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King

MOSAIC

spring 2018

ArtsSocietyKing.ca



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PICKERING COLLEGE



CONTRIBUTING WRITERS AND ARTISTS

- Virginia Atkins
- Irene Bayer
- Meline Beach
- Karen L. Bowen
- Angelo Cassbarro
- Heather Castellan
- Patricia Earl
- Kathleen Fry
- Madison Gane
- Teri Hastings
- Sabrina Ieraci
- Ona Kingdon
- Lorne Macrae
- Laura Mark
- Kelly Mathews
- Hendrika Ono
- Dorita Peer
- Kalli Secord
- Kim Sillcox
- Daniela Traverso-Galati
- Cheryl Uhrig
- Barry Wallace
- Dr. Arthur Weis

ArtsSocietyKing.ca

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We welcome your feedback and suggestions.

Write to us at:

info@artssocietyking.ca



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Photo courtesy of Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust

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OUR COVER



Photo credit: Tom Wray

KAREN L. BOWEN

Featured on the cover of the spring issue of King MOSAIC is a work by artist Karen L. Bowen titled Papilionem Fons (Spring Butterfly). Karen is a fairly new member of ASK but she has already contributed in a big way. She was in last year's Schomberg Street Gallery, and will be part of this year's Studio Tour, April 21-22. And her work was part of last year's ASK fundraiser calendar. Her mosaic, Sea To Sea, decorated the March page. You can read more about Karen on page 4 of this issue.

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DARE TO BE DIFFERENT



YOU'RENT A DOG

6



FEATURED CONTRIBUTOR: LORNE MACRAE

This budding young writer, (he's in his 9th decade), did his first writing in a diary during a military year tramping in a SE Asia rainforest. After retiring from his career as a financial advisor, Lorne joined Write Now @ King! and took up writing seriously. He has written stories for MOSAIC before; stories about birds, about bees, and about chipmunks. On page 6 of this issue he tells a story about a dog from his Henry and Margaret series, and he invites readers to share their thoughts about a suitable ending.



⋮ **Wings and Stones by Karen L. Bowen**

NEW *Life.* NEW MEANING.

by Meline Beach

Old brass butterflies, floral figurines and a variety of porcelain wildlife resurrected from the crowded shelves of a thrift store are just some of the unique elements featured in Karen L. Bowen's multi-dimensional mosaic creations.

Surrounded by beautiful colours and textures, Karen gives odd ornaments that were once gifted or bought and no longer wanted or needed a new life with new meaning. Each piece is intentionally sought, uniquely shaped and delicately placed in a composition – a process which Karen describes as relaxing. Her most recent find, a ceramic polar bear figurine, is patiently awaiting its masterpiece.



⋮ **Coldwater Creek by Karen L. Bowen**

"Mosaics" is an old art form widespread in classical times and originally seen in religious settings. Done well, it has the ability to reveal detailed work as part of a larger design that creates awe and wonder. While it seems to be making a comeback in the art world, mosaic creations are still relatively uncommon in this area.

Karen has not been an artist for long. While she's very talented, she was not formally trained in fine arts, and in fact, couldn't have pursued a more different career to lead her to where she is today.

Her dream was to be a veterinarian. She wanted to work with large animals and loved everything about nature and wildlife. However, her allergies prevented her from pursuing that path. Instead, Karen studied biology, achieved a master's degree in biochemistry and physiology, and taught high school math and science for nearly 27 years – the last five of which had the greatest effect on her and her desire to change direction.

It was a pivotal point in Karen's career when her principal asked about adding a more hands-on element to the alternative education curriculum to help engage disengage students. Karen rose to the occasion. She knew she was crafty and liked to knit, sew, cross-stitch and had been painting and studying art in recent years. "Why not?" she thought to herself. With a \$600 bud-

get, she developed a curriculum, lugged a lot of her own materials, and made a positive impact.

"It was very rewarding to see teenage students knit, make patterns and prints and create something from scratch," says Karen. "The culmination of their hard work was evident in an end-of-year art show for all to see." She recalls that time as one of the proudest in her teaching career. To this day, she showcases an original piece of art from one of her students in her home. That piece of art is a mosaic – a first-time learning experience she shared with her students and one that inspired a change in careers last year, to pursue art and writing on a committed basis. Her strength in math, biology and physics helped draw her attention to mosaics in particular, because she likes patterns.

"I always subconsciously look for patterns in my surroundings," says Karen. "I'm drawn to Fibonacci spirals and natural fractals and see them everywhere – in florals, seed pods, animal skins and even feathers." She attributes her ability to appreciate science, math and art equally to the analytical and creative sides of her brain overlapping and working together.

Karen has a critical mind, thinking ability, and eye. These transferable traits have served her well from one career to another. And her commitment to the environment has no boundaries.

"My mission, both as a teacher and as an artist, would be to encourage all of us to recognize that we're having a very negative impact on wildlife, ecosystems and the climate," says Karen, who holds nature close to her heart. "Part of that is due to consumerism, materialism and overall wastefulness."

Minimalism is important to Karen, who applies it towards her purchasing habits, be it clothes, household furnishings or objects for her art. She frequents thrift stores and consignment shops regularly and is not embarrassed to sport second-hand clothing or used items. The old adage about one's trash being someone else's treasure holds truth and value to this talented and environmentally-principled King Township teacher turned artist and writer.

"I have become good at finding what I'm looking for," says Karen, with a degree of pride and joy. "I look for good quality ceramics, glass, vases, plates and tiles, smash them up and turn them into a piece of art. Even my figurines, beads and boards are repurposed."

While mostly self-taught, Karen credits her artistic success to study, practice and workshops (including a week-long session in Haliburton with renowned Canadian artist John Stuart Pryce), her network of local artists through SOYRA, ASK and NGA (many of whom have become good friends), and her extremely supportive family. Her first public showing was at the Schomberg Street Gallery in 2016, where she sold seven pieces.

Karen's interest in mosaic creations has extended into her painted works of art, where she uses bold and block-like brush strokes to create well-composed paintings. While she is currently busy rebuilding her inventory, you can see Karen's work at the Arts Society King Studio Tour, April 21, 22; Karen's Exhibit, "Pairings" at the Southlake Regional Health Centre Gallery, July 9-30; and online at: www.karenbowenart.ca.

WHAT'S GOING ON

at the Heritage and Cultural Centre



WORD SCRAMBLE

Mmreeois

What a trip to the museum brings back

Kueleul

Small stringed instrument

Hscloo

Often only had one room in olden days

Eusaqeirnt

Horseback rider

Uiunqe

Individual

Mnrhoarc

King or Queen

What the first letters of the answers spell

Museum - Where you can take a journey back in time - for FREE

Memories, Ukulele, School, Equestrian, Unique, Monarch

ANSWERS

by Kathleen Fry

A controversial ad by McDonald's was pulled recently - in it they asked if you'd rather spend \$5 on a meal deal or \$5 at a Museum. The backlash from the Museum world was swift and the ad was quickly pulled, but the question lingered - does anyone care about Museums anymore and why should that matter?

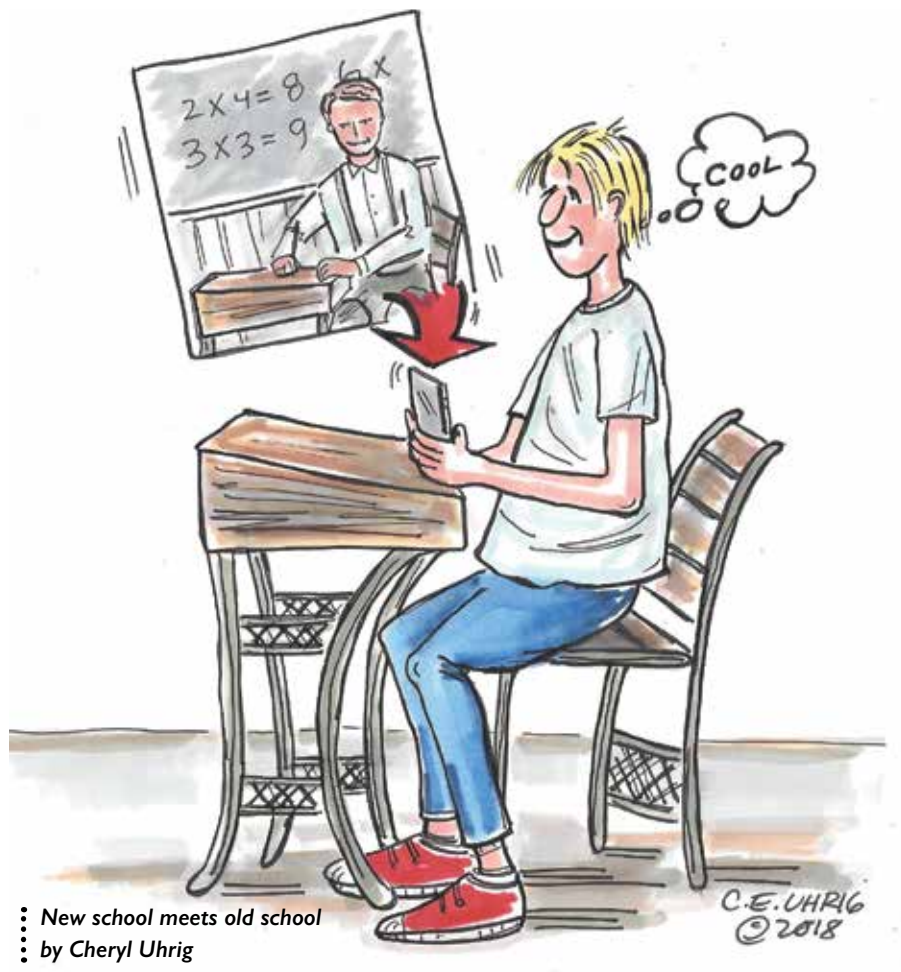
The familiar question of "what would you grab in a fire" invokes responses that speak of all the things a Museum holds in trust. Photographs, family mementoes and cherished heirlooms are only some of the objects that fill up the shelves and spaces within a Museum. Museums hold people's memories and the familiar (sometimes unfamiliar) objects of daily life.

