

Hot-N-Ready  
**Medium Pizza**  
 (Pepperoni)  
**\$5.55** plus tax  
*Everyday*



Little Caesars®

INSIDE:	
Editorial	6
Contest	13
In Good Taste	14

Connecting Kitchener's Communities

# Community News KITCHENER

...your community newspaper

April 29 - May 13, 2009 • FREE • Bi-weekly circulation: 62,500

**FEATURE PICK!**



**Beautiful Westmount**  
 \$825,000 • MLS • 51 Huntley Cres.  
**JACK FITZGERALD, Sales Representative**  
 519.885.0200 • jackfitzgerald@remax.net



Remax Twin City Realty Inc. Brokerage

645 Victoria St. N. Kitchener (519) 744-3111

**natural sound**

www.natsound.com

**Outdoor Speaker Sale**  
 starting at: **\$199.99/pr**



**Paradigm YAMAHA**



**THIS ISSUE:**



Ringette is more than just a game for the Kitchener Wildcats Girls



Landscape Ontario's Earth Day Makeover of J.W. Gerth School

**NEXT ISSUE:**

**All "fore" golf**



**WIN FREE GOLF PASSES!**

Watch for the Kitchener Community News and City of Kitchener's golf promo in our May 15th issue



With screwdriver in hand, three-year-old Kasey Livingstone gets ready to build a bird house at the KNAP Earth Day activities. Story on page 16

## Civic District

### The message is clear: "Go Big or Go Home"

by Julia Browne

Kitchener has come one exciting step closer to realizing its vision for a dynamic, revitalized Civic District. If all goes according to the Vision and Master Plan revealed at the Open House on April 7th, the area bordered by Queen, Frederick, Ellen and Weber streets will be transformed into a delightful mix of urban green space and grouping of arts, cultural, civic and educational venues.

The Open House displayed the outcome of two years of surveys, focus groups, public meetings with community and neighbourhood associations, and design brainstorming initiated by partner groups Kitchener Public Library, Centre In The Square, Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery and Registry Theatre. The specific purpose of this viewing stage was to double check that City Planners had understood and were implementing the wishes of the public.

What the public demanded was "Go Big or Go Home" - imaginative, innovative places to learn, walk and play, and enjoy culture and entertainment.

The City responded with design guidelines that aimed for flexible use buildings, bold architecture, well-landscaped pathways, green spaces and urban squares, and the use of top quality materials. Those guidelines became the basis for a charette process which brought together 40 - 50 members of the community with design professionals.

"What we've come up with," says Jamie Grant, General Manager of Centre in the Square, "is dreams of what it could be; if you don't

► see Civic District, page 4



**Fun at every turn**  
 with standard Symmetrical All-Wheel Drive

SUPERIOR JAPANESE ENGINEERING FROM

**\$20,995\***  
 4-DOOR MODEL



5-door model shown. From \$21,895\*

4-DOOR MODEL  
 LEASE PAYMENT FOR 24 MONTHS

**\$199\* | 0.9%\***

\$1,899 DOWN  
 FREIGHT, PDI AND TAXES EXTRA

2009 **IMPREZA 2.5i**



**SUBARU**

**GEMINI MOTORS**  
 26 Manitou Drive  
 Kitchener, ON  
 Tel 519.894.2050  
 www.geminimotors.com

"a downtown common place"

24 Gaukel St  
Kitchener

519-745-5282

Receive a **FREE Small Coffee** with the purchase of a **Breakfast Sandwich** (with this ad)

**Jamiesons**  
Pool Tables Bought & Sold SINCE 1929

- New and used
- Billiard Tables • Darts
- Sales & Service
- Shuffleboards
- EUREKA Vacuums  
Commercial & Domestic



Tel: (519) 745-4053

jamiesonbilliards@hotmail.com

103 Ontario St., S.,  
Kitchener, ON N2G 1X5

## TODAY IS A GOOD DAY

TO KEEP BUILDING FOR A POSITIVE FUTURE

Financial and investment advice. I can help.



Elaine Mortensen

Bus 519-744-7325 ext 234

elaine.mortensen@sunlife.com

www.sunlife.ca/elaine.mortensen

22 Frederick St., Ste. 400, Kitchener



Mutual funds offered by Sun Life Financial Investment Services (Canada) Inc.  
© Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada, 2009.

