



Guildwood Village **NEWS & VIEWS**

The official publication of the Guildwood Village Community Association

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Photo Credit: Ann Brokelman

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Guildwood Village Community Association

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Membership: Lynda Balogh	membership@guildwood.ca
News & Views: Sheila McGovern & Jane Whitney	newsandviews@guildwood.ca
Advertising: Sean Quartermain	advertising@guildwood.ca
Website: Ashley Tilley	webmaster@guildwood.ca
Communications: Ashley Tilley	communications@guildwood.ca
Monthly E-News: Jyoti Janardan	enews@guildwood.ca

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GVCA Hotline: 416.410.2755

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President's Message



Jeff Garrah

President, Guildwood Village Community Association
president@guildwood.ca

This is such a wonderful time of year. As the air has turned crisp and the snow is falling, Guildwood is vibrant

and alive with activity. Neighbours are helping each other to clear the snow, kids are grabbing their sleds and heading to the hills, or folks are grabbing the skates and hitting the rinks at Elizabeth Simcoe or further out at Scarborough Village or McCowan – we are so lucky to call this place home!

During the holidays, I hope you were able to enjoy some of the local festive activities from the tree lighting ceremony put on by Friends of Guild Park, to the local Makers and Bakers Markets or the Candy Cane Hunt. There's literally something for everyone, with more exciting things in store!

We've also begun preparations for our AGM and the Membership drive. The GVCA is 100% volunteer based, and I'd like to personally thank all of the board members that put in the time and effort on all the various committees, subcommittees and initiatives that benefit the entire community – it truly takes a village! On behalf of the GVCA Board of Directors, we would like to wish you all the best of health and happiness for an amazing 2026!

In other news

There has also been a great deal of developments and progress on issues impacting our city and our village, from EHON (Expanded Housing Options in Neighbourhoods) to TOC (Transit Oriented Community) proposals. From improving the boulevard leading to the Bluffs access on Galloway (special shout out to Ulrik Westergaard for spearheading that initiative) to the repaving of the path through the heart of the village leading to St. Ursula Catholic School and Guildwood Junior Public School. Councillor Ainslie's office has been busy on all fronts! There are a few additional call-outs that I'd like to make, and I understand there are views for and against all of these, but it is important that if you have an opinion, that you get involved in the consultations and the discussions to make your voice heard. As we've seen with EHON and the community retail and major streets discussions, our collective voices do matter. Some upcoming considerations to be on the lookout for:

- A new development (9 Storey project) 512-bed facility at 60 Guildwood Parkway on the existing site of Extendicare Guildwood.
- A new provincially-led project that aims to promote transit use by leveraging underutilized land has been tabled for a vast tract of surface parking lot at 4105 Kingston Rd., next to Guildwood GO station. The proposal would replace the commuter lot serving the regional rail station with a complex of six towers up to 60 storeys tall, introducing 2,534 new residential units to the currently underbuilt site.

Guildwood Village UPCOMING EVENTS

8 MARCH	Battle of the Bands 1:00 pm to 5:00pm Guild Inn Estate See page 6
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25 APRIL	Spring Clean up 9:30 am to 1:30 pm Corner of Livingston Road and Guildwood Parkway
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APRIL /MAY	Door-to-door Membership Drive Begins late April to early May See page 26
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E- NEWS	Sign up for the GVCA e-newsletter! Get up-to-date monthly news and events delivered to your inbox. Subscribe at www.guildwood.ca
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29 MAY	Spring into Summer Fun Fair Elizabeth Simcoe J.P.S. See page 25
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Welcome to our new advertising coordinator! We are happy to welcome Sean Quartermain, our new advertising coordinator! advertising@guildwood.ca
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Getting to know the GVCA

Basil D'Souza, Treasurer



As Treasurer of the GVCA, Basil is responsible for the financial stewardship and long-term fiscal viability of the association. This includes overseeing cash flow, budgeting, and ensuring that the organization's resources are managed prudently and transparently. More

recently he has been involved in modernizing our banking and financial processes by leveraging technology to improve efficiency, reporting, and controls — "an initiative I look forward to expanding on in the coming months as we continue to strengthen the GVCA's operational structure."

When asked what inspired Basil to devote personal time to the committee, he said it is because Guildwood is a truly special place.

"From the historic Guild Inn and the dramatic bluffs, to the incredible tree canopy and quiet, walkable streets, the neighbourhood offers a sense of character and history that is rare within Toronto. But above all else, what inspired me most is the people. Guildwood is filled with generous, engaged neighbours who genuinely look out for one another, and contributing my time felt like a natural way to give back to a community that gives so much."

Basil feels that the most rewarding part of working with the GVCA is being part of a collective effort to help the community grow while preserving its unique identity. The committee plays an important role in fostering connection, collaboration, and civic pride, and it's deeply fulfilling to work alongside others who are committed to ensuring that Guildwood's strong community spirit continues to thrive.

Looking ahead to 2026, he believes the committee's greatest challenge will be sustaining meaningful community engagement in a world that feels increasingly fast-paced and fragmented. Encouraging participation, maintaining respectful dialogue, and ensuring that diverse voices feel heard will be essential as we work to keep Guildwood connected, inclusive, and cohesive despite the broader societal pressures that pull communities apart.

Basil originally grew up in Brossard, a suburb of Montreal, attended Loyola High School in NDG, and later studied finance at Concordia University. "I moved to Toronto in 1999 and currently work in wealth management, where I oversee a large-scale trading and reporting fintech platform. Professionally, my focus has always been on governance, technology, and thoughtful execution—principles I'm excited to bring to my work with the GVCA."

Basil and his family moved to Guildwood in April 2022. "My wife, Kate, is an avid reader and knitter; our son Joseph, age eight, is endlessly curious and particularly passionate about astronomy, geography, and music, and Milo, our three-year-old rescue dog, is the newest (and furriest) addition to the family. Guildwood has been a wonderful place for us to put down roots, and we're grateful to call it home."

Sean Quartermain, Director at Large



Sean's primary role on the board is to help support the Guildwood News and Views by submitting content about running and walking trails in the neighbourhood, being the contact for the advertisers in our publication, and to guide our advertising solutions as we adapt to the changing world of marketing.

Sean was inspired to get involved with the board to get to know the members of the community and have a new social outlet. He felt that being a volunteer is a good compliment to working in the corporate world. Even though his tenure is less than a year, he feels the best part of being on the board is walking in the neighbourhood and having people know you and stopping to talk. It helps him feel more connected to the community.

"Our world today moves quickly and there are many things that want people's attention. The ongoing challenge for the board will be to maintain positive awareness in the community of all the things that the association brings such as family events, a great local publication and representation on important municipal issues like housing."

After earning his MBA at the Rotman School of Business, Sean went into corporate sales within the investor relations industry where he remains today. Sean is hoping to bring his communication and sales skills to the board with a particular focus on advertising sales for the Guildwood News and Views. Sean is also an avid trail runner and has probably been over every trail in the neighbourhood, as well as some of the gems in the surrounding communities such as the Rouge National Urban Park and Morningside Park.

Sean and his wife moved to Guildwood in 1999 and raised three children here; two are now working in the medical industry and one in the utilities industry. Sean plans to stay in the Guild for many reasons, including access to the lakeshore and the GO train line!

Community Events

Marilyn Curtis, President, Probus Guildwood



Probus Guildwood is pleased to announce our lineup of speakers for Spring 2026. We are a social club of retired and semi-retired seniors who join for fellowship, friendship and fun. We meet the second Wednesday of each month from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. (except July and August). Our

meetings are at the Guildwood Community Presbyterian Church at 140 Guildwood Parkway. Guests are welcome for a \$5 fee.

Our upcoming speakers will be:

Wednesday, March 11

Angela Newbury, Downsizing Diva

An interesting look at the business of downsizing our homes.

Wednesday, April 8

Tim Westhead, Humourist

Remember When . . . For Baby Boomers.

Take a nostalgic journey through the 50's and 60's.

Wednesday May 13

To Be Announced. Stay tuned for an announcement on our May Speaker.

The speakers' list and much more is on our website

<https://probusguildwood.homesteadcloud.com/guestspeakers2026>. We hope you will join us for one or all of our events.

For more information about full time membership, please contact Alan Burt at alanburt@rogers.com or (416) 266-4682.

The Guildwood Village Community Association Presents:

GUILDFOOD VILLAGE BATTLE OF THE BANDS

March 8, 2026 | From 1-5pm
The Guild Inn Estate, 201 Guildwood Parkway

Scan QR Code to buy your ticket today!

Tickets cost \$10. All proceeds go towards supporting local charities. Audience votes help choose the band performing at Guildwood Day! Food and beverages available for purchase. Children are welcome!

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Guildwood's Got Talent



Presenting Leslie Hetherington

Photographer: John Narvali



From a young age, Leslie aspired to be an artist by day and an actress by night. It took years for the practical demands and challenges of either career, let alone both, to sink in. Here's Leslie's story ... in her own words.

My brother and sister were 10 and 12 years older than me, and as my mom delicately suggested, I was a "fallout" from a great Christmas party. I landed in a talkative, boisterous family where it was hard to get a word in, so conversation naturally skewed to adult topics. As a result, I developed a vivid imagination and learned to escape into my own "what if" world when the adult banter wore thin. I also had an abundance of alone time to create. I drew, painted, crafted, made up characters, perfected accents, wrote stories and performed. I staged everything from commercials to skits for family and guests who stopped by.

Humour ran in my family and was often a tad dry, thanks to our British roots. My dad was a brilliant, down-to-earth chartered accountant with an eccentric streak, who found humour in everyday things. Sometimes he'd break into rhyming Cockney or "adult-content" limericks, much to my delight but to Mom's dismay.

At school, I was timid, insecure and a chronic misfit in many ways. For example, I walked on my tiptoes, which made me a target for bullies. Early school days lost to illness also delayed my mastery of the three "Rs" so for years, I was the butt of jokes. Acting became my refuge. On stage, I could escape into another world and be any character, even a strong one, who could conquer the bullies. I acted in Christmas pantomimes at the library and school productions.

People often called me a "character," but I'm not sure when comedy actually took hold. It may have started with the comic strip I created about my most notorious bully or simply with finding quirky comebacks or ways to laugh off my daily obstacles. I remember a grade 10 party, where I had everyone in hysterics. Funny lines flowed naturally. I developed a habit of adding dry, flipped around commentary to conversations.

However, a career on the stage or in any artistic pursuit wasn't something my executive father, conservative mother and academic siblings encouraged. So, after high school, I pursued a community college advertising and graphic design program to give me a "marketable" career. While studying design, I auditioned, and was cast, as a summer host and bird trainer for "Polly's Picnic," during Canada's Wonderland's opening year. For this role, I used a range of accents to narrate a tale with eight macaws,

frequently ad-libbing, as the plot shifted with the bird's moods.

