

'MAYOR
MUST GO'

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E.Y. councillors line up against Ford



Madalyn Hamann /// Observer

Hours after Mayor Rob Ford admitted to smoking crack cocaine, protesters gathered at city hall, calling on him to resign. East York's three representatives on city council have all harshly criticized Ford's behaviour.

Mayor has 'discredited the office,' says Davis

By MARK CADIZ
The Observer

The mayor remains in the spotlight, but for all the wrong reasons.

"What matters is the conduct of a person who holds the office of mayor," said John Parker, the city councillor for Ward 26/Don Valley West and once an ally of Ford. "And for the city of Toronto, in my view, the conduct we have seen has been woefully inappropriate."

Councillors Janet Davis of Ward 31/Beaches-East York and Mary Fragedakis of Ward 29/Toronto-Danforth have been equally damning.

Davis, breaking a long silence on Ford's behaviour, told a group of reporters this week that Ford "has lost the legitimacy of the mayor's office. He has discredited himself, the office, this city."

For her part, Fragedakis has been quoted in published reports as saying that the mayor "should take a leave of absence or resign. He should get help."

But so far, the three councillors haven't specifically indicated to what extent they'll join others' efforts to circumvent Ford's mayoral authority if he refuses to leave office.

Toronto Police Chief Bill Blair announced on Oct. 31 that police have recovered a video that appears to show Ford smoking crack cocaine and making racist and homophobic remarks. Then, on Tuesday, Ford admitted that he has smoked crack — but he said he won't resign.

■ See FORD, page 8

■ ENVIRONMENT

Green-friendly worm composting not for faint of heart

By AROOJ YAQUB
The Observer

Slimy, wiggly and squirming are all words that describe vermicomposting, an alternative way to fertilize your crops.

Vermicomposting uses red wiggler worms. The worms eat organic matter or waste at a fast pace and produce a nutrient-rich secretion called worm castings. The feces produced can then be used to fertilize gardens and crops. On Oct. 30, Torontonians shopped and learned about vermicomposting at the Evergreen Brick Works WormShare.

"They're absolutely pivotal for the gardening and the earth, because they break everything down. By doing this we're just mimicking nature's system, recreating it for our own use," said Karen McMillan, a volunteer with the Riverdale Food Working Group. "Clean is a very Western way of looking at things and not the natural system."

Mike Nevin, a part-time com-

poster at Foodshare, says creating a vermicompost is easy, however, daily maintenance of the compost is difficult.

"You need a guiding hand on it, it could be teachers or even a parents' committee or a volunteer like myself," Nevin said. "The trouble is you can set up a compost bin, but if nobody takes care of it, it will tend to attract litter and debris by passersby and even people onsite because it's a place to dump stuff."

Jennifer Franklin, a family studies teacher at Earl Grey Senior Public School, is all for vermicomposting. She says it was easy to implement vermicomposting into her curriculum. Earl Grey teaches eco literacy and is ranked as a Gold Eco School. They maintain their waste by composting, recycling, energy conservation and waste reduction. The school hopes to achieve platinum status in the future.

"My students create waste when they're cooking. I wanted them to see an alternative way of compost-



Arooj Yaqub /// Observer

Volunteers prepare a vermi-composting bin at Evergreen Brick Works' Wormshare on Oct. 30.

ing for fertilizer that we could use in the spring again. This is a way of keeping connection with how things grow and what we eat," Franklin said. "We're turning into a society that goes to supermarkets and buys everything. The joy we get in learning and that you get from growing

is getting lost. Without worms we couldn't grow anything, they complete the cycle."

For now, vermicomposting is still making its way into the mainstream of compost options. You can find more information at <http://ebw.ev-ergreen.ca/cal/event/wormshare>.

COMPOSTABLE
OR NOT?

✓ YES

- Bread
- Coffee grounds and filter
- Egg shells (crushed)
- Fruits
- Vegetables
- Grains
- Pasta (plain and cooked)
- Peanut hulls (no nuts)
- Tea leaves and bags

✗ NO

- Dairy products
- Fats
- Feces (animal or human)
- Meats
- Oils
- Peanut butter
- Twigs

POLICE & FIRE

Vice-principal under arrest

Timothy Fisher, a 49-year-old vice-principal at Danforth Collegiate and Technical Institute, has been suspended with pay after being charged with obstructing police. They allege that a student was wanted on outstanding warrants and that a school staffer was aware of the matter and allowed the student to leave the school before they could arrest him.

Elderly woman struck by car

An elderly East York resident was taken to hospital with life-threatening injuries after being struck by a car on Sunday. The victim was hit around 4:30 p.m. by a car backing out of a driveway in the area of Longspur Road and Parkview Hill Crescent.

~Kaitlin Cluble

WHAT'S UP IN E.Y.

'Tis the season...

A Christmas fair will take place tomorrow, Nov. 9, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at St. Cuthbert's Anglican Church, 1399 Bayview Ave. Get the 'best lunch in town' for \$7.50.

...for bazaars

On Saturday, Nov. 30, True Davidson Acres Long Term Care Facility will host its annual Holiday Bazaar from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 200 Dawes Rd. Proceeds of the event will support residents' programs.

~Rajesh Sammy



Alissa Heidman // Observer

Red Mulberry natural health store (left) now takes the place of what was Leaside's first store and telephone exchange over 90 years ago. The 19th-century Thomas G. Elgie house (right) at 262 Bessborough Dr. is the oldest home in Leaside.

