

Police officers ratify deal

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York Region's police officers have ratified their contract with 85 per cent of officers accepting the deal that came just weeks before conciliation was set to begin.

Ballots were counted on Friday at about 1 p.m. with non-uniformed personnel ratifying the deal at the higher rate of 91 per cent.

Although the details of the contract were not been released to the public, we do know it comes more than half a year after the last collective agreement expired.

This is not the only positive sign of peace among the police union and York Regional Police Services Board, chaired by Frank Scarpitti.

Phil Shrewsbury-Gee, the association secretary, said although the job action union members began at the end of June will continue, it has been scaled back.

"The association and senior executive of YRP have been conducting ongoing meetings to address members ongoing concerns," he said in an interview. "There's been a committee of members struck to deal with issues We're pleased to advise that communications with the executive have been very productive and a number of concerns raised by our members have been addressed. We're hopeful any outstanding issues will be resolved amicably in the near future."

However, he added members continue to wear badges and T-shirts in "support of members and the community."

The news comes weeks after yorkregion.com obtained statistics showing tickets doled out by cops dropped 66 per cent from last year in the three weeks after the work action began. Conversely, warnings to drivers rose steeply.

"We appreciate the collaborative approach that led to a successful agreement," Scarpitti said in a media release.

BACK TO SCHOOL...

As Evan is on vacation, presumably with his feet up and his trademark Caesar in hand, the weighty responsibilities of writing the ad and holding down the fort have fallen to me (Thomas). The weather may still be insufferably hot and the trees may yet have to shed their leaves, the beginning of September marks the end of summer in many ways. Our part time staffers go back to their universities, and the store is once again flooded by Montessori children on their lunch, the routine is upon us. We've selected items for this week ad geared towards students stocking up to go back to university or for parents looking to make healthy and tasty bag lunches for their progeny.

A MORE DELICIOUS MEAL PLAN

Back in my fledgling days as a freshman at Western, I came across a discovery that would deplete my meal plan faster than the polar ice caps. There were certain restaurants that accepted meal plan cards which served beer. Needless to say my meal plan was exhausted in record time and they have since modified the rules. I had the good sense to purchase a chest freezer and generous, (though displeased) parents who were willing to stock it with a bevy of grocer wares so I would not starve while continuing to diligently focus on my studies.

So I've selected some of my favourites that got me through those months of rationing. We'll have **Chicken Noodle Soup, Beef Barley Soup** and our vastly underrated **Cream of Cauliflower Soup**. **Reg. \$8.95/900ml.**

And for more substantial offerings, we'll have the individual portions (why would you ever share?) of **Doreen's Shepherd's Pie, Meat Lasagna, Beef Bourguignon** and my personal favourite, the **Mac and Cheese**. Available in 4"x5" foil

25% OFF THIS WEEK

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"EAT HAM"

Second only to being told that I bear a striking resemblance to my father (jury's out whether that's a compliment or not), the most common feedback I get is how excellent our ham is. The inevitable next question is what brand we use, which always gives me a little laugh, as we have been boning out hams and smoking or roasting them since day one. To this day it's a massive part what we do.

The day I bought *was given* Evan's old Volvo with the ridiculous licence plate "EAT HAM", I became an official spokesperson for all things cured pork, lest I run the risk of being viewed as a harsh critic of the Semitic diet. We make two varieties: smoked **Black Forest Ham** and our signature **Maple Sugar Ham**. Both will be available for slicing at the deli, making packing your kid's bagged lunch a total no-brainer. **Reg. \$2.99/100g**

25% OFF

WHAT'S COOKIN' AT THE DELI!

Once again proving that good taste and good health aren't mutually exclusive, we've made a **Kale and Feta Quinoa Salad** with black beans, peppers and tomatoes in apple cider vinaigrette. **Reg. \$2.99/100g**

1/3 OFF

Chances are if you've come to the store you've heard **Dez** in our bakery (even if you've never seen her)! This next soup is her creation, a **Lemon Chicken, Orzo & Rapini Soup**, always a hot commodity when we serve it at the café. **Reg. \$8.95/900ml**

Next up are **Chef Simon's Korean Cocktail Meatballs**, tender balls served with sliced onions and peppers in a homemade teriyaki sauce. **Reg. \$7.95/4"x5" container**

