



longbranchinsight

longbranch insight ☘ summer 07 vol.I issue 2

Welcome to the second edition of the *Longbranch Insight e-paper*.



Our very own design & 'green' issue. In our summer issue the topic is taking in the heat, in style!

Toronto is such a diverse city and our little nook of South Etobicoke is a small scale version of that diversity. Last issue we invited you to dance the night away at the [First Note](#) fundraiser, presented by [Lakeshore Arts](#). Well, this summer you can draw or write the summer away with the [Waterfront Trail Artists](#). We are fortunate to have not one but two great arts organizations in our midst.

If you are not so creative yourself, don't worry there are plenty of creative types down here to help you ease into summer, from [Jakeb Tyler's](#) design shop to [Kim Child's Chip Chic Golf](#) accessories. And, if you really are too tired, too busy (or too lazy - ah come on admit it), then heed [Anne Martin's](#) advice, pick up some great wine or drop into [Cozy Thai's](#) and start enjoying your summer on the lake!

Send your comments or submissions to longbranch@healingmuse.com

care of **MONIKA MEULMAN**, EDITOR



design with summer in mind

in this issue...



Designing locally with downtown Flare at Jakeb's

Fitness with a Twist with our very own Dojo

Anne Martin deciphering your summer wine lineup

Waterfront Trail Artists - create
Kim Child is seeing Green

birds bees flowers & trees

Jason and Ken are two of the nicest guys you will ever meet. They own Jakeb Tyler's on Lakeshore, one block west of Islington. They also make shopping for gifts, home décor, and party supplies easy and fun. Jakeb Tyler's design shop is in the heart of Lakeshore Village. If you haven't visited them yet, you sadly missed out on some wonderful gift ideas, thus far. Not only do they help you figure out what items would work best for your last minute party gift, they will gift wrap it for you as well.

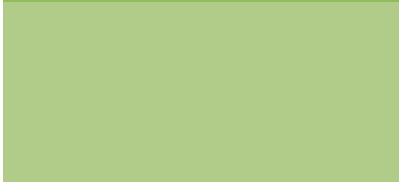
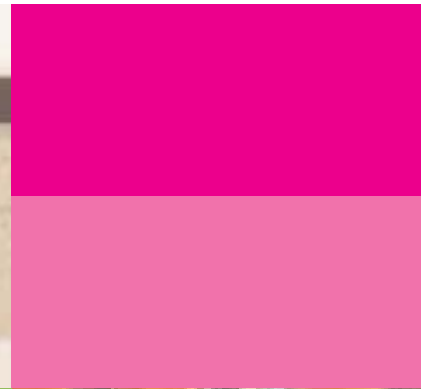


My faves are the gardener's tool bag, huge collection of salsa & drink mixes, and of course for recording summer memories, cloth covered photo albums.

So, the nosy body that I am, I wanted to know how they chose their location. Jason used to live in South Etobicoke, and his parents still live on 17th street. It took Jason and Ken 2 years to finalize the store details, and in 2005 they opened up their doors.

The small town feel is undeniable - notes Jason. Most customers they know on a first name basis and they go to great lengths to please ~~me I mean~~ their clients. The customer service includes custom wrapping, gift baskets and special event (hint: your wedding) décor. The biggest surprise has been their shift in design. The store started out in a monochromatic style and morphed into warm browns, themed décor and larger variety of styles.

If you really want to make a green statement with your home design, pick up the tall dried grasses, faux corals and wicker box planters. There, that's our green design issue suggestion. But, if you go just for the martinis book and daiquiri mixes, Jason and Ken will be just as happy to see you.



jakeb tyler
home décor & gifts

2977G Lakeshore Boulevard West
Toronto, Ontario, Canada M8V 1J8
416.259.8973 jakebtyler.ca





Naka Ima Aikikai – what does that mean?

Three years ago, my eight-year-old son knew. He noticed the sign one day when he was out in the car and told us later that there was an **Aikido Dojo** in our neighbourhood. I had practiced Aikido 15 years ago and had talked to my children about it. I had enjoyed the combination of self-discipline, respect to others, the physical challenges and the personal satisfaction I gained as I learned the techniques.