Lights, camera, Leaside

Leaside documentary a labour of love for East York filmmakers

By ALISSA HEIDMAN
The Observer

Anthony Regan and Barry Samuel step into the Leaside library with their filming equipment and ideas.

The love they share for their community has inspired them to produce a documentary titled "100 Years Inside Leaside."

The documentary is aimed at chronicling the last century in Leaside through interviews with influential, longtime residents.

100 Years Inside Leaside will be woven around the life of Walter David Newel, a man who paid the ultimate price for Canada's freedom. He was killed during a training run in the Second World War.

Newel was born and raised in Leaside, and there are memorials of him throughout the community.

Regan says this was not their initial plan, but he and Samuel found their story through Newel.

"We thought it would maybe be of interest to people in the business community, or to even show people what's around the community and it grew and

grew and grew," Regan said.

Bill Pashby, a Toronto lawyer, is a well-known third-generation Leaside resident. He chose to stay in the community to raise his family.

"One of the most interesting things is that my two granddaughters live in the house I grew up in," he said.

Pashby has many neighbours in their 50s that grew up in the houses they currently live in.

According to Regan, this seems to be a trend.

"More and more it's happening in Leaside. People want to stay inside the community and (so) they give their home to their children," Regan said.

Pashby recalls going tobogganing at High Park as a child. It is the same hill where he took his children and now his granddaughters.

"Some of my best memories are in Leaside," he said.

"I think there's been a lot of changes but not any more than any other place."

Regan and Samuel have released a sneak peak of their production.

With growing interest in the project and more interviews to conduct, they don't have an exact release date yet.

In the meantime, the historical community of Leaside excitedly awaits the documentary's debut.



The Lea family moved into this oddly slanted home in the early 1900s. It was once facing James Lea Lane, which disappeared when the modern road system was built.



St. Cuthbert's Anglican Church is the oldest of five churches in Leaside.



For more stories and photos related to East York news, features and events, please visit our website at torontoobserver.ca

Meeting reviews bylaws for street food vendors

Local vendors seeking fair and co-operative work environments

By AMIRUL ISLAM
The Observer

A review of the city's street food vending bylaws is sure to interest both vendors and the general public.

"I want that rules and regulations related to street food vending be fair for every stakeholder," ice cream vendor Peter Baugadis said at

a public consultation meeting at the East York Civic Centre on Tuesday.

Baugadis, who has been selling ice cream for more than 50 years, urged the city to take the concerns and expectations of the public, BIAs and vendors into account.

"I expect that the city would open up the board in Scarborough, Etobicoke and North York because it is a megacity right now," he said.

Hot dog vendor Sofia Alexopoulos is not sure what's really going on.

"I think they (the city) are going

to change something," Alexopoulos said.

She expects a good business environment in which everyone would work together and respect each other.

"I have been selling hot dogs since 1982 and we had problems before," Alexopoulos said.

"But we worked together and we discussed and found a system that is working."

Senior policy and research officer Luke Robertson says the Licensing and Standards Committee wants to

review the bylaws for mainly two reasons — permitting vendors to offer a wider range of food items and assessing how food carts can be made more mobile.

"The proposed bylaw changes will be opened for more consultation in January 2014," Robertson said.

He says everything may be finalized within March 2014.

Consultation meetings took place throughout the city, with the East York meeting being the last of the series.



Lauren LiBetti// Observer

Artist Emilia Jajus says the design she painted on a Danforth Avenue traffic signal box is intended to be transparent, so the box blends naturally into the backdrop of the community.

Artist living 'outside the box'

By LAUREN LIBETTI
The Observer

When the economy took a turn for the worse in 2008, Emilia Jajus jumped for joy. She had been laid off from her financial job on King Street.

"I was jumping up through the roof because now, I said, 'I'm real-

ly going to start painting,'" Jajus said. "You might find it a paradox that in the low of the economy, I started my art business."

Jajus is part of a pilot project called Outside the Box by Street Art Toronto (StART). The

■ Jajus

StART program is based in the city's transportation section, as part of its graffiti management plan, contracting artists, including Jajus, to beautify 20 of the 2,200 traffic signal boxes at intersections across Toronto.

Jajus was born in Poland and moved to Toronto 15 years ago. She didn't think Toronto was a place to earn a living through art. Now, paintbrush in hand, Jajus glides around living her dream career.

"It beautifies the city. It beautifies the community. It makes them talk; it makes them smile," Jajus said while painting the traffic signal box at Danforth and Logan. "It's also educational. It raises awareness that there is art in the city."

This is Jajus's smallest project, but it's no less important to her. She designed the traffic box at Danforth and Logan to be transparent, so it blends in with the fountain and shops behind it.

Lilie Zendel, manager of StART,

says most people don't even notice the grey traffic signal boxes. However, now that they're a form of art, she says they add beauty and character to Toronto's neighbourhoods.

