Friday, April 19, 2024











Greyson Runions, Moksh Siruvani, Alexander Camara, Umar Ghafoor. See article on page 5.









#### **Less than half the picture:** The War of the Words

By Richard Bercuson

The first salvo: Premier Ford accused Mayor Liz of bullying him. "I'm not going to be bullied by that mayor out there..."

That mayor. Out there.

Such eloquence. His pique was over our Mayor enticing residents to sign in to the online hospital letter campaign by offering, as he masterfully articulated, "everything under the kitchen sink." Signees' emails went straight to his office. In his world, that's bullying.

The second salvo: "To the residents of Durham," Ford said, "we're showing them a tremendous amount of love. They'll be getting a hospital, and we'll choose the site."

Tremendous love. (More erudition)

We'll choose the site. (Really?)

Over two years ago, Whit-

by had been chosen as the locale, not by some partisan government cabal but by Lakeridge Health itself. Ford even announced in February Whitby would get its hospital. And where was he when he made the proclamation? The Brooklin Tim Hortons.

Last July 23, the Toronto Star's Martin Regg Cohn wrote about the Premiers' conference in Winnipeg. The headline was, "Doug Ford can be a bully or a bestie, depending on what's in it for him." The piece pointed out who Ford was chumming with or not and why.

The third salvo: Mayor Liz replied, "I'm very surprised and taken aback," the diplomatic equivalent of "Say, what!?" Additional descriptives may be applied.

Full disclosure, which pains me and highlights a weakness: I have shattered any semblance

of objectivity on the subject of the hospital by signing in to the mayor's campaign. She did not show up at my door armed with a nine-iron to threaten me. I've not been bribed nor corrupted any more than my extravagant lifestyle normally affords.

Mayor Liz has been cordial every time I've met her. Mind you, since I'm the resident media mogul, she realizes she needs to tread carefully around me. Such is the power of the printed word.

I examined the list of prizes and I've not stopped tingling at the fantasy. Or was it the stone I stepped on? Their total value is \$1,578.72 which, she announced, has been paid for in kind. Let's face it. None of the prizes will make one's head spin. If all of that is a bribe,

it's a darned chintzy one. She and I will have words one day about chintzy. I've never won anything and I worked out the odds which were a darn sight better than the Blue Jays 50/50 contest. What's more, it didn't cost me anything.

But then I considered the Premier's mindset when he called her a bully. Is it possible he misspoke? Resorted to a 25cent word when a two dollar one escaped him? Realized he was ineligible for any of the prizes? And what of our MPP Lorne Coe? Shhh...hear that silence?

Nah. He just huffed and puffed, figuring Mayor Liz would cower and slink away. Except she didn't and won't. Nor will Whitby. I guess that makes us all bullies.

Brooklin's Community Newspaper

Proud to be a Brooklinite

Since 2000. Published 24 times per year.

Editor, Richard Bercuson

613-769-8629 • editorofbtc@gmail.com • Circulation 8000 • Delivery via Canada Post Locally owned and operated. A publication of Appletree Graphic Design Inc.

We accept advertising in good faith but do not endorse advertisers nor advertisements. All editorial submissions are subject to editing.

For advertising information, contact: Email: mulcahy42@rogers.com

Next Issue: Friday, May 3, 2024

Deadline: Friday, April 26, 2024

#### **Prepare yourself for a long retirement** by Brian Evans, Financial Advisor



We all want to live long lives. We all expect to live long lives. But are we financially prepared for this longevity?

Before we get to the issue of preparation, let's look at a couple of interesting findings from a 2022 survey by Age Wave and **Edward Jones:** 

- 1. 50 percent of the Canadian retirees surveyed said they would like to live to 100 years old.
- 2. They indicated that the ideal length of retirement is nearly three decades, 27 years.

Of course, none of us can see into the future and know how long we'll be around. But with advances in medical care and a greater awareness of healthy lifestyles, these aspirations have a real basis in reality.

However, if you're going to enjoy a longer lifespan, and the extra years with your loved ones, you need to ensure your finances are also in good shape. How can you make this happen?

