

news
@
westhill

May
June
2018



Report from West Hill's Board Chair

SPRING? What's that? As I am writing this report the ice pellets and freezing rain are bouncing off the windows. Hopefully when this is published Spring will have finally arrived.

At our congregational meeting I noted we had submitted an application for funding from the United Church to support our Building Community Partnerships initiative. As we have been struggling with the challenges of our building, a great location but in need of significant funds for maintenance (which we don't have), along with the issue of the future of our community, the creation of this initiative has resulted. The following is from our grant application:

The requested funds are to cover the costs of engaging the professional services of the firm Eco-Ethnomics. Consultants from Eco-Ethnomics will undertake an environmental scan of partnership opportunities, develop a portfolio of partnership models, source and invite engagement with one or more existing or start-up social enterprises that are seeking to establish or grow an East Scarborough location. **The partnership(s) created will embed West Hill's humanitarian values and the ethos of The United Church of Canada in its neighbourhood into the future. As well, it will provide for a robust partnership that will allow the congregation to maintain a physical presence in its neighbourhood into the future.**

Our grant was approved and now the work begins. Working with West Hill, understanding our Vision Works and evaluating our building and supporting parking space, Eco-Ethnomics will research and present 5 to 6 possible partners that would be a good fit. From this list we will select 2 to 3 and Eco-Ethnomics will work on developing business cases for our consideration. These business cases will identify the nature of the expected relationship, the nature of the program/service being developed in our community, the demands of our space, and the revenue potential.

Once we are clearer on potential partners, then it is the Board's expectation that a second request for funding from Presbytery will be made. These funds would be used to support implementation and development of strong sustainable relationships.

This is an exciting initiative for our community. I expect these partnerships will create great energy and develop positive momentum for future partnerships, resulting in the realization of a thriving hub supporting our local community. Stay tuned as we keep you posted on developments.

Randy Bowes

The Wonderful Gifts Of Oz

Most readers have watched the movie *The Wizard of Oz*, a childhood favourite of mine, where so much happens that is metaphorical even though we mostly watch it for entertainment. It is scary in places, scary like real life can be scary. I am a movie buff and enjoy watching movies from a “what lesson can I learn” perspective.

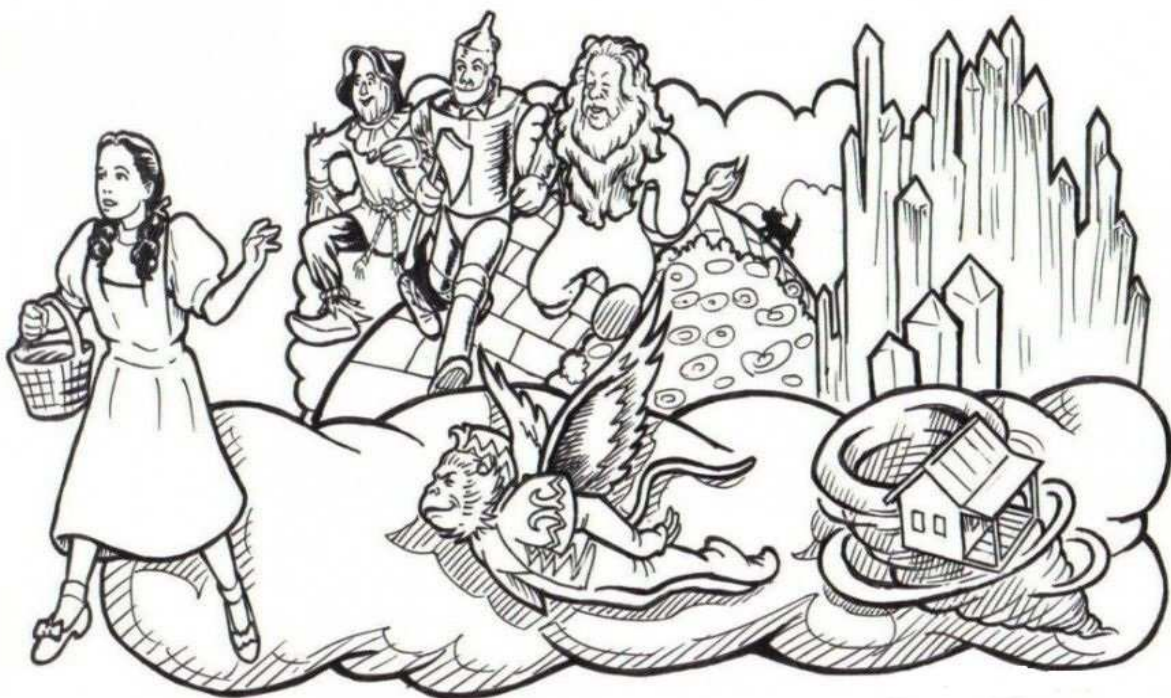
In this movie Dorothy and her collection of misfit friends make their way to Oz, together in community, each seeking their own. They each have a deep yearning for something to tell them they are worthy, successful and to give them a reason for living. The Scarecrow seeks a brain, the Tin Man a heart, the Cowardly Lion seeks courage, and Dorothy simply wants to go home. All of these treasured characters are a part of me, and a part of you, and are the fodder for a life’s journey.

