

So again the clever Condo-land owners got together and decided that there was a need for more assistance for the poor directors. The answer was to have professionals, called "property managers" come and take care of the common element of Condo-land and help the directors manage their idyllic place and look after things like roads and lawns and property standards and expenses.

Thankfully the willing directors now had "only" to manage the condo managers who did most of the work for just a "modest fee." They promised they would! The directors would monitor and control budgets and would make major decisions on changes and communicate with the other Condoland owners.

Oh the joy in Condo-land now that everything was managed and handled via the hardworking directors and the kindly property managers! So now all the owners were very happy and they all lived happily ever after in their beautiful Condoland thanks to the directors!

Of course you remember that this is only a fairy story! Well perhaps not completely...

Most of what happened in Condo-land closely reflects what condo directors actually do. We volunteer to help direct the management of the condos and work together to maintain the wonderful neighbourhood in our Condo-land called Ballantrae Golf & Country Club. We do it to help our community so we can all be very, very happy—just like in Condo-land!

THE END

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Ballantrae Ladies' Golf League BY SANDY HINCH

On the morning of Monday, April 24, the ladies of the BLGL gathered for coffee and a social time to catch up after the winter. Although some ladies had still not returned to the north we had an enthusiastic group of returning golfers who welcomed our new members. We enjoyed coffee, tea, muffins and sweets donated by one of our sponsors AMICA of Unionville. Once again AMICA and one of our own golfers, Joyce Dow, will sponsor our weekly closest-to-the-pin competition.

We all look forward to a new season of golf and fellowship. The league plays every Monday through to September 25. Anyone is welcome to join during the year.

Contact the pro shop for information, or Sandy Hinch at 905-591-3552 or sandyhinch@hotmail.com









BY JAY ADAMS

We held our annual meeting on Tuesday, April 25 and had our best turnout 100 golfers in attendance. Our lunch, catered by Amica Retirement Homes Neumarket, was favourably received by all. We would like to thank Shirl Sar We held our annual meeting on Tuesday, April 25 and had our best turnout ever, with over 100 golfers in attendance. Our lunch, catered by Amica Retirement Homes of Unionville and Newmarket, was favourably received by all. We would like to thank Shirl Sankoff for taking numerous photos for us.

> The Ballantrae Men's League plays every Tuesday from early May till the last Tuesday in September. Come out and meet your fellow neighbours for some golf and good times.

> For further information or to join the league please contact: Phil Kostandoff, 905-640-6222 or Jay Adams, 905-640-2843











WITH ARIENNE ... THE TANDEM NUTS!

BY KAREN CLARK

INTRIGUED BY MY NEIGHBOUR'S LICENSE PLATE, TNDMNUT, I HAD TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THIS AMAZING COUPLE.

Q: Tandem cycling is an unusual pursuit, how did this love affair begin?

Arienne: It started with a fitness class. I was running the dental department at what is now the North Bay Regional Health Centre and couldn't understand why the staff was so down and grumpy. As a single mom of three, I convinced my employer that if they paid me to take the F.L.O.P. program (Fitness Leadership Ontario Program), I would run fitness classes for the hospital staff on my lunch hour to get them invigorated. It worked!

John: Working as a physician at the hospital, a running buddy of mine bet me a dollar that I couldn't finish one of the new fitness classes as it was so intense...I lost the bet! But the instructor caught my eye! That was 34 years ago.

Q: So, that was the "love" part of the affair, how did the passion for cycling begin?

John: After completing my surgical residency in ophthalmology, we moved to Muskoka and opened a private practice. Surgeries took my time and focus while Arienne ran the business side. In my spare time I took up mountain biking and racing. Arienne would diligently cheer me on and hand me water bottles as I raced the 50 km course. Wanting her to be by my side, I asked her if she would consider tandem biking!

Arienne: I had never ridden a bike before, but I had total confidence in John as the "captain." My friends joked that it would be hard to be the "stoker," (the person on the back), as I was usually the one in total control. After two months of practice he entered us in an event at Hardwood Hills. There was no category for tandem mountain bikes, so we got a lot of strange looks from the singles. But finishing in the middle of the pack got their attention!

Q: How did you get the moniker, "Tandem Nuts?"

Arienne: Always adventurous, I decided that instead of coming down the usual trail at the annual F.A.R.T. rally (Fall Alleghany Rally 4 Tandem) we would come straight down the ski hill! "**Are you nuts?!?**" asked our comrades.

John: The name stuck and I put it on our license plates. We are TNDMNUT3 now.

