# HOME ON THE COMMUNITY LIFE IN THE BALLANTRAE GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

In This Issue:

Festive Recipes

Home Renovation Ideas

Golf Nirvana on Maui

A Toast to Champagne

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Publisher Elaine Saksons Editor Anita Draycott

Assistant Editor Karen Clark

Social Liaison Kathy Billington

Administrative Support Ninette Correa

Contributing Writers Lynne Balfour

Johanna Burkhard Donna Clark Linda LeGallais Greg McCain Ken Miyauchi Al Moldon Jan Richards Maurice Smith Dayna Stoddart Philippe Martin Teillet Alison Thomas Blair Tullis Luba Quadrini Mairi Vasil

Mary Hallam, Coordinator Eileen MacIsaac Proofreaders

Diane Ross

Contributing Photographers Robert Pitour, Coordinator

Hanna Galyen Marna Moldon Luba Quadrini

Production Coordinator Terry Coulson 416-606-5876

> Advertising Sales Bruce and MC Porter, Coordinators

advertising@hotg.ca John Pittaway, Administrator Lorne Chapman Rose Chapman

Bruce Forty Lynn Gale Sandy Howson Maggie Pittaway Imants Saksons Linda Tanaka

Distribution Norm Bresser

Al Moldon

Comptroller Marie Hewitt

Board of Directors Donna Clark, Chair Anne Brewing

Paul Mak Terry Maloney Elaine Saksons Ginny Tullis

Founding Editor Ruth Flanagan

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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 to magazine@hotg.ca. 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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#### MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

BY ANITA DRAYCOTT

First of all, happy holidays to everyone in Ballantrae, whether you are spending the winter here or somewhere sunny and warm.

I am writing this on my laptop from a hotel in exotic Istanbul. I have been travelling since September 23 and it is now October 23, so I've had considerable time to think about the changing world of travel. When I am not editing Home on the Green, I spend much of my time working as a freelance travel writer. I have been globe-trotting (professionally) for at least 30 years.

My how things have changed. Remember when we used to buy American Express Travelers' Cheques? Remember when people got dressed up to take a flight? Remember when airplane food was edible? Remember when we bought Fodor's or Frommer's guides and used them to book hotels and restaurants? I could also ask if you remember backpacking throughout Europe using Frommer's Europe on Five Dollars a Day!

I admit that I still find a good paperback guidebook useful. But for hotel bookings, I use booking.com. Traveller's cheques I think are defunct; now we just have to put our bank card into an ATM and get whatever cash we need, wherever. OK, maybe airplane food was never that great...unless you were in first class. And only the rich and the travel freelancers (also known as freeloaders) like myself got to experience the Champagne and caviar treatment.

Enough nostalgia. What I want to share are a few tips for the modern traveller based on recent experience. 3 Travel light. I will have managed almost six weeks

1 Buy a SIM card in the country you are visiting. Unless you have an internet provider that offers inexpensive daily



much cheaper. For example, my provider, Rogers, charges \$15 per day for international roaming, telephone calls, WIFI, etc. In Venice, where I started my current trip, I was able to buy a SIM card at Vodafone that worked in Italy and France for about \$30 CDN for a month. I bring an old iPhone with me and put the chip in it. There are myriad reasons to "be connected." Telephone reservations; booking confirmations; train and plane reservations and updates; having Google to help you with all sorts of things from translations to maps. Maybe the best reason is that you will have Google Maps to lead you to your destination. This has been a lifesaver in Turkey where I don't speak or understand the language. You can type in your destination and Google Maps will tell you how to walk, drive or take public transportation. When you can't speak the language or even find the street signs, just follow the blue dotted line on the map and listen to the cheery voice directions. Google Maps will even find you a great cappuccino in your area.

- 2 Take a free walking tour if offered in the city you are visiting. My husband and I recently did a tour of the Notre Dame area in Paris, another of the Paris Marais district and another around the port of Marseille. Each tour was fun and informative and gave us a sense of place. The tours are free, but you are expected to tip your guide. It's money well-spent. Google: free walking tours.
- with a carry-on wheeled bag and a large tote. I have a predominantly black wardrobe and I wash clothes in the sink if I am not staying in accommodations with a washing machine. This gives you more flexibility should flights change.

Dear readers/travellers, those are my Christmas tips for you.

CANADA









### A MESSAGE FROM OUR COUNCILLOR MORE FROM MAURICE

BY MAURICE SMITH



#### Municipal election

I have no intention of turning this column into a political platform. I have, over the past eight years, used my space in this great magazine to keep the residents of Ballantrae Golf & Country Club informed of matters of interest within Whitchurch-Stouffville. However, we are all aware of the municipal election this past October. It was my honour to once again be elected as the local council representative for our community and all of Ward 2. For this privilege I will be eternally grateful. It is not an easy task and there are a number of important and meaningful challenges ahead. I want to say simply, thank you for the opportunity. Your support is appreciated.

#### **Main Street Stouffville**

A major undertaking and traffic disruption is coming to Stouffville. For many years there has been talk about how to address the main corridor of town. This past September, an important decision was made by council for a proposed concept addressing the future needs and design of our community. For me, slower vehicle traffic and a walkable streetscape would be a real plus. This could be achieved with various sidewalk and curb revisions. The proposed design is now open for review and the public's consultation/input is definitely requested.

The project will be expensive and council did decide in principal on a program to pay for this cost, consisting of funds from development charges, the federal gas tax and water/wastewater reserves. The September motion reads, in part, that appropriate design and construction budgets will be included in the draft 2023 Public Works Capital Budget for council's consideration.

There is much more to come over the next year but we are finally moving forward.

#### Fire Station in Ballantrae

The local station outside our front gate, known simply as Station 52, was built at a time when the fire fighting contingent included mainly male volunteers. It has only been in the last few years that council has been convinced of the need to staff the location full-time on a 24/7 basis. Modern fire stations are much more than the bricks and

mortar you see as you pass by. This building, constructed in 1999, met the standards of the day and has served us well.

I have been a member of a committee consisting of the fire chief, his deputy, another councillor and staff representatives to address the longer-term needs for our area. Work was completed on a ten-year master fire plan that was approved by council in June of this year. If you are interested in this public document you can click here: <a href="https://www.townofws.ca/en/residents/resources/Documents/2022-WSFES-MFP-update-page-114.pdf">https://www.townofws.ca/en/residents/resources/Documents/2022-WSFES-MFP-update-page-114.pdf</a>. It is a comprehensive, extensive document outlining the strengths and challenges of our fire services.

One of the recommendations in this plan calls for a complete rebuild or replacement of our Station 52. The estimated cost of the upgrades to meet the needs of the full-time staff would be in the range of \$4.2 million. (2020 dollars). We now have female and male on-site staff and there are many new provincial directives to be addressed. A facility with at least one bay to be used as a permanent home for an ambulance is also required.

However, a major decision is: do we try to reconstruct the facility in its present location or, in order to have the most up-to-date station, do we try to find another spot in the immediate area on which a complete state-of-the-art facility could be built—one that will meet our needs for the next 30 to 40 years?

I intend to continue to serve on the committee addressing these matters and there will be interesting meetings when this subject is on the agenda.

#### **Season's Greetings**

For many of us 2022 has been a very trying year but COVID does seem to be on the decline. We must continue to be cautious of course. However, Jane and I trust you count your blessings that we live in such a location as BGCC. We both wish you the best of this season and a prosperous 2023. If you are travelling, travel safe, and we will see you in the spring.

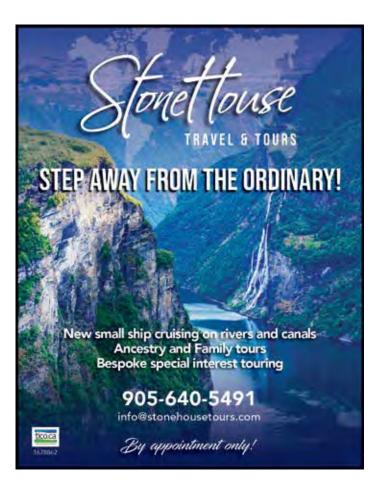


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**BY LINDA LEGALLAIS** 

Since I was a child I have loved a trip to the zoo – either the High Park Zoo or the Riverdale Zoo until the Metropolitan Toronto Zoo opened in 1974. Although I continue to enjoy these

outings, accompanied now by grandchildren, I am aware of the controversies that surround zoos.

Some of that controversy is rooted in the fact that historically, zoos were not designed for the welfare of animals. The first recorded zoo was found in the Sumerian city of Ur 4300 years ago. Egyptian kings collected all manner of wild animals, from large cats and primates to antelopes. Capturing wild animals and displaying them for the entertainment and prestige of the nobility was practised throughout the Roman and Assyrian Empires and the Christian/Judea and Asian Empires. From the 13th to15th century, every European prince owned lions as a symbol of power and strength. By the 16th century royal zoos were very popular and every royal who was worth his salt had a private menagerie.

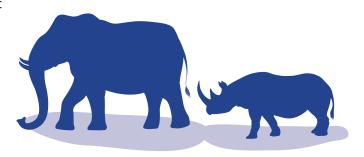
It's probably not difficult to imagine that the welfare of animals was of little concern at this time. Even those who wanted to care for them had no idea of the needs of these creatures. Unimaginable suffering was experienced by these innocent beasts.

Conditions began to change in the 18th century with a shift in the whole philosophy of life and the world around it. We switched from more supernatural beliefs to more objective reasoning which influenced how we saw nature. There was a burgeoning belief that these animals had worth beyond monetary or prestigious values. People began to accept that animals were sentient beings with certain rights. By the end of this era the modern zoological park emerged.

As this enlightenment took hold, a new way of assessing the practice of capturing wildlife and caring for it developed. This eventually resulted in the formation of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums in 1924 which to this day

monitors these facilities. Today they represent over 235 facilities throughout the world. To get their accreditation, a facility must meet rigorous standards for animal care and welfare. Before you visit any zoo, wildlife centre or aquarium please check to see that it has AZA credentials. Don't let unscrupulous vendors profit from your dollars.