This makes Museums very extraordinary places. They are treasure troves of interesting objects that encourage us to think and see the world, and our place within it, differently. They allow us to be curious, and they challenge us to ask new questions. They bridge cultures and language gaps.

Museums are filled with interesting people who are passionate about the work and the many stories and possibilities that their workplaces hold and share. The magic of working in our Museum is that the job is about creating a brighter and more interesting world. There are very few jobs today that are built on the foundation of making the community a better place for those who live within it or are lucky enough to visit. It is at the Museum where we can relate to each other through objects and stories.

As the Heritage and Cultural Centre develops and evolves, the time has come to carefully assess our role in the lives of residents, now and in the future. The Museum must be ready to become more important, more meaningful, more engaging, and more valued in our lives and in our community. At our site it is clear that we are in need of a 'permanent' exhibit highlighting the history of King Township; an exhibit that will be available to the public to celebrate the stories that make up King's past. It will enhance the visitors' experience and will complement the varied cultural activities at our site which include art shows, camp programs, performances, rentals, and other exhibits.

Recently the Township, through a grant written by the curator of the King Township Museum, was given approximately \$100,000 by



• New school meets old school
• by Cheryl Uhrig

mu•se•um

(/myoo 'zēəm/), noun

A building in which objects of historical, scientific, artistic, or cultural interest are stored and exhibited.

the Canadian Government to renovate and create a new historical exhibit at our Museum site. With this funding, a team of exhibit designers and fabricators will transform the space and help us enhance King's rich heritage. The Township will contribute to this project with construction costs and by improving the energy efficiency of the site. In addition to this funding, the King Township Historical Society has agreed to graciously match the federal grant with funds they hold in reserve for the Museum.

The most suitable space to create this new exhibit is the Kinghorn School room. The space will be renovated to create a multi-functional room that will incorporate modern amenities,

while also retaining the historical character and features of the building. Funding will allow us to develop the full potential of this space for current and future partners, and will add to the capabilities of the site as a whole.

In every Museum there is a little bit of you, whether it's recognizing that history means something to you, or seeing artwork that makes your heart sing. It could be an appreciation that your family has connections with years of heritage, or simply a connection to the people and community which surrounds you. We hope you join us in celebrating the stories and cultural heritage of King in all the events and exhibits we host.



KING TOWNSHIP
MUSEUM

Word has it... YOU'RENTADOG

by Lorne Macrae

It was a spring Wednesday when Margaret, tidying the kitchen, called out. "Henry." From somewhere a muffled voice replied what sounded like, *am bizzy*. Whatever it was that held Henry's attention was taken care of within a few minutes as he tracked down Margaret's whereabouts. "Yes, what was it you wanted?" Margaret frowned, not sure whether Henry was in a good enough mood to hear her out, but briefly as she pondered, *there's no time like the present*, flickered past. "I think that with the fair weather it would be nice if mother got out a bit more. Some exercise would do her good. She's got friends, but sitting and drinking coffee isn't quite the same as a good walk."

"So?" Henry was listening but not demonstrating much enthusiasm. He and his mother in law enjoyed a kind of amnesty. When the guns were quiet all was well with the world. Margaret continued. "We could find her a small dog and it could fit in nicely with her lifestyle, you know, be a companion and get her outside." Without yielding too much, Henry gruffly asked, "Marg, how are you going to find a suitable dog? Go to the pound and pick one out there? Or..." questioningly, "Get a puppy and let it grow up with her?"

"I was taking to Lisa who had a friend who found an agency called Yourentadog. What they do is provide a dog and you can rent it for however long you want. There is a fee of so much per day. Of course, a deposit at the start, and..." She paused, "if afterwards you want to keep it, there is a buy-out option depending on who the owner is."

"How do you contact this agency?"

"Apparently it's all done on line. You Google the agency name and sign in. Then there is a questionnaire that asks you where you live and what kind of dog, male or female, you want to rent. Then there is a list and you tick off the breed of dog that you'd like. Lisa said that her friend thought that it was quite simple to do."

Henry, ever curious, asked, "What kind of dog did they get?"

Margaret straightened her hair. "They didn't rent a dog in the end. Apparently, someone was visiting that was highly allergic to dog dander and they had to cancel at the last minute." She added wistfully, "We could give it a try. Just for a weekend and see how it worked out?"

Henry mulled over this scenario, finally agreeing that they would get on Margaret's iPad and work their way through the app. Sitting at the kitchen table with a grilled cheese sandwich at hand, Margaret typed in Yourentadog. Up came a lively page of canines



Ona K

playing with coloured balls, and the request to sign in and select a password. Margaret hesitated. "Think of a password."

Henry hesitated. "*Walkies?*"*

"That's good." Margaret typed away. There were other personal details to enter – name, address and email – before the dog selection page appeared: Breed of dog preferred, followed by a long alphabetical list of all the different breeds. First on the list was Airedale, followed by Beagle, then Bloodhound. "We don't want a bloodhound," she said. "That's a detective's dog following murderers. You wouldn't know where the dog had been before you got it."

Henry was skeptical. "Are there any small ones?"

Margaret scrolled down up, and she scrolled down. "Here's a Shih Tzu. Oh, I missed the Scottie! Then there's the Newcastle Terrier. I had a friend who owned one of these...small and friendly dogs that you could put in a grocery bag...poodles... even a Wolfhound on their list."

Henry was now fully participating in this. "Try the Newcastle Terrier."

Margaret hit the Select button. A message appeared. Congratulations! You, as a new member, have been selected for 50% discount on your choice. *

Henry interrupted, "See that asterisk? It leads somewhere on the page. Check it out."

Margaret obediently scrolled down. "Here it is," then reading, "** Full cage rental. 4 days minimum.*"

"It's getting a bit involved, Marg, I suppose we have to rent a collar and leash, drinking bowl and so on."

"I don't see anything about that," as her fingers scrolled across the screen. "They need the dates."

"Try the weekend."

Margaret entered, 27-29th. An error message red-starred the dates. **Return must be a weekday.** She changed it to the 30th. Then their credit card details had to be entered, and the pooch price, which came to \$124.57. **Your choice will be delivered at 6pm sharp Friday. Please ensure that there is someone at home.**

Henry arrived home, and he and Margaret were bursting with anticipation as the clock slowly wound its way to the appointed hour. Right on time, a large van turned into their driveway and a young dark-haired woman in jeans and a T-shirt announcing *Yourentadog* knocked on the door.

"I'm Cathy with your pet." She unloaded a sleeping cage, which must have been two meters square, and set it in the den. "Now I'll fetch Avalon. You'll love him. He's so affectionate."

A loud bark came from the back of the van and Avalon appeared, a good meter and a half at the shoulder, his furry coat jet black. Straining at the leash, he jumped up at Henry, sloppy

tongue wetting Henry's checks, almost knocking him over and sending his glasses flying. "We ordered a Newcastle terrier!" spluttered Henry. "This looks like a...a Newfoundland."

"I'm not quite sure what happened," Margaret sighed. "I guess my finger slipped to the next breed, which was Newfoundland."

"I only do deliveries," said Cathy cheerfully. "You'll need to get on line to make a change. The office is closed now until Monday." Depositing a large bag of dog food and utensils in the hallway; with that she was gone. Click went the door as Margaret closed it. She looked at Henry.

"We've got our hands full this weekend."

Avalon barked as if to confirm it.*

NOTES TO OUR READERS:

***Choose your own ending! Write a short summary of one of Henry and Margaret's adventures with Avalon during the weekend. Send it to us at info@artsocietyking.ca and you may see yourself in print in a future issue.**

****Painting: Puppy Love by ASK artist, Ona Kingdon. See more of Ona's work at the ASK Studio Tour, April 21-22**

Writer Lorne Macrae is quick to point out that this puppy is Not a Newfoundland. To see a real Newfie, go to page 3.



On behalf of King Township council, I'm pleased to welcome you to the spring edition of Mosaic.

After a long, cold winter, we're looking forward to shedding our coats and boots to get outdoors. It's a great time to start thinking about registering your children for sports leagues and activities. I encourage you to browse through our 2018 Spring and Summer Community Guide for a list of exciting programs and activities for you and your family.

You can find printed copies of the guide at the municipal offices at 2075 King Rd. in King City, township arenas and libraries. The guide is also online at www.king.ca.