Q: Life has not always been an "easy ride" for you, has it?

Arienne: No, I was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in 2012. After seven months of aggressive treatment I was in remission. Feeling strong and wanting to prove that I could fight this cancer, in 2015 we proceeded with our planned trip around the Gaspe Peninsula—a 1,000 km trek that took us through rain, wind, sun, bugs, trucks and construction! When I got halfway and realized I could make it to the end, I decided to make it a fundraiser for cancer. We donated \$10 of our own money for every kilometre we cycled. In the end we raised \$9,780, and with the generosity of family and friends, raised it to \$10,000. It was not my last fight with cancer but I continue to have a "can do" attitude.

Q: This passion has taken you on many other adventures. What are some highlights?

John: We toured Holland with the British Tandem Club consisting of 550 bikes. We have been to Germany, Belgium, New Zealand and all over the U.S.A and Quebec. We have also cycled the Cabot Trail on Cape Breton Island—easy compared to the Gaspe!

Arienne: Cycling Mont Saint-Joseph in Gaspe was a triumphant moment for me as it was just one year after chemo, raining, cold and 13% to 20% grades to climb. My family had secretly driven up the mountain and

appeared out of the bush cheering us on to the top. Tears were welling up as I remember their reception. I could do this...I could beat this.

Q: How do you satisfy this hobby in the winter?

Arienne: We spend the winter between our place in Inverness, Florida where there are amazing trails and seven weeks in Kauai, Hawaii, where my passion is extreme hiking.

Q: This is no "Bicycle Built for Two." These bikes look high tech.

John: We started with low grade tandem bikes but soon learned that they couldn't handle the torque created by two strong riders going uphill on mountain trails. Over the years we have graduated to state-ofthe-art mountain bikes and road tandems that can reach the \$15,000 mark. Our favourites are the "go anywhere" Fatbike tandems.

Q: How do you travel with these bikes?

John: We travelled overseas with bikes that have S&S couplings which means they come apart and fold up into two suitcases. But now we tend to drive our van with the bike inside. When we reach our destination, we park and head out towing a little trailer carrying our 70 pounds of gear. We stay in hotels and B&B's...no more camping at our age.

Q: How would one get involved in tandem biking?

Arienne: Come to our house and try it out! We can tell within ten minutes if a couple is going to be successful as it is NOT for everyone. It takes massive trust. The captain must respect the stoker, but he/she is in total control. It is a very popular sport for blind partners, or for people with limited disabilities...a way to be active and outdoors together.

Q: Where in the local region are the best trails?

John: The Durham Regional Forests cater to mountain bikers and have the best trails. The local York Region trails are good, but the sandy conditions require special tires; four to five-inch Fatbike tires to be exact.

Q: Any trips planned for the future?

Arienne: Yes, we are planning a trip to PEI this summer. But it is hard to fit it all in. We are avid ballroom dancers and have just discovered pickleball! Oh, and I weight lift too!

John: It is hard to keep up with her, plus she is 11 years older than me! At 71 she has more energy than most her age. Although she did admit a 92-year old beat her at pickleball recently!



Centrepieces of delicate tea roses nestled in china teapots graced the tables at the May 28th Fashion Show. It was a tea party extraordinaire!

Fancy finger sandwiches, salads, scones and homemade desserts, courtesy of Appetizers and More Catering, were enjoyed by all the ladies at this sold-out event.

Karen, of Peppertree Klassics in Markham, worked her magic, providing lively and enthusiastic commentary. Lovely models from all five condos graced the runway in both sporty and classic outfits. Dapper, tuxedoed gentlemen (best husbands ever!) assisted the Ballantrae fashion models as they ascended and descended the stage. Their charm and good looks also boosted sales of 50/50 draw tickets.

This year, Rose of Sharon benefitted from the proceeds of the Fashion Show. This worthwhile charity will be using the funds to support their programs and counselling workshops for young mothers.

Many thanks to the ladies and numerous volunteers of Ballantrae who graciously support the biennial Fashion Show so wholeheartedly. We would also like to recognize the many companies and individuals who generously donated prizes to make this event a huge success.











Potluck

SHRIMP AND FETA WITH BAKED ORZO

FROM ALISON SCOWCROFT

This recipe is courtesy of Lisa Hutchinson who has recently opened The Passionate Cook's Bistro in Uxbridge (see Neighbourhood Noshing Column).