Connecting our communities

Next issue May 15

Call 519 748 6006 for ads and editorial

**Aquascapes**  
Recreational Contractors

From Concept to Completion

**POOL OPENINGS FROM \$305<sup>00</sup>**

D2-550 Parkside Drive  
Waterloo

519.886.8751

**DOWNTOWN GAZZ BAR**

24 Gaukel St., Kitchener  
(One Block from City Hall)

**SPECIAL OFFER**

**\$10<sup>00</sup>**  
TAX INCLUDED

**BBQ #20 REFILL**

Reconditioned Propane Tanks  
\$39.97 taxes in & filled!

Open Sunday's



ONE COUPON PER VISIT

519.742.8100

# Still time to nominate for Salute to Seniors

Tell us a story in 75 words. Tell us the story of that senior or adult 50+ you know, who is active in their community, or who is setting an example for others by the unpaid work they do.

That's the invitation of the Mayor's Advisory Council for Kitchener Seniors (MACKS) and the City of Kitchener as they seek nominations for the annual Salute to Seniors celebration on Thursday, June 18, at 7 p.m., at Kitchener City Hall Rotunda.

Deadline for nominations is May 11.

"It amazes me every year, not just how much the honourees do for others, but also how our communities would suffer without their participation," says Mayor Carl Zehr. "It's an inspiration to me, and it's obvious others around them feel the same."

Salute to Seniors recognizes all nominees, not just a select few, but honourees are selected on a first-come, first-serve basis. Nominees can be individuals, groups or teams, and candidates must be

aged 50 and older, and have contributed to improving their community through their actions or initiatives.

Salute to Seniors takes place Thursday, June 18 at 7 p.m. in the Rotunda at Kitchener City Hall. The event is free but seating is limited to the honourees and their guests. Refreshments will follow the ceremony.

For more information visit [www.kitchener.ca](http://www.kitchener.ca) or call 519-741-2507.

### Background

MACKS provides a representative voice for seniors in the Kitchener community. The group advises city council on issues related to seniors in our community and provides a link to local, provincial and national senior organizations. MACKS promotes the positive image of adults 55 years and older in our community and recognizes their contributions by organizing the Salute to Seniors annual event.

## Civic District - from page 1

have dreams, you don't get what you want."

One plan envisioned a raised building that connected the various buildings; others saw that joining element as a podium, pathway or urban space with shops/mews on either side. The common ideas have been encapsulated into a final master plan.

That plan can now progress to attracting new partners and users into the district, including educational.

"If there's a university or college program that's somewhat related, outlines Cory Bluhm, Urban Investment Advisor for Kitchener's Economic Development, "we'll see if we can't find an educational partner to bring programming to the spaces."

Revitalizing the Civic District has been on the books since the 1960s.

"The visions were quite dramatic," says Rod Regier, Executive Director of Economic Development for the City of Kitchener, "straight out of the Jetsons – quite ambitious and futuristic, with no cars on the surface."

Back then, as today, underground parking is a major component to the quality of life in the downtown district. While budget restraints didn't allow for its realization 50 years ago, a consortium has been formed between the province, region and the library board to design a 400-space, 3-level subterranean facility under KPL and topped by a green space.

Overhauling KPL is first on the agenda. The 1962 building will be completely renovated and expanded by 25,000 sq. feet, further enhancing it as a major technology and education hub. Its CEO, Sonia Lewis, emphasizes the library's part of the whole.

"The goal is to make this district a destination," she says. "People will come and visit the library

and other experiences like concerts and cafes but there can be many other things at this point because we're still in the visioning stage."

The selection process for an architect should be finished by June, with construction slated to begin summer 2010.

The Centre in the Square's Jamie Grant is looking forward to sharing mutually beneficial amenities, including the possibility of a hotel.

"If someone says they are coming for the library or art gallery, they discover Centre in the Square and vice versa. So what we need is a confluence of people so that the district can be animated 365 nights a year. That's the hope."

Included in that mix of people should be working artists and arts organizations, says Martin de Groot, Executive Director of the Regional Arts Council. Also project manager for the region's network of arts organizations, de Groot welcomes the Civic District development as a means of bringing the area groups together.

"All of them exist as if in isolation, yet all within walking distance, but they might as well be one hundred miles apart," he says.

The timeline for completing the Civic District can be compared to the multi-generational process, similar, says Rod Regier, to great works in cities such as Milan. With five to six projects on the table, each taking five years from conception to completion, the adventure will be in watching the transformation of Kitchener's core.

The public can still comment on the Vision and Master Plan or request placement on the mailing list for upcoming surveys through Penny-Lynn Fielding, Manager of Strategic Planning and Projects, at [pfelding@kpl.org](mailto:pfelding@kpl.org).