Local artists from King Township and guest artists from neighbouring communities are preparing for the next Arts Society King (ASK) Studio Tour King. This two-day annual spring art event takes place April 21 and 22, and is expected to be the largest in its 13-year history.

A broad spectrum of disciplines will be represented during ASK Studio Tour King 2018. Artists working in oil, acrylic, and watercolour painting, leather, photography, textiles and woodworking will be showing a variety of unique and original creations at their own studios and in public locations such as the King Heritage and Cultural Centre. Visitors to the ASK Studio Tour King will be encouraged to stop by all locations during the weekend of the studio tour to see how artists work in their own environments. This is a great time to connect with artists on a personal level, find out what inspires them, and purchase artwork from a local source.

ASK Studio Tour King takes place on the weekend of April 21 and 22, 2018, from 10 am to 5 pm, both days, at various locations in King Township. For an interactive online experience, connect with

Studio Tour King on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/studiotourking and at www.ArtsSocietyKing.ca.

Have a safe and fun spring and, as always, shop locally as much as you can.



Steve Pellegrini
Mayor, King Township

PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE EVENTS

MAPLE SYRUPFEST

Location: Cold Creek Conservation Area

Age: All ages

Fee: \$10/car (includes breakfast & activities)

Date & Time: Saturday March 10, 2018, 10am- 2pm

Start your day right with a delicious Pancake Breakfast and learn about syrup tapping, evaporating, filtering and the rich history that brought us this sweet treat. Drop in for the sweet taste of Maple Syrup and take part in a variety of exciting activities for all ages.

EARTH HOUR

Location: Cold Creek Conservation Area (Nobleton) and Dufferin Marsh (Schomberg)

Age: All ages

Date & Time: Saturday, March 24 - 8:30 – 9:30pm

Fee: free

Join us for a fun hour of lights out and enjoy a bonfire and hot chocolate. Do your part, turn off the lights and join the fun.

INDOOR COMMUNITY YARD SALE

Location: The Trisan Centre (25 Dillane Dr. Schomberg)

Age: All Ages

Date & Time: Saturday May 5 - 8am-12pm

Fee: Attendees Free (vendor fee \$20)

It's time to do some spring cleaning and turn that clutter into cash. The Township of King invites you to join us for the annual Community Indoor Yard Sale. Tables can be purchased for \$20 / table or two tables for \$35. Participants have the option to donate any unsold items to the Goodwill onsite upon the event's completion.

NOBLETON VICTORIA DAY

Location: Nobleton Arena (15 Old King Rd, Nobleton)

Age: All ages

Date & Time: Monday May 21

Fee: Free

Come celebrate Victoria Day in Nobleton! Event includes vendors, midway, fireworks and much more. For more information please email events@king.ca

168TH SCHOMBERG FAIR

Location: Schomberg Fairgrounds

Age: All ages

Dates: May 24 - 27

The Schomberg Agricultural Fair is a heart-warming (and fun!) local tradition. Every May, rain or shine, Schomberg plays host to a colourful celebration of local agriculture, art, and talent.



SustainableKing

Supporting our Community Groups in 2018

Are you a member of a community group that is working on a project or initiative that helps to further the vision, goals, strategies and actions identified in King's Community Sustainability Plan? If so, you may be eligible to receive funding or resource support from the township. Visit www.sustainableking.ca to access the Sustainable King grant application.

King's Sustainability Plan is focused on implementing sustainable actions and leveraging the resources of our community.

For more information, email sustainability@king.ca.



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Anna Raeli, Agent

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LOVE affairs

KING TOWNSHIP

by Virginia Atkins



It's not a secret; yes, my husband Tom does know. In fact, he shares my passion for the object of our affections – a small corridor into Happy Valley Forest contained within our property is what we love and have committed to a conservation easement on our deed, via the Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust (ORMLT).

Love is portrayed by ORMLT's iconic blue Raindrop 'Lorraine' from the Moraine, now sporting red hearts to show how love of the environment underlies efforts to conserve and enhance nature's process to mitigate or adapt to the changing climate in our part of North America. Red hearts also indicate the affection that eight King owners have for the 936 acres

on 13 protected properties that will retain water, keep forest canopies cool, and filter air as it passes over the Moraine.

Lorraine symbolizes the benefits of rainwater in recharging aquifers and supplying 65 rivers and streams rising in wetlands and wooded tracts on Ontario uplands. The ORMLT organizes annual "Bio-blitzes" to collect research data to monitor water quality, fluctuating temperatures, rates of growth and species details on selected properties; volunteer stewards are trained to banish invasive plants while tending troubled ecosystems. With ORMLT's scientific support, this gathering of facts helps to formulate realistic measurement of climate status.

We're happy that our easement will remain a perpetual natural habitat now that it's confirmed by Environment and Climate Change Canada's Ecological Gift program. The ECCC approves the appraised value of an easement or donation of land for an income tax charitable gift receipt. We still own the property that we love, we still share our cherished woodland with insects, birds, wild turkeys, squirrels, at least one possum, a pair of foxes and many deer. And we receive a tax receipt as compensation – how great is that!

Remuneration is not an incentive for most donors. Some donors want to recognize generations of family heritage; another cites the significant history of a property – such as the Toronto Carrying Place Trail and native peoples' settlements. Susan Walmer, Executive Director, ORMLT observes the love stories that inspire many donors to want only the best outcomes for their properties and, like us, are pleased to know it's a win/win result to ensure lasting conservation with an easement, sometimes even an outright gift to the Trust. With 90% of the Moraine in private ownership, personal consideration for the land is paramount.

The Ontario Environmental Commissioner and eminent environmental lawyer, Dr. Dianne Saxe, states it is "...a creative approach. By acquiring natural heritage lands and by thoughtful stewardship, land trusts, like the ORMLT, can help Ontario both adapt to and mitigate climate change. Land trusts can be local solutions to the global problems of biodiversity loss and climate change."

ORMLT, a registered charitable organization, is a member of the Ontario Land Trusts Alliance, honoured by its peers with the "Pioneer-

ing Leaders Award." It has come a long way since its founding in 2000 when a small group of informed people from Caledon, York Region, Uxbridge and Toronto, gathered to establish the Trust. Striving to put ORMLT on solid footing, the early Board of Directors reached out to the public for support and enthusiasm by organizing big annual fund-raising dinners, honouring local naturalist and author, Charles Sauriol, each year featuring a star activist: Jane Goodall, Ralph Nader, Jean-Michel Cousteau, Robert Kennedy Jr. and Margaret Atwood were among the speakers.

Public support for the Trust work made a huge impact in 2017. Today we're anticipating the new agenda with added properties totaling 334 acres of wetlands, woodlands, meadows and farmland, plus species at risk; it's urgent to protect these treasures. Thanks to ambitious leadership, the ORMLT thrives in the midst of loving blue raindrops and boundless optimism!

Our King stalwart supporter and donor of scenic Humber River property, The Hon. H.N. (Hal) Jackman commented: "We invest in so many areas, expecting good return on our money. That isn't reflected in our charitable giving where the environment sector still receives less than 3% of every dollar donated. What are we building our future on if not a healthy environment where clean water flows, plants can grow and all species can live?"

John Riley, noted conservationist and advocate for the Oak Ridges Moraine, wrote in 2013, "Since nature never repeats itself, we cannot expect to return to a past earthly paradise, but carefully devised conservation and re-wilding measures can bring a new, more livable world." These comments echo Shakespeare's advice, 'Nature's bequest gives nothing, but doth lend.' And perhaps that is what Lorraine's message, cloaked in that four-letter word – love - is all about.

<http://oakridgesmoraine.org/org>

Dr. Dianne Saxe: (commissioner@eco.on.ca)

John L. Riley: "The Once and Future Great Lakes Country"- Queens University Press, 2