8 oz (227 g) orzo pasta

6 tbsp (90 ml) olive oil

1 cup (250 ml) feta cheese, crumbled

1/4 cup (60 ml) Parmigiano-Reggiano, freshly grated

2 tbsp (30 ml) plus 1/4 (60 ml) cup fresh dill, chopped

1 lemon, juiced and zested

1 lb (454 g) uncooked medium shrimp, peeled, deveined

2 cloves garlic, chopped

1 - 14 1/2 oz (428 ml) can diced tomatoes in juice

1/2 cup (125 ml) dry white wine

2 tsp (10 ml) dried oregano

1/2 tsp (3 ml) dried crushed red pepper

Preheat oven to 400°F (200°C). Brush 11x7-inch (28x18 cm) glass baking dish with oil.

Cook orzo according to package directions. Drain well and return orzo to same pot. Add 2 tbsp (30 ml) olive oil, 1/4 cup (60 ml) feta cheese, Parmigiano-Reggiano, 2 tbsp (30 ml) dill and lemon zest. Stir to blend. Arrange orzo mixture in prepared dish.

Heat 2 tbsp (30 ml) oil in large skillet over medium-high heat. Add shrimp and sauté until slightly pink- about 2 minutes (shrimp will not be cooked through). Arrange shrimp on top of the orzo. Add remaining 2 tbsp (30 ml) oil to same skillet. Add garlic and sauté over medium-high heat 30 seconds. Add tomatoes with juice; cook 1 minute. Stir in wine, oregano, crushed red pepper, and remaining 1/4 cup dill.

Simmer uncovered until reduced to thick sauce consistency, stirring occasionally,

We encourage you to share some of your favourite recipes for future issues. Please send them to homeonthegreen@rogers.com

about 2 minutes. Season sauce to taste with salt and pepper; spoon over shrimp. Bake orzo until heated through, about 10 minutes. Sprinkle with remaining 3/4 cup (180 ml) feta cheese and lemon juice and serve.

Serves 6 as a first-course or 4 as a main-course.

The following three recipes make for an easy summer dinner.

COLESLAW

FROM EILEEN MACISAAC

1 medium head of cabbage, cored and shredded

1 medium onion, finely chopped

1 carrot, shredded

1 cup white sugar

1 cup white vinegar

1 tsp celery salt

1 tsp white sugar

1 tsp prepared mustard

3/4 cup oil

In a large bowl, toss together the cabbage, onion, carrot and the cup of sugar.

In a small saucepan, combine the remaining ingredients and bring to a boil. Cook for about 3 minutes, then pour the hot liquid over cabbage mixture and mix together.

Refrigerate overnight (or longer) for best results.

ZUCCHINI CHOCOLATE CAKE

A lovely moist chocolate cake and a chance to get more veggies in your diet!

1/2 cup soft margarine

1 3/4 cup white sugar

1/2 cup vegetable or canola oil

2 eggs

1 tsp vanilla

1/2 cup sour cream

2 1/2 cup all-purpose flour

4 tbsp cocoa

1 tsp baking soda

1/2 tsp cinnamon

1/2 tsp salt

2 cup shredded zucchini

1/2 cup chocolate chips

In a large mixing bowl, cream the margarine. Add the sugar and the oil until well mixed. Add eggs, one at a time and then the vanilla and sour cream. Sift the dry ingredients (flour, cocoa, baking soda, cinnamon and salt) into a separate bowl. Add these to the creamed mixture in 3 additions, mixing well between. Stir in shredded zucchini until well mixed. Pour into a greased glass 9x13 pan. Sprinkle chocolate chips over the top. Bake at 325F for 40-50 minutes, until a toothpick inserted into the centre comes our clean.

This cake freezes well.

MAPLE GARLIC PORK TENDERLOIN

2 tbsp Dijon mustard

1 tsp sesame oil

3 cloves garlic, minced

1 cup maple syrup

2 lbs pork tenderloin

Combine the mustard, sesame oil, garlic and maple syrup. Place the tenderloin in a shallow dish and pour the marinade over, coating thoroughly. Marinate in refrigerator overnight.

Preheat grill.

Remove the tenderloin from the marinade and transfer the remaining marinade to a small saucepan. Cook the marinade over medium heat for 5 minutes.

Brush grate with oil and place the meat on the grate. Grill tenderloin over medium low heat until the interior is no longer pink, approximately 15 – 25 minutes. Baste with the cooked marinade a few times while grilling. Marinade will burn if using too high a temperature.









This spring the Recreation Centre offered two container gardening workshops given by Karen Shea who is known as the "chief gardener" for the Blooms of Joy Project, a social enterprise aimed at providing therapeutic horticulture, floral design and landscape design to organizations, day programs, treatment centres, residences and businesses.

