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Chinese Year of the Monkey

If you were born in the Year of the Monkey, you are wise, skillful and physically fit, even into middle age.

This year will bring you a good love life with harmony and romance.

Also, you are good at earning and saving money, unless you are quick-tempered.

This sometimes hinders monkeys from being successful, so if this is you, please learn to be patient!

1944, 1956, 1968,
1980,
1992, 2004, 2016

THINGS TO DO AT THE KORTRIGHT CENTRE

MAPLE SYRUP FESTIVAL

Sugarbush Maple Syrup Festival	Maple Syrup by Lamplight	Maple Syrup Festival & Easter Egg Hunt
March 5 - April 3	March 12 & 19 7 pm - 9 pm	March 25 - 28 10 am - 3:30 pm
Enjoy demonstrations, pancakes and real maple syrup! Special March Break and weekend activities.	Taste real maple syrup, learn about maple syrup production and enjoy a warm fire-side treat by the campfire.	Participate in the Maple Syrup Festival and bring your basket to search for Easter Eggs in the forest! Easter themed activities offered all day
<i>For more information visit MapleSyrupFest.com</i>	<i>Advance tickets required.</i>	Kortright Centre 9550 Pine Valley Drive, Maple, Ontario
Click here to go to their website		

Things To Do:



Festival of Beer

April 24th - 25th

Admission \$30

Includes: 5 Sampling Tokens & Commemorative Festival Mug

Must be 19 years or over

Sherbourne Common 61 Dockside Drive



Canada's largest garden & flower show

March 11-20 Enercare Centre

TORONTO'S NOSTALGIA & VINTAGE TOY EXPO

SUNDAY MARCH 6TH

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE HALL 6

6900 AIRPORT RD., MISSISSAUGA

ADMISSION \$10.00

CIRQUE ZIVA

Golden Dragon Acrobats present

Cirque Ziva

Apr 15 - Apr 18

Tickets \$39 - \$59

Click picture for info



Be Sure to Like Us on Facebook!

Are you planning a trip?

The Public Health Agency of Canada has published a notice about the **Zika Virus**.

In 2015, the Zika Virus was reported for the first time in Central and South America as well as Mexico.

Recently, a few Canadians got the virus while travelling in these areas.

The virus is spread through mosquito bites. The virus is of great concern to pregnant women, or women who are planning to become pregnant. More information can be found at this link:

<http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/phn-asp/2016/zika-eng.php>



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

STARTS ON SUNDAY MARCH 13.

Clocks move forward 1 hour that night. This is also a good reminder to test your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors.

MARCH BREAK IS MARCH 14-18

There were links to some things to do during the break in the January/February newsletter. Click [here](#) to go back to them.

DID YOU KNOW...?

Level 1 (Beginner)

Labs are sporting dogs from Canada. They are very friendly. They like the water and they like to fetch.



Click the picture to watch a Lab catch a lobster

Level 2 (Intermediate)

Labrador Retrievers were first bred in Newfoundland and Labrador to help English fishermen in the 1500's. They were trained to carry nets, get ropes and retrieve fish out of the cold ocean.

Level 3 (Advanced)

The Labrador Retriever dog breed was first bred in Labrador, Canada, to aid fishermen. They also helped lighthouse keepers rescue those drowning from capsized boats. The Lab is a very popular family pet. They are obedient and devoted. They are good with children, and other pets. In addition, they are used as retrievers for hunters, as an assistant to people with handicaps and as search and rescue dogs. They are the most popular breed of dog in North America.



Nowruz is the Iranian New Year. It takes place on **March 20, 2016**. In the days leading up to Nowruz, spring cleaning will take place, new clothes will be purchased and food and sweets are prepared to serve to family and friends that visit on Nowruz day.

In Toronto, on the eve of the last Wednesday of the year, ("Red Wednesday"), the **Iranian Fire Festival** takes place at **Mel Lastman Square**.

