



Seniors missing public transit | Page 7

## Liz Hawley: Community builder

Designer, writer and entrepreneur always put family first



Liz Hawley, a major force in the Niagara-on-the-Lake community, was tragically killed in a head-on collision last week. SUPPLIED

Richard Harley  
The Lake Report

Liz Hawley was creative, caring and compassionate.

She was a community builder in Niagara-on-the-Lake, having unofficially helped with projects like Voices of Freedom Park and Landscape of Nations in Queenston.

The 60-year-old mother of three sons – Adam, Ransom and Jay – and grandmother of six was killed in a head-on

collision on Niagara Stone Road last Wednesday. Niagara Regional Police said a 32-year-old NOTL resident lost control of his vehicle and veered into her lane. Police have not identified the second driver, but friends have confirmed that it was Aubrey Blake Clements.

Her husband John said they met at a party hosted by a mutual friend. He said he couldn't take his eyes off her all night, even though at that time he'd decided not to date

anyone for a year to focus on playing squash.

He remembers Liz dancing around on crutches, with pins in her leg. She had been in a car crash earlier in the year.

"She was in a white leather miniskirt," John said. "She was up dancing on the floor. I forgot about my decisions not to be interested in anybody for a year and I made my way over."

He said he spent the night talking with a friend, but looking at Liz, "trying not to

be obvious."

At the end of the night, he offered to drive her and a friend home. "She told me basically to piss off," he joked. "Anyway, I wouldn't take no for an answer."

He said when he dropped her off, the two spent the night talking — arguing — until early in the morning.

That night he asked her if she'd like to go out the next day. She said yes and "that

*Continued on Page 2*



Figure 4 - Proposed north elevation with orange drive-thru tower



Figure 5 - Proposed front entrance area clad in stone

## Major franchises proposed for Virgil

Richard Harley  
The Lake Report

Two major corporate fast-food franchises are knocking on NOTL's door.

Initial discussions about a Harvey's and Swiss Chalet in Virgil took place at an urban design committee meeting July 28.

The proposal is for the two restaurants to be built next to Grape Escape at 1627 Niagara Stone Rd.

One of the main topics of the meeting was to figure out how the restaurants could meet urban design criteria to fit the feel of Niagara-on-the-Lake, including reducing the size of signage for the drive-thru, adjusting bright, bold colours, and concerns about limited parking.

Greg Chew, a Virgil resident and commercial agent for the property with Colliers International Niagara, said the owners of the property and current tenants have tried to follow urban design guidelines to make the buildings line up with the rest of the street.

"The same ownership group has successfully redeveloped that site and beautified that property dramatically, I believe, by bringing it back to life. And I think what we have is an extension," he said.

He said looking across the street toward another plaza, which has a Starbucks, they're trying to "keep it in line."

Coun. Clare Cameron,

*Continued on Page 3*

## Carriage operators frustrated with lack of police enforcement

Richard Harley  
The Lake Report

**Editor's note:** This is the first of a series focusing on the carriage protests in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Next week's story focuses on Niagara Regional Police and their response to residents who don't think they're enforcing the laws

Niagara-on-the-Lake carriage operator Sean Sentineal has been pleading for three years with police to lay charges in connection with protests by animal rights activists.

But he never expected when the crackdown came that the first criminal charges would be laid against a customer of his

family's horse-and-carriage business.

However, on July 29, police charged Mark Giordani after a confrontation with a protester.

Police said Giordani was riding the carriage with his pregnant wife and young daughter when a protester, identified as Jason King, started to follow and

"express his concerns" to the family about using the service.

Giordani is accused of breaking King's sign and taking his cellphone. He did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

The carriage protesters have often been accused

*Continued on Page 6*



Sean Sentineal says he doesn't have a lot of hope police will start protecting his staff. RICHARD HARLEY



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# Most of NOTL supportive of mandatory masks, survey finds

Steve Ferley  
Special to The Lake Report

Almost 90 per cent of Niagara-on-the-Lake residents are comfortable wearing mandatory protective face masks, according to a survey of readers of The Lake Report.

The poll, conducted online between July 23 and Aug. 2, amassed 290 responses from readers to questions about why and where NOTLers are (or aren't) wearing protective masks and face coverings.

Respondents gave us their answers to two statements: "I am comfortable with being legally required to wear mask

protection against COVID-19 in public places" and "I believe mask protection against COVID-19 should be a matter of individual choice rather than a legal requirement."

In total, 88 per cent of readers agree strongly or somewhat agree that they're comfortable with the mandatory wearing of face coverings. And along those same lines, the second statement shows a relatively low agreement (20 per cent) with the belief that mask wearing should be a personal decision.

So we see that NOTL is leaning significantly more toward mandatory mask wearing than opting for personal

choice on the issue.

In line with those findings, 87 per cent of The Lake Report's readers frequently wear a protective mask (and a further 8 per cent do so sometimes). And it's maybe important to note that within the 5 per cent of "never maskers," less than 1 per cent claim that this is due to a verified medical reason. This may conflict with anecdotal reports about relatively high numbers of non-mask wearers claiming such an exemption.

Respondents' answers about where they're wearing masks are in line with what we're seeing in our daily

lives. The survey found 89 per cent of readers always or almost always now wear a mask for grocery shopping and other types of shopping. Usage at LCBO stores and Beer Stores is only slightly lower (77 per cent). One in four readers now wears a mask for business meetings.

The acceptance of masks is up substantially from a similar Lake Report survey in late April that found only 25 per cent of respondents said they always wear a mask while shopping.

The mask wearing picture for social gatherings is more complex and presumably depends upon the type of social

gathering. Among readers replying about social gatherings, just over one in four (27 per cent) frequently wears a mask socially – and as many as 43 per cent are sometimes social mask wearers.

But on the other hand, a further 30 per cent of readers report they never wear a mask for social gatherings.

Interestingly, despite the "early days" nature of the COVID-19 legislation on restaurant visiting (wearing a mask when entering or leaving), 41 per cent of respondents said they do so always or almost always. Mask usage at pubs and bars is lower, at 24 per cent.

Hand sanitizing is now part of everyday life. Almost all NOTLers (97 per cent) said they use hand sanitizers – and three out of every four said they've used a lot more of the product over the past few months (with a further 15 per cent saying their usage has increased somewhat). Here, we may be seeing something permanent emerging – the dawning of the age of the hand sanitizer.

*Prior to retirement, NOTL resident Steve Ferley was president of PMB Print Measurement Bureau, Canada's leading supplier of print readership research information.*

# For Liz and John Hawley, it was 'love at first sight'

Continued from Front Page

was the beginning, right there, of the best 38 years of my life."

Her son Adam says he can barely begin to scratch the surface of the person his mother was — an interior designer, business owner and poet among many other talents. He described her as a creative person, who fiercely loved her family.

More recently, she put her creative skills toward making her own jewelry.

"She really sort of dove into it, just recently was hitting her stride. A couple stores on Queen Street in Niagara-on-the-Lake were taking it and a couple stores in Ridgeway. So she loved to create jewelry. She loved to read and write. She was just more and more getting into writing poetry. And she loved to be with my dad and travel as well."

"She loved to create," Adam said.

For several years, Liz Hawley owned Refuge Antiques & Giftery, a store beside the Garrison House restaurant.

"It was just an avenue for her creativity and all the finds that she would pick up along the way, whether it be furniture, great pens ... all sorts of different types of things, clothing, scarves. She always had a knack for finding hidden gems or finding things where people wouldn't necessarily always look, so the store was just a place for her to collect all that and

other people to enjoy it."

"I'm never going to do it all justice," Adam said.

Another of her passions was helping women who were escaping abuse or addiction, so she combined that with her jewelry and started a business called Jewellery for Justice.

"A lot of the proceeds from sales and income from that business were going to support organizations like Rising Angels, which deals with women who are trafficked, human trafficking and in the sex trade. When they come out of it, they need help to come back in society and get on their own two feet. So that was a huge theme in her life, helping women who have been victims that way."

"She had personal friends who she mentored and would talk with daily, who were either coming out of abuse or addiction or both."

Adam said even though she was a busy woman, his mother always put family first, whether it was arranging their summer home on Lake Erie so that all of her grandchildren would have a place to enjoy, or going out to her sons' sports games when they were young.