I graduated as a competent designer but wanted to solve problems with solutions beyond the visual. I also craved one shot at a dream career on stage. After working closely with a professional acting coach, I was accepted into a BFA theatre program at York University. I was thrilled but a performance professor bashed us with negative feedback and called us sadistic to pursue acting. Also, when I auditioned for student shows on campus, I'd often hear "you read well but I promised a part to my friend." I was prepared for a low-income, not settling down and having an all-consuming career but I was definitely not sure about coping well with daily rejection. I also decided graphic design was too demanding for a sideline and figured I'd have to rely on unskilled, possibly mind-numbing jobs, with more flexibility.

So, in second year, I quit university and eventually found my way to a public relations (PR) certificate at Humber College. PR was a good fit and the profs were encouraging. It encompassed many of my skills, offered thought-provoking, strategic challenges and had its own drama. I started my new career at Ogilvy's Canadian PR agency and advanced through multiple industry sectors, at various organizations, eventually reaching executive roles. I also returned to school twice, completing an executive MBA at Royal Roads University and an interactive media management certificate at Centennial College. Writing speeches/scripts, where I could insert twists and humour held special appeal. I also liked calling reporters and using persuasive wording and my voice to pique their interest, even on the blandest news story. And I loved media training, often channeling an investigative reporter, and subtly catching the client off guard.

In my off time, I took courses, such as improv, sketch writing and slam poetry and performed for kids in community theatre shows.

In 1995, my husband John and I moved from the Beach to Guildwood, so we'd have more space and a "real" backyard for our four-year-old son Mark. We first settled on Dearham Wood but moved to Sylvan in 2002, with our first and a second son, Greg. Our boys made great friends, played rec and select baseball and our family became actively involved in the Church of the Holy Trinity, Guildwood. I also served on the GVCA's executive board for five years, delivered this newsletter for a while and continue to help with the membership drive. Every year, John still manages the church's BBQ on Guildwood Day, and our grown-up sons return to help.

My first foray into stand-up comedy was in 2005, when I was in my early 40's. I took a summer course at Humber College's School of Comedy, which was run by several Yuk Yuks alumni. Horrified at the gritty nature of stand-up and some comedians' "blue" content, my 81-year-old mother said, "I hope you never do that again." I told Mark Breslin what she had said and he countered, "I hope you do." After that, I did one set at Yuk Yuk's amateur night, then got buried in my PR career and volunteer work on a communications association board.

Fast-forward to mid-2023, when I left my full-time role as vice president at a chiropractic association to semi-retire after 36 years in PR. For years, I'd given this career top priority, often functioning at workaholic levels. My plan was to recharge, do some consulting, continue the podcast I hosted and produced for my recent role and pursue creative activities, particularly voice over (VO) work. After studying VO for a few years, I wanted to dedicate time to auditioning. But modern VO work is lonely, as it means taping, editing and submitting files in isolation.

As many new retirees know, when you leave a full-time career, there's a sense of loneliness and not belonging. For an extrovert coming out of the pandemic, this feeling was on steroids. Plus, AI threatens to rapidly takeover VO. I still wanted to use my voice but to also engage with real people, without the AI reaper hanging over me. So, I began 2024 with a Stand-up 1 course at Second City. I loved getting back to comedy, as well as the energy, laughter and mutual support of my diverse mix of classmates. Where else can you find a recent Chinese immigrant to a wealthy Rosedale executive, working collaboratively toward common goals? I followed this course with Advanced and then Pro Stand-up at the Comedy Bar on Danforth, which fosters a community for comedic performers. It offers open mics to practise your craft and even the owners learn your name.



ScarboroughOpenMic - Photographer:
John Hetherington

As much as I can, I try to get out at least once a week to perform at an open mic or a show throughout the GTA and have also hosted a few. To complement stand-up, I've taken courses in improv and storytelling. Fortunately, I was booked for several stand-up and storytelling shows last year, including a few fundraisers, with two focused on "climate comedy" to support environmental groups, as well as one for Holy Trinity, Guildwood.



Freetimes Storytelling - Photographer:
John Hetherington

My parents have passed on but I hope the connection to helping a "good cause" would soften my mother's aversion to stand-up. Either way, I can hear my dad laughing. Since I first began this venture, comedy has evolved, becoming more diverse, story-driven and more politically and socially thought-provoking but its core principles remain. Most jokes begin with an attitude that suggests a specific topic is scary, weird, hard or stupid. It's followed by the premise

– a point of view that answers "why" something is scary, weird... but this part's not usually funny. For example: "Cancer is weird because everyone becomes an expert on your body." Then, the comedian delivers or "acts out" a comical take on the premise. The humour comes from various techniques, such as word play, exaggeration or misdirects (unexpected responses to what the comic leads you to believe). For example: "A tree hugger friend told me off for giving up a breast and then added no use crying over spilled milk."



Funny4Money - Photographer:
John Hetherington

My comedic style is high energy, self-effacing, observational, and often silly. I try to embody different characters, such as southern American, gangster and Yoda. Where do I get ideas? From all over. They can start with a personal experience, a news item, a pet peeve, or a term/expression that can be interpreted differently. For example, I find the term "food insecurity" weird. So I started a bit with: "Why is our food so insecure?" A key challenge for all comedians is making your

content relatable. That's tough for an older comic starting out, because most open mic

and show audiences are Millennials and Gen Z. To make it work, I try to keep up with pop culture, social media, TV/streaming shows and movies. I sometimes also run scripts/terms by my sons, who span both generations. However, there's a fine line between using references and terminology that will resonate and not looking like an old person trying too hard.



Photographer: Brian Provo

What audiences don't see is the work behind the scenes. I need to constantly write new and refine existing content. Also, when you're booked, you owe it to the producer to promote the show, primarily in social media. I know there are comedy courses for older adults, but I prefer the challenge of adapting to varied audiences and mixing with people

of all ages, cultures and socioeconomic backgrounds.

Many say I'm brave to do stand-up. However, as a once-bullied kid, I find it empowering. My goal is to trigger laughter. So, in a sense, I'm in control. Sure, the odd joke bombs, but usually even parts of a new set will land a laugh or two. Plus, misfit quirks are comedy gold. Working in the corporate world also toughened me up and built my confidence. And if there are hecklers, I can ad-lib comebacks or let the crowd take care of them, as few want to see a show disrupted.

This year, I hope to do more shows, including a return to Yuk Yuk's amateur night, as well as hosting. I also took a producing course last year and learned many of my PR and event management skills are integral to this discipline.

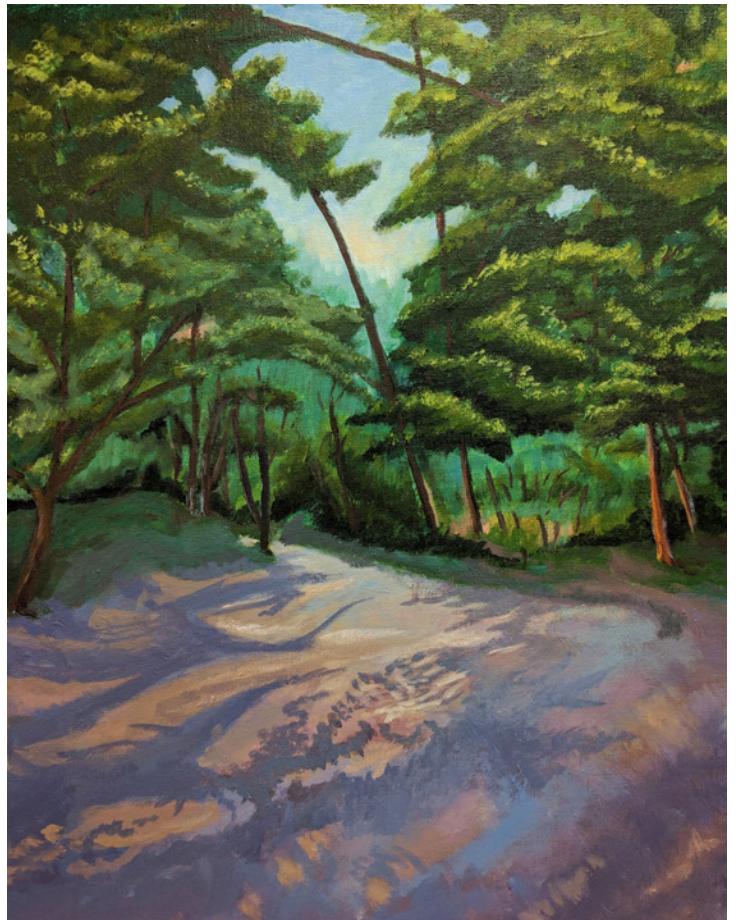
One of my goals is to bring more laughter to friends and neighbours in Guildwood. So, I'm working with the Olde Stone Cottage to produce and host a couple of shows on March 20 and April 17, pending unforeseen circumstances. Stay tuned!

What about art and other creative pursuits? I've taken some painting classes, do acrylic landscapes and have sold some prints on mugs or other items. I also make jewellery and did voiceovers for a few corporate videos in 2025. In a small way, I'm living my long ago dream, but with a reshuffled deck, the experience of more than half a lifetime and the benefit of an incredibly supportive family.

For more about my comedy, including video clips and upcoming show dates, please check my Instagram account @Les_Hether, YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/@LeslieHetherington> or website lesliehetherington.com



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Galloway Sidewalks

Ulrik Westergaard



For the first time in Guildwood's history, the south portion of Galloway is now a walkable street with sidewalks on both sides connecting Dearham Wood and Guildwood Parkway. The plan is for bike lanes to be added shortly and these may already be in place by the time this article prints.

This important project began in 2021 when residents researched and proposed a complete redesign of Galloway to install sidewalks, bike lanes and narrow the roadway to reduce the speed of cars to create a safer, more useful street for all residents.

The new sidewalks accommodate residents and visitors with mobility assistive devices (walkers, wheelchairs), parents with strollers, people walking side by side, students of all ages walking or biking to school, anyone out for a pleasure stroll to enjoy our beautiful Guildwood Village.



The GVCA endorsed the resident proposal and engaged with Councillor Paul Ainslie who moved the proposal through the Infrastructure and Environment Committee and ultimately City Council for final approval.

Staff from the City of Toronto Cycling and Pedestrian Projects designed realistic options; factoring in numerous variables including existing infrastructure such as street lighting, mature trees, funding and more. They hosted public consultations with our community before settling on the final design and construction began in November 2025.

This is a textbook example of resident-led initiatives that drive positive change to enrich our neighbourhood and improve the quality of life of residents. Perhaps the success of this project will inspire even more sidewalk connections throughout Guildwood.

Congratulations to all involved!



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The War Horse Returns

A monumental sculpture by an important Canadian artist is back at Guild Park



*John P. Mason, President/
Managing Director, Friends of
Guild Park*

After an absence of more than a decade, Emanuel Hahn's bronze work of art, *The War Horse* - also known as *Head of a Horse* - is now on public display in the south garden of Guild Park & Gardens.



