

WestRouge life

FALL/WINTER 2022

COMMUNITY LIFE IN WEST ROUGE

The Simple Pleasures of West Rouge

From The Archives

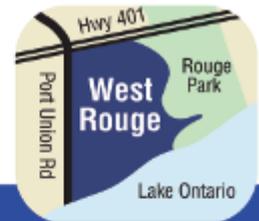
Tidbits from the World of Animals

The Zoo Report





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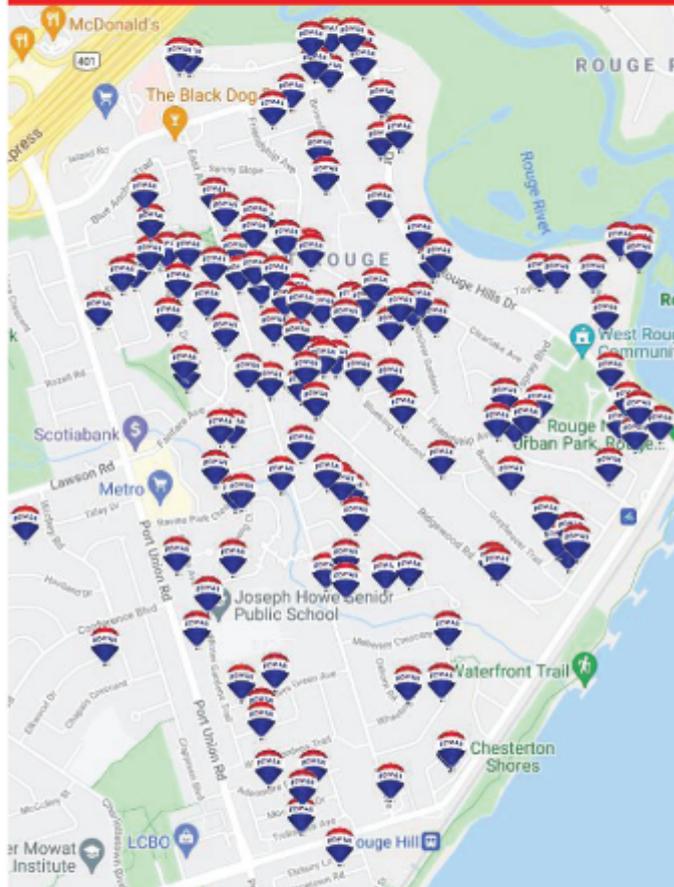
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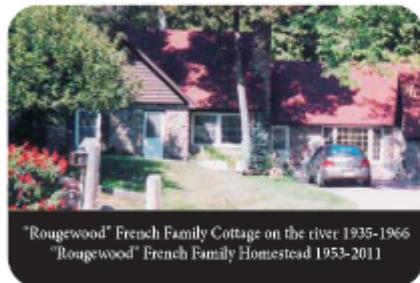
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CREDITS

PUBLISHER

Rose Morra

EDITOR

Julie Purmalis

ART DIRECTOR

adarmygroup.com

MARKETING CONSULTANT

Paul Cookson

CIRCULATION

Fiona Wissborn

Ralph Wissborn

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR

Maddy Chandrasekaran

WEBMASTER

Kevin Narraway

SIGNBOARD

Kevin Narraway

West Rouge Life is published two times a year and delivered to every house in the community by volunteer West Rouge residents. We invite your letters and comments about material in this issue, or on any other matter of interest to West Rouge residents.

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Maddy Chandrasekaran, Advertising Director
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This magazine is produced by community volunteers.

ON THE COVER

VOL.22 NO.2
FALL/WINTER
2022

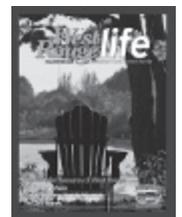


Photo Credit:
Colin Winn
colinwinnphotos.com



President's Message

Reza Khoshdel



Please feel free to contact me:
reza.khoshdel01@gmail.com

As the long summer days slowly come to an end, we will be welcoming the fall season with a renewed optimism and sense of purpose. I am incredibly thankful for living in this wonderful community, not only for its natural beauty, but more importantly, for the people that make it home. I hope that the fall and winter seasons will present us with many opportunities to come together as we strive to strengthen our sense of community. The mutual respect, kindness, and sense of pride are what makes our community unique and why I am so grateful to call West Rouge home.

I would like to extend my gratitude to the dedicated group of volunteers, including our Area Coordinators and Street Captains, as well as our Board of Directors, for working tirelessly in making West Rouge one of the best communities to call home. The work that we all collectively do is not possible without a shared love for this neighbourhood. I want to thank every volunteer who dedicates their time and energy to this cause.

I also want to extend my gratitude to Paul Kravis, who recently stepped down from his role as Director of West Rouge Life Advertising. Paul worked very hard in making sure West Rouge Life was the great publication we have all enjoyed. Paul's dedication and commitment to our readers, our advertisers, and to the overall community is greatly appreciated. Maddy Chandrasekaran, who recently moved to West Rouge, has graciously agreed to take over Paul's role and with her passion and expertise, I know that we are in good hands.

I would also like to welcome another new board member, Dominique Warne, as the Director of Volunteer Coordination. Volunteers make up the most important aspect of the WRCA, as we simply would not be able to serve the community without them. In an effort to increase the WRCA's footprint in the community and to expand our work, Dominique will help us marshal and organize our volunteers so we can serve you better than ever before.

Over the last few years, the pandemic has and continues to affect the way we live our lives, but one factor that has remained constant throughout this time is the solidarity as demonstrated in our community. The WRCA is committed to building on that foundation. We have had our fair share of challenges navigating through this pandemic, but out of those hardships emerged a new set of promising opportunities. We have taken this time as a community organization to conceptualize our core values as a member-driven organization, and we look forward to working towards a more robust community association that will reflect the needs and desires of our neighbours.

So with that said, as a growing and evolving organization, we are always looking for additional volunteers so if you are interested in giving back to our community, please do not hesitate to contact me at reza.khoshdel01@gmail.com to discuss the many ways that you can get involved. Whether you are able to commit a little or a lot of your time, we can find a role that suits you.

In the meantime, stay happy and stay well!

A black and white photograph of a pond with reeds and a forested background. The pond is in the foreground, with a dense forest of trees in the background. The sky is cloudy. The text is overlaid on the top half of the image.

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416.283.8448 • vijay.thanigasalam@pc.ola.org

I hope you all have been keeping well and have had a wonderful summer!

I want to start by thanking the residents of Scarborough Rouge Park for putting their trust in me and electing me for another term. These last four years have been the greatest honour of my life. I am also proud to serve as Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Infrastructure. This is a key portfolio as we work to replace and improve aging infrastructure here in Scarborough. I am eagerly looking forward to continuing my advocacy of building Scarborough for the future.

COMMUNITY BBQ

I have had the privilege of meeting so many of you and catching up during the summer. I would like to thank everyone for attending my Community BBQ at Canmore Park. It was very heartwarming to see all our community coming together in one place to enjoy food and fun activities. It was also a great pleasure to get the opportunity to talk to some of the residents and see some familiar faces after two long years of being apart. I treasure the conversations I can have with our residents, as those conversations are what will give me insight on how to better serve our community.

SCARBOROUGH INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATES

I am so proud of the amazing projects that our government is committed to here in Scarborough. We are continuing our work to build the Scarborough Subway Extension

which is being built as we speak. Furthermore, it has been my pleasure to announce the \$1 billion expansion of the Scarborough Health Network which includes a brand-new emergency department at Centenary Hospital and redevelopment of Birchmount Hospital. We are also excited about the brand-new medical school at the University of Toronto Academy of Medicine and Integrated Health which will bring amazing medical talent right into our community.

I am confident in our vision for residents to be able to work, go to school, and enjoy themselves right here in Scarborough. This is our plan to build Scarborough for the future.

ONTARIO'S PLAN TO BUILD HAS PASSED

I joined my colleagues in the Legislature to pass Ontario's Budget, which outlines our plan to rebuild Ontario's economy and key infrastructure, continue to support our working class, and keep Ontario open. I am looking forward to continuing to represent you at Queen's Park moving forward.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to our office at 8130 Sheppard Ave. East Unit 105, by email at vijay.thanigasalam@pc.ola.org, or give us a call at 416-283-8448.

I wish you all a great fall season, and I wish students a great start to their school year!

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WEST ROUGE



COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

WE ARE VOLUNTEERS who take time out of our day to make life in West Rouge better for everyone in the community.

OUR PRINCIPAL FUNCTIONS ARE:

- to distribute information of interest to the community,
- to promote and encourage participation in civic and community life, and
- to monitor and act on those issues before our governments of concern to residents.

The West Rouge Community Association relies on your support. Please contact your street captain or any WRCA Board member to learn more and to become a member!

