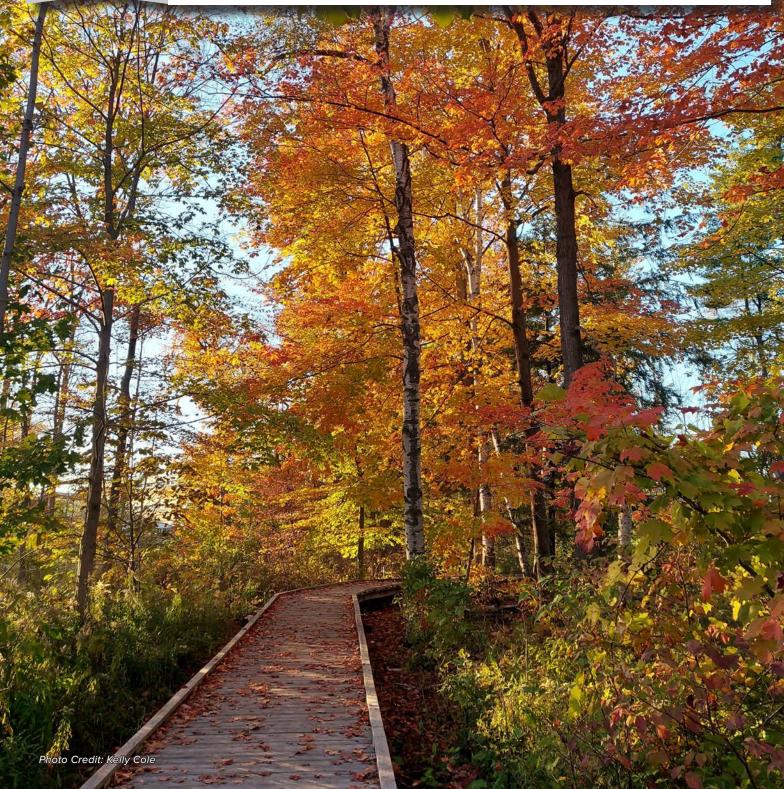


# Guildwood Village NEWS & VIEWS

The official publication of the Guildwood Village Community Association

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## **President's Message**



#### Robert D'Addario

President, Guildwood Village Community Association

#### president@guildwood.ca

On behalf of the GVCA Board Members, we would like to welcome all our new families that have joined Guildwood Village. September is a month of new beginnings for many of our

residents, including those with school-aged children. We hope that you have had a great start to the school year!

As we discuss new beginnings, I would like to invite all Guildwood Village residents to participate in our GVCA events. We will be connecting with all residents through our social media accounts, News and Views articles, and emails. Please visit us at www.guildwood.ca and sign up to be part of our email list.

I encourage you to connect with your Guildwood Village neighbours. It is important to know who they are and how we can help each other. An important lesson learned through the pandemic was that we all play a role in keeping our community safe and connected.

One of the reasons why I became involved with the GVCA is because I know that the grass is always greener where you water it! We can often become preoccupied with the positive aspects of other local communities within Toronto, but our priority is to truly invest in Guildwood Village. The investment is one of respect and care for our community and one another.

The GVCA Board Members are continuously working towards opportunities for all of us to connect as well as working with City of Toronto officials to amplify the voice of Guildwood Village. We will continue to work this year towards our goals of community connections and sustainable living, while holding true to our values of listening and acting on behalf of Guildwood Village residents.

### Addendum to article posted in News & Views – Summer 2022 page 19

We recently published an article entitled "Do you have Toronto's TOwaste app yet?". It has come to our attention that some Android users may have difficulty with different features of the app. City personnel are aware of these problems. Please contact them directly if you would like further information or help with the app.

#### A Special Thank-you to Guildwood Businesses for Supporting the GVCA's Membership Sales

The GVCA's Directors want to recognize local businesses Moore's Your Independent Grocer and Guildwood Physiotherapy for their on-going and active support for the GVCA membership drive. For many years now, each of these businesses have worked with our Membership team liaison, Audrea Douglas, to ensure that GVCA memberships are easily available to all Guildwood residents from about mid-March through the end of September. The GVCA greatly appreciates the efforts these businesses and their staff make. During the pandemic, the GVCA halted its door-to-door membership canvassing activities to help ensure the safety of our volunteer canvassers and so the continued support of owners Bryan Moore and Timo Puhakka was more important than ever to our membership campaigns.

We hope that all Guildwood residents show their support for each of our local merchants and service providers by giving them your business whenever possible – they are an important part of what makes Guildwood a great village.

GVCA Board of Directors

The Guildwood Village News & Views is delighted to welcome our new editor, Sheila McGovern! Sheila originally hails from Montreal and moved to Kingston to obtain a commerce degree from Queen's University. For over 20 years she worked in various sales and marketing management roles in the pharmaceutical industry. Sheila, her husband, Patrick, and stepdaughter, Claire, became residents of Guildwood in 2004 and their son, Rowan, was born the following year. Over the next several years, she worked in project management with Rogers Publishing followed by an agency specializing in pharmacy education. Some of you may know Sheila as one of the singers in a local band called Sonic Square. They've performed at Guildwood Day and Guild Alive with Culture many times, as well as in bars such as the Olde Stone Cottage Pub and Whisky John's (in Oshawa), private events at the Scarboro Golf & Country Club and yacht clubs. Having retired in July, Sheila is happy to join the GVCA team as the volunteer editor! Welcome Sheila!