She also took her faith very seriously, Adam said. "She really tried to tangibly show people love all the time."

She was the kind of mother you could go to for anything, which Adam often did, especially for fashion advice.

"She just had such a good

sense of style and fashion that I would rarely make a decision, whether it be furniture in my house, or a suit for an important event or anything like that, that I wouldn't ask her about, because I just really appreciated it," he said.

"You know, even the way she dressed was really out there but it always worked and she was unique."

Liz moved to Niagara with her husband in 1991, after John had been working more and more in the region.

She said she'd move on one condition — they had to live in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

"She had come here as a kid with her mom to experience Queen Street and the town," Adam said.

Since then, the couple built The Village community, with Liz staging all of the show homes.

"Her and my dad were incredibly close," Adam said. "(They) did everything together."

He says his parents met in 1983 and it was "love at first sight."

"They were married within the year," he said.

Throughout their time in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Liz and John Hawley were both involved in the community in a number of ways — owning various businesses and developing The Village community.

Liz was responsible for designing the interiors of the model homes over the years, Adam said, and always had new ideas.



Liz and John Hawley with their grandchildren. SUPPLIED

"She never wanted to do the same thing twice," he said.

"This is a funny anecdote ... every model home that was new, we'd try to tell my mom 'You know, it's always a lot of work, why don't you just use a lot of the same colours and themes and tile? You know we can do the same thing in this model. You don't have to reinvent the wheel.' And she would say 'Yes, yes. OK,' but then she could never do it. Everything, every model was unique. It was a different piece of land, it was a different floor plan. She never felt right doing the same thing."

He noted she was strong-willed, especially when she knew she was right.

"We always knew that the end product would be great, even though sometimes my dad and I would question the process. We'd see a tile isolated not in the house and the tile would look a little bit too funky and we'd say, 'I don't know if that tile's going to work and my mom would always just say, 'You just have to wait.' And when we saw the product, of course, it always all came together and

was really well-received."

"She stood her ground when she knew what she was doing," Adam said.

When Adam was young, he remembers his mom always being there for sports games — except for rugby.

"She loved coming to our events or sports, when I say our, I mean my brothers and I. I think all of us played rugby at one point, which she was not a huge fan of because she didn't really like seeing us get tackled," he recalled.

"There was one rugby game that I was playing in where a father of a friend and another player started yelling out, 'Take him out at the knees!' And that was kind of it I think for rugby for my mom. She had a tough time watching that but everything else she was always supportive in coming to — whatever events or sports we were involved in. The violence wasn't always her thing, though."

Aside from family and developing a community, Liz and John were also involved in numerous charitable projects.

In recent years, they were actively involved with the Landscape of Nations in Queenston and the Voices of Freedom Park on Regent Street in Old Town.

"My mom was a huge part of that as well," Adam said. "I don't know if she was ever officially listed as being part of the committee on either of those. But she and my dad worked on those together. And they were extremely proud of those achievements."

Some of Adam's fondest memories of his mom are times at the cottage with all of the grandkids.


"Times on Lake Erie on the beach, and recently with six grandchildren causing chaos and the laughter and fun that all the little kids brought. I think those are certainly strong right now," he said.

"There's so much (that made her happy), but the differences in the personalities of all the grandkids and how they interacted would always make her laugh."

And it wasn't just the grandkids, she had three brothers and lots of nieces and nephews, and she always tried to keep the family close, Adam said.

"And it shows, because we do have a close family extended that way as well."

While Liz and John were often busy with their many different projects or new ventures, Adam said in the last year the couple had taken more time off to "enjoy each other and see new places of the world."




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# Andrea Horwath visits NOTL

Ontario NDP leader Andrea Horwath visited Niagara-on-the-Lake's downtown on Wednesday to talk to business owners about what support they need to help them survive the COVID-19 pandemic. She was joined by Lord Mayor Betty Disero, MPP Wayne Gates and NOTL Chamber of Commerce president Eduardo Lafforgue. RICHARD HARLEY

# Not much town can do to prevent franchises

Continued from Front Page

who is the council representative on the urban design committee, said discussions are still in the early stages, and town staff is examining the site plan.

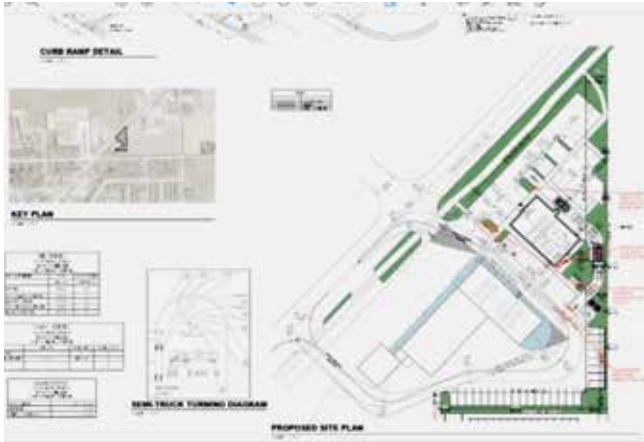
She said her concern so far is about the drive-thru.

"If I have any concerns about the site, it's the placement of that drive-thru, and the way that it might be designed," Cameron said, adding the property is "right at the edge of the urban boundary in Virgil."

"So if you're entering Virgil from the northeast, and driving towards the centre of Virgil, the way that it's been proposed now, the very first thing that you might see would be a big orange pillar on the building with the letters 'drive thru.' And for me, that's not the best message that we might want to be sending to visitors and locals who are entering the centre of our community."

She said she'd like to find a way to "draw less attention" to the drive-thru location, adding that businesses have done a lot of work to "beautify" Niagara Stone Road.

She cited some positives about the proposal, such as the owners' plan to plant a lot of trees, which could be an "opportunity to add a little bit of green space



A site plan for the proposed Harvey's and Swiss Chalet. SOURCED

where there isn't a lot of green space right now on (Niagara Stone Road).

Cameron noted the issue might spark resident interest, as the McDonald's did when it first came to town almost 20 years ago. There was vocal opposition to McDonald's at that time.

"Now, it might feel like a distant memory for people, but it was so controversial back then. There was a compromise reached, but that McDonald's, it's busy, despite all the controversy. There are people in the community and people visiting the community that might appreciate that kind of a consistent, familiar brand."

So far, she hasn't received complaints from residents, Cameron told the meeting.

"The only comments I've received so far in the last week have been along

the lines of 'Oh, I love Harvey's' or 'I love Swiss Chalet. I'm looking forward to going.' "

"But I'm sure there are some other views out there," she said.

She said she would personally like to see Niagara-on-the-Lake be a place where "smaller, independent businesses can thrive."

"I always like going to independent places whenever we can," she said, adding having the franchise restaurants there wouldn't be her personal preference.

"But in planning and in development applications like this, you can't discriminate against one type of business."

She said from what she recalls from discussions of the previous council regarding Starbucks, "there is not a way to pick and choose the type of business."

"If we were to disallow franchises, then there would be no Tim Hortons in NOTL — I mean, Pet-Valu is a franchise. I think we have to be careful about how much we might wish to predefine what our local business community looks like, because as I said, franchises can be owned by local people and employ local people. They might be part of a really big corporate structure. But that's the way a lot of the businesses in our lives actually operate now," Cameron said.

"It's tough to think about a community that might only have exclusively independent businesses. Penner's is an amazing business. It's part of a larger corporate entity as well."

She noted people obviously enjoy going to franchise restaurants. "These places only exist because there's a demand for them."


But "when I think of my idea of Niagara-on-the-Lake, it's smaller places, it's more unique places and places that have a little bit more of a truly local flavour that really help to define the best of Niagara-on-the-Lake."

She said residents concerned about the development should send their thoughts to members of council.

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- Persons who have protections, including reasonable accommodations, in accordance with the Ontario Human Rights Code which would prevent them from wearing a mask
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**Contributed by Patty Garriock**

"Life is not measured by the breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breaths away." - Patty Garriock

**Contributed by Norm Arsenaault:**

When planning a holiday you should consider green alternatives, or consider a "staycation" by enjoying a local holiday, thus reducing the environmental impact of vacationing, and benefiting/engaging with your local community, ecology, and economy. Green Loons is a great place to start; they offer some amazing destinations with the feel-good Green factor. <https://greenloons.com/>

## Editorial: Police and town need to enforce laws on **extremist** protesters

Richard Harley  
Editor-In-Chief

Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake and Niagara Regional Police — where are you?