From the Publisher

Rose Morra



Please feel free to contact me:
WRLpublisher@gmail.com

How can you not be a little adventurous living in this beautiful community...so many wonderful things to see and do? I ask you, what sparks that feeling of being adventurous? Is it deciding to explore the community by the seat of your pants? Are you looking for unusual surprises or in need of moments to reflect? Could it be time to consider a personal change, or simply enjoy nature's eye-catching beauty? I visited our community beach this summer and enjoyed the festivities at the WaterFront Festival, always finding something new that inspires me.

So I bet you may be wondering, what's up with all the black and white pages in this edition of West Rouge Life? We have gone retro! West Rouge Community Association board members and volunteers are committed to managing funds appropriately. This is just another example of keeping to our Mission Statement and Values. In a time where the economy takes a downturn, then leaps forward, then left and right, (and forward again!), we too are feeling the impact of all the changes. Quite simply, the cost of printing has significantly gone up. I trust you will still enjoy all the benefits and hard work that goes into publishing West Rouge Life, and appreciate the demonstration of sheer commitment and support by a group of many volunteers and our advertisers.



Maddy Chandrasekaran

Let me segue into introducing two new members of our West Rouge Life team: our new Director of Advertising, Maddy Chandrasekaran. Maddy is a Sales and Management Consulting professional with a love of good food and great classics. She's recently moved into West Rouge with her husband, college aged child and two dogs. Welcome to the community, and thank you for your support, Maddy! We also welcome our new Editor, Julie Purmalis, who previously took on the role of staff writer. Julie is an elementary school teacher with the Toronto District School Board. She has lived in West Rouge for eleven years with her husband, son, and two chatty cats. Thank you Julie for editing this edition's articles!

Wishing you all a safe and serene Fall/Winter!

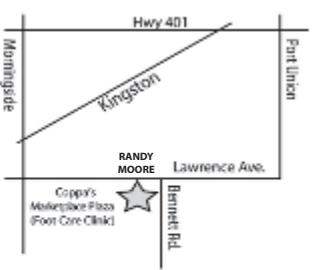


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Jennifer McKelvie

Toronto City Councillor



Please feel free to contact me:

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Dear Neighbours,

I hope you had a wonderful summer, and are enjoying the start of the fall season. I wish you and your families a happy and restful Thanksgiving in the weeks to come.

Though the Council term ended in July, work is ongoing in our community.

ROAD AND TRANSIT UPDATES

The City of Toronto is continuing the preparations for road widening work on Port Union Road, from Lawrence Avenue East to Island Road. Planned work includes:

- The addition of a second northbound lane
- Complete sidewalks on both sides
- Raised cycle track
- Centre-turn lanes in some locations

Once complete, this project will improve conditions for people walking, cycling, and driving, and better manage traffic flow. Road construction is planned for next year.

In June, Toronto City Council updated the plan for the Eglinton East Light Rail Transit (EELRT) to better integrate with the 3-stop Scarborough Subway Extension (SSE). The updated EELRT plan now includes a distinct service that has the following advantages:

- A simplified interface at Kennedy Station that resolves conflict with the SSE;
- The potential to start construction earlier;
- Location of the Maintenance Storage Facility off Sheppard Avenue, thereby opening up lands adjacent to the 401 for economic development; and
- A possible extension to the new subway station at Sheppard Avenue and McCowan Road

To demonstrate our commitment to the EELRT, Toronto City Council has allocated \$1.2 billion in funding, which brings us closer to securing the funds that will be needed for the project.

At our June meeting, City Council also passed a motion requesting the Province of Ontario and Metrolinx to provide an update on the plans for the extension of Line 4 (Sheppard Subway) from Don Mills Station to the new Sheppard/McCowan Station. Together, the SSE, EELRT and Sheppard Subway extension will provide a connected network for Scarborough transit.

RAVINE STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION AND WATERFRONT REPAIRS

In June, City Council received an update on the City's Ravine Strategy that aims to guide the management of the ravines.

Since 2020, the City has secured \$47.9 million in ravine funding from the federal and provincial governments. In that time, City staff have managed 720 hectares of land for invasive species; removed 252 tonnes of garbage from 333 hectares of ravine land and engaged more than 6,200 people in ravine events and programs.

Key projects in Scarborough include:

- Constructing a new trail connection from The Meadoway to Highland Creek Trail, creating a vibrant expanse of urban greenspace and meadowlands
- Improving existing trails through Taylor Creek Park and the Scarborough Waterfront, including trail reconstruction and rehabilitation of pathway systems
- Installing new trail wayfinding signage in ravines at the Upper Highland Trail and The Meadoway, improving accessibility for ravine users
- Protecting and restoring the trail at Highland Creek from erosion



Councillor McKelvie, along with Mayor Tory, MP Anandasangaree and MPP Thanigasalam, announce funding and advancements to the City's Ravine Strategy, July 2022.

- Improving natural infrastructure in Priority Investment Areas by restoring wetlands at Morningside Park

Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) is also completing major maintenance work on an existing erosion control structure along Lake Ontario within Port Union Waterfront Park.

This work will help protect against the hazards of shoreline erosion and address public safety concerns along the Waterfront Trail.

WE'RE HERE TO WORK FOR YOU

My office continues to serve our residents. Please email me at councillor_mckelvie@toronto.ca with any questions or concerns.

Gary Anandasangaree

MP Scarborough-Rouge Park



3600 Ellesmere Rd, Unit 3, Scarborough, ON
416.283.1414 • gary.anand@parl.gc.ca

I hope all of you had a fun and relaxing summer with your families, friends, and neighbours. While the past few summer months were a welcome return to normal, many Canadians were deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on September 8. Her Majesty's reign spanned many decades – a period of time where Canada came into its own as a confident, diverse, and forward-looking country.

While this moment will forever be remembered in our national consciousness, we also look to the future with the accession of His Majesty King Charles III as Sovereign of Canada. On September 19, the Government of Canada hosted a national commemorative ceremony in honour of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

TACKLING THE RISING COST OF LIVING:

Canadians are feeling the rising cost of living, particularly through higher food prices and rent. While inflation continues to be an entrenched global challenge, we are working to make life more affordable for Canadians who need it most. Here is how new legislation in the upcoming Parliamentary sitting will build on existing affordability measures:

1. Double the Goods and Services Tax Credit (GSTC) for six months to benefit roughly 11 million Canadians. Singles without children will receive up to \$467, while married, common-law, and single parents will receive up to \$612 plus \$161 for each child under the age of 19.

2. Direct payments of the Canada Dental Benefit so that children under the age of 12 have access to dental care starting this year. This is the first stage of our plan to deliver dental coverage for families with income under \$90,000.

3. A one-time top-up to the Canada Housing Benefit to provide \$500 to 1.8 million Canadian renters who are struggling with housing cost. This one-time federal benefit will be in addition to the Canada Housing Benefit.

HELPING STUDENTS SUCCEED:

We know that education is one of the best tools to create jobs, grow our economy, and help young Canadians succeed. That is why we are expanding programs that help students and parents with the cost of education.

Full-time post-secondary students can receive up to \$6,000 yearly from Canada Student Grants and Loans. We are also helping more Canadians access higher education by doubling the amount of Canada Student Grants and waiving the interest on Canada Student Loans until March 2023. In addition, those turning 18 this year can receive up to \$2,000 for their education through the Canada Learning Bond.

ANNUAL CORN ROASTS:

I want to thank everyone for coming out to the three Corn Roasts we hosted across Scarborough—Rouge Park in August. It was great reconnecting with so many of you again as we enjoyed delicious, locally grown corn and even better conversations. I appreciate those of you who reached out to me to share your thoughts on the pressing issues that matter to so many Canadians. I will take your feedback to heart as I return to the House of Commons this Fall.

Lastly, this event would not have been possible without the dedication and hard work of our extraordinary volunteers. Thank you so much for all that you do.

GARY ANANDASANGAREE, MP

SCARBOROUGH—ROUGE PARK



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CONNECT WITH US:

As we approach Fall, I want to wish everyone the best as they return to school, work, or take on new endeavours. My team and I are always happy to hear

your thoughts, answer any questions, and assist you with any federal matters you may have. I encourage you to contact my office at 416-283-1414 or Gary. Anand@parl.gc.ca.



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Anu Sriskandarajah

TDSB School Trustee - Ward 22,
Scarborough-Rouge Park



Please feel free to contact me:

416.395.8787 • anu.sriskandarajah@tdsb.on.ca

DEAR PARENTS, CAREGIVERS, STAFF, AND STUDENTS

Welcome to the 2022-23 school year! I hope that you and your family had a safe and enjoyable summer. We are all hoping and working towards a successful school year.