But the question still exists. Are these facilities ethical? Should any animal be kept outside its natural environment? To begin with, animals are no longer "captured" for display in zoos. They are almost exclusively born in the zoo or have been orphaned in the wild where they would not survive on their own. Occasionally, an injured animal not capable of being released will get a



second chance to live out its life in a zoo. Zoos spend millions of dollars on conservation efforts in "the field" supporting projects in over 130 countries involving over 800 species. The AZA's Species Survival Program sees zoos throughout the world cooperating in breeding programs to ensure the health and diversity of species in the hope of reintroducing them to the wild. Not to be minimized is the fact that seeing these wonderful creatures up close can often encourage visitors to care about wildlife and perhaps change some of their attitudes.

In a perfect world all animals would be free to roam in nature, but our footprint on this planet has made that impossible. At least zoos are trying to lessen that impact and protect and preserve the animals. By the way, the Toronto Zoo is both AZA and CAZA accredited, so go out and enjoy a day at the zoo!



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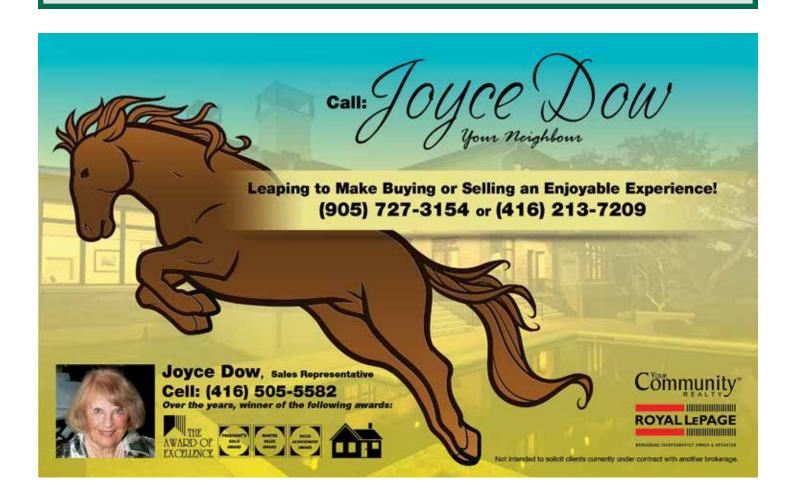
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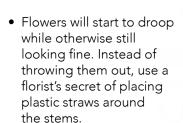
# **Hacks** Around the House

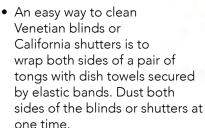
#### **BY KEN MIYAUCHI**

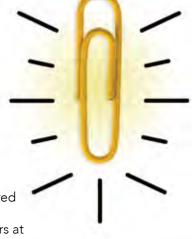
Hacks are many different things. A hack in hockey is bad. A computer hack is worse. Health-wise, a hack can be a persistent cough or a wound. Some hacks, however, are good. They represent timesavers to help solve problems or to do things more efficiently. It is this last type of hack that is the topic of this article.

Got a problem? See if any of the following hacks can be the answer you're looking for:

- Little used drains will dry out and release sewer gasses with unpleasant odours. Pour in a quart of water followed by a tablespoon of cooking oil. The drain trap will be sealed and the odour removed.
- It's annoying when crumbs and small objects fall between the counter and the refrigerator. Place clear plastic tubing, available in many widths, in the crack.
- Have a noisy washer or dryer that vibrates the entire house? Purchase anti vibration pads and place under the feet.
- To prevent mirrors from fogging, apply a small amount of car wax and buff with a soft cloth. To clean a hazy mirror, use shaving cream.
- Everyone has dropped a small item like the back of an earring and can't find it. Tie a nylon or thin sock over the end of the vacuum hose with an elastic band. Vacuum and voilà.
- Use a match to light a piece of uncooked spaghetti. It will reach the places that the match is too short to reach.
- To ease a sore muscle, fill a sock with uncooked rice, tie the end and microwave for 2-3 minutes. Now you have a heating pad that will conform to any part of your body.
- Use non-gel toothpaste to remove small scratches from furniture. Rub in a circular motion to buff out the scratch, and clean up with a damp cloth.
- Candle wax on your tablecloth or carpet can be annoying. Put ice cubes in a Ziplock bag and place on the wax for 5 minutes. The wax will harden and be easily removed.
- If you don't wish to purchase Goo Gone to remove sticky labels, try cooking oil. After soaking for a few minutes, they should come off easily.







- To repair a screen with a minor tear or hole, rub with clear nail polish and the screen will be as good as new.
- Trying to find the end of a roll of tape can be annoying. Place a paper clip or bread clip under the end of the tape so that it can easily be found the next time.
- Cleaning a blender by hand can be very hazardous. Instead, fill the blender with 2 cups of warm water and a few drops of dish soap. Then blend until clean.
- To prevent boiling liquid from spilling over, put a wooden spoon over the pan.
- Wrap a banana stem with cling wrap to keep it fresher longer.
- Have dull scissors lying in your drawers? Take
  a piece of heavy-duty foil, fold it over 6 times
  and cut through all 6 layers. Your scissors will be
  noticeably sharper.
- Use a can opener to open blister packs instead of scissors or a knife.
- While on vacation, use an old Chap Stick container to hide emergency money. An old sun screen container will conceal your mobile phone or other valuables.

I have not tried all of these hacks, but all are from reputable sources. Many others can be found on the internet. If even one hack saves you time or money, this article has served its purpose.





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# Indoor Hydroponic **Gardening Under Lights**

BY LUBA QUADRINI

When I moved to Ballantrae, I left behind a large vegetable garden and each spring I have planted several pots of herbs, lettuce and tomatoes to grow on my patio. I have especially loved the convenience of having fresh herbs handy all summer long to use in cooking.

This summer I decided to try my hand at growing some herbs in a digitally programmed hydroponic (soilless) garden system. I purchased an AeroGarden unit that was on sale for \$129 at Canadian Tire. It came with six pods of assorted non-GMO herb seeds as well as liquid fertilizer and instructions.



Four weeks after planting: Genovese basil, Thai basil, dill, thyme, parsley, mint

Additional seed pods are available from a list of 70 varieties from this company. The digitally programmable unit is compact, attractive and takes up little space on my kitchen counter—a convenient spot for me to snip fresh herbs when I'm cooking. The unit supplies the right amount of light in the perfect spectrum for fast germination and growth. The lights turn on and off automatically on a daily schedule.

My seeds sprouted within the first week after setting it up and I was snipping fresh herbs four weeks later. We have been enjoying my kitchen counter herbs for several months now and with the constantly increasing prices of produce at the grocery store I am looking forward to a winter of fresh and free greens growing in my kitchen.

All too frequently I hear "My windowsill is bright enough, isn't it?" While many books and websites insist that all you need is a bright window, this approach can lead to much disappointment as it has for me in the past. The light levels in many of our homes are significantly lower in intensity and different in spectrum than natural outdoor light, especially during the winter months. A bright window is typically not the right location for plants that you intend to harvest for food. Producing flowers, fruit and seeds is an energy-intensive process for plants and requires a specific kind of light to get the job done well.

Growing edibles indoors has transformed my cooking and eating experiences and has brought nature inside. My brother has been using two of these units for the past several years. He enjoys fresh lettuce, peppers, cherry tomatoes and herbs all year round and no longer bothers with planting edibles outdoors in the summer. The benefit of a self-contained indoor growing unit is that the light spectrum and intensity is perfectly programmed. Plants that are grown exclusively in water, not soil, rarely succumb to bacteria and pest infestations. All you need to do is add water and fertilizer whenever the unit prompts you, then sit back and watch your little garden grow.

Growing plants indoors under lights has been a rewarding pursuit for me. Having control over your own fresh and clean food source is a powerful feeling. I am

looking forward to feeding my family from my indoor garden during the coming cold winter months. I think I'll keep this first unit exclusively for herbs and add a second unit to grow peppers and tomatoes.

I've decided to give up on growing edibles outdoors on the patio. I hope this article creates new possibilities for you by stimulating your interest in growing plants where you once thought you could not.



Cherry tomatoes ready to harvest



Left to right: cherry tomatoes, assorted lettuces

You can definitely extend your gardening season by growing indoors off-season.



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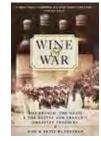
# Champagne: The Wine of Kings; The King of Wines

#### BY GREG MCCAIN

When one thinks of weddings, christenings, ringing in the New Year and other festive occasions, champagne has become synonymous with celebrations. As Coco Chanel said, "I only drink champagne on two occasions, when I am in love and when I am not."

Growing up, my father represented Moët & Chandon in Canada. Every Christmas Eve he invited friends and neighbours for a cheerful glass of Dom Pérignon. Later, I was fortunate to visit the champagne house of

Moët & Chandon in Epernay, France with my wife Dee, where we learned many of the secrets of champagne. During the Second World War vintners walled off their champagne in rock caves to prevent plundering by the Nazis. A fascinating book, Wine & War, still available from Amazon, recounts this amazing story. Some of these boarded-up caves have still not been found.



Wine & War book

It is an established fact that Napoleon always carted bottles of champagne into battle. As he said, "In victory you deserve it; in defeat you need it."

The champagne house, Pol Roger, estimates that Winston Churchill drank 42,000 bottles of Pol Roger during his lifetime (equating to a bottle a day) from 1908 to 1965. No wonder he said, "I fight not for France but for Champagne."

#### Why is Champagne so Expensive?

- 1) Champagne is not only a brand, it's a trade name and must come from a single appellation "Appellation Origine Contrôlée or Protégée (AOC/AOP)" in France. This region is 130 km north-east of Paris and quite cool for growing grapes.
- 2) As a general rule, champagne must be produced from chardonnay and/or pinot noir and pinot meunier grapes. These varieties account for 99 per cent of the region's plantings. Some minor



3) All champagne must be produced by the "méthode champenoise." Contrary to popular belief, Dom Pérignon (1638-1715) did not invent sparkling wine but was responsible for refining it. He said, "Come quickly, I am tasting the stars." In France the first sparkling wine was created accidentally. The pressure in the bottles led to it being called "the devil's wine" as bottles exploded and corks popped. In 1662 English glass-makers' technical developments allowed bottles to be produced that could withstand the required internal pressure. French glass-makers at that time could not produce bottles of the required quality or strength. At the time bubbles were considered a fault. To obtain bubbles after the wine has fermented, yeast and sugar are added to produce carbon dioxide.