The ongoing carriage protests have become more than a nuisance to residents and visitors — and there are more and more instances of residents voicing frustration.

Because it's become more than a protest. It's become regular harassment.

So where are our police?

Nobody, not even in protest, should be able to constantly harass and intimidate people while they work — which protesters do in NOTL regularly, without consequence.

And where are NOTL's bylaw officers?

Visitors and residents are complaining that the noise is too loud — and it is. Town bylaws have been violated often.

Where's the enforcement?

Instead we see the town hand out four violation notices to a business owner on Glendale Avenue, far away from everything, or ticket the people from the downtown cigar shop for smoking.

In another case, a bylaw officer was quick to give attitude to a resident who asked them to slow down.

But they won't enforce NOTL's noise bylaw? They won't enforce the very same signage bylaw that the food truck owner was



A horse carriage operates peacefully when protesters aren't around. RICHARD HARLEY

fined for? (Albeit he was granted an exemption from the bylaw later when council had a say about it)

What gives?

And where's our town council in this case to stand up again for the right thing and instruct bylaw to enforce those laws?

Is the concern about lawsuits? Is this one legal expense we can't afford? (A drop in the bucket compared to some battles the town is fighting.)

We asked Lord Mayor Betty Disero if it was OK to break bylaws just because you're protesting an issue.

Of course, that answer was no. Everyone must still adhere to the town bylaws, whether they're protesting or not.

We asked Disero the same question again regarding protesters. And her

answer was the same — you must follow the law.

So why is the town ignoring its own advice and not enforcing laws on protesters? Its own laws, to boot.

What kind of example is that setting? You're basically saying come to NOTL to protest, because here we have no spine to battle a group of extremists.

And that's what these protesters are — extremists. They want every domesticated animal to be extinct, and for every person on the planet to be vegan. One has to appreciate the irony that they, who constantly try to stand behind Charter rights, would be the same ones to implement a strict vegan regime if they could.

It's their right to believe that. But it isn't their right to break laws, in protest or not.

Get your act together, Niagara-on-the-Lake and Niagara Regional Police. Show the people what you're made of.

And if it's lawsuits you're worried about, one might suggest there's a perfectly logical lawsuit on behalf of the carriage company, against the town and against the police for allowing continued harassment of its employees and loss of business due to lack of enforcement by existing town bylaws.

There's two sides to the coin.

One thing's pretty clear in almost three years of this: holding our breath isn't going to make this issue go away.

Do something. Do it now. Stop the harassment taking place in our town.

*editor@niagaranow.com*

## Noise bylaw would hurt **NOTL** lifestyle

Dear editor:

The businesses and citizens of Niagara-on-the-Lake have serious concerns about a draft noise bylaw that would affect their viability and way of life as they know it. The proposed bylaw has three important components:

It would limit noise levels between 7 a.m. and 11 p.m. to 55 decibels or less. At best this is restrictive and at worst this is punitive and threatens the very existence of destination businesses in NOTL.

It would restrict live musical instruments or singing after 10 p.m., which is to say, that they would not be allowed.

"Hooting or hollering" would not be permitted after 9 p.m. That means if you're singing happy birthday to your grand-

mother in your backyard at 9:05 p.m., by definition, you violated this bylaw.

The businesses that will be affected most by this bylaw are some of the most generous and philanthropic businesses in the world. They've helped raise over \$500,000 for

important causes like the Niagara Community Foundation and the Terry Fox Foundation.

The online petition I started has nothing to do with the personality of politics but has everything to do with asking politicians in NOTL to do the right thing and oppose the bylaw as it's proposed. A better means of policing noise in NOTL would be to have stricter enforcement of existing bylaws..

*Joe Pillitteri*  
NOTL

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# Well-planned, **sustainable** tourism is goal

David Levesque  
Special to The Lake Report

The NOTL Tourism Advisory Working Group is becoming an official entity under the auspices of Tourism Niagara-on-the-Lake, with a clear goal and vision to work in collaboration with town council and staff to find and implement solutions that will lead to a better managed and more sustainable tourism experience for everyone in town.

Our determined and committed group came to existence in early January 2020. The working group not only efficiently assembles around the same table a variety of tourism and business stakeholders, but also some of the most experienced and qualified individuals from the NOTL tourism industry, all ready to work together for the benefit of residents and business owners alike.

The group's current primary focus is to help manage this year's pandemic tourism response, but discussions are already taking place on the creation of a sustainable tourism strategic plan to help estab-

lish a clear, workable path for the future of our town and its tourism industry. Our group recognizes that such a general plan needs to be clear, actionable and inclusive of the amazing diversity of people visiting, living and working in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

The COVID-19 pandemic regrettably delayed our efforts toward a tourism strategic plan, as everyone has had to focus on survival. The group is now reuniting and open to start working on specific long-term tourism aspects, like parking management and traffic flow.

A short-term plan is developing to help with pandemic recovery efforts as tourism slowly increases toward a target of 30 per cent of last year's numbers. This experience has helped us all to recognize tourism is more than ever vital to the short- and long-term survival of our town.

We now need a carefully crafted, sustainable tourism strategy built by industry stakeholders and key representatives themselves. We must get organized, put any differences and private

agendas aside and collaborate to move forward for the betterment of our community.

So many people have been working hard since the beginning of the pandemic. Our town leaders and staff have been managing the emergency response to protect our community; businesses have responded by voluntarily closing or implementing the needed protective measures and our citizens have been careful and respectful of protecting our vulnerable population.

Since March, the NOTL Chamber of Commerce has put an outstanding amount of effort, despite limited resources, toward both tourism industry advisory and advocacy. Chamber president Eduardo Laforgue is committed to keeping all business owners, regardless of membership, updated with the information and tools they need to go forward during these uncertain times.

The Chamber of Commerce board of directors has been meeting weekly since the province declared a state of emergency and continues to do so. As of mid-July,

the NOTL Tourism Advisory Working Group also restarted weekly meetings. The challenges we face can and will be solved only when the tourism industry, the town and residents all start working together toward a unified and well-planned sustainable vision for NOTL.

We believe that although the interests of various groups need to be heard, best practices suggest that these interests converge into a single entity being able to efficiently work through the needed compromises to meet a successful outcome. The working group's intent is to facilitate the opportunities for collaboration by opening these lines of communication so we can all start working together toward this unified vision as soon as possible.

Among others, the NOTL Tourism Advisory Working Group includes Tim Jennings, executive director, Shaw Festival; Paul Macintyre, vice-president of operations, Vintage Hotels and David Levesque, president, Niagara-on-the-Lake Bed and Breakfast Association.

# Follow Banff's lead and **mandate masks** on Queen Street

Dear editor:

This is an open letter to Niagara-on-the-Lake town council.

This letter contains partial quotes from an article written by Carolyn Kury de Castillo of Global News. I recommend that the council and all residents and local merchants read the full article at <https://globalnews.ca/news/7222652/banff-mandatory-masks-indoors-outdoors/>.

First, many readers will be aware of the fact that Banff Avenue very much resembles NOTL's busy Queen Street, with the same attendant tourist overcrowding. Since June, two blocks of Banff Avenue have been closed off to allow for social distancing. Sound familiar? But it has been unlike our half-baked effort on Queen Street.

In addition to wearing masks inside, Banff council voted 7-0 on July 27 in favour of a bylaw that re-

quires people to wear masks outdoors along that stretch of Banff Avenue, converted to a pedestrian mall. This is the first municipality in Canada to take such action. Masks outdoors!

This is called "leadership" and 90 per cent of Banff residents and merchants said: "Please do this – and please do it now."

As of July 27 there were eight active COVID-19 cases in Banff. They are obviously being proactive to help prevent the spread. As of Aug. 4, NOTL had nine active cases.

How does Banff target the bad actors? While exceptions are made for those with medical problems, those who refuse to wear a mask can face a \$150 fine. The CTV National News quoted a Banff official saying, "If you don't want to wear a mask, stay away."