Today, using horticulture as a therapeutic tool is an internationally recognized practice and research indicates that simply being present in the garden can positively affect levels of blood pressure, heart rate and stress. Small amounts of consistent, gentle gardening activities can improve physical strength and flexibility, and the sounds and smells in a garden can encourage memory and thought, as well as provide opportunities for social interaction.

Following are Karen's tips for container gardens to enhance your patio and your health.

USE THE RIGHT SOIL IN YOUR CONTAINER

POTTING SOIL ONLY! Potting soil is usually
a mix of peat moss, vermiculite and perlite and
is very light. It retains water without becoming
heavy. Good drainage is good for plant roots.
 Some potting soils come with fertilizer.

Do not use "garden soil" or "top soil"... they are too heavy.

USE THE RIGHT POT OR CONTAINER

- Use the largest container you can. More soil around the roots is better. It will dry out more slowly.
- Clay pots can be heavy, and dry out quickly. Plastic is lighter and holds moisture better.
- Make sure the container you use has drainage holes in the bottom to let excess water escape.

CHOOSE THE RIGHT PLANTS FOR THE GROWING CONDITIONS

- Choose sun-loving plants for a sunny location and shade-loving plants for a shady spot.
- Know how big your plant will grow...use the largest container you can.
- Don't put a plant that likes a lot of water in the same pot as a plant that likes it dry. Keep "like" plants together in the same pot.
- Use only drought tolerant, tough plants in a hot and windy location.
- Windy locations will dry out your containers much faster.

DON'T OVERWATER OR UNDERWATER

- Keep an eye on the weather. With hot, dry and windy conditions, your containers witll need more watering. With cool, cloudy and wet weather, they will require less water. Look at your plants several times in a day to see how they are doing.
- Too much water (a common mistake) leads to diseased and weakened plants—which in turn can invite insect problems.

FERTILIZE REGULARLY FOR LOTS OF FLOWERS

- Fertilize every week, or even every four or five days, if you dilute your fertilizer in water. Always moisten the soil first, before adding fertilizer. Never fertilize into dry soil. For flowering plants, use fertilizer with a large middle number; i.e.,15-30-15. A high amount of phosphorous will help promote steady flowering.
- If you prefer, use a slow-release fertilizer on the surface of the soil.

For more information on the Blooms of Joy Project, visit www.bloomsofjoyproject.ca







SPRING BRUNCH

BY PAT WOOD

Spring arrived with a punch this year or should I say brunch? For the first time ever, on April 23, residents enjoyed a beautiful Sunday brunch at the Recreation Centre featuring all the usual breakfast items topped off with mimosas and delicious crepes made to order.

The lovely spring morning set the tone as we were reacquainted with returning snow birds and our neighbours, after what seemed like our winter hibernation.

After the brunch, we were entertained by the DCAT Chorus. This group of seniors from Scarborough belted out many old favourites, such as Alexander's Ragtime Band and New York, New York.

Many thanks to Kathy McLeod and our Social Committee for all their efforts. Let's hope it turns into an annual occasion!

BGCC TENNIS CLUB

Registration Day on April 29 attracted 90+ members for the 2017 Season. Registration remains open to accommodate late snowbirds returning home and any new homeowners who are contemplating playing organized tennis.

Our club offers a full range of activities for all levels of play. This year we have a new program, Mixed Open (Wednesdays 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.) which replaces our House League. Our Round Robin program has had a name change – now called Drop-ins. Both programs provide a good opportunity to meet other members and to improve your play. For the more competitive players we offer Ladies' and Men's Mixed Ladder and Intermediate Play, plus Men's Advanced.

At the end of the season there will be Men's/Ladies/ Mixed Club Championships. For those contemplating joining, the club is offering an option to play for free in our Drop-ins morning program on Mondays (men's) and Wednesdays/Saturdays (mixed) for a limited try-out period. The fee to join the club is \$50 for the entire season.

Club socials (Get Acquainted - Open, Canada Day, Year-End) will be held, as well as a number of TGIF's, offering members an opportunity to have fun playing tennis and to enjoy food provided by our Social Director and volunteers. Guest fees will be \$8.00 for the club socials.

The executive and directors look forward to a successful season.

For more information, contact Garry Stoddart, President at 905-640-5553











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Wednesday, September 27 Wednesday, November 29

TIME: 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. **COST**: \$5 per person

PLEASE CONTACT

Ron Brewing busybeeron@gmail.com

The Ballantrae Social Committee presents

The Paskke String Quartet with professional singer Zorana Sadiq

performing a delightful selection of classical and contemporary music.