Our **Beef Stroganoff** is one of Doreen's old recipes that we wouldn't dare mess with. We stew slices of beef blade in homemade stock, onions, garlic and mushrooms, a touch of Worcester sauce and thickened with flour. Serve over egg noodles or mashed potatoes. **Reg. \$10.95/4"x5" container**

Our Sous vide special is a grilled **Chicken Breast in a porcini mushroom sauce**. I desperately wish we had made these when I was at school. You just boil water, put the bag in for 10 minutes, cut it open and enjoy a restaurant-quality meal. The perfect thing to get for culinary-challenged university students leaving the summer roost. **Reg. \$4.99/100g**

25% OFF THIS WEEK

Lastly, we'll have chef Kulam's homemade **Raspberry Balsamic Dressing**. Not overly sweet, just the right amount of acidity! **Featured at \$3.99/250ml**

WE'LL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY LABOUR DAY

P-PIZZA- PIZZAZZ

As she has trouble seeing over the counter, some of you may never have met our amazing Pizzaiolo, Linda. Her good nature and humour, outdone only by her impeccable palate and advanced cooking technique. She taught me everything I know about making pizza pie. She's making a **Hot Italian Bolognese Pizza** with perfectly seasoned crumbled sausage, parmesan and mozzarella atop a homemade tomato basil sauce. Available cooked here or to take and bake. **Featured at \$10.95**

PEACH BASKETS

Some of my earliest memories involve just sitting with my mother in the kitchen, while she sliced these beautiful local peaches into a bowl with the smallest sprinkle of sugar on top. I could eat and eat and eat them and never get full. Though decades have passed and I'm a few inches taller now, all it takes is one bite of an Ontario peach to take me back to my childhood. We'll have large baskets for **\$4.99 THIS WEEK**

WELSH BROS' CORN

My roommate, Hons, was born and raised in Simcoe, Norfolk County, and since he's moved to town he claims to be the best export from the area! I beg to differ though, as the **Welsh Bros' Corn** we have year after year definitely has him beat out for that title. Always meticulously trimmed, tight rows of juicy, sweet kernels; their product is the best corn in Ontario, no question. **39¢ /COB**

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

We thought we'd make a play on our popular **Chicken Bacon Sandwich** this week and transform it into a **Chicken Caesar Sandwich**. Instead of mayo, we'll use our housemade Asiago Caesar Dressing, grilled chicken, strips of smoked bacon, a sprinkling of Asiago, slices of field tomato and lettuce. **\$7.99**

For Sunday Brunch this week **\$11.95** will get you your choice of **Beef Stroganoff, Roasted Chicken Breast in a Sundried Tomato Sauce or Penne Carbonara**, with your choice of side, a soup or salad, a coffee and a dessert. Best deal in town! **Served from noon till 2 p.m.**

MARINATED CHICKEN BREASTS

On a student budget I bought bulk packs of frozen bone-in chicken thighs, so when I'd bring these up I was in for a real treat. Our most popular variety is **Maple Mustard** marinade, but we will also have **Teriyaki** and after some meddling by me, our homemade **Jack Daniels BBQ Sauce** or au naturel. Stock up! **1/3 OFF**

CHEESE, PLEASE

Well, if we're featuring both our hams and our favourite rye, we would be remiss not to include a cheese to go with. Is a ham sandwich really a ham sandwich without cheese? Simply, no. So our cheese queen, Caroline, will be making up **combo packs of sliced cheese** with **Cheddar, Swiss, Gouda, Havarti, Provolone**, all the usual suspects to make great sandwiches for fantastic school lunches. **1/3 OFF**

CHORIZO SAUSAGES

Very spicy, only for the brave of heart! Actually, it's not that hot, but certainly has some kick to it. I enjoy mine grilled, served with steamed rice and the Stonewall Kitchen's Chipotle Ketchup. **25% OFF**

LOCAL ROMAINE LETTUCE

Our friends from Singh Farms in Holland Landing provide us with the freshest veggies at great deals all summer long, and the real jewel of their offerings is their romaine lettuce, always tight, gigantic heads. Perfect for a salad, or how Evan likes it - cut in half, drizzled with oil, slapped on a hot grill for a minute and then covered in blue cheese dressing. **Now 99¢ /HEAD**



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