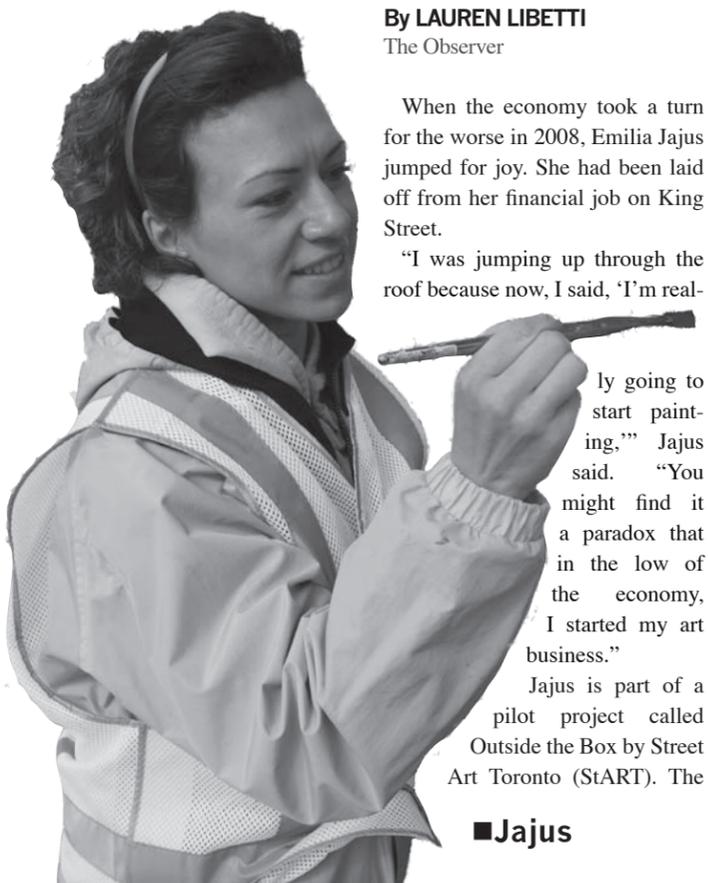
"It's really almost turning the city into this outdoor museum of artwork," Zendel said.

The initial response to the painted boxes has been overwhelmingly positive, she says, which makes her believe the program will only grow in the future.

"It just makes people laugh and have a moment of delight," Zendel said. "And to a certain extent, that's what we really want to do with these boxes."

Jajus hopes East York will cherish, admire and protect her artwork. She says she no longer believes Toronto is just a business city; it's a hub for art as well.

"My husband used to be very, very skeptical. He didn't believe we could add any money to our income," Jajus said. "Now he asks me, 'Can I prime a wall for you?'"



No more cheques by 2016

By JOANNE KAILEH
The Observer

East Yorkers will soon be able to receive government cheque payments in one way only — direct deposit.

The Government of Canada is in the process of phasing out cheques and by 2016, direct deposit will be the only method of receiving any form of pay from the government.

The Direct Deposit Initiative was implemented as a way of saving taxpayers \$17.4 million annually as well as guaranteeing a safe way of receiving payments.

Pierre-Alain Bujold, media relations for Public Works and Government Service Canada, says direct deposit is the best option for Canadians.

"It is a proven, reliable and secure form of payment at the lowest possible cost."

The cost to produce cheques is about 82 cents each, compared to 13 cents for direct deposit.

Bujold said many Canadians are already on board and currently accept payments through direct deposit.

East York resident Reet Sehr, who already receives government payments in direct deposit form, was not aware of the initiative.

"I don't know what they've been doing but, absolutely, there should be awareness built," she said. "I haven't heard about it."

While Sehr does believe it's a good idea, she is concerned about what seniors who are not aware of the change and not using electronic banking will feel about the switch.

"If it's going to save money in the long run it's probably good, but there should be a long phase-in period because there's probably a lot of older people. I'm thinking of my dad who still goes to the bank and get cheques coming home and he doesn't do online banking."

Libraries get ready, get set, get reading

By LUCY ONEKA
The Observer

Through their Ready for Reading program, East York's library branches are introducing children to reading at a very early age.

According to Sandra Lee, a children's librarian with the Toronto Public Library (TPL), special family times have been introduced to highlight the importance of literacy.

"We encourage parents and caregivers to instill in their children these skills before they actually start school because we feel that literacy is so important. If they start early, they will have an advantage," Lee said.

The TPL began putting the program together in 2007. Six years later, it's up and running across the city, including at all East York branches.

Ready for Reading encompasses several resources and activities, with Lee

saying it's not just about family time, but books and literature as well.

"We base our Ready for Reading program on the American Library Association's program called 'Every child ready to read,'" Lee said.

The Ready for Reading program promotes six skills for children: I like books (print motivation), I hear words (phonological awareness), I know words (vocabulary), I can tell a story (narrative skills), I see words (print awareness) and I know letters (letter knowledge).

"If you start them early, familiarizing them with books, rhymes and songs, they will have that interest. When they go to school, they will be ready," Lee said. "They will also enjoy reading and participating."

She added that parents have come back and asked for a specific book that has been used during the program because their child liked it.

"They have a display of books that

parents go to after the program," Lee said, adding that it's important that parents get their children involved in programs such as these because it helps parents interact with other parents and become familiar with others in the community.

Jeni Armstrong, a parent, said her older son participated in family time, one of the Ready for Reading programs. Armstrong now goes with her daughter, Juno. She said it's a chance to get out, meet other kids, meet other parents and do some socializing. Armstrong said it's also a way for her daughter to get familiar with the library building, so that she is excited to go there.

"My daughter and I read a lot at home. Family time is important because my daughter Juno gets to meet other kids as well as other families," Armstrong said.

There are several Ready for Reading programs available for different age groups, from birth to five years.



Lucy Oneka// Observer

Parents and children gather at Danforth/Coxwell library branch for family time.



Army vet paid hefty price for saying no

By SOLEDAD VEGA
The Observer

In the fall of 1973, when sectarian violence was at its worst in Northern Ireland, the British Army asked Ilin Finch to sign on for a full 22-year service — service that would have placed him in the middle of The Troubles, as the violence was known.

“I told them, ‘I don’t care what I have to do to get out, but I’m not going back,’” Finch recalled.

Finch paid a price for his decision. To get discharged, the army demoted him to private and took away his pension.

