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summer 2024

King MOSAIC

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Joanne Bailey

Brian Boake

Giovannina Colalillo

Brenda Di Luca

Sherry Dube

Karen Duplisea

Jacqueline England

Simone Estrin

Debra Gibbs

Sonja Golchin

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Karen Hunter

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Janet McLeod-Wortel

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We welcome your feedback, contributions, and suggestions.

Write to us at

editor@artsocietyking.ca

FEATURED CONTRIBUTOR: BRENDA DI LUCA



Please welcome Brenda Di Luca as a new contributor to MOSAIC. Brenda is a former high school English teacher who currently works in the publishing industry. She enjoys practicing yoga, hiking, walking her dogs, delicious food, and traveling. Brenda is passionate about alternative health practices, as evidenced by her story in this issue about the healing properties of crystals. Brenda lives in King City with her husband, children and rescue dogs.



SHIFT

Famed American sculptor Richard Serra passed away on March 26, leaving a legacy of his art in locations throughout the world. But did you know that one of his early pieces is located right here in King Township? Read about Shift on Page 13.



CONTEST WINNER

Congratulations to Wendy-Sue Bishop! In the Spring 2024 Issue of MOSAIC, Joanne Bailey wrote about the English tradition of Afternoon Tea. Wendy-Sue correctly identified that the British aristocrat credited with having started that custom was Anna, the 7th Duchess of Bedford, in the 1840s. We'll be in touch, Wendy-Sue, to deliver your prize—a \$50 gift card to a local establishment in King Township.

CONTEST

For this issue's chance to win, please refer to Brian Boake's article on the Bullwer-Lytton Fiction Contest on Page 8.

Submit your answer to:

Editor@ArtsSocietyKing.ca by April 12, 2024, for a chance to win a **\$50 gift card** to a local establishment in King Township.

OUR COVER KAREN HUNTER

On the cover of the Summer 2024 MOSAIC are three pieces of dragonfly jewellery created by our featured artist, Karen Hunter. Karen's specialty is hand-cut jewellery, primarily using the metal niobium, which she anodizes to create a dazzling array of colours. A versatile artist, Karen also does free-motion quilting and paints landscapes in watercolours. Read more about Karen on page 4.



KHCC: LET THE GAMES BEGIN



THE HEALING POWER OF CRYSTALS

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On Gossamer Wings: KAREN HUNTER

Handmade jewellery has a captivating allure that resonates with **elegance and timelessness.**



WRITTEN BY
JOANNE BAILEY

Joanne is a retired college professor and registered nurse. She is an active volunteer with Arts Society King and the Nobleton Seniors' Centre.

The many gemstones and metals, delicate craftsmanship and intricate designs bring forth emotions, and sometimes memories, making it more than mere adornment. Whether you own an heirloom, have purchased a new piece or received a gift, jewellery holds precious sentiments and stories that connect us to our past and present.

To behold Karen Hunter's creations is to truly appreciate the beauty of a unique piece of jewellery. Karen works primarily with niobium, sterling silver and semi-precious stones. Karen explains that "each piece is hand-cut and formed, and then after all the work is done to each piece of niobium, it is anodized, which is how the colour is created. Anodizing is using electricity; different voltages create different colours, and the colours are different thicknesses of oxide on the niobium. The texture on the metal is created with hammer marks and roller printing, which is putting the metal through a rolling mill against paper, linen fabric or other metal that has a texture, which transfers to the finished piece." Niobium is considered rare and was first discovered

in 1801 by the English chemist, Charles Hockett. When anodized, niobium displays unique, iridescent colours that make for eye-catching jewellery.

Karen honed her craft at the Ontario College of Art (OCA), where she received a diploma in Design/General Design in 1985. During those years, Karen took three jewellery courses, one non-ferrous metal forming course and three enamel courses. Besides workshops in anodizing titanium and niobium, Karen has studied photo etching on metal, fold-forming, lapidary, hydraulic press forming and blacksmithing -- all of which she has tried to incorporate into her work.

Karen has been working for herself and doing shows since 1989. She registered her business in 1983, while still at OCA, when Eaton's department store bought six of her large sterling silver forged bracelets made with five-millimetre square wire. From 1985 to 1990, Karen worked for Fairthorne Studios, making brass hollowware and giftware. This is where she refined her silversmithing/hammering skills. In 2016, Karen got a major commission from the Royal Canadian Mint to make 6,000 tiny niobium dragonflies that they put on fine silver coins. Karen's dragonflies feature an array of colours such as azure, purple, yellow, pink and red.

Since as early as 1989, Karen has exhibited her work at numerous craft shows throughout Ontario. She has

participated in the Arts Society King Studio Tour, Schomberg Street Gallery, Muskoka Arts and Crafts Show in Bracebridge, Lake Scugog Studio Tour in Port Perry, the Headwaters Arts Festival in Caledon East and the Festival of Crafts in Calgary, Alberta. She has also had two of her pieces accepted in the Metal Arts Guild's Annual Juried Show at the Metro Toronto Reference Library. Karen has twice received first-place jewellery awards from the Haliburton Highlands Guild of Fine Arts and an honourable mention in the Canadian Arts and Crafts Festival in Barrie.

Although Karen's primary work has been her jewellery, in 2011, Karen started quilting and says that adding that art form meant that her "love of colour and pattern was expanded." Karen pieces and "free-motion quilts" each one of them herself. Karen says a "quilt consists of three layers -- a top, batting and back. Quilting is the term used when sewing these layers together. Free-motion quilting is when you are using a sewing machine and the feed dogs are dropped, allowing you to move the fabric in any direction. I use the same machine that I piece the top together with for the quilting."

Traditional quilting is done by hand and Karen says, "when I was studying at the Ontario College of Art, I made a quilt by hand. I have great respect for those who quilt by hand but I prefer to do the

whole quilt using a machine. I find my ideas for quilts from magazines, photos online, and requests from customers and friends. For my 'Thread Painting' quilted wall hangings, I use photos that I have taken, and photos friends have given me permission to use. 'Thread Painting' quilting is very concentrated stitching that creates the picture. I have also been making jewellery with quilt patterns on them since 2003."

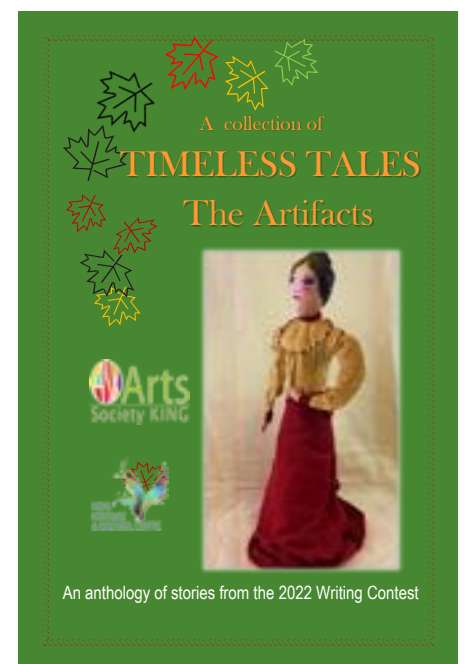
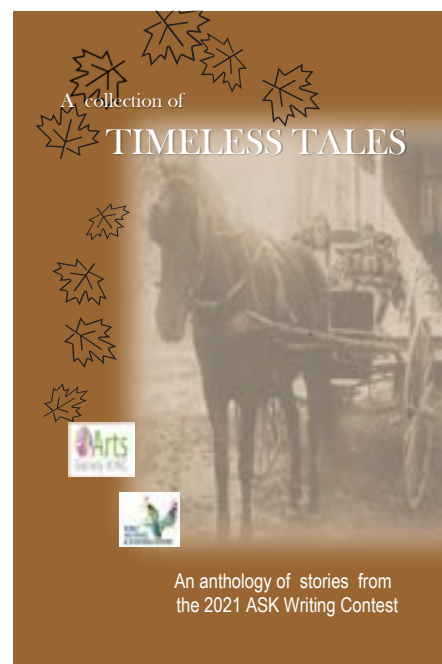
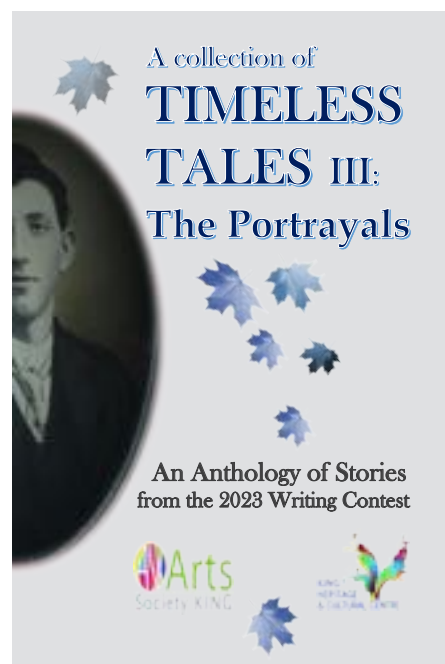
In addition to her jewellery and quilting, Karen took watercolour classes from 2005 to 2014 at Cedar Ridge Creative Centre and now paints landscapes as well as abstracts. Karen has plenty of inspiration for her paintings close to home: Her studio and workshop is in Caledon, where she lives on 10 acres just south of the Glen Haffy nature preserve, surrounded by an oasis of lush forests and bounteous towering trees.

Over the years, Karen has been interested in many other forms of art, glassblowing, weaving, ceramics and even a workshop on blacksmithing "a real kind of metal," Karen says. For now, however, she has stated that she is "settled on jewellery, quilting and painting."

Karen is a dedicated and diligent artist who absorbs herself in her art with obvious passion, determined to finish each piece distinctively. Her work is featured on the Arts Society King website and at www.KarenHunterJewellery.com.

A Timeless LEGACY

“My favourite event!”
Erika Baird exclaimed recently.



WRITTEN BY DORITA PEER

Dorita is a poet, writer, sculptor, painter, musician, and gardener. She made her living first as an optician, then as an equestrian trainer, coach, breeder, and international official.

The supervisor of King Heritage & Cultural Centre, who waves her magic wand -- and presto! -- wonderful historical happenings happen, and she chooses Timeless Tales? She knows the museum archives are a treasure trove to be mined. And uncovering literary talent is my not-so-secret agenda at Arts Society King. So the partnership was natural -- story and history being hand in glove, you see.

