

East Gwillimbury's

August 2013, VOL. 15, NO. 6  
Since 1998

# Bulletin

MAGAZINE



**HOME • GARDEN • EAST GWILLIMBURY • EVENTS**

**HOLLAND LANDING, SHARON, QUEENSVILLE, MOUNT ALBERT & SURROUNDING AREA**

# Awesome Turnout at the 4th Annual The Roots Wake Series Provincial Cable Championships hosted at Rail Yard Wake Park - July 20th, 2013



Big smiles from Wake Purdy, top rider in the Newbie Boys 12 and Under division at the Provincial Cable Wakeboarding Championships (see page 4 ON THE COVER story)

Interested in competing in The Roots Wake Series next year?

Follow [www.rootswakeboarding.com](http://www.rootswakeboarding.com) or [www.railyardwakepark.com](http://www.railyardwakepark.com) for information.



Red Bull Girls (a major sponsor of the event) refreshed staff and visitors (l to r); Katie, Lorne, Zak, Bobbi, Clayton & Sam.



Event volunteer, organizer and emcee Erika Langman, among other achievements placed 1st at 2012 Canadian Wakeboard Nationals Boat & Rails Canadian Female Wakeboarder set her eyes on the landing off the largest kicker at Rail Yard Wake Park Provincials.

# Going home after a hospital stay?

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**SIMCOE DAY** - In 1968 Toronto City Council officially named the August holiday "Simcoe Day" to honour Major-General John Graves Simcoe who was appointed the first Lieutenant Governor when the province of Upper Canada was created on September 12th, 1791.

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AUGUST 2013, VOL. 15, NO. 6



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Since 1998

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### **ON THE COVER:**

East Gwillimbury's newest outdoor water attraction Rail Yard Wake Park, hosted The Roots Wake Series Provincial Championships on July 20th. Approx. 80 competitors competed in divisions from Newbies 12 and under to Outlaws, with Wake Purdy (yes, that's his real name), (photo on page 5) a Rail Yard team rider taking the top spot in the boys 12 and under 'newbies' division.

Cover photo shows off Max Thompson's skills in the Open Men's division... although Max didn't reach the finals he put on a great display of his abilities for the over 200+ spectators. The Roots Ontario's Amateur Wake Series is organized by a non-profit group of volunteers from the wakeboarding community who have a top notch program in both boat and cable. Check it out in 2014!

### **Master Gardeners Advice-Line**

Free email help-line for home gardeners. Advice and education for home gardeners by certified horticultural volunteers. Contact [yorkmastergardener@gmail.com](mailto:yorkmastergardener@gmail.com)



Town of  
East Gwillimbury

*Sharon*

# CAR SHOW

VINTAGE, MUSCLE & COLLECTOR CARS



**Cool Country Cruise In**  
Saturdays, 6pm to dusk May 11 - September 14, 2013

Food (except on Aug. 10) and washrooms on site  
Public welcome — admission free

**Special events with live music**  
Weather permitting

**August 17**  
Opens at 4pm, music begins 5pm

**September 14**  
Opens at 3pm, music begins 4pm



## DREAMERS

TODAY IS A DAY FOR DREAMERS  
JUST AS WERE ALL YESTERDAYS  
CAST YOUR MIND - HOPE TO FIND  
THE DESIRED IMAGES DISPLAYED

WE HAVE BUT TO DREAM  
FOR OUR SPIRITS TO SOAR  
IN PURSUIT OF OUR DESIRES AND GOALS

THE REALM OF DREAMS  
HELPS US BELONG  
AND PROVIDES STRENGTH TO THE SOUL

TOMORROW IS ANOTHER GOOD DAY FOR  
DREAMING  
JUST AS ALL THE TOMORROWS TO ENSUE  
MY WISH IS FOR ALL YOUR GOOD DREAMS  
BE GRANTED - TO YOU

Ken Gould



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## Let's Chat!



I'll buy the coffee.  
If you'll supply  
the topic.

Marlene Johnston  
East Gwillimbury Councillor

[marlenejohnston@rogers.com](mailto:marlenejohnston@rogers.com)





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# What's On

## **Every Monday and Wednesday**

### **Holland Landing Storybook House**

A free resource centre for families/caregivers with children from birth to 5 years of age. Join us for socialization, stories, songs, fingerplays, waterplay, playdough, music and movement. 930 am – 11:30 am at Holland Landing Public School, 16 Holland River Blvd., Holland Landing. 905-836-8916. Closed school holidays and July/August.

## **Wednesday Mornings**

### **Sharon Co-Operative Playgroup**

\$4 Drop-in fee, with monthly/annual fees available. 18648 Leslie Street, 9:30 - 11:30 am - September - June. A fun playgroup for children ages 0 - 6, offering crafts, sensory, free play, gross motor, story time and more. A great way to connect with other families in the community. 905-895-4088

## **Every Wednesday of the Month Self Employment Benefit (OSEB) Program**

The Ontario Self Employment Benefit program helps eligible, unemployed individuals to start their own business. To learn more or to register for a session call 905-952-0981. Job Skills, 17915 Leslie Street. [www.jobskills.org](http://www.jobskills.org)

## **Every 3rd Thursday of the Month H.L. Country & Western Jamboree**

Holland Landing Community Centre. 7 pm to 11 pm. All are welcome. Jacquie or Walt at 905-473-7072 for info.

## **Every Saturday Evening Cool Country Cruisin'**

Car Show every Saturday night 6 pm till dusk (weather permitting) at the Civic Centre in Sharon.

## **Saturday, August 10**

### **East Gwillimbury Trail Walk**

Vivian Creek Trail 4:00 pm. Park on Samuel Harper Court, Mount Albert

## **Saturday, August 10**

### **Descendant's Day at Sharon Temple**

Free - 10 am to 4 pm  
18974 Leslie Street, Sharon  
Calling all descendants of the Children of Peace! Bring your family's genealogical information and share with others, view artifacts rarely exhibited and tour the Sharon Temple. This event is for everyone interested.

## **Saturday, August 10**

### **EG Minor Softball Closing Day & Trophy Ceremony**

- starts at 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. Mount Albert Community Centre diamond. Snack bar open.

## **Tuesday, August 13**

### **Newmarket Horticultural Society**

8:00 pm. Speaker: Terry Laurin & Kate Brewitt "Irises - Four Months of Bloom and Beyond". Reduced membership fees - \$2/Guests. Newmarket Community Centre. 200 Doug Duncan Drive. 905-898-2635 or [www.gardennewmarket.ca](http://www.gardennewmarket.ca)

## **Wednesday, August 14**

**Keeping the Cottage** - Succession Planning with Steve Walsh and Corinne Rivers. Free Seminar discussing the practicalities and problems of keeping the cottage in the family. Advance registration required 905-836-6492. Holland Landing Public Library.

