



Help support the 22nd Annual Toy Mountain Campaign with an unwrapped toy, teen gift or cash donation! Bring your donations and come join in the fun! For details on how your business or school can take part, please email toy.mountain@bellmedia.ca.

Share your Blessings

This holiday season, help needy neighbours. Food For Christmas, Holiday Donations. *Just \$2 provides 5 meals. YOU can help by donating to the Mississauga Food Bank.* 905) 270-5589.
www.themississaugafoodbank.org
Food donations can be dropped off at select grocery stores or any Mississauga Fire Hall.



**We wish
You & Yours a
Happy & Healthy
Holiday Season!**



Storm Brewing Overhead??

A storm is brewing overhead, but it has nothing to do with the weather. It has everything to do with air traffic, noise, pollution and property values but most important it is all about safety.

In September 2017 the International Federation of Air Line Pilots Association issued a safety bulletin warning pilots about runway incursions at Pearson. An incursion refers to an aircraft being in a position that it should not be, such as crossing an active runway when on route to the terminal, or taking off on a runway with on-coming landings. The warning advised pilots to be vigilant at Pearson following several "close calls" reported between March and September of this year. In August 2017, concerned over the frequency of incursions and the potential for an accident, The Transportation Safety Board of Canada had already launched a special review of operations at Pearson.

Meanwhile, the GTAA has plans to double air traffic by 2040. Based on the evidence of incursions noted at current volume, such an increase would put not only pilots and passengers at risk, but also the communities that are within the immediate vicinity of the airport.

Following the GTAA announcement, the RHA joined CAAS (Community

Alliance for Air Safety) to lend our support in sending a unified voice to Ottawa that the GTAA must rethink their plans for expansion. The first priority should be safety not revenue. There are currently 19 communities that are supporting the efforts of CAAS, but none has more at stake than the residents of Rockwood Village, Markland Woods and Eringate. Well organized and supported by a wealth of experience and knowledge, they also garnered support at all levels of government from Municipal to Federal.

As this issue is vital to the future of our community, we urge you as a resident to visit the CAAS website, add your name to their growing list of supporters, and request updates as to meetings and progress. While there appear to be other groups lobbying on their own, one voice speaking for a broad spectrum of communities, individuals and politicians will provide much more leverage. However, serious and meaningful campaigns need funding. *RW*

The Rockwood Homeowner's Association has made a \$500 donation to the cause and hopes that those residents who are concerned - and that should be all residents - will give whatever assistance they can. You can get more information on CAAS at <http://caasafety.ca>.



LOCAL CONTACTS

RHA Executives

Joe Silva • *President*
 Lisa Portolese • *Vice President*
 Val Thomson • *Treasurer*
 Kimberly Lulham • *Secretary*
 Dale Biason • *Director*
 Leszek Pisarek • *LM Director*
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 Homeowners' Association*

www.rockwoodvillage.ca
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 Association**



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Rockwood Homeowner's Association 2017 Annual General Meeting

Speed Limits and Parking under Review by city

At the AGM in May, Rockwood Village resident Michael Ferreira expressed his concerns about vehicles travelling at high speeds on Bough Beeches Boulevard between Rathburn Road East and Fieldgate Drive. A parking issue along this street was also expressed.

As a follow up, Councillor Fonseca attended our October Board Meeting and brought with her City personnel who could address our issues not only on speed limits and parking, but also information on planning for our local parks.

Reduce Speed

Mr. Ferreira requested that the City reduce the speed on Bough Beeches to 40km/hr or consider other traffic-calming measures such as speed bumps or additional stop signs at Claypine Rise and Beechknoll Cres. Surprisingly, it was brought forth that the speed limit on Bough Beeches west of Fieldgate is currently posted as 40 km/hr. While the speed limit is 40 km/hr in the immediate area of the school, it changes at the south side of Claypine Rise nearest to the school.

Councillor Fonseca advised that the Ministry of Transportation of Ontario is currently reviewing speed limits in Mississauga, and recommended that residents petition for the speed limit to be changed from 50 km/hr to 40 km/hr on Bough Beeches Boulevard and submit it to the Traffic Report for approval Ouliana Drobyshevskaya, Traffic Operations Technologist for the City of Mississauga, stated that she would look into the possibility of putting stop signs



at the intersections at Claypine Rise and Beechknoll. While traffic calming is currently being studied along Fieldgate, and a public meeting will be held to present data collected on this road; no such study is planned for Bough Beeches.

Parking Enforcement

Parking along Bough Beeches was also discussed. Currently cars are parking on both sides of Bough Beeches which not only makes navigating the street difficult, but also makes entry from the feeder streets onto Bough Beeches extremely dangerous particularly with vehicles driving at excessive speeds. According to Ms. Drobyshevskaya, the City Traffic plan does not currently allow parking on the north side of Bough Beeches. If this were the case, there is no signage to deter parking and it is definitely not being enforced. Parking can be prohibited in these areas by gathering signature from at least 50% of the affected residents in the immediate area, and consent from 66% of residents is needed to make the changes.