Michele McNally, Prez of ASK, once and future thespian, completes the creative team. Past contests proved effective enticements to participation, with prize money as extra inducement. With Michele's fundraising superpowers -- et voilà! -- The Timeless Tales All-Ages Writing Contest series was good to go. Its fourth iteration, as *Timeless Tales: The Haunts*, is underway.

Haunt: a place frequented by a person or people. Or the other meaning you probably thought of first -- a hint? Perhaps. It's writers' choice. The five

scintillating settings picked as prompts are Eaton Hall, Hogan's Inn, King Railway Station, Schomberg Community Hall and the Kettleby Death House. Death houses stored remains when the ground was frozen.

The calibre of writing of all 25 or so entries have inspired the publication of an anthology each year. ASK projects keep evolving. For 2024's fourth edition, artists' renderings of the haunts feature in lieu of photos, joining visual with literary arts. Who does not love an illustrated storybook?

A *Collection of Timeless Tales* anthology runs 100 pages or so and is professionally printed and bound by Printing Legacy in Scarborough. The leathery brown cover of 2021 depicts one of five olde tyme photos chosen as prompts: a horse and buggy with two little girls at the reins. Other chosen prompts were just as eyebrow-raising images. Men in the rafters at a barn-raising bee, a dapper couple hurrying off somewhere, a man and his hound in the field. In 2022, *Timeless Tales: The Artifacts* offered the psychometric power of objects like the vacant canary cage used in mines, or a single shoe -- child-sized -- and the writers' most popular ones: a gaping, empty jewel case, and the lovely dolly who made the cover.

Timeless Tales III: The Portrayals, in 2023, notable for the five photographic portraits shot head-on of unsmiling folks commanded not to budge or breathe, for extra fun, also challenged writers with five book titles from the museum's venerably dusty stacks. To be mixed-and-matched at will with a portrait were such titles as *Daddy Long Legs*, *God and the Grocery Man*, *Talks with Young Men*, *Practical Etiquette* and *Science for Modern Living*. The handsome young man, by vote, made the blue cover. It could easily have been the pretty young lady...or the stern couple...or the cluster of little boys, or...

Each year, short of getting Margaret Atwood to judge, the panel of three are carefully chosen for their experience and superb credentials. Librarians like Adele Reid and Kelley England, educators like Sue Iaboni and Phyllis Vernon. Authors like Kelly Mathews and writer/educators like Domenico Capilongo and Roderick Turner. Professional editors like Nancy Rathz, and Marie-Lynn Hammond, with a Griffin Prize winner to her credit. All have been tickled pink to assist, blown away by the writing and keen to lend their seasoning to the potboiler set.

The art of the short story is a demanding literary form that came to flower over a century ago and still blooms

sweetly. Who will ever forget the ending of Shirley Jackson's *The Lottery Winner*. In the footsteps of giants like Chekhov, Poe, D.H. Lawrence, and Canada's own Alice Munro, our aspiring authors had much to make up on a budget of 1,500 words. Build people who gasp and strive, suspend us on a thread over a cliff's edge, woo us with the choicest words, tell us like it's never been told, teach us something new.

A real authors' night in the fall is just reward for great work: readings, book signings, feasting and fans. It is gratifying to see familiar faces each year, authors I know through my job as editor. Groomed their words gently and searched the thoughts behind them. Lightly touched their pages with lawful punctuations, dictionary spellings, or syntax more surefooted. Otherwise, their original voices are let to shine; these writers become authors. What will their legacy be? A breathtaking best seller? An arresting editorial? A family's heirloom story, told and retold fireside...

The Team have done their part. Said Michele, "The growth of literary arts in the community has inspired other events." Said Erika, "We hope this legacy encourages other aspiring authors to continue looking to the past for future exciting story ideas."

I hope so. Let the word processor be mightier than the missile.

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STEPHEN LECCE
MPP for King-Vaughan





On behalf of King Township Council, welcome to the summer edition of MOSAiC.

Volunteer Appreciation Awards

On behalf of Council and residents, I'd like to congratulate the recipients of our annual Volunteer Appreciation Awards, including this year's Citizen of the Year, Ivan Rapa for his special dedication, generosity and time given to the community through his 13 years with the King United Soccer Club.

Nine other people and organizations were honoured for their positive contributions to King. Their selflessness and dedication to making our community a better place is truly commendable.

For more information on how each of the award recipients volunteers their time, visit king.ca/AwardRecipients.



King Food and Drink Fest

One of our premiere outdoor events happens on Saturday, June 8 with the King Food and Drink Fest.

In celebration of the 10th anniversary, we've expanded the menu. This year's festival will feature some of the best food and beverage vendors in the area, non-stop live music, a kids zone and much more.

The event takes place at Memorial Park at 25 Doctors Lane in King City from noon to 9 p.m.

For more information, including how to purchase tickets, visit kingfooddrink.ca.

Township-Wide Recreation Centre construction update

Work continues on the Township-Wide Recreation Centre (TWRC) being built on the southeast corner of Seneca's King City campus at the 15th Sideroad and Dufferin Street.

I'm proud to say that it is the first such structure in Canada to achieve the Canada Green Building Council's Zero Carbon Building Design Certification. This certification is awarded for new constructions which demonstrate climate leadership through innovative carbon reduction strategies and optimal building performance.

Slated to open in the fall of 2024, the facility will include an aquatics centre with a six-lane lap pool and leisure pool, two NHL-sized ice rinks, spectator seating, an artificial turf fieldhouse with running track and a multi-use community space.

For construction updates, visit king.ca/MajorProjects.

Online Water Usage Information

With the onset of warmer weather, it's a good time to check your home for potential causes of high-water consumption.

Property owners can monitor their water usage and sign up for pre-authorized automatic withdrawals on the Township's online portal. Additional details are available at king.ca/WaterBilling.

The billing cycle for water and wastewater has shifted this year from quarterly to bi-monthly. This change will result in smaller bills per cycle and help distribute larger bills across seasonal months for better manageability.

Please continue to volunteer, shop locally as much as you can and visit king.ca for the latest news on all things King.



Sincerely,

Steve Pellegrini
Mayor, King Township

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Pellegrini".

THE *Art* OF HUMOUR



WRITTEN BY BRIAN BOAKE

Brian is a survivor of decades in the IT industry, husband, father of two, supporter of the arts and Toronto Raptors fan.

The first sentence of a novel can often become as famous as the work itself. Thus we have, "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times," which sets up the reader for the vicissitudes of the French Revolution, in Charles Dickens' *A Tale of Two Cities*. Or, well ... consider the opening line of 1984, "It was a bright cold day in April, and the clocks were striking thirteen."

I don't know about you, but I was intrigued. And how could I omit, "It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife"? Maybe in your day, Jane Austen. Regardless, if you can turn out a crisp effort like that, I plan to read on.

Here's another opening sentence beginning with "It", to wit: "It was a dark and stormy night ..." No, folks, not a period:

it goes on – "... the rain fell in torrents – except at occasional intervals, when it was checked by a violent gust of wind which swept up the streets (for it is in London that our scene lies), rattling along the housetops, and fiercely agitating the scanty flame of the lamps that struggled against the darkness." That dismal (are we supposed to feel sorry for the lamps?), uneconomical ("occasional intervals") mess is the first sentence of Edward Bulwer-Lytton's novel "Paul Clifford," published in 1830. Has it become the most satirized first sentence ever? I don't think there's any doubt about that, even before the wild success of the Bulwer-Lytton Contest.

The brainchild of a mischievous Professor, Scott Rice, at San Jose State University, the Bulwer-Lytton Contest encourages all and sundry to submit bad first sentences for novels never to be written. The results are hilarious. Here's the 2023 winner, selected from over 6,000 entries: "She was a beautiful woman; more specifically she was the kind

of beautiful woman who had an hourlong skincare routine that made her look either ethereal or like a glazed donut, depending on how attracted to her you were."

There are so many other winners, in various categories. For instance, as a word-lover, I relished this beauty, from the Western entries:

"Brawl, grapple, battle, spar, roughhouse, clash, combat, altercation, dust up," the drunken cowpoke grunted at the lawman, a wobbly hand dangling above his pistol like a spider waiting to descend upon on a helpless fly but Sheriff Thesaurus only stared him down coldly and responded through gritted teeth: "Mister, them's fightin' words."

In the Crime and Detective sub-section, we find:

Under the skewering stare of DI Jack "Robin" Redbreast, the culprit's wits scattered like a patina of rain-startled spiders, leaving his fraught denials as nakedly unconvincing as Mick Jagger in a movie role.

I greatly enjoy reading facetious literature, and I can always get my fill here.

I also try to write light-hearted prose and poetry and have made some entries to the contest. Here's a recent effort:

"Perhaps my new cannabis is a bit strong," mused munchie-maddened Milton McMorris, after his demand for an all-dressed pizza with double anchovies was responded to with a sullen, "Sir, I'm a barista."

My attempts at humour, and those of my friends around the King community, can be enjoyed at our Write Now! sessions. These occur every other Thursday at the King Library, where we'd love to see you.

You can see all the 2023 winners at: <https://www.bulwer-lytton.com/2023>

Want to try your own hand at writing an opening sentence that rivals any of the Bulwer-Lytton winners? Submit your entry to: Editor@ArtsSocietyKing.ca by Mon., July 15, 2024, for a chance to win a \$50 gift card to a local establishment in King Township.



HELLO
my name is

Sherry Dube

**I'm honoured to
be a member of
Arts Society King!**

I grew up in Saskatchewan, where I started sketching and oil painting at an early age. I painted in oils until around 2020, when I was re-introduced to acrylics at a paint night with friends. I found that I loved, but also hated, their quick-drying properties! However, I have slowly learned how to use them to my advantage.

I obtain my reference material from spending a lot of time outdoors photographing the Ontario landscape, flora and fauna. I am largely a self-taught traditional artist who creates works with a highly detailed and realistic style. My specialty is landscapes but I also enjoy

painting floral works, birds and various other wildlife. My wish is for viewers and collectors of my work to gain a new appreciation for the beautiful world we live in and to help them experience a sense of peace at the end of a long day. It's especially rewarding for me when my viewers "get lost" in the details of my work. The beauty I find in nature around me is what inspires my work, and my desire to preserve this vision is what motivates me to create.