## **Saturday, August 17**

### **EG Minor Softball Mite & Squirt Closing Tournament**

EG Sports Complex, Mount Albert

Road, Sharon 9 am to 6 pm. 10 teams from EG and Bradford. Food truck and ice-cream on site.

[www.freewebs.com/egmsa](http://www.freewebs.com/egmsa)

## **Saturday, August 17**

### **Cinema Saturdays**

Holland Landing Branch EG Library  
19513 Yonge Street, Holland Landing  
2:00 pm. Did you miss seeing Southlake Cinemania favourites? *Monsieur Lazhar* (subtitles) (rated - G) An Algerian immigrant is hired to replace an elementary school teacher who died tragically. FREE

## **Tuesday, August 20**

### **East Gwillimbury Gardener's**

6:30 pm. Celebration of Gardens, Annual Flower Show & Silent Auction. Delicious refreshments. Mount Albert Community Centre, 53 Main St. For info call Anne 905-478-8450 or visit <http://www.gardenontario.org/site.php/mountalbert>

## **Wednesday, August 21**

### **Mount Albert Village Association's Monthly Director's Meeting**

7pm-9pm. \$10 membership anytime. Mount Albert Community Centre Hall Lower Level. All Welcome!  
[www.mountalbert.com](http://www.mountalbert.com)

## **Saturday, September 7**

**Annual Fall Festival** St. James the Apostle, 18794 Leslie St., Sharon  
8 am to 12 noon. Festival will include baking, produce, books, and garage sale items as well as a BBQ.

## **Saturday, September 14**

### **4th Annual Golf Tournament**

Beyond Abilities Centre  
Pheasant Run Golf Club  
18-Hole Modified Shotgun 1:30 pm  
To register: 905-478-2888

# What's On

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Proceeds will go towards our recreational programs, financial assistance and the building of a NEW centre in York Region.

## **Saturday, September 14**

**Annual Car Show and Steak Dinner** Holland Landing and Sharon Lions Clubs will be hosting it in Anchor Park. Starting at 3 pm. Dinner at 5pm. Dinner tickets are \$20.00 per person available from Paul Taylor 905-836-1423 or Art Holliday 905-836-6540

## **Sunday, September 15**

### **Bark for Life**

10 am to 12 noon

Canadian Cancer Society is hosting a canine event to fight cancer. A leash led walk along the Scanlon Creek Conservation Area, 2450 Line 9 (off Hwy. 11) Bradford. Register today at [cancer.ca/barkforlife](http://cancer.ca/barkforlife) \$15 registration fee. 905-830-0447 ext. 3833

## **Thursday, September 19**

Golden Anchor Seniors Club

Bid Euchre Tournament

1:00 pm - \$5.00

Holland Landing Community Centre

## **Sunday, September 29**

**Weaving Words Storytelling Festival** Sharon

Temple Museum

Adults \$8, Children \$3, Families \$20

Sharon Temple Museum 10:30 am to 4:00 pm.

Storytellers, musicians and performers from a wide range of cultural and ethnic backgrounds.

Activities for every age. [www.weavingwords.ca](http://www.weavingwords.ca)

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Not-for-profit events are free to list in our print edition of The Bulletin. Please visit our website [www.TheBulletinMagazine.com](http://www.TheBulletinMagazine.com) and fill in the Submit an Event information.

Other event listings have a fee.

Contact [julie@thebulletinmagazine.com](mailto:julie@thebulletinmagazine.com)

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## **FIRE CHIEF RETIRES FROM THE TOWN OF EAST GWILLIMBURY**

Emergency Services Chief to retire after 52 years service to York Region

After 52 years of service to the people of York Region, including 11 years as the chief of the Markham Fire and Emergency Services and 17 years as the Chief of the East Gwillimbury Emergency Services (EGES), Ken Beckett is retiring from the Town as of August 30, 2013.

“On behalf of the Town I want to thank Chief Beckett for his years of service and commitment to the residents and businesses of East Gwillimbury,” said Mayor Virginia Hackson. “Chief Beckett’s work was critical in enhancing our Emergency Services over the last 17 years.”

“I want to thank Chief Beckett for his service and dedication in helping improve fire safety for all he served. His foresight in succession planning and the recruitment of an experienced Deputy ensures a smooth transition for our Town and while he is leaving EGES, he advises that he will be staying involved in emergency services in Ontario,” said Thomas Webster, CAO. “We are pleased that Deputy Dawson will be assuming the role of Fire Chief and that Chief Beckett will be available until the end of the year in an advisory role.”

EGES Deputy Chief Phil Dawson, a 24 year fire fighter, including over 4 years as a Deputy Chief in Richmond Hill and the past year as the Deputy Chief at the EGES will assume the role of Fire Chief effective August 30, 2013.

# Hort Happenings August 2013

By Anne Hill

Congratulations to the 50 gardeners whose front yard gardens have been awarded Thumbs Up signs in the East Gwillimbury in Blooms contest. The judges were glad to present awards to some new gardens this year. The cool and rainy weather early in the season resulted in some very tall plants and lush gardens this year.

Now we're into a hot dry spell and the drought-tolerant plants are the stars of the garden. This is the month when the daylilies provide such wonderful splashes of colour and there are also some very dramatic Asiatic lilies in flower. Our public plantings around town are looking good.

The garden at the corner of Centre Street and Mount Albert Road (the Birchard Parkette) is one of our two demonstration gardens in conjunction with York Region's Water for Tomorrow program. It's full of a variety of plants which don't need a lot of watering; they are lower-maintenance and chosen to suit the space they are in. Do take a look; I was there today and it is just lovely. Part of the garden is in full sun while part is shaded by large trees so a great variety of plants thrive there. If you are a new homeowner this is an excellent garden to visit for ideas. All the plants are labeled.

The other Water For Tomorrow demonstration garden is at the Holland Landing library, where flower beds surround a wooded area. Under the trees a collection of native plants is gradually becoming established. The flower beds have undergone some changes as we discover what does well. You will often find members of East Gwillimbury Gardeners working away in these community gardens and we love to welcome new volunteers!

This month we had the honour of providing table centerpieces for the dinner which the Town of East Gwillimbury hosted for the parents of athletes in the Special Olympics. Over the course of two days, seven East Gwillimbury Gardeners members assembled forty lovely flower arrangements to grace the tables. The arrangements looked great and we thoroughly enjoyed working together.



You're invited to join us on Tuesday August 20th from 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm at Mount Albert Community Centre, 53 Main Street as we celebrate gardeners and the beauty they bring to East Gwillimbury. The ladies of Mount Albert United Church will be providing the light refreshments -this is always a real treat. You will be able to see our Annual Flower Show and there will be a silent auction too. All are welcome.

Mark your calendar for our Fall Plant and Bake Sale to be held at the Sharon Temple, Leslie Street in Sharon, on Saturday September 7th from 8 am – noon. The fall is an excellent time to plant.