Aikido is a defensive Japanese martial art. You blend with your opponent's attack, using circular movements to redirect their force into a throw or a pin. I had wanted to enroll my children in **Aikido** but the dojos (training centres) were all too far away to be practical. The next day, we picked up a flyer and I called the Sensei (head instructor) **Greg Angus**. He invited my two sons for a trial class. **Naka Ima** had recently opened and my children were the first students for the children's class during the week. Both boys enjoyed practicing **Aikido** and three years later, my now 11-year-old son still practices **Aikido** and is working on his next belt. Why is he still doing it? He is having fun. He enjoys his classes and he is proud of his own accomplishments as he learns new techniques and improves upon them. He likes to tell people he has the best sword stroke in his class.

city to do it. It is too easy for children to spend hours in front of the TV or computer. This gives them an alternative that they enjoy. The children's class has grown over the 3 years from a very small group to a now very active group of children. There is also a range of ages and abilities, which is great to see. The children, both boys and girls, range from age 5 to 12.

After my children started practicing **Aikido** each week, just watching them was too much for me – I wanted to be on the mats with them. I joined about 3 months after they did! **Aikido** is great for the whole family. The dojo is now offering special beginner introductory classes on the first Thursday of the month. These classes make it easier for both adults and children to try something new.

“He likes to tell people he has the best sword stroke in his class.”

Article by Joanne Yano

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From my point of view as his mother – I like the fact that the dojo is right in our neighbourhood and easy to access. It makes it possible to attend up to three times a week and we don't have to go to another part of the

So, if you are still wondering what **Naka Ima Aikikai** means, check them out!

3138 Lakeshore Blvd West
416.259.4320
www.nakaima.ca





drinks are on us*

*entertainment guide



Drift ashore with anne martin



Anne Martin believes that wine tasting should be fun and accessible.

"My goal is to get people interested and excited about wine," says Martin. "I'm constantly surprised to hear so many people

say they are intimidated by wine tasting. I try to dispel any pretense about wine and make it a truly welcoming, interactive experience."

As a certified sommelier with over 25 years of experience, Anne Martin became one of the first female sommeliers in Toronto, at Prego della Piazza, and went on to serve as head sommelier at the highly regarded Canoe Restaurant and Bar. Martin is also a qualified chef, bringing a holistic approach to wine and food.

With the launch of her own company, Anne Martin Wine Services, she now shares her expertise and passion with beginners and serious collectors alike. Anne Martin Wine Services offers wine education, consulting and tastings for both private individuals and corporate clients.

Anne Martin Wine Services is located at:

38 THIRTEENTH STREET TOR ON M8V 3H4
tel 416.850.9713 cell 416.357.0584

THE SOPHISTICATED CAT'S GUIDE TO BUYING WHITE WINE (on a budget) PART IV

Cono Sur "Vision" Sauvignon Blanc '05, Casablanca Valley, Chile 14.75 (684522) Vintages

It's refreshing to drink good Sauvignon Blanc from regions other than New Zealand that deliver the zingy, fruit-forward fix that we've all become addicted to. And at a better price. Perfect with a goat's cheese salad or as an aperitif.

Château Etang des Colombes '05, Corbières, France \$17.95 (30700) Vintages

Grenache Blanc, Macabeo and Bourboulec – if you've never heard of these grapes, try this wine and get turned on to some new friends. This lovely, restrained and dry wine is perfect when you're tired of in-your-face New World styles and you need a white that will go perfectly with summer fare (not BBQ'd steak - think lighter dishes). I had it with lamb Navarin and was very happy. It even stood up to artichokes.

Margan Semillon '04, New South Wales, Australia \$17.75 (961516) Vintages

I mentioned in an earlier newsletter that Aussie Semillon was the hot

white to look out for; this incredibly well-made and delicious white starts out a little shy on the nose and explodes in your mouth with wonderful ripe melon and peach notes. Quite complex and definitely worth trying.