My work is found in many private collections across Canada. I have also recently been elected to the Ontario Society of Artists.

: The Pond



Let me ASK you



WRITTEN BY
PATTI SKRYPEK

Patti is a retired communications professional and active volunteer who applies her creative skills to support a number of not-for-profit organizations within the community.



KAREN DUPLISEA

works in charcoal, acrylic and oils, and moves through landscape and portraiture, creating both realistic and abstract work. She is currently illustrating a children's book called "World of Water, World of Light" that will feature 40 drawings in charcoal, with Oregon-based author Vicki Spandel. It is targeted to be released in Fall 2024.

kduplisea@hotmail.com

WHEN AND WHERE WERE YOU HAPPIEST?

Performing as a professional dancer throughout the 1980s with the Toronto Dance Theatre, under the direction of the three co-founders, Patricia Beatty, David Earle and Peter Randazzo. I played many roles onstage and was also the most myself, all at the same time.

WHAT DO YOU CONSIDER YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT?

Having three different careers over the course of my life so far – professional dancer, then associate professor and co-director at the Ryerson Theatre School (now Metropolitan Toronto University School of Performance) and, for the last seven years, a fine-art painter, all of which I have loved and poured myself and my passion into.

IF YOU WERE TO DIE AND COME BACK AS A PERSON OR A THING, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

A vampire, which is both a person and a thing, I suppose. I love Gothic architecture and all things dark and mysterious!

WHAT DO YOU MOST VALUE IN YOUR FRIENDS?

A good sense of humour, with a sprinkling of eccentricity and a splash of crazy.

WHAT IS YOUR MOST MARKED CHARACTERISTIC?

It depends on who you talk to. My kids tell me I am eccentric, and some people have told me I am intense, but I would say I am ardent about anything that captures my attention, and that I love to share and love to learn!



DEBRA GIBBS

started on the potter's wheel at age 16 and went on to graduate from Seneca College with a Visual Arts Instructor's Diploma in 1981. After successfully completing a four-year apprenticeship with a master potter of fine porcelain, she continues to teach pottery in her studio and showroom.

Her wheel-thrown high-fire translucent porcelain dinnerware and originals have been displayed in many galleries and stores, including the McMichael Canadian Art Collection and the Art Gallery of Ontario. While participating in trade and contemporary craft shows, she has won several awards of excellence for master quality craftsmanship/booth design and display.

dgpottery@rogers.com
[Facebook.com/dgpottery](https://www.facebook.com/dgpottery)



WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST EXTRAVAGANCE?

My greatest extravagance is to travel to other countries and be inspired by all that is around me. Travel allows me to see new shapes, colours, ideas I hadn't thought of and new techniques.

WHAT IS THE TRAIT YOU MOST DEPLORE IN OTHERS?

I think the trait that I most deplore in others is a closed mind and not pushing past what we already know.

WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR GREATEST CHALLENGE AS AN ARTIST AND HOW DID YOU OVERCOME IT?

My greatest challenges as an artist and instructor of 50 years have been expenses for supplies, and teaching those who have expectations of what should be.

WHAT IS THE BEST THING ABOUT BEING AN ARTIST?

I continue to educate new and seasoned potters, sharing all that I know. It is most

rewarding when we open the kiln together and see that our efforts paid off. Some of my own personal greatest moments were creating a 24-piece dinner set where all parts were perfect and the colours matched in harmony. Mug sets of 16 gave me the confidence needed to say, "Now I see myself as a master; professional, we are the doctors and lawyers of clay."

WHAT IS FRUSTRATING TO YOU AS AN ARTIST?

I've been showing my work since I was 16 years old and, over and over again, I hear prospective buyers say, "I can buy that at the local discount store." In the world of hand-made pottery, things don't always work out the way we think they will so we do it again and again until we're satisfied with the finished product. There is often a lot more behind what you see before you.

WHAT ARE YOU MOST GRATEFUL FOR?

I am grateful for the support I receive from my family, friends and even my pets as I spend long hours by myself in the studio.

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*Olivio Fatigati, B.A., LL.B., LL.M.
Barrister & Solicitor, Notary Public*

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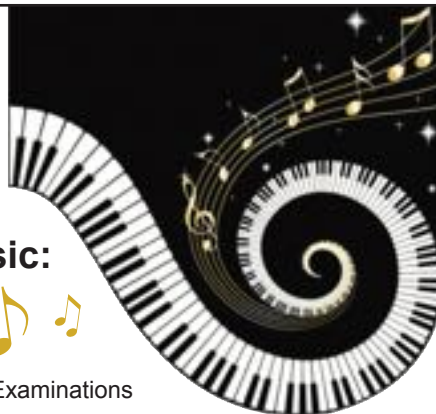
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CLIENT TESTIMONIALS

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Khalen Meredith**



Kim Nichols*

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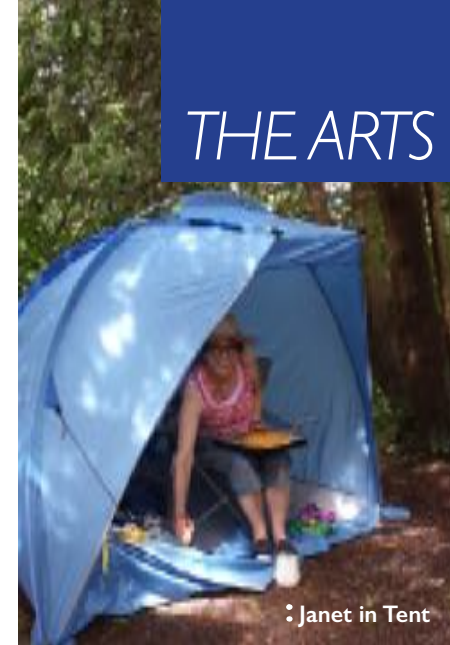
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• Hendrika
• by Janet



• Flowers by Hendrika



• Janet in Tent

GUERRILLAS IN OUR MIDST

You might have to hunt around to spot guerrillas in the woods or burbs of King.



WRITTEN BY
DORITA PEER
WITH **JANET**
MCLEOD-WORTEL

Dorita is a poet, writer, sculptor, painter, musician, and gardener. She made her living first as an optician, then as an equestrian trainer, coach, breeder, and international official.

Signs of their passing are artworks. Paintings, sketches, crafts. They have been sighted in Terra Gardens' greenhouses and in All Saints' churchyard, been captured capturing Laskay's gravestones. They have swarmed each other's dens and gardens at the outer reaches of the township. Who are they? Guerilla artists off leash, with no agenda but to revel in each other's company and share possibilities.

Was it divine intervention, as well as withering creativity, that sent co-founders Janet McLeod-Wortel and Hendrika Ono that lucky day in April of 2016 to find each other in a forest of pews at St. Paul's in Nobleton? "I'd been praying for an art peer for over ten years," said Janet, a graphic designer. "Together we decided to start a social group for art-hearted people. We could do art together, learn from each other and grow friendships." One of their goals from the beginning was to try new methods and materials together. "Like pour painting or folk art. We've had some zany events...street art, foot drawing, or dress-up costume figure drawing, all with laughter, snacks and maybe some wine too."

Hendrika's spa and planning day initiative, where the year's mischief is got up, has become a tradition.

Patrons of the Schomberg Pub, some Thursday evening, might just have their portrait sketched. "It's actually one of our mandates to grow the community's

awareness of the arts as a lifestyle. That's why many of our events are out in public..."

The Artistic Adventurers, as they are known, have rambled far and wide like missionaries in search of inspiring grist. Alton Mills Art Centre, one dripping day. The McMichael mecca, of course. And Toronto's finest art auction houses to hobnob with culturati.

Though pieces do get sold, Adventurers are foremost amateurs – lovers of arts and crafts rather than entrepreneurs. Members' homes are galleries, where cherished pieces display pride of accomplishment to guests. Reminiscent of The Hermitage in St. Petersburg, Carole Ahmad's walls are papered from floor to ceiling in every room with meritorious paintings: hers, her husband Shaheen's, and others' works.

King Township adores Art with a capital A, provides gallery space and funds and promotes diverse crafts and classes, such as life-drawing by Adventurers member Giovannina Colalillo. There is also Arts Society King to oh-so-ably fill the niche for established artists who seek promotion through major public events. ASK's Art Lab series of workshops imports the knowledge of professionals at the top of their game from outside the community. What the Artistic Adventurers group does is coax artsy folk out of the woodwork into a playful, come-as-you-are social space without fees, formalities, contests or commitment. No agony and ecstasy rollercoaster here, where beloved late co-founder Hendrika remains very much a spirit presence.

"Doing art together to grow creative friendships and art skills." How Janet defines the group's success. "I've met so many inspiring new friends through this group. I've grown as an artist, too. Through the past year, I've noticed more

people joining and happy to offer their ideas, skills and properties...they may have ideas that I'd never imagined and that's just fine with me. I imagine the concept of this group continuing on indefinitely in King Township...to enrich the lives of artistically adventurous people around here and add to the cultural fabric of our community."

Artworks are often shared on

Facebook posts. Upcoming events include papier mâché bird sculpting, stained-glass mosaic making, several plein airs, pavement chalk art, and more. Anyone wishing to find themselves adventuring among new friends only need reach out via Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2233887190180584> -- click to join), or drop into Schomberg pub some Thursday night...



A

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with

POETS

SUNDAY, JUNE 9

11:00 to 3:00

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Featuring published poets: **Domenico Capilongo, Mike Madill, Lavinia Maria, Brian Burns, Carol Good, Chro Zand & other fine poets at large. Host: Dorita Peer**

Thanks to our generous sponsors, ASK invites everyone to this free and inspiring event. Just bring your blanket and a picnic and join us under the Big Tree (indoors in case of rain) for readings and signings. Books will be on sale.

Please check our website for details and updates:
artsocietyking.ca



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• Serra and aerial photo of
• Shift by Simone Estrin



• Close-up of Shift
• Photo by Jason Paris



A Hidden Shift

King Township's Connection to the late Richard Serra



WRITTEN BY
**BARBARA
MAHER-ERWIN**

Barbara has had a varied career in journalism, government communications and policy development. Now officially retired, she spends her time volunteering and acting as a full-time servant of a very demanding West Highland White Terrier.