After more than two years of the pandemic, we are preparing to welcome students and staff to a more stable school year in September. While most COVID-19 measures have been lifted by the Government of Ontario, the health and safety of our school communities remains our priority. The TDSB will continue to monitor the pandemic and follow the guidance and direction from the Ministry of Education and public health officials as needed.

2022-23 OPERATING BUDGET

At the last Board Meeting of the 2021-22 school year, we approved the 2022-23 operating budget. The \$3.4 billion budget includes investments in mental health supports, early reading coaches, additional ESL teachers, student safety, resources to combat hate and racism, and technology for students. However, the budget also includes a projected deficit of \$40.4 million which is mostly because of the lack of adequate pandemic funding and decline in enrollment across the system. The TDSB will be using its reserves to balance the operating budget for the 2022-23 school year.

As the trustee for our ward, me and my colleagues continue to advocate for more funding from the province, including reimbursements for pandemic related expenses and other revenue losses that happened as a result of the pandemic. I will also be advocating for a commitment to fund the TDSB's pandemic recovery plan (a motion moved by my colleague Trustee Rajakulasingam and I), and additional funding to cover increases in costs due to inflation that are

not being funded by the Ministry of Education. Should these costs be reimbursed to school boards, these supports would be able to address the TDSB's projected deficit.

Another important issue is that because of declining enrolment and the elimination of the one time Ministry funding that was given during the pandemic it is not possible for the Board to keep the number of staff as last year. Therefore, there will be a small number of staff reductions to align staffing with the number of students. During a difficult budget year, it is not possible to keep current staffing levels with thousands fewer students attending the TDSB without additional funding from the Ministry of Education.

POLICY CONSULTATIONS

I encourage residents to read the alternative school policy, provide your comments, or ask any questions by reaching out to the contact information below. For more information <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/Policies-Procedures-Forms/Policy-Consultations>.

- Alternative Schools (P062) - Please complete the survey - Email comments until September 27, 2022 to anna.catalano@tdsb.on.ca.

CONGRATULATIONS EXECUTIVE SUPERINTENDENT SHERYL ROBINSON PETRAZZINI!

Please join me in congratulating Executive Superintendent for Scarborough Sheryl Robinson Petrazzini in her new role as Director of Education for the Hamilton School Board. She was an absolute pleasure to work with, and worked tremendously hard for the students of our ward. We will miss her dearly, but know she will serve the students of Hamilton well. The Board is currently undertaking a search for the next Executive Superintendent for Scarborough.

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Simple Pleasures

By Bob Hester | Photo: Paul James

Life can get very busy, even hectic. There are continuous demands on our time due to a 24/7 connection to work, commuting downtown, getting the kids to school, sports, playdates, etc. Paying bills, making sure there is enough money to pay the bills, keeping the house neat and clean, and, of course, emails, texts and posts on social media. Life presents a never ending list of demands on our time.

We could have used smartphones to get things done in less time. Instead, we added more things!

We are very fortunate in West Rouge to have access to natural areas close to us where we can appreciate nature: Rouge National Urban Park, the Highland Creek valley in Scarborough and Petticoat Creek Conservation Area in Pickering. You can spend a couple of hours in a natural environment at any time of the year, relaxing your mind and taking a break from everyday pressures.

Scientists have found that listening to the sounds of nature can increase our sense of calm and reduce stress. Bird songs and water sounds (waves lapping on a shoreline or

a running stream), have been shown to be beneficial to our mental health. Some doctors are even prescribing time in nature as a stress reliever. Our neighbour has spent a lot of time rehabilitating a fountain in front of her house that her father built many

years ago, and the sound of running water is a pleasant change from the traffic noise on the street.

Years ago, I managed the natural areas around the Pickering Nuclear Plant. During one of our tree planting events, a woman told me that walks through the woodlot of our park were important therapy for her

as she battled cancer, giving her a feeling of peace that nothing else could.

At home, natural oases can be created in front and back yards by planting trees, shrubs and wildflowers. There are lots of resources on the internet, and in books, that can help with species selection and arrangement. Advice is also available at local garden centres.

Nature provides many opportunities for diversion from our hectic day to day lives, if even for a moment. Here are some examples:

- A walk along the Lake Ontario shoreline to see the waterfowl: Buffleheads, Scaup, Goldeneye and Long-tailed Ducks.
- A walk in a forest, or a meadow, at any time of the year.
- The song of a red male Northern Cardinal early on a spring morning.
- The chorus of toads and frogs in wetlands in spring.
- The sight of an American Robin pulling earthworms out of the newly unfrozen ground.
- A butterfly sitting on a flower, or fluttering along in the breeze.
- The sight of a flight of Canada Geese overhead on a sunny day, their white breasts a stark contrast to the blue sky above.
- The first green shoots emerging from the soil after a long winter.
- The swelling of the buds on trees and shrubs in the spring
- The tapestry of coloured leaves in the fall on a brilliant sunny day.
- The antics of squirrels as they search for or bury food, chase, or chatter to each other.

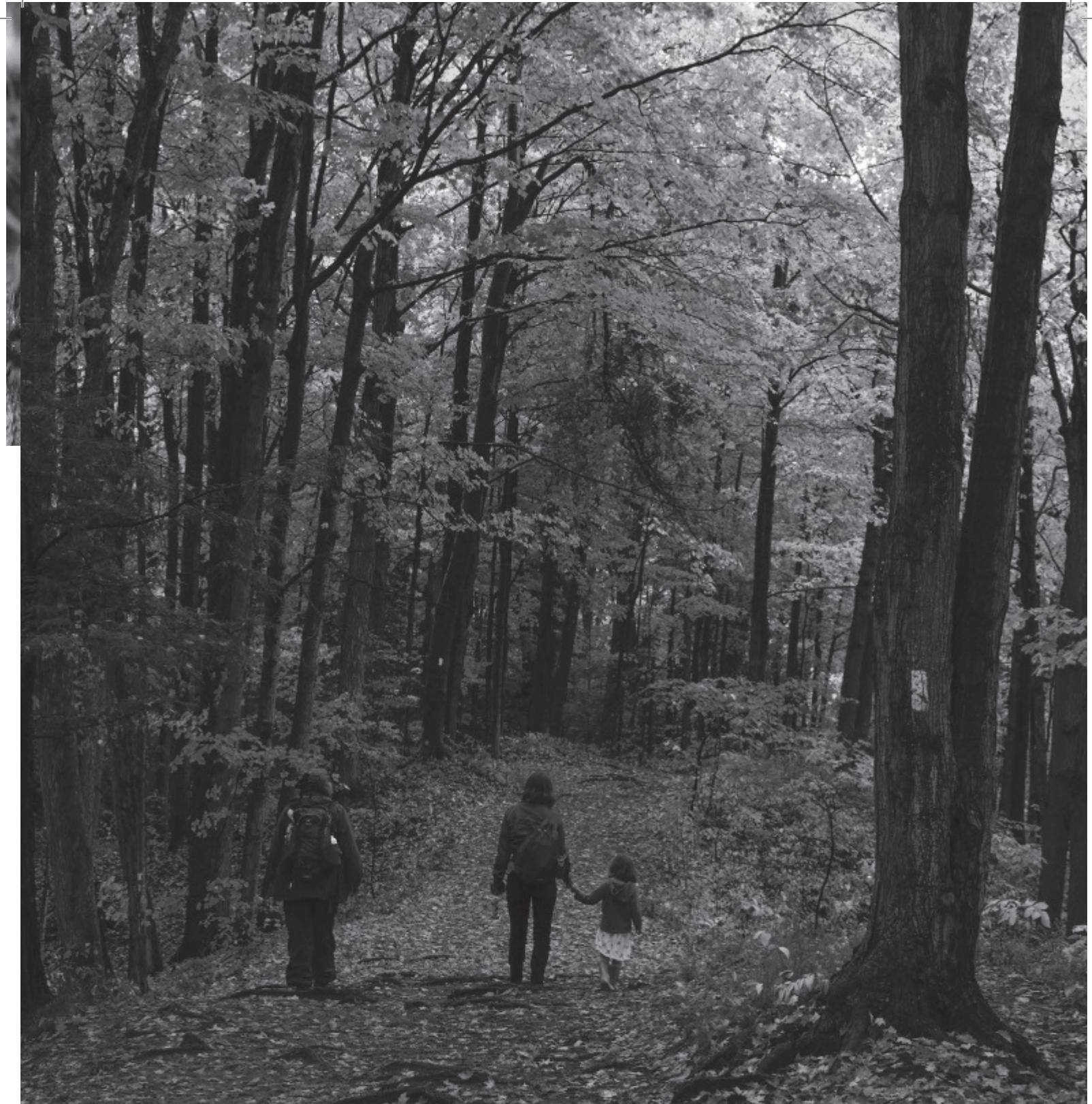
These are just some of the many opportunities for you to discover and enjoy, so close to home. Take a break from your hectic life, including your smartphone, even for a short while. It will be worth it



Black Swallowtail



Monarch



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Be Like Barb!