Thursday, October 5

TIME: 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Recreation Centre **COST**: \$15 per person

PLEASE CONTACT

Kathy Billington, 905-591-1390 or kathy.billington@rogers.com



IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN!

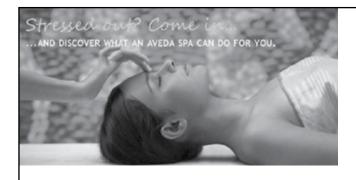
Tuesday Ladies' No-Stress Golf League plays every Tuesday morning, weather permitting, at the Maples of Ballantrae 9-hole course. All are welcome to join no matter your level of play. If you can't make it, no worries--this is a "No-Stress" league.

COST: \$10.00 to join the league plus \$18.00 green fee

TIME: Arrive before 8:15 a.m. for 8:30 a.m. shotgun start

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL

Susan Mckay at 905-591-2557 Jeanne Christie at 905-640-0560 or Lynda Wyse at 905-642-5948





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Pickleball Addicts!

BY DENNIS CARTER

STOUFFVILLE PICKLEBALL PLAYERS COORDINATOR



Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in Canada and the USA. It is estimated that pickleball will grow from two million players in 2016 to eight million in 2018. Interest in the sport in the Stouffville area has also been growing rapidly. The Stouffville Pickleball Players grew from 103 members in 2014 to 207 in 2016, an increase in membership of over 100% in two years.

Active seniors are naturally drawn to a game that has a lower impact on the body compared to tennis, a faster pace than golf and can be summed up in three words-fun, fitness, and friendship. John Cripps wrote, "I saw the article about pickleball in the December issue of *Home on the Green* magazine in Ballantrae. Yes, you are correct—it is an addiction. My wife and I were introduced to it when we were down south a couple of months ago and bought paddles that same night. Yes, we are beginners but what fun."

The Stouffville Pickleball Players play six times a week: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and on Monday and Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. It is free to play pickleball at the Vandorf Courts but we do ask for a donation of \$15.00 to pay for the nets, balls plus other equipment and food for our socials.

The 2017 season started with a Pancake Breakfast on May 27. We will continue to have socials approximately every two weeks throughout the summer with a special BBQ and Strawberry Shortcake Social on July 6 to celebrate Canada Day and Canada's 150th Birthday.

The pickleball courts are located in The Town of Vandorf behind the Stouffville museum at 14732 Woodbine Avenue, which is one km south of Aurora Rd. (Note: speed limit is 50 km in the town of Vandorf, so watch out for the radar.)

Come out and enjoy this addictive sport.

For more information, contact Dennis Carter, **dwcarter@rogers.com**











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COST: \$130 per person includes bus and lunch

PLEASE CONTACT

Ron Brewing busybeeron@gmail.com

Annual Ballantrae Golf & Country Club Craft Sale

Saturday, October 21

TIME: 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Recreation Centre

TO BOOK A FREE TABLE, BGCC RESIDENTS MAY CONTACT

Carol McNaughton, 905-640-0651 or Sheila Armet, 905-640-3753

Georgian Downs

Wednesday, October 11

TIME: Bus leaves the Recreation Centre at 9:45 a.m. and returns at approximately 5:00 p.m.

TICKETS: \$13 per person

includes: \$10 credit toward slot play and \$5 food credit

PLEASE CONTACT

Mariette Blouin-Johnson 905-591-2032

Ladies' Dine Around

Tuesday, July 11

Cachet Restaurant and Bar 500 Water St. Newmarket

COST: \$40 per person

CASH BAR: 6:00 p.m. Sit down meal: 7:00 p.m.

PLEASE CONTACT

Kathy Billington at 905-591-1390 or kathy.billington@rogers.com



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1:00 p.m. A rockin' good time with the music of Terri Crawford & the Retro Rockets.

3:00 p.m. And the beat goes on with the music of Grant Fullerton.

6:00 p.m. Wrap up your special Canada Day with the talented Chapman Family Band.

Bar opens at noon

Please note that In accordance with LCBO licensing, BYOB is STRICTLY PROHIBITED.

This community-wide event is generously supported by Condos 1,2,3,4 & 5, Condo 967, Far Sight Homes, Oak Ridges Retirement Community, FluidRock.ca, Karen Soloway/ REALTRON REALTY INC, Gary Davis/ Royal LePage YOUR COMMUNITY REALTY, Kelly & Sons Roofing, Melfer Property Management, Nu Edge Roofing, Ballymore Homes, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville and Maurice Smith, Councillor Ward 2...for which we are most grateful.