After aging, the bottles are manually or mechanically turned numerous times in a process called remuage (riddling in English), to let the residual (lees) settle in the neck. The neck is frozen and sediment is forced out under pressure.



Colorful Artist Vintage Champagne Bottles Collection

**4)** A good vintage champagne is then aged for 8 to 15 years to reach its peak drinking window.

The next time you sip a glass of this wonderful "golden elixir" think of the labour and time needed to make it and understand that it's not sparkling wine, it's champagne. Lift a glass to the lifestyle in Ballantrae and to a new and prosperous New Year.









# Recreating the **Danish Frigate Jylland**

BY LYNNE BALFOUR





During COVID days we all looked for ways to amuse ourselves. Online bridge, jigsaw puzzles, books and hobbies became obsessions. Our neighbour Alex Lindsay, fondly remembered making ship models as a child with his father who, having served in the British Navy, had a natural interest in ships. As a young teenager Alex's models were made from plastic kits. As an adult he started the base of a wooden ship, HDMS *Jylland*, in 1983. The three-foot wooden frame was covered with thin wood which had been soaked in water until it was pliable and could be curved to the shape of the ship. Beautifully smooth with a suitably weathered deck but no masts or rigging, its dimensions were 41" x 25" x 15". The real ship had been a Danish frigate built in 1860 and

was made of oak. In 1864 Denmark used it in the Austrian/ Prussian war. The Danish navy won the battle but the *Jylland* was heavily damaged. In 1960 it was towed to Ebeltoft, Denmark and subsequently entered into dry dock where restoration commenced.



Alex decided in January, 2021 to continue detailing his model of the *Jylland* after a break of 37 years. During the next 17 months he spent at least 1250 hours completing the model by adding masts, complex rigging, one-inch cannons, a ship's wheel, coil tubs and miniature sailors. The detail (as seen in the photos) is amazing. He also

researched and wrote a 280-page document on the history of the *Jylland* and the building of the model.

Alex was born in the UK and at age four moved to Jamaica with his parents, a twin brother and a younger sister and on to Mexico in 1965. They then moved back to England where Alex worked to become a chartered accountant. After interviewing for a job in London, he was offered a position in Newfoundland. Four years later he moved to Toronto where in 1980 he met his wife Andrea. They eventually moved to Ballantrae from Aurora about 16 years ago and are now great grandparents to two little ones! Alex also has an extensive collection of stamps, mostly from the UK. You may have met Alex at





past summer games or as the coordinator of our water volleyball league held on alternate Sundays at the Recreation Centre. (He says they always need new players; no previous experience required!) Alex is very proud of his research and painstaking work in creating the beautiful Jylland model but is unlikely to start another one!





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# Make Your Front Porch **Smarter**

BY AL MOLDON



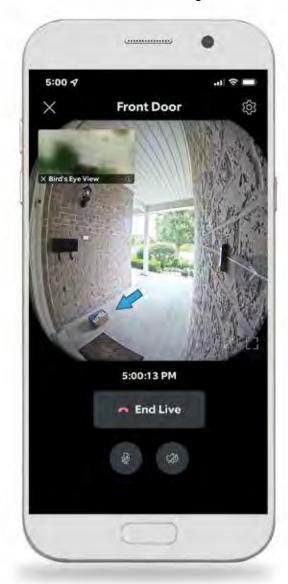
COVID-19 triggered a significant increase in the use of home delivery services such as Amazon, UPS, DHL and Grocery Gateway by Ballantrae Golf & Country Club residents as they avoided in-store shopping and placed their orders online. Amazon, for example, can generally deliver almost any household item with one-day free delivery right to your door. Their drivers place the parcel on your porch and may take a photo to prove delivery status if required, but do not generally ring the doorbell. Wouldn't it be nice if you could be alerted to the delivery as soon as it arrived with no doorbell requirement? Well, you can!

The secret to a "smarter porch" lies in the replacement of that 20-year-old doorbell at your front door with one that contains a camera and sensors to detect delivery activity. The unit I selected for my home is called the **Ring Doorbell Pro 2** which uses the existing doorbell wiring and provides a bevy of useful information such as:

- An alert that someone has arrived at my porch area, including a video and audio recording of that activity.
- Activation of my existing chime should the doorbell button be pressed. A video display on my iPad or cell phone can also be automatically triggered and Alexa show devices are supported.
- The playing of my selected greeting after the chime such as, "Please leave the parcel at the door. You can also leave a voice message now if desired." This is especially handy if visitors arrive while you are out. They can leave a message that they came by.
- An additional alert if a parcel is left within a designated area on the porch.
- An optional electronic chime can also be added for the basement if desired.

The Ring Corporation also provides the ability to store all videos for up to two months so you have a saved record of all porch activity. This was useful to me recently when a parcel was reported as delivered but I had no video record of the delivery having taken place. A follow up with the service helped identify the missed delivery and the problem was resolved. Ring also supports the Apple Watch so you will be alerted if any porch activity occurs.

I hope you have enjoyed this video doorbell update. Please feel free to contact me if you would like more information at <a href="mailto:amoldon@rogers.com">amoldon@rogers.com</a>



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# What's a Cover Version?



#### BY BLAIR TULLIS

I sing in a cover band. That means we "cover" original songs by other artists, rather than playing our own songs. It's a great way for a band to get material that is popular with an audience, whether it is in a bar or high school gymnasium or at a wedding reception. Originally a cover version of a song was sung by another artist and was released around the same time to compete with the original version. One of the most famous and successful cover versions of an original song is Tina Turner's version of Creedence Clearwater Revival's *Proud Mary*. She made her career on the back of that song.





Proud Mary by Creedence Clearwater Revival and Ike & Tina Turner

Cover bands present material in a couple of ways. Most of us have been to tribute concerts, such as those held at local theatres in Markham and the Uxbridge Music Hall. A recent example is an excellent show put on by an Eagles cover band called Epic. They are good musicians and singers in their own right who choose to make their living (hopefully) performing a complete show of tunes by the venerable band from California. The same theatres have cover bands doing everything from Elvis to ABBA and beyond.

What's the attraction with this type of show? It is simply the fact that we still want to hear those

great tunes we grew up with, played note-fornote, even if they are performed by an Eagles-like group from St. Catharines. We can't see the real Eagles for under \$100 a ticket, after all.

There is, of course, the other way of covering a song. Like Tina Turner, the late Joe Cocker poured a song into his own mold with a unique arrangement and feel, making it a totally different experience.

Joe Cocker was one of the best practitioners of the art. His Mad Dogs and Englishmen tour album,

released in 1970, put his stamp on tunes by the Beatles, the Rolling Stones, Leon Russell and the Box Tops. Some of those songs were bigger and more enduring hits, meaning they got more air play than the originals.



With a Little Help from my Friends by Joe Cocker

The Beatles version of With a Little Help from my Friends, is a lively tune with bright harmonies and an optimistic tone. Cocker's effort turned the song into a soul anthem according to Ringo, where the interplay between the back-up singers and Joe is magical. The power of the singer draws you into his struggle to get by.

Imitation being the sincerest form of flattery, a song cover pays respect to the original, while giving it a slightly, or radically, different spin. If you want a bit of a chuckle, go to YouTube and listen to two versions of *Crazy Train*. You'll want to start with Ozzy Osbourne's original version to hear what the song is like performed by an 80's metal band. Then listen to Ozzy's Hollywood neighbour Pat Boone, who covered the tune in his typical Vegas lounge singer style, complete with horns and backing singers trilling, "Choo! Choo!"

As for all cover bands out there, we'll keep on playing and paying our respects to the music of our lives, and hope our efforts match up with the music you desire.

# The Royal Canadian Mint



**BY JAN RICHARDS** 

For the first 50 years of Canadian coinage, coins were minted at The Royal Mint in London, England. As Canada emerged as a nation, its need for coinage increased and as a result a branch of the Royal Mint was authorized to be built in Ottawa in 1901. The presses of the Canadian Mint were activated in January 1908 by Lord Grey. The first coin minted in Canada was a 50 cent piece.

It was not until the Great Depression that the Ottawa Mint negotiated its independence from the British Royal Mint. In 1931, the Ottawa Mint was renamed the Royal Canadian Mint and began reporting to the Canadian Department of Finance.

In 1969, the Government of Canada reorganized the Mint as a Crown corporation. Presently, Canada manufactures coinage not only for Canadians but also for more than 73 countries worldwide, including Singapore, Iceland, Yemen and New Zealand. The Mint designs and creates precious collector coins, gold, silver, palladium and platinum bullion coins. The Mint serves "in the public's interest" and is mandated to operate "in anticipation of a profit." It is recognized as one of "Canada's Top 100 Employers" and is owned by the government with locations in Ottawa and Winnipeg. The Winnipeg facility is responsible for coin production for other countries, while the Ottawa site on Sussex Drive handles our domestic needs.

In 1987, a major change came to Canadian coinage with the introduction of a one dollar coin. This new coin was to be minted with a scene of voyageurs paddling a canoe. The master "die" (the template used to press the image onto the metal) was lost en route from Ottawa to Winnipeg. The back-up design was a simple image of a common loon created by Sault Ste. Marie native, Robert Carmichael. That year, 80 million 11-sided, bronze-plated-nickel one dollar coins were

circulated across Canada to replace the one dollar bill. Within weeks of the release of these new coins, they became known as "loonies."

In 1996, their two dollar cousin, the "toonie" was introduced. The toonie is a bi-metallic coin (the outer ring is made of steel with nickel plating while the inner core is made of aluminum bronze with brass plating). The toonie has a polar bear image created by Brent Townsend on the reverse side and the obverse side has a portrait of Queen Elizabeth II – as do all Canadian coins.