By Julie Purmalis



Friend groups love to use labels...the smart one, the organized one, the come-up-with-incredible-ideas one, the always-brings-snacks one, and of course, the heart-of-gold one. But what if all these qualities were rolled up into one perfect friend? Well, that would be Barb, Barb Broadley, whose contributions to West Rouge are too numerous to name, whose boundless energy and creativity have been channelled into countless projects benefiting our community, and whose life has been proudly lived (and continues to be), in service to others.

Barb was born in Ottawa and moved to Toronto in the mid-1960s. She is the oldest of three siblings. Barb is the loving mother of three children, Stephen, Danny and Amanda, as well as four grandchildren. She met her husband, Ken, at a company dance (more about that later). They began their married life in a tiny bungalow at Pharmacy and Eglinton, but after their real estate agent showed them an instantly-fall-in love family home in West Rouge, they happily moved east.

Outgoing and friendly, Barb believes she lived in “the best age for raising children” (1980s), where her family participated in street parties (which included pony rides, police and fire vehicles, live bands on driveways, and of course, tons of snacks). She enthusiastically joined the Parent Council at West Rouge, Joseph Howe and Mowat when her children attended. Barb’s family went to a tree farm every Christmas to pick the perfect, “Hallmark Movie” tree, and families had a real connection to, and love of their neighbours. There was a Womens Baseball League (complete with drinks at the pub after), New Years Eve parties and birthday celebrations for all the kids. There was such a deep-seated sense of community, looking out for one another, the village raising the children, etc. She laments that perhaps such a special era is unlikely to occur again.

Barb worked at London Life for 35 years. London Life was an insurance company, and back in the day, social events with work colleagues were the norm. She organized the company Christmas party, made up fun skits in the office to motivate her sales driven coworkers, organized company dances (where she, in fact, met

her husband), and planned barbecues in the summer. London Life eventually got incorporated into Canada Life, and after some inevitable downsizing, Barb found herself laid off. Not to be deterred, she took a job at a postcard factory, where she worked for five years. She also did lunchroom supervision at Charlottetown Public School for 12 years, and found herself a position at Charlottetown Boulevard Childcare Centre, where she is currently employed.

As if being a dedicated mother to three children, and working full time were not enough, Barb chose to use every moment of her spare time to improve the lives of the people around her. She canvassed door-to-door for the March of Dimes, the Cancer Society and the Heart and Stroke Foundation, as well as for the West Rouge Community Association. She made baskets (called Baskets of Love), to raise funds for ovarian cancer (her team raised \$20, 600.00 for the cause), at one point having over 50 baskets in her home ready to be bid on. She was a Girl Guide Leader for seven years, a Group Chair of the 2nd Highland Creek Scouts for 15 years, arranged Ladies Euchre/Night Out for 25 years (complete with wine and appetizers), worked elections, was a street captain, was the secretary for the West Rouge Community Association, helped organize the Fun Fair at West Rouge Public School, and the list goes on and on. (As you may have gathered, Barb is the initiator and organizer pro). She’s mastered these skills after years of practice, but one piece of advice she touts is, “If you don’t make the date, it won’t happen.” She advises to make a firm deadline for an event or fundraising goal and stick to it.

Barb received the Queen Diamond Jubilee Award in 2012, in recognition of her impressive contributions to Canada. Barb also received the Ontario Volunteer Service Award in 2014, presented by then MPP Tracy MacCharles.

With no intention of slowing down, Barb has plunged herself into many new and fulfilling projects. She is involved with the Rouge Butterfly Way (see the article in this season’s edition of West Rouge Life), an environmentally conscious organization dedicated to preserving native plant and insect species. The



group currently consists of ten women who have so far done greening projects at the Tony Stacey Centre and Mowat High School. Barb is also involved with the Herb Gardens at West Rouge (again, see the article in this magazine), a lovely initiative that focuses on reducing food waste by encouraging neighbours to snip just-enough herb amounts to season recipes. She is currently the Secretary of the West Rouge Sports and Rec Association which plans and hosts engaging community events such as: Earth Day celebration, Easter egg hunt, summer concert series, Halloween Party and Breakfast with Santa.

In her spare time, (mind-boggling, to be sure), Barb describes herself as “crafty”, enjoying scrapbooking, Bunka shishu (Japanese embroidery), and socializing

with friends. She admits the Covid-19 pandemic was difficult for her, being social and being involved in her community are akin to breathing. She’s cautiously optimistic that the worst of the pandemic is behind us, and she will continue to do what she can, even with restrictions.

Barb’s greatest wish for West Rouge is for the young people living here to continue her legacy of kindness, caring, environmental stewardship, social events and love. There are numerous projects currently looking for new volunteers, and so many exciting ideas about to be born. Barb, thank you for your years of selfless service to your community. The world is a better place because of people like you.

Getting To Know Your Royal Canadian Legion

When we think about our neighbourhood Legion, we often think of Remembrance Day ceremonies and the Poppy campaign. But did you know that the Legion is the largest service oriented organization in Ontario? Below are four different programs that you may not know about.

1. YOUTH EDUCATION PROGRAM

Canada's youth are our most important asset. The Royal Canadian Legion recognizes youth as a priority, only to be preceded by service to Veterans and the perpetuation of Remembrance.

The Royal Canadian Legion sponsors youth programs that include: sports, cadet corps, scouts, leadership training and Remembrance activities. It is our aim to help youth learn an appreciation of teamwork, leadership, duty and most importantly, Remembrance. A key focus for the Legion Canada-wide is our Youth Education Program.

Educating our youth about the high cost of their freedom is one of the Legion's most important roles in Canada today. We must impress upon young people who have never known war, that freedom was won at the cost of many lives; young lives like their own.

Our Annual Poster, Literary and Essay Contests help focus the attention of the participants on those who gave their all for the freedom we enjoy.

These competitions are open to all schools in Canada. The main principle of the contest is to encourage students to remember, think and participate, prior to and during the annual Remembrance Day observations.

Public Speaking is the other category in our Youth Education program. Speakers may select their own topics. The program is meant to give young people an opportunity to speak in public.

2. TRACK AND FIELD PROGRAM

The Royal Canadian Legion Track and Field Program has existed for many years, with over 400 athletes competing in the summer and winter meets annually.

We are proud that many of our participants have gone on to become very prominent in the field of sports. Wayne Gretzky, though best known as a hockey legend, participated in our track and field program, and won a medal at the provincial level.

All the Canadian medal winners at the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles advanced through the Legion program. The Track and Field Program continues to produce many future Olympic athletes.

3. POST SECONDARY BURSARY PROGRAM

There is a bursary program open to Legion members and their children and grandchildren.

While the Ontario Command Bursary awards are not large, many students find the bursaries assist with buying the books and materials needed for their respective courses.

The Ontario Command Bursary Program is funded by donations from Branches and Ladies' Auxiliaries, and shows the Royal Canadian Legion's continuing commitment to the youth of Ontario.

4. HOMELESS VETERANS PROGRAM "OPERATION: LEAVE THE STREETS BEHIND"

In November 2009, Mr. Joe Sweeney, a Korean War Veteran who has dedicated much of his life to assisting homeless persons in the City of Toronto, wanted to organize a Remembrance Day Ceremony to honour the homeless Veterans. With assistance from The Royal Canadian Legion, Ontario Command, it was held at the Scott Mission in Toronto.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, it quickly became evident that there were a number of homeless Veterans requiring support within our city, and a team made



HIGHLAND CREEK RCL BRANCH 258

up of personnel from Veterans Affairs Canada and The Royal Canadian Legion, Ontario Command, were determined to see what could be done to assist them.

A Homeless Veterans Assistance Fund was started at the Provincial Headquarters, and the Branches responded with generous donations. We have been able to permanently house Veterans with assistance for their first / last month's rent, as well as furniture and food vouchers. Rental assistance has also been provided to those facing eviction. Medical assistance has been given to other Veterans such as: dental treatments, transportation to stress therapy clinics, eyeglasses and much more.

The Joe Sweeney Fund was created to ensure that these Veterans have suitable housing and/or the support services they require to remain permanently housed and with a stable future. Tax receipts can be issued for this fund.

MEMBERSHIP

Today, there is no requirement to have a family link to a Veteran in order to become a member of the Royal Canadian Legion.

Voting membership in the Legion is now open to any Canadian citizen of Federal voting age who supports the purposes and objects of the Royal Canadian Legion.

Non-voting membership is also available to any non-Canadian citizen who is of Federal voting age.

