



Apple Blossom Flowers

Newcastle 905-987-3155 • Orono 905-983-9155



info@appleblossomflowers.com

www.appleblossomflowers.com

REDUCE • REUSE • RECYCLE

COVID-19 STATS

AS OF: WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 28* 3:00 P.M.

The data in this dashboard are based on information extracted from the integrated Public Health Information System (iPHIS) database for Durham Region. The online Data Tracker is updated daily in the afternoon.

Total Confirmed Cases in Clarington: 8,384

Total Confirmed Cases Ever Hospitalized for COVID 19	220	Total Confirmed Cases Ever in ICU	45
		Total Deceased	37

Total Confirmed Cases in Durham Region to Date: 71,300

Total Confirmed Cases Ever Hospitalized for COVID 19	2,096	Total Confirmed Cases Ever in ICU	414
		Total Deceased	528

For daily updated statistics visit <https://www.durham.ca/en/health-and-wellness/novel-coronavirus-update.aspx> and click the Data Tracker link.

Note: How the data and COVID case information is shown to Durham Residents has changed. *The COVID-19 Tracker is now only updated Wednesdays.

BUSINESS SNAPSHOT

AS OF: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2022

CURRENCY (MARKET RATE)

\$1.00 CDN =	\$0.7378 USD	\$1.00 US =	\$1.3549 CAD
		Bitcoin CME Futures	\$16,535 USD

COMMODITY IN US FUNDS

	CLOSE		CLOSE
Crude Oil WTI	\$80.26	Wheat	792-0
Natural Gas	\$4.475	Corn	678-4
		Soy	1524-0
Gold	\$1,826.20		
Silver	\$24.040	Lumber	\$373.70

MARKET INDICES

	Close	52 wk High	52 wk Low
TSX Composite	19,384.92	22,213.07	17,873.18
TSX 60	1,168.91	1,344.63	1,080.34
Dow	33,147.25	36,952.65	28,660.94
Nasdaq	10,466.48	15,868.09	10,088.83
S&P 500	3,839.50	4,818.62	3,491.58

MORTGAGE

	5 YR variable	5 YR Fixed	3 Year Fixed
BMO	6.14%	5.24%	5.39%
CIBC	6.19%	5.49%	6.24%
RBC	6.00%	5.39%	5.70%
Scotia	6.40%	5.74%	5.89%
TD Bank	6.15%	5.14%	5.34%

CLARINGTON REAL ESTATE AVG PRICE NOV 29 - DEC 27

	Detached	Townhouse	Condo
Avg Price	\$824,000	\$684,000	\$546,000
New Listings	70	13	14
Listings Sold	41	17	7
Active Listings	113	16	36

MUSINGS

BY TED OSTER

It's passed time

Not so many years ago, every bedside had a wind-up alarm clock. Then, the alarm clock/radio arrived and became the dominant night table adornment. Today, smartphones have since moved to the forefront and made the clock radio nearly obsolete.

One year when I was 11 or 12 years old (that's over forty-five years ago for those who are counting) my sister, Michelle, and I each received clock radios as Christmas presents. This was the mid-1970's and such devices were considered at the cutting edge of household technology.



I was impressed and pleased. I could finally relegate the wind-up clock to the back of a closet. Its incessant "tick, tick, tick" would no longer punctuate

the silence of night time. Equally important, I could finally upgrade from the crystal radio that I had received several Christmases previous. Wow! A whole new universe of radio stations became available. The receiver even had AM and FM bands.

But all was not golden. Remember this was the 1970's. Digital technology was still a novelty. My Panasonic time-piece measured the passage of time with an internal mechanical device that flipped thin plastic letters every minute. It was relatively quiet until the mechanism began to wear. Then every new hour was announced with a loud hum as gears grudgingly meshed and the tired number sheafs tiredly flapped into position.

At a recent family gathering, my sisters and I reminisced about Christmases past and our favourite presents. I mentioned the clock/radio. Michelle nodded in agreement.

As is my wont, I then lapsed

into a diatribe about how the clock radio actually became a pain in the butt every October. In the fall, when the time would change from Daylight Savings Time, my clock would be an hour ahead of the actual time.

For several years, until digital alternatives became available, I would have to advance my clock twenty-three hours to sync up with the rest of the world. This would involve turning the side dial to reset the time. It seemed like I spent half a day working that wheel as the numbers advanced one minute at a time. Heaven forbid that I should lose focus and skip past the current time. Back to more interminable wheel turning.