Who are we? We are an enthusiastic and friendly group of gardeners who welcome guests and new members. For more information, please contact 905-478-8450 or check out our website at <http://www.gardenontario.org/site.php/mountalbert>

Also visit us at [Facebook.com/East Gwillimbury Gardeners](https://www.facebook.com/EastGwillimburyGardeners)

# Canada Cup Junior National Winner



OUR *Main Street* **MATTERS**

SO DOES  
THE PAINT *that* PRESERVES  
**YOUR HOME**

For every 4L can of selected paints purchased at The Corner Décor & More/Benjamin Moore in Mount Albert, Benjamin Moore will make a donation to enhance the core of our village!

Follow us on Facebook

**19124 Centre Street, Mount Albert 905-473-6588**

Andrew Martin of Sharon placed 1st at Canada Cup International competition at the Junior National level and competed against athletes from Canada, France, Great Britain and Hawaii.

Andrew qualified for 2013 Trampoline World Age Group Championships, in Sofia, Bulgaria, this November.

Photo of Andrew Martin and Jen Lee (coach at Airborne Trampoline North, Newmarket)

Once again, Sharon of Tangles Hair Salon & Spa and her crew have put together a very successful Women's Show this past April. They have raised over \$16,000 for WE GIVE to Southlake and SRHC Foundation.

Well done!



# 25 YEARS AND COUNTING



NeighbourhoodNetwork  
Building Better Communities Together

A lot can happen in a quarter of a century. And in York Region, over the past twenty-five years, with the support of countless businesses, individuals and community groups, together we've built the Magna Wild Wild West Hoedown as the Region's largest annual fundraiser. In all its years, the Hoedown has distributed more than \$8 million to a wide range and number of not-for-profit and charitable organizations. This year, the Hoedown concert fundraiser is back on this coming September 14th for an electric night of non-stop entertainment under Canada's largest tent on Magna International's head office campus in Aurora!

As you may have guessed, this year we have selected a total of twenty-five charity and not-for-profit groups to be recipients in this great community tradition. We call them recipients, but in reality, they are all dedicated partners in this event. All recipient organizations of the Hoedown proceeds are committed to selling raffle tickets, as well as providing their own dedicated volunteers for the entire event. In total, more than four hundred volunteers give their time pull off the the Hoedown each and every year. That means that several thousands of volunteers have fueled the Hoedown throughout the years. No doubt, the event wouldn't be the same or even possible without them!

To give you an idea of the range of organizations you will be supporting through the Hoedown this year: Community Living Newmarket Aurora District, Newmarket Soccer Club's, York Support Services Network, Women's Centre Of York Region and Habitat For Humanity York Region just to name a few. For a complete listing of this year's recipient and partner charities, please visit [www.hoedown.ca](http://www.hoedown.ca)

Local businesses also play a huge role in making the Hoedown a reality. Magna International covers all the event expenses so that money raised from event and raffle ticket sales go directly to the charities. Many other local business also step up to the plate. Last year, more than 50 businesses provided in-kind support and financial support to the Hoedown which translates

into bigger donations and proceeds for the recipients charities and community groups.

In celebration of our 25th anniversary, we have two new exciting initiatives leading up our big night in September. First, we are launching the Hoedown Showdown – a local talent competition leading up to the event that will celebrate unsigned local country artists who will compete the weekend before the Hoedown in early September. The winner of the Showdown will then have the opportunity to perform on stage at the Hoedown on September 14th before an excited crowd of 5000 people. So saddle up! If you've got the talent and would like to find out how to compete, please visit the Hoedown website.

Secondly, we're using the 25th anniversary as an opportunity to reach back and dig up all those incredible Hoedown memories that we've created throughout the years. But we need your help! There's a lot of York Region residents who have their own personal stories and photos that we'd love to share and highlight at the event and in the weeks and months leading up to September individuals who submit their stories and photos through our website will have the chance to win prizes, tickets and have their stories featured in local media, on our website and at the event.

The Hoedown's longevity and excitement are a testament of what is possible when an entire community comes together. It's because of passionate individuals, responsible businesses and hard working groups that the Hoedown is a unique celebration of our York Region community.

How can you support the Hoedown and these twenty-five community groups? Simple, get your raffle tickets – 100% of the money raised from raffle ticket sales go directly to the charities. This year's Hoedown Prospector's Raffle has a \$100,000 prize pack with grand prize of \$75,000 cash! Every 3 tickets you purchase for \$20 will almost immediately help support deserving community organizations.

It won't be long until the tent will be up! Hoedown event tickets go on sale in August, but raffle tickets are already available to give your community an important boost in support!

You can get all of your Hoedown information through Magna's local community office, Neighbourhood Network, located at 14988 Yonge Street in Aurora. Either drop in or call us at 905-726-3737. We'd love to hear from you!



## Beyond Abilities Centre

*Helping Families and Individuals with Special Needs*

### 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament

At

### PHEASANT RUN GOLF CLUB



18033 Warden Avenue, Sharon, ON

*(Just north of Davis Drive)*

*Pheasant Run*  
GOLF CLUB

**Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

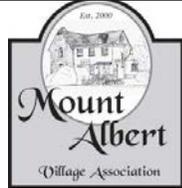
**18 Hole Modified Shotgun**

**1:30 p.m. start**

**905-478-2888**

**[www.BeyondAbilitiesCentre.ca](http://www.BeyondAbilitiesCentre.ca)**

## Mount Albert Village Association (MAVA) NEWS



The Bulletin may have taken a break in July, but the Mount Albert Village Association did not.

- Our Fall/Halloween Dance is to be held Saturday October 26th @ the Mount Albert Community Centre. Keep watching for news & details here or on the website.
- Our updated website is close to launching after many months of planning and editing. The URL remains the same but the look is different. Make sure to check it out.
- MAVA Community Yard Sale – Held on Saturday June 15th, was well received by the community. Of the households that participated, most would do it again next year. Watch for news about next year's yard sale, either here or on the website.
- Ongoing > MAVA Battery Recycling – Drop off your alkaline batteries at one of the following MAVA business locations: The Corner Decor & More, Mad Hatter's Bistro & Catering, MSVA Business Centre, the Mount Albert Public Library and The Prince Albert Pub.

The Mount Albert Village Association is open to all residents and businesses. There are 3 levels of annual membership; \$10 – perfect for the resident, \$50 & \$100 – geared towards businesses. To find out which suits your business needs, or for more details contact: [membership@mountalbert.com](mailto:membership@mountalbert.com) or drop in The Corner Décor & More and/or Mad Hatter's Bistro on Centre St. Details will also be posted on the updated website.

FYI: Local events can be added to the website's Community Calendar at least a month prior > [info@mountalbert.com](mailto:info@mountalbert.com)

See you at the next meeting; everyone is welcome.  
Wednesday, August 21st @ 7pm  
at the Mount Albert Community Centre (upstairs)  
53 Main Street.

And if we don't see you –  
Stay Happy, Stay Safe, Shop Local!

