Friday, October 25, 2024







# How's This For Halloween Clowning Around?





### **Less than half the picture:**

### When one size fits all

By Richard Bercuson

et's be clear about a few things from the outset.

The BTC has frequently printed a yellow box feature that began with requesting the highway 412 tolls be removed and more recently during the campaign to finally approve a Whitby hospital. In both instances, the town won though how much a role the box played is arguable. It certainly didn't hurt. Nor, in the case of the tolls removal, did a looming election.

Of late, we've taken to offering Premier Ford free coffee exchange for removing the 407 tolls because of the Winchester Road construction and surrounding jaw-clenching snarls. He has not responded. Perhaps we need to sweeten the deal?

Which is to say that he and I

have no relationship whatsoever. It's not negative. It's just nonexistent.

And yet, with no communication between us, my Oct. 11 column "Le Plateau de Brooklin" about painting bike lanes on Brooklin streets must have struck a chord.

A friend and former government employee with friends in secretive places has unearthed a transcript of an office discussion. He has wiki-leaked it to me and it needs to be shared. I have edited out the eye rolls, head shakes and derisive snorts.

"Mister Premier, a guy in Brooklin..."

"Where?"

"Brooklin..."

"New York?"

"No, sir. Whitby. Where the announce it straight away." hospital will be."

"Not that woman again."

"No sir. A guy writes for the Brooklin newspaper."

"It has a newspaper?"

"Yes sir. The yellow boxes paper."

"Oh. That thing."

"Correct sir. He just wrote a piece about wanting bike lanes painted on Brooklin streets. Like in Montreal."

"Who cares about Montreal? They don't even have a power play. I mean, come on."

"Right sir. But we can't allow that."

"No kidding. Imagine that team with a good PP."

"Sir, I mean such suggestions about painting bike lanes."

"Correct on that, too. We can't." Some silence. "Tell me why we can't allow that."

"Because."

"Agreed. Good point. We should make a law prohibiting new bike lanes anywhere in the province. Write it up and we'll

"Good decision sir. Does that apply to small towns or subdivisions, too?"

"Both. All."

"Do you think, sir, there should be exceptions for subdivisons or towns with bedroom communities. Brooklin is like that."

"You've been there?"

"Yes sir. I drove up highway 12 through its downtown once on my way to see an uncle in Orillia."

"What's it like?"

"Orillia's okay..."

"No. Brooklin."

"I only saw the downtown road itself, sir. 18-wheelers blocked my view of the pubs and shops. Loud, too."

"Still, this needs to be a one law for all. We just can't have some little community trying to be progressive."

"Of course not, sir."

"I wonder though about that Brooklin downtown issue."

"Sir?"

"A tunnel would fix it."

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### How much municipal spending to provincial services?

By Elizabeth Roy

This fall, I have the privilege of speaking with Whitby residents about the Town's 2025 Budget at a series of "Talk Budget with Mayor Roy" sessions in the community.

Not surprisingly, one of the things I'm hearing most is that our residents are struggling with the difficult economy and are concerned about property taxes.

I share those concerns.

Municipal budgets are getting more and more challenging, and this year is no exception.

Our residents are often not aware that the property tax increases we're seeing across Ontario are partly the result of the province offloading costs to municipal governments in the 1990s.

Municipalities are increasingly being asked to deliver and pay for services that are the responsibility of the province including public health, social services, and childcare.

Nearly a third of municipal spending now goes to services that are the province's jurisdiction, resulting in a funding gap of \$4 billion annually across Ontario.

I'm encouraged by the fact reflect an additional \$28 billion

that the province announced a "new deal" for Toronto in 2023, agreeing to take over the cost of the Gardiner E x p r e s s w a y and Don Valley Parkway, to help ease Toronto's financial pressures.

We need the same kind of support for other municipalities.

That's why Ontario Big City Mayors (OBCM) and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) have been sounding the alarm, calling for a provincial-municipal fiscal review.

The last significant review of the provincial-municipal fiscal framework was more than 15 years ago.

Property taxes in Ontario continue to be among the highest in the country, but provincial program spending is the lowest in Canada at \$11,794 per capita.

According to AMO, if Ontario's program spending was equal to the average expenditures of the other provinces and territories, the Ontario budget would reflect an additional \$28 billion

in expenditures annually.