Clearly they are support-

ing the wishes of the town's stakeholders and are not afraid to challenge the bad actors or non-conformers head-on. Good for them, we all know the majority follow the law, so the town knows who to target and punish.

To those freedom fighters and actors who erroneously claim their personal freedoms and rights are being taken away, let me note just the tip of the iceberg of certain laws we currently follow: Wearing seat belts, passports to travel, drivers licences, speed limits, no driving while on the cellphone, non-smoking areas, no-top-no-shoes-no service, etc.

These laws are permanent while the face mask laws will be temporary, until we all have a vaccine.

So get a life, and get on board, or as they said in Banff – stay away.

Perhaps it will help you avoid the fate of former U.S.

presidential candidate Herman Cain, who attended a Donald Trump rally in Tulsa, Okla., in June and died after contracting COVID-19.

In conclusion: Councilors, if you have to, consult with your counterparts in Banff. Mandate masks on Queen Street and expand if necessary. Queen Street fails 40 per cent or two of the five must-do things for COVID-19 prevention, namely:

- \* We cannot social distance due to the overcrowding on the sidewalk now that Queen St. is back to normal auto traffic and parking.

- \* Avoid crowds where social distancing is difficult. Again our sidewalks.

We are a mirror image of Banff. Council, let's not be late to the party again on this one.

Samuel Young  
NOTL

Looking for a way to dispose of those confidential documents and personal papers that have been collecting in your file cabinet or in your basement?

## Shred-it

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Niagara-on-the-Lake



# Town waives fees for restaurants with special patios

Richard Harley  
The Lake Report

The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake has waived all fees for business owners with special patio permits.

The decision was made shortly after the town created space in front of some ice cream shops on Queen Street to promote physical distancing.

Lord Mayor Betty Disero said she didn't think it was fair to charge the restaurants for the spots if the ice cream shops weren't paying.

"We weren't charging them for the spots, so I didn't think it was fair to charge the restaurants."

Disero and Interim CAO Sheldon Randall used their emergency delegated

authority to make it official.

However, Disero said she was in touch with all members of council before doing so and that all were supportive of waiving the fees.

"Sheldon and I called all the councillors and made the decision," Disero said. "There was no opposition."

Maria Mavridis, a Queen Street business owner who

recently opened a patio, said she received an email from the town Friday letting her know the fees had been waived.

She said everything helps right now during the pandemic, adding her business is operating at 30 per cent of its normal revenues, and was at just 15 per cent before the addition of the patio.



The patio at Orzo restaurant. RICHARD HARLEY

# Sentineal hoping police will protect staff, guests

## Residents, carriage operators accuse police of not acting on protesters out of fear of Charter battle

Continued from Front Page

of following customers to loudly express their views.

The protesters believe all domestic animals should be extinct, that all animals are "non-human persons" and that the horse-and-carriage service is a form of slavery. They would also like all humans to be vegan.

Sentineal has been consistent in his claims that carriage protesters are harassing his family, their staff and customers, and says to date police have ignored multiple reported crime allegations and blown off concerns from himself and even parents of carriage drivers.

"There's been countless things that we've called about where it seems clear to us and to our lawyer that it's breaking the law, but there's always a reason why (police) can't do anything," Sentineal said in an interview.

He said he's presented video evidence to officers and been given different reasons why they can't pursue a crime.

"(They say) the footage isn't clear enough or, you know, there's always a little excuse," Sentineal said.

"They seem to just not want to pursue charges against the protesters. I believe it's because as soon as they did, the protesters would scream Charter of Rights, and they don't want to get into a Charter of Rights issue. So I think the protesters definitely get away with a lot more than



Protesters have been increasingly loud and abrasive. JESSICA MAXWELL

any regular citizen would simply because they hide behind the Charter rights."

He recalls one incident where there was "indisputable proof" of a protester texting-and-driving, which he caught clearly on video, yet when he reported it, police told him he was reporting the crime for the "wrong reason."

Sentineal also caught the interaction with the officer on video.

In the video, taken July 17, 2019, Sentineal can be heard speaking to the officer, who belittles his concern and makes it seem like he's the one causing trouble for reporting a crime.

"You're doing this for another purpose is what I'm saying," the officer tells him.

Sentineal then tells the officer he thinks it's a "public safety issue."

"I'm already worried that they're following our carriages," Sentineal says. "I guess you just don't want to deal with it."

"No, no, no," the officer says, raising his voice.

"It has nothing to do with that. It's using the police for

the wrong purpose. That's what I'm saying. Don't put words in my mouth," the officer fires back.

He can be heard warning Sentineal not to "use the police service for the wrong intentions."

"And that's what you're doing right now," the officer says. "And that's when I get upset."

Sentineal said before the interaction, he knew the officer wasn't going to help.

"As soon as he pulled over and had his door open, I walked up, I could see his eyes roll. Right off the bat it wasn't a good experience dealing with him."

Sentineal maintains that if protesters — who have on more than one occasion trailed the carriages in their vehicles — were texting and driving, that it's a safety concern for the horses and staff, and questions why police wouldn't do anything about it, regardless of assumptions about why it was being reported.

"My number one concern is the safety of our horses and our people. And I'm just still astonished — I've never heard of anyone getting out

of a texting-and-driving charge, and the officer just did not want to pursue it at all."

In an interview on July 29, Niagara Regional Police Insp. James McCaffery said the incident should not have happened as it did and that police are supposed to take all accusations of criminal behaviour seriously, regardless of a person's motive.

He added that despite the recorded conversation, the officer did follow up with the incident.

"What he may or may not have said, we still followed up on it anyways to make sure it was resolved properly," McCaffery said.

Sentineal recalls several other instances of police not taking action, including one time a carriage driver was yelling for help, only to be shrugged off by an officer.

"There was an incident where they were following our carriages and our driver went up and drove beside a police car and was yelling for help saying, 'I'm being harassed. I don't feel safe. Can you please help?' and the officer said 'Call 911' — while they're sitting there in

the cop car."

He said he has a video of that incident, too, though the audio is fuzzy.

"It's hard because you can't quite pick up what they say. The person who's recording was on the ground and he's in his car."

Another incident, he said, involved the mother of a 16-year-old who was harassed.

"Recently, Liz Beatty — she's the mother of the 16-year-old girl who was harassed by Jason King — she's actively trying to get something done about it. And one of the things she told us the police said was, 'Ugh, that'd be too much paperwork.'"

Police have said they're going to start laying charges for crimes committed on both sides, according to an announcement from the town's interim CAO, Sheldon Randall, during a meeting of council in July.

But Sentineal has his doubts police will lay any charges against the protesters.

"I hope that they will. Based off our experiences, I think they won't," Sentineal said.

The incident of police charging Giordani has angered many Niagara-on-the-Lake residents, who were vigorously criticizing police on social media.

"The police do nothing when the protesters harass innocent families," said former town councillor Paolo Miele.

"I'm so angry and disappointed! 'To serve and protect' a guy from out of town

who videos and harasses children and animals? This is not okay," wrote NOTL mother Megan Vanderlee.

"Did I read this correctly?"

The person arrested was not the protester but the person being harassed by the protester? How is this good news? Why is this creep....I mean....protester....still able to run free, harass people & ultimately play a huge role in assisting with the destruction of the already fragile socioeconomic status in NOTL?" wrote Susan Stuart.

The charges sparked such outrage that major Niagara developer Rainer Hummel has offered to help pay Giordani's legal fees.

"I sent a message out to Mark asking him to get in touch with me. I'm going to arrange for him to have a top-notch criminal lawyer. I don't mind covering the bill, but it is better if the town people do a GoFundMe so that everybody has some skin in the game. However, if that doesn't happen, I don't mind helping him out. He was defending his family! That's an honourable thing," Hummel said in response to questions from The Lake Report.

Hummel has been vocal about going above the Niagara Regional Police to have the protesters charged.

McCaffery said he doesn't think laying charges is going to solve the issue.

That isn't a good enough answer for Sentineal, who is concerned about the safety and well-being of his staff members and his horses.

# STEELE GALLERY

COMING SOON.  
CHECK THE LAKE REPORT  
FOR UPDATES ON OPENING



# With buses idle due to COVID, seniors feel **loss of 'independence'**

Jessica Maxwell  
The Lake Report

The NOTL Transit buses haven't been in operation since COVID-19 shutdowns started in March and it's unclear when the service might resume.