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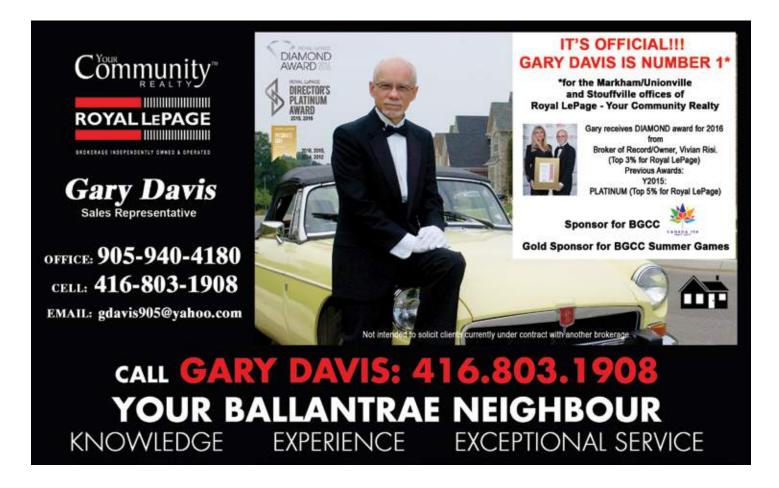
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Mah Jongg Club

BY ALISON SCOWCROFT

If you're looking for a way to meet some very nice people and you want an activity that will challenge your brain, then Mah Jongg (literal translation-sparrows) may be just right for you. Mah Jongg is a Chinese tile game of skill, strategy and calculation. Researchers believe that playing it can be beneficial for those suffering from dementia or cognitive and memory difficulties.

The Ballantrae Mah Jongg Club was started over ten years ago by Gillian Blake; it is now run by Marion Pellow. They meet twice a week: Tuesday evenings from 7 to 9 and Thursday afternoons from 1 to 4. There are approximately 20 members, but attendance is lower in the winter due to absent snowbirds. Players may drop in on Thursday afternoons, however during the winter months, Deb Kimpton sends out an email for Tuesday evenings to ensure there are enough people to play.

The only cost is the purchase of a card that you need for game play. A new card is issued every year and Marion orders them on behalf of everyone. You don't need your own Mah Jongg set as several members have them. In addition Lorri Pearce, a prior member who passed away left her set to the club.

You do need to know how to play Mah Jongg before joining the club. However, if you don't know how to play and would like to learn, you can contact Marion. The environment is competitive, but relaxed. Currently all members are female, but men are welcome.

The club holds a luncheon at the Recreation Centre in both spring and fall when everyone chips in for pizza and refreshments. As well, one day each summer, all members are invited up to Marion's







cottage at Fenelon Falls where they play all day on her beautiful deck.

I can assure you that Mah Jongg is a great way to spend a couple of hours with nice people, while giving your brain some exercise and having a few laughs.

Contact Marion Pellow: 905-640-0018

Ladies' Euchre Club

Every Wednesday at 1 p.m., year round, Ballantrae Golf & Country Club ladies meet for an afternoon of cards and good times at the Recreation Centre. The euchre group started at least 12 years ago with a few ladies and now has grown to 28 members. We welcome new members no matter what skill level. It is definitely a no-stress environment.

Ladies, please join us for an afternoon; I know you will want to come back. The cost is only \$1.00 plus there are prizes for the high scores.

Contact Marie Storey at 905-642-3914 or msmstorey@gmail.com. Transportation can be arranged.

Stitch 'N Chat Club

BY ALISON SCOWCROFT

One of the great benefits of being asked to work on *HOTG* as the "activity reporter" is that it has exposed me to so many people I didn't know before and I am learning so much. For example, I dropped in to meet the Stitch 'n Chat group, expecting to be there for about 30 minutes. Well, an hour and a half later, I was still there and really didn't want to leave.

The group was founded about ten years ago by Elaine Gorman. Some of the ladies were members of the Stouffville Newcomers Club and then they moved to the wool shop in Stouffville. When that closed, they moved to our Recreation Centre. They do knitting, crocheting, embroidery, and needlework of any kind. They even introduced me to Swedish weaving–something I had never heard of.

This group of ladies clearly enjoy each other's company and their various crafts. They create individual items, but they also make and donate baby hats for preemies, baby blankets for Markham Stouffville Hospital, chemo bags and hats for cancer patients at Southlake Hospital, as well as afghans and lap blankets for people in wheelchairs.