[www.mountalbert.com](http://www.mountalbert.com)

# THE BROWN MARMORATED STINK BUG

## What's All The Stink About?

According to the J. Geils Band, “Love Stinks.” It’s obvious they have not heard of the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug BMSB (*Halyomorpha halys*), or they would be singing a different song. The BMSB is native to Asia and was introduced into Pennsylvania in the United States around the late 1900s – early 2000s. From there, it spread east through the mid Atlantic states and it’s now heading south through Virginia. In North America, it has no natural predators so its numbers have been growing in leaps and bounds.



In Ontario, we have native stink bugs, and although they can be a bit of a nuisance, they are regarded as beneficial insects doing their job of keeping the ecosystem in line. They primarily overwinter in woodland settings. They reproduce in the summer once or twice and their populations are kept in check by parasitic wasps and other helpful insects. Our stink bugs, as well as the Squash Bug, Spined Soldier Bug and Western Conifer Seed Bug, all look very similar to the BMSB.

On the other hand, Brown Marmorated Stink Bugs have no useful job in our ecosystem. They reproduce one or two times a year in our cool climates (and up to 5 or 6 times in Asia!), devastate crops and love to overwinter in human homes. In fact, the experts advise that the number one place we will find them will be in our homes. Plus, they have earned the name stink bug for a reason. When crushed or disturbed, they emit a pungent smell similar to that of a skunk. Last winter in the American states affected by BMSB, homeowners were vacuuming several times a day to control the bugs. They do not lay eggs in the winter, nor are they known to bite, but they will take full advantage of ‘warm’ hospitality.

They do not favour any particular crop. Rather, they treat all fruit, vegetable and farm crops as a virtual smorgasbord. The BMSB suck liquid from the plant and leave behind saliva that causes the fruit or vegetable to deteriorate, making it unmarketable. According to the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) “Crops at risk: pome fruit, tree nuts, grapes, berry crops, asparagus, peppers, tomatoes, sweet, seed and field corn, soybeans, snap and dry beans and ornamentals”. In the US, according to the Economist, “Pennsylvania lost half of its peach population last season. Several New Jersey pepper-growers saw 75% of their crops damaged. According to the U.S. Apple Association, apple-growers in the mid Atlantic states lost \$37m. This year could be worse.”

In the spring, the adults will leave our homes and start feeding on crops and ornamentals. They will lay their eggs and about this time of year, late summer, will start to die off. The nymphs will then take over the job of crop devastation. In the U.S., many pesticides banned in their Integrated Pest Management (IPM) programs have been allowed exceptions this growing season to try and reduce the crop damage. Another option being explored is the introduction of one of their natural predators from Asia, but these studies will take time and hopefully we will find an alternative method of control.

Now, there is one thing that I haven't mentioned: the BMSB is also heading north. There were two confirmed instances of BMSB in homes in the Hamilton area last year and this number has now grown to a half dozen confirmations in that area. OMAFRA is asking for our help. They need to know where and when these bugs arrive in Ontario.

To identify the BMSB and not mistake it for one of our helpful native species, OMAFRA advises there are four key features to look for:

1. a "shield" shape with piercing mouthparts
2. White bands on dark antennae
3. Smooth edges along the pronotum or "shoulders"
4. White triangles in pattern along the abdomen.

If you think you have found a BMSB, place the insect in a leak proof container and add rubbing alcohol, or freeze to kill it. Then, please contact OMAFRA's Agricultural Information Contact Centre at 1-877-424-1300 or [ag.info.omafra@ontario.ca](mailto:ag.info.omafra@ontario.ca).

More information is available at [www.ontario.ca/stink\\_bug](http://www.ontario.ca/stink_bug).

Please be on the lookout and help OMAFRA monitor their progression. They advise "If BMSB has become established in Ontario, early detection is important to the long term success of management programmes. There is a monitoring network for this pest; however, we have a better chance of finding pockets of small populations if more people are looking. Tracking the distribution and spread is essential."

Kathleen Gorsline, Lake Simcoe South Master Gardeners  
 Lake Simcoe South Master Gardeners provide free gardening advice year-round in York Region.  
 Please contact us with your questions at [lssmastergardeners@gmail.com](mailto:lssmastergardeners@gmail.com) and visit <http://lss.mgoi.ca>



# Briggs Plumbing & Heating Ltd.

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# Are Our Children Motivated?

By Raymond Mark H.B.A., B.S.W.

As parents we usually want what is best for our children. We will do what we can to make their lives happy and secure. If necessary we will protect them from all the rocks that life will throw into the path of their journey. We have been through it all, so why should they suffer. As parents and adults we usually figure (rightly or wrongly) that we know best. Pardon the use of the phrase, “Father Knows Best”, or to be politically correct, “Mother and Father Knows Best”. Being a parent is one of the more difficult tasks we will be assigned in our life and we know that life itself can be difficult, therefore, the desire to make it as easy as possible for our children.

Wanting what is best for our children can't be wrong, or can it? In most cases it is the most desirable, however, the attempt to make the path to adulthood easy for our children can be riddled with many flaws. As a parent we suffer when our children suffer, secretly crying when they cry. The pain of all our children's bumps can be tough on us and no one likes to feel pain.

We also want our children to be motivated to action and excited about life. The American psychologist Abraham Maslow devised a six-level hierarchy of motives that, according to his theory, determine human behavior. Maslow ranks human needs as follows: (1) physiological; (2) security and safety; (3) love and feelings of belonging; (4) competence, prestige, and esteem; (5) self-fulfillment; and (6) curiosity and the need to understand. As parents we can provide the first three needs, and with the fourth need, we can help lay the foundation and support our children. The fifth and sixth needs require more action and motivation from our children on their own, again with our support and encouragement. Therefore our children need to be motivated to explore, learn and experience themselves and all other aspects of life.

If we protect our children from life's bumps and bruises we may also hinder their motivation. Our children have to feel the pain in order to truly appreciate the pleasure and the joys of life. Pain and discomfort will either motivate us to fight or flight. Flight never works because the problem remains when we fly back to reality. If we instead stand up to our problems, confront them head on, then we learn how to handle them. The next time it is easier to tackle and overcome the same dilemma. In summary, the bumps and bruises are part of life's learning process and our children must be motivated and supported to develop their skills to order to become self-fulfilled.

On the matter of our pain, hey we are big boys and girls and we must accept the fact that along with the pleasure there is always some pain. Therefore, we have to deal with our own pain, to enable us to motivate our children to better handle the joys of life and learning.

The recipe reads, start slowly, stirring gently as we allow our children to gradually deal with their problems, offer their own solutions and then made their own decisions. They will make many mistakes along the route; however this is part of the learning process. What better way to learn than on the job training with a warm, loving teacher/parent at your side? In my opinion, if children lack motivation, one of the main causes is our over-protective attitude and our well-meaning control over their lives. Don't get me wrong there are times when we certainly need to protect them as there are times when we need to stand back and let them learn for themselves. One last important note, if our children are not motivated and skilled in helping themselves then their lives will be very difficult when they leave home. That is not what we want for our children.