HE has been praised as the greatest sculptor of his generation. But when Richard Serra first walked a farmer's field in King Township, he was a young artist just starting to explore how sculpture on a massive scale could be inspired by its physical surroundings.

It was 1970 and Serra was envisioning the creation of a series of concrete forms that would follow the contour of the 13-acre property owned by local art collector Roger Davidson. The work would be titled "Shift," in reference to the fact it would need to zig-zag and shift as it followed the undulations of the land. Little did Serra know at the time that Shift would be among several of his pieces that would generate both admiration and controversy as his career progressed.

Serra, who died at the age of 85 on March 26 at his home in Orient, New York, became famous for his imposing post-minimalist sculptures that have assumed pride of place in locations around the globe. His most well-known work is

perhaps *The Matter of Time*, a series of spirals and ellipses of weathered steel installed in Spain's Bilbao Guggenheim Museum. Other Serra works can be found in spots as far-flung as the Tuileries Gardens in Paris, the Museum of Modern Art in New York City, the Qatari Desert, and Zeewolde, The Netherlands. His *Tilted Spheres* graces the international departure lounge in Terminal 1 at Pearson International Airport, providing inspiration to weary travelers and amusement to children who hear their voices echo within its curved surfaces.

Shift, too, continues to exist, although not accessible to the public. The land on which the sculpture resides was sold in 1974 to a developer and is now surrounded by a chain link fence. Some intrepid art lovers have still ventured out to catch a glimpse of the piece, but the trek is not advisable, given the inhospitable terrain and the fact that it involves trespassing on private property. While isolated, Shift is protected by a heritage designation bestowed upon it in 2013 by King Township. Not everyone agreed at the time with the move to preserve the artwork over the potential for further residential development. However, the campaign led by King councillors Debbie Schaeffer and Cleve Mortelliti, as well as a fiercely determined local art community, garnered enough support to carry the day.

"History will show he was one of the greats and we have one of his works right

here in King Township," said Mortelliti, who penned an article in 2003 about his first sighting of Shift as a 10-year-old who stumbled across it while playing with a friend. "I don't think my opinion has changed since I wrote that article. I still feel it's something interesting and unique but not many people in King Township even know it's there."

Shift is similar to most of Serra's other works in that the viewer needs to move around it to fully experience the artist's vision. Its relationship to its environment is crucial to its essence. Serra has said his work requires "a lot of walking and looking," and that statement was never truer than in describing Shift.

In 2015, Toronto-based documentary film-maker Simone Estrin made a short film about Serra, Shift and the battle for conservation of the artwork. She had an opportunity to interview Serra about the piece and to explore his thoughts on its creation many years after the fact. Serra had been reluctant to jump into the fray over whether Shift should be preserved, having fought earlier battles over his work, including an unsuccessful lawsuit against the U.S. federal government over the removal of his *Tilted Arc* installation in Manhattan. Estrin is a great admirer of Serra and hopes for a day when Shift can be appreciated by other fans of his work. Her film, *A Shift In The Landscape*, is available to be viewed for free on Vimeo at <https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/598303116>

"I would like Shift to be accessible to the public so that people can experience it, even if it were only open for a couple of days a year," Estrin said. "It could be a place to be at peace and to contemplate what he was trying to do."

Estrin noted that Shift was created early in Serra's career and may have been a prototype for a commission from Emily Rauh and Joseph Pulitzer Jr., who had engaged Serra to produce a concrete installation at their country house outside of St. Louis. Shift and the Pulitzer Piece were among only three large-scale concrete pieces Serra created before shifting to other materials, primarily oxidized steel plates.

"He made it (Shift) when he was 30 years old and experimenting," Estrin says. "He was not the Richard Serra we know today."

The Serra we will remember became an icon of the post-abstract Expressionist movement, influenced by the industrialism he observed while working at a steel mill to put himself through university. His early works in molten lead and concrete gave way to the more familiar towering steel arcs, spirals and ellipses that characterize his most famous sculptures. It is both remarkable and humbling to know that King Township was instrumental in Serra's development as an artist and is part of his enduring legacy.

Summer 2024 events

NOW AND ONGOING –
WRITENOW!@KING

WriteNow!@King is a writers' group in partnership with King Township Public Library which meets on the first and third Thursday afternoons each month from 2 – 4 PM. New and experienced writers are welcome to participate in stimulating writing exercises, guest speakers and feedback from peers.

Location: King City Public Library,
1970 King Road, King City

Contact: info@kinglibrary.ca for more information

MAY 30 TO JUNE 22 - HERE'S TO
FARMERS: THE EVOLUTION OF KING
TOWNSHIP BARNS – KING HERITAGE
& CULTURAL CENTRE

As an iconic feature of rural landscape, barns are an integral part of settlement and agricultural history across Canada. The Here's to the Farmers exhibition, featuring artwork

and photography by Phyllis Vernon, highlights the evolution of barns in King Township, from the early days to modern use.

Location: King Heritage & Cultural Centre,
2920 King Road, King City

Time: 10 AM – 4 PM, Tuesday to Saturday

Website: www.kingheritageandculture.ca

Email: kingmuseum@king.ca

Phone: 905-833-2331

JUNE 6 – LEARN ABOUT BASIC CPR
& DEFIBRILLATION, PRESENTED BY
KEVIN RITSON, DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF –
NOBLETON SENIORS 55+

Demonstration and video on basic CPR, including the use of a defibrillation machine in an emergency. Everyone will practice the basic steps in CPR using a mannequin.

Location: Nobleton Arena,
15 Old King Road, Nobleton

Time: 10 AM – 12 PM

Contact: Joanne Bailey, 416-706-9375

Website: www.King.ca/seniors

JUNE 8 – KING FOOD & DRINK FESTIVAL
–TOWNSHIP OF KING

Formerly known as the King City Craft Beer & Food Truck Festival, in celebration of its 10th anniversary, we've expanded our menu. This year's festival will feature some of the best food and beverage vendors in the area, non-stop music and more!

Location:
Memorial Park, 25 Doctor's Lane, King City
Time: 12 PM – 9 PM
Website: Visit www.KingFoodDrink.ca for more details and to purchase tickets

JUNE 9 – A PICNIC WITH POETS – ARTS SOCIETY KING

ASK invites everyone to this free and inspiring event on the beautiful grounds of the King Heritage & Cultural Centre. Just bring your blanket and a picnic and join us under the Big Tree (indoors in case of rain) for published poets' readings and signings. Books will be on sale. Location: King Heritage & Cultural Centre, 2920 King Road, King City
Time: 11 AM – 3 PM
Website: www.ArtsSocietyKing.ca
Email: info@artsocietyking.ca

JUNE 9 – BEGINNER BEEKEEPING
WORKSHOP – TOWNSHIP OF KING

If you have any interest in becoming a beekeeper, then this is the course for you. This beekeeping workshop consists of classroom sessions and hands-on lessons in the bee yard. Participants of all experience levels are welcome. Topics include basic honeybee biology, beekeeping equipment, working in the bee colony, seasonal beekeeper responsibilities, harvesting and extracting honey and preparing bee colonies for winter.

Location: Cold Creek Conservation Area, Visitors' Centre,
14125 11th Conc., Nobleton

Time: 9 AM – 4 PM

Contact: For more information, contact environmentalstewardship@king.ca. To register visit <https://townshipofking.perfectmind.com> (code: 21476)

**JUNE 10 TO JULY 26 – STEVE SILVERMAN
EXHIBITION – KING TOWNSHIP
MUNICIPAL CENTRE**

Come enjoy the artworks of Arts Society King
photographer Steve Silverman in the KTMC
main space.
Location: King Township Municipal Centre,
2585 King Road, King City
Time: 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM – Monday through
Friday
Phone: 905-833-2331

**JUNE 11 – AUGUST 20 (BIWEEKLY) –
STITCHED TOGETHER FREE DROP-IN –
KING HERITAGE & CULTURAL CENTRE**
Join us bi-weekly, (June 11, 25; July 9, 23; August 6, 20)

6, 20), to dive headfirst into all things stitched, handcrafted, and rich in fibre! Bring your project with you: knitting, crochet, rug hooking, felting, quilting, cross-stitch, hand sewing, or any fibre craft you're working on or would like to start. Chat with fellow hobbyists to learn the tips and tricks of their trade; or participate in our Fibre Library to donate any unused fibre you might have lying around or adopt a new one for your next project!

Location: King Heritage & Cultural Centre,
2920 King Road, King City

Time: 10 AM – 11:30 AM, Tuesdays bi-weekly

Website: www.kingheritageandculture.ca

Email: kingmuseum@king.ca

Phone: 905-833-2331

JUNE 15 – DENTAL HYGIENE FOR
SENIORS, PRESENTED BY DR.
HOLLANDER & ASSOCIATES –
NOBLETON SENIORS 55+

Dental hygienist Nicole will discuss the importance of dental hygiene, including denture care.

Location: Nobleton Arena,
15 Old King Road, Nobleton

Time: 10 AM – 12 PM

Contact: Joanne Bailey, 416-706-9375

Website: www.King.ca/seniors

JUNE 15 – INDIGENOUS DOT
PAINTING WITH KATHY MORGAN –
KING HERITAGE & CULTURAL CENTRE

Learn the art of Indigenous dot-painting with Metis artist Kathy Morgan as she shares the art and stories passed down through her family over many generations. Design two wooden tiles of choice: a butterfly, flower, bee, bird or square template.

Location: King Heritage & Cultural Centre, 2920 King Road, King City

Time: 1 PM – 4 PM

Website: www.kingheritageandculture.ca

Email: kingmuseum@king.ca

Phone: 905-833-2331

**JUNE 20 – CHALLENGING ENERGY
& DISPELLING STRESS – NOBLETON
SENIORS 55+**

Joanne Bailey, RN, will discuss common stressors and health concerns. Activities and exercises to decrease stress and increase energy will be demonstrated.