While the province benefits from income and sales

benefits from income and sales taxes that grow with the economy -- and has a surplus as a result -- municipalities are largely dependent on property taxes, which do not grow with the economy.

Municipal revenues are not keeping pace with inflation, economic growth, or the rapidly increasing demand for services.

At the same time, municipalities are facing unprecedented challenges related to rapid population growth, climate change, and a crisis of increasing homelessness, addictions, and mental health issues.

The bottom line? The current system is failing us, placing an unfair burden on property taxpayers.

In Whitby, we're working to make our budget more cost-effective.

For example, 2025 is our first multi-year budget, which better positions the municipality to

continue implementing action items in Whitby's Community Strategic Plan, focus on long-term goals, anticipate future needs, and provide transparency to residents.

The 2025 Budget will still be a tough one for Whitby Council to navigate – and so will every budget after it until we get a new provincial-municipal fiscal framework.

My last "Talk Budget with Mayor Roy" event for 2024 is coming up Nov. 6 from 7 to 8 p.m. in Council Chambers at Whitby Town Hall, 575 Rossland Rd. E.

I hope you'll join me to share your thoughts and questions on Whitby's 2025 Budget.

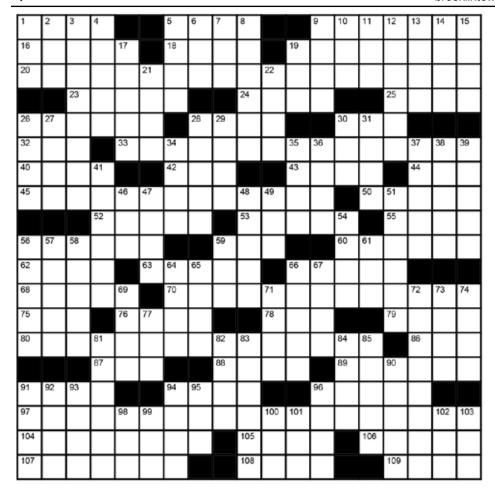
Elizabeth Roy is mayor of the Town of Whitby

Talk Budget with Mayor Roy
The Talk Budget with the mayor
series continues with the
following dates and times:

Oct. 24 from 1 to 2 p.m. at the Central Library, 405 Dundas St. W.

Nov. 6 from 7 to 8 p.m. at Whitby Town Hall, 575 Rossland Rd. E





### **What You Need To Know** This Week In Whitby



### Happy Halloween, Whitby!

As Halloween approaches, it's important to drive safely on the big night. Stay vigilant and watch out for little ghosts and goblins. Let's ensure Halloween is a safe and enjoyable night for everyone. When you are done with your jack-o-lanterns and fall displays, pumpkins can be disposed of in your regular leaf and yard waste on the same day as your garbage collection. Be sure to have your waste at the curb by 7 a.m. for pick-up. whitby.ca/Waste

### **Winter News Alerts**

Be prepared for winter weather before the first snowfall. Sign up to receive news alerts on the Town's snow clearing efforts directly to your inbox at whitby.ca/Subscribe



### No Overnight Parking Starting Nov. 1

A reminder that overnight on-street parking is not permitted on roads from November 1 to April 15. This annual restriction is in place so snow plow operators can clear away ice and snow quickly when there is less traffic and impact on drivers. Thank you for your cooperation. whitby.ca/Snow



### **Zoning For the Future**

The Town is working to finalize a new Comprehensive Zoning By-law to manage land uses and future development. A draft Zoning By-law has been prepared and we want to hear from you. Attend a Community Open House to view the draft By-law and share your feedback.

- November 13: Whitby Council Chambers (575 Rossland Road E) from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- November 18: Brooklin Community Centre and Library (8 Vipond Road) from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

For more information, visit connectwhitby.ca/InTheZone.