Michelle sighed and shook her head. She punctuated my rant with a simple yet incredible revelation, "I just unplugged my clock/radio for an hour to get back on time."

I sat in stunned silence. I had never thought of that. I then started into a rant about tinsel.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

BY CAROL-ANN OSTER

New Years through the archives

Because a global pandemic crushed spirits over the past two New Years Eves, it is likely that many are looking forward to welcoming in this next year with family and friends in a more convivial (but hopefully still responsible) manner. If you are out of practice with how to perform at, much less host a New Year's Eve extravaganza, never fear – the Orono Times archives are a treasure trove of ideas!

Harkening all the way back to December 1941, these party-games were promised to be crowd-pleasers. First off was a spelling bee. Ugh, what? No wait, the idea was to make it more interesting by having the players spell the words backwards. "A little competition will enliven the game, so arrange the guests into two to three teams, then tell them that to avoid embarrassment all the words will be simple ones. Every contestant will be eliminated from the game when he makes his second miss, and the first team to be spelled down loses the game." The real trick here is that the instructions go on to suggest that the game start with simple words like cat, dog, boy, and then become increasingly difficult. It seems that this strategy might not be eudaemon-

ic. "Could I have a definition, please?" Sure, it's an adjective, derives from Greek, and means producing happiness. It is listed as one of the most difficult words ever presented in the National Spelling Bee after it appeared in 1961. Fortunately, the end of that article also suggests that the "secret to success is to only play each game a short time before changing to a new game. No matter how much guests are enjoying a game, it is advisable to stop playing after a few minutes and change to something else." No arguments here!

If you're the type who prefers a night out with good company on New Year's Eve, then in 1946 the community Hall of Newcastle was the place to be. Under the auspices of the Board of Management for the Newcastle Community Hall, and with Russ Creighton's Variety Dance Band from Toronto providing the entertainment, approximately 700 people joined the fun. The hall had been decorated "with strings of balloons giving it a warmth of beauty. At the passing of the old year the hall was a profusion of color from the gay paper hats and a hilarious fury of merriment from noisemaking devices." During the event Audrey Adams was chosen as

Miss New Year, and from the Newcastle area attendees, Dora Brooks was chosen as Miss Newcastle. The festivities ended at 2am at which time the revelers reluctantly returned home.

And in the quiet of the morning after, when the New Year is fresh and new with promise, don't we all take that moment to plan our resolutions for the year to come? 1943 held some inspiring advice in poetic form from Ronald Kenyvn.

*"When New Year's resolutions
You meditate and plan,
There's just one thoughtless habit
You might place under ban.
Remember in your buying
Of goods in short supply
That others wish to get some
Even as you and I.
So if you know unselfishness
You may not get just what
you wish
The stocks will go around,
But something will be found.
A little touch of sportsmanship
will help to ease the war's strain
And give us all a share
that's fair
Til peace returns again."*

Whatever you do and wherever you are, we wish you a happy and healthy New Year, and thank you for taking these journeys into our shared past for another year.



NEXT GEN VOICE

BY WYATT SHARPE

Hail King Charles

The Coronation of King Charles III is expected to take place on Saturday which marks a big moment for Canada given that we're constitutionally connected to the crown and to Britain.

There is much debate around whether or not Canada should maintain that connection and relationship to the monarchy because of the impact it's had on Canada's Indigenous peoples, and many other concerns that people have.

It is a polarizing debate, that no doubt will be at the forefront as the Coronation gets underway on Saturday.

The overall event will consist of Prince Harry, but not Megan Markle, a controversial couple and former

working royals, no less, who have moved to California and parted ways with their family and with the monarchy as a whole.

The obvious people, who anyone would expect to be there, are going to be in attendance, people like Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Australia Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, really any of the world leaders who have a constitutional connection to the monarchy.

The vast majority of people will take the Coronation as an opportunity to celebrate a new monarch, but again undoubtedly there will be several people who will be critical of the new King and of the system in general.