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Who's in? Just think of all the things you could do with that money!

---

Mount Albert figure skater, 12 year old **Ainsly Gaston** was one of 8, up and coming competitive figures skaters selected by Skate Canada-COS to be a member of the 2013 FUTURE CHAMPIONS TEAM. As a member of the team Ainsley will perform at the annual Margaret Garrison Ice show, attend training sessions with the team and receive ongoing monitoring throughout next season from Skate Canada officials. Ainsley competed in the Pre-Juvenile Woven, under 14 category this past season with outstanding results, highlighted with a bronze medal at the 2013 Skate Canada-COS Sectional Championships. Congratulations Ainsley!



SUBMITTED BY JAKE GASTON



### **East Gwillimbury Farmers' Market** **East Gwillimbury Civic Centre** **8 am to 1 pm, Saturdays**

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Stay tuned for all the details.

September 7  
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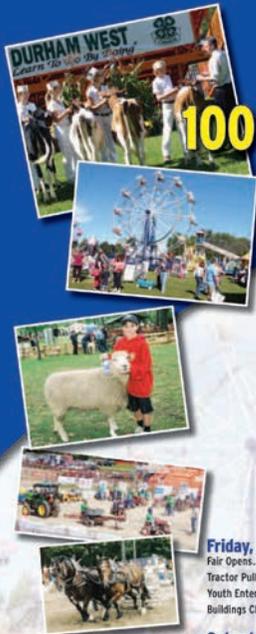
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**Friday, Saturday & Sunday  
September 6, 7, 8  
Elgin Park, Uxbridge**

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Fair Opens ..... 5:00 pm  
Tractor Pull ..... 7:00 pm  
Youth Entertainment at Bandshell ..... 7:00 pm  
Buildings Close ..... 10:00 pm

### Saturday, Sept. 7

Buildings and Midway Open ..... 10:00 am  
Barnyard Rodeo ..... 10:00 am  
Open Dairy Show ..... Noon  
Durham West 4H and Open  
& 4H Rabbit Show ..... 11:00 am  
Demolition Derby ..... 7:00 pm  
(Smoke free bleachers)  
Buildings Close ..... 10:00 pm

### Sunday, Sept. 8

Heavy Horse Show ..... 9:00 am  
Buildings and Midway Open ..... 10:00 am  
Canine Equine Challenge ..... 10:00 am  
Cruise-in Car Show, Baby Show,  
Poultry Show ..... 11:00 am  
Beef Show ..... Noon  
Horse Pull ..... 2:30 pm  
Fair Closes ..... 5:00 pm

**Evening Schedule for Midway**  
1. Kiddie Rides will close at 10:00pm  
2. Ticket booths will close at 10:30pm  
3. All rides or attractions will shutdown promptly by 11:00pm

**Conditions of Entry to The Fair**  
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2. No bicycles  
3. Wristbands must be worn  
4. No Alcohol  
5. Backpacks and bags will be subject to search

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[www.uxbridgefair.ca](http://www.uxbridgefair.ca)

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Lucas landed a back flip after 3 days of camp

# First aid advice for sunburn and heat illness

Sunburn (also called erythema) is caused by overexposure to ultraviolet radiation (UV rays). While the symptoms are usually temporary (like red skin that is painful to the touch), skin damage is cumulative throughout a person's life and can develop into serious long-term health effects, including skin cancer.

Mild sunburn results in skin irritation and redness and can be safely treated at home. Severe sunburn requires medical attention. The first signs of a sunburn may not appear for a few hours. The full effect to your skin may not appear for 24 hours or longer.

If you have been in the sun long enough to get a severe sunburn you may also have heat illness. Some symptoms of heat illness are the same as sunburn so it is important to protect yourself.

## Symptoms

Possible symptoms of sunburn include:

- red, tender skin that is warm or sensitive to the touch
- blisters that develop hours or days later
- severe reactions (also called “sun poisoning”), including fever, chills, nausea, or rash
- peeling skin on sunburned areas several days after the sunburn

Possible symptoms of heat illness include:

- dizziness or fainting
- nausea or vomiting
- headache
- rapid breathing and heartbeat
- extreme thirst (dry mouth or sticky saliva)
- decreased urination with unusually dark yellow urine
- changes of behaviour in children (like sleepiness or temper tantrums)

## Safety tips

What to do if someone gets a sunburn:

- Immediately remove the person from the sun.

- Place the person in a cool (not cold) shower or bath, or apply cool compresses several times a day. Do not wash burned skin with harsh soap.
- Avoid creams or lotions that may hold heat inside the skin or may contain numbing medication (i.e. benzocaine or lidocaine). Aloe gel can be used.
- Offer the person extra fluids for the next two to three days.
- If needed to relieve pain, give the person ibuprofen or acetaminophen, as directed. Do not give aspirin to children.
- Make certain all sunburned areas are fully covered to protect the person from further sun exposure.

Get immediate medical attention if the person has:

- sunburn that forms blisters or is extremely painful
- facial swelling
- nausea, fever or severe chills
- pale, clammy or cool skin
- rapid pulse or rapid breathing
- headache, confusion or a feeling of faintness or dizziness
- signs of dehydration (increased thirst, dry eyes and mouth, no urine output)
- signs of skin infection (increasing redness, warmth, pain, swelling, or pus)
- eyes that hurt and are sensitive to light

What to do if someone gets heat illness:

If you have any heat illness symptoms during extreme heat, move to a cool place and drink liquids right away. Water is best.

Heat stroke is a medical emergency!

Call 911 or your local emergency number immediately if you are caring for someone who has a high body temperature and is either unconscious, confused or has stopped sweating.

While waiting for help - cool the person right away:

- Move them to a cool place, if you can.
- Apply cold water to large areas of their skin or clothing.
- Fan the person as much as possible.

Source: <http://healthycanadians.gc.ca>

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**Did you know...** tennis was originally played with bare hands

**Did you know...** a bowling pin will fall at a tilt of 7.5 degrees



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## Enjoying Nature's Bounty

Vegetables and fruit give our body more than just nutrients and fibre. They also protect us from diseases. Therefore, it only stands to reason that people who eat a colourful variety of fruits and vegetables every day are less likely to get heart disease or cancer, and in turn live healthier lives.

Eating Well with Canada's Food Guide suggests the number of servings of vegetables and fruit that should be eaten daily:

Children:	2-3	4-8	9-13	14-18
Servings	4	5	6	7-8
Adults:	19-50	51+		
Servings	8-10	7		

This may sound like a lot, but it is easier to eat more vegetables and fruit than you think and it is definitely worth the effort!

**Why the hoopla?** There are over 4,000 reasons to eat fruits and veggies. They are called phytochemicals and anti-oxidants and their protective powers help prevent disease. Some of the better known 'super heroes' are isoflavones, flavonoids, lycopene and lutein. In addition to being linked to reducing the risks of heart disease and cancers (colon, stomach, breast), these powerful little fellas also aid in lowering cholesterol, blood pressure and blood sugars, have been linked to eye health, prevent DNA damage, and help your body fight infections.