## **Welcoming Ukrainian Refugees to Guildwood**

Keith Evans



Keith Evans

February 24th , 2022 will be a day that I will always remember – the brutal invasion of Ukraine – totally unprovoked and without regard for human life or the suffering that it caused. I was shocked to the core – how could this happen in our modern day to one of our European neighbours?

The Ukrainian people that I grew up with, went to university with, as well as my recent clients, were all very proud of their country and its culture. I was angry that such an injustice could happen while we stood by helplessly. If there is one thing I cannot tolerate it's a bully and this time it felt personal. I seriously considered the idea of travelling to Ukraine to take up arms but a levelhead prevailed. The reality of not knowing when or where the next bomb would hit, and dying without a chance to fight back, was unthinkable.

As we all watched in horror, the refugee crisis began to grow – millions leaving their homes to escape certain death – walking away from all they knew and from those they loved. My heart hurt and my mind felt tormented.

I decided to offer help about three days after the war began. I called my Ukrainian client, who was well connected to her community, and offered to provide housing to a family in need. I had a vacant, unfurnished basement apartment available and knew it would be a welcome sanctuary to someone fleeing the war. She was so appreciative of the offer that we both had a hard time speaking for a minute ... the emotions were overwhelming. I felt like I too had become a soldier – not knowing how things would turn out but taking a chance and seizing the moment.

There was an urgent need for donations of furnishings so I put the story on both the local Facebook Marketplace and "Guildwood Buy and Sell" sites. The response was both overwhelming and heartwarming. It became somewhat of a huge undertaking involving many hours of texting, emailing and phoning but I was so grateful for the outpouring of kindness from our community! As chairs, beds, lights and mattresses started coming in, I started to keep a list of all of the participants so the eventual tenants would know who had helped with their arrival.

Within a week of notifying Lesia of my offer, she located a family in need that was currently living in Poland! It was so touching to learn of who it was and her story. Tania (Tetiana) and her two sons Denys (pronounced Dennis age 9) and Anton (11) were friends of a friend in Ukraine desperately looking for a safe place to live. They had heard wonderful things about Canada and of our strong Ukrainian community here in Toronto and the western provinces.

Very quickly I realized that the boys would need a room apart from their mother's room but currently it was a oneroom apartment. With the help of my son (a professional carpenter now working in Toronto's film industry), we converted a large central room in the basement into two rooms! It was a very bonding time for both of us ... the mission to help another family brought this father and son together in a united way.

The work was completed within only a few short weeks in anticipation of their arrival. Tania and I began to communicate by WhatsApp as she speaks English very well. She is a University Assistant Professor of Music at the Kyiv University – and plays the Bandura – which I soon learned is the national instrument of Ukraine (with medieval roots!) Her husband, Viacheslav (Slava), remains in Ukraine and is a cellist who is not able to leave due to his age. He lives on the outskirts of Kyiv at his mother's home where he grows his own food to survive. Slava faces an uncertain future, fearing that the day may come when his home is over-run and his life could be in very real danger.



waited for approval to travel from the Canadian Immigration/ Refugee system, Lesia asked me to help someone who was already here! Olena is a 56 year old woman who has two daughters. She had been at the Super 8

While Tania

Olena and Milusya

Hotel by the airport for four days in isolation with one of her daughter's beautiful Siberian Blue Point cats, named Milusya, and needed a place to call home for a while. I said yes immediately! It's probably no surprise that our drive home was a bit strange given Olena is in a strange land and doesn't speak English. I helped her get a refund for the two days at the hotel and she was grateful – smiles and nods and hand movements seemed to make everything understood. During the ride home, we fell into silence, unable to say much to each other as we passed the industrial complexes and fields and cement plants along the 407. I wished I could explain how beautiful our city is but understood that conversation would have to wait until another day.



Olena's daughters, Olena, and Keith

#### August 17th Arrival

Hooray ... finally Tania and her boys arrived after a long 6 months of trying to get here! Unfortunately, they had to pay business fare for the three of them to fly from Warsaw to Lisbon and then on to Toronto since there were no direct flights available. The three were still in good spirits when I picked them up at Terminal 1 – even after travelling for 18 hours! Surprisingly the boys spoke English well enough for us all to be able to understand each other.



Tania playing the bandura

They were quite impressed with the size of the city , the towers and the huge highway 401 as we drove across town to their new home on Poplar Road. They were all surprised by the size of the house and the spacious basement apartment – they have been living in much smaller spaces while in Warsaw – some donated and others paid for as they waited for their Visas to be processed. On August 28, Tania performed a beautiful outdoor concert playing the bandura. Anton and Denys accompanied her on several songs playing the violin, piano and ukulele. It was a very emotional and uplifting performance which generated donations to help the new family settle into their new home.







This is just one example of how our community has opened its doors to help people in crisis. I am grateful for all of the support shown by my friends and neighbours!





The decomposition of fallen leaves returns nutrients to the soil, it's part of the vital ecological cycle that sustains both garden and woodland environments.

Organisms that break down the leaves, like fungi, insects, and other arthropods form a complex and vibrant food web, which are a food source for birds!