There are no costs involved in joining the Stitch 'n Chat Club. Members bring in wool they aren't using and patterns and knitting needles to share. They welcome any donations of wool, supplies, patterns, etc., so if you have anything sitting around that you aren't using, please consider donating it to this group. They will put it all to good use.

The club holds an annual Christmas luncheon at a local restaurant; they also try to have a potluck luncheon in June. They meet year-round, and I can tell you I think being a part of this group would be very therapeutic. Through their chats, they solve all the problems of the world and help each other. They tell me there is much laughter and sometimes a few tears. Some of them even share martini recipes!!!

If you love to do needlework, or would like to learn how to knit or crochet, I recommend that you drop in.

Contact Elaine Gorman: 905-642-0861







NOTICES

Ballantrae's Volunteer Assistance Program

"Residents helping residents to meet temporary, non-emergency needs"

We celebrate our resident volunteers, who gladly assist a growing number of our fellow residents just needing a little help.

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PHONE: 289-800-2540 (leave a message) or EMAIL: help4residents@rogers.com

An Intake Volunteer will respond as soon as possible Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with confidential service.

Ballantrae Bereavement

Providing support to neighbours in need

Ballantrae Bereavement is a group of trained volunteers within BGCC offering free grief support and caregiver stress relief programs to members of our community. Our goal is to support fellow residents through the grieving phase so they can move forward to resume active and meaningful lives.

If you feel you might benefit from a visit by one of our volunteer counsellors - or perhaps know of someone else in need – please call:

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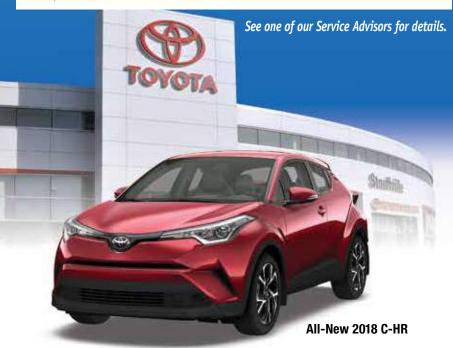


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NOTICES

Recreation Centre News

In the 2015 Summer Games, four of our wonderful residents entered the 80-plus 1k walk. One was a little faster and crossed the finish line first. The other three were close in speed. The one who would have been second approached the finish line and stopped. The one who would have been third did the same. The fourth walker approached the finish line and the three gentlemen, all 80 plus years of age, linked arms. The gentleman who had finished first, walked out to join the three and all four of these amazing octogenarians crossed the finish line together.

THAT IS WHAT THE SUMMER GAMES IS ALL ABOUT.

This is not unlike how your 1202 Board, representing all condos, functions. Every now and then one of us may lead the others, but we look to cross the finish line together to satisfy the Vision statement of the 1202. That vision is having the Recreation Centre be a cornerstone of health, wellness, illness prevention and community interaction and involvement. Three volunteer resident committees continue to provide outstanding and ongoing input.

As you are reading this, the 1202 Board may have changed by one or two members. Check ourbgcc.com to see your new board and to offer them all the positive support you can. Enjoy and have tons of fun in the 2017 Summer Games. HAPPY 150th CANADA!!!!!

Your 1202 Board

Ballantrae Recreation Centre Survey

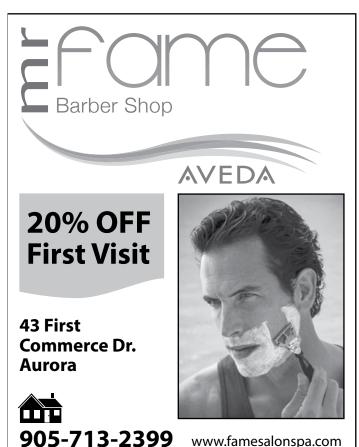
Dear Ballantrae Resident:

You will receive an email mid to late summer asking you to complete a survey regarding our Recreation Centre. This survey (with overview from the 1202 Recreation Centre Board) is about usage of, and attitudes towards, the Ballantrae Recreation Centre. Keep an eye on your emails! We thank you in advance for taking the time to complete this survey.

Special thanks to Fergus Gamble, who volunteered his time to create the survey.

From your Marketing Committee: Joy Barron, Dan Crumpton, Helen Hunt and Parmod Malik.