Viré-Clessé Vieilles Vignes '04, Mâconnais, Burgundy, France \$19.75 (17715) Vintages

From the part of Burgundy where whites rule, this crisp Chardonnay with enough well-balanced fruit to flesh it out, is a perfect remedy for those who have been exhausted by too much oak. Come back to Chardonnay. A summer's day picnic with a roast chicken or seafood.



Those of you that do wish to receive more info for shopping purposes, e-mail me directly at annewine@rogers.com and I'll send you my picks from recent reviews. Feel free to pass along the Anne Martin Wine Services newsletter to friends. To receive this newsletter on a regular basis, please contact me at: annemartinwine.com





drinks are on us*

*entertainment guide



Yalla Cafe

Michel is the man to see if you are hungry. He is sweet, accommodating, and will present you with tasty pickles, pickled beets, hummus and flat bread practically as soon as you walk in the door...

Michel and his wife own this authentic Lebanese cafe and you'll be fluent in no time. Just tell him you want to learn some words and he'll even write them down for you. In other words, you will feel right at home at Yalla.

The falafels and tabbouleh are my favorite but then I love food, so you'll have to figure out what your favorite is.

I hear it is the monthly meeting spot for LEGS - Lakeshore Environmental Gardening Society (and they love to eat and talk!)



Yalla Cafe
3106 Lakeshore Blvd West
Etobicoke, On, M8V 1L2
(416) 259-9199

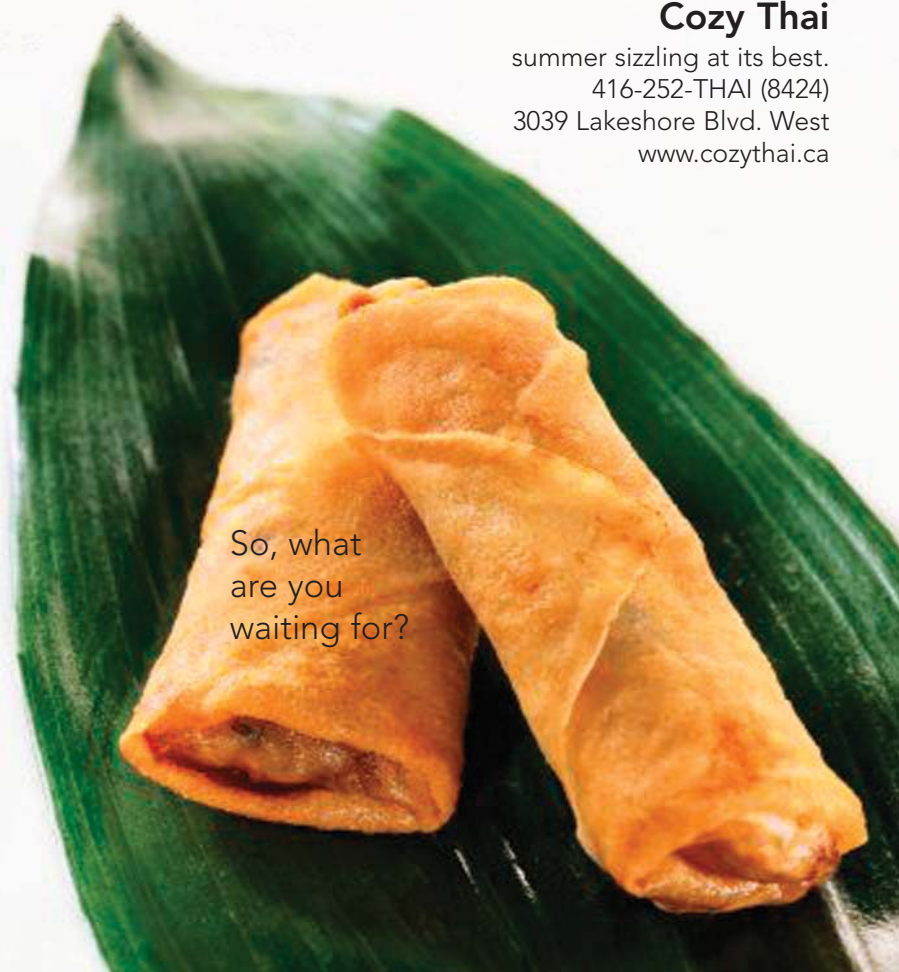
Where east meets west

I recently, finally, went to Cozy Thai for a treat. And a treat it was. The soothing waterfall was a complete surprise. Yes, they have a waterfall at the back of the restaurant. Now, that is a great way to cool off in this heat. But, I digress. The food is creative, inventive, an art in itself. So, it has a well deserved spot in our design issue. The following is an excerpt from their website.

