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WEST EDITION

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'Yes' to his dresses

Vaughan bridal salon owner promises TV show emotion

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Top rookie, again

Wiggins voted top young western conference player

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NHL bound?

Marner selected to play in top prospects game **PAGE 18**



DANCING FOR FITNESS

Trained dancer Lori Hannah Rybak is like many young moms, wanting to keep fit and active. She started her own daytime classes for others wanting to enjoy adult dance sessions. See page 5.

Chilly, tough decision: indoor or outdoor recess?

BY KIM ZARZOUR

kzarzour@yrmg.com

It's Canada and it's recess time. Do you know where your children are?

If they attend public or separate schools in York Region, chances are good this week they were hunkered down indoors.

The first week back at school has been frigid and if you walked your kids to school or to the bus stop, you've known it — maybe even drove them in the car, instead, or at least bundled them up in layers for extra protection.

But recess is another matter. The decision

whether or not your children will brave the elements in the playground is determined on a school-by-school basis, and with temperatures in the deep freeze, many schoolyards this week were left vacant, frozen tundras.

In York Region, public and separate school boards provide basic guidelines on extreme weather, but leave the decision on outdoor activities up to individual schools.

Most families are used to the annual winter toss-up over indoor or outdoor play. Some parents, recalling their own tough winters as kids, push for outdoor recess as a chance to let their kids stretch their legs, breathe fresh air and experience Canadian winters.

Others worry that the cold is unhealthy, with frostbite or icy playground falls looming

Adding to the quandary — York Region is a diverse place, geographically and demographically, from the multicultural, urban-like communities to the south, to windswept lake communities and farmland to the north.

With fluctuating weather extremes and dif-

See **PARENTS** page 10

Holiday parties dim your smile?

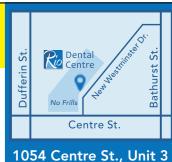


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Thornhill's Lori Hannah Rybak enjoyed the variety of adult dance classes available in Toronto. When the trained dancer moved north of Steeles Avenue, she found few such offerings, and decided to teach daytime dance classes to adults like herself. wanting to stay active.

> STAFF PHOTO/SUSIE KOCKERSCHEIDT

Thornhill mom dances for fitness and fun

BY SIMONE JOSEPH sjoseph@yrmg.com

Lori Hannah Rybak raises an arm, gesturing to the ceiling. She shifts her head side to side as she launches her body into another series of dance moves.

"Yes," says Susie Kockerscheidt, the photographer. Snap. Snap. Snap.

"This is very good for my positive outlook today," says Hannah Rybak, a professionally trained dancer. "I don't usually have someone standing there while I am dancing saying 'Yes!'

Hannah Rybak dances and trains at Wonderland Dance Company in Thornhill Square Shopping Centre (Bayview Avenue and John Street).

She launched her company Dancified – Dance Classes for Grownups — offering dance classes for adults, both beginners and professionals — in October.

They are a mix of exercise and dance, something she found missing in Thornhill after she had her own two children.

She has taught all ages and levels, but enjoys teaching dance to adults the most.

"Adults aren't there [in class] because their mother made them," says the Ottawa native, who has lived in Thornhill for nine years.

She trained at the Broadway Dance Center in New York and Giordano Dance Chicago.

She has taught contemporary, jazz, tap, ballet, lyrical, hip-hop, musical theatre and other genres.

When she had children — a daughter in 2004 and a son in 2006 — she took a break from dancing. Wanting to stay active, she looked for a fitness class with dance elements, but had a tough time finding anything that suited her needs.

She used to live in downtown Toronto and had found many adult dance classes in the city from which to choose. However, she says Thornhill lacks such offerings.

She found that the gym classes and odd exercise class that incorporated dance were very repetitive, she says, and learned that others felt the same way.

She was determined to change this.

"I have the ability to do something about this," she remembers saying of starting her own dance program. "I found my mission."

Dancified offers a wide variety of daytime dance programs, such as Hip Hop, Dancer Fit, Lyrical Mix and even one program called Heels.

You can drop in to a single class for \$15 and many programs started up again this week after the holiday break.

Today, on a Monday morning over the winter break, Hannah Rybak dances a mix of routines she makes up on the spot, as well as dancing some numbers she already knows for the photo session.

"Let's see if I remember this," she says suddenly.

Springing forward, she dances to the song Show Me How You Burlesque from the movie Burlesque, recorded by

GOOD TO KNOW:

Classes offered at Thornhill Square Shopping Centre; most classes start this week.