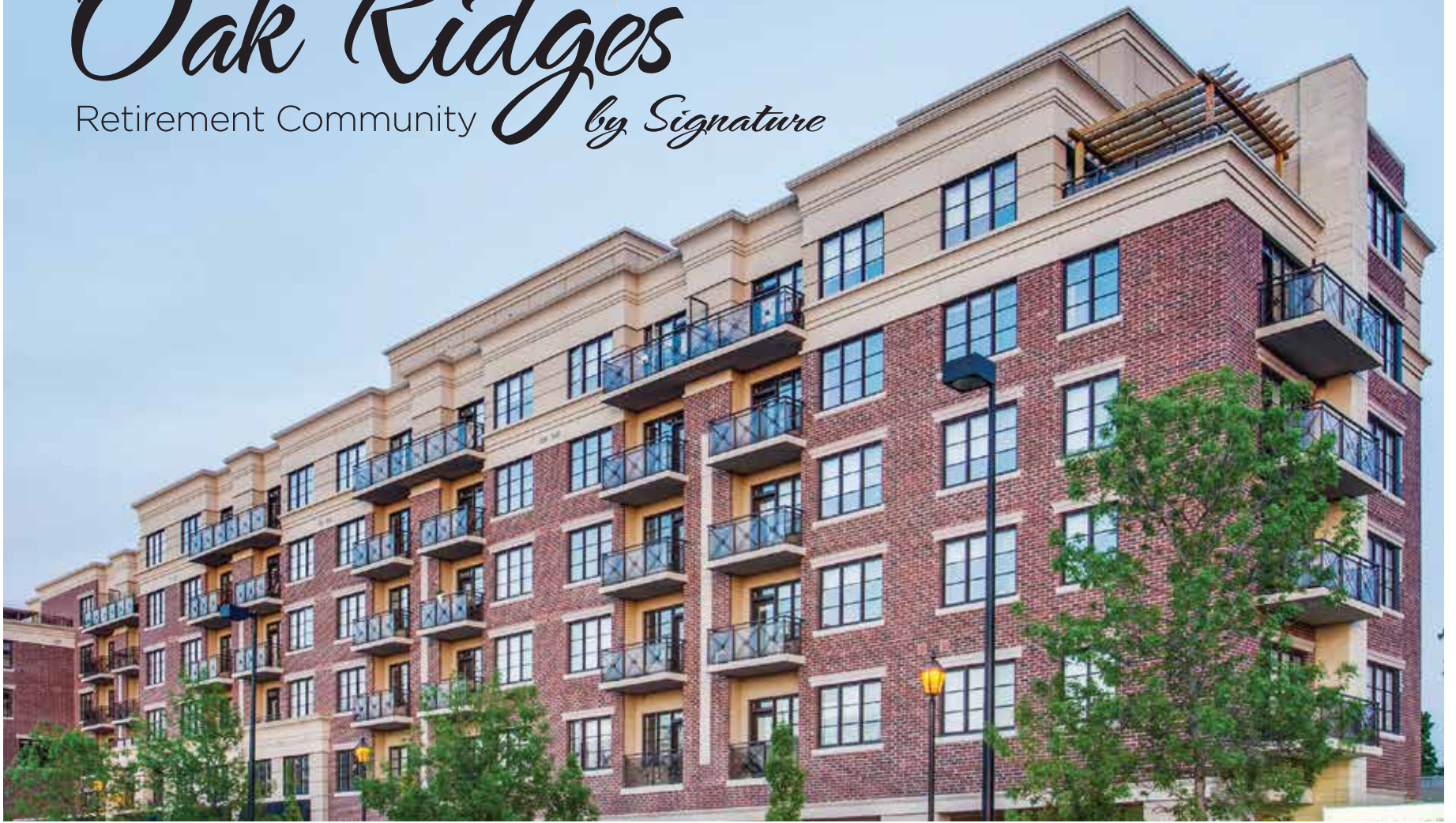
EDITOR'S NOTE: The painting on this page is by ASK artist Patricia Earl. If you'd like to see more of Pat's work, visit the ASK Studio Tour, April 21-22. If you'd like to see an actual photograph of the Oak Ridges Moraine, turn to page 3 of this issue.



.....
Riverside Glow by Pat Earl, Studio Tour artist

Oak Ridges

Retirement Community *by Signature*



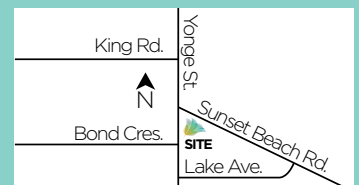
Only A Few Suites Remaining



Please call Leanne or Catherine for a tour of our vibrant living community.

(905) 773-4220 12925 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill

Info@OakRidgesRetirement.com OakRidgesRetirement.com





DARE TO BE

different

by Irene Bayer and Cheryl Uhrig

“These are the words my father always said to me as I was growing up, when I wanted to be like everyone else. Back then I thought he was crazy, and I didn’t want to be different. Now I embrace his words with all my heart and thank him deeply for encouraging me to be creative and teaching me how to be different.”

One visit to Laura’s Newmarket home and studio makes it clear to see she is a creative force on wheels! First there is her day job – owner and operator of Pink Daisy Designs. A graphic designer by trade Laura creates a wide range of package and marketing products for major clients. However, it is her part time work and true passion where she dares to be truly different.

Seated beside her adorable adopted Boston terrier, named Fiona, Laura explains:

“One day, I was suddenly inspired to make myself a cool leather cuff using this piece of smooth,

round, glass-mounting hardware. I found an old belt that was far too worn to wear and started chopping. I had some snaps and a setting kit from my adventures in Halloween costume making, so I dragged them out and went to town on this cuff. I was quite pleased with the result and wore it to work the next day. Much to my surprise, I received a lot of compliments on it - and when I told them I made it I started getting requests to make more. And so this adventure began.”

Down in her workshop, Laura showed us boxes filled with well-worn belts, skirts and jackets; plus bins full of odd clasps,

hooks, buckles, jewellery and even antique Russian watch movements.

“Everything is made from recyclable odds and ends. To others they are garbage – to me it is a bracelet, necklace, business card holder or clutch purse waiting to be transformed”

Transformed indeed. Laura proceeded to show us some of the wonderful one-of-a-kind pieces she created using a full range of leather cutting, splicing and hardware tools. She describes her philosophy:

“Every piece I create has a story, just like every person has her or his own story. So every

piece is truly one of a kind. Why wear something that was pumped out of a factory by the thousands, often unremarkable and unimaginative? With my art, people can wear a piece of history, handmade in Canada, and help make a small difference to the amount of junk that ends up polluting our planet.”

Now there is just one other life passion of Laura’s that is especially near to her heart and one that she incorporates into much of her work. She talks about it:

*“The graphics company name, **Pink Daisy Designs**, was inspired by my first dog, a Boston Terrier named Daisy. Since my favourite colour is pink, she would always be decked out in a pink collar, leash and coat. I fell in love with the Boston terrier breed and joined **Boston Terrier Rescue Canada** as a volunteer. I wanted to help in any way I could, so I made a bunch of warm dog coats to donate to the foster dogs in rescue’s care. I made a little label for them and decided to call my “company” Pink Daisy Designs in honour of my sweet little muse. I am now the Vice President of **Boston Terrier Rescue Canada**, a 100% unpaid, volunteer-run, registered **Canadian charity**.”*

Laura donates 20% of all her sales to Boston Terrier Rescue Canada So every penny donated goes directly to helping the dogs in their care.

Business owner. Designer. Animal rescue supporter. Clearly being different has become a way for life for Laura and looking at where it has taken her – it was the perfect way to go.



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Caption



Caption

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What's Happening at Arts Society KING

3rd Annual Student Art Exhibit

STUDENTS FROM Country Day School, King City Secondary School, and Villanova College have been sharpening their pencils, wetting their paint brushes, heating their kilns and freeing up their minds to work on pieces for ASK's Third Annual Student Art Show. This year we have made some changes to the judging – category prizes instead of first, second and third, and a People's Choice award, chosen by the audience at the opening reception. We asked staff and students to tell us how they feel about entering an art show, and here is what they said:

Angelo: "School is like a bubble; the classroom is very isolated. It's valid to see other schools; a sneak peek into other worlds."

Michael: "(last year) It was a surreal experience seeing my piece labelled with my name and school in an exhibit open to the public. I look forward to participating again this year."

Sabrina: "Most of the students have mixed feelings about the art show. They are extremely excited and proud to have their work displayed in a different context where others can see it, but they have some anxiety over being on display."

COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

Students at Country Day School had a chance to try painting "en plein air" this year. They took their tools across the street and settled on the ground outside the Engle and Volkers Real Estate office housed in a heritage building; the former Eversley Church. There they discovered the challenges of painting outdoors: wind, bugs, and uncomfortable seating!



VILLANOVA COLLEGE



Students at Villanova College focus on faces. Grade nines learn specific skills: noses, moths etc. Grade 11 students work on self-portraits during the latter part of the school year. This year's Grade 12 students will be presenting some of those portraits at the show.



KING CITY SECONDARY SCHOOL

In King City Secondary School, art students have been working on combining old art styles with new technology: for example, using etching techniques from the past and then photoshopping the results into something different. They are hopeful about a new state-of-the-art photography lab possibly coming to their school for next year.

STUDIO TOUR KING 2018

APRIL 21 & 22, 10AM - 5PM

OPENING RECEPTION

Thursday April 5, 6:30pm - 8:30pm

Meet local artists, enjoy a preview of the original art available during the tour, enjoy light refreshments.

PREVIEW EXHIBIT

April 3 - 19, Tues. - Sat. 10:00am - 4:00pm

FREE ADMISSION



www.artsocietyking.ca

King Heritage & Cultural Centre 2920 King Road, King City ON.

905-833-2331



March 1 - 30, 2018

KING TOWNSHIP Secondary Students ART EXHIBIT

Featuring the fine art of King's talented students

• OPENING RECEPTION •
Thursday, March 1st

~ Open to all ~

King Heritage and Cultural Centre
ArtsSocietyKing.ca

VISIT Please visit the ASK website and facebook page. Meet artists, sneak a peak at upcoming ASK events and enjoy archived editions of MOSAiC. www.ArtsSocietyKing.ca and www.facebook.com/artsocietyking



Events in and Around King Township

by Teri Hastings, Arts Society King



Art of Scotch



Art of Scotch

March 1 - 30 - Arts Society King presents 'King Township Secondary Students Art Exhibit' at the King Heritage and Cultural Centre. The exhibit celebrates the talented art students' of Country Day School, King City Secondary School and Villanova College and is an art exhibit for the entire community to enjoy. Join us for the opening reception on March 1 from 7:00 - 8:30 pm at the King Heritage and Cultural Centre and vote 'PEOPLE'S CHOICE' award. ArtsSocietyKing.ca

March 1, 2 & 3 - Country Day School 'In the Heights' production, \$20 per ticket, various times. cds.on.ca/tickets

March 3 - Pub Night at All Saints Church, 6:30 pm, \$25 per person. allsaints3@bellnet.ca

March 5 - King Township Historical Society Annual General Meeting, King, Heritage and Cultural Centre, 12:00 - 4:00 pm. www.king-townshiphistoricalsociety.com

March 7 - King City Seniors Movie Night at the Seniors' Centre, doors open 6:30pm, movie starts at 7:00pm. Contact Carol at 905-833-3324.