The NOTL transit bus offered a sense of affordability and mobility to many residents who no longer drive, thanks to its \$3 fare and wheelchair accessibility.

"When they stopped that bus, they have taken our independence away," says NOTL resident Catherine Starrs, 79.

Starrs has been using the bus for six years and said she feels as though her accessibility and independence have been lost since the service stopped running.

She said she understands that the buses needed to shut down along with many other town operations to reduce the spread of COVID-19.



NOTL residents Catherine Starrs and Rose Marie Maryschak stand at the courthouse bus stop where they usually catch the bus in Old Town. JESSICA MAXWELL

But it seems as though the bus has been forgotten about in NOTL as we have now entered Stage 3 of reopening, Starrs said, while other towns like Pelham, whose transit model is similar to NOTL's restarted with a dial-a-ride program in April.

Starrs voluntarily forfeited her licence after being diagnosed with

glaucoma in one eye, she said. "For safety's sake and I gave it up because there was a bus. I was still young enough to learn the routines of the buses."

"We were independent," Starrs said, but now, "I can't go to the doctors in the Falls, I can't go to the doctors in St. Catharines and I can't even go down in Niagara-on-the-Lake to do

any shopping I need, or go and get my blood work."

According to the Niagara-on-the-Lake town website, NOTL transit has been suspended since April 9.

The town's emergency control group made the decision to suspend the service out of concern for health and safety due to COVID-19.

The webpage also states a decline in ridership was a factor.

Residents looking for assistance with grocery delivery and shopping support are encouraged by the town to take advantage of the Community Assistance Program.

While there are options for people with limited mobility, many residents of Niagara-on-the-Lake moved to the town to retire and rely on the bus for their basic needs.

Tasks as simple as grocery shopping or doctor's appointments have become

unmanageable and riders are left with costly alternatives.

Garrison Village resident Rose Marie Maryschak has lived in town for 12 years and she said she has been taking the bus since it started running in 2012. Maryschak is 72 and unable to drive due to medication she takes.

"You kind of lose your independence. Now you can't go anywhere," she said.

"A lot of times I will walk to Virgil, which my kids will give me heck for because I usually pick up stuff (to walk home with)."

When schools reopen, "the buses are going to start running in September, so what's the problem?"

Maryschak said. "A lot of times I used to just get groceries. There was a stop not far from Valu-mart where I used to wait," she said, and then she would walk 20 minutes from her stop to her home.

Now she says her only option is to walk to and from the grocery store.

Mary McGrath, 76, lives with her daughter and son-in-law and said the transit shutdown has made her totally dependent on her daughter to get to appointments or access anything she needs.

"The cost is our freedom," McGrath said.

"I think it is an essential service for people and it's been a godsend we all love," she said.

"I really don't understand why, if the kids are going to go back to school, why they can't have this bus back on the road."

McGrath said alternatives, like taking a taxi, are not affordable for many people.

"It's exorbitant, it really is and, when you're on a fixed income, it's incredibly difficult to make it all work, whereas the bus is just there, it's perfect," she said.

# Man **collapses** on Market Street, taken to hospital

Richard Harley  
The Lake Report

An senior man was taken to hospital after he collapsed and was showing no vital signs on Market Street in Old Town Saturday.

Emergency crews tried to resuscitate the man for several minutes before transferring him to an ambulance.

NOTL fire crews were the first on the scene, though they didn't have information about the man's well-being.

Fire Chief Nick Ruller said there typically aren't follow-ups in such cases.

Maria Mavridis, who

operates the nearby Cork's and Orzo restaurants, was outside bringing water to the first responders.

She brought them bottles of cold water and praised them for the work they do.

While she didn't see exactly what happened, she heard "the sirens and brought the water."

"Whenever I see the volunteer firefighters anywhere on the street, I always bring water," she said, adding that firefighters helped her when there was a fire beside her family's restaurant.

"When the place beside Bistro Six-One — that's

my dad's building — went down, they saved our building. (It) could have gone up with it," she said.

She also said she knows many firefighters from growing up in town.

"They all live here. I've gone to school with a lot of them," she said.

Mavridis also happened to be driving by before firefighters arrived at the scene of last Wednesday's head-on crash on Niagara Stone Road that killed 60-year-old Niagara-on-the-Lake resident Liz Hawley.

She pulled over, she said, but there was nothing she

could do to help.

"My initial instinct is always pull over, get out and help, but as soon as I looked over I couldn't do it. I don't know how the firefighters of this town do it. I mean, they are amazing."

The collision "was bad. Really bad," she said.

While it's been a rough week for her, she said it must be even harder for first responders and the families involved.

She praised the work that Niagara-on-the-Lake firefighters do.

"I get goosebumps, I can't even think like how they do



it. And on a volunteer basis. It's crazy to me and it takes a special someone, especially after what I saw the other day," she said.

"To be honest I said to dad as I was driving away and I saw the firefighters coming, all I kept thinking was, 'Oh my God, my poor guys, what they're gonna see.'"

"It's just hard when you know they're from here," she said, also giving praise

to EMS workers.

She said she found out it was Hawley later but doesn't know who the 32-year-old driver of the second vehicle was.

Mavridis remembers working with Hawley in the past.

"She was amazing. I worked for her when I did the sponsorship for the Niagara Jazz Festival. And she was just an amazing, amazing woman."

# Tiny Museum programming gets green light thanks to **grant money**

Sarah Kaufman  
The Lake Report

The Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum last week received more than \$50,000 in grants, including a big boost for its popular mobile Tiny Museum.

The museum was pleased to host Lisa MacLeod, Ontario's minister of heritage, sport, tourism and culture, MPPs Wayne Gates

and Sam Oosterhoff, and Lord Mayor Betty Disero for a provincial funding announcement for organizations in the Niagara Region.

The announcements included \$15,355 for the museum through the Community Museum Operating Grant and \$37,800 from the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

The Trillium Foundation grant will be used in partnership with \$25,000 from

the David S. Howes Fund and Vintage Hotels NOTL Community Fund at the Niagara Community Foundation, for the development of exhibitions and educational programs for our mobile museum, the Tiny Museum.

The Tiny Museum looks similar to a "tiny home" on a trailer, but its interior has been retrofitted with display cases.

We are very excited to

get this phase of the project started. Our school programming is minimal due to a lack of space at our facility and this project will help us step outside our doors and into the community to bring the collection and the history to the students and residents of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

A large portion of the money from these two grants will be used to hire a

co-ordinator who will make curriculum connections and develop the programs and exhibitions to help supplement teachers' lesson plans.

The Tiny Museum will not just be used for school programs. It will also be taken to community events and festivals across Niagara so that the NOTL Museum can continuously engage with the community and showcase Niagara-on-the-Lake's

vibrant cultural heritage.

MacLeod enjoyed a tour of the museum and a sneak peek at the Tiny Museum during her visit and expressed interest in its development.

Keep your eyes peeled over the next year to see where the Tiny Museum will pop up!

*Sarah Kaufman is the managing director and curator of the NOTL Museum.*



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# RIDDLE ME THIS

I am rarely touched but often held, and if you are smart you'll use me well. What am I?

Last week: I'm the beginning of eternity, the end of time and space, the beginning of every end, and the end of every place. What am I?