Queen Elizabeth II's image has been stamped on our coins from 1953 (the year of the Queen's coronation) until present day. Prior to Queen Elizabeth II, the image of her father, George VI, was featured on our coins. This September,

the Royal
Canadian Mint
stated that, "a
change in the
monarchy did
not require the
replacement of
our circulation
coins" and
"a royal
succession had
no impact on
coins currently
in circulation."

The Royal Canadian Mint manufactures up to 20 million coins per day– now that's a lot of change jangling in our pockets, eh!





#### Elizabeth II (1953 1964)

The effigy of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II first appeared on Canadian coins in 1953 when she was 27 years old. The effigy pictured here was used until 1964, with the inscription ELIZABETH II DEI GRATIA REGINA, meaning "Elizabeth II, by the grace of God, the Queen."



#### Elizabeth II (1965 1989)

This updated effigy of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II appeared with the inscription ELIZABETH II D G REGINA, a shortened form of the original.



#### Elizabeth II (1990 2002)

A new effigy of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II was unveiled in 1990 when she was 64 years old. This was the first to be designed by a Canadian, Dora de PéderyHunt, and the coin kept the ELIZABETH II D G REGINA inscription.



#### Elizabeth II (2003 present)

Canadian artist, Susanna Blunt, designed the most recent effigy of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, again accompanied by the words ELIZABETH II D G REGINA. Ms. Blunt's version recalls the effigy of George VI, who also chose to be portrayed without a crown.



In 2012, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II celebrated her Diamond Jubilee. At that time, the official portrait of the Queen was commissioned by the Canadian Government and was painted by Canadian portrait artist Phil Richards. A stunning coloured, limited mintage of 15,000 coins of the portrait was produced by The Mint to mark this important historical event.

# Active Aging and Longevity

BY DAYNA STODDART





Active aging is a term used to describe the maintenance of positive subjective well-being, good physical, social and mental health and continued involvement in one's family, peer group and community throughout the aging process.

It is defined by the World Health Organization (WHO) as "the process of optimizing opportunities for health, participation and security in order to enhance quality of life as people age."

Modern medicine has increased life expectancy. Over the past 100 years global life expectancy has more than doubled. But this has not necessarily been accompanied by an equivalent increase in healthy life expectancy. People are living longer but many of those years are burdened with chronic diseases. This is why it's important to understand the difference between lifespan and health span.

total number of years we live

years we remain healthy & HEALTH SPAN

Lifespan is the total number of years we live; health span is how many of those years we remain healthy and free from disease.

Twenty percent of how long we live is dictated by our genes, whereas the other eighty percent is dictated by our lifestyles. This means that we have considerable power and control over our health in preventing chronic diseases and increasing our longevity.

Active Aging Week is a predetermined week set by the International Council on Active Aging (ICAA) and operates across multiple countries. Active Aging Week 2022 was October 3-7. Following are some highlights from the Active Aging seminars presented at Ballantrae. You are What You Eat What we eat may be one of the most important lifestyle modifications any one of us can make to significantly increase our health span and to add quality years of enjoyable as we age

life as we age.

Four of the eleven Active Aging Week seminars focused on how food and supplements directly impact our health and longevity.

An Anti-inflammatory Diet Prescription for Optimum Health was an information-packed hour on how to combat inflammation and live a long and healthy life. Food is medicine and the presenter shared many delicious examples of how to create balanced meals for heart health, weight loss, longevity and optimum health.

Research has proven that there is a relationship between nutrition and mental health. How Food Affects Your Mood was a fascinating and informative seminar to help us understand the science and make smarter, healthier choices.

A virtual session on Fall Baking included how to make pumpkin donuts—a glutenfree, dairy free recipe that is a nutritious alternative to regular donuts.

Immune support is always front and centre, especially at this time of year. Tips and other holistic suggestions were discussed to keep us healthy this season.

#### **The Blue Zones**

These are five demographically confirmed, geographically defined areas in the world with the highest percentage of centenarians – places where people reach the age of 100 at roughly 10 times greater rates than in the United States as a whole. Blue Zone locations include: Nicoya, Costa Rica; Sardinia, Italy; Ikaria, Greece; Okinawa, Japan; and Loma Linda, California. Interestingly, demographers and researchers found that these populations shared several key lifestyle habits, one of which was a remarkable similarity in their diets. Here are some dietary characteristics shared by Blue Zone populations:

- Greater than 90% eat a plant-based diet.
- A wide variety of seasonal vegetables, fruits and whole grains is emphasized.
- Daily consumption of legumes including beans, chickpeas and lentils (black beans in Nicoya; lentils and white beans in the Mediterranean; soy beans in Okinawa).
- Meat is used only sparingly as a small side or for a special occasion.
- Avoidance of processed foods and refined sugars.
- Water is the beverage of choice, with small amounts of tea, coffee or red wine in moderation.



#### **Mental and Emotional Well-being**

Knowledge is power! The presenters expanded on a variety of topics that delivered fascinating and practical information and strategies to improve our health and well being from physical, mental and emotional dimensions.

We learned about the most common types of dementia, the symptoms and how they present, and the ways to keep our brains healthy and lower our risk of developing the condition.

We explored some of the ways we manage different transitions through life, along with tips and techniques to reinvent ourselves as life circumstances change.

We learned of several acupressure points that can help treat and prevent headaches and migraines, whether these are stress or food-related. Faith and wellness intersect. If our state of wellness is good, we are better able to cope with life's stressors, losses and traumatic events. We gained knowledge of the vocabulary and were empowered to feel more confident when speaking with doctors and care providers about mental health concerns.

Hearing is so important. Options available today in an ever changing industry were presented.

Leaving a legacy was a candid discussion on how to ensure that YOUR intentions are fulfilled YOUR way, tax efficiently.

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#### **Space Technologies Part Four:**

### THE ENVELOPE OF FLIGHT



BY PHILIPPE MARTIN TEILLET

The fastest speed on record by a piloted, powered aircraft is 7,274 km/h (Mach 6.7, i.e., 6.7 times the speed of sound). That's twice as fast as a bullet fired from an M-16 automatic rifle. It was set on October 3, 1967, by Air Force Captain William "Pete" Knight flying the experimental rocket-engine-powered X-15 aircraft. The X-43 attained Mach 9.6 in 2004, but it was pilotless. The Space Shuttle's first re-entry into the atmosphere in April 1981 reached Mach 22, but it was unpowered flight.

On August 22, 1963, the X-15, flown by World War II veteran and NASA test pilot Joseph A. Walker, attained a record altitude (for a piloted, powered aircraft) of

107.8 km, well above the space-defining Kármán Line (100 km). As he went over the top, Walker was weightless for about five minutes. The entire flight took 12 minutes from the moment the X-15 was dropped from the B-52 mother ship until it touched down on the dry lake bed at Edwards Air Force Base (EAFB), California.



Joe Walker beside an X-15 Airplane

The Fédération Aéronautique Internationale defines an astronaut as someone who attains an altitude higher than 100 km above Earth's mean sea level, thereby crossing the Kármán Line. The line is named after Theodore von Kármán (1881–1963), a Hungarian-American engineer and physicist, who was the first person to calculate the altitude at which the atmosphere becomes too thin to support aeronautical flight. The United States Air Force (USAF) and NASA do not use this internationally-recognised definition; instead they place the boundary of outer space at 50

miles (80 km) above mean sea level. Based on the American definition, eight pilots earned their astronaut wings in the X-15.

X-15 Airplane

The Bell X-1 rocket-engine-powered aircraft was designed and built in 1945. It was the first of the X-planes, a series of American experimental rocket planes designed to test new technologies and aerodynamic concepts. Piloted by Chuck Yeager, the X-1 was the first piloted airplane to exceed the speed of sound in level flight in 1947.

It's worth mentioning the Boeing X-20 Dyna-Soar, a USAF program to develop a spaceplane for military missions. Running from 1957 to 1963 at a cost of US\$660 million (\$5.51 billion today), the program was cancelled just after construction began due to technology and funding issues.

The first flight of the X-15, an unpowered test, took place on June 8, 1959, with test pilot and engineer Scott Crossfield in the cockpit. The sleek black aircraft was released from a modified Boeing B-52 stratofortress aircraft, flying at an altitude of 11.4 km. The first powered flight took place three months later, when Crossfield reached Mach 2.1 at an altitude of 16.0 km. These test flights initiated a 10-year effort with the X-15 that achieved hypersonic speeds and explored the upper edge of the Earth's atmosphere.

The X-15 was built by North American Aviation for the USAF and NASA. The program was called upon to obtain critical knowledge for the concurrent Mercury manned spaceflight program, including data on aerodynamic heating, re-entry conditions, acceleration and deceleration forces, and the reactions of pilots to weightlessness. The X-15 also provided the Space Shuttle design team with invaluable information on

#### Continued on page 27



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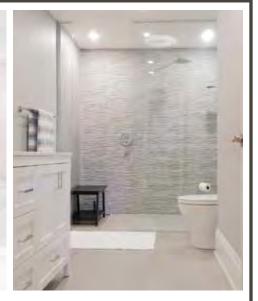
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#### **Space Technologies Part Four:**

## THE ENVELOPE OF FLIGHT

CONTINUED



X-15 Air-drop from Boeing NB 52A Stratofortress B52-003 Glide Flight

hypersonic flight, in particular how to re-enter Earth's atmosphere with a winged vehicle.

The Thiokol-built throttle-able rocket engine was powered by anhydrous ammonia and liquid oxygen, with a maximum thrust of 57,000 lb. It burned for the first two minutes of flight. For the rest of the 8-to-12 minute flight, the aircraft made a ballistic arc up and then back down before landing on the dry lake bed at EAFB.

The X-15 fuselage was long and cylindrical, with rear fairings that flattened its appearance, and thick, dorsal and ventral wedge-fin stabilizers. The outer skin of the fuselage was heat-resistant nickel alloy.