### Guildwood Chiropractic and Wellness Centre DrTodd Baron 123 Guildwood Pkwy 416 266-7723 <u>www.guildwoodchiropractic.net</u>

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### Are You Throwing Butterflies Out With The Yard Waste?

Allison Murray, Guildwood Butterflyway Project



Butterflyway Project In August, I watched a

beautiful Black Swallowtail grow from a tiny egg into a huge caterpillar before it turned into a chrysalis suspended from a stalk of fennel in my back garden. It was almost invisible, its bright green exactly matching the green of the fennel. As the fennel began to die back, I thought about all the Swallowtails and other beautiful butterflies that we are potentially

throwing out when we do our annual fall garden "clean up".

Most of us are familiar with the annual fall migration of the monarch. While monarchs and some other butterflies fly south toward warmer climes, there are over 70 species who stay here all year round. These are called "resident" butterflies and they overwinter here in various forms.



Some, like the Mourning Cloak, Compton Tortoiseshell and Eastern Comma, live through the winter as adults, tucked into the bark of trees and other snug spots until the warm spring weather lures them out. These are among

Mourning Cloak (overwinters as an adult) – photo credit Bob Noble

the earliest butterflies you'll see next spring, sometimes as early as March if the days are warm enough.

Other butterflies spend their winters in various stages of development. The Acadian Hairstreak, for example, overwinters in the egg stage on willow leaves, including those dried ones that you rake into a pile to be vacuumed up by the city. The



Acadian Hairstreak (overwinters as an egg) – photo credit Bob Noble

Great Spangled Fritillary spends the winter months as a caterpillar tucked among the violets that are its host plant. Many other resident butterflies including the Clouded



Great Spangled Fritillary (overwinters as a caterpillar) – photo credit Allison Murray

Sulphur, Cabbage White, Canadian Tiger Swallowtail, and my Black Swallowtail spend their winters as chrysalises attached to vegetation that, more often than not, is cut down and bagged to be hauled away on yard waste day.



Black Swallowtail (overwinters as a chrysalis) – photo credit Jessica Hagan



I think about this every time I head into the garden in the fall. It's hard to resist doing a big fall clean up but I've learned to take a step back and look at the garden as a miniature universe full of life – if I let it be.

Black Swallowtail chrysalis – photo credit Allison Murray

For some good winter reading, I recommend Douglas Tallamy's book "Bringing Nature Home". His inspirational idea of the Homegrown National Park (<u>https://</u> <u>homegrownnationalpark.org</u>) will be coming to Canada soon via the David Suzuki Foundation.

### Sir Wilfrid Laurier CI and Native Learning Centre Returning to Normal



For the first time in nearly two years, students at Sir Wilfrid Laurier Collegiate Institute returned to class free of COVID-19 restrictions. For many students, this is their first time experiencing high school without the constant uncertainty of lockdowns and irregular class periods.

On September 7, students returned to a regular semester which includes 75-minute classes with an hour-long lunch. This welcome change finally meant varied classes and an opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities. For the first time in two years, sports and clubs can resume as normal with volleyball tryouts already underway. Many seniors and juniors have taken on leadership roles within their clubs to deliver an engaging experience for the upcoming year.

While the school slowly regains a sense of normality, it isn't without some significant changes. For example, parents and students will notice a new pick-up and dropoff system at the back of the school. This new traffic flow was developed in order to provide a safer parking lot for students.

All-in-all, the atmosphere of this school year is overwhelmingly optimistic. With the past two years of fluctuating tension behind us, it's safe to say that teachers, students, and parents could not be happier with the outlook of this coming school year!



## What Can We Do About Food Insecurity?

Nadia Heyd



It's a beautiful thing to know that you can make someone's day better simply by contributing to a food drive. With the arrival of fall, many of us will be invited to contribute to food drives, and I hope you'll contribute as generously as you

can! With record-setting inflation, many more families will be struggling this year to put food on the table. This article lays out a couple of other ideas you can implement to help address food insecurity in our community.

Food insecurity is a complex thing. It goes way beyond hunger. It is "the inadequate or insecure access to food due to financial constraints." This definition of food insecurity comes from PROOF, an interdisciplinary research program at the University of Toronto that is studying food insecurity and effective policy approaches to reduce it. When you really think about that definition, food insecurity is actually more of a "money" problem and less of a "food" problem. Prior to the pandemic, about 1 in 8 Canadians was food insecure. PROOF's latest analysis (released in summer 2022) puts that number closer to 1 in 6.

As you learn about the issues, you see that not having access to food creates all kinds of problems - it creates stress as people decide whether to spend time lining up at a food bank or showing up for a shift at work (what is someone to do when the food hamper is worth more than the missed wages?). People who are food insecure are more likely to experience health problems. "The prevalence of household food insecurity in Canada matters because food insecurity is such a potent social determinant of health. Food-insecure people are much more likely than others to suffer from chronic physical and mental health problems and infectious and noncommunicable diseases." <sup>1</sup> It can also lead to greater social isolation (think of the grandparent who is reluctant to host a family dinner or chooses not to attend a family function because they cannot afford to get to it or to bring a gift or dish to share.)<sup>2</sup>

1 Tarasuk V, Li T, Fafard St-Germain AA. (2022) Household food insecurity in Canada, 2021. Toronto: Research to identify policy options to reduce food insecurity (PROOF). Retrieved from <u>https://proof.utoronto.ca/</u>

2 Beyond Hunger, The hidden impacts of Food Insecurity. Community Food Centres Canada, <u>https://cfccanada.</u> <u>ca/en/News/Publications/Reports/Beyond-Hunger-the-</u> <u>hidden-impacts-of-food-insec-1www.cfccanada.ca</u> PROOF notes "with record inflation since 2021, we can expect the prevalence and severity of food insecurity to worsen if measures aren't taken to address the socioeconomic circumstances that give rise to it and to ensure that the incomes of vulnerable households can keep up with the rising costs of living." <sup>3</sup> The report then identifies evidence-based responses that federal and provincial governments could enact that would help address the problem:

• Address the vulnerability of households reliant on employment incomes but still unable to make ends meet.