I wonder how many of you are on the road to Oz, seeking some sort of confirmation that you have a brain, a heart, and courage? For the past 10 years I have been down and out, attempting to locate each of these in my life, having many people tell me who I am and what I can accomplish. Through my personal growth of aging well I have found personal intellect, the heart for helping others, and the courage to be authentic in spite of many.

How are you treating yourself in the space of aging well? Are you eating well? Exercising every day? Being socially active in community? Are you collecting personal stories that give you confidence and help you along the way? Simply being mindful of your own day-to-day activities and keeping yourself occupied and busy will keep you leaps and bounds ahead of the mainstream of aging adults. By helping others feel valued, you value yourself. Sharing physical space and living in community with others is the healthiest way to age well and to add value to your life.

There’s no place like home and, remember, home is where the heart lives and West Hill is home to many. Keep up the good work because maybe you are the Oz to many seeking intellect, heart and the courage to persevere. Dole it out freely!

submitted by Cynthia Breadner



FRAMING DAMES

- Custom Picture Framing
- Fine Art Cleaning
- Shadow Boxes
- Painting Parties
- Original Artwork
- Handmade Gifts
- In-store Specials



362 Old Kingston Road, Scarborough,
Ontario, M1C 1B6, 416 287 2025

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest, LinkedIn

Sew Here Sew Now

**Sewing Machine Sales
Machine Service – all makes**

Lessons

Custom Embroidery



370 Old Kingston Rd.
Scarborough, Ont. M1C 1B6
416-282-0440

www.sewheresewnow.com

AUTO TECHNIQUES

John Stratos

T: 416-283-7011 F: 416-283-4457 • john@autotechniques.ca
6000 Kingston Road, Scarborough, ON M1C 1K3



LAVENDER
ROSE
FLOWERS INC.

368 OLD KINGSTON ROAD
SCARBOROUGH

ONTARIO M1C 1B6
SHOP FAX
416-284-1567 416-284-2641

MARY CROSSAN
WWW.LAVENDERROSEFLOWERS.CA

News From First Nations Study Group

Update on Petition to House of Commons

Our Petition to the House of Commons with our concerns regarding the lack of potable water, insufficient housing and education on reserves, was sent to Ottawa in January and filed with the Clerk of Petitions. It was then read before the House on February 27th by our local MP, Gary Anandasangaree. The Petition is then sent on to the responsible Member who must, by law, respond to our Petition within 45 working days. This would be either The Honourable Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs, or The Honourable Jane Philpott, Minister of Indigenous Services. We will keep you advised.

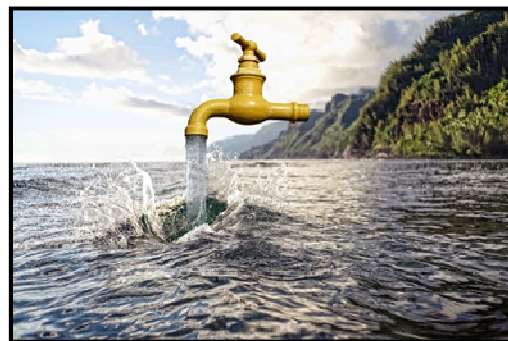
Update on Drinking Water Advisories

There are three types of DWAs:

- Boil water advisories,
- Do not consume advisories.
- Do not use advisories.

As of March 31, 2018, there were:

- 78 long term DWAs in effect
- 24 short-term DWAs
- 57 long term DWAs lifted
- 30 long term DWAs added.