Join Us Today and be a Part of Your Community

Sign Up Form: <https://bit.ly/3LrzHz7>

Tidbits from the World of Animals



By Renée Petersen



Nellie

At time of writing (July), we are enjoying freedom again, albeit carefully. Being able to go to concerts, dinners, socialize, back to work, etc., is wonderful! In the past two years of the pandemic, many people have adopted dogs, cats and other animals, and these animals have provided companionship and comfort during difficult times.

Dog adoption numbers went up, it even became difficult to find a dog to buy or adopt/rescue. Sadly, unethical breeders and importers of dogs took advantage, increasing the cost of buying a dog, or importing dogs with health issues, (which were hidden from the new owners). This caused the owners to be saddled with unexpected and expensive veterinary bills. Now, many of these dogs are being surrendered to shelters by owners no longer able to care for them, either due to lifestyle changes, animal health, and/or behaviour issues.

However, many dogs happily found their “forever homes”. Scientific American has an interesting article on post-pandemic dogs, now that times have again changed, and pets’ roles have changed as well. Many training facilities, closed at time of adoption, are open again – they are a good resource and help for behaviour issues and socialization. Some even have training sessions specifically designed for “pandemic” dogs. It is important to realize that dog training does not stop when classes end; it is ongoing throughout the life of the pet.

<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/home-alone-the-fate-of-postpandemic-dogs/>

Getting kids involved with dog training can be fun. We took our 5 year old “pandemic” poodle Nellie to obedience class as well as a tricks class – fun and bonding! There are many tricks that can be easily taught to dogs: give a paw (high five), fetch the ball/toy, jump over or go under a stick, jump through a hoop, hand signals for sit, down

and stay, and find the treat (place a treat under a cup, then put a few cups without treats, and get your pup to find the cup with the treat).

Enrichment is such an important part of a pet’s life, keeping them engaged, active and mentally stimulated, as well as strengthening the human-animal bond. Online resources, obedience classes, or library books will help with tips and ideas.

OUR TORONTO ZOO

Our Toronto Zoo is a great place to visit! Zoos around the world are evolving, changing their purpose and outlook, and our zoo is no exception. The zoo’s mission statement is: Connecting people, animals and wildlife through conservation science to fight extinction. Through education, research and conservation initiatives both at home and abroad, the Toronto Zoo has so much to offer!

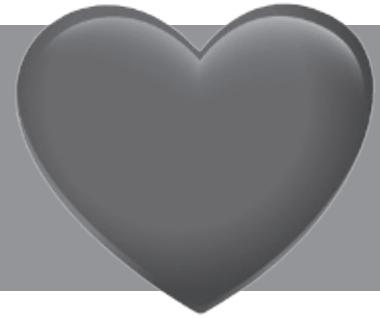
The zoo is a primarily place of entertainment; being able to view African wildlife right here in Canada is truly amazing. Visiting the many animals (and plants) at the zoo supports ongoing research and conservation, and this leads to a better understanding of wildlife ecosystems and how we can protect them. The animals and plants appreciate your visit!



Matsumaini (Hope)

Come for photography and take a walk on the wildside! The zoo’s website lists the many ongoing activities for guests throughout the year. Cooler weather means the animals tend to be more active – fun and engaging viewing! Take advantage of a Wild Encounter or book a Behind the Scenes Tour. Hope to see you there. Have a great winter in our lovely Rouge!

A Love Letter



By Jennifer Graham

“It’s nice to be loved.”

Louise said this to me tonight while we were in the restaurant.

We were talking about the things parents do that seem odd, or annoying, to/for their grown children.

Like mailing your daughter socks all the way from England, in December, with the enclosure, “I wouldn’t want my daughter to have cold feet!” Like we don’t have socks in Canada! As if a 30-year-old working woman with a child of her own would have no idea how to keep her feet warm in the winter!

Or the way my dad calls me once, then again 10 minutes later, and a third time, this time leaving a voicemail saying, “Was that you, Jennie? I thought I heard the phone ring, and maybe it was you calling me back, and I was just downstairs doing my exercises, and I didn’t want to miss you. I’ll try you again later. I love you.” As if my answering machine could only mean police, paramedics, or I’ve gone missing.

I am learning there is a rule with parents: children never grow up. You will move out, get a job, get married, have children of your own, but you will never make it past the age of seven in the eyes of your parents. They will always see you as a child who wears their hair in pigtails, never wants to wear a jacket when it’s freezing, and are only allowed to kiss people on the cheek. Even after you move out, get a job, and get married; even after they have grandchildren to spoil rotten, you haven’t aged at all. You could be a CEO, a published author, out there travelling the world, or even solving world hunger.

You’re still seven.

But the children of parents never grow up.

Because they love you. Because you are their whole world.

The things we love never age. We want to hold onto them forever. To keep them safe.

Us grown-up children think they don’t believe in us. We want to be loved, and in a way that makes sense to us.

Love is often inconvenient. Sometimes annoying. Sometimes it doesn’t make sense- because we want to prove to ourselves and our parents that we can make it in this world without them.

But then a parcel arrives from England, or we come home from a date to a voicemail full of worried messages from dad. And it feels like you are seven years old, asking your mom to drive you to the mall or getting caught kissing a boy on your doorstep.

And it’s nice. Because now you are a grown-up, and you remember when you were seven and life was as simple as saying, “Mom, I need new socks,” or “Dad, Bryan doesn’t want to go out with me,” and someone always made it better.

Now, that’s your responsibility. So when your Mom mails you socks or Dad calls you five times in the same afternoon, just smile and think, “Wow, someone loves me that much.”

Yes, Louise, it is nice to know that I am loved.

What is my home worth?

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Crime Prevention & Safety



By Police Constable Leanna Gill

Shopping has never been so convenient for the average consumer. The accessibility to view items online, and arrange for a purchase, can be as easy as clicking a button. Often, the package shows up at your doorstep the following day. While the convenience can be very helpful, we want to make sure that we are not complacent in believing that our packages are safe once delivered.

You may observe packages stacked at front doors/porches on a daily basis. The thieves also notice, and it is not uncommon for a thief to take their chance to grab a package, in hopes it could be an expensive item to resell for their benefit. There are some suggestions to alleviate these “Porch Pirates.” This will prevent your package from mysteriously going missing, or assuming the delivery went to the wrong residence, when in fact it was delivered, but stolen before you could retrieve it.

Many businesses and delivery companies have expanded their transaction process to allow the purchaser the opportunity to input delivery instructions. This is a great opportunity to assess your home, and request that the delivery be placed at the side of the home or behind a large object on the front porch. This allows the package to be placed out of view from the roadway or sidewalk.

If delivery instructions are not available, speak to someone you know who is often home, and with their permission, have the package delivered to their residence. If you receive a notification that your delivery has occurred, and no one is home, speak with a neighbour and ask them to retrieve the package and safeguard it until you return.

Additionally, a request for tracking updates, or requiring a signature upon delivery, will assist you as the purchaser, knowing exactly who is in carriage of the package.

Surveillance cameras or video enabled doorbells censored by motion can also be an effective home deterrent that will make perpetrators second-guess the urge to target your property. If there is a greater chance

of creating evidence or witnesses, the perpetrator may not engage in illegal activity. Look out for your neighbours, and report suspicious persons within your neighbourhood.

The goal in crime prevention is to take away the opportunity for the perpetrator to commit the crime. If the item(s) are not in plain sight, it is difficult for the perpetrator to explore the opportunity of theft, because there is no item to steal from their vantage point.

If you believe a crime was committed, have information on a crime that was committed, or observe suspicious activity in your neighbourhood, please contact the police. Some of the ways to contact the police include:

In the event of an emergency, please call 911. Less urgent matters, please contact the non-emergency number at 416-808-2222.

If your crime meets the criteria, it can be reported online at <https://www.tps.ca/services/online-reporting/>

If you wish to remain anonymous, please go to www.222tips.com, call 416-222-TIPS (8477), online on our Facebook “Leave a Tip” page, or text TOR and message to CRIMES (274637). Lastly, you can download the free Crime Stoppers Mobile App on iTunes or Google Play.

Follow me on my social media platforms for more Crime Prevention sharing and tips.

Twitter & Instagram: @laxcopTPS
Facebook: PC Leanna Gill

Stay safe,

Police Constable Leanna Gill #10688
43 Division – Crime Prevention Officer
Toronto Police Service



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From The Archives

West Rouge Life, Summer 2003

WEST ROUGE



COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

An ode to our abundant local wildlife, from the summer 2003 issue of West Rouge Life.

Joys of Living in the Rouge A Ragged Rhyme!

There is a corner of our world,
Wherein we love to live,
Where nature's vistas are unfurled,
For all with eyes to see.

First regard the Valley green,
With rushes gently swaying,
Where Swans and Cygnets reign supreme,
And Herons strut their stuff.