### **Brooklin Bafflers:** by Liz Lowe

#### **Across**

- Away from port 1
- Applies lightly 5
- 9 They sit on saucers
- 16 Like a depth finder
- 18 Four Corners state
- 19 Sweetened red wine and orange or lemon juice with
- 20 A sonnet consisting three
- quatrains 23 Donnybrook

soda water

- Use acid 24
- 25 Acts as the interlocutor
- 26 An attacker who pelts the victim with rocks (especially with intent to kill)
- Like logs 28
- 30 Chain letters?
- 32 Ancient cross
- 33 An area in the western Atlantic Ocean where many ships and planes are supposed to have been mysteriously lost
- 40 Gumbo thickener
- 42 Ring bearer, maybe 43 Error message?
- On, as a lamp 44
- 45 An area in northwestern Africa with rich phosphate deposits
- 50 Was considered to be a universal medication or universal solvent, and was sought for in alchemy
- 52 Gospel
- 53 Biting
- 55 Shrek, e.g.
- 56 Attraction
- 59 Knack
- 60 An accounting journal
- 62 Horse color
- 63 Lifted, so to speak
- 66 Hindu loincloth
- 68 Rajah's wife
- 70 Beyond doubt or reproach
- 75 Wood sorrel cultivated for its edible tubers
- 76 Hokkaido people
- 78 Black gold
- Blockhead 79
- 80 A tour by a candidate as part of a political campaign
- 86 Air hero
- 87 Inquire
- Comply with 88
- Cereal fruit 89
- 91 Furtive summons
- 94 Trainee
- 96 To feed or pasture (livestock) for a fee
- The pressure within the atmosphere of Earth
- 104 Persons who carry a message
- 105 Make content
- 106 Noted blind mathematician
- 107 Corrode
- 108 (Archaic or literary) it was
- 109 Leisure

### Down

- 1 Beast of burden
- 2 The syllable naming the fifth (dominant) note of any musical scale
- 3 Causes to be filled with a feeling of love for (third person present)
- American Pulitzer Prizewinning poet, short story writer, novelist, and critic. 1889 - 1973
- 5 Trick
- 6 Ended a fast

- Ovine utterance
- 8 Sharp
- 9 (maths) hyperbolic tangent
- 10 Dash widths
- 11 Back then
- 12 An ancient country in southwestern Asia on the east coast of the Mediterranean Sea
- 13 Cemetery sights
- Look quickly, typically in a furtive manner.
- Adjusts, as a clock 15
- Star 17
- Amniotic \_\_\_\_ 19
- 21 Arid
  - 11,000-foot Italian peak
- 22 Put in the hold
- **Appropriate**
- 27 28 Big hit
- **Ambience** 29
- 30 Quick swim
- 31 Astronaut's insignia
- 34 Landlord's due
- Move quickly and violently 35
- Crowd noise
- Scandinavian punch made of claret and aquavit
- 38 Petrol unit
- 39 Early anesthetic
- Adjust 41
- 46 Be mistaken
- Regrets 47
- 48 Sheik's bevy Be in a cast 49
- A belt-shaped region in the heavens; divided into 12 constellations or signs
- Alliance 54
- 56 A fin stabilized projectile launched from a bow.
- Slender freshwater fishes 57 easily kept in aquariums
- Hawaiian island
- "Aladdin" prince
- Biblical verb suffix 61
- 64 Harmonize
- 65 Blame Mars or Mercury
- brace (device used to immobilize the head and neck)
- Diner sign 69
- Bishop of Rome
- Early stage of an embryo
- Centers of activity
- Garden with a snake 74 77 Breed
- Japanese Buddhist term for
- awakening Unit of pressure
- A musician who plays the oboe
- Craving
- Poker ploy 85
- An important topic or problem for debate or discussion.
- 91 Horse's motion
- Ancient colonnade 92
- An offensive or indecent word or phrase
- Nonstandard spelling of through.
- Concurrence 95
- Mars, to the Greeks
- Transgression
- Stroke or caress gently 99
- 100 Crow's call
- 101 A formal organization composed of parents, teachers and staff
- 102 Hi- graphics
- 103 Preposition: (literary Archaic) before (in time).

### Brooklin TOWN CRIER....

### HALLOWEEN COLOURING CONTEST



Enter to win a prize by October 29. Drop off to 35 Dopp Cres, Brooklin Colouring Contest is sponsored by:



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### **The Doctor Who Escaped From The Holocaust**





five was years old when his family fled from Lorsch, a small village in Nazi Germany,

In the fall of 1933, his father, Leopold (Leo), arrested was and taken from their family farm to Osthofen, one earliest Nazi of the

concentration camps. Although he was released on February 24, 1934, the family's life was forever changed. This was the beginning of a long journey of suffering and loss for Otto, his mother Carola, his father and his brothers Ernst, Berthold, Heinz, and Fritz.