Go to dancified.com for details or email dancifiedinfo@gmail.com

Christina Aguilera. Next, she switches on the Van Halen song Jump and launches into moves that look more like ballet. It's an odd combination of dance and song, but somehow, it works. She spins her body round and round.

"It would have been a better show 10 years ago," she quips.

She turns 40 in April, but says she certainly doesn't feel it

"Dancing keeps you young and fresh," she says, also giving credit to her children for keeping her active.

"I am also a mom to two awesome kids who laugh at my car dancing daily."

She admits she often dances through the grocery store to music on her iPod, not caring if she gets strange looks.

She also easily laughs at herself and her failures — at the fact that by age 7, she had failed miserably at piano, swimming and gymnastics.

It was only when her older sister took dance and she decided to try it as well that she found her passion. While her sister took jazz, she took tap as her first class, because it was the only available one at the same time as her sister's.

"Once I went into that studio, that's all I did."



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public meeting to receive input on the following planning application will be held on: JANUARY 13, 2015 AT 7:00 PM

VAUGHAN CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBER (2nd Floor)
CITY OF VAUGHAN
2141 MAJOR MACKENZIE DRIVE
VAUGHAN, ONTARIO, L6A 1T1

PROPERTY: City-Wide (All Wards)

APPLICATIONS: To amend the general parking provisions in the City's Zoning By-law 1-88, specifically to permit parking to occur on a hard-landscaped walkway adjacent to the driveway in the front or exterior

side yard of a residential lot (on frontages 6 metres and greater). The intent is to allow opportunity

to provide additional parking on the lot.

APPLICANT: City of Vaugh FILE NUMBER: Z.14.041

CONTACT:

Additional information may be obtained from Stephen Lue, Senior Planner of the Planning Department at 905-832-8585, Extension 8210. Comments may also be mailed to the Development Planning Department at the same address, or faxed to (905) 832-6080, or e-mailed to DevelopmentPlanning@vaughan.ca prior to the meeting (please quote file name and number).

The Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.P.13 authorizes the City of Vaughan to collect any personal information in your communication or presentation to City Council or its Committees. The City collects this information to enable it to make informed decisions on the relevant issue(s). If you are submitting letters, facsimiles, e-mails, presentations or other communications to the City, you should be aware that your name and the fact that you communicated with the City will become part of the public record and will appear on the City's website. The City will also make your communication and any personal information in it such as your address and postal code or e-mail address available to the public unless you expressly request the City to remove it.

The City audio records Council and Committee meetings. If you make a presentation to a Council or Committee, the City will be audio recording you and City staff may make these recordings available to the public.

JOHN MACKENZIE, Commissioner of Planning PAUL JANKOWSKI, Commissioner of Public Works JEFFREY A. ABRAMS, City Clerk

NOTE: The Provincial Planning Act provides that:

Zoning By-law (O. Reg. 545/06):

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the City of Vaughan before the by-law is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the City of Vaughan to the Ontario Municipal Board.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting, or make written submissions to the City of Vaughan before the by-law is passed, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Municipal Board unless, in the opinion of the Board, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

If you wish to be notified of the passing of a Zoning By-law, you must make a written request to the City of Vaughan, City Clerk's Office, 2141 Major Mackenzie Drive, Vaughan, Ontario L6A 1T1.



PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Intention to Amend Building By-law 232-2005, as amended Building Permit Fees and Housekeeping Amendments

Take notice that the City of Vaughan will consider housekeeping amendments to the City of Vaughan Building By-law, in order to align it with the current Building Code and to provide for increased fees for certain classes of building permits and their administration.

The Finance, Administration and Audit Committee meeting will take place on Monday, February 2, 2015 at 9:30 a.m. in Committee Rooms 242/243, 2nd Floor, 2141 Major Mackenzie Drive, Vaughan, Ontario L6A 1T1.

This notice is published as required by the Building Code Act, and Ontario Reg. 332/12, as amended. In the event that the Committee chooses to refer or defer consideration of this matter, no further public notice will be given. The public may obtain the information outlining the changes to the existing fees through the Building Standards Department at no cost.

Advance registration is not required to speak to the Committee, however written comments should be received by the City Clerk's Office at the address below no later than two hours prior to the meeting.

Dated January 8, 2015

Jeffrey A. Abrams, City Clerk 2141 Major Mackenzie Drive Vaughan, ON L6A 1T1 Telephone: 905-832-8504 clerks@vaughan.ca