Location: Nobleton Arena,
15 Old King Road, Nobleton

Time: 10 AM – 12 PM

Contact: Joanne Bailey, 416-706-9375

Website: www.King.ca/seniors

JUNE 21 – THE PIPES OF KING – ALL SAINTS KING CITY FEATURING ERNESTO DE LUCA

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HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



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JUNE 23

10 AM - 4 PM

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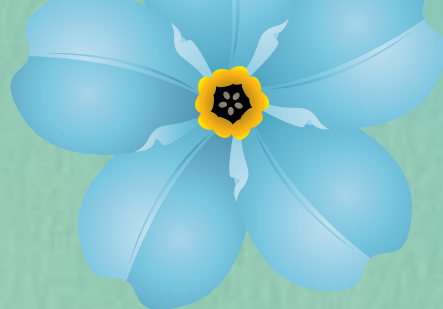
In partnership with the Art Society of King there will be unique displays, arts and pop up shops in the gardens.



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in and around King Township

COMPILED BY ARTS SOCIETY KING

Location: All Saints Anglican Church,
King City – 12935 Keele Street, King City
Time: 7:30 PM
Email: ernestodelucamusic@gmail.com

JUNE 23 – ANNUAL GARDEN TOUR – SCHOMBERG HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

A self-guided tour through King Township's picturesque gardens and country estates with artists from Arts Society King displaying their work. Tickets will be available in advance through Eventbrite, as well as from the Schomberg Library on the day of the tour.
Location: Various gardens in King
Time: 10 AM – 4 PM Rain or shine
Contact: Email shcomberghortsociety@gmail.com for further information
Phone: Barb Neimeyer, 905-939-2216, or Eleonora Schmied, 905-939-7454

JUNE 25 – THE POWER OF HORTICULTURE: A PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL PERSPECTIVE – SCHOMBERG HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Paul Zammit from the School of Environmental and Horticultural Studies at Niagara College and CBC radio will enthuse us on this topic. A much-anticipated evening with a delightful speaker.
Location: Schomberg Community Hall, 325 Main Street, Schomberg
Time: 7:30 PM
Contact: Email: schomberghortsociety@gmail.com for further information

JUNE 27 – POTLUCK & END OF SEASON PARTY – NOBLETON SENIORS 55+

Joanne and Sapphire will have some games to celebrate the past events and plan with the seniors the calendar for the fall and winter. Potluck from all will be served.
Location: Nobleton Arena, 15 Old King Road, Nobleton
Time: 10 AM – 12 PM
Contact: Joanne Bailey, 416-706-9375
Website: www.King.ca/seniors

JUNE 27 – PUB PORTRAITS – ARTISTIC ADVENTURERS

Relax with fellow artists at the pub, drawing adventurous portraits of each other or recklessly willing patrons.
Location: Craft Kitchen & Beer Bar, 214 Main Street, Schomberg
Time: 7 PM – 9 PM
Contact: Janet at looner.art@gmail.com or ask to join the Facebook group "Artistic Adventurers"

JULY 2 TO AUGUST 30 – SUMMER CAMPS! – TOWNSHIP OF KING

Camps are sorted by area of interest to make the search easier for parents and kids. Choose

from over 40 camps for ages four to 13 in arts and culture, leaders in training, sports, science and technology, the great outdoors, and general and specialty interests.

Location: Township-Wide
(King City, Nobleton and Schomberg)
Time: 8:30 AM – 5 PM (Camp runs from 9 AM – 4 PM)
Website: www.King.ca/camps
Email: camps@king.ca

JULY 25 – PUB PORTRAITS – ARTISTIC ADVENTURERS

Bring a sketchbook and meet fellow artists at the pub, drawing adventurous portraits of each other or patrons that don't move fast enough.
Location: Schomberg Pub & Patio, 226 Main Street, Schomberg
Time: 7 PM – 9 PM
Contact: Janet at looner.art@gmail.com or ask to join the Facebook group "Artistic Adventurers"

JULY 29 TO SEPTEMBER 13 – JING FU EXHIBITION – KING TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL CENTRE

Come enjoy the artworks of Jing Fu in the KTMC main space.
Location: King Township Municipal Centre, 2585 King Road, King City
Time: 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM – Monday through Friday
Phone: 905-833-2331

AUGUST 3 TO NOVEMBER 2 – STANDING IN THE DOORWAY: LIVED HISTORIES AND EXPERIENCES OF THE CHINESE COMMUNITY – KING HERITAGE & CULTURAL CENTRE

Created by the Markham Museum and York Region District School Board, this community-driven exhibit tells the story of resilience and perseverance of the Chinese community in Markham and York Region.
Location: King Heritage & Cultural Centre, 2920 King Road, King City
Time: 10 AM – 4 PM, Tuesday to Saturday
Website: www.kingheritageandculture.ca
Email: kingmuseum@king.ca
Phone: 905-833-2331

AUGUST 15 – FARM TO TABLE – KING CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Farm to Table is back again this year! Join us as we celebrate King's rich agricultural heritage with a locally grown and crafted meal sourced from exceptional growers and producers. Engage in fun games and activities to break the ice and put a smile on your face. This networking event promises to leave you with a full belly and uplifted spirits!
Location: Beretta Farms, 4400 15th Sideroad, King City

Time: 5:30 PM
Website: <https://kingchamber.ca/events/#!event/2024/8/15/farm-to-table>

AUGUST 23-24 - YOUR MUSE WRITERS RETREAT AT SHERWOOD FARM RETREAT

Online events on Friday include a networking mastermind meeting, co-writing time and speaker presentations. In-person events on Saturday at Sherwood Farm Retreat feature speakers, lunch and dedicated writing time.
For more information and tickets: www.iymwr.com - Use code ArtsSocietyKing for 10% off ticket prices

AUGUST 28 – STANDING IN THE DOORWAY EXHIBITION – OPENING RECEPTION – KING HERITAGE & CULTURAL CENTRE

Celebrate the opening of this important exhibition at the King Heritage & Cultural Centre – activities will include demonstrations, children's crafts, hands-on workshop and more!
Location: King Heritage & Cultural Centre, 2920 King Road, King City
Time: TBD
Website: www.kingheritageandculture.ca
Email: kingmuseum@king.ca
Phone: 905-833-2331

AUGUST 29 – PUB PORTRAITS – ARTISTIC ADVENTURERS

There's always an open chair with fellow artists at the pub, drawing 10-minute portraits of each other between our nachos and random art gear.
Location: Historia Cantina, 357 Main Street, Schomberg
Time: 7 PM – 9 PM
Contact: Janet at looner.art@gmail.com or ask to join the Facebook group "Artistic Adventurers"

SEPT. 14 AND VARIOUS DATES THROUGH EARLY FALL 2024 – KINGCRAFTS STUDIO WORKSHOPS

Kingcrafts Studio is once again offering several exciting workshops in early fall 2024. Pottery workshop for beginners, birch trees paint party, wet felting, stained glass and folk art workshops. More to come!
Location: 12936 Keele Street, King City L7B 1H8
Contact: Check our website for further information and registration, <https://www.kingcrafts.ca/workshops>, email info@kingcrafts.ca or call 905.833.1897

King Township Mayor's Cultural Gala:

On February 29, 2024, the Township of King partnered with Arts Society King (ASK) to hold the third biennial Mayor's Cultural Gala in support of arts, culture and heritage in King Township. The theme of the evening at The Manor was An Equestrian Affair. Funds raised from this event go towards supporting the important work of ASK and the King Heritage & Cultural Centre. This includes arts, culture, heritage-based programming, exhibitions and special events, as well as the preservation and restoration of important heritage buildings. *Photos by SPC Photography.*



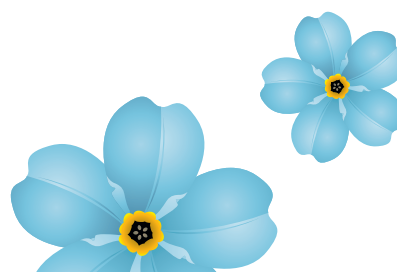
King Township Mayor Steve Pellegrini stands in front of a painting by Jacqueline England, ASK member (<https://www.jacquelineengland.com/collections/92834>) at the Mayor's Cultural Gala



Painted denim jacket by Kim Grant, ASK member, displayed at the Mayor's Cultural Gala



Sonja Golchin of the Art Spot in Nobleton works on a live painting at the Mayor's Cultural Gala





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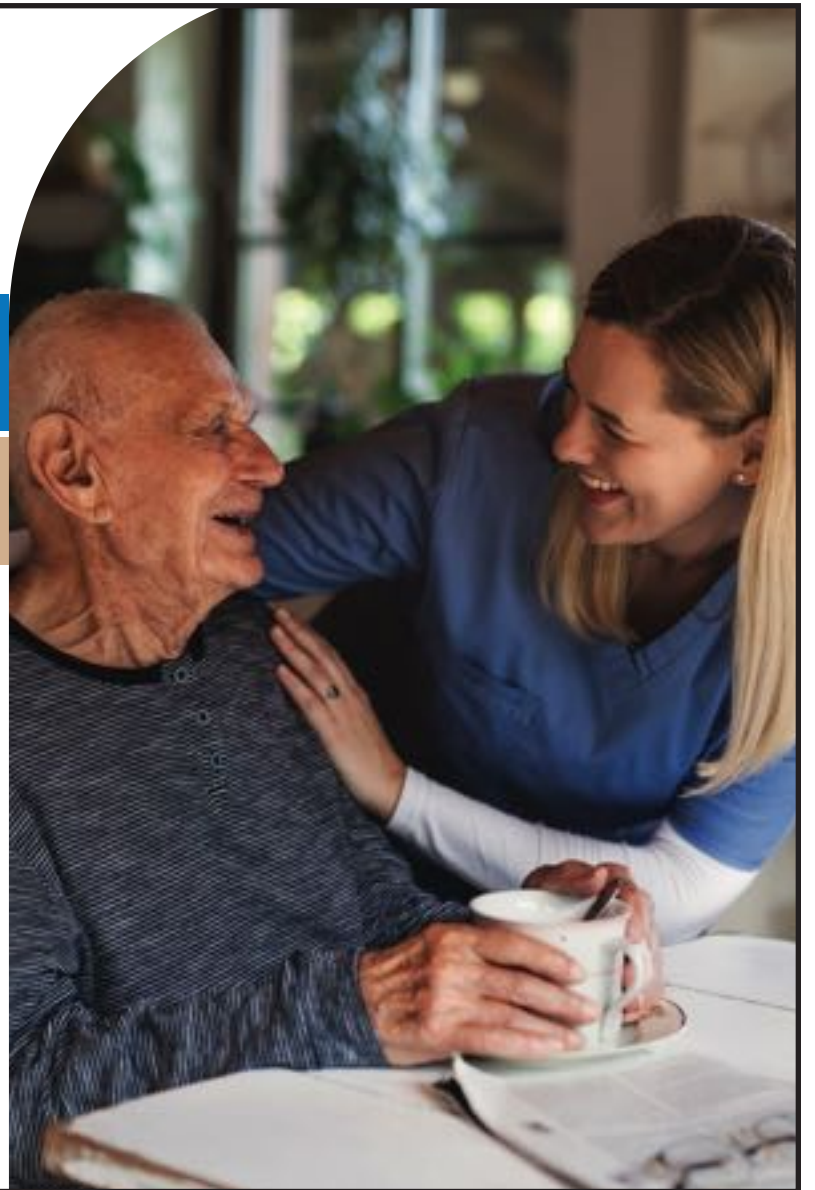
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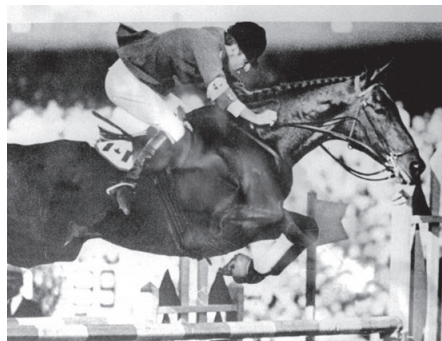