EASTER



Christians will celebrate Easter from **Good Friday (March 25) to Easter Monday (March 28)**. Schools and some businesses will be closed on these 2 days.

Good Friday marks the day Jesus Christ died. Easter Sunday celebrates when he rose from the dead after three days.

Other traditions have developed over time. Easter has become a time when the Easter Bunny visits homes. Children believe that the Easter Bunny comes to their home the night before Easter Sunday, to deliver a basket of candy and chocolate to them. These treats are often in the shape of bunnies or eggs. Sometimes the treats are hidden and children have to search for them. This is called an **Easter Egg Hunt**. Very Fun!

Other traditions include decorating eggs with colourful paints and joining with family, attending church and having a special dinner.

Every year, the St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Toronto hosts a Good Friday procession. It is a reenactment of the walk Jesus would have taken to his crucifixion.

Honda Opening Weekend April 9th!
A fun Blue Jays Family Afternoon Out!



SINGLE GAME TICKETS

Click on **Marcus Stroman** to get tickets for a **Blue Jays Baseball Game in Toronto!**

MORE THINGS TO DO:



High Park Toronto
The first cherry trees at Hillside Gardens in High Park were a gift to the people of Toronto from the people of Tokyo in 1959. There are also 30 trees on Centre Island south of the bridge near the fountain – a 10 minute walk from the ferry docks. Follow the Sakura blooms by clicking the picture above

The Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO) has fun activity days every Sunday. They are included in the regular admission fee.

Click on the logo to go to their website.

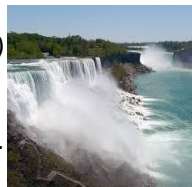


The **Canadian Opera Company** presents a series of **free** concerts in the **Richard Bradshaw Amphitheatre of the Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts**



Click on their logo for a full schedule.

*A once in a lifetime event could be taking place at **Niagara Falls**. The 2 bridges to Goat Island (U.S.A.) need to be replaced. This may be done by stopping the flow of water over the American Falls for 5-9 months. This would be done using a temporary dam. The earliest this would happen is in 2019.*



WHAT'S HAPPENED SINCE OUR LAST NEWSLETTER? *English Matters:*



Photo courtesy of Mrs. Koyama

Provided an excursion to the Distillery District in Toronto for Sara-sensei and students



Helped a student research schools in the Toronto District School Board. *Check your school's rating:* <http://ontario.compareschoolrankings.org/>

April 1st is "April Fools Day"

In many Western countries April 1st is called April Fools Day. It is a day when people play jokes on each other, or try to trick their friends and family.

A simple trick would be to leave the bathroom door slightly open. Put a small plastic cup filled with confetti on top of the door. When someone opens the door, they will get covered in confetti!

Have fun, and don't get fooled!!!



On **April 30th 2016**, Toronto will welcome Iran's legendary diva **'GOOGOOSH'** live, in concert at the Ricoh Coliseum. Click picture for ticket information.



CANADIAN HISTORY & CULTURE CORNER

Here is a guide to the images you see on Canadian paper bills.



Has a picture of Canada's first French Canadian Prime Minister Wilfrid Laurier. The other side shows various Canadian winter sports.



Has a picture of Canada's first Prime Minister, and founder, Sir John A. MacDonal. The other side is a salute to peacekeeping.



Has a picture of Queen Elizabeth II. The other side has aboriginal artwork by the Indian sculptor Bill Reid.



Has a picture of William Lyon Mackenzie King. He was Canada's Prime Minister during World War II. The other side is a picture that honours the Canadian suffragette movement, (the fight to give women the right to vote).



Has a picture of Sir Robert Borden. He was Canada's Prime Minister through World War I. The other side is a tribute to Canadian exploration and cartography, (the production of maps).

The Bank of Canada produces all Canadian money. The Bank of Canada has announced that in 2017, it will issue a new bill to celebrate Canada's 150th birthday.