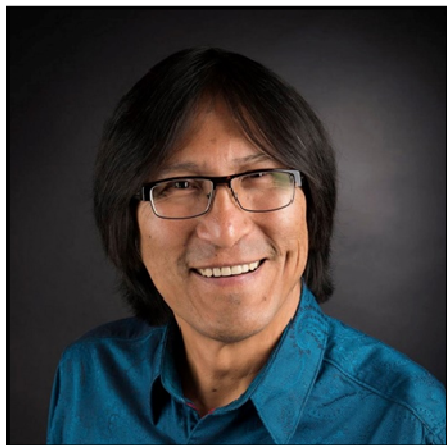


The Government of Canada has committed to ending all long-term Drinking Water Advisories (DWA) on public water systems financially supported by Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) in First Nations communities by March 2021. One Thousand Public Drinking Water systems are included in this commitment by Indigenous Services Canada.

Projects underway or completed will benefit 297 First Nations Communities and serve 305,000 people.

Author, Chief Stacey LaForme and Reconciliation

At our March First Nations Study Group meeting, we watched ‘Reconciliation in Poetry’ an interview on The Agenda of Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation’s Chief, Stacey Laforme, who spoke about what reconciliation going forward looked like to him. His is a most thoughtful, poignant and enlightened viewpoint. To view this 20 minute segment for yourself, go to: <https://tvo.org/video/programs/the-agenda-with-steve-paikin/reconciliation-in-poetry>



Richard Wagamese

Summer Reading

- *Living In The Tall Grass*, a book of prose by Chief Stacey LaForme
- *Indian Horse; Medicine Walk; Keeper’n Me; Ragged Company*, novels by Richard Wagamese
- *Seven Fallen Feathers*, non-fiction by Tanya Talaga
- *Up Ghost River*, a memoir by Edmund Metatawabin
- *First Wives Club: Coast Salish Style*, short stories by Lee Maracle
- *The Reason You Walk: A Memoir*, by Wab Kinew

submitted by Ruth Gill



IN THE SPIRIT

Yoga Studio & Wine Lounge



REMINDER — YOGA CLASSES (SENIORS DISCOUNT). We still offer special seniors classes (yoga in chairs and for those with mobility issues) Mondays at 10:15-11:15 a.m. and Thursdays 9:00-10:00 a.m. (\$15/class includes tea/coffee & cookies). (Highland Creek Plaza, 376 Old Kingston Road)

We have many more options for all ages. Please check out our website for our class schedule, rates and more information (647-352-4879): www.inthespirtityoga.com, email letsconnect@inthespirtityoga.com



Signature Realty
IND. OWNED & OPERATED BROKERAGE

*For All Your Real Estate Needs,
Please Call Alyson Buckingham.*

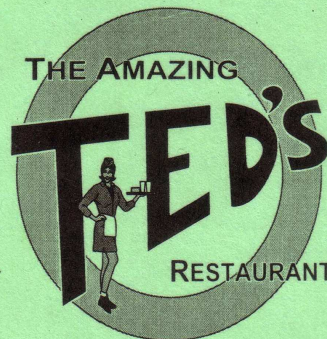
*Solid Advice. Put My Experience
And Trustworthy Knowledge
On Your Side!*



**Alyson
Buckingham**
SALES REPRESENTATIVE

cell: 416•566•2592
office: 416•443•0300
a.buck.kiwi@gmail.com
ABuckingham.com

Not intended to solicit properties already listed for sale.



Licensed Under LLBO
for beer & wine

A GREAT PLACE
TO MEET
YOUR FRIENDS!



Randy Zhang

416-282-2204
404 Old Kingston Road

DEGROOTS
Diagnostic Centre

MIKE DEGROOT
4 Falaise Road
Scarborough, Ontario
M1E 3B5

TEL: (416) 282-7250
FAX: (416) 282-0068
www.degroots.mechanicnet.com

May

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Board Meeting 7-9:30 PM Labyrinth Walk 10:30 to noon Holiday Crafting 1-3 PM	2	3 Choir 7:30-9:00 PM	4 Book Study 7:30-9:30 PM	5
6 Sunday Service 10:30 to noon V&T Lunch and Q&Q with Sonia Faruqi, Author, Project Animal Farm	7 Men's Group 7-9 PM	8 Labyrinth Walk 10:30 to noon Holiday Crafting 1-3 PM	9	10	11	12
13 Mother's Day Sunday Service 10:30 to noon	14	15 Labyrinth Walk 10:30 to noon Holiday Crafting 1-3 PM	16	17	18 Book Study 7:30-9:30 PM	19
20 Sunday Service 10:30 to noon	21 Victoria Day	22 Labyrinth Walk 10:30 to noon Holiday Crafting 1-3 PM	23	24 Choir Party (tentative)	25 Dinner with Friends 5:30 PM	26 Spring Clean-up
27 Sunday Service 10:30 to noon	28 First Nations Study Group 1:30-3:30 PM	29	30	31		