“Pension-wise, I don’t get anywhere near to what I should be entitled to get, but I can live with that,” he said.

The Troubles had already taken nearly 1,000 lives when Finch opted out.

“Then I heard that the sergeant who took over in my unit (came) back in three days in a body bag,” Finch said.

Ilin Finch, 65, served in the British Army for 11 years and completed six tours of active duty in Northern Ireland when The Troubles first started in 1969.

As a British Army vet living in Canada, Finch has served the Royal Canadian Legion (East Toronto Branch 11 on Dawes Road) for 22 years.

Despite forfeiting his pension back in the U.K., Finch found Veterans Affairs Canada sympathetic to his lost pension.

“I just recently received the cheque, which I’m now going to receive every three months,” Finch said. “I was making up my monthly income on savings, but ... I am a lot more comfortable now.”

Every Remembrance Day, Finch pays his respects at Branch 11. He can’t march in the Nov. 11 observance because of a leg injury, but each Remembrance Day he acknowledges life and death decisions soldiers make.

“Don’t forget the guys and ladies who made this country what it is,” he said. “Their sacrifices allowed me to be sitting here now enjoying my drink in my own legion and still be alive to enjoy it.”



David Kennedy/// Observer

David Morgan (front, centre) has been a member of the Royal Canadian Legion’s Woodbine Heights branch for years, and has served in executive capacities there.

Honouring a brother’s sacrifice

Local man wears beloved brother’s dog tag around his neck every day

By DAVID KENNEDY
The Observer

David Morgan remembers his brother, Edward Morgan, hoisting him onto his shoulders in the family’s backyard near Greenwood and Gerrard one afternoon in 1944.

His brother was in uniform, on leave before shipping out to Europe. It is one of the few concrete memories he has of his brother.

Too young then to understand why, David Morgan remembers a pall falling over his house in the spring of 1945.

Edward Morgan, 19, had been

killed in action March 1 while serving with the Essex Scottish Regiment in Germany.

“I was just six years old,” Morgan recalled. “But it really hit the sisters. Three of them are older... It was bad in the house when it happened.”

Morgan’s memory of his brother inspired him to join the Army Cadets as a boy. As he grew older, he wanted to join the army, but he was underage. In order to serve, he needed a parent’s consent.

“Dad kind of went along with what I wanted to do, but Mom didn’t like it because she’d lost her first-born,” he said.

“She wouldn’t sign, but Dad did. It was good for me because I wanted to do it. I wanted to go.”

Retired Sgt. David Morgan, 74, Toronto Scottish Regiment, served from 1960-1967.



■ Edward Morgan

He relishes the memory of becoming a non-commissioned officer. He completed training in Niagara and at Camp Borden, received his stripes and was stationed at the Fort York Armoury. As a drill sergeant, he trained recruits to become infantrymen.

Morgan remains an active member of Branch 22 of the Royal Canadian Legion in Woodbine Heights.

Once serving on the legion’s executive committee, he is now president of the seniors’ club. Meanwhile, Morgan continues to voice his support for Canadian peacekeepers overseas.

“I’m very, very proud of our boys,” he said.

“I wish I could do that... Those guys are doing a hell of a job. I wish I was there holding their hands.”

Morgan regrets that he himself didn’t have the opportunity to serve overseas.

“I wish I’d have been old enough to go,” he said.

Nevertheless, every day David Morgan wears his brother’s dog tag around his neck in remembrance.

Serviceman helped keep the peace in Middle East



■ Zuber

UN peacekeeping veteran will remember ‘good times and bad’

By CATHERINE MAGPILE
The Observer

The only scar on Peiter Zuber’s body is one he gave himself.

On his left forearm in faded black ink, and now, 50 years old, a tattoo reads ‘UNEF EGYPT.’ Zuber wears it proudly as a veteran of the UN

peacekeeping force.

“My dad (served during the Second World War) and my uncles, of course, his brothers. I guess that’s it... my family, you know... They were all in the service.”

In 1956, Zuber left Canada aboard HMCS Magnificent en route to Egypt. “(Our job was) trying to keep peace between the Israelis and the Arabs,” he said.

For the 18 months he was deployed, he travelled between Egypt and Israel as a dispatch rider.

He drove different machines such as ferret scout cars, jeeps and three-

quarter-tonne trucks to deliver messages.

When his tour ended and he returned to Canada, Zuber remembered his father meeting him when the ship docked.

“My dad took me by the arm... when I came out of the service and he said, ‘I’m in the legion. You’re going to join too,’” Zuber said.

Since then, he’s been a member enjoying the feeling of camaraderie and the community fostered at 9 Dawes Rd.

Youth education co-ordinator Helen Pierce has known Zuber for

eight years.

She considers him one of the branch patrons, and jokes that he can be found walking in at 3 p.m. every day.

“He has sort of made this his home here,” Pierce said. “He’s become our surrogate member, you know.”

Every year she and Zuber go to different schools and community functions to educate children about the act of remembrance.

This Remembrance Day, Zuber knows exactly what he will be doing.

“Sit back and remember,” he said. “The good times and the bad.”



Madolyn MacCallum // Observer

East York residents have been collecting poppies from the Royal Canadian Legion's Poppy Campaign boxes to show recognition and remember Canada's veterans.

Remember a vet, wear a poppy

By MADOLYN MacCALLUM
The Observer

It's that time of year again, when red and black flowers grace the lapels of jackets across the city.