Here are some basic steps to follow:

 Save and invest early and often. This may be the oldest piece of financial advice, but it's still valid. The earlier you start saving and investing for your retirement, the greater your potential accumulation. Consider this: If you began saving just \$5,000 per year at age 25, and earned a hypothetical 6.5% annual rate of return, and didn't take any early withdrawals, you'd end up with \$935,000 by the time you reached 65. But if you waited until 35 to start saving and investing, and you earned the same hypothetical 6.5% return – again with no early withdrawals - you'd only end up with \$460,000. And if you didn't start saving until 45, you'd end up with just over \$200,000, again given the same hypothetical 6.5% return.

Be mindful of debt. You may not want to be burdened with certain debts when you enter retirement. So, while you're still working, try to reduce unwanted debts, particularly those that don't offer the financial benefits of tax-deductible interest payments. The lower your debt load, the more you can save and invest for the future.

 Keep reviewing your progress. It's important to monitor the progress you need to make toward achieving your goal of a comfortable retirement. Over the short term, your investment balances may fluctuate, especially in volatile financial markets such as we've seen in the early part of 2022. But you'll get a clearer picture of your situation if you look at long-term results. For example, have your accounts grown over the past 10 years as much as you had planned? And going forward, do you think you're in good shape, or will you need to make some changes to your investment strategy? Keep in mind

that, unused contribution room in your Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP) and Tax-Free Savings Account (TFSA) from previous years can be carried forward to future years. You may also want to adjust your investment mix as you near retirement to potentially lower your risk exposure.

Hopefully, you will enjoy many years of a healthy, happy retirement. And you can help support this vision by carefully considering your financial moves and making the ones that are right

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Ad-

#### Edward **Jones**

MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING 20 Broadleaf Avenue. Unit B108. Whitby Office: 905-620-1439 Cell: 905-431-1898

brian.r.evans@edwardjones.com www.edwardjones.ca



## What You Need To Know This Week In Whitby

# CONNECT WHITBY

Subscribe to stay informed and provide input on the latest Town of Whitby projects and initiatives. Scan the QR code or visit connectwhitby.ca



#### Thinking Of Adding An Accessory Apartment?

Putting in a basement apartment or secondary suite? The Town now offers incentives to help lower the cost and support these additional housing units in the community through its Housing Accelerator Funding. Learn more at whitby.ca/AccessoryApartments



#### 2024 Interim Tax Billing

The second installment of the Interim Tax Billing for 2024 is due on April 23. You have the option to sign up for e-billing for property taxes and receive regular tax bills via email. You can also request property tax statements online. For inquiries regarding tax payments, contact the Tax Department at 905-430-4304, tax@whitby.ca, or visit whitby.ca/Tax



#### What Will Whitby's Official Tree Be?

Join us April 20 at Whitby Civic Park (575 Rossland Rd. E.) at 11:30 a.m. for the announcement and planting of the Town's very first official tree. Following the ceremony, LEAF will host a tree tour of Whitby Civic Park. Later, from 1 to 3 p.m. help plant some trees. Register at whitby.ca/Sustainability



#### **Become A Crossing Guard**

We are hiring crossing guards to keep our kids safe. Enjoy flexible shifts, interacting with the community and great exercise. If you're a positive, courteous leader who wants to make a difference in our community, apply today at whitby.ca/Jobs



P: 905-430-4300 E: info@whitby.ca whitby.ca



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



## Dealing with gossip

Nobody likes to be the subject of gossip. It's mean, hurtful, at not necessary. Then

and just not necessary. Then why does it happen so easily among teens?

A school peer attempted to create a fight between my kid and another girl. However, neither had a desire to be the entertainment of others and instead had a private conversation. When others asked what went down, my daughter said they're cool. Nobody needed to know what words were exchanged, just that it was resolved.

Gossip helps teens make sense of new information and allows them to feel "in-the-know" as they build bonds with others. However, as it's typically born out of jealousy or as a means of revenge, it can come at the cost of losing trust or hurting others. While it may seem to be inclusive, it's often destroying relationships.

When gossip strikes, there are four ways to deal with it.

Steer clear - Even when teens want to be good friends, they can slip up and share private information, making someone the center of negative attention. Be clear with them what can happen when they spread rumors. Explain that they can lose friends and their reputation as gossip can make it difficult to make new ones. A story is not theirs to tell. Your teen has be careful about who they share things with. If they need someone to talk to, they have other confidential options such as parents, siblings, school staff, counselors, or close friends they trust.

Stop it! - If your teen has been the victim of gossip, or has seen it happen to a friend, they know how harmful it can be. It's up to them to become part of the solution. When someone asks them not to share information with others, they have the opportunity to decide what they are comfortable with.