The War Horse at Guild Park, 2025



Local author Carole Lidgold with her park "favourite"

Many long-time park visitors fondly recall this weathered yet powerful horse's head, a sculpture that quietly commanded attention. It was a particular favourite of the late Carole Lidgold, author of *The History of the Guild Inn* and long-time Guildwood Village resident.

The story about the reinstallation of *The War Horse* marks an important chapter in the ongoing revitalization of Guild Park as a destination where art meets nature.

But the deeper story of this sculpture — the artist who created it and the real horse that inspired it — stretches back more than a century. It adds yet another layer to Guild Park's legacy as a public destination with strong connections to Canada's creativity and military history.

The Artist and the Horse

Emanuel Hahn was born in Germany in 1881 and came to Toronto as a child. Before his death in 1957, he became one of Canada's most influential creators.

*Artist and sculptor,
Emanuel Hahn*



Today, his work is part of everyday Canadian life — from First World War memorials found in communities across the country to the familiar images of the Bluenose schooner on our dime and the caribou head on our quarter.

Early in his career, Hahn apprenticed with Walter Allward, one of Canada's foremost sculptors and designer of the iconic Vimy Ridge Memorial in France — a monument so central to Canada's history that it appears on our \$20 bill. Under Allward's guidance, Hahn learned to convey a disciplined realism that shaped his work.

Hahn also shaped this country's artistic landscape through teaching and mentoring. He co-founded the Sculptors' Society of Canada and served as its first president. He spent nearly 40 years teaching sculpture at the Ontario College of Art.

Among his students was Elizabeth Wyn Wood, who later became an acclaimed sculptor and Hahn's wife. The pair created their art separately while raising a family in Toronto and staying closely connected to the city's artistic community.

Hahn's idea for *The War Horse* was rooted in the First World War, specifically the story of the 18 horses that the Toronto Police sent as part of Canada's war effort. Only one of those horses, a gelding named "Bunny," survived four years of horrific conditions, including gas attacks and the Battle of Vimy Ridge. Bunny's story, according to Hahn's granddaughter, inspired Hahn to create the sculpture as a tribute not just to one horse, but to the more than 130,000 Canadian draft horses that served during the war in Europe.

Loaned, Not Owned

The careers of Hahn and Wyn Wood intersected with the lives of Rosa and Spencer Clark, philanthropists, art and architecture collectors, and founders of the historic Guild of All Arts, the site of today's Guild Park.

Hahn's horse head sculpture came to the Guild site in 1980, shortly after the Clarks had sold their property, including the popular Guild Inn. While Spencer Clark continued to oversee on-site operations, he arranged for the bronze to be installed on the grounds, where it joined other original sculptures.

The arrival of the artwork was the result of a long-term loan made by the daughter of Hahn and Wyn Wood, Qennefer Wood-Hahn Browne.

Over the next three decades, Hahn's sculpture became a well-loved feature as the property went on to become a public park operated by the City of Toronto.



Hahn's Horse's Head on public display at its original Guild Park location, 2006

The sculpture's original plaque from the Guild of All Arts era reads:

HORSE'S HEAD
by EMANUEL HAHN (1881 – 1957)
TO HONOUR THE DRAUGHT HORSES
WHICH PLAYED SUCH AN IMPORTANT
PART IN WORLD WAR I
LOANED BY QENNEFER HAHN BROWNE

Why The War Horse Left

In the early 2000s, City officials adopted a policy to display only City-owned artworks on municipal property. That decision affected loaned works across Toronto. At Guild Park, it meant removing *The War Horse* from its pedestal and returning it to the Hahn family.

For years afterward, the sculpture's original plaque remained, but the bronze was gone with little explanation. Its removal coincided with a period when much of the park was closed for redevelopment and the original Guild Inn was being rebuilt and expanded.

Many park visitors and Guildwood Village residents feared the worst. Without knowing of the change in the City's art policy, people worried Hahn's original work had been sold or stolen. Few believed the horse sculpture would ever be remounted at Guild Park.

The Road Back

For more than a decade, *The War Horse* was out of public view. It remained in the care of Hahn's estate and kept on the family's property outside Toronto. By 2024, Hahn's family had approached City officials to ask how *The War Horse* might be returned to Guild Park.

The process was lengthy and complex. It required:

- a formal offer by Hahn's estate to donate the sculpture to the City of Toronto;
- a review by the City's Economic Development & Culture (EDC) division to ensure the donation met all requirements;

- a formal vote by City Council to accept the gift, which began with a motion introduced by local councillor (now Deputy Mayor) Paul Ainslie;
- confirmation of the legal terms of the donation; and
- agreement between the EDC and the Hahn estate on the sculpture's location, design, and installation details.

These steps produced the results that EDC had anticipated. As its preliminary report stated: "Through this generous donation, the estate will be reuniting this cherished artwork with one of Scarborough's unique cultural landscapes."

On October 17, 2025, *The War Horse* — accompanied by a new plaque using the title *Head of a Horse* — was reinstalled in Guild Park's south garden, near other works from the Clarks' original sculpture collection. The bronze is also within sight of life-sized sculpted bas-reliefs, including one designed by Hahn and two by Wyn Wood. These images were originally commissioned for the facade of the Bank of Montreal's downtown Toronto headquarters - a project overseen in the 1940s by Walter Allward. When that building was demolished 30 years later, Spencer Clark purchased all the hand-carved panels for display at the Guild, where they remain today.



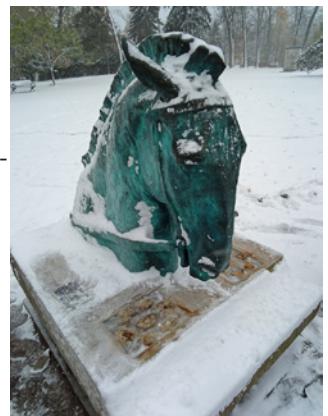
Three of Hahn's and Wyn Wood's granddaughters, from left, Sybil, Sydney and Aurora saw the War Horse back at Guild Park, November 2025

A Link to Legacy

The return of *The War Horse* forges a powerful link between Guild Park's past and present. It reflects the vision of Rosa and Spencer Clark, honours an often-overlooked chapter in Canada's wartime history, and restores a well-loved landmark to its fitting place.

Hahn's masterful work also reminds us of Guild Park's many military connections:

- The site's first estate with horse stables and a polo field was built a century ago by a Canadian cavalry officer;
- Women naval reservists trained at the Guild during the Second World War for secret code-breaking duties;
- Wounded WWII vets recovered at a temporary military hospital on the grounds, where their rehabilitation included art programs in inspiring natural settings; and
- Vimy Oaks were planted as living memorials to Canada's



coming-of-age battle campaign and to the national monument created by Walter Allward, Hahn's mentor.

Throughout 2026, Friends of Guild Park will offer guided walks that highlight *The War Horse*, the park's many other artworks and attractions, and stories about the Canadian artists like Emanuel Hahn and other creators and characters associated with this remarkable park.

For a schedule of 2026 tours, talks and other events, visit www.guildpark.ca. You can also learn more about Guild Park and the award-winning projects led by Friends of Guild Park, often in collaboration with other park supporters.

If you enjoy stories like this, remember that much of what we know - and continue to discover about Guild Park - is shared through the efforts of Friends of Guild Park. As a not-for-profit organization, the group's work is fueled by community support.

Your investment brings more activities, more improvements and more stories to life at this one-of-a-kind destination, where art meets nature.

To help make the park even better and join us as a member of Friends of Guild Park, visit <https://www.friendsofguildpark.com/donation>. All proceeds go toward bringing more activities and improvements to Guild Park.

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New Year, New Staff, and a New Season at Guild Festival Theatre



Bonnie Duff, Artistic Associate

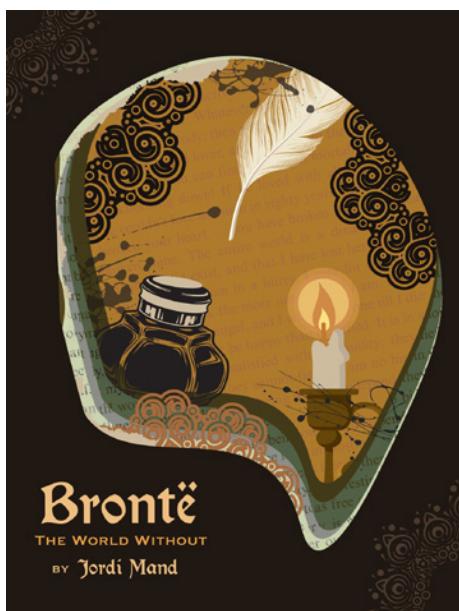


We've had an exciting winter at Guild Festival Theatre. From launching our highly anticipated 2026 Summer Season, to welcoming a key new staff member, it's been far from quiet, and the year is just getting started!

It's hard to believe that this will be our 15th season in the park and we'll be starting it off with our *fifth* year of Family Fest (where does the time go??) With a focus on international stories, this year's festival will feature performances in a variety of art forms along with hands-on activities in music, literacy, and more. We can't wait to celebrate the vibrancy and multiculturalism of Scarborough with young audiences and their families this July!



Then, get ready for Gothic Girl Summer! Our mainstage productions are inspired by Gothic literature and the great women writers of the 19th century and we can't wait to see these stories illuminate the Greek Theatre.

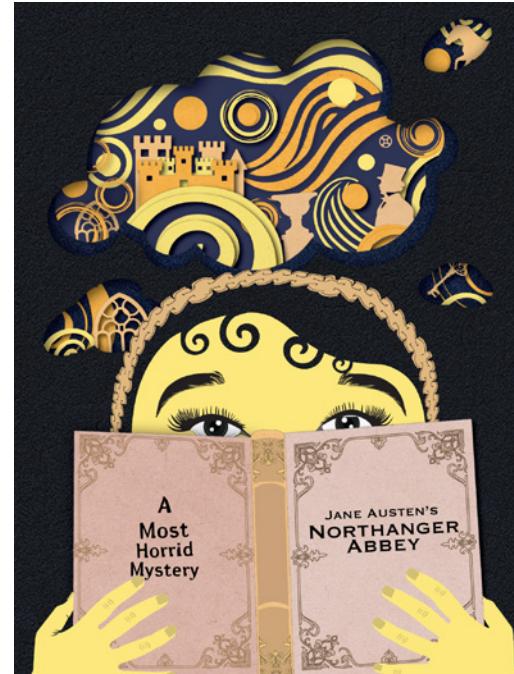


From July 16th-August 2nd, *Brontë: The World Without* will take the stage. This play by Jordi Mand is a must-see for any Brontë fans, and offers a glimpse into the lives of the three famous sisters, presenting an intimate look at their artistic struggles, the pressure of family responsibilities, and the sisterhood that helped them

achieve greatness. This show will be directed by Helen Juvonen, the force behind GFT favourites such as *Heratio*, and *The Drowning Girls*!