Three X-15 aircraft were used during the program. Twelve pilots flew a combined 199 flights, with only one crash. In 1967, after 64 successful flights, X-15-3 broke apart minutes after launch, killing pilot Michael J. Adams and destroying the aircraft. Two X-15 pilots later became NASA astronauts - Neil Armstrong, on the Gemini and Apollo programs, and Joe Engle, who commanded the Space Shuttle Columbia on its second flight (STS-2) in November 1981 and Space Shuttle Discovery in September 1985 (STS-51-I).

The X-15 was the most successful research aircraft program in U.S. history, leaving a legacy of scientific



X-15-Pilot Scott Crossfield-First to Reach Mach 2

data and aeronautical firsts that remains unparalleled. The program generated more than 760 technical reports, earned awards and honours for the X-15 team, and contributed to numerous advances in aerospace technology. X-15-2 is at the National Museum of the United States Air Force, at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, near Dayton, Ohio. X-15-1 was on display for decades at the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum in Washington D.C., but it is currently in storage.

Updated Recipes for a Classic Holiday

Celebration!

What could be more comforting during the holidays than Christmas shared with family and close friends? While tradition calls for tried-and-true recipes that we grew up with, updating the recipes to reflect today's cooking styles and tastes still allows us to enjoy a classic holiday celebration. Here are some of my favourite updated recipes to try!

#### BY JOHANNA BURKHARD



#### TOURTIÈRE

There are many versions of Quebec's famous meat pie. This exceptional one is courtesy of a friend who adapted the original recipe from the late Jehane Benoit, the doyenne of French Canadian cooking. Prepare individual meat pies for easy serving, if desired.

#### **MAKES 8 SERVINGS**

9-inch (23 cm) pie plate, lightly greased

- 1 lb (500 g) lean ground pork
- 8 oz (250 g) lean ground veal
- 1 large onion, finely chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, finely chopped

1/2 tsp (2 mL) each dried thyme leaves and dried savory leaves\* (see Tip)

1 tsp (5 mL) salt

1/4 tsp (1 mL) each ground allspice, ground cloves and freshly ground black pepper

3/4 cup (175 mL) beef stock or water



1/3 cup (75 mL) fine dry unflavoured breadcrumbs

Pastry for a double-crust 9-inch (23 cm) pie

- 1 egg yolk
- 1. In a Dutch oven or large saucepan over medium-high heat, cook pork and veal, breaking up meat with the back of a wooden spoon, for 5 to 7 minutes. Add onion, garlic, thyme, savory, salt, allspice, cloves and pepper; cook, stirring often, for 5 minutes.
- 2. Add stock; bring to a boil. Reduce heat; partially cover and simmer, stirring occasionally, for 20 minutes or until most of liquid has evaporated. Remove from heat. Stir in breadcrumbs to absorb excess moisture; let cool, then refrigerate until chilled.
- 3. On a lightly floured surface, roll out half of the pastry into a 12-inch (30 cm) round. Line prepared pie plate with pastry. Trim edges. Spoon cold filling into pie shell. Cover with top pastry; trim edges, crimp to seal and cut steam vents. In a small bowl, beat egg yolk with 2 tsp (10 mL) water. Brush pastry with egg wash. Refrigerate until ready to bake.
- 4. Meanwhile, preheat oven to 425°F (220°C); place pie on middle rack and bake for 15 minutes; reduce heat to 375°F (190°C) and bake for 25 to 30 minutes more or until pastry is golden. Pie can be baked ahead of time and reheated before serving. Unbaked meat pies freeze well for up to 2 months. Let defrost in refrigerator overnight before baking.

\*Tip: Instead of dried herbs, use 1 tsp (5 mL) finely chopped fresh herbs.



#### ROASTED BRUSSELS SPROUTS WITH GARLIC AND MAPLE SYRUP

Roasting has become my preferred way to cook vegetables. When doubling the recipe to serve a crowd, use two rimmed baking sheets and place racks in top and bottom thirds of oven. Stir vegetables and switch pans halfway through roasting.

#### **MAKES 4 SERVINGS**

Preheat oven to 400°F (200°C)

Rimmed baking sheet lined with foil or parchment paper

- **1.5 lbs (750 g)** Brussels sprouts (about 4 cups)
- 2 tbsp (30 mL) extra-virgin olive oil

Salt and freshly ground pepper

- 1 tbsp (15 mL) balsamic vinegar
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) maple syrup
- 1 garlic clove, grated or minced
- Trim ends off Brussels sprouts and cut lengthwise into halves. If you have some Brussels sprouts that are very large, cut them into quarters. They should all be cut about the same size to ensure even cooking.

- 2. Place on baking sheet; drizzle with olive oil; season with salt and pepper. Toss to mix.
- 3. Roast in middle of preheated oven for about 20 minutes until edges are crispy, tossing halfway through to ensure even browning. (If making ahead, remove from oven and let Brussels sprouts cool to room temperature. Continue with last step in recipe when almost ready to serve dinner).
- 4. Meanwhile, stir together balsamic vinegar, maple syrup and garlic. Drizzle over Brussels sprouts and gently stir to evenly coat. Continue to roast at 400°F (200°C) until Brussels sprouts are tender and glazed, about 5 to 7 more minutes.



#### CRUNCHY ALMOND BISCOTTI

Instead of rich shortbread, my family prefers these biscotti that are buttery, lightly sweet and crunchy. They transport easily when shipping by mail or tucked into a suitcase when travelling to celebrate the holidays with family and friends.

#### **MAKES ABOUT 40 COOKIES**

Preheat oven to 325°F (160°C)

Baking sheet, lined with parchment paper

1/2 cup (125 mL) butter, softened

1 cup (250 mL) granulated sugar

2 eggs

1 tbsp (15 mL) finely grated lemon zest

2 tsp (10 mL) almond extract

2-1/2 cups (625 mL) all-purpose flour

2 tsp (10 mL) baking powder

1/4 tsp (1 mL) salt

1 cup (250 mL) whole unblanched almonds, chopped into 2 to 3 pieces each

- 1 egg white beaten with 2 tsp (10 mL) water
- 1. In a bowl, using an electric mixer, cream butter with sugar until light and fluffy; beat in eggs, lemon zest and almond extract until incorporated.
- 2. In another bowl, stir together flour, baking powder and salt; stir into butter mixture until combined. Stir in almonds.

- 3. Turn dough out onto lightly floured surface. With floured hands, shape into a ball and divide in two. Pat into 2 logs, each 12 inches (25 cm) long and flatten the tops. Place logs on prepared baking sheet, about 2 inches (5 cm) apart. Brush liberally with egg white mixture.
- 4. Bake on middle rack in preheated oven for about 30 to 35 minutes or until firm to the touch. Let cool for 10 minutes. Using a long spatula, transfer to a cutting board. With a sharp chef's knife, cut diagonally into 1/2-inch (1 cm) slices.
- 5. Place cookies upright on baking sheet 1/2-inch (1 cm) apart, using 2 sheets, if necessary. Reduce oven temperature to 300°F (150°C). Return to oven and bake for about 25 to 30 minutes or until dry and lightly browned. Transfer cookies to a wire rack to cool. Store cookies in an airtight container, separating layers with waxed or parchment paper, for 1 week, or freeze for up to 1 month.

Variation: Chocolate Chip Biscotti: Omit lemon zest. Replace almond extract with 2 tsp (10 mL) vanilla extract. Use 1 cup (250 mL) semi-sweet chocolate chips instead of almonds.

#### GOLDEN CITRUS FRUITCAKE

Fruitcakes have often been belittled over the years. I admit I am not a fan of heavy dark fruitcakes laden with candied coloured citrus peel and cherries. However, this lightened-up version with apricots, figs, raisins and cranberries is a delightful change that requires less aging than old-fashioned fruitcakes.

#### **MAKES 1 LOAF**

Butter a 9 by 5-inch (2 L) loaf pan. Line bottom and sides with parchment paper and butter again.

Preheat oven to 300°F (160°C). Place shallow pan of water on bottom rack in oven. Arrange the second rack in the middle of oven.

1 cup (250 mL) chopped dried apricots

1 cup (250 mL) chopped dried figs

1 cup (250 mL) golden raisins

1/2 cup (125 mL) dark raisins

1/2 cup (125 mL) dried cranberries

1/2 cup (125 mL) Cointreau or Grand Marnier liqueur or orange juice

3/4 cup (175 mL) butter, softened

3/4 cup (175 mL) granulated sugar

3 eggs

- 1 tbsp (15 mL) finely grated orange zest
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) finely grated lemon zest
- 1-3/4 cups (425 mL) all-purpose flour
- 1-1/2 tsp (7 mL) baking powder



- 1. Combine apricots, figs, golden and dark raisins, dried cranberries and Cointreau in a large glass bowl. Microwave at High for 2 minutes, stirring once. Let cool, stirring occasionally.
- 2. In a large mixing bowl, combine butter and sugar; cream using an electric mixer until fluffy. Beat in eggs until incorporated. Stir in orange and lemon zests.
- 3. In another bowl, stir together flour, baking powder and salt. Beat into creamed mixture until combined, then fold in fruit mixture including any remaining Cointreau.
- 4. Spoon batter into prepared pan. Place on rack in middle of oven and bake for 2 hours or until cake tester inserted in centre comes out clean. Transfer to a rack. Let stand for 15 minutes. Lift cake out of pan and place on rack until cool. Remove parchment paper. Wrap cake in cheesecloth and drizzle with Cointreau, then wrap in heavy-duty foil and place in a plastic storage bag. Store in a cool dry place or in the refrigerator for at least one week before slicing.
- 5. Wrap cake in cheesecloth and drizzle with Cointreau, then wrap in heavy-duty foil, then place in a plastic storage bag. Store in a cool dry place or in the refrigerator for at least one week before slicing.