• Ensure that working-aged adults not in the workforce also have sufficient incomes to meet basic needs.

Here are some things that anyone can do to help address food insecurity:

Advocate! Take action in support of a Canada
Disability Benefit. On June 2nd, the federal government
reintroduced legislation to create a monthly benefit
for Canadians with disabilities. The decision was on
hold during the summer months but will head into the
second reading in the fall. Add your voice by calling on
the federal government to #PasstheBill at https://www.
disabilitywithoutpoverty.ca/ask-your-mp/
 Follow Community Food Centres Canada to

keep abreast of the issues and other policy actions you can take. Visit <u>https://cfccanada.ca/</u> <u>en/What-We-Do/Policy-Advocacy</u> and subscribe to the newsletter, or follow CFCC on social media at @CommunityFoodCentresCanada

Thank you for reading, and for doing all you can to help address this important community issue.

Nadia Heyd is your Guildwood neighbour and works on the Philanthropy team at Community Food Centres Canada. CFCC works towards a Canada where food is treated as a basic right and central to health, and where everyone has the means, knowledge, and voice necessary to access good food with dignity.

3 Ibid.

## Public Advisory: "Grandparent Scam" targeting seniors



The Toronto Police Service Financial Crimes Unit would like to alert the public to a fraud scheme targeting seniors in Toronto and surrounding areas.

#### It is reported that:

- a grandparent receives a phone call on their land-line from a person claiming to be their grandchild
- in some cases, the caller discloses the grandchild's name or calls the grandparent by their name, i.e. Nana or Papa to make it believable
- the caller states that they have been involved in a collision or arrested and require cash to be released from custody, or, in some cases, is ill with Covid-19
- the phone is then passed to a person posing as a police officer and the "officer" demands a cash payment for their grandchild's release from custody
- the fake police officer instructs the grandparent to withdraw funds from their bank and place the money in an envelope. The grandparents are told what lie to tell the bank teller when asked what the money is for
- the grandparent is told that there is a "gag order" on the case and not to discuss this with anyone
- the grandparent is then instructed to hand over the envelope to a man who would later attend their residence to collect the cash

#### OR

- the grandparent receives a call from the "lawyer" who demands a large cash payment
- the "lawyer" may promise the money will be returned
- the "lawyer" instructs the grandparent to count all available cash at home
- the "lawyer" remains on the phone with the grandparent while the money is counted
- the "lawyer" then instructs the grandparent to hand over the cash to a man who would later come to the grandparent's residence to collect the cash
- The caller may ask for money to be sent via courier, wire transfer or gift cards to assist them.

#### What to do if you are a target of this scam:

- Don't get flustered. Take time to think. The scammer will make it sound urgent to pressure you.
- Do not confirm any personal or financial information.
- If you receive a suspicious phone call claiming to be from a family member in an emergency situation, hang up the phone and contact them directly.
- If the caller claims to be a law enforcement official, hang up and call police directly at 416-808-7300, or the general non-emergency number 416-808-2222.

- Listen to that inner voice that is screaming at you, "This doesn't sound right".
- Be careful what you post online. Scammers can use details shared on social media platforms and dating sites for targeting purposes. Suspects can easily gather names and details about your loved ones.
- Be suspicious of telephone calls that require you to immediately take action and request bail money for a family member in distress.
- Be careful with phone caller ID numbers that look familiar. Scammers use technology to disguise the actual number they are calling from (spoof) and make it appear as a trusted phone number.
- DO NOT SEND ANY MONEY!
- Please be aware that police never contact family members and request cash bail or send someone to their home to pick up bail money.
- Anyone with information is asked to contact:
- Police at 416-808-7300
- Crime Stoppers anonymously at 416-222-TIPS (8477), online at <u>www.222tips.com</u>, online on Facebook "Leave a Tip" page or text TOR and your message to CRIMES (274637).



CRIME PREVENTION AND SENIOR SAFETY

## **Living Green**

### Kathleen Wolfe



I know this article is a bit early but as this is the last issue of News & Views until 2023, I wanted to share some of my New Year's resolutions. Perhaps these will give you some ideas that you can implement in your own home.

1. Wherever possible, I will not use gift wrapping paper. Instead, I will purchase holiday reusable grocery or store bags or use pillowcases, bath towels, antique hankies and kitchen towels etc. All of these things can be used again and again and do not get thrown away as soon as the gift is unwrapped. And most of them are easy to clean!