In August, Jane Austen's *Northanger Abbey* will hit the stage, running August 6th-23rd. This classic novel will be brought to life in a hilarious, whirlwind production adapted and directed by Tyler J. Seguin. This new adaptation of Austen's charming coming-of-age

story is a funny and fast-paced journey of first love and self-discovery. If you enjoyed last season's *The 39 Steps*, you're going to love *Jane Austen's Northanger Abbey* and you're going to see some familiar faces on stage...



...and you'll see a new face in the park this year! We are delighted to announce a new addition to Guild Festival Theatre's executive team. Sarah Hagarty is our new General Manager and we know you'll give her a warm welcome when you see her in the park this summer! A multi-faceted artist herself, Sarah comes to GFT from Stratford, where she's worked as an administrator with organizations

such as SpringWorks Festival, Stratford Film Festival, Ultimate Dance Connection, Janet Hill Studios, and Kairos Fiber Arts. We're thrilled to have her on our team, and can't wait to introduce her to the Guildwood community this summer!

And speaking of Stratford...

After a successful run at Crow's Theatre this past fall, *The Veil* is headed to the Stratford Festival as part of The Meighen Forum Series in October 2026. GFT helped develop this show from its very first draft and we're so proud that it has been such an overwhelming success!

It's been an exciting time for GFT as we spread our wings beyond Guildwood, but our home is Scarborough and we're excited to continue developing artists in our community. This spring we're heading into our last year of the Youth Engagement Scarborough program, which has enabled us to support and guide the work of over one hundred young artists. There will be two more intakes this year so prospective participants should keep an eye out for our next application rounds. Applications for the Digital Media cohort will open in late summer, and applications for the Writing cohort will open in winter. If you know an artist between the ages of 15-30, with connections to Scarborough, and who could use a \$5,000 grant for a creative project, send them to www.guildfestivaltheatre.ca/yes to learn how to apply!

With new plays on the horizon, new staff behind the scenes, and a new year off to a great start, we couldn't be more excited for our upcoming season. We'll be hard at work over the next couple months to make sure that 2026 is GFT's best year yet... and we'll see you in the park this summer!

P.S. Tickets and passes for our 2026 Summer Season are on sale now! Learn more about what's coming up at the Greek Theatre and beyond at guildfestivaltheatre.ca. Tickets for The Veil at the Stratford Festival's Meighen Forum series can be found at <https://www.stratfordfestival.ca/WhatsOn/PlaysAndEvents/TheForum/The-Veil>

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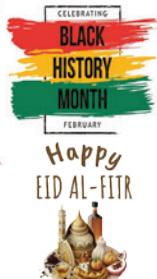
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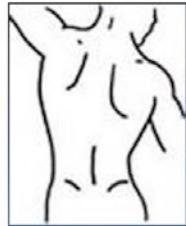
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Guildwood Village History

Ulrik Westergaard



The Clarks had a bold, clear vision for Guildwood Village. In their own words:

"It should be recognized that Guildwood Village is not a case of a subdivider who is quickly "in" and "out". On the contrary, it is an integrated extension of the entire Guild Inn and Guild of All Arts Projects in which Principals have been working towards an ultimate goal of ideal development and intend to "live with it" indefinitely in the future. There will thus be a continued responsibility in the future."

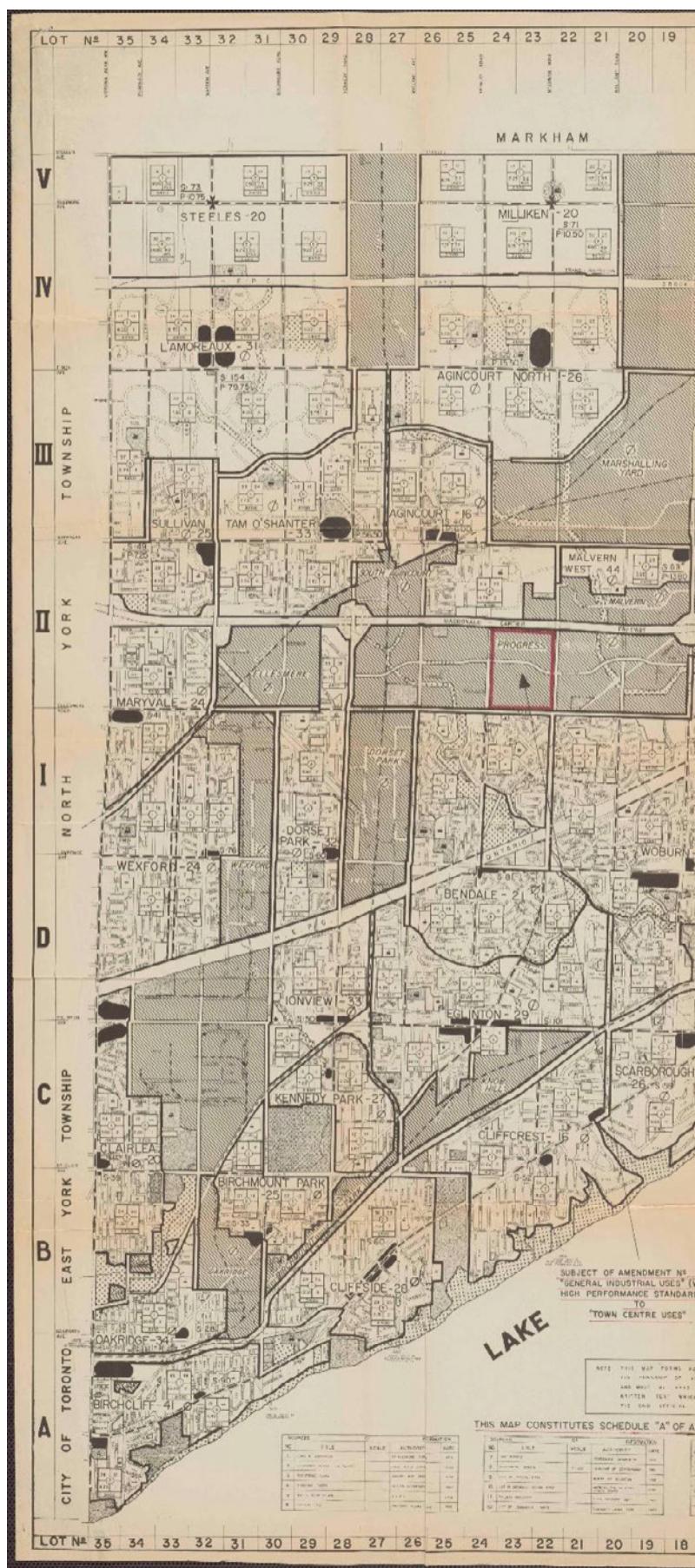
This was, in many ways, similar to Walt Disney's vision for his Experimental Prototype Community of Tomorrow except that the Clark's vision became an actual real-life community, not just an amusement park.

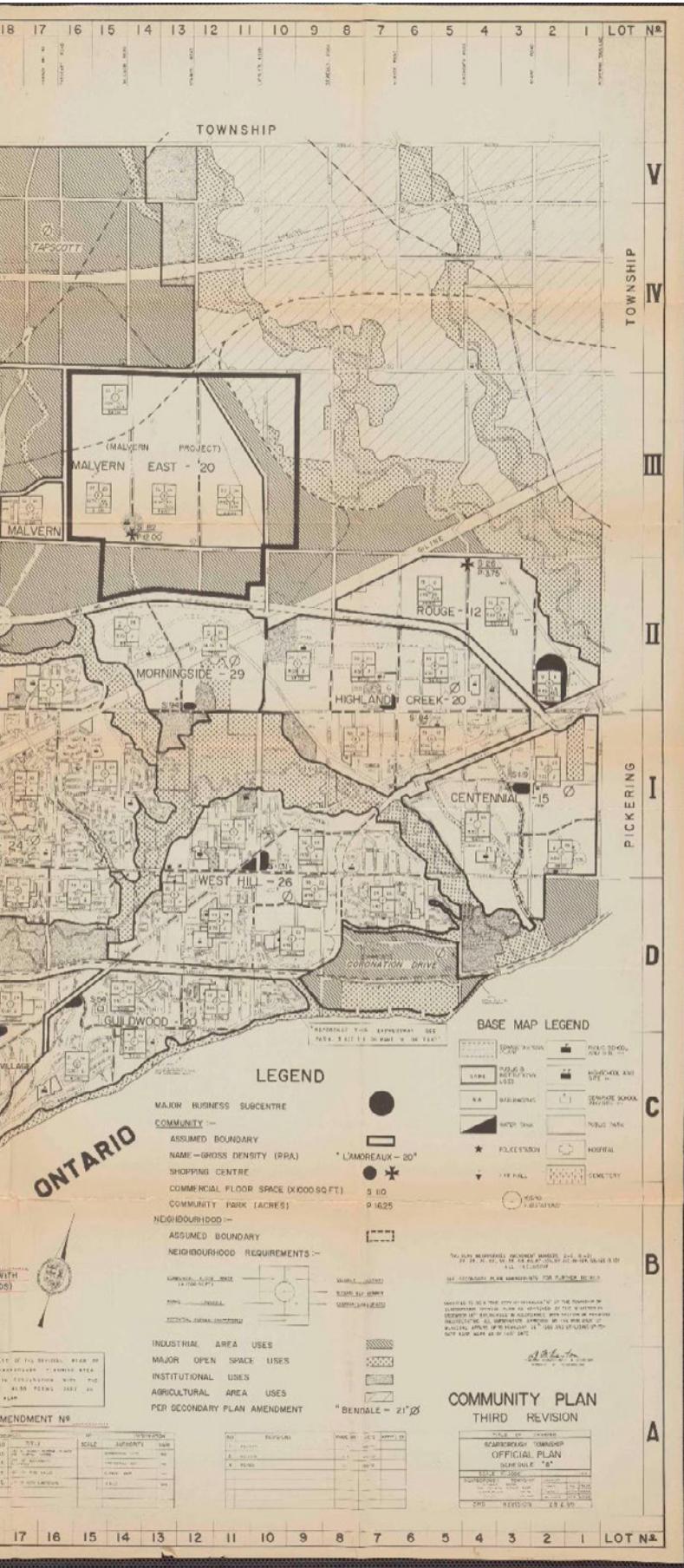
Among the first families to buy into the Clark's vision were the Eastons - Don and Betty Easton. Don worked as a planner for the Township of Scarborough during the Guildwood development and bought a home for his family during the initial phase of construction. The Eastons regularly met with the Clarks – not just about the ongoing construction developments but about laying the foundation for a vibrant community for the present and for years to come.

Don later became the Planning Commissioner for the Township of Scarborough – the attached Official Plan Map for Scarborough (1966) carries Don's signature in his capacity as Planning Commissioner (bottom right corner) and you'll notice the clear outline of the Guildwood Neighbourhood.