They can choose to move on instead of seeking revenge. Explain to your teen that taking a stance on gossip can show peers that they're trustworthy and kind. In fact, when they stop rumors in their tracks, other will notice and be more willing to trust them.

Move on - Encourage your teen not dwell on gossip or rumors spread about them. To get closure, teens can have an open and honest conversation about what happened with the person who spread it. If unknown, teens can work with school staff to find a solution, ensuring the truth to their friends.

Let it die - As quickly as gossip spreads, it just as quickly is forgotten when the next story comes along. Retaliation prolongs its lifespan. The best thing to do is just move on and let it die out.

When I checked with my daughter on how things were going with her gossip situation, she confirmed it was over. She praised the girl who had been the victim alongside her.

"She's a really good basketball player," she said. "I told her go for Varsity next year."

# ASHBURN COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Announcing Burns Church Ashburn Children's Choir led by David Linderman

Children aged 5-12 Thursday's from 6:30-7:15 p.m. \$120 per quarter (12 weeks) 765 Myrtle Road W. Ashburn, ON

Contact Burns Church or David Linderman for more info office@burnschurch.org - 905-655-8509 djlinderman@gmail.com - 289-385-1580 I told her that sounded positive and asked if they might try out for the team together.

She shrugged. "Maybe. That's next year though. Right now, I have hockey tryouts to deal with."

Yes. We're moving onward.

#### **New Robotics Team Makes Its Mark**

A local community robotics club, Payload 9621, comprised of students from Brooklin and Sinclair High Schools, has begin to make its mark. This brand new team of grade 9 to 12 students finished 50th out of 140 teams in Ontario at a recent province-wide competition.

So impressive was their debut after just a few months that another team gave the group its BOOST Award that included a gift certificate to Studica which supples robotics parts and supplies.

It all began with a Facebook post by Brooklin's Suzanne

Diamond who wanted to found a community robotics club to fuel her son's passion for the subject. With Sinclair discontinuing its own robotics club, she and her son gathered seven like-minded students from the two schools. They spent hours in basements and garages building and coding their robot Harold.

#### **Strong Result**

They entered a FIRST RO-BOTICS event in Hamilton some months back, cutely named the STEMley Cup. (STEM in the school system stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics). That first event featured of a three-team collaborative alliance. They placed third in the semi-finals.

Founded in 1989 by inventor Dean Kamen, FIRST® (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) is a global nonprofit organization that prepares young people for the future through a suite of inclusive, team-based robotics programs for ages 4-18 with different levels based on age. High school participants call it "the hardest fun you'll ever have." Under strict rules, limited time and resources, teams are challenged to raise funds, design a team "brand," hone teamwork skills, and build and program industrial-size robots to play a difficult field game against like-minded competitors. Each season ends with an exciting FIRST Championship.

Crescendo is the game for the

their being chosen to be part 2024 FIRST Robotics Competition. The game is themed around music and involves two alliances consisting of three teams each competing to perform various tasks, including shooting rings known as Notes into goals that looks like speakers and amps then hanging their robots on chains at center stage by the end a match. https://www.youtube. com/watch?v=9keeDyFxzY4

#### Local Accolades

The team entered a district event at Durham College to further enhance Harold's capabilities. The team won the event as well as garnering accolades with the Rookie Inspiration Award which earned them a return trip to Mississauga in early April for the provincials.

For more information: Webpage: https://9621.ca/ Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/9621 payload/

#### Words...Words...Words... **Whitby Needs Action...Action...Action**

Premier Ford: Get Us the Hospital Planning Grant! It's The Right Thing To Do

#### Register for French Immersion at St. Leo Catholic School!



As the newest dedicated French Immersion centre in Brooklin, St. Leo's offers a caring learning community where student success and parent partnerships are valued.

Contact us today for a guided tour and more information!











