



AUGUST 30/2017 • BARRIE'S INDEPENDENT VOICE • VOL 17 ISSUE 10 • FREE



## Birch Tree Art

Pictures and video of an exhibition at Barrie City Hall



## In Bloom

The annual Communities in Bloom Luncheon



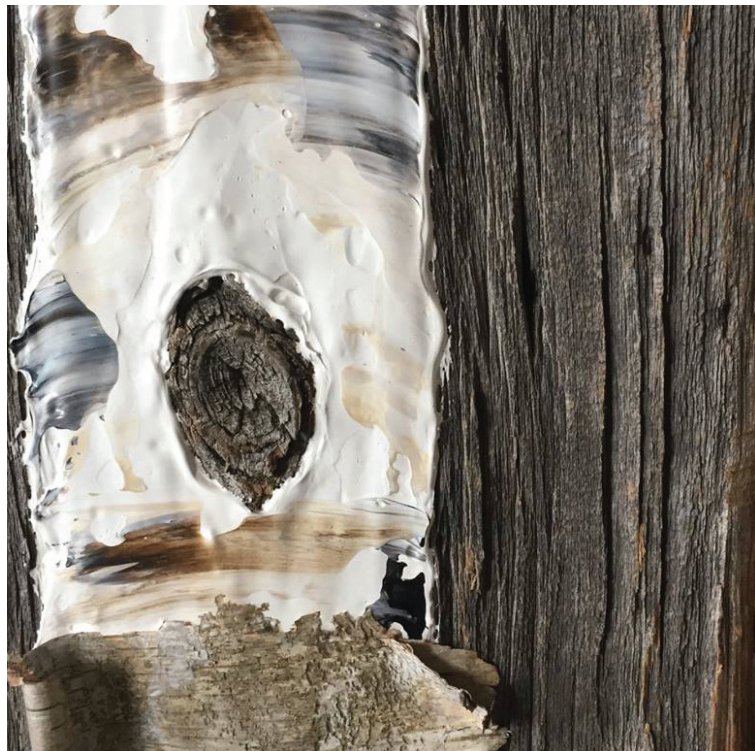
## The Gibson ES-335

Not done paying tribute to Chuck Berry, yet





# The Birch is Back!



**Joanne Gallacher**

The Barrie City Hall rotunda regularly has art on display, and from July 5 to August 31, there was an exhibit titled, “The Birch is Back!” by Joanne Gallacher.

The paintings are, as described on the artist’s Facebook page, “Original acrylic birch tree paintings on gallery quality wrapped canvas, real birch bark appliqué from fallen branches. Any size and background available.”

And that’s it. I wish there was more to say from her Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/Joannegallacherthebirchisbark](http://www.facebook.com/Joannegallacherthebirchisbark) however, there isn’t. I made a video of the exhibit, and slowly zoomed in to some of them to create the effect of looking into a forest, and I also got some extreme close-ups to show the texture of the real pieces of birch trees that are part of the paintings. By the way, the title of the exhibit likely comes from Elton John’s 1974 song, “The Bitch is Back.”

–Darren Roskam

To view all of these works and more, as they appeared at Barrie City Hall, go to [www.thecrowe.ca](http://www.thecrowe.ca) and the VIDEOS section

**Email: [crowemagazine@hotmail.com](mailto:crowemagazine@hotmail.com)**

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# More Chuck Berry



## The current version of the Gibson ES-335

As was said in earlier editions after Chuck Berry passed on, I never got to see him perform live, and I am not aware of him ever having appeared in our area. I don't have any local connection to make, aside from talking about his main guitar, the Gibson ES-335, and when I went to the local Gibson dealer, Music Pro, they didn't have any to take pictures of. They have one, now.

Pictured below, is Music Pro guitar expert Jason MacNeill with the Gibson Memphis ES-335 1970s Walnut. No, this is not an ad for Music Pro. That is the guitar model that Berry used, and I am writing about it.