Don and Betty have both passed away but their Guildwood presence lives on. In fact, the fourth generation Easton still lives in the very Guildwood home they bought in 1959.

Rosa & Spencer Clark's vision of an ideal development is alive. It is our responsibility to preserve and reinforce it.



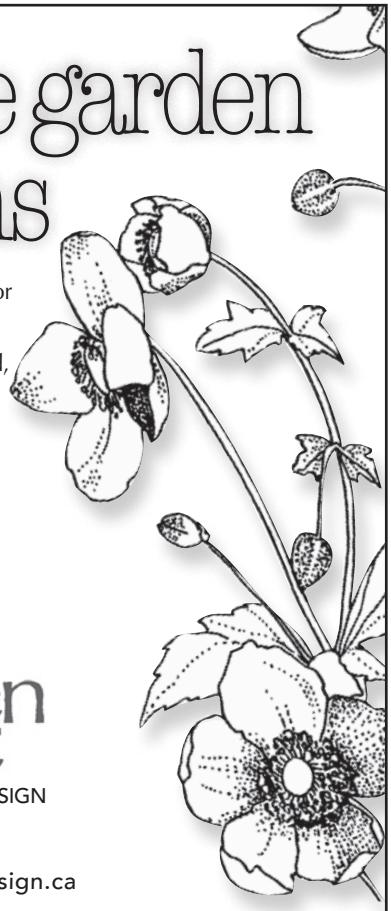


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RECIPE CORNER

Crystal Hunt



About the baker:

Crystal Hunt is owner and founder behind Knead the North Bakery, a home-based micro-bakery in Guildwood shaped by Italian roots, family traditions, and a lifelong love of baking learned alongside her mom. Baking has always been a way for Crystal to slow down, work through hard seasons, and create moments of comfort and connection through food. Before opening her doors, she spent months product-testing and refining recipes in her home kitchen, developing a completely original sourdough brioche pretzel inspired by Japanese baking techniques. This resulted in an impossibly soft, pillow-y, and rich pretzel that quickly became a neighbourhood favourite (including the cinnamon sugar version many swear beats a donut). From weekly sourdough loaves to mile-high ooey-gooey cinnamon bun and apple fritter focaccia, neighbours have come to love skipping store-bought bread in favour of walking right up to Crystal's door. As she takes a thoughtful pause to re-envision the bakery's next chapter, her focus remains on family, community, and the memories we make through food.

Baker's Notes (From My Kitchen)

The Secret: Browned Butter

This is the not-so-secret secret behind the batch I sold at the Guild Inn Market that sold out.

- Brown $\frac{1}{2}$ cup (113 g) of the butter until nutty and deeply golden.
- Chill until opaque but still pliable.
- Cream with the remaining 1 cup of softened butter as usual.

This adds depth, warmth, and a caramel note that plays beautifully with molasses and spice which is quietly impressive, never overpowering.

Want Bigger Cookies?

For bakery-style, generously sized cookies:

- Scoop $2\frac{1}{2}$ –3 tablespoons of dough per cookie
- Space cookies at least 3 inches apart on the tray
- Roll in sugar as usual
- Bake 10–12 minutes, rotating the pan once if needed

You're looking for set edges, a crackled top, and a soft, slightly underbaked centre. Let them cool fully before judging because these cookies settle into themselves.

KNEAD THE NORTH GINGER MOLASSES COOKIES

Soft-centred, crackled tops, and just enough bite to keep things interesting.

INGREDIENTS

1½ cups (340 g) unsalted butter, see Baker's Note for browned butter option
 1 cup (200 g) granulated sugar
 1 cup (213 g) packed brown sugar
 ½ cup (170 g) unsulphured molasses
 2 large eggs, room temperature
 4½ cups (639 g) all-purpose flour
 4 teaspoons baking soda
 1 tablespoon ground ginger
 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
 ½ teaspoon ground cloves
 1 teaspoon fine sea salt (this is not a typo lol)

DIRECTIONS

1. In a medium bowl, whisk together the flour, baking soda, ginger, cinnamon, cloves, and salt. Set aside.
2. In a large mixing bowl, cream the butter and both sugars on medium-high speed until light, fluffy, and noticeably paler in colour, about 2 minutes. Scrape down the bowl to ensure everything is evenly mixed.
3. Add the eggs one at a time, mixing on medium-low speed until fully incorporated. Pour in the molasses and mix just until the dough is smooth and cohesive.

4. Add the dry ingredients in two additions, mixing on low speed until no dry flour remains. The dough should be soft and thick. Stop mixing as soon as it comes together.
5. Turn the dough out onto parchment and gently shape the dough into thick discs. Wrap well or transfer to an airtight container and refrigerate until fully chilled and firm (at least 2 hours, but longer is even better) *Flattening the dough like a pie crust recipe helps it chill faster and bake more evenly.*
6. Preheat the oven to 350°F (175°C). Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.
7. Portion the chilled dough into 1-inch balls. Roll briefly between your palms, then coat generously in granulated sugar.
8. Arrange on the prepared baking sheet, leaving space for spread.
9. Bake for 8–10 minutes, until the cookies are puffed and just beginning to crack on top. The centres should look slightly underdone, but don't worry, they will finish setting as they cool on the cookie sheet (so don't skip this part and move them to the cooling rack too soon)
10. Let rest on the baking sheet for 4–5 minutes before transferring to a wire rack to cool completely.



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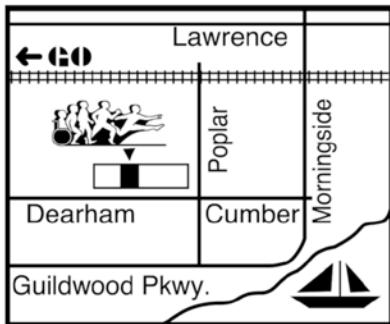
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Running Routes

Sean Quartermain



Let's face it, running in the winter is not going to appeal to everyone. The following article is a sales job on the benefits! The season of winter running is typically December through March, which is characterized as cold, wet and generally grey. But let's consider some of the things we don't have to worry about in winter such as bugs, smog, excessive heat and watching the sky for thunderstorms. Most importantly, running is an intense exercise, and we generate a lot of body heat. Our bodies are more efficient at warming up than cooling down so winter running is an opportunity to have some of your best workouts. June and July are the hardest months to run since most of us just can't handle the heat.

For me, winter running falls into the maintenance category. I just need to keep it going. Beyond the muscle atrophy of taking a four-month break, proper running is a skill that needs to be maintained. There is nothing wrong with indoor treadmills on the worst weather days, but running on a motor supported surface on an even plane is just not the same.

Now that you are sold, here are some tips!

Warm-Up – the biggest mistake for any runners is going out at full steam. Your body is a machine and needs to warm up. The baseline is 5 minutes at a slow pace when you are in your 20s and add 5 mins for every decade of age. Winter running on semi-slippery surfaces also requires more from your calf muscles and stabilizer muscles like your hip abductor muscles.

Don't Overdress – this one is my biggest mistake because I dress for comfort when I start my run and regret the decision once warmed-up. Dress for comfort mid-run and remind yourself that being a little chilled for the first few minutes is OK. For dressing I focus on critical areas such as core, neck, head and thighs. Wearing an additional pair of shorts on the outer layer of running tights protects the crotch and thigh area that is susceptible to wind chill. Anything from the knee down, less is more.

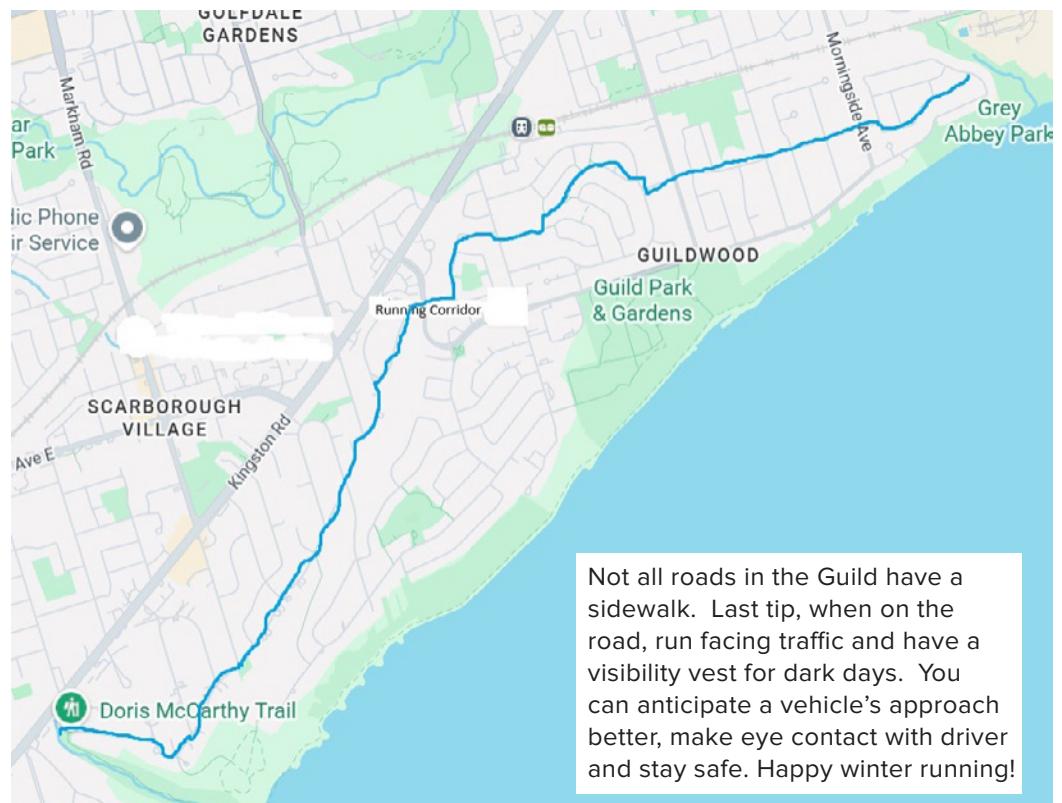


Wind Aware – wind chill in the winter will have a material impact on your comfort, and the colder it gets that only magnifies. I try to warm up in neutral wind, run into the wind then return with the wind behind me. On days below -10°C I will run around a neighbourhood block first to assess wind direction and then plan my route from there.

Know Your Gear – no one knows your body as well as you, so dress for what works best for you and take the following as a guide. Essential gear includes multiple base layers, I like merino wool blends but any athletic gear works, an outerwear layer with frontal wind protection and rear venting, and the usual hats and mitts. For colder days I add a neck warmer and an additional pair of shorts to protect the thighs. I recommend that for shoes you get winter running shoes that are snow tires for your feet and have some water resistance.