The gentle Deer is also found,
Munching on the lilies,
And Hawks and Ravens swoop around,
Searching for their prey.

Terns and gulls add to the sport,
With diving, soaring flight,
While earthbound creatures danger court,
To seek their sustenance.

Exotic birds their feathers preen,
While vying for a mate,
And squirrels forage in the green,
To live another day.

Behold the mighty glittering lake,
That stretches out of sight,
O'er which the morning sun doth break,
And spans until its setting.

Our beloved Rouge is a busy place,
With folk at work and play,
But take a moment to reflect with grace,
On our perfect home sweet home.



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Jean, we are happy you sold our home so quickly for a great price. Truly a testament to your skill! I have thoroughly enjoyed working with you. I couldn't possibly asked for better! - *Jill Doris*

Jean, Thank you so much! You have been outstanding. We are so happy with everything! You have totally outperformed any agent we have ever dealt with. It was impressive and extremely helpful the way you dove in and took care of all the extra things for us. That was a huge weight off our shoulders! We will keep you in mind for any future real estate dealings we may have. Fantastic price you got us as well! You have really exceeded our expectations!

- *Dr. Howarth, M.D*

Fantastic is the best word I can think of to describe having you as my Realtor! You saved me time, money and stress by dropping off all the packing materials and you even arranged a wonderful handyman who did a great job on the repairs for a reasonable price. I loved the attractive staging, the professional photographs and the beautiful marketing pieces you created. I really appreciate everything you did. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for selling my home for a record high price and in such a short time despite the pandemic! I highly recommend Jean!

- *Helen Ritchie*

My partner and I felt that home ownership would never be possible for us, let alone during a pandemic. Immediately, Jean made us comfortable and confident with her research-based approach, helping us unpack all the details as we viewed listing by listing. More shocking to us that we could see the homes in person during a quarantine. Jean was extremely transparent and upfront about all the specific COVID-19 protocols, paperwork, and even drew out clearly how and what is different during this period. I cannot say enough about how supported and respected we felt by Jean during our process in finding our first home! What a dream! Thank you to Jean and her excellent team! We could not have done it without you, and I would not have changed a thing.

- *Lindsey and James*

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The Zoo Report

When did you last visit the Toronto Zoo?



By Amy Naylor, Media Relations Coordinator, Toronto Zoo

Hello Folks! It was a busy summer at the Toronto Zoo! As the air turns cooler, and the leaves begin to change, we are heading into our favourite time of year at the Zoo! The animals are active, the birds are migrating, and we are geared up for some amazing fall programming!

This summer we welcomed a fluffy new red panda cub, and after a couple of months of waiting while he grew and bonded with mom in their nest box, the time has come to introduce the little guy to our guests! You can meet the new panda cub in his Eurasia outdoor habitat, along with mom, Paprika, Dad, Suva, and half-sister Adira! Make sure to look way up, as they often spend their days snoozing in the shady tree branches.



In other baby news, our three bison calves, also born this summer, are doing well, and have quickly become a guest favourite. What makes these little ones extra special is the innovative reproductive techniques that enabled us to deliberately produce females! Our amazing Toronto Zoo Reproductive Sciences team worked with researchers from the

University of Saskatchewan for 13 years to advance assisted reproductive technologies for wood bison. Last year, for the first time, the team partnered with Sexing Technologies to use highly sensitive equipment capable of sorting x- from y-bearing sperm in hopes of producing female calves. This is an important step forward for the long-term sustainability of bison conservation herds.



We are thrilled to bring back the world-class Terra Lumina Night Walk experience for its fourth season! Inspired by the local culture and the unique natural beauty of each specific site, the award-winning Lumina Night Walks use a universal language that speaks to all audiences, and brings generations together. Each 45 to 60 minute experience begins at nightfall, and provokes emotion using storytelling, lighting design, an original soundscape and music, scenography, video and interactive technologies. Guests will be led through the experience with the use of interactive displays, light, sound, scenography, music and video projection. The experience is meant to inspire guests to enact positive environmental change, and improve how we share and improve our relationship with Mother Earth, animals and the environment. For tickets and Showtime's, visit torontozoo.ca/terralumina.

For up-to-date information on events, animal updates and other amazing Toronto Zoo news, be sure to follow us on social media, or check out our website! Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to crossing paths with you this fall at your Toronto Zoo!

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Membership Report



By Larry Whatmore, Membership Director, WRCA

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR MEMBERS FOR HELPING OUR COMMUNITY COME BACK TO LIFE!

There's a spring in our step in West Rouge these days. We are reconnecting in person, not on a computer screen. Our outdoor events are back. Our indoor events are mostly back, albeit with limitations. There's a sense of guarded optimism.

Thank you for supporting WRCA again this year. Your financial support has enabled us to be a catalyst for the resumption of community life.

The Port Union Waterfront Festival returned in June. Our compliments to the organizing committee for ramping up this event with a very short planning horizon.

The Summer Concert Series returned to Port Union Community Centre in July, and played to engaged and appreciative audiences.

Both events were sponsored by WRCA, and by our neighbouring community associations.

This is all made possible by you. Your \$15 membership fee, multiplied hundreds of times over, creates a meaningful impact. Thank you for doing your part to help bring West Rouge out of a post-COVID hibernation.

HAVEN'T JOINED YET THIS YEAR? PLEASE USE PAYPAL

Joining is fast and easy through PayPal, which is front-and-centre on our website at www.westrouge.org. And you don't need a PayPal account to use it.

We invite you to do your part to keep West Rouge a great place to live and play.

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST STREET CAPTAINS!

Welcome to new residents Sameer Dhawan and Maddy

Chandrasekaran, who have stepped up as street captains on Taylor Road and West Point Avenue.

Thank you to long-time resident Nancy Kostroman, who is our new street captain on Bowes Garden Court.

And thank you to our area coordinator Slavica Vasilevska, who is now serving as a street captain on Grandhall Court, as well as on Oxhorn Road.

At the same time, we thank our retiring street captains: Ron Pritchard, Diana O'Connor and Ian Milne, for your many years of service. You are, of course, welcome back at any time.

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR STREET CAPTAINS

For the past two years, some of you have been very resourceful, finding a way to do high-finesse canvassing in a contact-free world. This year, some of you returned to more traditional canvassing, including letters of introduction to your neighbours, which worked well.

Finally, thank you to the 50 street captains who allowed us to post a "Become a Member" lawn sign once again this year. They make a real difference to the success of our membership campaign.

WE'LL HAVE SOME STREET CAPTAIN VACANCIES AFTER THIS FALL ... CARE TO JOIN US?

Please let me know. We have almost 100 local volunteers who deliver West Rouge Life twice a year and, in many cases, canvass for memberships. Call me. I'd be happy to chat on a "no obligation" basis!

Larry Whatmore
Membership Director
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West Rouge Sports & Recreation Association



By Louise Redgers Bonnycastle, President

Life is gradually getting back to normal, or perhaps a new normal. West Rouge Sports and Recreation has big plans for the fall and winter season.

We held some fun and exciting events to get “back to business” over the last several months. We were able to hold our Annual Easter Egg Hunt in the park behind the West Rouge Community Centre. The kids had a wonderful time running around the playground hunting for eggs. Games and crafts enhanced the experience. Thanks to all the student volunteers that helped to make the event a huge success!

We also participated in Earth Day at the Port Union Community Centre, helping kids plant seeds that could be grown in their gardens once sprouted. Bee houses, (we have pivoted from bird houses), were built and sent home to help us maintain the strained bee population in West Rouge.

The month of May gave us a beautiful evening for stargazing. This was a new event for us; we partnered with members of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada. Held at the waterfront gazebo, we had telescopes set up to view the night sky. It was such a huge success that we are planning on doing it again next year.

June brought the annual Parking Lot Sale at West Rouge. A huge garage sale type event giving members of the community a chance to part with things they no longer need, and others to acquire treasures at amazing prices.

July brought a joint effort with CCRA and the West Rouge Community Association to bring back our Concerts in the Park series. These take place on Sundays in July, behind the Port Union Community Centre. This year, we tried something new, and offered a children’s entertainer to provide an afternoon of exciting fun for families. Mr. James Funnyhat had both the kids and adults laughing, and enjoying his stories and interactive plays. The kids had an incredible afternoon.

The following Sunday, the Climax Jazz Band joined us

for a lively concert in the evening, and then we ended with the Port United Band as our final concert of the season. It was amazing to see so many members of the community up dancing and enjoying the incredible sounds of summer. We already have plans for next year!