Of course, this model is a little different. The Gibson website

says: "Limited edition of Gibson's flagship semi-solid guitar features a gorgeous 1970's walnut stain finish, Kluson style tuners and 'Witch Hat' knobs, with rounded 'C' neck shape, 57 Classic pickups and ABR-1 bridge with titanium saddles."

The suggested retail is \$3,499.00 US. Here in Barrie, it is \$3,668.00, with case. When I took the picture, MacNeill immediately started playing some Berry licks. Funny thing is, Gibson doesn't, nor did it ever, offer a Chuck Berry signature edition of the ES-335. Lots of other artists got signature editions, over the years. A Berry edition is not on tap for 2018, either. Weird. Now would be the perfect time.

I have Berry's CD on order. Will review next month.



**Jason MacNeill at Music Pro**

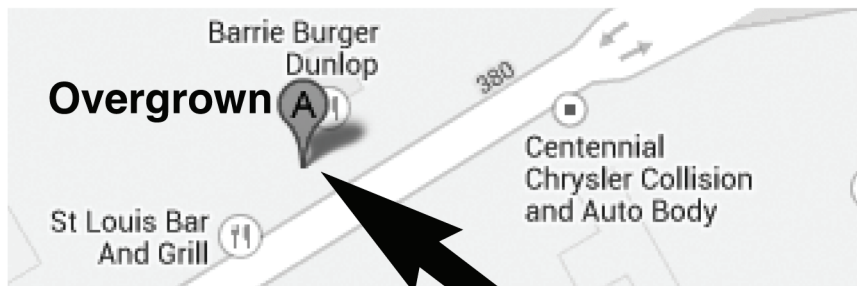


**Chuck Berry and his ES-335**



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LITTLE MINI GREENHOUSES.**

# NOW GET GROWING!



## Communities in Bloom Luncheon



**Official Town Crier for the City of Barrie, Stephen J. Travers, begins the luncheon**

On July 27, the annual Communities in Bloom Luncheon took place at the Southshore Centre. It is a time to get the area gardening enthusiasts together and invite the visiting judges to speak for a while. The lunch is pretty good, too.

It was attended by Ward 2 Councillor and Communities in Bloom Chair, Rose Romita, City CAO Michael Prowse, Director of Roads, Parks and Fleet, Dave Friary and the visiting judges Alain Chappelle and Cliff Lacey. And the Official Town Crier for the City, Stephen J. Travers. And many, many area residents. I made a video of it. Go to [www.thecrowe.ca](http://www.thecrowe.ca) and then, to the VIDEOS section.



**Ward 2 Councillor, Rose Romita, center, with judges Alain Chappelle, left, and Cliff Lacey, right**



**Close-up shots of the "Little Bloomers" container gardens, from the video**

who is  
**LORRAINE  
JORDAN** ?

[www.whoislorrainejordan.ca](http://www.whoislorrainejordan.ca)