The annual Poppy campaign, hosted by the Royal Canadian Legion, is in full swing at legions around the city including East York's Branch 11. The campaign started on Oct. 25 and goes until Monday, Remembrance Day. It has helped raise money for Canadian veterans since 1925.

Gord Pearce, treasurer at Branch 11, who has been with the branch for 14 years, explains why the initiative is important.

"It does help the veterans. A lot of them are down on their luck and need money," he said. "A lot of them are in nursing homes, which we help support."

Each legion across the city delivers boxes of poppies to schools and stores, where people can donate money before picking up their poppy. Taggers are also scattered around

the city with these boxes collecting money for their various branches. Pearce said Branch 11 raised close to \$40,000 during the Poppy campaign last year. He likes the support the East York community is providing to this year's drive.

"It's very good," he said. "A lot of people are starting to wear poppies."

Pearce said he doesn't know if everyone grasps the poppy's significance, but likes that they still take them, supporting the legion, and thinks the campaign's ads are helping

more people understand.

"There are big ads in the local papers and on the bus shelters across Toronto," he said.

To Pearce, the poppy signifies Flanders Fields, where fallen soldiers were laid to rest during the First World War.

The Royal Canadian Legion says wearing a poppy helps show recognition to the many Canadians who fought for our freedom.

Poppies can be picked up at various locations around the city until Nov. 11, in time for Remembrance Day.

Veteran shares lessons of war with students

By LOUIS PIN
The Observer

Until Robert Raby lowers the East York Collegiate flag at the civic centre on Remembrance Day, he will be working as tirelessly as he does every fall.

"I used to march," Raby said. "There was another fellow who used to do the flag, so they asked me to do it... It's a nice service."

Raby, 80, has visited schools such as Diefenbaker Elementary and St. Brigid Catholic Elementary for over a decade to talk with students about Remembrance Day. Woodbine Heights Canadian Legion often asks him to do the visits and he's more than happy to go where he is needed.

"The kids have to know what goes on," he said. "If they ever get a chance, they should go to Europe and just see the thousands of graves."

Raby, a veteran of the Korean War, comes from a long line of Canadians who've done military service. His niece, Susan, has served in the military for the last 30 years, and was one of the first women to graduate from the Royal Canadian Military College.

Those looking to find Raby in early November will find him at the Eaton Centre. A long-time volunteer for the Poppy Campaign, Raby goes to Dundas Square at least six days a week to ask for donations.

"It's unbelievable, just unbelievable down there," he said. "We couldn't hardly even carry the stuff home (on Friday), the people are so nice to you."

Raby served with the Royal Canadian Regiment in the '50s. He is one of only seven regular veterans at Woodbine Heights. He is a life member of the branch, a testament to his efforts over the last 25 years. During that time, Raby has acted as the sergeant-at-arms, served on the executive board, and as the sports officer.

"(Lifetime membership) is quite an honour," said Muriel Ganny, treasurer for the Woodbine Legion's Ladies Auxiliary. "He's done a lot of work, held a lot of positions."

On Remembrance Day, Raby will be helping like he does every year. He'll talk with the children at school, he'll see people walk by with their poppies, and at the end of the East York parade, he will lower the flag yet again.



■ Raby

'Basically, we're all the same,' veteran says

By SAMIRA MOHYEDDIN
The Observer

On a wall in his one-bedroom apartment on Cosburn Avenue hangs a community service award.

"I got that one when I had the lights put up at the crosswalk at Carlaw and Mortimer Avenue," Jack Aldred said.

Aldred had served as the crossing guard on that corner for 24 years.

Elsewhere on the wall, Aldred, 90, proudly displays a "Dean's Award" from nearby Centennial College.

Born in 1923, Aldred joined the Royal Canadian Navy in 1942 and set sail on the HMCS Prince Robert. He doesn't have any stories about the horrors of war. Instead, he recalls an important lesson he learned serving his country.

"The war for me meant meeting people of all different races and religions and realizing that we should get along. Basically, we are all the same," he said.

After the war, Aldred joined Canada Post and served for 40 years. During that time, he joined the Todmorden branch

of the Royal Canadian Legion in East York.

This past summer, with the help of friends, family and Centennial College faculty and staff, Aldred published a memoir of his own wartime experiences and the stories of other veterans.

"There are only about 15 of us left, so I thought it was important to tell our stories before it gets too late," he said.

Currently going into its second printing, the book has generated enough profit that Aldred has donated money to repair a leaky roof at the legion

building.

This year, Aldred will be commemorating Remembrance Day by reciting John McCrae's poem, "In Flanders Fields," written during the First World War.

Despite being retired from his crossing guard duties, Aldred remains a community activist. When the mail arrives each day, he records the time in his notebook.

"I am keeping a log of what time the mail comes in every day," he said. "(If) it comes too late.... I want to start a petition in the building."

Navigator's D-Day secret stayed with him until after war



■ Joyner

By XUETING ZHAO
The Observer

Mac Joyner kept a secret throughout the Second World War. His final combat operation took him over France on the eve of D-Day, June 6, 1944.

"Our bombing raids tended to last anywhere from eight to 10 hours," Joyner said. "So there

were hours of boredom interspersed with short periods of abject terror."

That night before D-Day, Joyner and his Lancaster bomber crew helped clear the way for the Allied paratroopers as they jumped into Normandy. And as top secret as the D-Day operation was, that wasn't the secret he kept.

Mac Joyner recounted

his wartime experience while selling Remembrance Day poppies at Sunnybrook Hospital just outside of East York.

Joyner enlisted in the air force when he was 18. After 16 months of training in both Canada and Great Britain, he then flew combat operations over Germany to destroy industrial

plants.