In September, 1935, the Nazis enacted the Nuremberg Laws, which stripped legal rights from anyone with one Jewish parent, making them non-citizens Germany and removing all protections for Jews. On November 9, during what became known as Kristallnacht, battalions of SA and SS troops, along with violent mobs of local police, civilians, and members of the Hitler Youth, attacked Jewish businesses and institutions across Germany, Austria, and Nazi-



Family photo: Otto is front right

occupied Czechoslovakia.

#### **Buchenwald**

The next day, Leopold Kahn and other Jewish men were arrested and sent to Buchenwald concentration camp where he was imprisoned for a month. There, he was forced sign documents agreeing to emigrate as a condition of release.

Compelled to leave Germany, the Kahn family abandoned their farm and extended family, fully aware their loved ones faced almost certain death.

Otto's mother's cousin, whom the brothers referred to as Uncle Ralph Layton, was a highly respected international stockbroker and head of the London Stock Exchange. He was heavily involved in efforts to help Jews escape from Germany and was mainly responsible for assisting the Kahns in emigrating. Their journey took them by train and boat, from Germany to Holland, then to England and finally to Canada.

### Safe and free

In his 2019 book Beating the Odds, Otto wrote, "I remember my mother's voice, a little shaky

from her tears but strong and sure. We are alive and free,' she said. We are together. We are safe. We are free.' "

The Kahn family's first home was on a Mt. Zion farm, two miles north of Kinsale, where they lived from 1939 to 1950. The Canadian Jewish

Congress set them up with a real estate agent who helped them find a farm that was within their budget. The one in Mount Zion had been abandoned and was in terrible shape so they were able to buy it with the \$8,000 Ralph Layton loaned them. The 122-acre farm primarily raised livestock, including cattle, pigs, chickens, and geese. The farmhouse was in poor condition when they arrived, so the family's first priority was to make it livable.

Initially, neighbouring farmers were wary of them because they were German Jews and news of the concentration camps had not yet reached Canada. Otto and his brothers Bert, Fred, and Henry, whose names were anglicized from German to avoid being ostracized, attended the oneroom schoolhouse at Mount Zion. Older brother Ernie went to Brooklin High School which was at the corner of Winchester and Baldwin where Shoppers Drug Mart stands today.

### Large farm

In the spring of 1950, the family moved to a 110-acre dairy farm at 145 Winchester Road West, which they purchased from Leslie and Mabel Hall. That parcel of land just behind Longo's is now being developed for housing and retail. The Halls' son-in-law, Fred Young ran a plumbing business in Brooklin and was hired to install indoor plumbing and build a bathroom.

Over time, Henry, Bert, and Ernie and their father Leo shifted the farm's focus to cattle trading. They also invested in a trucking company to transport cattle and horses. Meanwhile, as Otto completed high school, Fred studied to become a surgeon. Otto later attended McMaster University earned a Bachelor of Science in biology. After graduating in 1957, he enrolled at the University of Toronto to study medicine.

During his first year of medical school, Otto interned part-time at

Whitby Psychiatric State Hospital in the mornings and worked afternoons at General Motors in Oshawa.

### **Banting Institute**

In his second year, he was hired as a summer research student at the Banting Institute in Alliston, founded by Sir Frederick Banting, the discoverer of insulin. His third and fourth years were focused on clinical rotations at various Toronto hospitals. He graduated from medical school in 1961 and worked at hospitals in New York, Boston, and Hamilton, specializing in cardiology.

In 1964, Otto applied for a fellowship to study pacemaker technology, then in its infancy, at U of T. His research on mercury zinc batteries for internal pacemakers led to the publication of his groundbreaking paper on "runaway pacemakers" in the Canadian Medical Journal in 1965.





That same year, he applied for American citizenship to pursue a cardiology fellowship at Harvard. His expertise in pacemaker implantation eventually allowed him to pass the National Board of Medical Examiners exam, qualifying him to practice in the USA. In 1967, he moved to Orange County, California, where he joined his brother Fred's surgical practice.