JOHN'S 
FLOORING
 since 1963

Dave Beaulieu

416-284-0552

Fax: 416-284-4314

dave@johnscarpet.com

4593 Kingston Road

Scarborough, ON M1E 2P3

(1st light east of Morningside Ave.)

johnscarpet.com

Carpet

Hardwood

Vinyl

Laminate

Area Rugs

Mother's Day Gift Basket Raffle



Tickets
\$5 each or 2 for \$10
Draw Date
Sunday, May 6th

June

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Lives In The Balance Factory Theatre
3 Sunday Service 10:30 to noon V&T Lunch	4 Men's Group 7-9 PM	5 Board Meeting 7-9:30 PM Labyrinth Walk 10:30 to noon Holiday Crafting 1-3 PM	6	7	8	9 Rain Date for Spring Clean-up
10 Sunday Service 10:30 to noon	11 Wayne Crossley Memorial Golf Tournament & Dinner	12 Labyrinth Walk 10:30 to noon Holiday Crafting 1-3 PM	13	14	15	16
17 Father's Day Sunday Service 10:30 to noon	18 Men's Group 7-9 PM	19 Labyrinth Lunch Crafty Cottagers	20	21 Summer Solstice National Indigenous Peoples Day	22	23
24 Sunday Service 10:30 to noon	25 First Nations Study Group 1:30-3:30 PM	26 Holiday Crafting 1-3 PM	27	28	29 Dinner with Friends 5:30 PM	30

Coming Up Soon!

Wayne Crossley Memorial Golf Tournament & Dinner

Monday, June 11th

For tickets, contact:

**Terry Repol at trepol@rogers.com OR
Mel Crossley at wmcross@rogers.com**



**Thanks To Our Amazing Volunteers!
We Are So Lucky To Have You!**

Mission & Service

~ Funding Hope ~

Our gifts for Mission & Service support displaced people. This story is about one of our partners in Kenya. Around the world tens of millions of people are forced to flee their homes due to natural disasters, violence, conflict, and persecution. Some are pushed across international borders and become refugees. Others remain in their own countries but cannot return to their homes. Ripped from homes and livelihoods, most displaced people have difficulty meeting the most basic needs of shelter, water, food, and clothing. They have experienced severe trauma and need psychosocial support. Some face serious health problems. Host communities, often already facing widespread poverty, are further challenged with the addition of many more people in need.

Mission & Service partner, the National Council of Churches of Kenya, works in collaboration with others in two Kenyan refugee camps that house refugees from Sudan, Somalia, Ethiopia, and other countries. In existence for more than 20 years, these camps are becoming “generational” in that children are born and raised in the camps and know no other life. Through M&S we are able to support our partners in offering displaced people the basic necessities of life.

~ Training Birth Attendants ~

Four hundred and ninety-four women from across Tanzania and East Africa, and 16 training sessions in collaboration with the Tanzanian Ministry of Health – these are the latest totals for training traditional birth attendants (midwives) reported by M&S partner, the Morogoro Women’s Training Centre. It is part of an overall strategy to reduce maternal and infant mortality rates in Tanzania.

The women have been named by their community and range in age from early 20s to over 70. Some have worked as traditional birth attendants for decades. Some completed high school, others some grades in elementary school, and a few have never attended school. All have developed a wide range of skills and have faced many challenges on the job. Some live close to a health clinic or hospital where they can readily refer high-risk cases. Others live many kilometres from the closest medical centre over difficult and sometimes impassable terrain. Moen Abdul has been delivering babies for 47 years. She welcomes the additional training and says, “This work is very important to me. It is like it keeps the clock of life ticking.”

Our support of M&S is helping to improve the health of women & babies in Tanzania.

submitted by Dorothy Hirheley

West Hill United

A warm place to find yourself

62 Orchard Park Drive, West Hill, ON M1E 3T7
www.westhill.net 416-282-8566 westhill@westhill.net

©2018