



Karen Cashin

Orono

*Local Stories at The
Orono Weekly Times*

My column in the Orono Times is called “The Local” because that’s what I do... I interview local people. I talk to them to get their story. There is a therapeutic element to this work, absolutely. People love to tell their stories. They think it’s important, and so do I. It’s important for them to tell their stories in their words. To hear their side of the story, their perception of the story.

People often say to me “I haven’t got much to say,” and I say “if it’s not written down, it’s gone.” We aren’t going to live forever, and our children only have one perception of us, if they are interested in the story at all. If you write it down it’s never lost.

A lot of people compare now and then. They remember when Orono used to be a village with two grocery stores, a hardware store, a blacksmith, a garage, a gas station, etc.

There’s a certain sadness when people think of the changes. So, they enjoy reminiscing about how it used to be.

Clarington is changing. It’s growing, and the demographics are changing rapidly. So, in another year it won’t be the same. People will have different memories, different perceptions, and different opinions. And that’s what makes this all so interesting.