LOOKING BACK

GLEANED FROM PAST EDITIONS OF THE ORONO TIMES, BY DORIS FALLS

25 Years Ago...

Kate Lang, who lives in Orono, made the plunge and had her head shaved. Kate was one of many Durham Regional Police Officers who were involved in the 'Cops for Cancer' programme. Police Officers shaved their heads to raise money for the Cancer Society. Kate's four-year-old daughter says mommy's head is prickly but soft. Kate herself says she has been cold ever since losing her hair! She raised close to \$2500 for her efforts. The Clarington Police Force raised over \$4000 for the Cancer Society in their balding fundraiser. In excess of \$10,000 was raised region wide through 'Cops for Cancer'.

The 100th Anniversary of Orono Town Hall takes place on May 22 & 23, 1998 (from 1:30 - 5:00 p.m.). Reminisce down "Memory Lane" with church and school photos, a video of Orono's past, displays, old musical instruments and entertainment by local talent. Everyone welcome. Refreshments. No admission.

50 Years Ago...

Working outdoors for the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority seems to be very popular with students looking for a summer job. A particularly heavy number of applications for the SWEEP programme for this summer have already been received at the Conservation Authority office and the hiring date is not until May 1st, so more applications can be expected. One new project will be the improvement of wildlife habitats on conservation areas, including the provision of wood duck-nesting boxes, various types of bird houses, feeders and scrub-planting. This year the hiring of SWEEP workers will follow the past pattern of hiring a few students from each member municipality. Grants to run the programme are 100% recoverable from the provincial government and will total \$37,277, almost \$30,000 of which will go on wages.

75 Years Ago...

The fishing season which opened officially on Saturday was very disappointing to many of the nimrods who journeyed from far and near in expectations of having trout for their Sunday dinner. After the day was over, many wives and mothers had to rush to the butcher shops to secure meat for Sunday. The weather turned out bright and clear. The streams in this district were literally lined with fishermen from far and near. Cars were lined along the roadways. There were so many fishermen that the fish were driven under the banks in fright. It will take them about two weeks to get over the invasion. It is true a few were rewarded with some nice fish. The largest number we heard of were caught by W.J. Riddell - eight nice trout at the Leskard flume, his old favourite place on opening morning. Other catches ranged from one to three or four fish.

REDUCE • REUSE • RECYCLE

MUSINGS

BY TED OSTER

The Adventures of Duperman

The traditional original story of Superman is that a young boy named Kal-El was sent by rocket from the doomed planet Krypton to Earth, Smallville to be exact, where he was found and adopted by farmers Jonathan and Martha Kent.

There is a lesser-known companion to this tale. Kal-El had a twin brother, Kal-Em. Kal-Em also escaped Krypton's destruction. He was

bundled into a second rocket aimed at Earth. His vehicle landed in Millvally Junction. By a strange coincidence of fate, he landed at the farm of Jedediah Kent, brother of Jonathan.

Kal-El was named Clark Kent by his adopted parents. He grew up to be Superman. Kal-Em, a frail and uncoordinated boy, was named Mervin Kent by his rescuer. He did

not match Superman's accomplishments.

It is amazing how twins who are separated often follow similar paths in life. Clark Kent became a journalist at The Daily Planet in the big city of Metropolis. Mervin Kent found work with the local newspaper, The Millvally Advocate.

Unlike his talented brother, Mervin did not have a glamorous reporting job. He was the office administrator and soon became known as 'Clerk' Kent. His primary tasks were keeping the books, monitoring the Teletype and making coffee for the other employees.

Clerk found his administrative job dull and boring. After several years of mind-numbing tedium, Clerk abruptly quit his job at the Millvally Advocate. He decided to emulate his brother and pursue a career as a superhero.

First, he needed a costume to match the resplendent attire of Superman. With no savings and no job, Clerk Kent had limited resources to create his outfit.

A flashy uniform with a bold and elegantly embroidered "S" on its front was beyond his budget. He had to settle for a "D" that he clipped from a sales flyer of the Dominion

grocery store. He attached it to an old blue T-shirt with an iron-on kit that he purchased at the local Stedman's.

With that he made his way to Metropolis to find his long-separated brother. It turns out that locating his sibling wasn't a difficult task. Clerk Kent looked up in the sky and saw a strange object in flight. Is that a bird? Is that a plane? No, it was Superman!

After an emotional reunion, Clark invited Clerk to join his crime fighting crusade. Local reporters quickly noticed that Superman had a sidekick. Taking a cue from the "D" emblazoned on his chest, they began to refer to him as Duperman. Together they were known as the Super-Duper crime fighting brothers.