**Get creative.** Fruits and vegetables come in a variety of shapes, sizes, colours and flavours and can be served raw or cooked in endless recipes. With such versatility, it's easy to include them with every meal and snack. Pick up a range of fruits and vegetables and keep it colourful. Look for choices that reflect a rainbow of colours and give your body a mix of nutrients. Try some new recipes where vegetables take centre stage.

**Start your day the right way.** Top off your cereal and yogurt with fresh fruit or build a tempting parfait by layering fruit, cereal and yogurt in a tall glass. Add berries or other fruits to muffin batters or sneak in grated carrots

or zucchini so the kids don't know! When possible, use fruit as a substitute for syrup, such as applesauce to dip french toast. Unconventional breakfast options like leftover veggie pizza, cheese melts with apple or pear slices or scrambled egg and veggie burritos can fill the bill and also take the boredom out of breakfast.

**Nosh at noon.** Stuff your sandwiches with a variety of vegetables and fruit like tomatoes, cucumber, lettuces or apple slices. Try using mashed avocado or banana as a spread for bread and add grated carrots, onions, thinly sliced mushrooms or apple to a grilled cheese sandwich. Make it a habit to have a salad every day and use a variety of greens. Add other fruits and vegetables, top with a low fat dressing or vinaigrette, and you have yourself a healthy midday meal.

**Dinner is served.** One of the easiest options to up-your-intake is to simply double-up on your veggie servings. If you normally take one spoonful of green beans, take two. Making pizza at home? Throw on extra mushrooms, onions and peppers. BBQ'ing tonight? Grill some rustic root veggie kabobs. How about tossing chopped veggies into your soups, stews, sauces and casseroles or use pureed, cooked vegetables to thicken ~ they add flavour, nutrients, and texture too.

**Take a break.** Freshly cut vegetables are a great alternative to potato or tortilla chips. Choose low-fat dressings or dips as accompaniments. How about a handful of raisins or dried cranberries as an easy snack? Single pack servings of apple sauce or fruit cups don't need refrigerating, so they make convenient, transportable snacks. Enjoy a can of vegetable cocktail instead of a pop. How about a decadent chocolate-covered strawberry instead of a candy bar? (Choose dark chocolate for the extra antioxidants ~ yum!) Keep seedless grapes in the freezer instead of popsicles or slice up an apple or pear and dip into peanut butter for a protein-rich snack.

**Old McDonald had a farm.** Whenever possible, opt to buy local, fresh, in-season produce. Ontarians live in the heart of some wonderful harvest belts. From an environmental perspective, buying local helps to



maintain sustainable communities and there is less transporting, packaging and processing involved. When you buy large quantities in-season, you can also freeze them for future use. Check out where the farmer's markets are in your neighbourhood or visit a "pick-your-own" farm where you can enjoy some outdoor activity while taking home fruits and veggies plucked fresh from the soil.

**Rub-a-dub-dub.** Wash all produce thoroughly before eating and peeling since pesticides and other chemicals are used when growing fresh produce. (Note: Canada has one of the safest food supplies in the world and pesticides and waxes used on produce sold in Canada are tested before being approved. The health benefits of eating a diet rich in vegetables and fruit far outweigh the risk of residues.) Cut up raw vegetables and fruit on clean cutting boards that have not been used to prepare raw meat, poultry or fish. Pre-cut and pre-washed bagged options can make meal time easy, however its best to still give them a good rinse before preparing.

**Au natural.** The demand for organic vegetables and fruits has been gaining popularity amongst the health conscious consumer. Although organic vegetables and fruit contain fewer pesticide residues than regular produce, don't always assume the term "organic" means food is pesticide-free. Do your research. The grocery store where you buy your produce should be able to provide information on how the product has been grown and treated.

Fruits and vegetables are a natural source of energy. Enjoy the harvests of nature's bounty.



By Kim Mortson, owner of Body Design. Kim is a certified Personal Trainer, Nutrition & Well Specialist and Older Adult Fitness Pro Trainer. Body Design offers personal training, fitness classes, nutrition and lifestyle coaching to assist individuals achieve their fitness and weight loss goals.

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## 88<sup>th</sup> MOUNT ALBERT SPORTS DAY & SPRING FAIR - 2013 -

Once again, our annual sports day & spring fair has come and gone. On behalf of the Committee I want to pass along our thanks to each and everyone of the volunteers and the participants who attended and assisted in anyway to help create an enjoyable community event.

Each year the Mount Albert Sports Day & Spring Fair weekend requires enormous effort and dedication by many wonderful and amazing individuals, companies and groups who volunteer their time and their resources to make this fundraising effort a success.

Proceeds from this event helps with providing upkeep to our community parks and hall.

Proceeds from the 2012 Sports Day weekend went to replacing the door on the outdoor bunker and the much needed repair to our Memorial Gates.

We would like to thank the many sponsors who helped make the 2013 event a financial success as well as extremely enjoyable (despite the rain) for those attending, participating and volunteering their time to this worthwhile cause.

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Parks & Recreation Department & Staff - Town of East Gwillimbury

The Committee deeply regrets if any of our sponsors have been omitted from this list and we would appreciate knowing of our omission because without you we would not be.

Last but not least, my sincere and heartfelt thanks to a great bunch of individuals, who met regularly all year, gave what time they could, did whatever was asked of them, to put this event on and they are the Sports Day Committee.

WE would like to remind and invite you to the Sports Day Committee meetings held the last Tuesday of the month beginning September 24th at 7:30 pm in the Community Hall on Main St.

Your continued support & time will help to ensure an even better 89th event on June 6, 7 & 8, 2014.

We are always looking for suggestions, new ideas and most importantly – volunteers, Please come out and join us.

*Sincere thanks to all of you.  
Cathy Morton - Chair 2013 Sports Day Committee*



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*helps neither the servant nor the served  
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-Mohandas Gandhi

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# Do You Want Top Dollar?

By Susan Crema-Martin

Selling your home can be stressful. This article shares a few ideas that can help you get the highest return on your investment. With careful planning and attention to detail, you can have great impact and amazing results.

As a professional stager, it is my job to assess a project and develop a plan that will provide you and your agent with a very marketable property. I have been developing a transformation process over the past 6 years that walks clients through a 3 step approach.

Step One: set up a consultation appointment well in advance of putting your house up for sale; working with Martin Designs to complete the “to do list” (which may include the basics such as de-cluttering, removing furniture, accessories etc.) from the property to make room for our team to come in and transform the space.

Step Two: Martin Designs can assist in hiring trades for you such as painters, plumbers, electricians and

cleaners because the details count! Your property has to look its best so it is important to make all the necessary changes as stated in our consultation before you put your home up for sale.