"We love cooking and feel eating is not just to consume," says Scott. "It's a science and an art in the Thai culture." And it's a chance to bring the family together to talk and share experiences, he added. Scott says customers will recognize half of the items on his menu as famous Thai dishes, with the other half being more unique to Toronto. Hence the Cozy Thai saying: "Alike But Different Cuisine."

Cozy Thai

summer sizzling at its best.
416-252-THAI (8424)
3039 Lakeshore Blvd. West
www.cozythai.ca



So, what are you waiting for?



what's next?

A place where local announcements can shine



artwithheart

The Waterfront Trail Artists life drawing group are exhibiting their work at the WTA storefront gallery at 2979 Lake Shore Blvd.

The opening was Friday, June 15 and the exhibition continues until the end of June.

The life drawing organizer, Walt Ruston (right) is well-known for his mural artworks, two of which are in the Lakeshore, and there are many professional and hobby artists in the Lakeshore who enjoy their weekly life drawing nights.

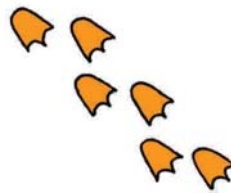
For more on summer courses, art classes and events contact:
Wendy Lilly
Artistic Director, Waterfront Trail Artists
www.trailart.org
(416) 259-9597

where art thou?

You see them every day as you drive home from work, walk to the lake or run up to the grocery store. It's all part of the longbranch landscape...

This is a new section for you to prove how well you know our area. The first three readers to email us, with the 3 correct places will each win a gift certificate to one of the businesses featured in our paper.

Happy hunting.



Mural: Tiffany Zuefelt

an accessory you'll never outgrow



Kim Child is seeing green, lots of it.

A few weeks ago, over coffee, and after a garden tour, I was ushered into a different kind of green office: turf green. With all this political talk about the environment on the news, it was refreshing to speak with Kim Child, the owner of Chip Chic Golf.

Among all the business owners in our area, she has got the greenest job of all. She creates fun & inventive hand bags out of the green outdoor carpet also known as astroturf.

Her passion and strength for design were honed in the film industry, where she

worked as a costume designer. I know what you are thinking: is there anyone that doesn't work in the film industry down here? But back to Kim and her green business.

Her idea of creating a green Canada is refreshing as well. For every bag you buy, Chip Chic Golf donates portion of the proceeds to Tree Canada, a tree planting foundation (www.treecanada.ca).

She is young, talented, and local - is there a better way to go green?

Kim Child
Chip Chic Golf
75 Thirty Fifth Street
P 416-503-3498 www.chipchicgolf.com



we've got mail



What a lovely e-paper. Great to have interesting eateries highlighted; keep it coming.

You might be interested to know that I'm a member of Friends of Sam Smith Park, and am spear-heading a committee to bring an outdoor nature education center and possible arboretum to the meadow near the Power Plant building. Will keep you posted!
Cheers,
Susan - Longbranch

I think your newsletter is such a great idea and it looked very polished and well designed.

Some local businesses and groups I really like are: Sweet Olenka's (Gem recipient), The Waterfront Trail Artists Community Art Centre (Gem recipient), LA Salon and Naka Ima Aikikai - a martial arts dojo teaching Aikido to children and adults. I would love to see them featured in an upcoming issue.
Joanne - New Toronto

Thank you for taking the effort to produce Long Branch Insight, we are interested in hearing about decent places to have a coffee or a bite to eat...just like Tatsu and Birds & Beans. We also would like to hear about where middle aged young at heart people can meet for a drink (or coffee)...without the smokers out front & profanity inside. We no longer take friends for a walk along our part of The Lakeshore...we stick to the lake. We have stopped shopping for anything along Lakeshore from Second St to Kipling in New Toronto (sad stretch of dollar & 'cash now' stores to go with the bars)...your new suggestions look like our kind of places!