March 10 - King Township presents 'Maple Syrupfest' at Cold Creek Conservation Area, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. Enjoy a pancake breakfast, learn about syrup tapping and the rich history that brought us this sweet treat. For all ages and \$10 per car. events@king.ca

March 10 - April 28 - The Newmarket Rug Hooking Guild Group presents 'Hooked on Tradition' Exhibition, Aurora Cultural Centre. auroraculturalcentre.ca

March 12 - 16 - The King Heritage and Cultural Centre will host 'March Break Drop in Art Club', perfect for ages 6-12 to drop-in for funky crafts. \$7 per child. kingmuseum@king.ca

March 13 & March 20 - Student Art Portfolio Building Workshop at the King Heritage & Cultural Centre, 12:30 pm - 4:30 pm, \$40. This workshop will teach you the valuable techniques that will allow you to create a professional and effective art portfolio. kingmuseum@king.ca

March 14 - King Curling Club presents Youth Gordon Fogg Memorial Shamrock Invitational Bonspiel, Trisan Centre, 8:30 - 10:45 am. kingcurling.com

March 17 - King Curling Club presents Go for the Green Bonspiel, Trisan Centre, 9:00 am and 11:00 am. Fun level curling for members and guests. kingcurling.com

March 17 - Lilt, Laughter & Song, King Heritage & Cultural Centre, 7:00 - 10:00 pm, \$25. A St. Patrick's Day celebration through readings and music. kingmuseum@king.ca or call 905-833-2331.

March 23 - King City Seniors Pot Luck Lunch 12:30pm. Please bring a main course or dessert. Contact Mary at 905-833-0448.

March 24 - King Township presents a 'Furniture Repurposing' Workshop, 1:00 - 3:00 pm, King Heritage and Cultural Centre, ages 18+. Come and learn the best practices and products to use when repurposing your furniture! Register with Parks, Recreation and Culture or visit king.ca.

March 24 - King Township celebrates 'Earth Hour' with a variety of activities including a Candlelit Dinner, and a Lantern Hike, 8:30 - 9:30 pm. environmentalstewardship@king.ca

March 24 - The Dufferin Marsh Lantern Walk and Bonfire to celebrate Earth Hour, Dufferin Marsh Bulletin Board - south side of Dr. Kay Drive east of Main Street Schomberg, 8:30 - 9:30 pm. dufferinmarsh.ca

March 26 - The Nobleton & King City Garden Club will host their monthly meeting, 8:00 pm. Join this friendly group and learn more about gardening. lking@hotmail.com or klavis@cambridesign.ca

March 26 - Nobleton & King City Garden Club presents Fusion Gardening in partnership with YR Water for tomorrow program, Nobleton Community Hall, 7:30pm. Sean James will share ways to eco-design our gardens combining beauty, drought tolerance and rainwater management. www.gardenontario.org/site.php/nobletonking or nobletonkingcitygardenclub@gmail.com

March 27 - Schomberg Horticultural Society general meeting, Schomberg Community Hall, 7:30 pm. Guest speaker Celia Roberts will discuss 'Judging a Flower Show', guests \$3. Contact Jill Watts-Hayward 905-939-2781.

March 27 - The Schomberg Skating Club welcomes the community to a 'Friends and Family' skate, 5:40 - 6:25 pm, Trisan Centre. Helmets required. schombergskatingclub.ca

April 3-19 - Arts Society King Studio Tour Preview Exhibit on at the King Heritage and Cultural Centre, open Tuesday-Saturday from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm, complimentary admission. ArtsSocietyKing.ca

April 4 - King City Seniors Movie Night at the Seniors' Centre, doors open 6:30pm, movie starts at 7:00pm. Admission by donation - title TBA. Contact Carol at 905-833-3324.

April 5 - Arts Society King welcomes the community to the Opening Artist Reception for the 2018 Studio Tour King. Join us for refreshments, a sampling of what the 13th annual Tour will feature and meet the artists, King Heritage and Cultural Centre, 6:30-8:30 pm, complimentary admission. ArtsSocietyKing.ca

April 7 - Spring Pop-Up Sale: Vintage Vendors & Local Makers, King Heritage & Cultural Centre, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm. Come out and enjoy King's most unique spring shopping event, bringing together the very best vintage vendors and local makers! kingmuseum@king.ca or 905-833-2331

April 14 - Arts Society King presents 'BLUES and BREWS' live concert featuring Larry Kurtz and the Lawbreakers AND featuring local craft beer generously sponsored by Hockley, King Heritage and Cultural Centre, 7:30 pm. Tickets \$35 + HST online at ArtsSocietyKing.ca or by calling 905-833-2331.

April 16 - 20 - National Volunteer Week. neighbourhoodnetwork.org

April, 16 - 20 - Door to Door Textile Collection, Township wide. environmentalstewardship@king.ca

April 19 - Neighbourhood Network presents the Give Back Awards, Aurora, 7:00 pm. An annual cash prize donated by Magna International Inc. to graduating students for their ongoing dedication to community involvement! neighbourhoodnetwork.org

April 20 - King City Seniors Pot Luck Lunch 12:30pm. Please bring a main course or dessert. Contact Mary at 905-833-0448.

April 21 - Earth Day Planting & Clean Up, Tasca Park, 10:00 - 12:00pm. King Township is working together with Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA) to celebrate Earth Day! Help pick-up litter and plant trees and shrubs. Email environmentalstewardship@king.ca or call 905-833-5321 ext. 5226 for more information.

April 21 - King Clean Up Day, Township wide. In celebration of Earth Week, take part and help us clean up our parks, streets, ditches and neighbourhoods (Trisan Centre, Dr. William Laceby Nobleton Arena, Schomberg Library Nobleton Library, Ansnorveldt Library) 905-833-5321 ext.5226 or email environmentalstewardship@king.ca

April 21 - Dufferin Marsh Nature Connection Community Clean Up Day, Dufferin Marsh Bulletin Board - south side of Dr. Kay Drive east of Main Street Schomberg, 9:00 am. Pitch in and help clean up your community, DufferinMarsh.ca

April 21 & 22 - Arts Society King presents the 13th annual Studio Tour King throughout the Township, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm daily. AN ART EXPERIENCE THROUGHOUT KING TOWNSHIP. Featuring 40 Artists and easy-access studios and locations. New and original work including pottery, sculpture, jewellery, paintings and photography; truly something for everyone. A detailed brochure with map will be available at the King Heritage and Cultural Centre. All sites are free admission. ArtsSocietyKing.ca

April 23 - May 18 - Artistic Greetings and Handmade Card Sale & Meet the Artists, King Heritage & Cultural Centre, Tuesday - Saturday, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. A perfect chance to take home a small piece of local art! Drop by our gallery to browse an assortment of beautifully crafted greeting cards.

Please contact all groups directly for location and ticket information as some fees apply and may not be listed. Some details may be subject to change.



April 23 - Nobleton & King City Garden Club 60 year Anniversary Celebration and Flower show, Nobleton Community Hall, 7:30pm. Join us for cake, meet new and long-time members for conversation and visuals of 60 years www.gardenontario.org/site.php/nobletonking or nobletonkingcitygardenclub@gmail.com

April 23 - Schomberg Horticultural Society general meeting, Schomberg Community Hall, 7:30 pm. Guest speaker Wolfe Bonham will discuss 'The Evening Garden', guests \$3. Contact Jill Watts-Hayward 905-939-2781.

April 26 - King Township Volunteer Appreciation Awards Celebration, Country Day School, 6:30 pm. King.ca

April 28 - "Best of the Best" Rummage Sale, All Saints Church, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. Loony entry, 12 & under free. Treasures, clothes, toys, books. allsaints3@bellnet.ca

April 28 - Spring Greetings and Card Making Workshop, King Heritage & Cultural Centre, 2:00 - 4:00 pm, \$35. Join us for an afternoon of card-making with one of our expert instructors! Create a series of 4 unique pieces of art in the form of beautiful greeting cards. kingmuseum@king.ca

April 29 - The King Township Historical Society presents speaker Patricia Blackstock on the Lloydtown Rebellion, 2:00 - 4:00 pm, King Heritage and Cultural Centre. www.kingtowshiphistoricalsociety.com

May 1 - June 22 - The Art of Wedgwood, King Heritage & Cultural Centre, Tuesday - Saturday, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, admission by Donation. This exhibit will explore the limitless expressions of Wedgwood style through various types of stunning 3-dimensional art. kingmuseum@king.ca

May 3 - Youth Week Wildflower Planting, Tasca Park, 5:00-6:30pm. Get outside during Youth Week and help us plant wildflowers in Tasca Park. For information email environmentalstewardship@king.ca

May 5 - Electronic Recycling, Trisan Centre parking lot, 8:00am-12:00 pm. environmentalstewardship@king.ca or call 905-833-5321 ext. 5226

May 5 - Indoor Community Yard Sale, The Trisan Centre, 8:00 am-12:00 pm. The Township of King invites you to join us for the annual Community Indoor Yard Sale. Tables can be purchased for \$20 / table or two tables for \$35. events@king.ca

May 12 - Schomberg Horticultural Society annual plant sale (annuals, perennial, trees, baskets etc), Schomberg Community Hall, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm. Contact Jill Watts-Hayward 905-939-2781.