 I will use fewer cleaning products. I really don't need a different cleaner for every cleaning need. I will use only green products, where available, or better still I will try using natural products. A mixture of baking soda and vinegar is a great drain cleaner and white vinegar makes an excellent disinfecting tool on kitchen countertops as it cuts grease and wax buildup. It also removes mildew.
 I will donate unwanted clothing and household articles to charity rather than have them sitting unused in my cupboard. 4. I will reuse take-out food containers, glass jars, plastic bag etc. over and over again before recycling or disposing of them. You are only limited by your own imagination as to finding other purposes for some of these "throw away" things.

5. I will try to repair rather than replace things around the house.

6. I will become more aware of green issues around me. Decisions are being made for us that may not be in our best interest.

7. I will drive less and drive smart, for example:

- Walk or bike when you can
- Take public transit when possible
- Plan ahead to combine errands and avoid unnecessary trips
- Plan meals so there are fewer trips to the supermarket by car

We must remain vigilant when protecting our environment. I have always found that if we speak up, people will listen to us. Let's speak up!





### Edward Jones



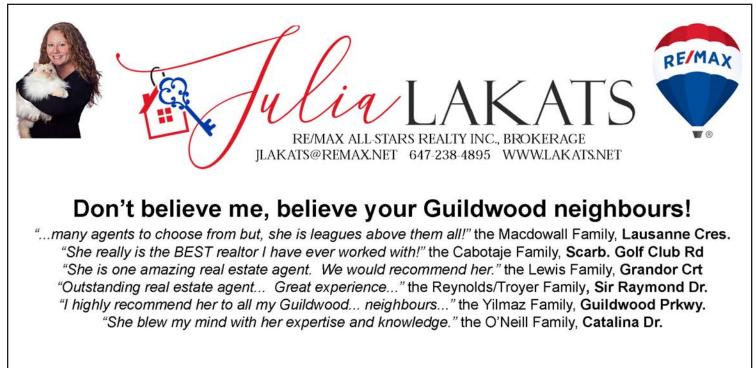
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## What's on @ Guildwood Library

Matthew Parish, Guildwood Library

Guildwood Library       416-396-8872         Tuesday       12:30 – 8:30         Wednesday       10:00 – 6:00         Thursday       12:30 – 8:30         Friday       10:00 – 6:00         Saturday       9:00 – 5:00	Please go to www.tpl.ca for more information about our reopening plans and updates. <b>Recommended Books from Guildwood Staff</b> Matthew recommends: Ragged Company by Richard Wagamese
<b>EarlyON Baby Music</b> Ages – newborn to 18 months Children and their caregivers enjoy stories, songs and rhymes. Contact the branch for exact date and times.	Ruth recommends: <b>The Fatal Obsession</b> by Faith Martin <i>Lisa recommends:</i> <b>Verity</b> by Colleen Hoover
Guildwood Discussion Group Ages - adult Come to the library to discuss current events. Every third Friday each month from 2 – 3 p.m. Please contact the branch to register. Space is limited. Silent Book Club Come bring a book you are reading. We read for 45 minutes and then everyone talks about what they have read. This drop in program is available to anyone 13 and up! We meet the second Tuesday of every month from 7:00 – 8:15 pm	Georgia recommends: The Therapist by B. A. Paris Regina recommends: We Were Dreamers: An Immigrant Superhero Origin Story by Simu Liu Jitka recommends: One Wild Bird at a Time: Portraits of Individual Lives by Bernd Heinrich A Naturalist at Large: Essays of Bernd Heinrich by Bernd Heinrich Ellie recommends: Soldier Dogs: The Untold Story of America's Canine Heroes by Maria Goodavage



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## The Dilemma at Guild Park: Public Destination / Private Facility

John Mason, President, Friends of Guild Park



**The background:** During 2022, tens of thousands of visitors came to Guild Park & Gardens, setting major milestones at the increasingly popular 88-acre public site in the heart of Guildwood Village.

 In July, the City of Toronto's Arts in the Parks program attracted one of its largest ever outdoor audiences in Toronto. More than 500 people came to the park's Greek Theatre to enjoy a hands-on evening workshop and concert by Nagata Shachu, the award-winning Japanese Taiko drummers.

• From May through September, Guild

Park's natural and art-related attractions continued to draw Torontonians from across the city, thanks to the guided walking tours organized by Doors Open Toronto, Heritage Toronto and volunteers from Friends of Guild Park. About half of the people participating were firsttime visitors to the site.

• Over the summer, Guild Festival Theatre (GFT) hosted its biggest season of summer performances at Guild Park with three productions centred at the Greek Theatre. In addition, one of GFT's stage plays from last year – its imaginative adaptation of *Alice In Wonderland* – earned seven Dora Award nominations and won two awards recognizing excellence in stage productions across Toronto!



Alice in Wonderland at the Greek Theatre

• Earlier this spring, the official opening of the City of Toronto's Clark Centre for the Arts brought the return of art exhibits and professional artists to Guild Park. This came exactly 90 years after the historic arts community, The Guild of All Arts, was founded on the property. Appropriately, the new Clark Centre is named after philanthropists Rosa and Spencer Clark, who owned and operated the Guild property for nearly half a century. The newly-redesigned centre is already offering public art programs and classes, with much more to come.

These and other events – including the ever-popular Guild Alive With Culture Arts Festival - show how art and nature at Guild Park combine to create a viable, alternative cultural destination to complement the established arts scene in the City's congested core. What a difference since 2011!

