

January 2025

# PORT PERRY PLACE

Port Perry Place, 15941 Simcoe St, Port Perry



**Adopt a Rescued Bird Month**

**Mentoring Month**

**International Creativity  
Month**

**New Years Day**  
*January 1*

**Resident's Council**  
*January 8*

**Entertainment with Bill**  
*January 11*

**Special Lasagna lunch**  
*January 15*

**Entertainment with Terry**  
*January 23*

**Entertainment with Yvette**  
*January 23*

**Belly Laugh Day**  
*January 24*

**Entertainment with Keith**  
*January 29*

**Chinese New Year**

## How can I enjoy winter in Ontario?

You can enjoy winter in Ontario by getting out into nature and taking in the beauty. The scenery can be beautiful when its covered in snow. part in some snow sports – there are some easier ones like snowshoeing and cross-country skiing, and if you're up for more of a physical challenge – downhill skiing, snowboarding and ice skating.



Embrace the season with snow-based activities like tubing, ice skating and a polar plunge if you dare! Meet legendary mascots, admire ice sculptures, get cozy at outdoor fire pits and attend light festivals that brighten up long nights. Warm up with delicious food and hot drinks and toast the day with a glass of Icewine.

Many of Ontario's winter carnivals take place outdoors, so dress warmly and in layers to stay comfortable.



## The Language of Touch

The ingenious system of raised dots that are “read” through the fingertips by the blind is known as braille and is named for the Frenchman Louis Braille. As a student at the National Institute for Blind Youth in Paris, Braille loved to read and craved a wider variety of books. His mission was to create a new alphabet for the blind, and, at age 15, he developed braille. January 4, World Braille Day, celebrates his achievement and his birthday.

Braille based his alphabet on a secret military code developed by Captain Charles Barbier de la Serre for Napoleon’s French army. This code of dots, known as *écriture nocturne*, or “night writing,” was a way for soldiers to communicate silently and without a light at night. Barbier visited the Institute for Blind Youth in Paris to present his system. Braille quickly mastered Barbier’s system, discovered its flaws, and developed his new system. When he presented his improvements to Barbier in person, the old army captain was incredulous and offended. History, however, has proven Braille’s contribution to be as important as Gutenberg’s printing press.



Please join us the first Wednesday every Month for the Resident’s Council meeting.

President- Peter J.  
Vice President – Joanne S.

## Family Council

Port Perry Place is inviting all family members to join us and be a part of the family council. Interested parties, please contact Family Council Head Chair.

[Gerrylantomasi@gmail.com](mailto:Gerrylantomasi@gmail.com)



Reindeer horse  
racing



## Brain Bending Fun



January might be a challenging month. It is, after all, International Brainteaser Month. There are brainteasers for every taste. Wordsmiths enjoy crosswords, word jumbles, and acrostics. Mathematicians enjoy sudoku and kakuro. Riddles, logic puzzles, tangrams, ciphers, and even good old-fashioned

Rubik's Cubes keep our minds sharp.

Just as exercise is healthy for the body, brainteasers are healthy for the brain. Flex your gray matter by answering some of these brainteasers below:

1. A man stands on one side of a river, his dog on the other. The man calls his dog, who immediately crosses the river without getting wet and without using a bridge or a boat. How did the dog do it?
2. In 1990, a person is 15 years old. In 1995, that same person is 10 years old. How could this be?
3. Before Mount Everest was discovered, what was the highest mountain in the world?

Is your mind too cluttered with irrelevant minutiae to solve January's brainteasers? Never fear. Another little-known fact is that January 4 is Trivia Day, a day to demonstrate the remarkable benefits of random knowledge. Make some room in your head for these curious tidbits:

- *Dreamt* is the only English word that ends with the letters *mt*.
- Hydrox cookies debuted in 1908, four years before Oreos.
- Tigers have striped skin, not just striped fur. The pattern of stripes is unique to each tiger, similar to human fingerprints.

Answers: 1. He walked; the river is frozen. 2. The person was born in 2005 BC. 3. Mount Everest; it was the highest mountain even before it was discovered.

## Poetry Corner January

The month of the blahs. Christmas is over and the New year is here.

Everyone is now bored; spring is still far away, and we are hoping for a better year. Thinking of ways to peppe things up.

Now is the time for board games and cheer. Playing a game of charades and opening some cheer.

Go to the neighbors and join in the fun. It is a good way to get to know them and make friends in the long run.

Have a potluck dinner that is a sure winner, it's a great way to start a happy New year.

And remember each season, we are all here for a reason. No matter what, the weather we all fit together.

Give Thanks everyday and good will come your way!

Happy New Year.                  Dawna



## A Magical Start to the Year



It turns out that January is a magical month. First, January 16 is Appreciate a Dragon Day. In Eastern cultures, dragons are powerful beings of wisdom, magic, and longevity, and their symbolism is often used by emperors and leaders. European cultures tend to view dragons as fearsome

fire-breathing foes. These winged beasts can fly, and perhaps this is why the word *dragon* comes from a Greek word meaning “I see clearly,” as if dragons can see the entire world from above.

Then January 19 is Brew Potion Day. Potions are believed to heal, bewitch, or poison others. In olden days, traveling salesmen and charlatans would travel across the land selling snake oil panaceas, promising to heal any and every possible ailment. Even in modern times, we see television infomercials selling products guaranteed to clear our skin, regrow our hair, or clean our upholstery. In lieu of these potions, concoct your own magical mixture or recipe and give it to someone you love on January 19.

If the magic of fantasy is too far-fetched for you this month, you could instead engage in another sort of magic: January 2 is Science Fiction Day. The mysteries of science can sometimes be even more baffling than dragons and potions. After all, who could have foretold rovers roaming Mars? A person falling to Earth in a 24-mile free dive from the edge of space? The ability to hold a computer in the palm of your hand? Of course, all these achievements are mere science. For them to become science *fiction*, scientific advancement must present some dreadful and unforeseen challenge.

This January, the biggest challenge may be to allow your imagination to take flight and consider dragons, potions, and scientific calamities. Then February will bring us firmly back to Earth.

## January Birthdays

Those born between January 1–19 are Capricorns, the Sea Goat. Capricorn is the most stable and serious sign of the zodiac. Reliable, resourceful, and determined, Capricorns make excellent leaders and managers. Those born between January 20–31 are Aquarius, the Water Bearer. Witty, clever, and honest, Water Bearers desire independence above all and are not afraid to deviate from the crowd to pursue their own interests.

Bob B.	January 6
Brenda T.	January 8
Bernie W.	January 18
Dave S.	January 22
Bobby F.	January 27
Sandra M.	January 30

## IPAC UPDATES

**The flu season is upon us and the home will be reaching for consents for residents to be immunized. Please feel free to drop by the IPAC office if you're in the house to give consent.**

**If you're experiencing any symptoms, to keep our residents safe, please do not visit the home. Remember if you are visiting your loved ones, please perform your 4 moments of hand hygiene.**