## Who is Lorraine Jordan?



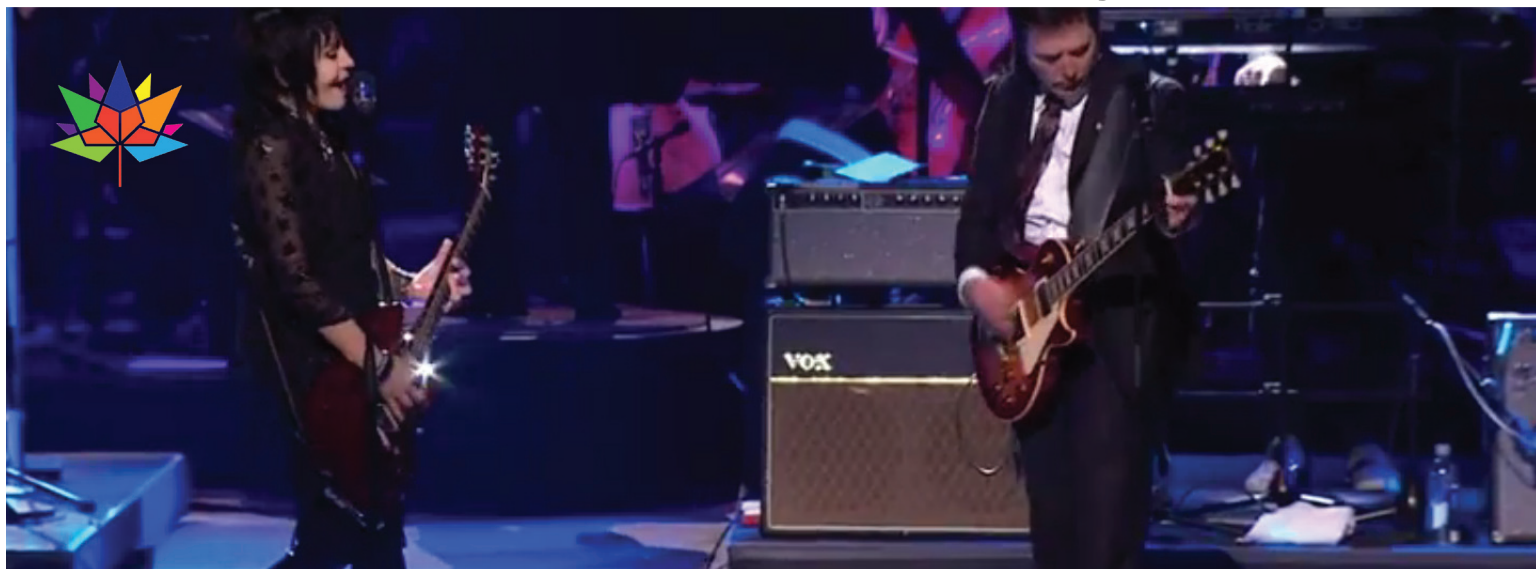
**Lorraine Jordan, center, and some of her team**

There are billboard ads all over the city asking the question, “Who is Lorraine Jordan?”

She is another jackrabbit, go-getter Keller Williams real estate agent with her own team, like Peggy Hill.

Wow. I’m so excited. I almost got out of bed. I almost crossed the floor. Another Peggy Hill. Yahoo. Whoop-de-doo.

## 2017 Governor General’s Performing Arts Awards



**Joan Jett and Michael J. Fox performing at the Governor General’s Performing Arts Award Gala**



**Joan Jett and Michael J. Fox in the 1987 movie,  
Light of Day**

If not for me going to the Joan Jett website every now and then, I would have missed this. On June 28, Michael J. Fox received, along with others, the Governor General’s Performing Arts Award.

With his acceptance speech, he cited the CBC programs, *The Friendly Giant* and *Mr. Dressup* as influences, noting that all you had to do was put on a silly hat, to become another person for the purpose of telling a story.

Thirty years ago, Fox did a movie with Jett, *Light of Day*, and the song of the same name which they performed together in the movie was written by Bruce Springsteen. They did that song at the awards gala, on June 29. For the video, do an internet search for: **Michael J. Fox and Joan Jett - Light of Day Live - June 29, 2017**



# Fender Jimi Hendrix Monterey Stratocaster



**The re-issue, available for orders this year**



**The original, getting torched, 50 years ago**

Who else are you going to hear this from? *The Barrie Examiner*; the once-a-week-fireplace-log, the *Advance*; or maybe *Snapd*, the thing which allows the advertisers to write the stories...of themselves? Only here. Jimi Hendrix played the Monterey Pop Festival in 1967. He used a special guitar for the last song of his set, a cover of "Wild Thing." He had painted designs on it with nail polish. After he sang the last words, he sprayed lighter fluid on it, set it on fire, and smashed it. This year, Fender recreated it, to celebrate the 50th anniversary of this performance. Cool guitar. Made in Mexico. Getting great reviews. \$899.00 US.

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