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• **Rosie:** Team Canada's Rosie MacLennan jumps her way to a gold medal in trampoline at the Olympic games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Friday, August 12, 2016. (Photo: Jason Ransom/COC)



• **James:** Canada's Jim Elder and his mount The Immigrant helping Canada win a gold medal in the team equestrian event at the 1968 Mexico City Olympics. (Canadian Press Photo/COC)

LET THE GAMES BEGIN: FROM ANCIENT ORIGINS TO MODERN SPORTS



WRITTEN BY
LIZA MALLYON

As Collections & Exhibits Coordinator with KHCC, Liza has extensive experience in municipal museums and expertise in collections management, exhibit development, research and anything creative.

Ancient Games

AS the Summer 2024 Olympic Games are soon set to begin in Paris, France, it is interesting to reflect on the history of the Games, as well as highlight some notable athletes from closer to home!

The Games' ancient origins date back some 3,000 years to an athletic competition in Olympia, Greece, that was part of a religious festival held in honour of the sky and thunder God, Zeus. According to legend, the Games were founded by Heracles, son of Zeus and Alcmene. The earliest records date to 776 BCE (before common era), although earlier competitions may have existed.

Modern Era

In 1894, Pierre de Coubertin, known as the architect of the modern Games, initiated their revival; in that year, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) was formed, and the first Games were proposed for Paris in 1900. Eager to begin, it was decided that the first modern Games would instead be held in Athens, Greece in 1896, as a nod to its origins.

Since then, the Games have evolved and expanded to become a global event, with almost every nation sending athletes to the winter and/or summer events. From 1896 to 1992, the Games were held every four years, with winter and summer Games held in the same calendar year. The Games were cancelled in 1916, 1940 and 1944 due to the First and Second World Wars.

In 1994, the format changed, and the Games now alternate between summer and winter sports so that an Olympic Games is held twice within a four-year period. Other changes include the addition of the Paralympic Games, the Special Olympics, the Youth Olympic Games, and various continental games

(Pan American, African, Asian, European and Pacific). The 2020 Games were delayed until 2021 because of the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic.

This summer, the 2024 Paris Olympic Games will host thousands of athletes competing in over 320 events in 32 different sports. At the time of writing, qualifications for the Paris Olympics were still underway. Be sure to support all the Canadian athletes and give an extra cheer for those who call King Township home!

Summer Olympians from King Township

King City native Rosie MacLellan competed at four Olympic Games between 2008 and 2020, in Gymnastics - Trampoline. Rosie's interest in trampolining started at an early age; she started lessons at age 7, which led to her to her first World Age Group competition at 11 years old. Rosie made her Olympic debut at the 2008 Beijing Games where she placed seventh; and later won her first gold at the 2012 London Olympics. At the Rio Olympics in 2016, she became the first trampolinist to ever win back-to-back gold medals!

Schomberg native Erik Lamaze competed at the 2008, 2012 and 2016 Olympic Games in the sport of Equestrian - Jumping, with his star horse, Hickstead. As part of the Canadian team that won the silver medal in Beijing 2008, Lamaze and Hickstead made history by winning the first Olympic gold medal for Canada in an individual equestrian event, a mere two days later. The horse and rider team went on to win numerous world titles before Hickstead's tragic death, at a competition in 2011, due to an aortic rupture.

Other Notable King Township Summer Olympians:

- Lawrence McGuinness, John Rumble & Walter Pady - 1956 Olympics - Equestrian: Eventing
- James Elder - 7 Olympic Games - Equestrian: Eventing, Equestrian: Jumping
- Beth Underhill - 2 Olympic Games - Equestrian: Jumping

ART IN THE LIBRARY: YARN BOMBING THE LIBRARY & THE KING CITY ART WALL

kinglibrary.ca



WRITTEN BY
**STEPHANIE
WILCOX**

Stephanie is the Community Outreach Specialist at the King Township Public Library.

AS community hubs, libraries have expanded to include a variety of resources and opportunities, ranging from early literacy programs to 3D printing. At the King Township Public Library, we have been exploring ways to create community exhibit spaces and bring art into the Library.

This summer, we invite local creatives of all skill levels to participate in expressing themselves through two exciting programs: the Yarn Bomb Initiative and the King City Art Wall! Happy creating from the team at the King Township Public Library!

Introducing: Yarn Bombing the Library!

This summer, the Library invites the community of King to contribute to our yarn bomb initiative in the King City Branch! Individuals can participate through donating complete squares (made either by knitting or crocheting) or skeins of yarn. Once completed squares are collected, they will be sewn together and placed over the upper-level railing in the King City Branch for all to see!

The result will be a beautiful mosaic displayed in the Library that represents our wonderful community and their collective creativity and joy!

Interested in participating but not sure where to start? To encourage community collaboration and connection, we will be hosting a series of community creating sessions where participants will work on creating squares together! These sessions will encourage those new to the craft to practice or develop skills, and our



experienced attendees to share their knowledge!

The Library will also be supplying knitting machines and crochet hooks to each branch to facilitate the creation of these squares. To learn more about our tools or try them out yourself, visit your local branch during open hours or attend a community creation session!

To learn more about the Yarn Bomb initiative, contact or visit your local branch.

The King City Art Wall

Launched in 2023, the King City Art Wall initiative was designed to bring art into the library while celebrating local artists! The King Township Public Library offers a community exhibit and display space and invites artists to apply for consideration to exhibit. Artists at all stages of their careers will be considered.

The application form is available on the Library website, with print copies available upon request. Following application submission, the artists chosen will be contacted. Typical exhibits will run for a duration of one to two months.

Artists interested in displaying their art in the Library can submit complete applications with the following information:

- Artist biography and statement
- Statement regarding each piece submitted
- Photographs or digital copies of art pieces submitted for display
- Links to artist's websites where images are available are also acceptable

Artists chosen will be contacted one week before the exhibit start date to determine an installation date during Library hours of operation. For a complete list of themes, exhibit information, and currently running or upcoming exhibits, please visit <https://www.kinglibrary.ca/artist-exhibit-initiative>.



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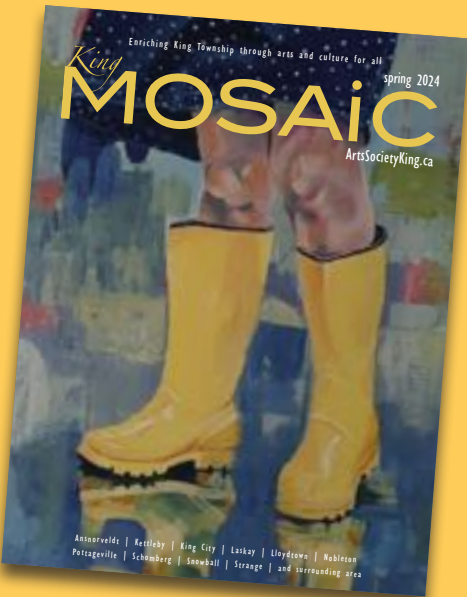


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The BIRDS AND THE BEES *as taught by* THE COWS

In my fourteenth summer,
my father decided I need
toughening up.



WRITTEN BY
BRIAN BOAKE

Brian is a survivor of decades in the IT industry, husband, father of two, supporter of the arts and Toronto Raptors fan.

I was bundled off to the family's legacy dairy farm, and to the untender mercies of my paternal uncle.