Answer: The letter "e"

Answered first by: Margie Enns

Also answered correctly (in order) by: Susan Hamilton, Janice Hall, Howard Jones, Niamh Jones, Terrie Courtlander, Trish Anthony, Sheila Meloche, Bill Hamilton, Brenda Bartley, Sylvia Wiens, Steve Ferley, Ross Holmes, Carol Durling, Dietlind Winter, Elaine Landray, Shelly McCloy, Natalie Early, Jon Schmidt

Email answers, with your name, to editor@niagaranow.com for a chance to win a prize. (Subject line: Riddle me this)

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Image Detail: Lauren Stewart Harris, Study for "In the Ward 1, City Paintings", 1918. Collection of Samuel E. Weir ©RiverBrink Art Museum

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
<p><b>COVID-19</b></p> <p>Due to COVID-19, many events are now virtual. Find a list of NOTL events here week to week.</p> <p>Stay safe, wash your hands, wear a mask and distance whenever possible.</p>			
<p><b>9</b></p> <p><b>Rotary Big Backyard Event</b> - 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. - www.rotarybigbackyardevent.org</p> <p><b>LiveStream LOVE</b></p> <p><b>WORLD Series: Amanda Martinez</b> - 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. - Virtual: www.youtube.com/watch?v=w1Dvm09Y5Ao</p> <p><b>Walking Tours of Historic NOTL</b> - 11 a.m. - Queen's Royal Park</p> <p><b>Yoga in the Vineyard</b> - 10 a.m. - Lakeview Wine Co.</p> <p><b>Yoga + Brunch</b> - 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Between the Lines Winery</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p><b>Committee of the Whole: Planning</b> - 6 p.m. - Virtual: livestream.com/notl -</p> <p><b>Afternoon Zoom Art Program: Draw</b> - 1 p.m. - niagarapumphouse.ca/programs/registration -</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p><b>Virtual Coffee with the Lord Mayor</b> - 6 p.m. - www.facebook.com/Town.of.NOTL/ -</p>	<p><b>Paint Night @ Lakeview</b> - 5:30 p.m. - Lakeview</p> <p><b>Afternoon Zoom Art Draw</b> - 1 p.m. - niagarapumphouse.ca/programs/registration -</p> <p><b>Come out and Play</b> - 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. - Niagara Pumphouse Arts Centre</p>
<p><b>16</b></p> <p><b>Walking Tours of Historic NOTL</b> - 11 a.m. - Queen's Royal Park</p> <p><b>Yoga in the Vineyard</b> - 10 a.m. - Lakeview Wine Co.</p> <p><b>Fife and Drum Muster and Soliders Field Day</b> - 10 a.m. - Fort George</p> <p><b>Ludwig in Vienna: Three Pearls</b> - 4 p.m. - Virtual: Facebook @MusicNiagaraFestival</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p><b>Committee of the Whole: General</b> - 6 p.m. - Virtual: https://notl.org/content/livestream-broadcast</p> <p><b>Morning Zoom Art Program: Paint</b> - 9 a.m. - https://niagarapumphouse.ca/programs/registration</p> <p><b>Afternoon Zoom Art Program: Paint</b> - 1 p.m. - https://niagarapumphouse.ca/programs/registration</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p><b>Virtual Coffee with the Lord Mayor</b> - 6 p.m. - Virtual: https://www.notl.org/content/virtual-coffee-lord-mayor</p> <p><b>Desiree's Ride Bike Nights</b> - 7 p.m. - Club 55</p> <p><b>Outdoor Sketching</b> - 9 a.m. - Niagara Pumphouse Arts Centre</p>	<p><b>Morning Zoom Art Paint</b> - 9 a.m. - https://niagarapumphouse.ca/registration</p> <p><b>Afternoon Zoom Art Paint</b> - 1 p.m. - https://niagarapumphouse.ca/registration</p> <p><b>Come out and Play</b> - 9 a.m. - Niagara Pumphouse Arts Centre</p>

Know of a local event? Tell us. Submit it directly to [www.niagara-notl.com](http://www.niagara-notl.com)



# Lake Report

PIN ME UP!



## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Aug. 6 - Aug. 22

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Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>6</b> <b>Environmental Advisory Committee</b> - 6 a.m. - Virtual: notl.org <b>Drop in Yoga</b> - 9 a.m. - RiverBrink Art Museum <b>RiverBrink Reads: The Underpainter by Jane Urquhart</b> - 11 a.m. - Virtual: riverbrink.org <b>Artist Workshop: Abstracting the Landscape with Lenore Walker</b> - 2 p.m. - RiverBrink Art Museum <b>Micro:bit Mini Camp</b> - 5 p.m. - notlcodeclub@gmail.com	<b>7</b> <b>Lion Burger Returns</b> - 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. - St. Davids Lions Club <b>Pumphouse: Out in the Open</b> - 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. - Niagara Pumphouse Arts Centre	<b>8</b> <b>Market @ The Village</b> - 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. - 111 Garrison Village Drive <b>Rotary Big Backyard Event</b> - 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. - www.rotarybigbackyardevent.org <b>Walking Tours of Historic NOTL</b> - 11 a.m. - Queen's Royal Park
<b>12</b> <b>Lakeview Wine Co.</b> Wine Co. <b>Art Program:</b> Niagarapumphouse.ca <b>with Pastels</b> Niagara Centre	<b>13</b> <b>Drop in Yoga</b> - 9 a.m. - RiverBrink Art Museum	<b>14</b> <b>Lion Burger Returns</b> - 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. - St. Davids Lions Club <b>Afternoon Zoom Art Program: Draw</b> - 1 p.m. - niagarapumphouse.ca/programs/registration <b>Drop in Yoga</b> - 9 a.m. - RiverBrink Art Museum	<b>15</b> <b>Market @ The Village</b> - 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. - 111 Garrison Village Drive <b>Walking Tours of Historic NOTL</b> - 11 a.m. - Queen's Royal Park <b>MJ's FryDay in support of the Matthews family</b> - 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. - MJ's Own Munchies
<b>19</b> <b>Art Program:</b> :// ca/programs/	<b>20</b> <b>Drop in Yoga</b> - 9 a.m. - RiverBrink Art Museum <b>The Cayuga and her Cohorts</b> - 4 p.m. - NOTL Museum via ZOOM <b>Craft Night at Lakeview Wine Co.</b> - 5:30 p.m. - Lakeview Wine Co.	<b>21</b> <b>Lion Burger Returns</b> - 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. - St. Davids Lions Club <b>Morning Zoom Art Program: Paint</b> - 9 a.m. - https://niagarapumphouse.ca/programs/registration <b>Afternoon Zoom Art Program: Paint</b> - 1 p.m. - https://niagarapumphouse.ca/programs/registration	<b>22</b> <b>Market @ The Village</b> - 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. - 111 Garrison Village Drive <b>Coconut Quartz Pop Up Shop</b> - 11 a.m. - Lakeview Wine Co. <b>Artist Workshop: Mandala Drawing with Lenore Walker</b> - 11 a.m. - RiverBrink Art Museum

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# Rare birds spotted near outlet mall in Glendale

Steve Hardaker  
Community Correspondent

An abundance of rarely seen birds have been spotted at the storm water pond near the Outlet Collection of Niagara in Glendale.

The area has proven to be a mecca for bird watchers this year.

Rarely seen birds like great egrets, black-crowned night herons, green herons, yellow-legs and soras have joined the more commonly seen mute swans, great blue herons, mallards and spotted sandpipers to provide a wonderful opportunity for bird watchers and photographers to add to their lists of identified birds.

My wife, Linda Hardaker, is an amateur photographer who lives in Glendale and walks the recreational trail at the Outlet Collection



A great egret in Glendale. LINDA HARDAKER

ponds early each morning as part of her post hip-replacement therapy.

She has enjoyed the experience of seeing many of these birds.

"The trails at the pond are made of crushed limestone that are much easier on my

joints than walking on concrete or asphalt. It is also very serene," Linda said.

Last Thursday morning during her regular 7 a.m. walk, she spotted 20 great egrets, three black-crowned night herons, and an adult and juvenile great

blue heron wading in the pond.

"It was an incredible sight, a sight I have never seen before. I really don't know what to make of this, to see so many. There has to be a reason for the increase in numbers," said Linda.

So, why are we seeing so many great egrets and other less common waterfowl and shorebirds in Niagara this year?

According to Cornell University's Lab of Ornithology, "Great egrets were hunted nearly to extinction for their plumes in the late 19th century, sparking conservation movements and some of the first laws to protect birds."

According to the latest "Trends in Canada's Bird Populations" published by Environment and Climate Change Canada in 2019, "between 1970 and 2016, waterfowl populations increased by 150 per cent."

That is in contrast to shore birds, which have declined during the same period by 40 per cent. The report suggests "the

increase in waterfowl populations is due to wetland habitat protection and restoration, careful hunting management and increased waste grain in agricultural areas."

Why this year we are seeing an abundance of great egrets and other less-common birds here in Niagara remains a mystery. Perhaps we can thank, or blame, climate change and a northern push of southern migratory birds.