Step Three: staging the property by changing the flow of the furnishings to move buyers comfortably through the property, changing photos, accessories and sometimes even your furniture so you can create a space that buyers will see themselves in.

Our latest client had a townhouse that they wanted to sell quickly because they had purchased their dream home. I was brought in to coordinate and stage their property for sale. I walked them through our 3 step approach and quickly saw the transformation begin with the purchasing of new light fixtures, the removal of specified items to create more space and the hiring my “A Team” cleaner, A True European Touch to thoroughly clean the property to prepare it for staging.

Continued on page 28



# WILD WILD WEST HOEDOWN 25 YEARS

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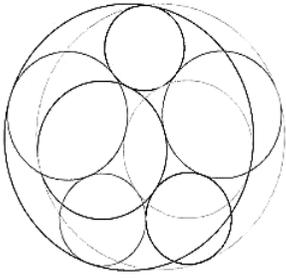
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# Circles

## Don't Wait for a Flood

By Vicki Pinkerton

This summer has been one of weather related disasters. As I headed to the airport to fly to the Yukon for a vacation, the tail end of the Toronto flood was playing havoc at Pearson. Power was out to much of the facility. Computers were down, the public address system worked only in some areas, gates were flooded and many passengers had been there all night waiting for word on cancelled flights. The lineups were unimaginable. Inconvenience was the name of the game and yet, surprisingly, there was very little grumbling. Some of the staff had done extended shifts through the night and yet smiles were still being given out freely. I could see stress as staff tried to redirect guests to gates that were not flooded without working PA's. There were inevitable mistakes and flights were delayed, but all was calm. Even the weary passengers, looking out at the torrents streaming down the windows, seemed cheerful, willing to work within the restrictions and just be happy to be out of the rain. I was there for a 6:50 a.m. flight and finally got airborne at 10:30 a.m. but all in all, it was a good experience.

My hours of waiting and watching as the staff struggled, trying to remember how things were done before computers, made me think about our response to disasters. Aside from the fear of the unknown, our behaviour seems to go up a couple of notches when we have to step forward to meet a challenge. Remember when the lights went out up and down the eastern seaboard leaving a swath of people out of power for 3 days in the heat of the summer? Remember how everything in the freezer had to be thrown out, how people with no computers, TVs or air conditioners came out of their houses and met their neighbours on the streets? Remember the stories about how the city folks looked up at the sky without light pollution could see the stars, some of them for the first time?

The world watched as Calgary was hit by a huge flood

and people helped each other in ways that haven't been experienced in years. I read that of the almost 100,000 people displaced by the rising waters in the Calgary area, only about 1000 people used the emergency shelter spaces provided. The rest were absorbed by friends, family and total strangers who took them in during their time of need. That is impressive. People are great in emergencies. Community seems to be strongest when there is a reason to work together. People seem to have unlimited resources when a crisis hits. Do we need a disaster of those proportions to come together? What about every day in our towns and cities? How can we make the places we live, places where people meet, care and look at the sky together to dream big dreams? There is one person on the cityscape in Canada who is dreaming of a renewed sense of community, maybe we can learn something from him.

On June 20th just before the extent of the Calgary flood was apparent, their mayor, Naheed Nenshi was in Toronto addressing the Canadian Club of Canada about the importance of strong cities. I like to think he meant strong communities. Just before he did his talk he spoke to CBC radio about some of the things that he was working on to get ordinary people re-engaged with the place that they live. Politicians always talk about things like that, especially around election or re-election times but Mayor Nenshi seems to have some positive ideas that are giving Calgary's citizens a structure to help them become an active part of making the city even better.

The idea is simple. The mayor has challenged each person in the city to commit to 3 actions that would help their city thrive. He said the actions can be small, doable things and his committee started a website where citizens can go to post their 'three things for Calgary.' It is an active place. People have committed to many things from serving lunches in food banks, to



picking up in parks. They have said they would spend more time visiting shut in neighbours or planting community gardens. The flood changed the nature of some of the online posts as people went out in great numbers to help during the crisis but it is the everyday commitments that I am interested in.

For too long there has been an attitude of, pay your taxes, go home and be quiet. The elected officials know what is needed and will hire people to do what needs to be done. I guess we have been used to letting the government take care of things for so long that in many cases we have forgotten we are the community, we know what we need. We often grumble amongst ourselves about things that should be done but wait for changes to happen. I am not sure it was ever really the case that governments, local, provincial or federal, were able to provide all of our needs. Today with cut backs, global austerity measures and who knows what else, it is becoming apparent that those who live in communities need to step up to the plate and take their place alongside the tireless volunteers who have always been there.

Living close to the “Big City,” we hear gloom and doom in the news regularly, cuts to everything from social services to libraries, pools and road repairs. Jobs are being lost and things in the city go undone. We tend to look around our town (at least I do) and feel safe because we live in a place where everyone knows who we are and where old fashioned values still prevail. Yet, sometimes we get complacent about where we live and we forget that we too need to work on our relationships within our neighbourhoods. I think in a small town like ours we don’t need a flood or major disaster to bring us together but we do need to be aware. So, if you were challenged to do 3 things in 2013 for East Gwillimbury, what would they be? Big or small you can be sure that they would make a difference.

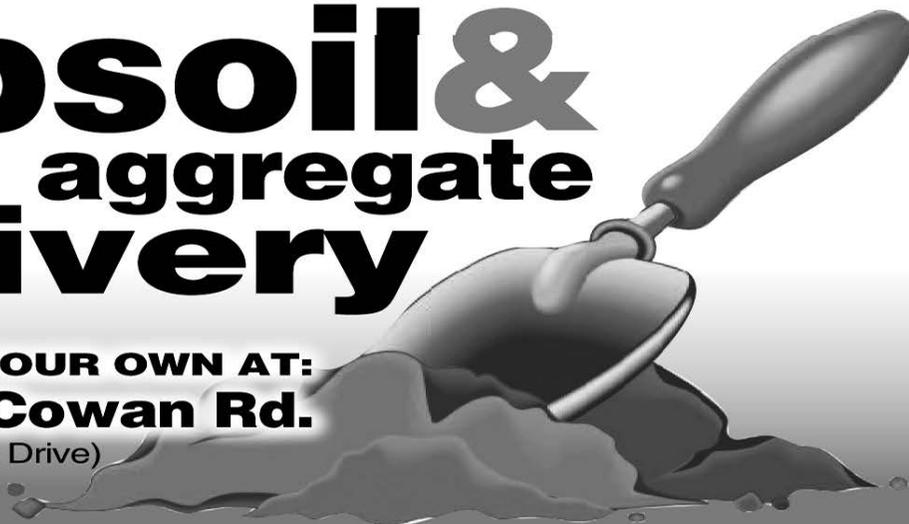
Go to <http://www.3thingsforcalgary.ca/> for more information.