Guildwood Winter Favourites

Guildwood Village is bordered by the lake to the south, and Kingston Road to the north so local traffic is usually light. We also have a nice mix of flat terrain, hills and a unique winding road layout to mix up the running tempo. When I am running in the winter, I prioritize routes with minimal traffic and no waiting at intersections. I also don't want to rely on pathways and trails that get icy and dodgy in the winter. So, after much trial and error below is the corridor that I use to access some of my favourite local loops!



The Debris that Washes up on Our Shores

Rosalee Mitchell Spohn



Each spring, Ocean Wise Shoreline Cleanups posts the “Dirty Dozen” list of the items most found in Shoreline Cleanups that took place across Canada during the previous year. Many numbers of the Dirty Dozen are food and drink related. The pieces of plastic we pick up are from all sorts of items; especially bottle caps.

Given that Canada has a huge coastline, and shoreline cleanups happen from coast to coast to coast, the percentages for our tiny Guildwood shoreline could be considered to be quite high. That being said, people who live on oceans or lakes near fishing communities are probably picking up the bigger items such as large pieces of foam or ghost gear (defined as: fishing equipment like nets, lines, traps, and pots that are abandoned, lost, or discarded in the ocean).

Summary of items found nationwide

1. Butts (133,767)
2. Plastic pieces (68,417)
3. Paper (31,769)
4. Styrofoam pieces (29,959)
5. Food wrappers (28,938)
6. Bottle caps (18,325)
7. Soft plastic packaging (11,041)
8. Beverage cans - (9,255)
9. Plastic bags - (8,577)
10. Plastic bottles - (7,021)
11. Coffee cups & lids - (6,161)
12. Straws (4,922)

Items found on Guildwood’s shoreline

Highlighted #s indicate significantly more were found in 2025 vs the previous year.

	<u>Item found</u>	<u># of items in 2024</u>	<u># of items in 2025</u>
	TOTAL #s	32,472	35,688
1	Small pieces of plastic	7,172	6,753
2	Bottle caps	2,387	3,584
3	Food wrappers	1,249	951
4	Butts	1,389	859
5	Plastic bottles	358	521
6	Straws	463	466
7	Beverage cans	390	436
8	Paper	415	378
9	Small pieces of foam	214	174
10	Coffee cups	86	70
11	Soft plastic packaging	12	10

Other items found locally in 2025 included:

- 1,282 artificial petals
- 824 cigar tips
- 517 flossers, and
- 106 pens/markers/pencils.

An interesting find this year was 31 candles (which included birthday candles, tea lights, votives, tapers, and a pillar candle) as well as a battery-operated one.

What percentage of the national numbers will Guildwood totals reflect when the 2025 Dirty Dozen are revealed?

With gratitude

Thank you to everyone who has joined one of our cleanups over the years. Plan to join the Friends at their annual spring shoreline cleanup during Clean Toronto Together weekend in April 2026. In the spring, more information will be available at GuildPark.ca. We’d also like to thank the team at City of Toronto Parks and Recreation and the office of Councillor Ainslie for their ongoing support throughout the years.

Most of the trash that is found along Guildwood’s Lake Ontario shoreline is plastic which, over time, breaks down into ever smaller pieces. Wildlife can mistake these small pieces of plastic for food and consume them; items with no nutritional value and possibly contaminated by toxic chemicals while in the water. Please protect our wildlife by reducing your use of single use plastics and help keep our shoreline-trash free.

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Excitement Builds for This Year's Fun Fair



Elizabeth Simcoe Jr. Public School is gearing up for one of the most anticipated events of the year — the annual **Spring into Summer Fun Fair** which will be

returning on Friday, May 29, 2026. With games, food, prizes, and activities for all ages, families, neighbours, and local businesses are invited to join in a day filled with laughter, connection, and school spirit.

Beyond the fun, the event plays a vital role in supporting student learning and improving the school environment. Last year's Fun Fair raised funds that directly contributed to:

- New Chromebooks for students
- Sports jerseys
- Curriculum-related programming, such as Scientists in the School
- Classroom supplies

These investments have made a noticeable difference in daily learning and helped ensure that every student has access to the technology and resources they need to thrive.

This year, the goal is to build on that momentum — and the school is reaching out to the community to help make it happen.

Call for Sponsors

Local businesses are invited to become Fun Fair sponsors. Sponsorship helps to cover the cost of attractions and supplies, ensuring that more of the funds raised can directly support students. Sponsors will be recognized at the event, in school communications, and on promotional materials. It is a great way to show support while increasing community visibility!

Volunteers Needed

The Fun Fair is powered by volunteers, and organizers are asking parents, caregivers, and community members to get involved. Whether you can help run a game booth, sell tickets, supervise activities, or assist with setup and cleanup, **every hour of support makes a big difference**. Volunteering is also a wonderful way to meet other families and contribute to a meaningful school initiative, or to get volunteer hours for high school students.

Join the Fun

The Fun Fair promises to be a fantastic day for families and an important fundraiser for the school's ongoing technology and improvement projects. Mark your calendars, bring your families, tell your neighbours, and help make this year's event the best one yet.

For sponsorship details or to sign up as a volunteer, please email elizabethsimcoefunfair@gmail.com or learn more at <https://elizabethsimcoeschoolcouncil.ca/funfair>



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Your Voice. Your Neighbourhood. Your Membership. 2026 Starts Here!

Lynda Balogh



More than 1,250 homes joined the Guildwood Village Community Association (GVCA) last year – thank you! For 2026, we're aiming even higher. Our online launch began in January. We'll also have our annual spring door-to-door outreach, and in-person sales at select community events.

Joining early ensures your ability to vote at our **Annual General Meeting**, which takes place in March.

We Need Volunteers

To make the 2026 campaign a success, we're looking for help with our **Membership Committee** and **door-to-door canvassing** in the spring. By joining us, you'll make a real impact and meet many neighbours along the way!

Why Membership Matters

Your membership helps keep Guildwood vibrant and connected. Benefits include:

- A voice in local issues
- Access to the Guildwood Day BBQ
- Member-only business discounts*

Local Businesses: Partner With Us

We welcome businesses that want to display GVCA membership signage, offer a small membership perk, or offer a giveaway. Partnering with us provides visibility and community connection.

**Local businesses interested in offering a member discount are invited to contact us.*

Get Involved

Whether you want to volunteer, partner, or share ideas, we'd be happy to hear from you.

Email membership@guildwood.ca.



Guildwood Community Presbyterian Church

140 Guildwood Pkwy, Scarborough, ON M1E 1P4
416-261-4037
www.guildwoodchurch.ca

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday Morning Service at 11:00 a.m.

Monthly Prayer and Communion Service

Held the last Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS – Holy Week

Palm Sunday, March 29th

Worship 11:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday, April 2nd

Quiet Prayer & Communion : 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Good Friday, April 3rd

Service of Tenebrae 11:00 a.m.

Easter Sunday Sunrise, April 5th

11:00 a.m. Easter Worship Celebration

OUR COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Caregiver Support Group

Our Caregiver Support group meets every 3rd Wednesday of the month in the church lounge at 10 a.m.

New Grief Support Group

Our Grief Support Group meeting is every 3rd Wednesday of the month from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. in the lounge. A grief group is not a counseling/therapy group but a peer support group. We will create a safe space to share, listen, pray, and reflect on our life journey. If you have questions, please email minister@guildwoodchurch.ca.

Preschool Drop In

Every Monday morning (excluding holidays) at Guildwood Community Presbyterian Church in the hall from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. An opportunity for parents and caregivers to enjoy coffee and conversation while children have an opportunity for free play. Follows the school calendar September to June.

What's on @ Guildwood Library



Matthew Parish, Guildwood Library, 416-396-8872

Monday	CLOSED
Tuesday	12:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Wednesday	10:00 am – 6:00 pm
Thursday	12:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Friday	10:00 am – 6:00 pm
Saturday	9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Sunday	12:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Programs

EarlyON Baby Time - Babies in Playland

Ages – Newborn to 18 months

Children and their caregivers enjoy stories, songs and rhymes.

Drop in. Space is limited.

Contact the branch for exact date and times.

Family Story Time

Ages – Newborn to 5 Years

Enjoy fun activities, stories, songs and rhymes at a staff-led story time for the entire family. For children 0-5 years with their parents and caregivers.

Drop in. Space is limited.

Contact the branch for exact date and times.

Guildwood After School Club

Explore the technology available for use including Snap Circuits, Dash and Dot and Sphero robots! Explore new crafts and board games. Drop in. Space is limited. Access and use of equipment will be on a first come, first serve basis. Suitable for ages 6 and up.

Tuesday Night Tech Night Support Drop In

Have questions about your tablet, phone, laptop, email or an app? Need help with eBooks or other online library services? Please bring your personal device and any questions you may have. No registration required. This is a drop-in event, come to the library to get one-on-one tech support! Tuesdays 7:00 – 8:00 pm

Please contact the branch for specific dates.

Space is limited.

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 a few minutes and then everyone talks about what they have read or what book they would recommend to read. This drop in program is available to anyone 13 and up! We meet the second Thursday of every month from 7:00 – 8:00 pm.

Book a Librarian

Get free one-on-one expert help.

Book a free 30 to 60 minute appointment with a staff member who can help you research any topic or help you:

- Find great reads
- Basic computer help
- Setting up your new tablet
- Browse and borrow library digital download content (e-books, e-magazines, e-movies and e-music)

More program information is available on our website www.tpl.ca

Recommended Books from Guildwood Staff

Matthew recommends:

John Candy: A Life in Comedy by Paul Myers

Ellie recommends:

The Sisterhood of Ravensbrück by Lynne Olson

Regina recommends:

A Thousand Blues by Cheon Seon-Ran

Shaista recommends:

The Academy: A Novel by Elin Hilderbrand

Jenn recommends:

The God of the Woods: A Novel by Liz Moore

Sapna recommends:

Fourth Wing by Rebecca Yarros

Jen recommends:

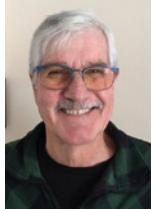
The Second Chance Convenience Store by Kim Ho-Yeon

Raushan recommends:

The Impossible Fortune: A Thursday Murder Club Mystery by Richard Osman

Give New Life to Your Old Bicycles

Rod McNair



Bikes have always been interesting to me. As a child growing up in Scarborough in the 50's, a bike represented an expansion of my world. Bike ownership meant that not only did I join the hundreds of kids that rode to school, but my bike took me on adventures far beyond our street. Bikes were very expensive and most of my friends bought less expensive, used bikes. In 1964, when the minimum wage was about \$1.00/ hour I bought my first new bike for \$60 (which would be worth approximately \$600 in today's currency!). Most of us learned to repair bikes and every family had a tube patch kit. I never saw a bike at the curb on garbage day.

Over the past 50 years, there have been significant changes in society and our relationship to bikes. There is an enormous range in style, complexity and price. Bikes are also quite costly to repair. Generally, people do not have the time or expertise to repair them and unfortunately old bikes are often left at the curbside. Sometimes these bikes are picked up by someone who can repair them, but too often they are recycled as scrap metal.