If you live in the area of east of Fieldgate along Bough Beeches or the feeder streets, we would be interested in hearing your opinions on these matters. **RW**

Contact us at rha.executive@gmail.com or leave a comment on our website at www.rockwoodvillage.ca

* * *

As always, we welcome your comments, questions and any concerns you may wish to share in over 3000 newsletters distributed quarterly in your Rockwood neighbourhood, please forward your information to rha.executive@gmail.com



Something NEW is coming to Garnetwood Park!



While construction of washroom facilities is almost complete, they will not be accessible until Spring of 2018 due to the seasonal winter closing.

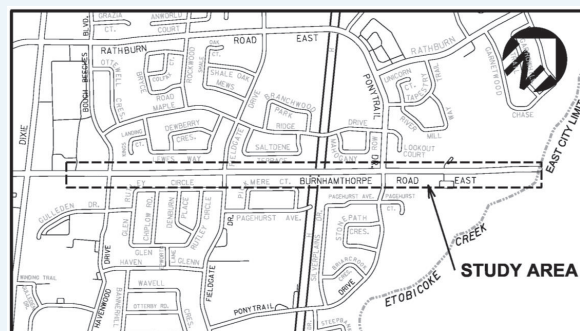
The structure features men's, women's, and universal washrooms featuring emergency lights with audio/visual hook-ups. The operations department will maintain the washrooms, which will be open from 7 AM to 11 PM. Details of the project and status were provided at the October RHA meeting by Anna Cascioli, Manager of Facilities Development & Accessibility and Nooshin Talebani, Project Manager of Facilities Development & Accessibility. Noting that there was no plan for a drinking fountain as a part of the structure, it was requested that this option be investigated. Failing this addition, installing tri-nozzle attachments in the washroom sinks for potable drinking water should be considered.

With the Park planners in tow, a few other suggestions for Garnetwood Park were made including the installation of a splash pad and fitness stations along the pathways. Kathi Ross agreed to look into adding these features. *RW*

Keep your Pets Warm - Now in Mississauga, to minimize the neglect of dogs, the law bans dog owners from leaving any animal without adequate shelter; defined as a double-walled and insulated doghouse that is large enough for the pet to stand up, turn around, lie down and stretch its limbs in-outside during extreme weather. Dogs may only be tethered for a maximum of four hours in a 24-hour period. Any dog left tethered must be in sight of others and able to access food, water, shelter and shade. "This law will be enforced on a complaint basis," said Mickey Frost, director Enforcement. "The City will be using social media to remind residents that the bylaw is in effect during extreme conditions."

For more details see mississauga.ca/animalservices

Construction starts Spring 2018



Plans are in the works for major road restructuring for Burnhamthorpe Road East between Dixie Road and Mill Road. The project, which is set to begin in Spring 2018, will include improvements to intersections including bus stop/queue jump lanes to be constructed at Fieldgate Drive, Ponytrail Drive, Havenwood Drive and Bough Beeches Blvd. The project will include extending the multi-use trail along the north side of Burnhamthorpe Road, to connect with the Etobicoke Creek Trail. Other improvements will include catch basin lead replacements and storm water maintenance. A new pedestrian mid-block crossing will be added near the hydro corridors between Ponytrail Dr. and Fieldgate Dr. For more information please contact: Domenic Galati, C.E.T., L.E.L., Project Manager 905-615-3200 ext. 5792 Domenic. Galati@mississauga.ca



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Bring Back The Joy

Lisa Portolese

I fondly remember how much I loved Christmas as a kid. My mom would decorate our house beautifully and play Christmas music. Our house even smelled like Christmas! Handmade wreaths, centerpieces and ornaments made either by my mom or by us kids adorned the house.

It was special and I loved it. I loved it not because of the gifts (and yes, we did get a lot of gifts) but because of the specialness and joy of the season. Can we recreate this environment in today's world? Or sadly, have we lost sight of what the holidays should be about so much that we are going to fight with each other over a toy in the retail frenzy of the season? We're adults! What lessons are we passing down to our children? Is this the only the season to buy buy buy and get get get?

Our children are bombarded with ads for "this years hottest Christmas toy" (all 75 of them) starting in September. Every store we go into is filled with tacky Christmas paraphernalia even before Halloween.

The idea of Christmas being all about the gifts you get is everywhere and it seems to be worse and worse every year!

It's a lot of pressure to put on parents and caregivers and it makes me sad that someone at the age of three has

We have not lost sight of what is important about the holidays.

After all, tis the Season of Giving.

already started thinking that this is what Christmas is all about! So in response to those that call me a Grinch, sorry sweeties, no, I am not the Grinch, YOU are in reality the Grinch.

I am a Who. Most of my friends and neighbours in Rockwood are too! We are "Whos" too!

We have not lost sight of what is important about the holidays. After all, tis the Season of Giving.

I make as many Christmas gifts as possible for friends and family so that they reflect the care and love I have for them, so that it still holds a special meaning. I strive (although I often feel it's an uphill battle) to teach children that the holidays are about being thankful for what you have, showing your love to others, and celebrating with friends and family.