May 13 - Mother's Day Tea & Succulent Planting Workshop, King Heritage & Cultural Centre, 2:00 - 4:00 pm, \$35. Treat Mom this Mother's Day! Join us in our gallery for a lovely Mother's Day Tea and test out your green thumb in a hands-on succulent planting workshop! kingmuseum@king.ca

May 17 - King City Seniors trip 'Mennonite Lunch and Country Delights', leave from King City Arena, 8:30 am, \$77 pp. Contact Agnes at 905-841-7390 or Jayne at 905-853-1436.

May 18 - King City Seniors Pot Luck Lunch 12:30pm. Please bring a main course or dessert. Contact Mary at 905-833-0448.

May 21 - Nobleton Victoria Day, Nobleton Arena, parade - 11am, fair - 12:00 - 4:00 pm, fireworks - dusk. Celebrate Victoria Day in Nobleton! events@king.ca

May 21 - Nobleton Children's Theatre Co. presents "The Archie's Hit The Fair" performance, Nobleton Arena, 12:30 PM. Enjoy Riverdale's "The Archie's" at the Victoria Day Fair. nobletonchildrenstheatreco@gmail.com

May 21 - Nobleton & King City Garden Club Victoria Day Plant Sale & Parade, Nobleton Community Center Parking lot, 11:00 am - 4:00 pm. nobletonkingcitygardenclub@gmail.com

May 24 - 27 - The Schomberg Agricultural Society presents the 168th Agricultural Spring Fair at the Schomberg Fair Grounds. Enjoy the fair farm, horse pulls, demolition derby's and the world's finest midway, times vary. manager@schombergfair.com or schombergfair.com

May 26 - The Art of Wedgwood with Christine Marshall, King Heritage & Cultural Centre, 2:00 - 4:00 pm, admission by donation. Immerse yourself in our beautiful Wedgwood exhibit and enjoy a thoughtful and intriguing presentation by renowned artist Christine Marshall. kingmuseum@king.ca

May 28 - Dufferin Marsh Nature Connection Spring Bird Walk, Dufferin Marsh Bulletin Board - south side of Dr. Kay Drive east of Main Street Schomberg, 6:30 am. DufferinMarsh.ca

May 28 - Nobleton & King City Garden Club presents Garden Myths and Flower show, Nobleton Community Hall, 7:30pm with Robert Pavlis. www.gardenontario.org/site.php/nobletonking or nobletonkingcitygardenclub@gmail.com

May 29 - Container Planting Workshop, King City Community Garden Picnic Area, 10:30-11:30am. Pots, seeds, soils and wildflowers will be provided. Resident \$4.50 *Non-resident \$4.95 environmentalstewardship@king.ca or call 905-833-5321 ext. 5226

May 29 - Schomberg Horticultural Society general meeting, Schomberg Community Hall, 7:30 pm. Guest speaker Edith George will discuss 'Heritage Trees - Preserving our Natural Roots', guests \$3. Contact Jill Watts-Hayward 905-939-2781.

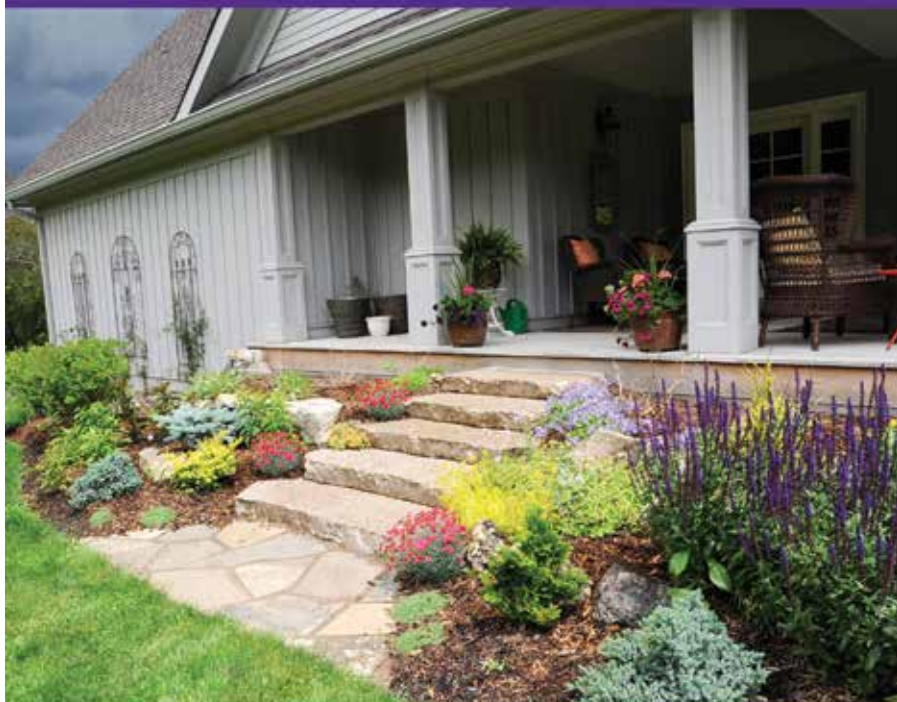
May 31 - Arts Society King publishes MOSAIC Magazine, summer 2018. Copies distributed in the King Weekly Sentinel or available at area shops, cafes and municipal buildings. ArtsSocietyKing.ca



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1/2 Page Laura Cormaggi



Laskay Emporium

Let Us Not Forget Laskay... by Kelly Mathews

Death by a thousand cuts. That seems to be the fate that has been bestowed on the once vibrant, enterprising and industrious hamlet of Laskay, Ontario.

Laskay, as it was officially named in 1861, is located on the 6th concession (Weston Road) between King Road and the King-Vaughan Townline. The name Laskay was given to the area by Joseph Baldwin, a pioneer of the 1830s, in honour of his native "Loskey" (Loskie), in Yorkshire, England. Today, Laskay is an unincorporated rural community in King Township, York Regional Municipality, and is home to roughly 80 residential addresses.

Laskay was originally settled in 1832. Assiduous, entrepreneurial and determined pioneers Joseph Baldwin and David Reesor were both instrumental in the early development and are credited with the building of Laskay. The construction of a dam and sawmill on the Humber River was already under way when Baldwin took over his land on the east side of the 6th concession. He completed what an earlier settler had started and erected a grist mill in 1849. He went on to build a carding and finishing mill, woolen mill, general store, post office, shoe shop, tavern, copper shop, church and rectory.

The development of the western half of Laskay began in 1856 when David Reesor of Markham subdivided fifty acres on the west side of the 6th concession. In this area a sawmill,

plaster mill, turning lathe mill for making chairs and beds, a tailor shop, store, butcher shop, slaughter house and barber shop were erected. The hamlet was thriving and, by the time of Canadian Confederation, Laskay had found a way to be almost entirely self-sufficient.

The Laskay of the mid to late 1800's was lively, pulsating and energetic. It had zeal, religious life, work, and recreation. Baldwin and Reesor's village had a powerful river turning much of its enterprise; it had trade, commerce, vision, a future, a plan for development and growth. It represented that early Canadian speculator spirit and industriousness. It had heart.

There have been many cuts to the landscape and heart of Laskay over the years... the loss of: Laskay Methodist Church (built in 1904, final service in 1968); Laskay Presbyterian Church (on land donated by David Reesor; now modified into a family home with all traces of its religious origins vanished); and, Laskay Emporium & Post Office (which closed in 1926) known originally as the General Store (built 1845 by Joseph Baldwin). In 1960, the Emporium was donated to the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Arbuckle and moved to Black Creek Pioneer Village. The most recent cut, which many considered the heart of Laskay, was the recent loss of Laskay Hall which was established 1859. This iconic building was uprooted from its home of almost 160 years and driven 2.8 km to the east to rest at the King Township Museum among other protected heritage property treasures.

But it's not just the loss of the buildings in Laskay that has impacted the heritage of the hamlet. The arm of the Humber River that once

supported the tiny village became a trickle due to clearing of the forest, which had a significant impact on early commercial life at the turn of the last century. The cemetery that was beside the original Methodist church was decommissioned and the pioneering Baldwin family, among others, were exhumed and reburied at Aurora's cemetery. Even the early pioneers themselves have not been permitted to rest in peace in Laskay.