Day after day, he and his aircrew comrades flew to the targets 350 to 400 miles away, dropped their bombs and returned to their base in England.

But Mac Joyner's secret turned out to be a personal one.

"I never told my family (I was in combat)," he said. "As far as they

were concerned, in all my letters, I always told them I was still in training. I didn't tell them I was in combat, until after I finished my tour of operations."

When Mac Joyner's younger brother and sister were warm and safe with their parents, listening to them reading letters from him describing his life

in a training school in Canada, across the Atlantic, navigator Joyner was flying 2,000 feet above Germany, trying to locate the night's target.

"I didn't want to worry them," he said.

When the war ended, Joyner knew he could break his silence.

"It was a great relief," he said.



● For more Remembrance Day stories, visit us online at torontoobserver.ca

■ EDITORIALS

Ford must resign

It all started on Oct. 26, 2010, when we elected our mayor. Right after he admitted to an old impaired driving conviction (connected charges of marijuana possession were dropped), we gave Mayor Rob Ford the benefit of the doubt. Was that 1999 misbehaviour a sign that voters should have taken more seriously? In retrospect, yes, but we gave him a chance anyway. OK, to be precise, voters in Beaches-East York and Don Valley West joined other outlying wards in giving him a chance. Toronto-Danforth and the rest of the city centre voted for his opponent, George Smitherman.

Just three months later, Ford looked to prove his supporters right by delivering on two election promises — killing the \$60 vehicle registration tax and cutting councilors' office budgets. May 2011 marked the mayor's victory in a city council vote to go ahead with plans for privatized garbage collection west of Yonge Street to Etobicoke.

Then we first saw the small snowball that would eventually become the avalanche of controversy that has buried Ford.

On Oct. 24, 2011, what seemed like a simple joke by CBC's *This Hour Has 22 Minutes* led to Ford calling police to his home. That small snowball grew quickly in March 2012 when the conflict-of-interest allegations began. Our football-loving mayor used corporate and lobbyist donations for his private football charity.

Ford was ordered out of office; then reinstated on appeal; a defamation lawsuit against him was dismissed... and then fresh allegations of substance abuse: an intoxicated appearance at a gala, another at Taste of the Danforth, another at City Hall on St. Patrick's Day. Most of all: smoking crack and making homophobic and racist remarks in a no-longer-so-mysterious video.

Not to mention what surfaced yesterday afternoon, as this newspaper was going to press: a short, shaky cellphone video of Ford profanely ranting about beating someone to death. Considering the lack of context and the fact that Ford was, by his own admission, "extremely, extremely inebriated," it's hard to know just what significance this has. But there's no indication that he's going to give up his fight to stay in his job.

Make no mistake, however; despite Ford's protestations, his misuse of alcohol and other substances goes back years, and as anyone with a close relationship to a long-time alcohol abuser will tell you, simply saying 'I'm sorry' and 'It'll never happen again' is meaningless.

And let's not forget the other shoes that are waiting to drop. Like more sealed court documents that may see the light of day as soon as next week. Like a criminal trial involving a man captured in police surveillance exchanging mysterious packages with the mayor — including at one of the mayor's young daughter's soccer games.

This man needs help. This city needs a mayor. Not more bad behaviour. Not more lies. If Rob Ford won't take time out to really address his issues — for his family's sake, his friends' and colleagues', and for the sake of the city that he claims to love — then East York's representatives to city hall should join others on council to try to move past him. The proposal by councillors John Filion and Paul Ainslie to strip Ford of his powers to hire and fire members of the city's executive committee is a good first step.

The city doesn't need this circus in the mayor's office anymore. We don't need a leader whose personal problems overshadow and encroach on what should be work on behalf of Torontonians.

But as we join the chorus calling for Ford's immediate resignation, we should remember one thing: We voted for him. And if, in a worst-case scenario, he's still around next Oct. 27, let's show the world that the third-largest city in North America has enough dignity to rectify its past error.

~ James Tessier

TTC transparency

The appointment of a contractor for the Woodbine subway station renovation and upgrade project has been delayed by at least one month. The Toronto Transit Commission says that this setback will not delay the completion of the project. But there may be something going on behind the scenes that should be discussed.

The TTC had a meeting on Oct. 23, at which it was supposed to choose this contractor for the Woodbine station. A total of eight companies bid for the project. The meeting was held in camera and apparently the project was sent to commission staff for further scrutiny.

There could be some technical and financial details that must be scrutinized more cautiously. It is also understandable that the transit authority might need more explanation from the bidders before making any decision.

So why not just explain the holdup, rather than leave us wondering — and imagining worse scenarios? The TTC went through a series of public consultation meetings before giving the project its final shape. Fair enough; as an institution committed to public service, TTC's initiatives should always be subject to reasonable public surveillance.

But for public surveillance to be practical, there needs to be transparency. And, in this case, more transparency than is being afforded here.

~ Amirul Islam

■ COLUMNS

Reykjavik vs. Toronto, a tale of two mayors

A few weeks ago, an elderly lady called into a local radio show in Reykjavik, Iceland and begged the mayor, Jon Gnarr, to resign. She said the mayor acts like a clown and has disgraced the honourable mayoral position.

Gnarr has never admitted to using crack cocaine. His worst behaviour, according to the caller, was dressing in drag for the Reykjavik gay pride parade.

His 2010 campaign gained international attention because Gnarr, a known comedian in Iceland, ran for mayor originally as a joke. The people of Reykjavik took well to this joke; his "Best Party" got over 34 per cent of votes, winning the party six seats on city council.