Back then, the National Trust for Canada designated the park's Guild Inn as one of the 10 most endangered historic places in the country. It called the site a classic case of "demolition by neglect" by the government agencies in charge.

One of the catalysts for Guild Park's transformation was the City of Toronto's decision to find a private partner willing to restore and modernize the then-crumbling Guild Inn. In 2013, after many frustrating delays, the City selected Dynamic Hospitality & Entertainment to operate the facility as a privately-run, multi-use complex. It was named Guild Inn Estate to recognize the site's long legacy of public hospitality.

**The dilemma:** A series of outstanding issues at Guild Park centre around the uncertainty about public access to the Guild Inn Estate. Based on the City's past announcements, the facility was meant to be a community asset. This year, it became clear that it's verboten for regular park visitors to set foot inside what used to be one of Toronto's most popular hotels and dining rooms.

The actual operating agreements between the City and Guild Inn Estate are complex. The provisions have altered many times over the past 10 years. Terms get renegotiated. The paperwork outlining the changes often remain buried for years. However, some fundamentals are clear. The private developer originally agreed to invest approximately \$15 million to restore the old Guild Inn and expand it into a functioning facility for visitors. In return, various departments of the City of Toronto provided the Guild Inn Estate with a 40-year sub-lease, after which the entire facility will become a City of Toronto asset.

During those four decades, the private operator agreed to manage the facility in two ways:

1. As a commercial facility, catering to private events, such as weddings, business meetings and other functions;

2. As a public facility, benefiting both the City of Toronto and the broader community. City officials based many of these provisions on work done by volunteers from the GVCA and the Guild Renaissance Group going back to the 1980s.

Some of the first detailed descriptions of the Guild Inn Estate's operations were unveiled at a public meeting held Nov. 17, 2015 at Guildwood's Holy Trinity Church. That's when officials from the City and the Guild Inn Estate told the standing-room-only audience that the facility would be restored to include:

• A restaurant,

• Many pieces from the Clarks' art collection, which the City now owns, for display on a permanent and rotating basis, plus

• Designated meeting space available for community use, rented at rates set by the City's parks department.

Public expectations ran high while construction continued for the next two years.

Agreement documents recently made available by municipal officials confirm how serious city officials were for the Guild Inn Estate to serve the public. In 2015, Toronto City Council granted the private operator special tax-favoured status, worth about \$225,000 annually.

This ongoing tax benefit came by designating most of Guild Inn Estate as a Municipal Capital Facility. Such special status is designed to cover a private operator's costs to provide public/community services. At Guild Inn Estate, this tax exemption was intended for:

- The licensed restaurant, including seasonal public use of the original Inn's patio;
- Public access to the displays of public art; and

• The community meeting space which can be rented through Toronto's parks department at the City's prescribed community rates.

The City's original documents include a curious provision that applies if the Guild Inn Estate no longer qualifies as a Municipal Capital Facility and loses its municipal tax-exemption benefits. In that case, the City's parks department would be "required to pay the full amount of property taxes" on behalf of the Guild Inn Estate.

The amount paid would come from the park department's annual operating budget. The actual value would be based on the original 2015 tax exemption of \$225,000/year, adjusted for subsequent tax increases.

Despite these tax exemptions and the public's expectations, in 2022 no public visitors to Guild Park, nor any local community groups were able to:

- Order a meal, or even buy a coffee at the on-site restaurant,
- See the public art mounted inside the Guild Inn Estate,
- Rent meeting space at the City's community rates.

Illustrating the dilemma between public and private use of the Guild Inn Estate are the many metal signs now posted outside the facility. The beautifully-restored building within Guild Park may be the only designated Municipal Capital Facility in Ontario that qualifies for tax exemptions as a community resource and, at the same time, carries warning signs that state: "Private Property – No Public Access".

Other problems continue to emerge in the tug-of-war between public use at Guild Park and how the Guild Inn Estate's private clients use the site. These include:

• Access. The provisions to share access to the Guild Inn patio between Guild Park visitors and Guild Inn Estate

guests ended in 2021. That's when, due to COVID-19, City officials okayed installing three tents over the patio for the exclusive use of private guests. This decision also degraded the historic vista of the restored façade of the original 1914 building. Previously, that view was protected by a City of Toronto bylaw.

• Noise. The private parties renting this outdoor patio use amplified music that often disrupts the quiet enjoyment of the rest of Guild Park. Also affected by this unrestricted noise are live performances at the nearby Greek Theatre. The private events were apparently exempt from the City's noise bylaws. This may change after volunteers filed a noise complaint this summer because sound levels from a Guild Inn Estate event exceeded 100 decibels (the usual limit in the City is 55 decibels).

• Permits. Private guests at certain Guild Inn Estate functions have a mistaken impression that they're allowed unrestricted access to all Guild Park features, including the landmark Greek Theatre, without first obtaining required approvals from the City. Numerous times this summer, the cast and crew of Guild Festival Theatre, which uses the stage with City approval, had to deal with belligerent private guests who lacked permits, yet demanded going on stage for photos. These people disrupted rehearsals and threatened to disrupt performances, even damage theatrical equipment.

**What's the solution to the dilemma?** How do Guildwood Village residents and Guild Park visitors gain access to the benefits of the restored Guild Inn – a facility that City of Toronto taxpayers continue to subsidize?