Unfortunately, Duperman's powers paled in comparison to those of his more accomplished brother.

The citizens of Metropolis were not excited by the newest member of the superhero fraternity. Duperman's ability to leap low fences in a single bound was unimpressive. Duperman's prowess in double-entry bookkeeping was no threat to the evil genius of Lex Luthor.

Fortunately, Superman always came to the rescue to save his brother and Metrop-

olis.

Eventually, the good and decent folk of Metropolis erupted in anger when The Daily Planet reported Duperman's ultimate misadventure. The front page was dominated by a picture of Duperman wallowing on his couch with a comfy blanket and a box of Kleenex.

The accompanying news story was written by a young cub reporter. Jimmy Olsen's exclusive revealed that while Superman, the Man of Steel, was imprisoned in his Fortress of Solitude, Duperman had not responded to a recent crime spree. Apparently, he took a pass on saving the city claiming that he was suffering from the sniffles and a slight cold. An exasperated Perry White, editor of the tabloid, angrily headlined the story - "The Man of Tissue is a Failure".

Duperman (and his alter-ego Clerk Kent) was forced to retire in disgrace as a professional crime fighter and flee Metropolis. His brother Clark got him a job answering the phones at the Hall of Justice. Duperman's less-than-super powers have not gone to waste. Legend has it that he makes a super cup of coffee.

COVID-19 STATS

AS OF: WEDNESDAY APRIL 26* 3:00 P.M.

The data in this dashboard are based on information extracted from the integrated Public Health Information System (IPHIS) database for Durham Region. The online Data Tracker is updated daily in the afternoon.

Total Confirmed Cases in Clarington: 8,743

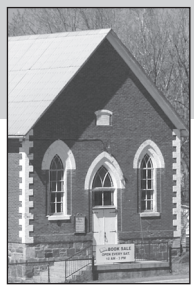
Total Confirmed Cases Ever Hospitalized for COVID 19	236	Total Confirmed Cases Ever in ICU	46
		Total Deceased	38

Total Confirmed Cases in Durham Region to Date: 74,288

Total Confirmed Cases Ever Hospitalized for COVID 19	2,189	Total Confirmed Cases Ever in ICU	420
		Total Deceased	549

For daily updated statistics visit <https://www.durham.ca/en/health-and-wellness/novel-coronavirus-update.aspx> and click the Data Tracker link.

Note: How the data and COVID case information is shown to Durham Residents has changed. *The COVID-19 Tracker is now only updated Wednesdays.



THE GOOD WORD

BY BRIAN COLVILLE

Book Review: Every Saturday from April to November, the old Kirby Church throws open the doors to reading fans who just love the thrill of finding that perfect book or books for their reading pleasure, at a price that won't break the bank.

Flames Across the Border
By Pierre Berton

The cold has become unbearable? The temperature stands at twenty seven below, a temperature where the scale being used to measure it does not really matter. A northeaster seeping down the lake cuts like a scythe through the greatcoats of the soldiers bent double in the teeth of the gale. The snow is frozen hard as cement. The whine of the wind breaks the white silence. This is the rear-guard, spread out one day apart the last of six companies to resist the next American.

As Lieutenant John Le Coureur leads his squad around a bend in the road, he sees that the forward lines have stopped, but in this weather stopping is death. As he moves up the lines, he notices that every man he passes is rubbing snow into frostbitten cheeks. His own nose is frozen, but he cannot attend to that right now. He must get

Private Reuben Rogers onto a toboggan and under a pile of blankets because the soldier's body is an ulcerated mass from frost bite. Then he must get the column moving again.

It is slow going. The men in the lead must be replaced every four to five minutes, if they are to survive. By the time they stop for the night, 90 men out of his 105 have frost bite. That night Coureur finds it impossible to sleep, or even get warm. One man trying to sleep gets too close to the fire and seriously burns his feet.

This regiment is in Quebec City after two weeks hard marching. Their commander asks how they are, when told they are fine, he tells them they can push on for another two hundred miles to Kingston.

The date is April 12, 600 hundred troops have marched more than 700 hundred miles under the worst possible conditions without losing a single

man. Directly across the lake, an American army is poised to invade Canada, with Kingston as its target. They choose York as an alternate target, allowing the life line linking the two Canadas will not be severed.