Tip: You can end up with a sticky mess when chopping dried fruits. I like to use my kitchen scissors or a chef's knife and spray the blades with non-stick cooking spray or





Grand Cypress Re-imagined

**BY MAIRI VASIL** 

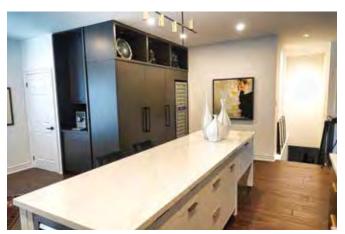


Designing your living space is an intimate experience. In that process, good friendships can develop.

Kevin and Denise Ryan and I have a terrific design rapport and their sophisticated eye has made them dream clients. Over the years, we have designed many kitchens and bathrooms together with the help of Elaine at Fischer Custom Cabinets.

I think their latest renovation is one of the best. With the Grand Cypress model, our first area of concern was opening the kitchen to the rest of the living area. That required moving walls and totally rethinking the kitchen layout and adjacent rooms. By providing a sight line to the living space, installing a fantastic island, opening the staircase and adding a laundry room in the space originally built for a golf cart, I believe we accomplished that goal.

We extended the slick tuxedo style cabinets to the ceiling to accentuate the height of the room and we accessorized with chic understated hardware. From



the living area you see beautiful black cabinets with lit display units above, which perfectly camouflage the fridge, freezer, pullout pantry and wine fridge.

For the finishing touch, a pink sofa and a marble and brass table were just too decadent to pass up!















beautiful black cabinets... perfectly camouflage the fridge, freezer, pullout pantry and wine fridge

Continued on page 32

We are still waiting for extensions for the kitchen and dining room light fixtures. Something you should keep in mind when purchasing fixtures for ceilings over 9 feet; light fixtures are rarely tall enough and may require extensions.

The arches and columns were removed at the entrance, along with all niches in the dining room and master bedroom. In doing so, we simplified architectural embellishments that may date a home.

Our little jewel box is the powder room! Black and white tiles installed in a stripe pattern and a glitzy chandelier paired with our striking high gloss vanity and glass art shows very dramatically. It's fun to be daring in powder rooms!

Art sets the stage for the dining room. The Purple Lady portrait always gets a place of honour and we were lucky to have just the wall! Fortunately we were able to reuse their existing dining room furniture ("Phew".. that's Kevin breathing a sigh of relief), and,







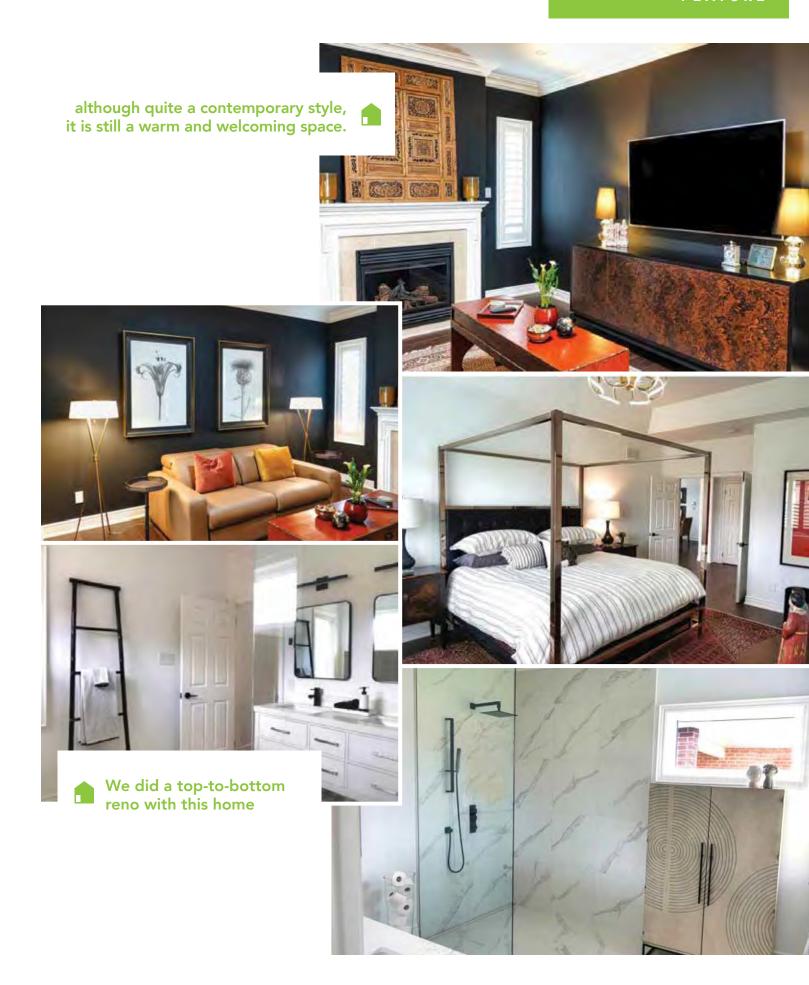


although quite a contemporary style, it is still a warm and welcoming space.

The black den shook things up a bit! It is normally a dark room, so we embraced it. Darker walls can often create a more sophisticated feeling.

We did a top-to-bottom reno with this home. In following issues it is my hope to showcase other rooms, their challenges and how we transformed them.

...we simplified architectural embellishments that may date a home





Fuchsia sunsets, a cool floral lei around your neck, crashing surf and palm-studded beaches - Hawaii has all of the above...but so much more. When it comes to the world's best golf destinations, Maui's scorecard is a winner. And Lanai, originally known as the Pineapple Island, just a short ferry ride away, tempts with one of Jack Nicklaus's finest, Manele.



The Kapalua Resort on Maui's rugged northwest coast beckons with two championship courses. The Bay Course rolls to the edge of the sapphire Pacific. In winter you might be distracted by the antics of giant humpback whales frolicking offshore. Palm trees, ironwoods and stately Cook pines line the verdant fairways.

This is your ideal warm up round before tackling the challenging Plantation Course where the likes of Tiger Woods and Sergio Garcia have competed in the annual PGA Tour Tournament of Champions held in January. Designed by Ben Crenshaw and Bill Coore, the par-73 layout features massive bunkers, sweeping slopes, dramatic contours and panoramic views of the Pacific from virtually every hole.

Golfweek magazine has rated The Plantation number one in Hawaii for 10 consecutive years. Generous fairways and greens and lots of downhill tee shots appeal to both high and low handicappers. You might hit the longest drive of your golfing career with the aid of gravity on number 18. Both tracts are Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuaries.

You'll be spoiled for choice when deciding where to stay at Kapalua, from the ritzy Ritz Carlton to the spacious Kapalua Villas.

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For over a decade Ka'anapali beamed Hawaiian golf and a backdrop of gorgeous tropical scenery into the homes of TV viewers of the Senior PGA Tour's Ka'anapali Classic, making them want to grab their clubs and head to paradise.

Before you play the North Course, you might want to head to Ka'anapali Beach the day prior to watch the sunset. Not only is it memorable but it also might just help your score. The greens on the North Course are notorious for their strong grain and a useful factoid to remember is that the ball will break toward the setting sun. You should also be prepared to play in a stiff wind. Course architect, Robert Trent Jones Sr. took advantage of the rolling terrain to create undulating fairways. The result is that flat lies are few and far between. The late Arnold Palmer commented that the par-four finishing hole is one of the most challenging he'd ever played.

The premise of Arthur Jack Snyder, architect for Ka'anapali's South Course, is that golf should be fun. The good times begin on the par-five number one that oozes with birdie potential. This par-71 course is very user friendly but it's no waltz in the park. The fairways are relatively tight and those prevailing trade winds need to be factored into your course strategy.

After your round, dine at Roy's Maui in the golf clubhouse. Japanese-born chef Roy Yamaguchi invented what he calls Hawaiian Fusion Cuisine. I recommend his signature dish, the Dim Sum Canoe for Two – crispy and seared shrimp, crab gyoza, baby back ribs and ahi tuna poke presented in a mini dugout canoe.

#### www.kaanapaliresort.com





Further south on Maui's west coast, many tourists flock to Wailea where a stretch of swanky resorts linked by a seaside footpath cater to the most discerning sun worshippers, spa goers, gourmands and golfers.

The Wailea Golf Club encompasses two clubhouses, a twelve-acre training facility and three eighteen-hole layouts—the Blue, Emerald and Gold Courses. Both *Golf Digest* and *Golf Magazine* named Wailea one of the nation's finest golf resorts, recognizing not only the quality of the courses but also the calibre of the destination.

The Blue is your quintessential Hawaiian layout with wide, manicured fairways that flow with the natural undulations of the volcanic foothills upon which they are laid, interrupted here and there by coral sand bunkers, lakes, fountains and fragrant Plumeria trees.

You'll want to bring your "A" game to Wailea's Gold Course. Scoring well here is not so much about pounding your Titleist as far as you can, but more about accuracy and finesse. Brains over brawn triumph on the superb design by Robert Trent Jones II.

The same designer gave Wailea's Emerald gem what he calls feminine characteristics, referring to the course's softer visual appeal. There are few forced carries and the landing areas are genial. Here you'll get an occasional whiff of an exotic blossom and plenty of ocean vistas. The Emerald has often been applauded for its female-friendly design, but don't let the beauty fool you, there's plenty of challenge for both sexes and all handicaps on this 6,825 yard siren.

#### www.waileagolf.com

Across the road from the Wailea courses, the Fairmont Kea Lani (means heavenly white), a confection of Moorish and Mediterranean architecture, sits prettily on 22 acres of tropical gardens and pools leading to the white sands of Polo Beach.

Each grand suite features a huge marble bathroom, separate living room, mini kitchenette and private balcony. The villas are ideal for larger groups.

At Fairmont's poolside Ko restaurant, the menu was inspired by Hawaii's sugarcane era when the cuisines of plantation workers became a Hawaiian melting pot of Chinese, Filipino, Portuguese, Korean and Japanese influences.

#### www.fairmont.com







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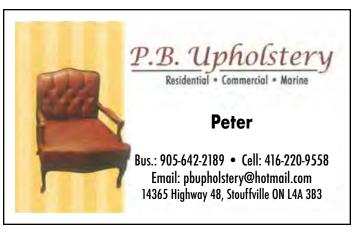


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The <u>hotg.ca</u> team is working hard to make our community website and our newsletter the best it can be. We invite you to visit regularly to keep up-to-date with the goings-on around the Ballantrae Golf and Country Club.