# The Brooklin Cheese Factory



#### By Jennifer Hudgins

In the early 1800s, local homemakers maintained a cheese-making

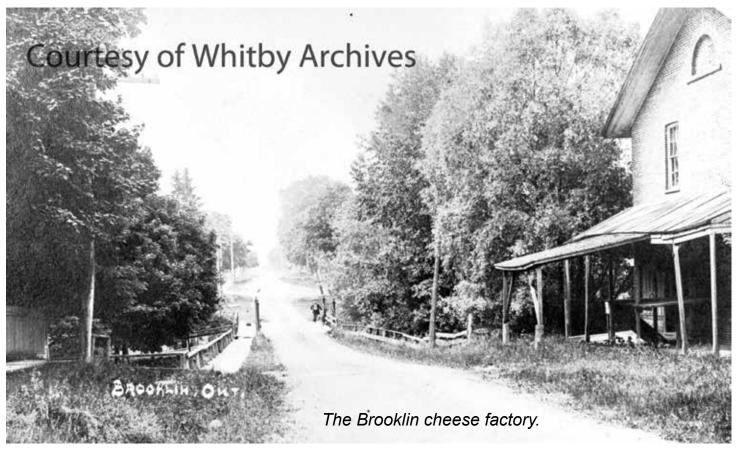
tradition in their homes using milk purchased from local dairy farms, even though it was a time-consuming task. However, this all changed in 1896 when Marly Valleau bought and repurposed the two-storey brick store at 90 Baldwin Street, where he produced and sold cheese on a larger scale. So began Brooklin's cheese factory,

The store was originally constructed by the prominent builder Stephen Mead Thomas in 1859 and thrived as a mercantile business until he sold the property to Robert Campbell Warren in the late 1870s. Warren assumed ownership and maintained its operations as a general store. In the fall of 1888, a fire on Baldwin Street destroyed an entire block of businesses and, although the general store sustained damage, the building was not ruined.

After some necessary renovations, it was business as usual for Warren until he retired and sold the building to Valleau. Valleau's efforts to prepare the factory for its grand opening on May 1, 1896, were documented in the April publication of The Chronicle newspaper.

#### Not enough milk

Despite a promising start, the venture encountered a major obstacle and so, by June 26, insufficient milk supply forced the factory to halt cheese production. Operating costs outweighed revenue prompting Valleau to make the difficult decision to close the shop. Concerns about the decline of the Brooklin cheese industry were voiced by local women



who had hoped for its revival. By October, it became evident this was no longer an option, leading Valleau to relocate his family to Toronto.

Then, in 1901, after a dormant cheeseless period, cheese production in Brooklin experienced a resurgence, spearheaded by John Sprung, a cheesemaker from Oshawa. Injecting new life into the factory, Sprung implemented

ensure its future success.

#### **Back to roots**

However, despite these efforts, homemakers' preferences gradually shifted back to making their own cheese using milk purchased from the newly established Pattersons Creamery located on Winchester Road. This shift contrasted with buying factory-produced cheese, leading to another decline in the

cheese factory business.

Finally, in 1909, the Whitby Gazette announced the conversion of the factory into an apple storage facility. By 1917, the building underwent further changes, serving first as a gas station and then a repair shop. In 1936, the last owner, Charles Jones, demolished the Baldwin Street building, bringing an end to Brooklin's cheese factory.



In front of the cheese factory.

# crucial machinery upgrades. The Ontario Reformer newspaper issue of May 17, 1901, expressed optimism for this revival, extending wishes for success to Sprung and his undertaking.

By the end of the year, reports from the factory's annual general meeting showed promising early results, with 36,913 pounds of cheese produced from 397,197 pounds of milk. At this point Sprung encouraged his customers from all across Ontario County to promote the business in order to

#### **Pitch-In Brooklin Looms**

Brooklin, we need your help to clean-up our parks!

The Brooklin Ashburn Myrtle (BAM) Lions Club is organizing the 21st annual Pitchin Brooklin cleanup event the first Saturday after Earth Day, April 27, 9 – 11 am at all Brooklin parks (rain or shine), excluding Grass Park (being renovated).

Please arrive at 9 am, to sign

in, obtain gloves and trash bags. Thank you for your interest in helping clean up our parks as part of the Earth Day celebrations that week.

Tim Hortons beverages and treats to be available for participants.

If you are interested in being park captain or event sponsor, please contact Steve at **BAMLions@gmail.com** 

# Support Your Local Business

NO BETTER TIME THAN NOW TO SUPPORT OUR LOCAL ECONOMY

### **Oxford Learning Brooklin**

Helping Keep the Momentum Over the Summer!

With the weather warming up, it's time to start thinking about summer. Learning doesn't stop just because school's out! Study smart and get a head start this summer at **Oxford Learning Brooklin**.