Now the good people of Toronto have an important decision to make. If Mayor Ford continues to insist on remaining in office and run-

ning for re-election — as he claims he will — then we have the luxury of democracy to decide that we don't want him as mayor anymore. Just as the citizens of Reykjavik wanted a funny man to run their city, we can say no to our not-so-funny man.

As it turns out, it was Gnarr himself who was the elderly lady that called into the radio show.

The impersonation was his way of telling the people of Reykjavik that he does not intend to run in the next elections.

Next year, Toronto will not be the only city to have mayoral elections.

The people of Reykjavik will head to the voting booths as well. The biggest difference between the two elections is that the majority of people in Reykjavik will be sad to see their mayor leave.



Naomi Grosman

Olympic clothing: who really benefits?

The start of the 100-day countdown to the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympic Games saw the release of the uniforms to be worn by Canadian athletes.

Hudson's Bay Company (HBC) unveiled the red, white and yes, black outfits that will be shown off during the opening and closing ceremonies, as well as around the Olympic village and when our athletes stand on the podium.

Perhaps just as notably, the uniforms were unveiled 56 days before Christmas — in just

enough time for people to get excited and purchase them as gifts.

A sly marketing ploy by HBC? Not at all.

Of course, this will provide the company with huge revenues as Canadians quickly scoop up the merchandise, especially more of those iconic red mittens.

During the 2010 Vancouver Games, HBC was able to sell more than three million pairs of mittens, raising more than \$9 million for the Canadian Olympic Foundation (COF).

The COF provides athletes with funding so they can receive the type of

training that allows them to represent our country at the highest level.

HBC creates new mittens every year but the ones sold during an Olympic year are the big sellers.

The more they sell, the more money becomes available to our athletes.

And this year, we can expect more sales. HBC has included infant sizes as well as red mitten pins.

HBC is in the business of making money and, yes, they are doing so through some exploitation of Canadians' nationalistic pride and our desire to support our athletes.

But can you blame them?

At least they are helping our athletes compete and are giving us something to cheer about.

So even if HBC makes a fortune with our money, they give back where the money should be going — to the athletes that we, as purchasers, are hoping to support.



Taylor Giffin

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Talking brings change

I found the column written by Ali Raza ("Poverty is to blame," Oct. 11) very interesting. I agree with it fully, as I believe that one should not associate the action of individuals or a small group with the belief system of a whole nation.

But this is what's happening through popular media. Probably that's what brings them readership and viewership.

It's a vicious cycle that we and they are following, which doesn't seem to break easy.

But writing about it, talking about it and feeling the need to change something will bring that cycle to an end sometime. Or at least minimize the effect.

People like you are helping by bringing it out. Thank you and keep writing.

Ayesha Ahmed
Victoria Park Avenue

Article captured 'essence'

I was pleasantly surprised to see the article about my late father on the Observer's front page ("He loved planes, family and Cookie," Oct. 25).

Samantha Bridges really captured the essence of my father and the tone in the article was perfect, in my opinion.

A big thanks to you and your editors for taking the time to talk with my mother and me.

You did a great job and my family and I are very grateful. You have a wonderful sensitivity and I am sure you will be very successful.

Marlene Kadin

Editor's note: We welcome your input. You can visit us in rm. 149 of the East York campus of Centennial College, 951 Carlaw Ave. Or you can address correspondence to The East York Observer, Centennial College, East York campus, P.O. Box 631, Station A, Scarborough, ON M1K 5E9. Telephone 416-289-5107, fax 416-289-5111, e-mail c/scogan@centennialcollege.



Alissa Heidman // Observer

Strutting their (sweet-sounding) stuff

Students in the new music program at Centennial College's East York campus are holding regular Wednesday concerts in the Carlaw Avenue building's lobby area. Here, Zackary Beaudoin sings, accompanied by guitarist Valentina Morelli.

Need a pressure cooker?

Kitchen Library stocks everything from appliances to fondue sets

By LAUREN LIBETTI
The Observer

From juicers to chocolate fondue sets, the Kitchen Library is offering patrons the ability to cook, or bake, like a celebrity chef.

For \$50 a year, you can 'check out' appliances for up to five days at the newly opened non-profit.

Dayna Boyer, a senior web and copy editor at George Brown College, came up with the idea while volunteering at the Toronto Tool Library.

"I'm really passionate about cooking and food in general," Boyer said, "so the Kitchen Library really hit home for me as an idea."

Ryan Dymont, founder of the Toronto Tool Library, jumped on Boyer's idea and even offered her space in the Tool Library's east-end location, at 1803 Danforth Ave., near Coxwell.

The Tool Library and Kitchen Library share a roof, and sometimes customers too.



Lauren LiBetti // Observer

Members can rent expensive kitchen equipment, from juicers to chocolate fondue sets, at East York's newly opened Kitchen Library.

"The Tool Library is getting much more successful as a result of the Kitchen Library being here," Dymont said, "because it's a phenomenal program that's go-

ing to bring in new faces to our space."

Boyer says Dymont provided invaluable mentorship and prevented her from experiencing some of the same

early hiccups as the Tool Library. Eventually, Boyer hopes to get exclusive storefront space so there's room for cooking workshops and classes. She says she also wouldn't mind having the help of volunteers.

"It requires a certain amount of passion for what I'm doing in my spare time in order to have the energy and drive to keep going with it, even when I'm exhausted," Boyer said, "but there's no lack of passion with the Kitchen Library."