### Studied cardiology

Though his childhood was shaped by the horrors of Nazi Germany and Kristallnacht, he proved to be resilient, persevering to become a renowned cardiologist. His groundbreaking work in pacemaker technology saved countless lives.

Dr. Otto Kahn became a father at age 50, has two children and still lives in California. He and his family transformed their personal tragedy as Holocaust survivors into a legacy of healing, making a lasting impact on both the world of medicine and the lives of those he touched.



## Support Your Local Business

NO BETTER TIME THAN NOW TO SUPPORT OUR LOCAL ECONOMY

### **GSM Medspa**

Pamela Lazakis, RN, CEO, and founder of GSM Medical Aesthetics, began her distinguished nursing career in 1993 as a Neurosurgical Nurse at the University Health Network. Working alongside renowned neurologist Dr. Frank Silver, Pamela was instrumental in the development of CODE Stroke, a groundbreaking protocol that has since become the global gold standard in stroke care. She contributed to multiple peer-reviewed publications on stroke management and presented her research at the 28th International Stroke Conference in Phoenix, Arizona.

Pamela's passion for medical aesthetics developed early in her career, where she worked part-time in the field while assisting in plastic surgery and microsurgery with Dr. Dimitrios Anastakis at the University Health Network's Hand Program. Her work played a key role in the success of the first-of-its-kind Hand Program in Canada, enhancing both pre- and post-surgical care for patients.

With over 31 years of nursing experience and 15 years dedicated to medical aesthetics, Pamela recognized as an expert in injectables, laser treatments, and comprehensive aesthetic She continuously hones her skills through international training with leading injectors such as Dr. Swift, Dr. Harris, Dr. Subbio, and Dr. Mauricio Demaio. As the lead practitioner at GSM

MedSpa, which she established in 2010, Pamela focuses on providing cuttingedge, science-based treatments with a strong emphasis on patient-centered care, research and development.

Pamela also serves as a PACE Clinical Trainer at Prollenium Medical Technologies,





where she provides hands-on training in dermal fillers and aesthetics. Her expertise and leadership in the field are well recognized, not only for her clinical skills but also for her strategic vision in fostering high-performance teams and mentoring

fellow practitioners. She understands the critical role of continuing education for healthcare professionals in transforming patient care and enhancing the aesthetics industry.

Pamela's dedication to learning is evident in her mentorships with top medical experts and her participation in advanced cadaver labs led by Dr. De Lorenzi and Dr. Sebastian Cotofana. Through

her leadership at GSM MedSpa, Pamela has brought world-class aesthetic care to Durham Region, operating the clinic in Brooklin for over a decade.

GSM MedSpa, located at 109-17 Baldwin Street North in Brooklin, is a state-of-theart clinic offering the highest standards

of service and the latest technology in aesthetics. Along with her team of MDs and nurses, Pamela provides a wide range of treatments, including injectables, medicalgrade skincare products, laser therapies, Lumecca, Morpheus 8, microneedling, chemical peels, medically supervised weight management, PRP/PRF, vitamin drips, and rapid access dermatology.













### **Brooklin Family Matters:** by Leanne Brown



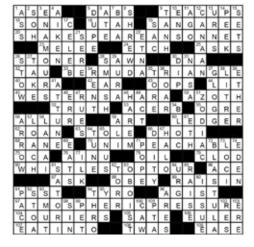
### **How Parenting Styles Differ**

I walk into the house and, before my bag hits the floor, my husband

and daughter engage me in their argument over a juice box that was left on the kitchen counter all day.

My reaction? If it's been cleaned up, then the issue is resolved. I know my daughter had rushed out this morning with the juice box a likely casualty of her haste.

However, my husband has launched into a lecture on responsibility as our daughter huffs and rolls her eyes. I ask her why this happened and what could have prevented it. She offers to



get up a little earlier.

My husband comes from a family where the parent was more of a buddy than a parent which made the other parent try to balance that with the some sense of discipline. I was brought up in an environment that was one part authoritarian and one part uninvolved. I was pretty much left to fend for myself by the age of 10. That was until I pushed boundaries or stepped out of line and the hammer came down.

As a result, the different parenting styles we experienced influence our current choices.