I learned a great deal of new Canadian history from this interesting read selected from the Canadian history section at the Old Kirby Church Bookstore. Berton is famous for his history books but I also recommend his children's book "The Secret World Of Og". We are always on the watch for donations of all his books. This Saturday we will also have for sale one of a kind handmade dresses by a local artisan for the cost of \$10, with all monies for the maintenance of the church building. See you Saturday between 10 and 3.

Tereza, Marie, Carly, Rick and Brian.

Guided Ehrenwort Trail 2023 Tours

All tours begin at 151 Sprucewood Crescent, Bowmanville. Reservations are encouraged.

Please email info@jurylandsfoundation.com the size

of your group plus a contact name, email.

Tours are approximately 1.5 hours. Please bring appropriate footwear for a gravel trail.

There are stairs on the trail. No washrooms. Tours are rain or shine.

Private tours are available please contact info@jurylandsfoundation.com

Day	Month	Date	Time
Saturday	May	20	10:00 a.m.
Sunday	June	4	1:00 p.m.
Saturday	June	24	10:00 a.m.
Sunday	July	2	1:00 p.m.
Saturday	July	22	10:00 a.m.
Sunday	August	6	1:00 p.m.
Saturday	August	19	10:00 a.m.
Saturday	September	2	10:00 a.m.
Monday	September	4	10:00 a.m.
Saturday	September	16	10:00 a.m.
Saturday	September	23	10:00 a.m.
Sunday	October	1	1:00 p.m.
Saturday	October	7	10:00 a.m.
Monday	October	9	10:00 a.m.

Jury Lands Foundation
Preservation through Rejuvenation

AC
OGO

Clarington

MUSINGS

BY TED OSTER

Phone history

Grampa, can you tell us another story about when you were a kid?

OK. Children, gather round and let me tell you what life was like in the "good old days". Back then we had to walk uphill both ways between home and school. And the paths were narrow, no sidewalks.

Oh no, not again. We've heard that one before.

It's true. You probably won't believe this but we didn't even have cell phones to talk on while climbing those treacherous mountain paths.

Gasp! How primitive. Was that when you only had limited range cordless phones.

Cordless phones? Luxury! Only rich people had cordless phones. Our phones were the size of a cement block and hung on the wall with a cord connecting the speaker/receiver. Sometimes you could order an extra long cord to wander around the house while talking. Of course, the cord eventually became so tangled that you couldn't stray more than two feet away from the wall.

Oh yeah. In history class we learned that in the pioneer days phones had cords.

Let me tell you, times were tough back then. We only had one phone in the house. Using the phone was hard work. We didn't have fancy touchscreens to enter the numbers. We had to turn a rotary mechanism manually. We perse-

vered through blisters and broken fingers.

What kind of user plan did you have? How many free minutes did you get per month?

User plan? Minutes? You kids have it too easy today. We could dial across town for free. That was it. Calling any other area was long distance and it was damned expensive. I figure it cost so much because the phone company had to pay for Operators.

What is an Operator?

When we wanted to call long distance, we dialed "o" to reach an Operator, an actual person. We would tell the Operator the number we wanted to dial. They connected us to the other party. They lost their jobs when the phone company's computers figured out how to recognize "o" and "1". Some say that is how the binary system of numbers came into being.

Why didn't you sign up with a different service provider?

Are you kidding? We only had one choice. Bell. Ma Bell. They set the rates. We grumbled but we paid what they demanded. You could save some money by sharing a phone line with your neighbours. A party line had one other household. A community line might have eight homes sharing one line. Soemtimes the line was tied up and you had to wait your turn.

OMG. Wait to use the phone? How did you check with your friends in the morning to see what they were going to wear to school?

We managed. Sometimes our outfits clashed. Those were tough times, indeed.

I guess you could have texted your friends if the line was busy.

Well, we didn't have text messaging. Remind me one day to tell you the story of letters and stamps and mailboxes.



**SUPPORT
YOUR
COMMUNITY
SHOP LOCAL**

Adrian Foster
Mayor

Email: mayor@clarington.net
Tel: 905-623-3379
www.clarington.net

Clarington

**THOMAS HOUSTON
COURTICE SEPTIC**

In Business for Over 30 Years

Call **905-436-2053**
or **1-877-797-3027**

For all of your septic needs

REDUCE • REUSE • RECYCLE