Thanks, we look forward to future editions
Charles - New Toronto

Paul and I have lived in this neighbourhood for over 30 years and have seen the positive changes and are looking forward to more. We meet so many people through our business and we have come to realize that this community boasts some very interesting people...both past and present. We've discovered that local residents are fiercely proud of their communities and we need to speak more about this local pride.

I'm the current co-chair for "Friends of Sam Smith". You may have read about us in the news. We are a group of concerned citizens and local neighbours who came together last summer because we care passionately about the "Jewel on the Lake", our local park known affectionately as Sam Smith...Today we are known as "Friends of Sam Smith" and have organized ourselves as a permanent community advocacy group.

The Lakeshore has so much to offer, with its diversity and wonderful people, we only need to get out and meet each other and enjoy these warm sunny days. Your newsletter will keep people talking to each other! Keep up the good work!

Regards, Angela Giraudy

Hi,
A friend of mine just recently sent me your first e-publication. I thought it was fabulous.
I also live in Long Branch and enthusiastically support business along the Lakeshore. (I love Tatsu's especially.)
Cathie - Longbranch

Did you know?

"The Lake Shore Road was first opened through the township in 1804 but because of the few settlers and the large grants of land and the little statute labour available, the road was of necessity continually being repaired and re-opened!"

The History of Etobicoke - Centennial Year 1850-1950
by Robert A. Given





Did you know?

“St. Agnes’ Church stands in the centre of the village of Long Branch at the north edge of what was once a “gated” summer community called Long Branch Park... Around 1919 much of the area of Long Branch was an arboretum. People built holiday cottages among the trees in the quiet resort beside the lake and nearby farms.”

A Community of Caring -
The Story of
St. Agnes’ Anglican Church,
Long Branch 1919-2004




Imagine that wonderful, historic building being used as an interpretative center for just such a venture – maybe a partnership between both boards of education, Humber College, the city and the conservation authority to promote understanding and stewardship of our precious natural habitats and the life they sustain. It is easily accessible by public transportation and there is definitely a lamented shortage of outdoor education centers. Why not a Humber Arboretum South to expand the successful

the million dollar question – the Sam Smith Vision...

programming of Humber Arboretum North, with a local emphasis on shore and wetland plant species?

The City could run water programmes in the bay area of the park with canoeing, kayaking courses being taught here for west-end youngsters to attend instead of having to go to Harbourfront or Center Island. That programme could be expanded to include nature study elements. Speaking about the meadow south of

the Power House, De Baeremaeker said, “The highest and best use of that small plot of land is as a natural area such as a butterfly meadow that will add to the biological diversity”. Imagine just that. Plant varieties that attract a range of butterfly species, including endangered ones; interpretative signage like that at Humber Bay park to help youngsters identify and learn about species like the monarch butterflies that gather in large numbers at Sam Smith for their incredible

journey to Mexico; maybe that same meadow could also accommodate much needed tree swallow nesting boxes built and maintained by local students. The possibilities are endless once we get beyond the idea that only a certain kind of activity can be conducted in that space. 

Million Dollar idea submitted by Angela Giraudy - on behalf of Friends of SamSmith
Photo by Monika Meulman
The Power House, at Sam Smith Park



longbranch
album 
june '07



clockwise from top:
shoreline cruise with sophia (bottom of 23rd),
forrest&geese (marie curtis park)
power house trail (humber college)
greener skies (the last of lakeview generating station)

Did you know?

"One of the earliest grantees in Etobicoke was Colonel Samuel Bois Smith of the Queen's Rangers who received about 4,150 acres of land extending from the lake almost to what is now Bloor Street and from Kipling Avenue to Etobicoke Creek.

This almost undeveloped tract proved itself to be somewhat of a hindrance in the early development of the township.

The History of Etobicoke
Centennial Year 1850-1950
by Robert A. Given