According to the Tweedsmuir Histories, by 1949 all that remained in Laskay were a couple dozen residential homes, the United Church, General Store, and Laskay Hall (also known as the Women's Institute). Even then the community questioned whether the identity of its community's founders could be regained. Fast forward to 2018 with the United Church, General Store, and Laskay Hall now gone from the landscape, that question becomes more pertinent today.

And yet... there's something to this Laskay... everyone seems to want a piece of it. Although two of the buildings once central to the village are now relocated kilometers from their original homestead, and members of its pioneering families are resting in nearby Aurora, there is a certain peace in knowing that the history of Laskay is not entirely lost – you just have to drive a bit to find it. To that end, we need to thank



Laskay 1897

and credit the wisdom of those that fought to protect a few of its heritage treasures.

Pedestrian life is difficult to imagine in Laskay with the absence of sidewalks along the main artery which is Weston Road. As for community life; there is a small park (Laskay Park on Rolling Court) with a modest playground which, in essence, acts as the community square. It is understood that the Township is working with the Laskay Hall Board on a public art piece, and discussion is underway for a revitalization of Laskay Park. Currently there are no walking or cycling trails to connect the tiny hamlet to the rest of King, but the 2015 Township of King Trails Master Plan shows the potential for a future 6-km trail link from Laskay to Nobleton. All are promising signs for Laskay's future.

While this once-bustling community has now lost all semblance of its industrious and commercial past, the name Laskay remains and can be seen on the north and south hamlet signs, with its proud settlement date of 1832, 186 years ago. And for the time being, that will have to be enough.



Laskay sign by David Boyd



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BIOLOGIST AT THE TABLE

The life your food leads before it reaches the plate

Art Weis is Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Toronto, and former director of the Koffler Scientific Reserve at Jokers Hill.



— Illustration by Cheryl Uhrig

This Little Piggy

My friend Susana is a confirmed vegetarian. Although she hails from Texas, steak holds no attraction. To her, lobster tastes like scrambled eggs; so why not just eat scrambled eggs? But she admits there is one thing that could tempt her to stray from her veggie ways: bacon. And how could it not? Jean and I can't imagine a trip to St. Lawrence Market without a sandwich of baked side bacon, sliced thick, on a bun. Bacon comes, of course, from pigs, and pigs are curiously different from other farm animals.

Uniquely, pigs are single-use critters. We grow them for meat. In contrast, we grow chickens for both meat and eggs. Cattle give meat, milk and leather. With sheep it's meat, milk and wool. Although horses are strictly mount and draught animals in North America, their milk and meat are popular elsewhere. And while the pig's bristly hair and skin make good brushes and footballs, ultimately we grow them for chops, tenderloins, and...bacon!

Another odd thing is that the domesticated

pig's progenitor, the wild boar, continued to thrive in the woods right next to the farm. Not so with wild cattle, chickens and horses, which seldom came in contact with their domesticated descendants. In older (9,000+ years ago) archeological sites left by hunter-gatherers, one finds only the broader, longer tusks of wild boars. At younger agricultural sites one finds mostly the diminutive tusks of domesticated pigs, but with a few wild ones mixed in.

Scientists have long held that pigs were domesticated in two places: China's Mekong river valley, and eastern Anatolia (present-day Turkey). Consistent structural differences between Asian and European breeds led Darwin to conclude that pigs arose in two distinct and discrete "domestication events." In this scenario, in each place, someone sequestered a group of animals, selected the best ones, bred them only one with another, then continued the line down the generations, isolated from their wild cousins. But new evidence indicates

this story is far too simple. In fact, the data point to a bit of porcine hanky-panky.

The pig's genealogical history is written in its DNA. Complete DNA sequences have been recently obtained for nearly 100 pig breeds as well as from existing wild boar populations all across Eurasia. By lining up all the genes, and seeing where the different breeds and the boars are the same, and where one has a **T** and the other an **A**, or **G** instead of **C**, etc., one can construct a "family tree". If the pig had been domesticated one time in each of two places, you would expect a simple family tree. There would be two main branches (Asian and European) that each split into two further branches (one wild, and one domesticated). But the pig's tree is not simple. In fact, it has bits that are more like a web than a tree. Yes, there are basically Asian and European branches, but, the tree indicates that wild boars have frequently "jumped the pen" for extracurricular breeding. And curiously, it appears that a few of those amorous wild boars

belonged to a line that is now extinct; their only living descendants are on the farm.

With all this gene swapping, how do the wild and domesticated animals remain so different? Relentless selection. There are some features, like small tusks and rapid growth, that farmers always value. When it's time to make new piglets, they only choose parents with these features. This is reflected in the DNA. There are long stretches of genes that are nearly identical across the domesticated breeds, even though they differ widely among the wild populations. No doubt these stretches include the genes for the desired features. So for the pig, domestication was less an "event" than an "ongoing process".

So why only meat? For one thing, you can't milk a pig. Milk flows when you squeeze sheep or cattle teats. Not so with the pig. Suckling pigs really do suckle, and only this suction gets the milk flowing. I suppose you could design a pig milking machine, but wouldn't you rather have the bacon?

BAKED SIDE BACON WITH MAPLE-WHISKY GLAZE

This is a decadent treat. A slab of side bacon (available at the St. Lawrence Market) is baked with a sweet and savory and sour glaze, then sliced and served in a sandwich, or cubed as an hors d'oeuvre.

- One slab of smoked side bacon, unsliced.
- Glaze (combine 1 C bourbon, ½ C brown sugar, ¼ C maple syrup, ¼ C cider vinegar, and a big dash of Worcestershire sauce in a sauce pan. Stir and bring to boil until smooth).

Preheat the oven to 350. Set the slab in an iron skillet, fatty side up. Use a sharp knife to score the top about ½ inch deep, to produce a crisscross pattern. Drizzle half the glaze over the top and brush into the scoring. Cover the pan with foil and set into the oven. Remove after an hour, flip the slab and brush on more glaze. Cover again with foil and bake for another hour at 325.

Remove the slab to a plate and let it rest for 10-20 min. Meanwhile thicken the glaze in the skillet on the stovetop after skimming off as much fat as you can. When ready, slice it or cube it, as you desire.

Serve the bacon with the glaze, mustard (course-ground is good), pickled cucumbers, peppers and/or beets, and a crusty bread. For a special presentation, serve it on top of polenta.



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Ian Dejardin debuts first curated display of the McMichael Collection as Executive Director

by Daniela Traverso-Galati

Ian Dejardin, Executive Director of the McMichael, has made a personal selection of works of art from the gallery's vaults for his first curated show since taking the reins of the gallery. On view until November 18, *The Art of Canada: Director's Cut* includes many classic favourites, some that have been rarely seen, and others that might surprise an audience already familiar with Canadian art. For those visiting from abroad, this display will act as the perfect introduction to the beauty, diversity, and artistry of *The Art of Canada**.

Dejardin's dip into the treasures of the McMichael collection features 150 artworks by artists including Tom Thomson and the Group of Seven, Emily Carr; Norval Morrisseau, David Milne, Christiane Pflug, Alex Colville, and some less familiar names. Through these choices, Dejardin takes visitors on a storytelling journey, revealing a lot about himself and how he fell in love with Canada along the way, and most importantly, showcase his deep appreciation for Canadian art. In this show he highlights the strength and depth of the gallery's core collection—a collection which continues to grow and provide a unique arts and cultural experience for the public.

Beginning March 3, visitors will be delighted to discover a unique photography exhibition that explores the resilience of hip hop culture. ...*Everything Remains Raw: Photographing Toronto's Hip Hop Culture from Analogue to Dig-*

ital is a primary exhibition organized by the McMichael Canadian Art Collection for the Scotiabank CONTACT Photography Festival. Archival photographs act as visual representations of hip hop culture in Canada and guide this exhibition's consideration of the evolution and longevity of this now global cultural phenomenon. Works by Canadian photographers Craig Boyko, Michael Chambers, Stella Fakiyesi, Demuth Flake, Patrick Nichols, Sheinina Raj, and Nabil Shash capture the growth, vibrancy, creativity, and influence of the hip hop scene that Toronto has fostered since the 1980s. This show will be on view until October 21.

Both remarkable shows, in conjunction with *The Group of Seven Guitar Project*—on view until March 18—make the McMichael an ideal cultural destination. This exhibition explores the art of guitar making inspired by the Group of Seven and Tom Thomson. Accompanying the extraordinary handcrafted guitars is a curated show of paintings and a live performance film screening in the interactive gallery space.

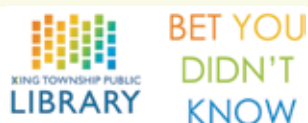
Make a date with art and nature, and visit the McMichael to experience artworks that represent and celebrate *The Art of Canada**.

For more information on exhibitions and programs, visit mcmichael.com.

*THE ART OF CANADA is an official mark of the McMichael Canadian Art Collection.



Norval Morrisseau (1932-2007), *Thunderbird with Inner Spirit*, c. 1978, acrylic on canvas, 208.3 x 127 cm, Purchase 1979, McMichael Canadian Art Collection, 1979.6



by Kalli Secord

The King Township Public Library (KTPL) has more to offer than books, though we do love our books! We are always adding non-traditional items to both our catalogue and to our programming. So come in and re-discover your library.



Bet You Didn't Know...