A major challenge is recognizing that the operating agreement covering the Guild Inn Estate operations is between a private company and the City of Toronto. Under the various agreements, there's no formal opportunity for public representatives to provide input on how this important asset gets run and what services it provides while the sub-lease continues until 2067.

That doesn't mean the community has no voice. A first step is for Guild Park supporters and anyone unhappy with current conditions at the Guild Inn Estate to register their concerns in two ways:

1. By contacting the City's 24-hour information hotline 3-1-1 and file a specific complaint about noise, access to the facility, public services at Guild Park or anything that detracts from enjoying Guild Park. The City of Toronto is now monitoring aspects of the Guild Inn Estate operations. Sharing your comments and concerns alerts city officials to know when attention is required at Guild Park.

2. Provide copies of your comments/suggestions to Friends of Guild Park, either through www.facebook.com/ guildpark or email friends@guildpark.ca. This provides additional "ammunition" that volunteers can use to keep raising these unresolved issues with Guild Park's decision-makers.

### **Hidden in Nature**

Ann Brokelman, Erik Brokelman With permission to share from Beach Metro Community News



People are always asking me how I'm able to spot so many amazing animals in such random places. The answer isn't exciting: I've learned not only where to look, but how to look.

The next time you go for a stroll, take time to really look at the trees, along their branches, and inside their holes for movement and shapes or outlines that don't match the rest of the tree. When you're looking at an open field, don't just look for big animals towering over the grass, but into the grass itself for all the animals that take refuge there. It'll amaze you when you start to see what has been right in front of you the whole time.

Don't be discouraged if you can't spot anything right away. Nature has been designing animal camouflage for hundreds of thousands of years. Camouflage allows otherwise visible animals to become invisible to all but the most highly trained eyes. Many species blend into their environment specifically to keep them hidden from predators, while the predators themselves use camouflage to sneak up on or ambush their prey.

What does camouflage look like? There are so many designs, colours, and techniques that it would be impossible to describe them all.



Bad day screech snowed in

The colouring of some owls allows them to blend in with the trees they live in (like the screech owl in photo above), while the fur on arctic hares changes colour to blend in with the snow or the forest - depending on the season. Many fish have light-coloured bellies so that predators looking up have trouble seeing it against the sunlight, while the same fish's back is a darker colour to make it harder for birds of prey to spot it amid the water's dark reflections. So, do I have secrets for spotting animals? When I took this photo of a saw-whet owl, my adventure began with a tip from friends, John and James, that an owl was in the area. They guided us to the area of the last known spot where the owl was spotted. We took our time looking up, down, and sideways. Soon my eyes wandered up a tree behind the fence, and I said, "Oh my goodness, there he is!"



Saw-whet owl

It wasn't his shape, colour, or movement that gave him away, but two bright yellow eyes staring back at me. Nature is amazing!



Barred owl

Reminder! News & Views can be seen in full color at www.guildwood.ca

### LIVING AND WORKING IN THE GUILDWOOD COMMUNITY









### Guildwood Community Presbyterian Church

Village Fair November 5

Holiday Christmas Gift and Bake Sale December 3

Christmas has a habit of sneaking up on us when we least expect it; the rush of gift-buying and baking and entertaining will be here before we know it. Guildwood Community Presbyterian Church is prepared to help you out with all of that! First comes our annual Village Fair on Saturday, November 5th. We will have all the usual shops – Classic Treasures, Crafts, Christmas, Jewellery, Café – as well as our popular basket raffle, all brimming with gift ideas. We are also raffling off two beautiful handmade afghans. Hopefully this year we will be able to hold the event indoors! Then on **December 3rd**, we invite you to the Holiday Christmas Gift and Bake Sale where you'll find lots to make your life in December a little easier. Included will be an opportunity to enjoy a **Victorian Sweet Tea** – not to be missed! Be sure to mark both dates on your calendar now, and watch for more information about them around the village.

FALL 2022 - 19



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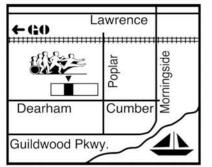
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### **Bel Canto Singers Perform "A Choral Nativity"**

17 SINGERS

Bel Canto Singers is a friendly and enthusiastic four-part choir located in your community!

After more than two years of lockdowns and quarantines, we are pleased to be able to meet in person once again, with COVID protocols safely in place. We are now hard at work preparing for our first live concert in three years, entitled "A Choral Nativity," to be held on Saturday, December 3 at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at Scarborough Bluffs United Church, 3739 Kingston Rd. Under the guidance of our very talented Music Director, Michael Morgan, the choir will entertain the audience with a wonderful assortment of music on the theme of the nativity story. Tickets are \$20. Please check our website (www.belcantosingers.ca) for updates.

Have you been looking for a choir to join? We welcome experienced and committed choristers, especially tenors and basses.

For further information about the choir and its upcoming concert, please visit our website: <u>www.belcantosingers.ca</u> or call 905-244-5564.