If you haven't signed up for our regular e-newsletter, you can do so by going to the **BGCC Resources** tab on the main menu and scrolling down to the **HOTG** section. Once there, click on **HOTG Newsletter** and you will find past newsletters as well as a link to subscribe. Our snowbirds can even download the latest *Home on the Green* magazine in the **HOTG Magazine** section.

#### Content on **hotg.ca** is updated almost daily:



**Activities and Clubs** is where you will find links to our **Library** and **Social Committee** sections among others.



**Classifieds** is a resident favourite as well as **Photos**.



One very useful link is the *Resident Organized*Activities section where all clubs and activities run by residents are listed along with contact information.

Note that they are also listed in the Calendar under Event Category = Activities.



Your **Condo** has its own section and this is where you can find past communications from your board, **First Residential** newsletters as well as information for new residents, a listing of the board of directors, forms and procedures, etc.





The **Recreation Centre** section of <u>hotg.ca</u> is where you will find the listing of fitness classes, upcoming seminars, pool schedule along with contact information.



Make sure you also check out the Healthy Lifestyle Blog under BGCC Resources and if you haven't already read "Gluttony and Sloth," it is well worth it.



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### A Tribute to the Passing of

# Queen Elizabeth [[

#### BY ALISON THOMAS





Having moved to Long Stan in Condo 3 on Thanksgiving weekend three years ago, we have been welcomed with open arms by the neighbours on our street. The ladies here have formed a special bond and have regularly gathered for Christmas dinners, summer BBQs and movie nights.

Unfortunately, these good times were halted due to COVID but these ladies did not let that deter them. They still organized happy hours and Christmas celebrations outside or in their garages with heaters and patio furniture. I was so thrilled to meet all of them. As the weather improved, patio lunches were arranged monthly and even a summer neighbourhood BBQ in the green space with ALL social protocols met.

This past year, we have met numerous times for driveway happy hours...all it takes is one of us to put the "cocktail congregation" pendant on our lawn and we know to bring a chair and a beverage around 4:30 pm to enjoy some time together. Sometimes our husbands are included! From these gatherings we now refer to ourselves as the "Real Housewives of Ballantrae."

At our last happy hour after the Queen's passing on September 8, we were sharing memories and discussing how strongly we felt about her passing. Interestingly, but not surprisingly, most of us have direct roots to the United Kingdom. Some were born there, while others had parents and grandparents who emigrated from the UK. We all remember singing "God Save the Queen" in school. A few even remembered singing "God Save the King." It was suggested we honour the Queen with high tea and watch her funeral together on September 19.

Plans were made very quickly with Bette and Frank Allison volunteering their home for the occasion and recording the early morning events from the UK so we could all view it later. Everyone was to contribute to a traditional high tea with items such as cucumber sandwiches, egg sandwiches, salmon rolls (with no crusts), sausage rolls, scones with jam, cream and strawberries, as well as petite cakes and of course English sherry and Prosecco for the toast. We also had to dress the part, so we all searched for forgotten pieces of jewellery and black "paraphernalia" to complete the day.

This tribute event was something we wanted to share with our Ballantrae friends along with interesting stories from our children and grandchildren who felt impacted by the passing of the Queen. She was a true example of dedication to duty and service to her country and the Commonwealth throughout her whole life. I do not believe we will witness anyone like her again.

In closing, we have to thank Frank Allison and Dave Boyle who took on the task of butlers for the day.



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Pocket Concerts Return to Ballantrae!

**BY: LORRAINE FARRO** 









FOCKSTEONCERTS CA

Left to right: Jeremy Potts, Emily Rho, Amahl Arulanandam, Rory McLeod

On Wednesday afternoon, Sept 14, we were treated to a long-awaited indoor pocket concert at our Ballantrae Recreation Centre. For those of you who are unfamiliar with a "pocket concert," it is a concept started by husband and wife professional musician team Rory McLeod and Emily Rho as a way to bring classical professional concerts to small venues, thereby creating a more intimate personal setting between the musicians and the audience.

The quartet consisted of Emily Rho/Piano; Amahl Arulanandam/Cello; Rory McLeod/Viola; Jeremy Potts/Violin. The hour-long performance included the beautifully lyrical Schumann Piano Quartet Op. 47 in E flat as well as two exciting but diverse short Canadian composed pieces – Jonny Pippy of Pouch Cove, On a Bicycle at Dawn by Sarah Slean and Great River Blues by David Braid. The concert music selections were eclectic to say the least, which was a good thing. There was something for

everyone to either love, or to be surprised by... music they would have never thought to listen to on their own.



Afterwards there was a

Q&A with the musicians which was probably one of the most insightful Q&A's we have ever had post-concert. Many attendees I spoke to afterwards were amazed at the extent the pandemic had affected/changed the musicians. For some it led to more introspective practice, while for others it led to being free of continuous practice since the age of three – a revelation of sorts! As their regular incomes dwindled, these musicians found other ways to make ends meet. Jeremy taught himself how to code and now develops websites on the side. Emily and Rory went for further MA degrees and work in music-related business fields as well as keeping up their professional playing "gigs." On a different note (no pun intended), a fun trivial fact we learned about Amahl, is that he was born in Newfoundland.

Following the Q&A there was a social time to mix, grab a delicious bite to eat, drink, talk with the musicians one-on-one and visit with neighbours and friends.

Some told me it was the "best" pocket concert ever! We have all had our favourites over the past few years, however, without a doubt this was probably the most appreciated as we all came together after a long wait.

Thank you to all who supported the concert and helped out in any way. You made the event a tremendous success! It was pure joy.



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**No-stress** Women Wind Up their Summer

#### BY JEANNE CHRISTIE AND NANCY FORTY

Winding up a summer of golf was easy for a group of women who are typically not "wound up" at all. It did not faze us that on our final day the weather was not fit for golf. We just gathered indoors in time for lunch at the Royal Stouffville Golf Club. We started with an expanded version of an indoor putting contest by using much of the banquet room for the activity. Karen Hewitt and Jeannette McGuire were our winners and therefore first up to our very extensive prize table.

When not putting, we took turns using the reality headsets that our sponsors from RBC Dominion Securities Inc., Alasdair Patton and Kelley Lang, brought with them. These gave us an idea of how the metaverse will eventually be able to put us in contact with friends, family and businesses anywhere on the planet without moving from the comfort of our own couch.

Before lunch we recognized our volunteer tee hostesses and our away day organizers. We also recognized our most frequent golfers, Nancy Rzeznicki and Chris Sin, with 17 visits each.

After lunch, Alasdair, who in the past has educated

us on the subjects of cryptocurrencies, bitcoin, blockchains, non-fungible tokens (NFT's) and all things to do with wills, led us through the world of the metaverse. Beware! It's coming!

On parting, we reminded everyone to greet new Ballantrae neighbours with an invitation to join our group next spring. Have a safe, happy and healthy winter.



# Thursday Ladies' Nine-Hole Golf League

#### BY HANNA GALYEN

Our Thursday Ladies' Nine-Hole Golf League ended on October 6, 2022 with a wonderful game at Spring Lakes Golf Course and a sumptuous luncheon afterwards. Many of our friends and neighbours seek warmer climates after mid October, so we close at that time.

We are a group of ladies who enjoy golf, but we also enjoy socializing afterwards. During our 2022 golf season we played 22 games at five different golf courses.

At the end of the season we were able to donate an extra \$300 to the Stouffville Food Bank.

If you would like to join our fun-filled ladies' golf group, please contact me directly, and I will add you to our email distribution list for 2023.

Hannelore (Hanna) Galyen hanneloregalyen@rogers.com Cell:416-543-7308





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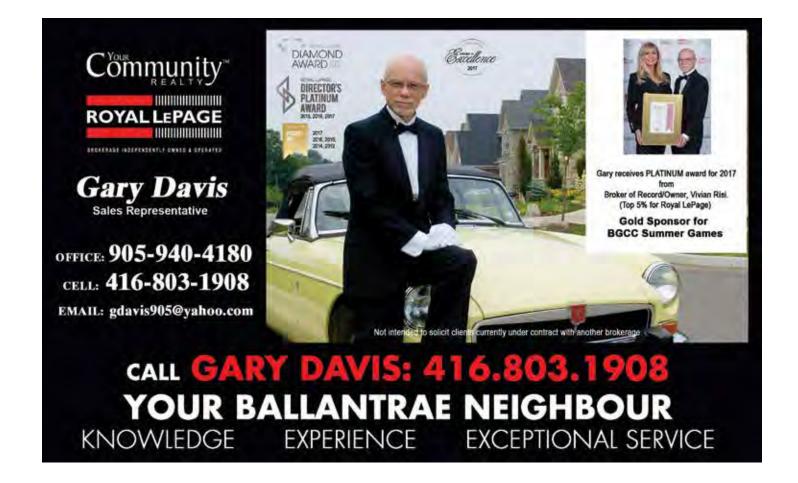
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The Ballantrae Craft Show Returns

BY KAREN CLARK

A huge thank you to Pat Pearson and Carol McNaughton for bringing our Ballantrae Craft Sale back to life after a three-year hiatus. The October event has always been a highlight for the community and to the shoppers' delight, an excellent variety of vendors didn't disappoint. Carol, left, is seen here with her "Stamped, Stitched and Beaded" handcrafted cards.