Since retiring from teaching many years ago, I have enjoyed contributing my time to several organizations that collect, repair, and distribute old bikes and give them to people who are thrilled to get them. At present, I donate bikes to The Scarborough Alliance. Marvin Macaraig runs a shop where volunteers repair bikes. Once they are refurbished, the bikes are featured on their web site, where people who need a bike receive them free of charge.

In the past, Guildwood residents have responded well by donating many bikes to this organization. If you wish to donate your bike so that it can have a new life, Doug (a fellow Guildwood neighbour) and I are happy to arrange a convenient time to help make that happen. You can reach us by emailing me at rodmcnairnm@gmail.com



Marvin and Doug with their load of donated bikes at the Repair Hub



Tammy Macklin

Once again, we had an amazing time at the Candy Cane Hunt! There were numerous children and adults walking around the grounds of the Guild Inn Estate finding candy canes and unscrambling the secret message to get their prizes. Yummy hot chocolate and candy canes were enjoyed by all.

I would like to extend a big thank you to my family, The GVCA, Councillor Ainslie, Tammy's Your Independent Grocer, Brad Warren, as well as Dee and Jason Peroff for helping to make this fun event happen!





Deputy Mayor
PAUL AINSLIE
 CITY OF TORONTO - COUNCILLOR
 WARD 24 SCARBOROUGH-GUILDFOOD

100 QUEEN STREET WEST, SUITE C52
 COUNCILLORAINSIE@TORONTO.CA
 416-392-4008

150 BOROUGH DRIVE, 2ND FLOOR
 COUNCILLORAINSIE_CO@TORONTO.CA
 416-396-7222

CHAIR, GENERAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE
 CHAIR, SCARBOROUGH COMMUNITY COUNCIL
 CHAIR, BOARD OF MANAGEMENT OF THE TORONTO ZOO
 CHAIR, FEDERATION OF ONTARIO PUBLIC LIBRARIES
 CHAIR, TORONTO AND REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
 NIGHT ECONOMY CHAMPION, CITY OF TORONTO

Dear Guildwood Village Neighbours,

Hope everyone had great winter holiday celebrations and are staying warm, safe, and healthy!

As we move into warmer months, I am looking forward seeing everyone in the community at the Environment Day, Guildwood Day, Guild Alive with Culture, and other community events and meetings.

Please review my calendar for up to date schedule:
www.paulainslie.com

All my Best,
 Paul

If you have any community questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me and my Constituency Office.

We are dedicated to providing assistance and support in these matters.

Constituency Office:
 councillor_ainslie_co@toronto.ca 416-396-7222

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
THE GUILD ALIVE WITH CULTURE ART FESTIVAL
SATURDAY, JULY 25 | 10:00 AM TO 5:00 PM
SUNDAY, JULY 26 | 10:00 AM TO 5:00 PM
WWW.GUILDAWITHCULTURE.CA

**Stay Updated &
 Get Involved!**

Scan this QR code if you would like to subscribe to my community updates, monthly eNewsletters, submit feedback on City services, and volunteer in my office.



Community Updates

The installation of **Traffic Lights at Guildwood Parkway and Rowatson Road** is tentatively scheduled for completion in Summer 2026.

The construction of **Elizabeth Simcoe Park Skate Spot** in Elizabeth Simcoe Park is anticipated to begin Spring 2026.

Toronto Hydro Project - Guildwood Parkway

Project area: Between Galloway Road and Morningside Avenue. Project # P-250017-ED151001 December 2025 to May 2026.

Guildwood Village Design Guidelines

The City of Toronto's Urban Design Team and Community Planning staff are continuing their work to present a finalized Guildwood Village Design Guidelines document.

If you were unable to attend the consultations last year, you can still provide comments or ask questions by contacting my office.

New Washroom Building

The City is improving Guild Park and Gardens with a new all-season washroom building! Two potential locations for the new washroom building are currently being evaluated by City staff. I encourage you to take a few minutes to complete the online survey toronto.ca/GuildParkWashrooms

Once the final location is confirmed, in 2026 the community will help shape the washroom design by providing feedback on two to three proposed options. The final design will reflect community input and complement the park's unique character and history.

Construction is anticipated to start in Spring 2027.

An Update from Councillor Neethan Shan, Scarborough-Rouge Park



I hope you had a wonderful holiday, and you're having a great start to the new year. I am happy to provide updates on our community events and city services.

Community Safety Townhall

Along with Mayor Olivia Chow, I held a Community Safety Townhall with Minister Gary Anandasangaree, and Police Divisions, 42 and 43. Many residents attended and made their voices heard about what's needed to make our communities safer. Among the issues discussed included hiring more neighbourhood police officers, funding programs to prevent youth violence, auto thefts and break-in prevention, and supporting vulnerable populations with outreach teams.



Community Forum

I was also pleased to meet Guildwood Village residents at our community forum that was held at Heron Park Community Recreation Centre. We discussed creating more opportunities for youth, concerns about road safety and the need for crossings and better lighting, and working on community safety with 43 Division. I will be taking this input from you and bringing it to City Hall.

City Services Update

Important changes to City services in 2026 include Blue Bin pickup and snow removal services.

Snow Removal

The City's snow removal service has been updated and includes a new Winter Website – Weather Winter Together: Toronto.ca/Winter, a city-wide centralized winter communications web hub that provides residents with near-real-time updates on snow clearing progress in their neighbourhoods, based on actual conditions.



Blue Bin

Your blue recycling bin is no longer run by the City. It is operated by a private non-profit company. If you have any questions, you can call my office or call the number on the bin.

Please sign up for my e-newsletter for community updates at: councillorshan.ca

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to our office

- at 382 Old Kingston Rd.
- by email at councillor_shan@toronto.ca or
- give us a call at 416-338-3771

I look forward to hearing from you.



Toronto.ca/Recycling

pampered chef
INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT



Aimée Talbot
Director, Pampered Chef

Gathering families around the table
one meal at a time

Follow me on Instagram or Facebook
[@pamperedchefwithaimee](https://www.instagram.com/pamperedchefwithaimee)

I would love to help you or your family with getting quality kitchen tools to help solve those meal time dilemmas. I live in the Guild, I shop in the Guild, this is my home too. Who can I help with kitchen tips and tricks?



ANDREA HAZELL

MEMBER OF PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT, SCARBOROUGH-GUILDFOOD
THIRD DEPUTY CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE
SECOND VICE-CHAIR, STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL POLICY

Room 440, Main Legislative
 Building
 Queen's Park
 Toronto (ON) M7A 1A4
 416-325-1207

3785 Kingston Rd.
 Scarborough, ON
 M1J 3M4
 416 281-2787

ahazell.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org

An Update From Andrea Hazell, MPP Scarborough-Guildwood

Dear Guildwood Neighbours!

As we step into the New Year, I wish you and your loved ones a happy and healthy year ahead. It remains a tremendous honour to represent Scarborough-Guildwood in the Legislative Assembly of Ontario. Over the past year, I have connected with residents across our neighbourhoods and through my constituency office, listening to concerns and working together to navigate ongoing challenges.

While the Ford government takes another extended break from the chamber, the Ontario Liberal caucus continues its work. I remain focused on advocating for practical solutions on the issues that matter most to Scarborough-Guildwood. We're here to make navigating provincial services simple and stress-free. Whether you're applying for a birth certificate, renewing your Ontario photo card, registering a newborn, or accessing services for seniors, my constituency office is here to help.

I also welcome residents interested in volunteering or getting more involved in supporting our community. Together, we can continue building a stronger, more inclusive, and more connected Scarborough-Guildwood. I look forward to working with you in the year ahead.

Legislative Update

At Queen's Park, I continue to advance legislation that reflects the priorities of communities across Ontario, including Scarborough-Guildwood. On December 2, I proudly tabled my bill, Bill 70, the Supporting Mobility, Affordability and Reliable Transportation in Ontario Act, in the Legislature. This bill focuses on improving mobility, affordability, and safety while ensuring long-term planning that better serves Ontarians. Bill 70 includes measures to strengthen coordination across transportation systems by requiring Metrolinx to promote and facilitate the integration of routes, fares,

and schedules of municipal bike share programs. It also takes a step toward affordability by requiring that at least 20 per cent of residential units built on surplus transit-related lands be designated as affordable housing. In addition, the bill proposes mandatory maintenance standards for key northern highways and calls for a plan to upgrade Highways 11, 17, and 69 to safer 2+1 road designs. For Scarborough-Guildwood, this matters because better-connected transit, increased affordable housing near transit hubs, and safer infrastructure directly impact daily commutes, housing affordability, and quality of life for local families and workers. Through this work, I remain committed to improving affordability, connectivity, and safety.

Community Work

Being present in the community is just as important as my work at Queen's Park. Over the past several months, I've had the privilege of connecting with residents through a variety of events. This includes a town hall I co-hosted with MP Michael Coteau focused on public safety in Scarborough Woburn and Guildwood, where residents could share concerns and ask questions directly. I've also hosted events at our constituency office, including a Legislative Update Breakfast, a Back-to-School event in late August, and a recent holiday celebration. These opportunities allow me to listen, learn, and stay connected with the people I represent. Whether through legislative advocacy or community engagement, I remain committed to ensuring that the voices of Scarborough-Guildwood residents are at the heart of everything I do.

Reach Out to Us!

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to connect with my constituency office. We are here to provide guidance and support with any provincial or community-related matters. If you need a space to host a meeting or have a conversation, please reach out. We would be pleased to discuss your needs, explore how we can assist you, and help arrange the next steps.

The One Fare Program is Extended

Vijay Thanigasalam, MPP Scarborough-Rouge Park



Dear residents of Guildwood,

I hope you and your family enjoyed a wonderful holiday season and I look forward to the important work our government will continue to pursue on behalf of our community.

Our First Christmas Social

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who came out for my very first Christmas Social at the Port Union Community Recreation Centre!

Thank you all for taking the time out of your day to stop by. It was truly wonderful to come together as a community, share in the festive holiday spirit, and celebrate the season with friends, neighbours, and families across Scarborough-Rouge Park. Your presence and support are what make events like this so special.

I am truly grateful to all who took part and to the incredible volunteers, local vendors and carollers whose dedication made the day a success.

The One Fare Program is Extended

I am pleased to share some exciting news for transit riders in our community: our government has officially extended the One Fare program for an additional two years to keep transit costs down for riders!

Since One fare launched, I have heard from so many residents who have told me how much this program has helped their daily commutes. We have helped riders save \$1,600 per year since 2024 and saved \$200 million for all Ontarians. With One Fare, commuters only have to pay once when transferring between the TTC and GO Transit, Brampton Transit, Durham Region Transit, MiWay, Peel TransHelp and York Region Transit.

Our government is delivering results to protect the hard working people of Ontario by keeping more money in your pockets through our free transfers across participating agencies.