Fall should bring us the return of the Fun Run along the Beach in October for those who enjoy staying fit. For more information, please check our website. The kids Halloween Party will return; we are planning on doing something spooky and fun in the park adjacent to the West Rouge Community Centre. Watch for the date and time. Planning is underway for the Annual Pumpkin Parade on November 1st to give all those incredibly carved pumpkins one last hurrah at the Port Union Community Centre. Our much loved Artisan Sale is set to return as an in-person event in mid-November. If you are a local artisan, please reach out to Paul@WRSRA.org to participate. Plans for a Holiday Carol Sing Along and celebration are also being made for early December for the West Rouge Community Centre. There will be activities for the whole family.

As you can see, we are trying to maintain the sense of community that we work so hard to keep alive and healthy. This is the most incredible neighbourhood, and we certainly want to keep it that way. To that end, we are a small group of dedicated volunteers who work very hard and donate our time to create these events. We could use some extra hands. You can volunteer to help with a particular event that touches your heart, or you can join our board. Many hands make light work! The commitments do not have to be large, just consider contributing your valuable time to your community.

Always available to hear your suggestions for events,

Louise Redgers Bonnycastle
President, West Rouge Sports and Recreation Association
Email: Louise@WRSRA.org
www.sportsandrec.ca | 416-283-1938

The Rouge Butterflyway

Summer 2022 Report

By Karen Heisz

The Rouge Butterflyway had a very successful 2022 season, beginning with our first native plant sale in April. We had a wonderful time talking with neighbours, showing our photos, and extolling the many benefits of native plants at the Earth Day event at the Port Union Community Centre. The sale was more successful than we could have imagined; over 75 orders for over 600 plants! As a result of this sale, the Rouge Butterflyway has over 50 new native plant gardens, exceeding our goal of doubling the number of participants. We are absolutely thrilled with the enthusiasm of this community! Most pollinators have very limited foraging ranges, meaning they can't fly far from home looking for food, and we thank you for your efforts to provide more pollinator habitats throughout our neighbourhood.

Our plans to work with the students at Sir Oliver Mowat to create pollinator gardens were approved by the TDSB in May, and now we are waiting for the two non-native Japanese Barberry shrubs to be removed before proceeding with the design of the gardens. The decision to plant in the autumn was a good one; we have spent the summer keeping weeds to a minimum so that when the native plants are planted, they won't have competition. The garden closest to the school is a beautiful milkweed forest which is visited often by monarch butterflies and bumble bees.

With the help of a neighbour, Paul Thompson, we received a donation of five flats of marigolds from the Cedargrove Garden Center for the gardens at the

Tony Stacey Center for Veterans Care. Every evening in the last week of June, we weeded and planted marigolds. The next week, 20 bags of black wood mulch, generously donated by the Home Depot on Grand Marshall Drive, were spread on the gardens to reduce the number of weeds and retain moisture. Our volunteers received many compliments on the appearance of the gardens, and people expressed their gratitude for our efforts.

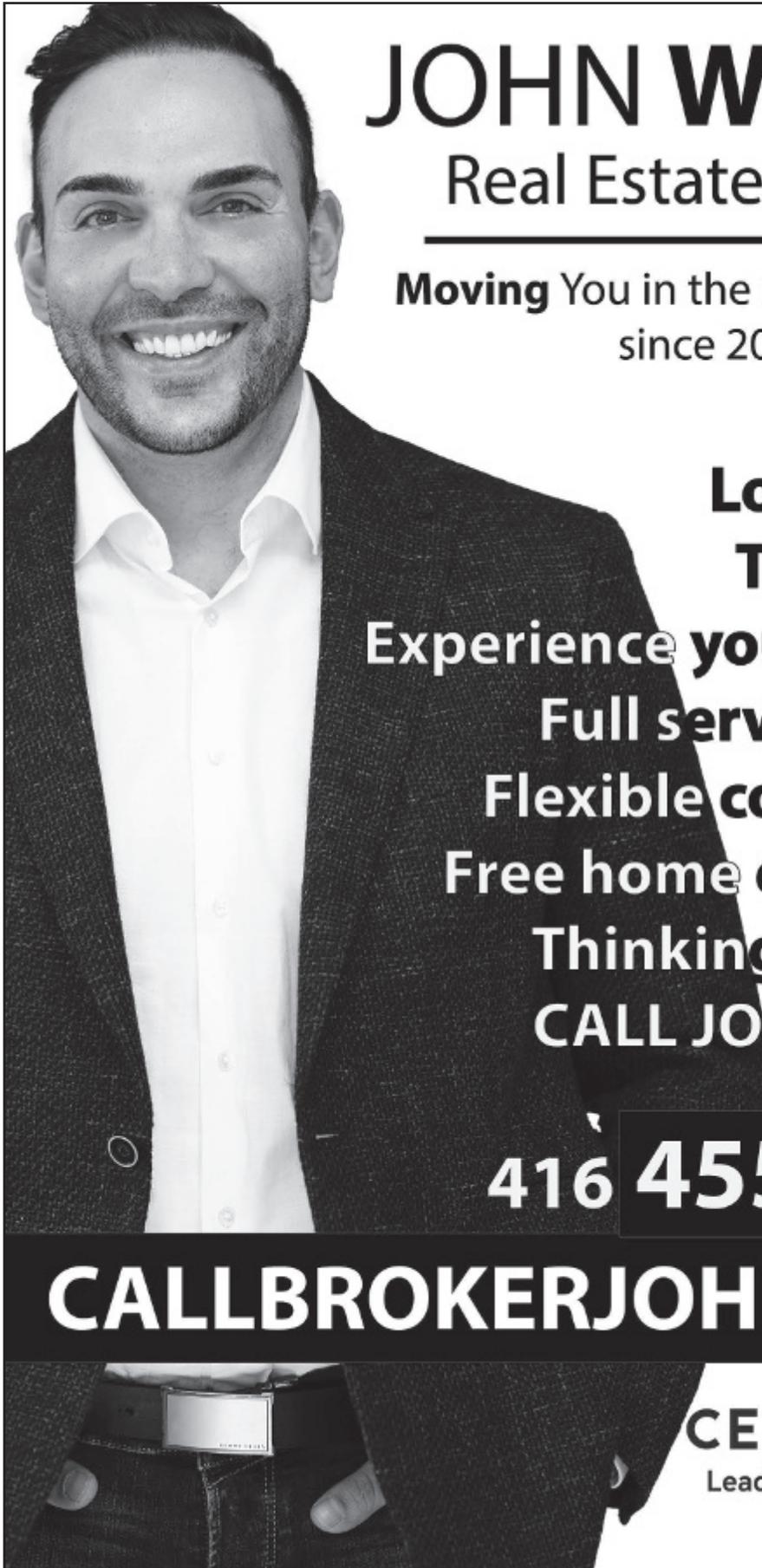
The proceeds of our plant sale will be used to purchase native plants for these two sites, and we remain open to any new garden volunteers. We intend to run a plant sale again next spring, with a different variety of plants, and we hope to add at least 50 new gardens to the Butterflyway next year, too!

Finally, as we head into fall, a gentle reminder to leave as many leaves as possible in your flower beds. Butterflies, caterpillars, bumble bees (and many other insects), seek shelter and protection under them before the cold winter arrives. The leaves also provide free fertilizer to your gardens for next spring and summer! Shredded leaves break down quickly and tend not to blow away as easily, but they do not provide habitat for the insects.

On behalf of the members of the Rouge Butterflyway, thank you again for your support of our efforts and for caring for the butterflies, bees, and birds in our neighbourhood. Have a safe and happy fall and winter – we will see you next spring!



Map of Rouge Butterflyway: 2021 and 2022 gardens.



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West Rouge Soccer Club



By Saadia Khan, Social Media & Digital Marketing Intern, West Rouge Soccer Club

The West Rouge Soccer Club is a non-profit organization in Scarborough dedicated to providing any person, regardless of ability, the opportunity to participate in organized soccer activities at recreational and competitive levels.

The WRSC promotes technical and tactical soccer skills, physical and mental development, self-confidence, teamwork and respect, all within the spirit of the game of soccer, in order to facilitate all individuals to reach their potential.



GOing Places Camp Members

This summer, the WRSC conducted two unique summer programs; GOing Places and Camp Evolve. GOing Places is a girls-only soccer camp developed by and delivered by girls, for girls. It aims to bridge the gap between gender stereotypes in sports, and provides an equitable, safe, and fun opportunity to increase the participation of girls in physical activity settings. GOing Places is grounded in a gender-equity approach and is a tailored opportunity for girls to gain confidence and competence in social and sports settings. The philosophy at GOing Places is to create space for girls to engage with and share positive sport experiences, and to inspire them to pursue existing and emerging sport opportunities



Camp Evolve Members

with confidence and passion. GOing Places offers both half-day and full-day camps for its participants and is led by Camp Director Anika.