A parenting style has two main parts. One is the amount of control a parent attempts to have over the child. The other is the amount of warmth and affection a parent shows.

When parenting our teen, my husband and I teeter on a fine line between authoritative and slightly permissive. He's loving and affectionate until a rule is broken or ignored. Then he gets really upset. As a counselor and journalist, I try to understand both sides of every situation. In the case of the juice box, I had decided that as long as it was taken care of later, I could live with the indiscretion as long as she learned from it.

Parenting styles usually have four categories: authoritarian, authoritative, permissive and uninvolved. Authoritative parenting is considered the most effective style as it blends respect for the child with attention to social norms. Here, parents are relatively strict and enforce the rules while also displaying affection for their kids. They are more likely to discuss why the child acts a certain way and care about a child's emotions. Authoritarian parents are strict and exert high levels of control over their kids.

They may show little warmth.

Permissive parents show plenty of love and affection but enforce few boundaries. This may increase the risk of children who are not self-motivated to struggle in school.

Uninvolved parents don't enforce clear rules and may display little or no interest child. the in An uninvolved parent might not notice a problem

or be somewhere else when bad behavior occurs.

In our house, we try to present a united front and look for how our styles complement each other. Together we can come up with solutions that balance discipline with affection that all of us can agree on.

Do we always get it right? Definitely not. We're working on it. I think I spy an open juice box in the fridge. It's a compromise.

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### **BUYERS RETURNING TO THE MARKET**

Buoyed by more affordable market conditions brought about by interest rate cuts and lower home prices, home buyers continue to return to the real estate market. And with the sales expected to return to levels from a couple of years ago and prices to increase - albeit modestly - in the spring, The King Home Team: Royal Heritage Realty believes the next few months present a unique opportunity to get into the market. Following the Bank of Canada's third interest rate cut of the year last month, national home sales rose 1.9 per cent from August and were up 6.9 per cent on an annual basis, the Canadian Real Estate Association (CREA) reports.

Home sales last month reached the highest level since July 2023, it notes. Numbers here in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) are even more encouraging for sellers, with GTA realtors reporting nearly 5,000 home sales through the Toronto Regional Real Estate Board (TRREB) MLS System in September.

That's up 8.5 per cent compared to the roughly 4,600 sales reported a year earlier. New listings, meanwhile, reached nearly 18,100 – up 10.5 per cent year-over-year, TRREB reports. That offers a burst of supply for buyers to choose from.

"As buyers take advantage of changes to mortgage lending guidelines and borrowing costs trend lower, home sales will steadily increase in relation to population growth," TRREB President Jennifer Pearce tells us. "With every rate cut, a growing number of GTA households will afford a long-term investment in home ownership, including first

CREA is forecasting national home sales will climb 6.6 per cent in 2025 - even higher than its July prediction of a  $6.2\ per\ cent$  increase. "The revised prediction comes in response to the Bank of Canada's shift towards a more condensed rate cut timeline that will see the return to a neutral rate by sometime next spring or summer, as opposed to the multi-year path anticipated back in July," a CREA report explains.

In June, July and September, the Bank of Canada cut its key interest rate by 0.25 percentage points each time, bringing the key rate from five per cent to 4.25 per cent. Economists now forecast a 0.5 per cent drop could occur with the rate announcement later this month.

Ontario home sales are expected to jump by almost 10 per cent in 2025 due to pent-up demand from buyers waiting for more interest rate cuts, potentially leading to "much stronger" momentum beginning next spring or summer, CREA predicts. Sales are expected to return to levels from a couple of years ago and prices are expected to grow 2.4 per cent, it adds.

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In its October report, Central Lakes Association of Realtors President Vicki Sweeney agrees this is an "opportune" time for new homebuyers to enter the market. Not only are interest rates the lowest since December 2022, the average selling price dropped in many areas within its jurisdiction, including Durham Region. In September 2024, Durham reported an average price of \$894,499, which was a decrease from the previous month's price of \$907,977 and a decrease from September 2023, when the average house sold

Please contact The King Home Team today if you're thinking about buying and/or selling. Visit our website at www.kinghometeam.com for more helpful information about the market. Be sure to check out last month's blog about the federal government's announcement, "the boldest mortgage reforms in decades" – reforms designed to make mortgage payments and thus homeownership more affordable.

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