Why put ourselves into a giant hole of debt we can't dig ourselves out of every year just to prove we can buy better presents than our friends do. In fact, just like the Whos of Whoville, if we had no money for gifts or decorations we would still be able to go on with Christmas. We would still appreciate each other and celebrate in our own way.

So in actuality it is my family and others like us that are still conserving the specialness of Christmas and it is the rest of society who are the Grinches. To me being a Grinch is being selfish and taking away the joy of the holidays. In fact this is what the Grinch strived to do! This is what main stream society is doing to our children: taking away the meaning of Christmas with over commercialization and putting the pressure to spend spend spend.

These are tough economic times my friends so it is more important than ever to think about changing the way we celebrate this year.

Start your own family traditions, make your own gifts or buy handmade, and emphasize what is important. Think of creative ways to show your children the love that you have for them. Make ornaments and gifts together, bake and decorate cookies, donate your time to a soup kitchen or homeless shelter, etc.

These memories will stand out much longer in their minds than a memory of the 20 new toys they received and that will be used once and forgotten.

So from one "Who" to the rest of you "Whos" - Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, etc., and remember to enjoy whatever holiday you celebrate this year for the right reasons and hopefully you will feel the real joy of the season. *RW*



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In the Spirit of Giving...

Too many gifts to buy? Not sure what to buy? Countless charities rely on community support to fulfill end of year fundraising goals to satisfy year-round requests from our neighbours experiencing difficult times.

Give Joy...

Change children's lives in Mississauga and make wishes come true. Every year, the third week of November, the Giving Tree goes up. Young children from our neighbourhood who are in need write a letter with their wishes.

If you would like to be a help to Santa, please pass by Saints Martha and Mary Church at 1870 Burnhamthorpe Road East, Mississauga, ON L4X 2S5 (905) 625-5670. Pick up a card from the tree and sponsor the wish of a deserving child.

Donate for Hope...

Help to create a world without Breast Cancer. Choose how you want to make an impact on lives of women and the future of our daughters. Your gift will support over 200,000 Canadians living with breast cancer by funding the best and brightest researchers and providing the emotional support needed to those affected by this disease. For information, please email connect@cbcf.org, or call 1-800-387-9816 ext. 264



Practice Good Will...

Share the feeling. Do you know an elderly person who is alone for the holidays? Bring them a meal or better still, invite them over to share a meal with you.

Support Local Business

One of the easiest ways you can give back to your community is to do your holiday shopping at a locally-owned business. Purchase gifts and gift certificates.

Donate to a charity

In lieu of buying a gift. This option is not only people-friendly but earth-friendly too. Gift clean water to a family in need through **The Water Project**. Donate seeds and livestock through **Heifer International**.

Give of Yourself

Lend a hand at the food bank or help out at a Salvation Army or other community Christmas dinner.

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*To our neighbours and friends in Rockwood
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this holiday season and in the New Year*



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“Ask Joe” Your Neighbourhood Handyman

Dear Joe,
I love the smell of a fresh tree in my home, but they make a big mess and the kids always prick themselves on the needles. Is there a way to have a fresh tree without all the issues?

Thanks,
Mary on Marblethorne

Dear Mary

The key to getting the right tree is choosing the right fit for your home then properly maintaining it to stay fresh.

I suggest you consider a pine or fir tree for your family. These have soft needles and should not cause prickly injuries to fingers or feet. Spruce trees on the other hand have sharp needles.

You can check how fresh the tree is by bending a needle in half with your fingers. A fresh pine needle will bend and a fresh fir needle will snap. I recommend you gently tap the tree on the ground. A fresh tree will lose only a few needles. If a lot fall off, try another tree.



When you get the tree home, cut at least an inch from the bottom of the trunk to allow the tree to absorb more water. Speaking of water, put the tree in a bucket of water immediately, if you are not going to put it in the tree stand.

Most species can go 6 to 8 hours after cutting the trunk and still take up water. Once in the stand you need to water it every day. Stands should provide 1 quart of water per inch of stem diameter. Devices are available that help maintain a constant water level. A tree requires at least 1 litre of water a day!



There are many types of stands to choose from

Find a cool spot in the room for your tree as placing it near the fireplace or a heating vent will dry it out faster and cause the needles to fall earlier than they should. Lowering the room temperature will slow the drying process, resulting in less water consumption each day. Use of lights that produce low heat will reduce drying of the tree. Always inspect light sets prior to placing them on the tree. If worn, replace with a new set.

Always turn off the tree lights when leaving the house or when going to bed. Monitor the tree for freshness. When the tree is very dry, remove it from the house.

Hope these tips will help you choose the right tree, keep it fresh and enjoy the aroma of a real tree! **RW**

Joe

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Chroma Homes Rendering

Chroma Condos Coming soon

Signs for Chroma have been popping up all over the neighbourhood! According to their website, the builder is now registering those interested in purchasing one of the 20 upscale semi-detached homes to be built at Audubon and Fieldgate. There is no indication that a sales office will be set up on site. The development is being marketed as "the quintessential expression of Centra's innovative design." Units will range up to 2200 square feet and are described on the website as "Trendsetting, Beautiful" and Opulent." For details visit condopromo.com/chroma-towns-mississauga/

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