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Crossword answers from page 23

## Guildwood Village UPCOMING EVENTS

5 NOV	In-Person Christmas Bazaar 10:00am - 2:00pm, Candy Cane Hunt at Noon Baking, Baskets, Books and Bonus Blowout! Photos with Santa! Church of the Holy Trinity	5 NC	Village Fair Classic Treasures, Crafts, Christmas, Jewellery, Café, basket raffle Guildwood Community Presbyterian Church
19 <b>NOV</b>	Christmas Bazaar 10:00am - 2:00pm Scarborough Bluffs United Church	) De	Holiday Christmas Gift and Bake Sale and Victorian Sweet Tea Guildwood Community Presbyterian Church
3 <b>DEC</b>	Bel Canto Singers "A Choral Nativity" 2:30 and 7:30 pm Tickets \$20 Scarborough Bluffs United Church www.belcantosingers.ca	E NE	Sign up for the e-newsletter! Get up-to-date monthly news and events delivered to your inbox. Subscribe at www.guildwood.ca



Scarborough **Bluffs United** Church

3739 Kingston Road (Southeast corner of Kingston Rd. & Scarborough Golf Club Rd.)

Telephone: 416-267-8265 Website: www.scarboroughbluffs.org Email: scarboroughbluffs@bellnet.ca

### CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Saturday, November 19, 2022

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

### **Guildwood's Government Representatives**



John McKay, MP Scarborough - Guildwood 3785 Kingston Road, Unit 10 416-283-1226 www.johnmckay.libparl.ca john.mckay.cl@parl.gc.ca



Mitzie Hunter, MPP Scarborough - Guildwood 4117 Lawrence Avenue East, Unit 109 416-281-2787 www.mitziehunter.ca info@mitziehunter.ca



Gary Anandasangaree, MP Scarborough - Rouge Park 3600 Ellesmere Road, Unit 3 416-283-1414 www.garyanandasangaree.libparl.ca Gary.Anandasangaree.C1@parl.gc.ca



Vijay Thanigasalam, MPP Scarborough - Rouge Park 8130 Sheppard Ave. E, Unit 105 416-283-8448 www.vijaythanigasalam.ca vijay.thanigasalam@pc.ola.org

## Crossword Don Briggs



Answers on page 21

1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12	
13						14							
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	53					54							
55			1	1		56			1	1		57	58
5 <del>9</del>	+					60					61		
62	+						63				64		

#### Across:

- 1. Stranded Hanks's companion
- 7. Main arteries
- 13. UFOs, maybe (2 wds)
- 15. Nice street in Guildwood (2 wds)
- 16. Type of bolt or screw
- 17. German for Grandma
- 18. \_\_\_\_\_ as sin!
- 21. Canned meat
- 25. Defensive ditch
- 27. Open area of grassy land
- 28. Turner or Louise
- 29. \_\_\_\_\_ Dust 30. Married With Children's
- Down:
- 1. Reagan said "Tear down this \_\_\_\_
- 2. Leafs Mikheyev or Lyubushkin
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_ Ave., a Morningside to Lawrence shortcut
- 4. "I'll be there in a \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. Hwy 401 rest stop
- 6. Osaka or Judd
- Queen Elizabeth owned lots of it
   Common mental health condition (abbr)
- 9. They're schooling basics (abbr)
- 10. \_\_\_\_\_ Chi
- 11. This doesn't run on gas
- 12. Mother Teresa was one (abbr)
- 14. "\_\_\_\_ To Pieces", sang Cline
- 18. Brand of laundry detergent
- 19. The Raptors, Blue Jays and Leafs

- 32. Tiger's ex
- 33. Anderson or Brown
- 35. Pessimists might say it "is near"
- 36. Holbrook and Linden
- 37. Vases
- 40. Bruce or Spike
- 41. The "First Lady"
- 42. Collapsible spade used by military (hyph)
- 44. Town in NFLD featured on "Rock Solid Builds" TV show
- 47. Catch
- 48. "\_\_\_\_\_ Size Shredded Wheat"
- 20. An Ivy League school
- 21. \_\_\_\_\_ Little
- 22. Security code (abbr)
- 23. As well
- 24. Queen guitarist, Brian \_\_\_
- 25. \_\_\_\_\_ Dam Conservation Park in Markham
- 26. A chemical combination of oxygen and one other element
- 29. Mississauga is part of this Region
- 31. Don Cherry's dog
- Weeds can grow between the \_\_\_\_\_ stones
- 34. "He doesn't have \_\_\_\_\_ to stand on"
- 36. Long legged birds
- 38. Unnecessary (3 wds)

- 50. Bothers
- 53. Tea that doesn't taste like it sounds (2 wds)
- 55. Makes hazy
- 56. Sometimes it can be done to a romance
- 59. Canada has lots of it
- 60. A coarse file
- 61. "\_\_\_\_ A Yellow Ribbon....."
- 62. Very, in Quebec
- 63. Golden Knights didn't use this as part
- of their name 64. Spanish YAY!
- 04. Spanish TAT
- 39. Gas prices continue to \_\_\_\_
- 43. Units of weight (abbr)
- 44. Fence \_\_\_\_
- 45. \_\_\_\_\_ to the public for help 46. Personal Ad: "Tall man \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_ tall lady."
- 48. \_\_\_\_\_ eclipse
- 49. Trim bushes
- 51. Curling Team leaders
- 52. Unit of weight
- 54. Make a boo-boo
- 55. The Guildwood Sandwich Shoppe makes a good one (abbr)
- 57. \_\_\_\_\_ Abner
- 58. Substantial shoe size

## **Photos from the Neighbourhood**









Submit your photos to newsandviews@guildwood.ca