Boyer added there is a 'sweet spot' for identifying items that would be good in a library. Expensive items that you don't use all the time, like camping or gardening equipment, are ideal.

"It doesn't just have to be kitchen appliances, tools and books. It can be all sorts of things," Boyer said. "So we'll hopefully expand through the city over the next couple years and help a lot of other people start similar projects."

Boyer and Dymont both described the two libraries as part of a sharing economy, similar to the popular shared car movement.

"It also empowers people because now they have access to things," Dymont said. "I think there's a wealth in sharing."

Video series good for you

By SEYOUNG PARK
The Observer

Medical experts are reaching out to the public, one video at a time.

The Toronto East General Hospital (TEGH) Foundation launched the What's Up, Doc? online video series to communicate with residents and supporters. The informative videos offer tips on health issues and answer the public's health-related questions.

"The launch of What's Up, Doc? is about setting a new standard of patient care and making sure our residents are informed," said Teresa Vasilopoulos, president of TEGH Foundation.

The first video of the series features Dr.

Rajiv Singal, head of the division of Urology at TEGH, in time for Movember.



■ Singal

In 2012, he raised \$46,000 for prostate cancer care. He was the number one fundraising physician in Canada and the seventh worldwide. Singal stresses the importance of awareness and discussion.

"What we really want to do is promote awareness and we thought it's a good video to start with for that series because it's Movember," he said. "It's just a way to engage people on what to look for, what risk factors are for prostate cancer and how to start a dialogue with family members and with their doctors."

The videos are not an alternative to doctor's appointments. The purpose of the series is to provide information and encourage viewers to get a proper diagnosis.

"There's often a lot of confusion among both the public and family doctors in terms of how to look for prostate cancer and what the risk factors are," Singal said. "The starting point with men is to be aware and hopefully have the ability to ask the right questions when they go and see their doctor so that they can be evaluated properly."

Viewers are encouraged to submit their health-related questions online. The online question form and videos can be found at foundation.tegh.on.ca/WhatsUpDoc

Ford won't budge

Cont'd. from page 1

Apparently running for re-election next fall with the slogan, "Ford more years," the mayor maintains that after his admissions and apologies, it's business as usual, even when many of his fellow councillors are calling for him to step down and get help for alcohol and other substance abuse.

Meanwhile, investigations into his activities and associations continue. At press time yesterday, a new video surfaced. It appears to have been secretly recorded and it shows Ford profanely ranting about beating someone to death. There was no context. Ford hastily addressed reporters, saying only that he was "extremely, extremely inebriated" when the recording was made.

On the streets of East York, an

unscientific sampling suggests that opinion seems to run generally against the mayor.

"Having somebody who is not able to demonstrate integrity on how they behave and how they treat the citizens of Toronto and having us support that person in office is very damaging to the city," said one East York resident, Esther Laquer.

Although city politics has been compared to a circus recently, East York councillors Parker and Davis, along with some of their colleagues, say they'd like to turn their attention back to governing the city.

"The way to build a stronger city is not to focus on what Rob Ford is going to do next, but to focus on what we are going to do next," Vaughan said.

YOUR SAY

Was Ford's apology enough for you?



Therese BEAUPRE

'Not at all. I think he's morally and ethically corrupt. I don't believe an apology is going to change the behaviour he's exhibited over the past three years. I think he should be out of office. I think we should have a recall.'



Andrea HORNING

'When you apologize, you only reveal half the sin, so I think there's more to come. I would like to hear that he wants to get some help for his problem and then the city can decide for itself.'



Harry HASOULAS

'He's the face of our community, of our city. A city of almost four million people. People believe that he's saving us money — the five or \$10 he's saving us on taxes — but the amount of tourist dollars that it is detracting is far away from what he's saving.'



Stella WATTERS

'I don't have a reaction. There are other issues that are more important to think about that we should be focusing on.'

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL



Lacing up for some football

The Danforth Tech Hawks block off the Bulldogs, while visiting Winston Churchill in Scarborough. The Hawks lost the game, but put up a fight until the very end.



Madolyn MacCallum /// Observer

Distinguished artist's works at Todmorden

By LUCY ONEKA
The Observer

The work of Chinkok Tan, one of Canada's distinguished artists, goes on display tomorrow, Nov. 9, until Monday at the Todmorden Mills Heritage Museum and Arts Centre on Pottery Road.

Tan has won many awards for his unique style of painting, with the first one coming at age 15. He was living in Malaysia at the time.

"The first time I won the award, I felt so high," Tan said.

Now 72, Tan started painting at the age of nine. He says he has always loved painting despite his parents' objections.

"It's all I wanted to do. When something is your calling, you just have to do it," he said.

Tan came to Canada in 1967 and has since sold many of his art pieces. He is also an educator, teaching at the Ontario College of Arts and Design University. At the OCADU, Tan teaches students how to paint with the "seeing brain."

He says many universities have failed to teach students to think creatively. For example, in order for an artwork to be painted the right way, there should be an ability to comprehend what they see. Artists should also know shapes and light values.

"Everything appears in shapes and light values. It is a method of seeing and painting," says Tan, adding that these are the secret to great artworks.

"A lot of famous artists practised these methods or they wouldn't be able to paint in such a unique style."

He says art, as a subject in schools, is very important because it gives a person many skills.

"There are many things that a human being must possess; common sense, logical and analytical ability. Art gives you all those skills," Tan said. Removing art from the curriculum therefore, he says, is a bad idea.

Tan has also published many books. The latest is *Watercolor Basics: Shape and Light Value*. It teaches his unique artistic methods.



Courtesy of Chinkok Tan