Whatever the reason, these rarely seen bird species are providing a wonderful glimpse for avid bird watchers and photographers in Niagara to add to their collections of identified birds.

Steve Hardaker has lived in Glendale for 10 years and is active in many community organizations.

## McCulloch wins NOTL Legends Cup

Kevin MacLean  
Managing Editor

A new Legend was crowned at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Golf Club this week as Doug McCulloch won the annual Legends Cup competition.

The tournament, played over two consecutive Tuesdays, is for men over 80.

McCulloch carded a one-over par 37 and then held on with a 46 in the tough second round to beat Gerry Shelly (41-44) by two shots. John Reid (43-48) finished third.

Some of the youngest golfers at the NOTL club also competed in the junior club championships.

In the junior boys under-19 category, Bruce DeLuca was victorious (41-40=80), edging Jake Kocsis (41-43=84) by four shots.



Doug McCulloch, Legends Cup winner. FILE PHOTO

The juvenile boys under-17 champ, Jaden Patterson, shot 84 (45-39) for a slim one-shot win over Paedar Nolan (44-41).

In the bantam boys under-15 competition, Brandon Falk (47-44=91) was first, followed by Marsden Tataryn (48-45=93) and Evan Harlond (51-43=94).

**MEN'S LEAGUE:** Steve

Levy continued his hot pace and for the second consecutive week was one of the big winners in NOTL Golf Club men's league action.

Levy topped the leaderboard with 24 points in modified Stableford scoring, followed by George Davie with 23. Ten golfers were tied with 21 points: Ken Burr, Terry Catney, Mark Derbyshire, Nino Ferrantelli, Tom Goodbody, Johnson Hu, Larry Mantle, Ron Newman, Dragan Racic and Glenn Young.

Derbyshire again won the low gross, shooting a sizzling 3-under 33.

Davie (#1), Earl Shore (#3) and Hu (#5) scooped \$180 net skins. Gross skins (\$20 each) went to Mantle (#2), Derbyshire (#4), Jim McMacken (#5) and Racic (#9).

## Niagara Pumphouse reopens with tour and online art auction

Jessica Maxwell  
The Lake Report

Events at the Niagara Pumphouse Arts Centre will look a little bit different in 2020.

Eight months into the year, the Pumphouse was able to hold its first fundraiser on Aug. 2. The next event is an online auction set to run from Aug. 17 to 31.

The arts centre opened its doors to more than 170 guests, at various tour times throughout the day, for a tour of completed renovations and artist talk with Beverley Barber, who is featured in the Joyner Gallery for the month of August.

The money raised will be used to help cover operating expenses during COVID-19.

Art from Pumphouse members is currently featured in the Walker room, artwork created by online art students is in the children's studio and Niki Kingsmill, Ontario artist and host of the arts centre's online watercolour classes, is showcased in the lobby.

The centre's first online auction will include paint-



Lord Mayor Betty Disero, NOTL Chamber of Commerce President Eduardo Lafforgue and his wife check-in with volunteers at the renovation re-opening tour on Aug. 2. JESSICA MAXWELL

ing, photographs and sculptures by artists from all over Ontario.

Pumphouse exhibit chair Mark Skeffington said once the call for submissions started, the response was "far more than we expected."

With almost 120 submissions, he said the Pumphouse decided to break the pieces to be sold into two separate auctions rather than one auction with a large number of works.

Twenty-five pieces will be included in the first auction, with works from Julie Ponesse, Geoff Fransworth, Emily Andrews, Win Henstock and many more.

"We're adapting to the situation," Skeffington said. "Typically we wouldn't have an auction."

"I think it would just be kind of exciting to see how the community responds to supporting both the artists and the Pumphouse at the same time. We don't really know what to expect."

Farnsworth, a contemporary fine art painter whose work is included in the auction, also will be featured at the Pumphouse in October. He stopped by for the renovation tour.

"I just love the Pumphouse," he said. "It just feels exciting to get back to being able to be in an art space."

## Voting starts for NOTL photo contest

Jessica Maxwell  
The Lake Report

Hobby photographers' responses to Niagara-on-the-Lake's call for submissions of photos that highlight the town brought in more than

250 photos since the beginning of June.


The town received 257 submissions, with the most popular photo category being "Amenities and Places."

The top five photos in each of five categories were

chosen by town staff and are available for public voting until Aug. 14.

Vote online at [www.jointheconversationnotl.org/photo-contest](http://www.jointheconversationnotl.org/photo-contest).

Winners will be announced on Aug. 17.



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# Petition against noise bylaw garners hundreds of signatures in hours

Richard Harley  
The Lake Report

If you asked comedian Joe Pillitteri what he thinks about proposed changes to Niagara-on-the-Lake's noise bylaw, he'd probably tell you they're more comedic than he is.

Tuesday evening Pillitteri started a Change.org petition against the noise bylaw and had already garnered more than 500 signatures by 9 p.m. By press time Wednesday it was up to 1,300 signatures.

The page includes a video of Pillitteri and a list of reasons why he thinks the proposed bylaw should be rejected as it stands.

"A draft bylaw in Niagara-on-the-Lake is threatening to destroy the essence of our incredible town and jeopardize our quality of



Joe Pillitteri isn't fond of proposed changes to the NOTL noise bylaw. SOURCED

life. We demand that these proposed revisions be rejected," the petition reads.

It says the draft bylaw, which would prevent any music exceeding a sound level of 55 dB(A) from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m., would affect residents' quality of life and hurt businesses.

"To add perspective, 55 dB(A) is less than the sound level of a normal conversation," the petition says.

"These proposed revisions would reduce our quality of life by control-

ling the way we enjoy our homes, restricting how we celebrate special occasions with family and friends, limiting recreational and cultural arts activities, eliminating outdoor concerts and live music on patios, and by diminishing the quality of our community events."

It goes on to say that "there is a risk to our economy when our local restaurants, breweries, wineries and event facilities will be restricted to the

events they can host."

"Our extremely talented local musicians will be forced to look elsewhere for work as this will limit the number of available gigs for them."

Pillitteri also points out that wineries and restaurants in NOTL have helped to raise over \$500,000 for various charitable foundations, including the Terry Fox Foundation, Niagara Community Foundation, Canadian Cancer Society, NOTL minor sports, Red Roof Retreat, Kidsport Niagara, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Rotary Club, and various other community initiatives.

You can find the petition at [www.change.org/p/niagara-on-the-lake-town-council-staff-save-the-community-and-business-spirit-of-niagara-on-the-lake](http://www.change.org/p/niagara-on-the-lake-town-council-staff-save-the-community-and-business-spirit-of-niagara-on-the-lake)



David Greaves and Heinz Probst sell homemade jam on Saturday. RICHARD HARLEY

## Grace United jam sale a sweet success

Richard Harley  
The Lake Report

NOTL's Grace United Church was busy selling jams this weekend.

The jams, made by church members, including John Greaves, a relative of the well-known Greaves jam company, were made with

as many local ingredients as possible, said Heinz Probst, a member of the church.

The apricots came from his farm, the strawberries were sourced locally and the yellow plums came from Seaway Farms, Probst said.

He said the sale went well, raising more than \$1,000 to support the church.

# Music Niagara to host free double bill event this Sunday

Richard Baker  
Special to The Lake Report

This Sunday, Music Niagara continues its At Home Series with music produced by two strikingly different instruments.

One is all touch and a mainstay of all music; the other is no touch at all, and widely unknown.

This latter instrument, the Theremin, is a fascinating electronic device invented in 1920 by a young Russian physicist, Leon Theremin, as part of the then Russian government-sponsored, and decidedly not musical, research



Thorwald Jørgensen. SUPPLIED

into proximity sensors.

It consists of two metal antennas that sense the relative position of the player's hands and control oscillators for frequency with one hand, and volume with

the other. The electric signals are then amplified and sent to a loudspeaker.

The result is an ethereal and pure sound with a spooky quality that has been widely used in movies

and television shows, recently and notably in "Midsummer Murders," as well as in 21st-century new music and rock. The Moog synthesizer was later a byproduct.