More Good Reasons to Visit www.ourbgcc.com

BY PETER SIMS. WEBMASTER

→ CANADA 150

Find everything you want to know about Ballantrae's celebration of Canada's 150th birthday! Not just on Canada Day, but also events before July 1 and those continuing into the fall.

→ BALLANTRAE SUMMER GAMES

Once again ourbgcc.com is providing full coverage of the Games coming this August. Look for "The Games" at the top left of the main menu.

The "Ballantrae Summer Games" page contains all the latest information.

"Contacts" shows the Games organization chart with contact information for the Organizing Committee as well as all the sports.

"The Master Schedule" page contains a day-by-day schedule of all the events occurring during the week of the Games as well as the week before when many preliminary events take place. This page changes frequently so check it often.

"BSG Sports" lists all the different sports that make up the Games. Click/tap on any of these to be taken to that sport's own page.

Each "Sport" page will have contact information, descriptions of the different medal events, and rules. Many sports will also have detailed schedules and results. Some pages will also have photos of events.

"BSG Photos" will have general photos of the Games including social events.

→ HELP FOR RESIDENTS

This page (under "Helpful") describes the Volunteer Assistance Program (VAP) within our community. It also has information on particular agencies that are of interest to our residents such as CHATS and the Cancer Society. These have all recently been updated. Many of these agencies also need volunteers. Please visit the "Volunteers Needed" page for information.

→ FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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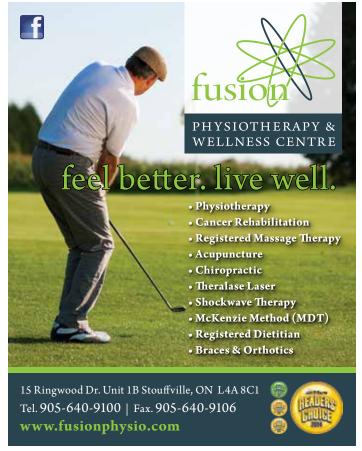
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CLAIM TO Fame

MEMORIES OF WORLD DAY OF PRAYER IN SOUTH AFRICA

BY JUNE DYER

In the early 1990s, I was asked by my national church to become an appointee to the Women's Inter-church Council of Canada. This council is responsible in Canada for the World Day of Prayer services which take place the first Friday in March and for the Fellowship of the Least Coin. Council members also work on spiritual development and raising social justice issues for women and children among the churches.

While serving, I was elected to the International Committee of World Day of Prayer which meets every four years in a different part of the world to determine which countries will write services for the international community and what themes might be used. It is an opportunity for countries to exhibit the best of their nation as well as to put forth those social concerns that need prayer. Shortly after I was elected, I attended an executive meeting in New York where it was further determined that in 1999, the International Committee would meet in South Africa.

What a privilege to be one of two Canadian women sent to Cape Town for this international meeting! My husband Jim agreed to carry my bags! There were about 190 women from countries around the world and it was a busy but enriching time with simultaneous translation into several major languages. We sang, shared our stories, planned and worked hard for two weeks.



Delegates From Canada, Lebanon and Indonesia



Table Mountain

One Sunday we had the opportunity to be taken by a family classified by the apartheid era government as coloured; i.e., of mixed racial heritage and forced to live separately from black African groups, into their community and into their tiny house behind locked gates. They shared with us their experience of that time while we had a meal together. Their scary experiences left quite an impression on us.

On another occasion, the international women were invited to have tea with the Lord Mayor of Cape Town. (Unfortunately, Mandela was electioneering in



Executive Committee Visiting Local Church



South African Family Visited

Johannesburg while we were in Cape Town). As I was heading out the door to the bus, I was pulled aside by the Executive Director of ICWDP and asked if I would take her place for a radio interview with the SABC (their equivalent of our CBC) as she was caught up in much paperwork. Hesitatingly, I agreed and went off with a black African Xhosa woman to the studio. We were given a list of questions to consider that might be used during the interview so we could "be prepared." However, when it came to broadcast time, those questions were not used and Emily Makwakwa and I had to "wing it." We'll never know how we came across.

The hardest part of the event was choosing the four writing countries for the future. I chaired that committee and about 40 of us had to meet in a room that had no translation equipment. Some women had to use personal translators so there was a real buzz in the room as we deliberated each request and tried to listen to the concerns. When a final vote was taken, several women whose entries were not chosen were most unhappy as they felt they had let their countries down. Much TLC was needed.

Of course, a trip to Cape Town would not have been complete without a visit to Table Mountain which occurred in a hurried moment on our last day of the conference. What a spectacular view – a mountaintop experience! A fitting end to an exhilarating time.





















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