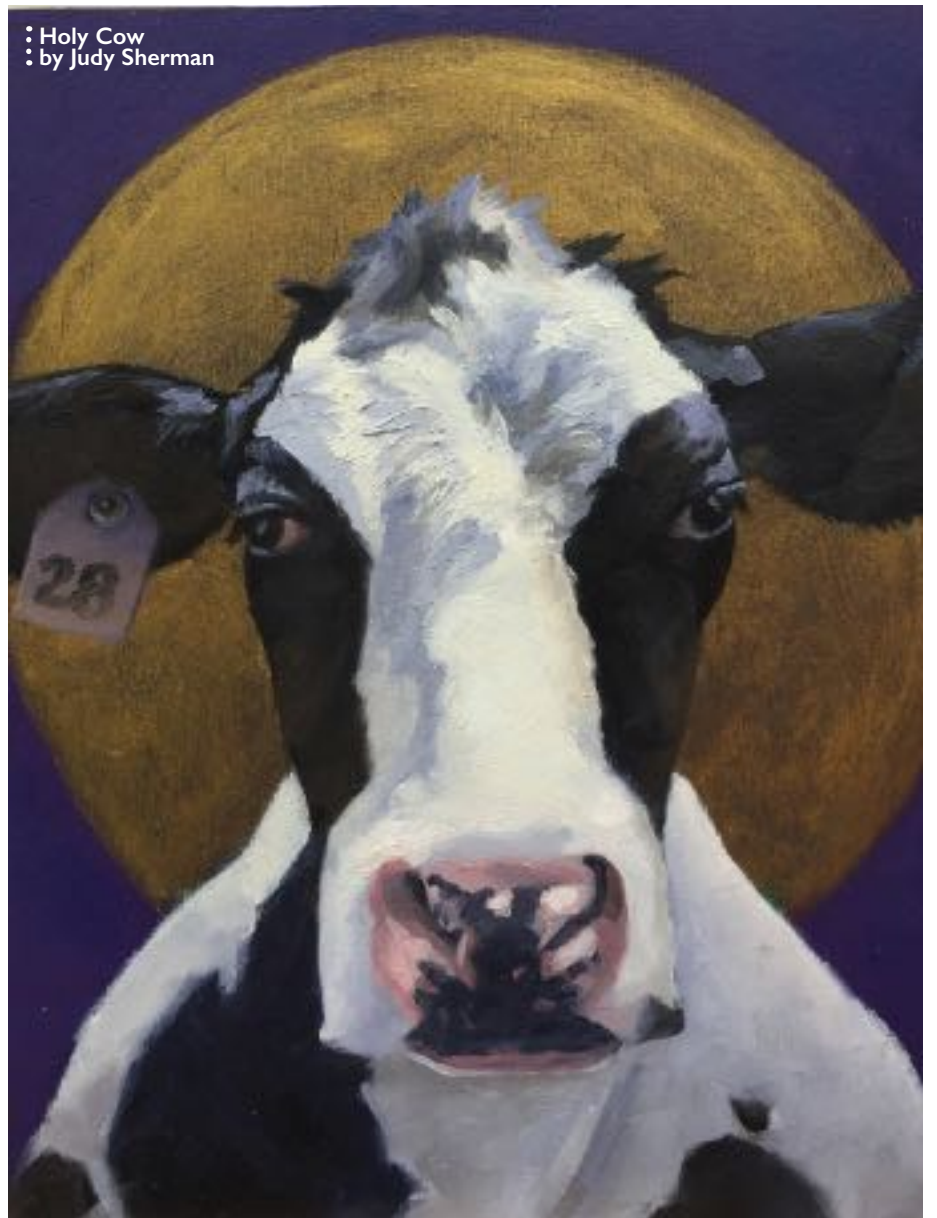
Although the property was just north of the city limits, given the road situation at the time I might as well have been on an open-ended visit to Mars. We all crowded together in a farmhouse built at the turn of the 20th century that included features unimaginable today. I hung my hat, and my head, in the farmhands' room, a giant space on the second floor, with its own circular staircase discreetly tucked into a corner of the kitchen. There were seven of us worthies, each with our own bed, no privacy, and a limited amount of time for ablutions in the attached bathroom.

The compensation, even by the standards of those days, was pitiful. I had previously been employed, loosely speaking, as a caddie at a local golf course. My parents were kind enough then to pony up for the roof over my head and the food on my plate. Such was not the case with me as a live-in agricultural serf -- room and board was to be deducted from my pitiful stipend. This fact had been conveniently forgotten when the summer

plans had been explained. Oh, well. With no expenses to speak of, I salted away enough per month to bring into view major purchases like new shoelaces, or a pack of cards.

At least I'd be picked up on Friday nights, so I could spend the weekend at home. Right...right? Wrong. Apparently, barnyard creatures weren't then, and aren't now, respecters of human concepts like leisurely Saturdays and Sundays. The beasts insisted upon being fed, milked and mucked out every day. That meant I was "on" 13 out of 14 days. The respite we were provided was a minimal amount of work on the Sundays we were on duty. Hurray.

My sojourn was punctuated by many revelations, and here's an early one. We operated a herd of perhaps 70 milk-producing Holsteins, plus "dry cows," bull calves, heifers and other specimens not relevant to this tale. Part of my newfound responsibility was to lead the milking herd from the back pasture to the barn and then return them after milking was completed. This was a surprisingly easy task, as the cows were eager to be milked and were often huddled at the pasture gate if I was even five minutes late. The fact they were getting fed added to their impatience. Returning them was also painless, as they were empty in the right place, and full likewise.



It was perhaps my second day when I saw the females (of course!) mounting each other -- what fresh hell was this, and what was I to do about it? I quickly noted that the lady receiving the unwanted attentions of the would-be humper would simply walk forward, thus shaking her visitor off. That was what passed for Holstein recreation -- or so I thought.

One day I was in the process of unlocking the gate to the paddock when another farmhand pointed to a pair of cows performing their by-now commonplace mounting act and said, "That one's bulling."

Another aspect of farm life I perforce had to get used to was not having any clue about the jargon. I asked him to repeat, and typically for a farmhand (exemplars of laconicism all), he did so, but with no expansion. I was damned if I was going to ask for one.

That afternoon, I was joined by three hands for purposes of segregating the "bulling" cow. This sounded like an interesting adventure, though I would have preferred understanding its purpose. Anyway, we formed up, identified (or so I thought) the cow to be separated, and as we approached, one cow hopped on the other. Right on cue! This was going to be easy, as she and her "partner," so to speak, were stationary. No chasing necessary, and an easy slipping-on of the bridle. Even super-newbie me could handle this, so I

did. However, my triumph lasted perhaps a second before the other hands, rather than applauding, began screaming at me. I had tethered the wrong cow! And the "right" one had decided to skulk off to the furthest corner of the field.

I needed to understand what I done wrong. I had slipped the bridle on the cow doing the humping, had I not?

I didn't get an apology from my colleagues(?), then or ever, but at least I received an explanation of what I had done wrong. My cousin, who was first among equals in our crew, told me I was supposed to capture the humpee, not the humper. How the Fudgsicle was I supposed to know to do that? He explained to me that "bulling" was the term dairymen use to describe the moment when the female offers incontrovertible proof she is coming into heat. The usual jostling in the paddock was important to take note of. A cow that stopped shaking off her unwanted rear-end playmate, and remained still, was demonstrating...interest. Oh.

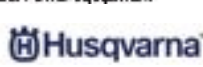
My faux pas didn't hurt us much. We managed to bridle the proper cow and walked her back to the barn. She quietly entered her stanchion, as most of them did, and received a treat. Her hunger rapidly being satiated to a certain extent -- cows have four stomachs and use them all -- I began to wonder about the next step.

We'll cover that next time.



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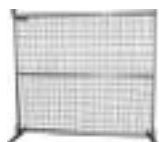
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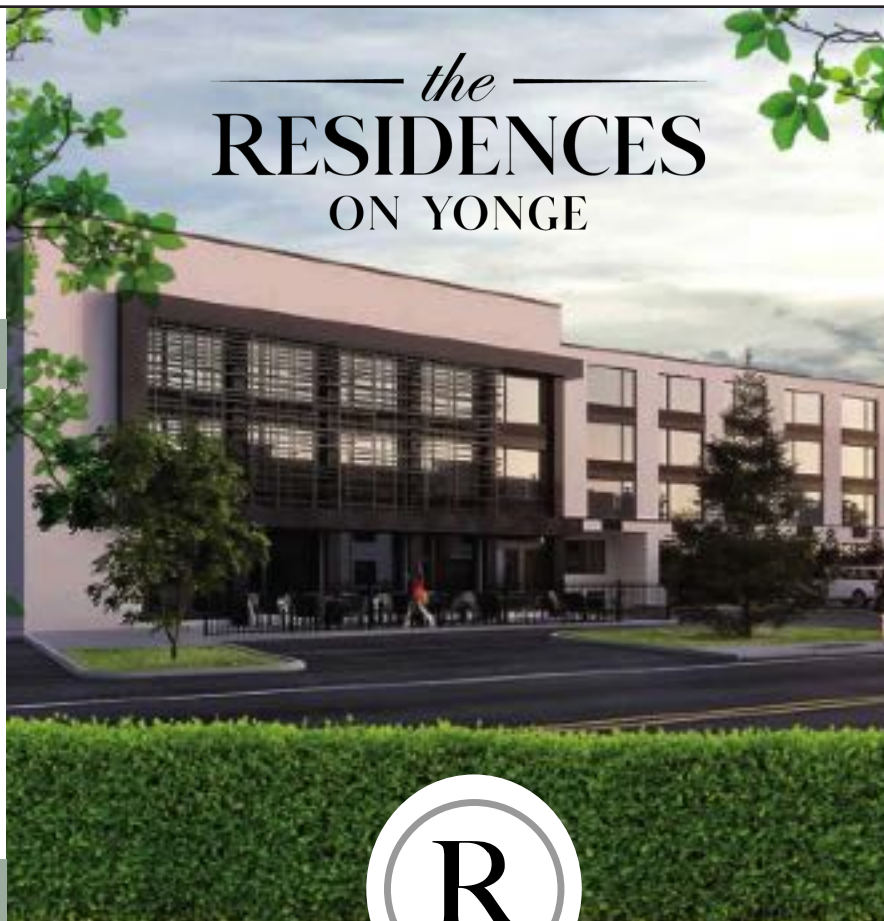
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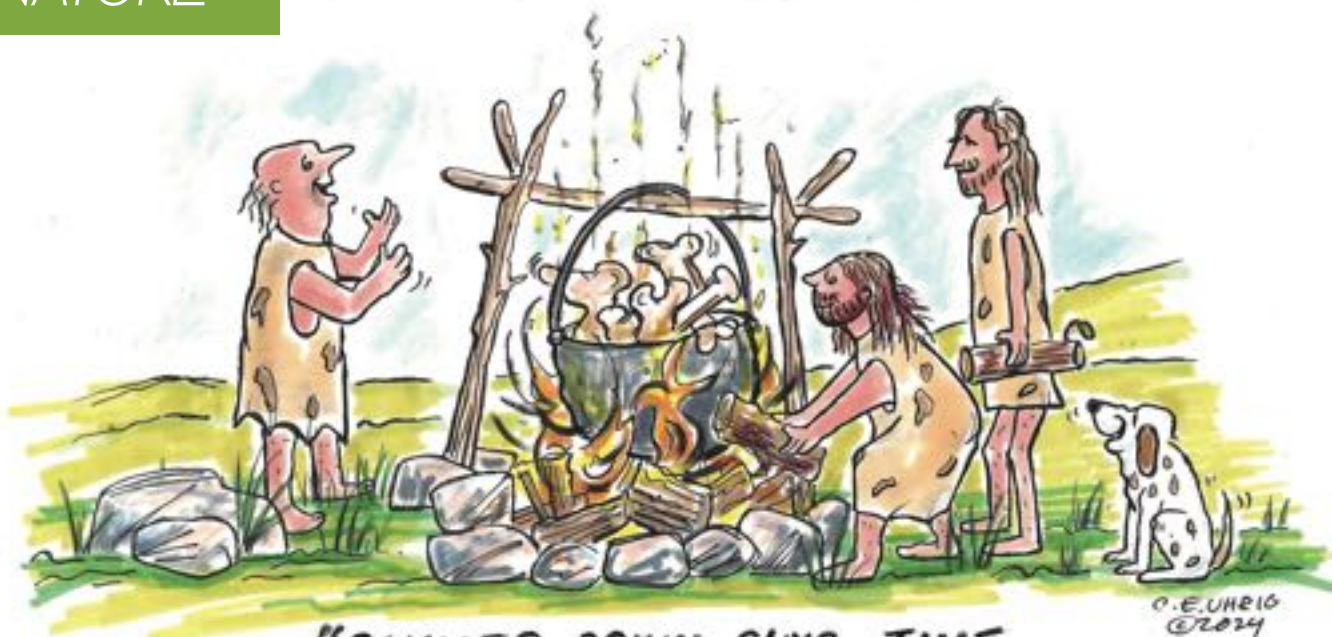
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"SIMMER DOWN GUYS - TIME TO TAKE STOCK!"