The Schomberg, Nobleton and King City branches all have an Express Checkout. Whether the checkout desk is busy or you would rather speed things up by doing it yourself - you can use our **Express Checkout**. All you need is your KTPL library card, and our helpful library staff would be happy to show you how. We guarantee you'll be a master in no time.

All four branches have our **Out-of-the-Box Collection**. Launched in October of 2017 the Library has started lending non-traditional items to our cardholders. This includes: telescopes, portable art easels, drafting kits, blood pressure monitors, a parachute for kids, Blue-Bot robots and their mats, Makey Makey circuitry kits, and even a week-long temporary membership pass granting access to the Trisan Fitness Centre. All you need to borrow any of these items is your KTPL library card in good standing. Be sure to keep an eye out for new items being

added: our newest additions are rock tumblers and digital keyboards.

We now have **Charging Kits** available for patrons to borrow while at the library, in all four branches. If you are at the library and have forgotten your cables, the library has kits for Apple, Android and LG devices. Each kit contains a wall charger, USB cord and battery pack - your device will be ready for use in no time!

Along with our public computers, we also have **laptops and tablets** for you to borrow while at the library. We understand that our computers are popular and we want to do everything we can to provide our patrons with the devices they need. For patrons under the age of 18 we only ask that their parent/guardian sign a waiver on their behalf and they can borrow a device that best suits their needs.

We are in the process of introducing a **Seed library**. We are working in part-



nership with the Township of King to give patrons free access to seeds that they can plant in their garden. More details of this exciting endeavor will come as we establish the collection.

In early June, we will be offering a **Bonfire and Book Buddies** event at Cold Creek

Conservation Area. In partnership with Parks, Recreation and Culture, there will be stories, a bonfire and all the fun treats that go with it. Check out your Parks, Recreation & Culture guide for more information on this delightful upcoming programming.

Bet you didn't know that we will not stop here in offering new and exciting non-traditional items to our patrons. We like to keep pace with societal trends by incorporating these materials and services into our library. We are determined that our service evolution will not stop while there are still unique and intriguing items we can offer to our patrons.

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HOME, FREE

by Dorita Peer

It was a Sunday.

On March 17, 1957, when they took that photo for the Toronto Telegram I was worn out and fast asleep, so I missed all the hoopla. The doll hugging me is almost as big as me. She looks wide-eyed for both of us. New Canadians, the caption reads. The doll wore away, but my life just got bigger and better.

They were children during the great depression, adolescents during the Second World War, and young parents when the Hungarian Uprising broke out. Theirs was no cake walk through life. You would hardly know it, growing up in our house. My parents made their lives' aim to protect us from their past. To give us a lifetime of Sundays.

They never called Hungary "The Old Country" or "The Motherland." From the moment they touched down, Canada became their home and native land. How they struggled to shed the past! Moving homes, almost every year. Buying not one, but three sets of encyclopaedias. My father read the Sunday Telegram to my mother. When her English got good enough, she stopped cleaning houses and began a career in banking. He, a musician, carried plaster and lumberjacked before getting his electrical journeyman papers and becoming a staunch union man. How they worked! My brother and I grew up footloose latchkey kids, strong and free, in the city and in the beloved northlands, where they also ran a holiday resort business.

We had escaped in the dark, hidden away on a milk run to Austria. The Red Cross dropped us off in England, where my father was offered America, Australia or Canada as our final destination. "The country without military conscription," is what he answered. Emphatically. He had chosen for us the right to choose how we would live.

My parents did not come to this great land dreaming of riches. They came to give us a true childhood, glorious and free. Their traumatic past left its mark, but not on us. Sweet dreams and a promising future, the caption reads – no greater gift can any child be given.



A Peaceful World

by Hendrika Ono and Dorita Peer

While Canada enjoys the international reputation for being a safe and peaceful nation, native Canadians and long-time residents rarely stop to inventory all our privileges.

Job opportunities, material wealth, and abundant resources are only a part of our experience as citizens. But personal freedoms rank even higher on the happiness scale for most people, and many attribute the success of the "Canadian experiment" to our inherent belief in individual rights and freedoms. Religious freedom is the beacon that draws many immigrants to Canada, including the Almasri family; freedom and Canadian values.

One core value is hospitality, which is also a cherished Syrian tradition. We gather round the family table enjoying baklava and Rakan's "special" coffee, prepared by his daughters. They freely share the recipe, which includes the discovery of Coffeemate. It is good, and sweet as the ambiance and promise of a good life in a new land.

Rakan's eye was on Canada from the moment the family fled Syria. The Ahmaddiyya Muslim community to which the family belongs teaches that everyone is born to the service of mankind. That is why Rakan brought his children here: so that they could fulfill their

mandate. His faith is deep and unshaken by the many trials the family endured. Prayers by their spiritual leader – along with the Humanity First organization's efforts – are what got him here. In Turkey, where they found a temporary home, his prayers found him a job. Rakan prayed, promising to donate a large sum of money he did not have, for the relief of fellow Syrians. The very next day, the landlord announced that his relative, "Really needed an engineer." Rakan's wife, Houda, also helped to support the family by working at a mall.

Houda, who had been a teacher in Syria, has just received her Montessori certification so that she can now continue in her chosen vocation. Rakan currently works as a manufacturing engineer for Magna. In Syria, he was an established engineer and entrepreneur until he was clapped into prison. During his 57-day incarceration, he experienced dreams. The day after his release, with hardly a word to anyone, the family left everything behind and escaped their war-torn land, sometimes by bus or on foot, and sometimes by paying off extortive drivers. By fleeing Syria, Rakan was fulfilling an earlier message given him by his spiritual advisor.

Wryly, the practical children lament the bicycles they had to leave behind, but they also tell of their fear. That time is now behind them and they are looking forward. Najeeb, 20, studies computer engineering at Ryerson. Daughter, Eaman, 19, hopes for a future in medicine. Creative Nourhan, 15, sees herself in fashion design, or perhaps as a teacher like her mother.

Ten-year-old Ebraheem longs to become a pro soccer player; striker or mid-fielder. Talha, 11, wants to serve and protect as a police officer.

The family is still on the move – five times since arriving two years ago – like our parents did, in search of opportunity and community. They have grown to love King, where friends are already near and dear. Do they miss Syrian life? The community? How about the food? We were told there is an Arabic store in Vaughan Mills where they can get the unique groats to make kubba, a sort of meat and nut-stuffed dumpling, which features on special occasions. But our discussion does not seem to arouse any nostalgia – it is simply not that important. "Wherever your family is, is home," says Rakan.

Rakan is a man on a mission. "Everyone was created for some purpose," he says. And the real teachings of Islam bring people together in peace and toleration. He came from a divided land where brother is still killing brother. He has had enough of persecution and in-fighting. As his spiritual leader, His Holiness Caliph Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad said at a recent conference in Canada, "We Ahmadi Muslims are peace-loving and seek to build bridges of love and hope between different religions and different communities." The doors of the local mosque in Maple are open to one and all. The values that Muslim immigrants are as eager to protect as all Canadians are traditional and deeply held.

Perhaps it is best summed up by His Holiness: "Human values – the foundation for a peaceful world."

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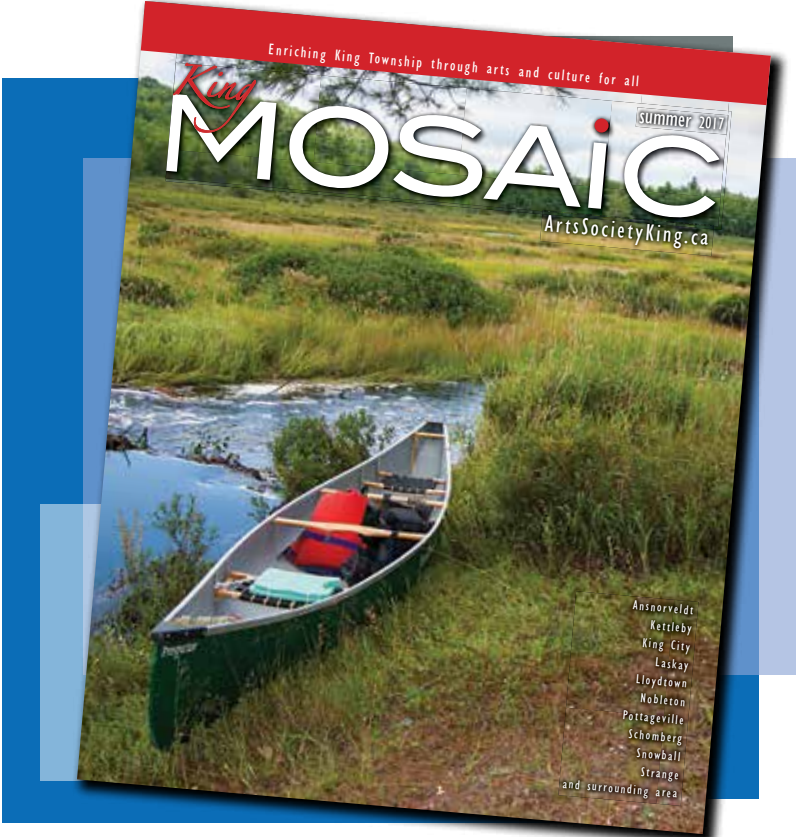






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