Studies suggest students can lose up to six weeks of learning skills, 2.6 months of math grade level equivalency, and are more likely to score lower on tests after the summer break.

Oxford Learning Brooklin's programs are customized to suit each child's specific needs, and our summer programs are no exception. Our programs can help students maintain momentum and tackle problem areas in order to be prepared for the added challenges of the next school year. Without the hustle and bustle of the regular school year, students are able to make great academic strides, meaning less school-related stress and fewer struggles at home next year.

**Oxford Learning** uses cognitive learning techniques to help children develop more effective ways of thinking, concentrating, listening, and remembering. The programs help children of all ages acquire the tools necessary to read and write (in both English and French), study effectively, be organized, motivated, and confident both inside and outside the classroom.

"I have seen how kids flourish," says Trisha Dosaj, **Oxford Learning Brooklin's** owner and director. "There is a moment of clarity when they realize they can do it, especially when they learn to read or complete a task independently. We want to ensure we can help everybody; to make sure students have the right strategies to transfer from Oxford



into their everyday life, whether it be at home or at school."

Without the hustle and bustle of the regular school year, students are able to make great academic strides, meaning less school-related stress and fewer struggles at home next year.

Oxford Learning programs cover from all ages, grades, and subjects: Little Readers (Ages 3-6), Beyond Tutoring (Grades 1-8), Advantage (Grades 8-12), and French (Grades 1-12).

To maintain learning or provide enrichment to be prepared for the next grade level, contact **Oxford Learning Brooklin**. Together we'll create a summer program that fits your family's busy summer schedule and unique educational needs.

You will be amazed at what your child can accomplish! **Oxford Learning Brooklin** is located at 5969 Baldwin Street South. For more information or to book an assessment, call (905) 655-9500.

Find us on Facebook and Instagram. We are always posting great tips for parents to Like and Share. You can also visit our website at **oxfordlearning**. **com/brooklin** for further information.

Reading Writing Math French Homework

Summer Programs
Available Here!

Brooklin | 905.655.9500
5969 Baldwin St. S.











## **Burns Church Supports Ukraine Organization**

Burns Church has been welcoming Ukrainian families into the community, using its strong connection to Ukraine and one couple in particular.

In 2010, Jiri and Natalia Nianchuk, the parents of one of the local refugee families, founded the Ha-Дія (Na-Diya) organization in Ukraine. "Na-Diya" means hope, its mission being "We give help and work to protect you and your rights."

Natalia originally formed the organization to provide workshops for rural women, psychological support for victims, and facilitation of training programs aimed at empowering individuals to initiate their own businesses. After the Russian invasion in 2014, she expanded the group in Kherson.

#### **Donated building**

Prior to 2014, Natalie and Jiri owned a building which they leased out. After the invasion, they decided to donate the use of the building to the Ha-Дія organization. It is used to dehydrate food, store sec-

ond-hand clothing and provide work for those displaced from their homes. They also house elderly women in their personal residence and donate their home to displaced families when they visit their family living in our community.

Ha-Дія relies on electricity to dehydrate food they provide to soldiers on the front lines since military attacks on Ukraine's energy system have significantly undermined the security of the country's power supply. Most areas only have access to electricity, heating, and the internet for a few hours a day. More than 50% of Ukraine's power infrastructure has been damaged resulting in limited access to electricity and increasing costs when available.

With money donated by members of Burns church and the community, Natalia was able to purchase additional food dehydrators as well as a generator for the building using funds from a grant application. Jiri, now 65, is over the age of enlistment and is able to drive

supplies to front-line soldiers when money for gas is available.

From now until the end of May, Burns Church will be donating any funds made to their Benevolent Fund directly to the Ha-Дія organization.

To support the Ha-Дія organi-

zation, you can donate through the Burns Church Benevolent Fund by e-transfer to **office@ burnschurch.org**, cash or cheque to Burns Church with a note "Ukrainian Appeal."

For more information:
Burns Church,
765 Myrtle Rd W., Ashburn
905-655-8509
office@burnschurch.org





# Walk in Special LARGE 2 TOPPING \$14.99

- Stuffed Crust also available for upcharge \$4.50
- Additional Toppings each \$4.00



2 CAMBELL ST, BROOKLIN L1M 1A2

CARRYOUT OR DELIVERY

905-620-1116

OR ORDER ONLINE AT PIZZAHUT.CA