Ontario Opens New Finch West LRT

Our government is proud to announce that the Finch West Light Rail Transit is officially open for transit riders in Toronto. For years, you have asked for faster commutes, safer transportation, and convenient connections with the community. And we got it done.

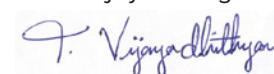
The New Finch West Line, Line 6, will be operated under the TTC, bringing rapid transit within walking distance for 230,000 more people and more than 51,000 riders each weekday. In the face of economic uncertainty, we are investing nearly \$70 billion to expand transit, and we are delivering results by getting transit projects open for the community.

As we launch this line, we will continue to get families and workers out of gridlock and connect more people to jobs and homes.



As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to our office at 8130 Sheppard Ave. East Unit 105, by email at vijay.thanigasalam@pc.ola.org, or give us a call at 416-283-8448.

Hon. Vijay Thanigasalam,

 MPP Scarborough-Rouge Park

An Update from Gary Anandasangaree, MP Scarborough-Guildwood-Rouge Park



Dear Guildwood Village,

I hope your year is off to a great start and that you had a chance to enjoy time with family and loved ones. As we move further into 2026, I'm excited to share some of the work we are doing to serve Canadians and support our community.

Jobs and Skill Training for Youths:

This year, the federal government will help a record 175,000 young Canadians gain access to jobs and skills training—opening doors to new skills, meaningful experiences, and paid work:

- **Create approximately 100,000 Canada Summer Jobs** in 2026, increasing the number of summer jobs available in Scarborough—Guildwood—Rouge Park.
- **Support 20,000 youth** facing barriers with jobs, training, and wraparound supports like mentorship and mental health counselling through the Youth Employment and Skills Strategy.
- **Fund 55,000 work-integrated learning opportunities for post-secondary students** through the Student Work Placement Program in 2026-27.
- **Create Canada's first Youth Climate Corps** to provide paid skills training and job placements for young Canadians to help respond to climate emergencies, support recovery efforts, and strengthen community resilience.

Building Affordable Housing in Scarborough:

Affordable housing is coming to Scarborough with a \$137-million federal investment to build 245 secure, co-operative rental homes. Once completed in 2028, The Cedars South Tower will offer below-market, rent-controlled homes for local families—close to public transit, schools, parks, and shops in Scarborough Village.

Investments like this are happening across Canada and will be further strengthened by Build Canada Homes, a new federal agency that will help double the pace of home building over the next decade, restore housing affordability, and reduce homelessness.

Generational Investments in Infrastructure:

Building our economic strength at home is how we create greater certainty, security, and prosperity for Canadians. Budget 2025 includes a **\$51-billion Build Communities Strong Fund** to support critical infrastructure projects across the country. This will upgrade trade and transportation networks, roads, bridges, water systems, and public transit—including right here in Scarborough and Toronto.

Stricter Bail and Sentencing Laws:

Last year, our government introduced sweeping reforms to strengthen bail laws and toughen sentencing for repeat and violent offenders through Bill C-14. This includes over 80 targeted changes to the Criminal Code, developed in consultation with police, provincial, territorial, and city leaders. Key measures include:

- **Stricter bail laws:** Detention becomes the starting point for certain offences, requiring the accused to demonstrate why they should be released.
- **Protecting victims and communities:** Police and courts are directed not to release an accused when doing so would be against the public interest or could endanger victims, witnesses, or children.
- **Tougher sentences:** Longer sentences for repeat and violent crimes, including auto theft and extortion and consecutive sentences for repeat violent offences, auto theft, break and enter, extortion, and arson.
- **New aggravating factors:** Harsher penalties for crimes against first responders, organized retail theft, and damage to critical infrastructure, such as copper theft.
- **Ending house arrest for sexual assault and child sexual offences.**

While the federal government is closing gaps in the bail system, provinces must also ensure sufficient resources for Crown prosecutors, courts, and the capacity of provincial jails, which hold individuals awaiting trial or sentencing.

I look forward to getting Bill C-14 passed into law as we work to keep Canadians safe.



Clockwise from top left: MP Gary Anandasangaree at the Guildwood Halloween Haunt; our annual Toy Drive and Christmas Party for children with sickle cell anemia; speaking at a Community Safety Town Hall in Rouge River; and announcing federal investment in Affordable Housing in Scarborough.

Crossword

Don Briggs



Answers at

www.guildwood.ca/blog



Across:

1. A famous captain
7. Head of South Africa 1978-89
12. Country in West Africa
14. Consigned to obscurity
15. Optical phenomenon resulting in dark area between 2 rainbows(2 wds)
17. Fred and Ethel _____
18. Jeff Lynn's band (abbr)
19. Brand of Australian wine
26. Troubles
30. Sordid part (2 wds)
31. Body part
33. Domesticates
34. Mr. _____ on Three's Company
35. Treat a cold _____
38. _____ well
39. City in Pennsylvania
40. Out of _____
42. Unwanted shellfish

1	2	3	4	5	6				7	8	9	10	11
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59	60	61			62	63			64				
65						66							
67						68			69				

47. Presidential nick-name
48. Billy-Joe didn't live to hear it
50. Respect and admiration
51. Avenue in northern Scarborough
54. Divide in two
55. _____ in (enclose)
56. Long, narrow inlet
58. Gymnast Nadia Comineci got the 1st one ever in the 1976 Olympics
59. One of specified character
62. Describing something that is hard to fathom (3 wds)
65. _____ Canada
66. General and applied _____
67. Complain
68. _____ crow
69. A clock changer (abbr)

Down:

1. An edible bi-valve mollusc
2. Anger
3. Form of transportation
4. The one after
5. Willie Nelson wrote it – Patsy Cline sang it
6. Ancient liquid measure = 5.7 litres
7. Form of transportation
8. Sphere
9. _____ Maria
10. Female lobster
11. Increase
13. She wrote and sang "Skyfall"
14. Cleaning tool
16. Ms. Fitzgerald
20. Guildwood is in this zone (abbr)
21. A nice street in Guildwood
22. Former Russian emperor's title
23. Je t'_____ - French for "I love you"
24. Time in March associated with Julius Caesar's assassination
25. Word often used on Remembrance Day
26. 1970 song by Edwin Starr
27. _____-Medonte, an Ontario municipality
28. Achaemenid and Ottoman
29. Exhausted
32. Annoying
35. Big name in outdoor cooking
36. George Gershwin's brother
37. Have enough of something
40. Ingest a small amount
41. Quebec produced cheese
43. _____ fork in the road
44. Boston's NBA'ers
45. Young hare
46. Removes errors from text
49. Tie or Max _____
52. One of the Stooges
53. CBC show, "Being _____ ran from 2007 to 2011
57. "_____ Over Now" sang Taylor Swift
59. Transportation provider (abbr)
60. Affirmative vote
61. It makes a golfer happy
63. Said twice, it's a bug
64. Some would say it's near

The Questions That I Ponder

Ann Brokelman



I am constantly outside on the lookout for wildlife and scenery, or sometimes just for the sake of being outdoors. People often ask me why I do this – thinking I'll be able to respond with a short, simple answer. While watching birds and other

wildlife, I find myself wanting to know more about everything I see; such as why they eat certain foods, how they move, how they fly, where they land, what trees they choose, and other small details most people never seem to consider. I want to understand what I am seeing and why it matters. So, what's my short, simple answer? I want to know more!

I feel incredibly lucky that this curiosity became my hobby, and that along the way I learned from many generous birders and wildlife experts who helped me understand what I was observing. One of my early birding memories happened with Big Frank, who took me to a local Scarborough park in the middle of winter. I quickly started complaining that I couldn't see anything, but Big Frank stayed patient and insisted we wait. Eventually, he tried to call the bird out by making a strange, soft trill and told me to listen. Sure enough, I heard a reply and caught a quick

glimpse of it: a little screech owl (my very first owl as a birder). This inspired one of my first questions: why did it respond to that noise, and what did it think Big Frank said? Since then, I have been extremely fortunate to see hundreds of owls in the wild and even to have a few screech owls use the nesting box in my backyard. Over the years, Big Frank Butson also taught me how to think



Screech owl hidden in tree

more carefully about what I was seeing and helped me answer many questions like: why do some birds have more calls than others, why do their flight patterns change during different seasons, and why do they choose some foods over others?

Moving on to a different topic, whenever I walk through parks like Guild Park, the red juniper berries stand out against the winter landscape and always catch my attention. They rarely go unnoticed by wildlife either, as birds and squirrels regularly stop to feed on them. Chickadees, woodpeckers, and nuthatches are common sights, with the occasional northern visitor mixed in.

Just the other day, while driving along a back road, I noticed a branch covered in the same bright berries. This tree, however, was really shaking. I stopped the car, rolled down the window, and, of course, grabbed my camera. Not ten metres away in the bushes across the road was a deer stretching her neck, happily gobbling up the winter treat. While I wish I could have captured a photo of the whole deer, I'm still pretty happy with how the headshot turned out. What struck me most was how focused she was on eating, so much so that she either didn't notice, or didn't care, that I was so close. Did she know I wasn't a threat? Has she learned that? Or, was she so focused on the berries that she didn't actually realize I was there? These are the questions that keep me up at night!

Here's another question, but one that's a little easier to answer: what other winter treats does nature provide for our local animal friends? The main delicacies in Toronto are the last fruits hanging on the trees, as well as winter berries, seeds, nuts, and even dormant insects. Woodpeckers are especially adept at finding winter insects hidden deep within tree bark. For a heartier meal, deer turn to woody plants and twigs, along with the leaves of conifers such as cedar and hemlock.

At Guild Park, you can see all kinds of birds feeding on berries, along with squirrels licking sap from the trees and snacking on what remains of the fruit. This winter also brings a good chance of spotting northern visitors passing through, including pine siskins, grosbeaks, and more. If you spend a little time walking the grounds, you will also notice signs of wildlife all around you. Keep your eyes open for tracks from deer, fox, raccoon, opossum, and birds crisscrossing the paths and snowy patches.



Swan footprints

- continued on back cover

I'll leave you with a small challenge: head outside and look for tracks on your own. Take a photo, and, if you can, include your hand or foot so we can compare the sizes. (A ruler or something uniform in size, like a toonie, is even better). Maybe you will even catch a glimpse of a critter, or notice signs of what it has been eating or where it's been sleeping. A half chewed cone, stripped bark, scattered seeds, or a trail of tracks in the snow can tell a story if you stop and look closely. I challenge you to find what clues nature has left behind. You might be surprised by how much wildlife activity is happening all around you, even in the quiet of winter. Sometimes the best discoveries are not high in the trees or far off in the distance, but right under our feet.

Send your photos, and any questions of your own, to abrokelman@gmail.com. The more you find the better!



Cedar waxwings in berries



Ruffed grouse snow print



Red-breasted nuthatch and wild grapes



Squirrel in berries



Sucking up nectar



Cedar waxwing