#### Meet Raffaela Caruso who uses her skill and love of crochet to support a charity close to her heart.

On the board of an organization called WaterCan, Raffaela was invited to participate in a field trip in 2016 to Ethiopia and Tanzania. While she was in Africa she was privileged to witness first-hand a well in its first operation spewing out water! Her family businesses, CIVELLO salons and Collega Inc., a Canadian distributor for salon-spa products, supported WaterCan by encouraging their staff and network of spa clients to do fundraising



events each year during Earth Month. Over a three-year period they raised over four million dollars. All of the proceeds from her creations continue to go to this worthy cause. From toys, blankets and clothes, she will take orders for custom pieces and is in the process of making crocheted dresses for her granddaughters. Contact Raffaela: raffsamcaruso@gmail.com



Carol McNaughton and Pat Pearson



Family fun



#### **Art by Meral**

Who knew that an internationally recognized artist lives down the street from me? Meral Altinbilek's watercolour paintings reflect her affection for the beauty of nature. A past president of the board of Trustees of the Robert McLaughlin Gallery in Oshawa and past president of the Oshawa Art Association are only a few of her accomplishments. Her paintings hang in public and private collections in Canada, US and Europe. Her work is also reproduced in the form of cards. Contact Meral: meral@artbymeral.com



### Need an idea on how to use your Ballantrae crawl space? Ask Keith Phillips

During the government's COVID lockdown, Keith decided to set up a woodworking shop in his crawl space. Complete with a variety of saws, a drill press and an array of tools, his creations came to life after many hours of reviewing YouTube "how to" videos. From cutting boards to bird houses, creative Christmas trees and trivets made from spent corks, he has certainly made good use of his time. The highlight was making the centrepiece rounds for his niece's wedding. He is pictured here with his wife, Lynn.



#### A training tool turns into a successful business.

As a small business consultant, Eileen MacIsaac was teaching a group of women how to start their

own businesses and used some oven mitts that her mother had given her as an example. The women in the group said, "You should make these." Upon returning home from her class, her husband Paul agreed. Be careful what you wish for. She took it upon herself to start sewing these mitts that are used for taking hot items out of the microwave. She trademarked the name, MicroMitts<sup>™</sup> and a business was born. The whole family participated and watching TV was usually accompanied by working on mitts. Eileen recalls, "One neighbour joked that he saw us put the sewing machine in the back of the van when we went on vacation!" Selling her wares at Signatures craft shows (a rival to the One of a Kind Show) was so successful that Eileen would be at home sewing more mitts while her father-in-law ferried them to Paul, at the show, to keep up with demand.

Contact Eileen: eileen.macisaac@rogers.com



## Susan Kefer creates her jewelled pieces with sensitivity.

As with most women, Susan has always loved jewellery and taking inspiration from instructional books, started making her own. Friends began requesting custom pieces and as her collection grew, she ventured into the craft show circuit. With so many people with



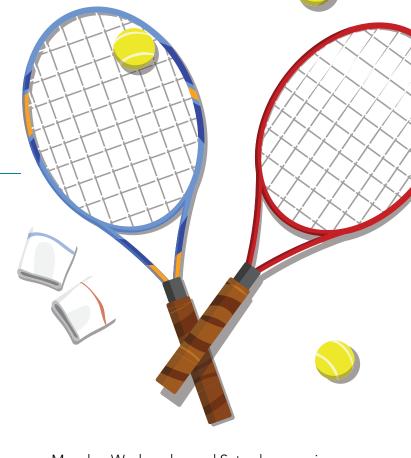
sensitivities to metals, she strives to offer non metal clasps on her beaded works. We hope to see some more of her handiwork at our next show as she also dabbles in pastels, sewing and crochet. Contact Susan: <a href="mailto:smkdesigns@rogers.com">smkdesigns@rogers.com</a>

# BGCC Tennis Club

There were lots of smiling faces this season as the BGCC Tennis Club was in full swing following two years of COVID restrictions. For those of you looking for a fun way to exercise and meet new people, consider joining this social tennis group. There is an activity for all levels of play. The Mixed Drop-In group that







ran Monday, Wednesday and Saturday mornings was the most popular this year. Members could play as long as they wanted with no sign-up required. The Men's League and the Ladies' League also had good participation and hardy souls played well into fall. The 2023 executive will be working hard over the winter to develop tennis activities and expand the social program. Watch for the April 29, 2023 registration information on the <a href="https://www.hotg.ca/tennis">www.hotg.ca/tennis</a> site and in the spring issue of Home on the Green.





# 5

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# Ballantrae **Ladies' Golf** League

The ladies play 18 holes on Monday mornings starting at 9 a.m. We are a group of golfers of all abilities who like to socialize, exercise, enjoy the fresh air and have fun. If you want to join us, please contact Sandy Hinch.

sandyhinch@hotmail.com 905-591-3552 416-522-5364

# **Social Committee** Events for 2023

Ladies' Dine Around summer and fall

Pacemakers three performances – TBA

**Pocket Concert** September

Ladies Christmas Lunch November

Christmas Dinner Dance possible change of venue – December Military Whist (board game) – winter

**Karaoke** May

Fashion Show spring or fall

Theatre/Bus Trips

Murder Mystery Event

# Ballantrae Men's Golf League





Our members are all looking forward to the official start of our 2023 season on Tuesday, May 2, 2023.

Our opening day luncheon will be held Tuesday, April 25, 2023.

Our BMGL is open to anyone who lives in our Ballantrae Golf Club Community.

Our motto is: **HAVE FUN, ENJOY THE GAME** and **MEET YOUR NEIGHBOURS**.

If you wish to join or want additional information, please go the *HOTG* website and look us up under Activities & Clubs – Golf.

Or you can contact us at ballantraemensgolfleague@gmail.com

NOTICES

# Name Tags Available for **\$10 each**

Are you new to Ballantrae Golf & Country Club?

Do you need a replacement name tag?

Please contact: Jane Smith 905-640-4008



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# 2023 Ballantrae Summer Games

BY PHIL BANNON

Saturday, August 19

to

Sunday, August 27



MAY **06** 

Registration Day, Saturday, May 6, 2023 **AUG** 

Family Day
Saturday, August 19

COST

\$40 per pers

The games are coming back! It has been a long three years since we enjoyed the fun, excitement and activities of the Ballantrae Golf & Country Club Summer Games. While we continue to shed the remnants of COVID, the new fall cold and flu season and for many, the destruction from Hurricane lan, the planning process begins.

It is time to put our community back on the map. Our Summer Games have been one of the largest and most recognized community events in York Region since 2007 by every level of government and local businesses.

We are rebuilding the games from the ground up. We will be featuring new ideas, new activities and lots of new participants.

Come out and meet your neighbours, make new friends and enjoy live entertainment under the big tent. There will be dancing, social and competitive events, refreshments and a variety of food. Find out what a real community is all about.

Notices and updates will be coming your way through your individual condo boards and

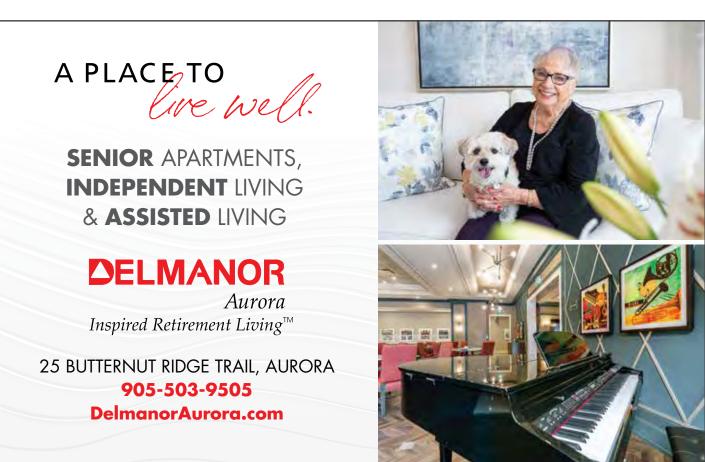
from our partner, *Home on the Green* (website, newsletter and magazine), who have agreed to provide communication support for the 2023 Summer Games.

The planning process is well underway. Official registration day is Saturday, May 6. The cost is \$40 per person. We will be featuring approximately 48 events. Opening day will feature official ceremonies and a Family Day full of activities, food and refreshments. You are encouraged to invite your children and grandchildren to share in the celebration of our community.

Further information and updates will be coming your way as committee members, condo and sport captains and volunteers reach out to register participants and teams. Points are awarded to the condo with the most registrations for the games. Sunday, August 27, is dedicated to award presentations, dancing and celebrating your place in history as 2023 Summer Games champions.

Phil Bannon Chair, 2023 Summer Games





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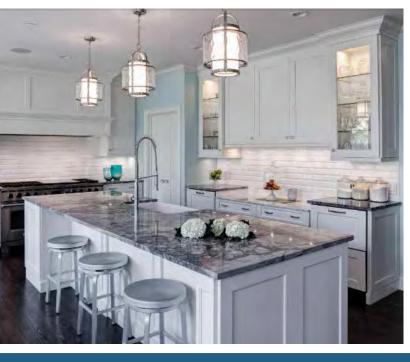
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# Betty Mulder's Christmas Tree Tradition

#### BY ANITA DRAYCOTT

My spunky neighbour, Betty Mulder, was born in Chicago, but in 1936 her parents took her back to their homeland in Amsterdam, Holland where she grew up.

"We always had a Christmas tree," she recalls. "I remember even during World War II when trees were rare and expensive, my dad and I started the tradition of going out on Christmas Eve when trees were on sale. We always bought the tallest tree because the big ones were the last to sell as most houses had low ceilings. But my dad just cut off the bottom to make it fit. He always put on the lights and then he would leave it to my mom and me to finish the decorations. Christmas was an important holiday in our family. My mom would take me to lunch at a department store every year and let me buy a new ornament."

When Betty immigrated to Canada in 1954, she and he late husband Andy, and sons Rudy and Bruce, continued the tradition of going into the forest and cutting down the tallest tree they could find.

In August 2018 Betty fell and broke her back and pelvis. She was still in a lot of pain as Christmas approached and was unable to handle buying and decorating a tree. However, Laura Arruda, a good friend, suggested they drive to Home Depot where Betty bought the tallest artificial tree in the store – that just happened to be on sale. Laura assembled and decorated it. They tried various tree toppers and the winner was this jaunty top hat. Now it has become a Christmas custom for Laura and Betty to decorate the tree together. Happily, the yuletide traditions of family, friendship and lofty trees continue.