*Vicki Pinkerton lives on a small farm just outside of Mount Albert when she is not driving the roads of Canada. She is a practicing life coach, a writer and adventurer who wonders about many things. [www.questacrosscanada.com](http://www.questacrosscanada.com) or [lifelinescoaching.org](http://lifelinescoaching.org)*

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**Photo on Page 24 Stats: Asking price \$549,900, SOLD PRICE - \$555,000 for 101%, only 5 days on the market**



Susan Crema-Martin is a Certified Master Canadian Staging Professional who works with clients that are either selling their home, or are looking for assistance in redesigning the space they live in. If you have a question contact [info@thebulletinmagazine.com](mailto:info@thebulletinmagazine.com)





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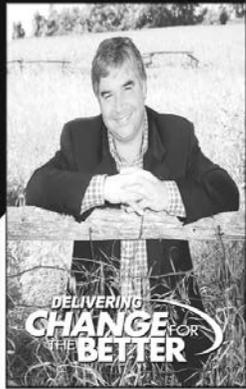
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## East Gwillimbury in Blooms Front Gardens 2013

**T**he East Gwillimbury Gardeners (aka Mount Albert Garden & Horticultural Society) thank the many gardeners who help make our town such a lovely place in which to live, especially those with front gardens that we can all enjoy by simply drinking it all in as we pass by.

Again this year, we are grateful for the Town of East Gwillimbury's and The Bulletin's support. And many thanks to this year's judges who spent many hours searching our town for the front gardens with the most curb appeal: Barb Elend, Dana Evans, Sue Fediuk, Anna Ives, Sue Nielsen

and Ellen Power. Thumbs up!

Following are the addresses of this year's winners:

Mount Albert  
5 Cleverdon Boulevard  
39 Valley Mills Road  
48 Royal Oak Road  
140 Royal Oak Road  
32 Albert Street  
3 King Street  
7 King Street  
9 King Street  
78 Shannon Road  
52 Princess Street  
17 Robert Hunter Crescent  
48 Robert Hunter Crescent  
69 Kingsgate Crescent  
144 King Street  
167 King Street  
34 Viscount Way

27 Battenberg Crescent  
42 Margaret Graham Crescent

Queensville

10 Milne Lane  
20 Milne Lane  
19805 Leslie Street  
20345 Leslie Street  
20482 Leslie Street  
20192 Leslie Street

Sharon

23 Ramsden Crescent  
6 Tate Court  
41 David Wilson Trail  
18967 Leslie Street  
30 Morton Street  
120 Jennifer Crescent  
42 Jessie Crescent  
64 Arthur Hall Drive  
19 Maplehryn Avenue  
35 Maple Way

River Drive Park  
37 Pleasant Avenue  
81 Oak Avenue

Holland Landing

5 Karissa Lane  
196 Park Avenue  
37 Kilpatrick Drive  
80 Oriole Drive  
1 Brent Crescent  
6 Brent Crescent  
54 Beckett Avenue  
21 Anchor Court  
61 Olive Street  
61 Oak Ridge Court  
74 Colony Trail  
170 Thompson Drive  
94 Thompson Drive  
31 French Crescent

submitted by Tina Forrester



## ADVERTISEMENT

# Through the Hayes

My name is John Hayes and my wife Julia and I own and operate Blackwater Golf on Highway #48. The golf course is open and we have a number of used golf carts for sale together with other miscellaneous surplus equipment.

Today I would like to talk about the village of Monivea in the county of Galway (Where? – Well it's in Ireland – across the pond). The landowners of the local peat bog are now harvesting their peat for winter. This is a centuries old tradition and is their only source of fuel for cooking and heating their homes. The gentle aroma of peat smoke hangs over the villages and adds a special taste to the world famous Irish whisky. Paints a lovely picture doesn't it? However, the Irish economy is now in tatters; the International Monetary Fund and the European Central Bank have had to do a bail out to both the banks and the Government. This is a result of high-risk investments, free spending and very questionable lending practices. As is the case in many other countries, the feckless politicians and bankers got away with the gold mine and left the people with the shaft. Nobody went to jail – Enter Stage Left, austerity, layoffs, diminishing living standards and cuts in social services (except for the bankers and politicians of course) – not quite such a pretty picture. Well, it gets worse according to the BBC electronic news....

The really big wigs in Brussels (yep, that sure is a long way from Galway) have decided to “designate” (love that word) 53 privately owned peat bogs in Ireland as “special” - This represents 2% of the total usable Irish bogs. The tall foreheads in Brussels have ascertained that burning peat in Monivea will contribute to global warming and release CO2 into the air (and here I was thinking that renewable sources such as peat and trees and grass would just recapture the CO2 – am I wrong?) The entire Irish state is now being threatened with tough financial penalties for this heinous transgression of the Brussels environmental edicts. I guess the muscles from Brussels feel that the Irish can just freeze in the dark. It doesn't seem to matter that the regulators are driving back and forth to their centrally heated homes and offices in their chauffeur driven Mercedes– Hmmm does that not affect global warming? But heck – what do I know?

How does this relate to over here? – Boy – I am glad that you asked. I recently got a request from someone who actually may have read my rants. It seems that their lawn has a grub problem and knowing that I am very environmentally concerned in a practical sense asked me what I thought about *Merit* Insecticide – which is a permitted substance for grub control..... Well if you research the internet you will find that *Merit* has contributed to the decimation of the honey bee population; has the potential to interfere with brain function; is highly toxic to aquatic invertebrates and decomposes into Hydrocyanic Acid (Cyanide). Despite this, the regulators have approved its use. My solution, which I used to use on the golf course successfully is a little different). Cut your grass as low as you can without scalping your lawn. Take some biodegradable dish washing soap and mix it 100 parts water to one part soap in a spray bottle. Vigorously rake the affected area, spray your soap mixture and water your lawn. The soap will make the grubs come up to the surface, then the birds will fly over swoop down and have an absolute feast. Over seed your lawn in about a week with a 50/50 mix of perennial rye/native fescue seed mix and voila!!!! OOPS – I am sorry – I am not meant to tell you this because I have been contacted and informed that this is a contravention of the Ontario Government Pesticide Police Rules. Evidently, soap and water when mixed together (even at the 100/1 ratio) is considered to be an unregulated pesticide, and requires that I hold a public meeting to inform my neighbours that I am carrying out this practice. Makes you smile when you think that these same regulators are quite happy to recommend both *Round Up* and *Merit*.

I guess what I am trying to say is that there is a great divide here between local reality and conditions and an almost surreal imposition of policy. General rules don't always work in individual situations – that is precisely why each case should be judged on its own merits. We are now so overregulated that each citizen is subject to over 500,000 rules and regulations from different levels of government and often they contradict each other.....

Well, I hope that at least, this may have brought a smile to your face and a thought to your mind. That's it for now. I would like to thank the kind citizen who asked the question about his lawn. Hope I have answered to his satisfaction.

Please contact me at Blackwater Golf (905) 473-5110 or [contact@blackwater-gc.ca](mailto:contact@blackwater-gc.ca) No rude emails please as I cant forward them...

# Lee Lander

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