Camp Evolve is an activity-based development camp presented by the WRSC that fosters an environment for participants to grow using a health and physical activity framework. This helps participants develop essential fundamental movement, social, and creative thinking skills, with a focus on cooperative games and community building. The philosophy at Camp Evolve is to focus on the individuality of each participant, and provide an engaging, fun, and inclusive environment for their development. Camp Evolve offers both half-day and full-day camps for its participants and is led by Camp Director Dylan.

The WRSC values child safety above everything else, and hopes to create an engaging, positive, and fun-filled environment for all of its participants. We look forward to having more children participate in these camps, and we strive to create a memorable camp experience for them.

Visit <https://www.westrougesoccer.ca/> for more information.

Follow us on Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, TikTok: @westrougesoccer

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Fernie Youth Services

Your local social enterprise for at-risk youth



By Madison Perdue, Resource Development Coordinator, Fernie Youth Services

A few months ago, in this very magazine, we shared information about Fernie Youth Services' social enterprise: Fernie Works Lawn Care. Since 2015, Fernie has given at-risk youth a paid opportunity to gain essential employment training through a year-long program that includes spring, summer and fall landscaping. In the winter, the youth focus on achieving certifications and volunteering at nearby meal programs and churches.

At Fernie Works, our young workers with a history of legal conflicts (and a determination to change their future!), gain professional skills with ongoing mentorship and guidance. It is more than a job, it's the chance for these young people to learn and prove their strengths. It is all made possible by hiring Fernie Works for your landscaping needs!

We were ecstatic to hear from many of you about your lawn care needs! Thanks to you, our youth were busy with hundreds of jobs in the area. Some of our young workers wanted to share how beautifying our community this summer positively impacted their lives:

"Fernie Works allowed me the opportunity to know what it takes to be in the workforce before entering it."

"At a lot of jobs you need experience, the Fernie Works program gives you experience."

"Fernie Works allows us to gain confidence and trust with other workers, staff, customers, and the equipment."

As we move into the colder weather, our team is excited to start the fall services including: overseeding, aeration, and debris cleanup. If you need fall lawn services, and want to continue giving young men the needed opportunities to grow, give us a call at (416) 312-7521.

Do you want to learn more about Fernie Youth Services and how we help young people flourish into purposeful adulthood? Go to fernienyouth.ca or email us at madison@fernienyouth.ca to set up a personal presentation on our work and the youth



justice system for your group.

Thank you for giving youth a chance in West Rouge!

Madison Perdue
Resource Development Coordinator
Fernie Youth Services

Herb Boxes of West Rouge

By Barbara Broadley



Herb Box

The Herb Boxes of West Rouge was started in 2020 by Catharine Gregory. She read an article about a similar project based in the community of Old South, in London, Ontario. “Help yourself to a snip or two, but leave the plants for your neighbours too!” is written on the side of the herb boxes. If you see a box in the community, you are welcome to use it and take what you need for your summer/autumn recipes.

We are so lucky to live in such a great community, and the hope is this project would thrive. The support that Catharine has received has exceeded her expectations, with people wanting to host a box and all the donations received. The goal is to add 10 or more boxes each year for a total of 20 boxes in the community. The role of a host is to place a box on their property, where they can tend to the herbs, water them, and store the box throughout the colder months.

I was so impressed when I heard about this project of Catharine’s that I helped fundraise for her to help

with the costs of building the boxes. Approximately \$600 was raised this spring, which went towards the costs of the boxes, herbs and soil. Thank you to our donors Royal LePage Connect, West Rouge Sports & Recreation Association, Sheridan Nurseries and TD Bank.

I think we are all guilty of buying herbs and only needing a small amount. The plastic, and most of the unused herbs end up in the green bin and recycling. The herb boxes allow us to reduce waste by taking what we need, and has the added benefit of getting to know our neighbours and staying connected as a community.

When you travel around, stop and cut some herbs for your meals. Enjoy the boxes, but please do not take the whole plant out of the box – only a clipping. Thanks. West Rouge is the best area to live in! If you wish to host a herb box, please contact Catharine at 01catharine.gregory@gmail.com

Herb Boxes of West Rouge locations

Herb Box Location

-  Eastport Dr
-  Eastport Dr
-  Vessel Crescent
-  Starspray Blvd
-  Comingham St
-  Lakeridge Dr
-  Shoalhaven Dr
-  Manse Rd
-  McCulley St
-  Lawrence Ave E
-  Ravine Park Crescent
-  Grandhall Ct
-  Rylander Blvd
-  Decimal Pl
-  Holmcrest Trail
-  Tudor Glen Crescent
-  Greybeaver Trail
-  Colonel Danforth Trail
-  Rouge Highlands Dr



Help yourselves to a snip or two but leave the plants for your neighbours too.



Making Herb Boxes



Herb Boxes for Pickup

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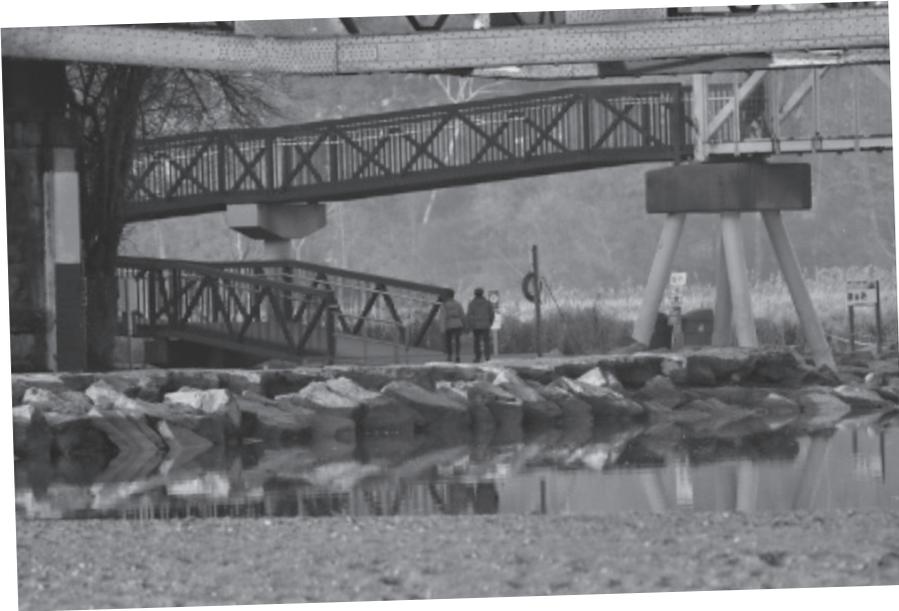
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Community Directory



Emergency (property or people at risk)	9-1-1
Rouge National Urban Park	416-264-2020 pc.rouge.pc@canada.ca
Toronto's Municipal Information Hotline (for problems in the community)	3-1-1
Toronto Fire Services (general inquiry)	416-338-9050
Toronto Paramedic Services (general inquiry)	416-392-2000
Toronto Police Services (non-emergency)	416-808-2222
43 Division Non-Emergency Police (Community Response)	416-808-4308
Toronto Animal Services	416-338-7297 toronto.ca/animalservices
Toronto Wildlife Centre	416-631-0662 torontowildlifecentre.com

COMMUNITY SERVICES:

Toronto Public Library (Port Union Branch)	416-396-8885
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West Rouge Community Centre (WRCC)	416-396-4147

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Port Union Seniors	416-396-4034
Beavers / Cubs / Scouts - Scouts Canada, Ontario Headquarters	416-512-2461
Sparks / Brownies / Guides - Girl Guides of Canada, Ontario Council	1-877-323-4545
The Dukes of Harmony	dukesofharmony.com
Pickering Rouge Canoe Club	pickeringrouge.ca
West Hill Baseball League	westhillbaseball.com
West Rouge Basketball	www.westrougebasketball.ca
West Rouge Community Association - Reza Khoshdel	reza.khoshdel01@gmail.com
West Rouge Soccer Club	westrougesoccer.ca
West Rouge Sports & Recreation Association - Louise Bonnycastle	416-283-1938
West Rouge Tennis Club	wrtctennis.com
Scarborough Softball Association	scarboroughsoftballassociation.com
West Hill Minor Hockey Association	whmha.goalline.ca
West Hill-Highland Creek Lions Club	lionsclub.ca

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June 2022



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SOLD \$1,360,000 in 6 Days
June 2022



44 Invermarge Dr.

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SOLD \$1,775,000 in 1 Day
June 2022



94 Deep Dene Dr.

Listed at \$1,599,800

SOLD \$1,800,000 in 6 Days
May 2022



66 Bonacres Ave

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SOLD \$1,730,000 in 1 Day
May 2022



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30 Rockport Dr.

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43 Dunwatson Dr.

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16 Janellan Terrace

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March 2022



41 Waterbridge Way

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February 2022



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