

# COMMENT

## Now & Then



The Georgetown Train Station was constructed in 1858 by the Grand Trunk Railway. The station was acquired by Canadian National Railway when the GTR assets were transferred in 1923 and later became a VIA Rail station. GO Transit service began in 1978. Then photo is from 1908.

Then photo credit *Esquesing Historical Society*  
Now photo credit *Amy Douglas*



From our  
readers

### A YOUNGSTER

Maryanne Nolan sent in this  
photo of a young cardinal in her  
backyard.

Have a photo you  
want to share?

Email with details please to  
[cvernon@metroland.com](mailto:cvernon@metroland.com).

## Putting it all away

For the most part, most people love the Christmas season — you know, the great food, fellowship and reunions with family members we don't see every day.

But after that last eggnog is consumed, and final platter of turkey or roast beef is served well there is one aspect of the holiday season that always makes me want to drag my feet.

It's cleaning up and putting away all those decorations.

After hosting the Brown family gathering on New Year's Day (with 27 family members at Brown Farm) once they left, there were numerous loads of dishes, pots and pans, etc., that made their way through the dishwasher.

At 9 p.m. Jan. 1, the dishwasher was purring away on its umpteenth load, and The Sidekick and I sat down to talk about the 2016 holiday season over a glass of wine.

The general consensus was The Sidekick and I agreed we had never been so far behind on all our preparations as this year.

We made a pledge to each other that it WILL NOT happen again next year.

(I use the words "made a pledge" but all you guys out there know what that means — she has spoken — it will happen.)

This year was a case of too many things happening at home, as well as too many commitments with family, church and municipal duties.

Our Christmas decorations were minimal, and we really lacked the spirit. The tree went up Dec. 22 — that's how bad it was.

So she was right — ain't gonna happen again.

Jan. 2 was take-down day, when everything was pulled from the walls, and piled in the living room where it was to be packed and returned to its rightful place until next year.

Packing away decorations is exhilarating for me — no more tripping over that old Father Christmas, or fiddling with a stubborn light bulb that refuses to stay lit.

We have a bunch of those Rubbermaid storage containers in which we pack up the decorations.

Most have lists written on the side of them, sort of an inventory of what is inside — not always accurate, but at least a guide.

I stripped the tree of ornaments and lights, garland and any other things hanging from it, and dragged it out the front door and rolled it down the hill, away from the house.

It's so symbolic!

A quick run over the floor with the vacuum cleaner and the job was done.

We packed it all away, dragged them downstairs to the basement and stacked them in a nice orderly pile of Rubbermaids.

That's it, said The Sidekick triumphantly. All gone for another year!

You know how you finish a job like that and days or weeks later, a non-conspicuous Christmas ornament/figurine or some other

candle suddenly pops up, not noticed in its location?

I walked into the downstairs bathroom, and there, resting in the window over the toilet, right at eye level, was a small framed photo of Santa, checking his sack of toys.

Carrying the photo out to the living room, I had to suppress a smirk, and I waved it in The Sidekick's face.

I thought you said you'd put everything away, I said. Looks like you missed this Santa geez, and he was quite conspicuous in the bathroom window.

The Sidekick, in her typical shooting-from-the-hip style, came back with, Well, he might be conspicuous to you in that window, when you're in the bathroom, but I don't as a rule face that window when I'm in there.

So the decorations are stored, the house is spotless and the good china and cutlery are washed and put away. All is well, and now I can sit back and enjoy winter.

Until, of course, it snows some more.



TED BROWN

Visit our showroom  
**Buy Wise**  
WINDOWS & DOORS  
• your window & door professionals •  
341 Guelph St., Unit 3 Georgetown  
905.873.0236  
www.buy-wise.ca info@buy-wise.ca  
• awarded readers choice 26 times •

Furnace Air Conditioning Gaslines Boilers Water Heaters Radiant Heating  
**Brooks** 905-877-3100  
Heating & Air.ca  
Local Experts You Know & Trust  
**NAPOLEON**  
proud local dealer of Canadian made products

**Speedy Glass**  
We handle all insurance work.  
• Truck Accessories • Upholstery  
• Heavy Equipment Glass  
• Window Tinting  
354 Guelph Street, Georgetown  
905-873-1655