— Illustration by Cheryl Uhrig
cuhrig@rogers.com

Want GOOD SOUP? BREAK IT UP!



WRITTEN BY
ART WEIS

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

I recently heard a food chemist say that cooking is the practice of molecular demolition. That's spot on! When we cook, we select a piece of once-living tissue, then boil, fry, steam, or bake it until all those marvelous molecules inside are transformed to an utterly unlikelike state. Happily, those demolished molecules delight the tiny sensory receptors on our tongue and in our nose. French onion soup illustrates the point. To cook this favourite, you demolish two animal proteins and plant starch.

The heart of this soup is a broth made by roasting then gently simmering beef bones for eight or more hours. Roasting brings about the first demolition, the Maillard reaction...the fancy term for "browning." When frying a burger on a hot griddle, the Maillard reaction forms

the thin, tasty crust. To get technical, the Maillard is a cluster of reactions that all start when amino acids making up a protein react with sugars. This happens not only with browned meat, but also bread crust and crispy French fries. The precise chemical products of the Maillard reaction depend on which amino acids, which sugars, and how much of each. A grilled steak has lots of muscle protein but not much sugar. Here, the Maillard products are flavourful. In cookies, where sugar predominates over protein, you get aromatics.

To get a beefy-flavored broth, dry the bones, lightly coat with oil, then put them in a hot oven, 425F (220C). Heat is essential for the Maillard reaction. If you simply boil the raw bones, the temperature never gets above 212F (100C); the proteins get denatured, but not properly demolished. The result is as bland as a boiled burger. It's stock, not broth.

While the Maillard reaction gives the flavor, boiling the browned bones starts a molecular demolition that gives broth its unctuous texture. The boiling water breaks

down a biologically important protein called collagen. I call it important because collagen is what holds us together. Our skin cells are embedded in a collagen framework that keeps our insides inside. Our veins and arteries sustain the pressure of pulsing blood thanks to collagen. And bones? They attach one to another at joints composed of collagen. If you were to touch me with a magic wand that made all my cells disappear, you would still recognize me standing there from the collagen framework left behind.

When you make bone broth, you demolish the collagen through a chemical reaction called hydrolysis. In the body, the collagen is arranged in twisted strands which bind with one another through chemical bonds. In the soup pot, boiling water molecules act to break some of these bonds, causing the strands to unravel and fragment. The result is a solution of peptides, short chains of amino acids, that give broth its pleasing body and texture. When cooled, the solution turns into a gel. And that's why these short peptides are called gelatin.

So, we've covered demolition of the

French Onion Soup

Making this delight from scratch is a two-day process, but each step is simple. Start the broth on the evening of the first day. Then on the second, caramelize the onions and assemble the whole.

DAY 1, BROTH:

INGREDIENTS: 4 lbs. soup bones (make sure you get the sections with the joints); 1 lb. stewing meat; 2 tbsp. olive oil; 2 ea. small onions, carrots, celery stalks; 1 tbsp. thyme.

DIRECTIONS: Arrange all (except thyme) on shallow pan, drizzle with oil, and roast in preheated oven (425F) 30-40 min. Turn things over halfway through. Place all in large pot and cover with 2 qt. water. Deglaze the roasting pan into the pot. Boil gently for 8-12 hours. Strain and cool the broth.

DAY 2, SOUP:

INGREDIENTS: 5 cups of thinly sliced onions; 2 tbsp. butter; 1 tbsp. oil; 1 tsp. baking soda; 1 tsp. salt.

DIRECTIONS: In a separate pot, cook the onions in butter and oil, covered, over medium-low heat for 15 min. Remove cover and continue cooking over medium heat for 40 min. Stir often, and be sure to scrape up brown bits as they form. After reaching a golden brown, deglaze with a few tbsp. of dry vermouth. Then pour in 8 cups of the beef broth, cover and simmer for another 30 min.

Ladle the soup into bowls, and garnish with grated parmesan. Serve with crusty bread and a salad.

two animal proteins in the broth. To complete French onion soup, you need to demolish starches in the onion, first by breaking them down to sugar, then demolishing the sugar! Onions cooked this way are traditionally called "caramelized." Caramelization is the reaction between sugar and oxygen under heat. It produces a mix of sweet and aromatic compounds with a brown colour. Some caramelization takes place when you cook the onion. But so does the Maillard reaction! The sugars react with the plant proteins to produce even more colour and flavour.

So, cooking is a process of chemical demolition. As Jean can tell you, when I'm involved, cooking is often a process of kitchen demolition! But if you keep cleaning up as you go along, you can put French onion soup on the table with only minor damage.

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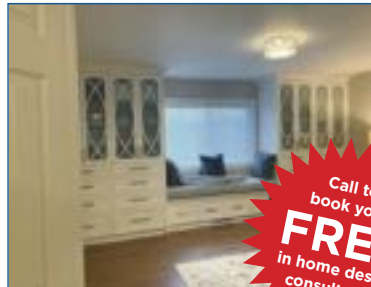
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The HEALING POWER OF Crystals

My introduction to the healing power of crystals was by a **perceptive and caring** teacher.



WRITTEN BY BRENDA DI LUCA

Brenda is a former high school English teacher and currently works in the publishing industry. She enjoys practicing yoga, hiking, walking her dogs, delicious food, and traveling. Brenda is passionate about alternative health practices.

MR . LaLiberte pressed a polished, dark green stone speckled with dark red inclusions into the palm of my right hand. In a calm tone, he explained, "Keep this stone with you all the time and when you feel sad, overwhelmed, or anxious, hold it tight in the palm of your hand. It will help you relax and feel calm." I am paying forward this life changing experience since I believe an open mind to alternative therapies can support children who struggle with anxiety.

How Do Crystals Work?

Medicine people and shamans have used crystals for more than 5,000 years to alleviate physical ailments and to calm the mind. Chinese and Ayurvedic texts, including the Bible, reference the use of crystals, describing their mystical powers and healing potential. While some believe crystals work as a placebo effect, only scientific evidence cures a complete skeptic. Studies with crystals have shown, however, that they vibrate, hold heat and

electricity, and can focus light energy. These capabilities demonstrate that crystals should not be dismissed as inanimate objects, but appreciated as elements from the earth which contain potential energy.

Children and Crystals

Children are sensitive beings who absorb both positive and negative energies like porous sponges. After a busy day at school, during time spent at extracurricular activities, and even at home, children can easily absorb the energies of people and places around them. These energies -- both positive and negative -- accumulate, causing children to exhibit uncharacteristic emotions and behaviours. Often children find it difficult to articulate why they are irritable, fearful, anxious and hyper. This leaves parents baffled and concerned, since precursors for the behaviours are not obvious.

Although alternative therapies should never solely replace medical advice, it is worth experimenting with crystals. Any rooms in the home where children spend lengthy periods of time are ideal placements for crystals. For example, placing a selenite lamp in a child's bedroom as a nightlight helps clear and neutralize negative or stagnant energy. Placement on a shelf in a playroom or on a desk is both functional and decorative.

Older children and young adults can put them in their pockets, place them under a pillow during sleep, or wear them as jewellery. Bracelets, necklaces, pendants, or earrings can infuse the wearer's energy with the healing energy of the crystals because of their close contact with the skin.

Selecting A Crystal

It can be overwhelming to research and select crystals. There are thousands from which to choose and hundreds of resources that offer information. When it comes to children, it can be easier than one might think. Certified Crystal Healer Michele Nash, a member of Arts Society King, explains that children will naturally gravitate to certain crystals based on their shape, colour and texture. Often the child is drawn intuitively to a specific crystal because it offers them the calming and balancing they crave. The following crystals are best known to support children experiencing anxiety, fear and irritability:

Amethyst: calming, helps with oversensitivity, combats anxiety, relieves stress, helps with sleep and nightmares, balances emotions.

Bloodstone: calming, helps with bad tempers and aggression, balances emotions.

Opal: alleviates fear and anxiety,

elevates mood.

Pink Opal: self-healing, calming, helps with behaviour patterns.

Tiger's Eye: provides grounding, assists with worry, fear, turmoil, and protects against negativity.

Rose Quartz: promotes unconditional love, helps alleviate phobias, fear, tension and emotional wounds.

Selenite: clears negative energy and acts as a purifier.

Moonstone: soothing, associated with feminine energy that brings comfort, promotes confidence, brings peace of mind and combats oversensitivity.

Black Tourmaline: protects from negative energies and provides grounding.

If you choose to experiment with crystals, you may be pleasantly surprised with the positive impact they have on your child. At the time, I was unsure of Mr. LaLiberte's reason for gifting me a crystal. However, he knew what I didn't; I was an extremely sensitive girl fraught with feelings of anxiety I could not explain or control. "This is a bloodstone," he said. "It has a special energy and vibration of calmness, balance, and safety." I had no reason to believe him, but I just trusted the bloodstone could help me. And it did. I never looked back. I continue to use crystals to support the wellbeing of my family till this very day.

Julianne Boileau

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