Our performance is by Dutch thereminist Thorwald Jørgensen, one of the leading classical theremin players in the world. He has played in leading orchestras, as a chamber musician, soloist and on radio and television around the world. His elegant, almost immobile stance and unmoved expression as he coaxes the ether into producing sound is quite remarkable to witness, and

much enhanced by the immediacy of the video.

The other instrument is, of course, the piano, this week featured in a recital by Constanze Beckmann, an artist familiar to our audience from previous appearances with Music Niagara.

The German-born Beckmann has performed throughout Europe, Canada and Israel. She regularly plays with musicians from the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and the Gewandhaus Orchestra Leipzig, and is a sought-after collaborator for singers and string players.

Since 2010 she also has participated in numerous

projects as a pianist and curator featuring works composed by survivors as part of Holocaust Education Week. Beckmann will play three pieces: Bach's Partita No. 4 in D major; Mozart's Piano Sonata K.576 in D major and Brahms' Intermezzo No. 1 in E-Flat Major, Op. 117.

To watch Sunday's performances or find information on the 2020 season, go to Music Niagara's new website on the day of the event at [www.musicniagara.org](http://www.musicniagara.org) and click on "Watch Live."

Richard Baker is chair of Music Niagara's board of directors.

# New private guided tours and extended hours at Fort George this summer

Brittany Carter  
The Lake Report

The gates are opening at Fort George in Niagara-on-the-Lake with the announcement of small private guided tours on Wednesdays and extended opening hours from Thursdays through Sundays for the remainder of the summer.

Tours of the fort will be

limited to groups of no more than nine people and reservations should be made at least one week in advance. Guided tours will run at 11 a.m., 1, 2 and 3 p.m. Tickets cost \$11.90 for adults, \$10.20 for seniors and \$3.90 for youth and can be reserved by calling 905-468-6614 or emailing [pc.niagaraont.pc@canada.ca](mailto:pc.niagaraont.pc@canada.ca).

Until Sept. 6 visitors can

experience the private tours and also take advantage of the new hours of operation. The site will be open for regular attendance from noon to 4 p.m., Thursday to Sunday. During that time the visitor centre, public washrooms and most heritage buildings will be open.

Regular admission fees will be collected at the visitor centre and guests

are asked to pay with debit or credit, or to purchase a Discovery Pass online prior to arriving.

Outdoor musket demonstrations, fife and drum performances and featured special presentations will continue during the new extended hours. Visitors will be notified of the day's schedule upon arrival, weather permitting.

Parks Canada is also reopening Brock's Monument at Queenston Heights from noon to 4 p.m., Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays until Thanksgiving. Costumed interpreters from the Friends of Fort George will be on-site to interact with visitors.

Guided tours of the monument will take place at 1, 2 and 3 p.m. each day and can be booked at [friendsoffort-george.ca](http://friendsoffort-george.ca). Tours cost \$3.50 per person and are free for children under five.

The new featured program called Brock Talks will also begin this week. Scott Finlay, a Parks Canada interpreter who portrayed Maj.-Gen. Sir Isaac Brock in the Bicentennial of the War of 1812, will speak about Brock's life Saturdays and Sundays at noon.



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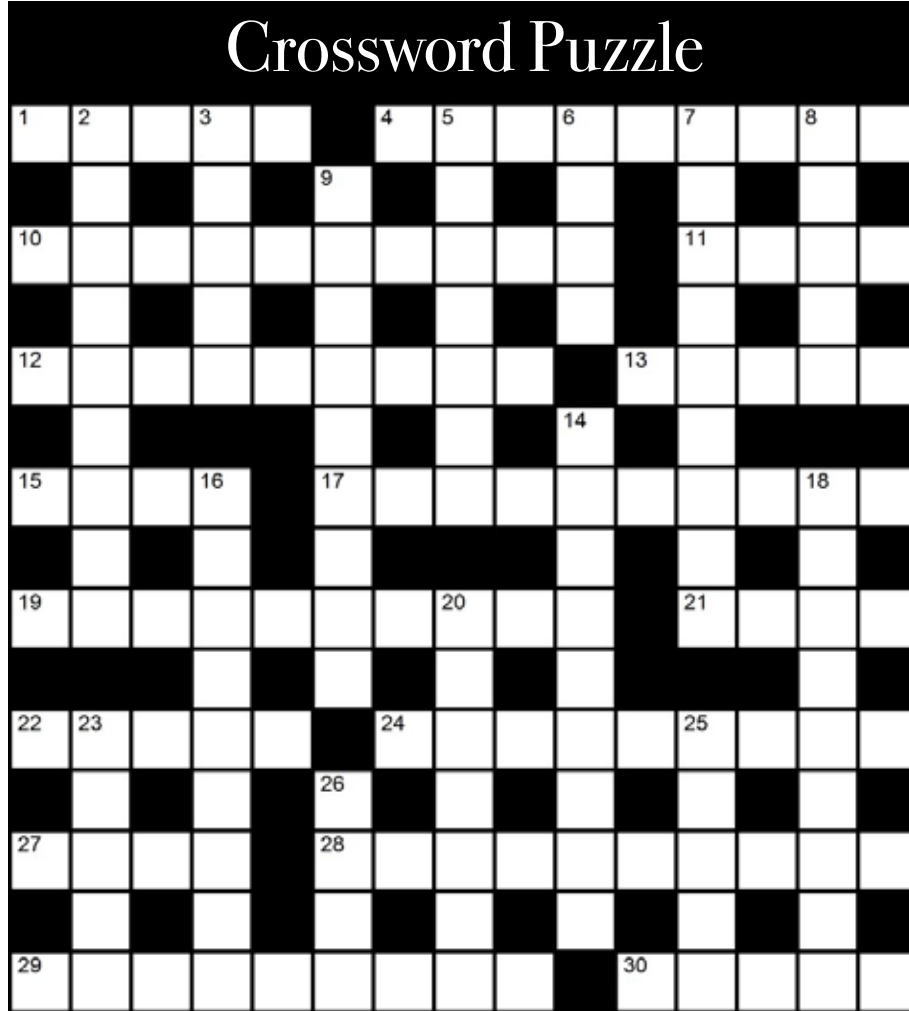
# GAMES



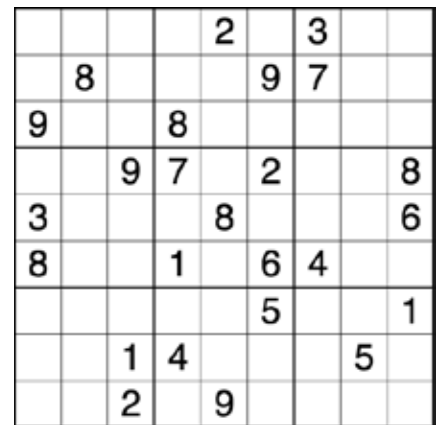
*Have some fun*

The Lake Report is looking for puzzle makers who would like to help develop this page. We are seeking both standard and cryptic crossword writers. [editor@niagaranow.com](mailto:editor@niagaranow.com)

- Across**
- Rapid nuclear reactor shut-down (5)
  - Helper (9)
  - Dressing (10)
  - Atop (4)
  - Ministers (9)
  - Bender (5)
  - Sets of equipment (4)
  - Female big cat (10)
  - Herefordshire town (10)
  - Type of heating fuel (4)
  - Reprimand (5)
  - Contented (9)
  - Waist band (4)
  - Volume for preliminary artistic studies (10)
  - Steam locomotive (4,5)
  - One of these means almost cloudless (5)
- Down**
- Truce (5-4)
  - Isolated (5)
  - Snow vehicle (7)
  - Notion (4)
  - Fabricated (7-2)
  - Hangman's knot (5)
  - Emphasize (9)
  - Wig (9)
  - Ignorant person (9)
  - Whipping boy (9)
  - Makes journeys (7)
  - Gaiety (5)
  - Legend (5)
  - Capital of Norway (4)



## Last issue's answers



  
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## MJ's fry-day to support woman with MS

Richard Harley  
The Lake Report

A Niagara business is stepping up to help a former employee and family friend raise money to fund accessibility needs for her mother who has multiple sclerosis.

On "fry-day" Aug. 15 at MJ's Own Munchies on Lakeshore Road from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. proceeds from all fry sales, including poutines and chili cheese fries, will be donated to the Matthews family.

Money raised will provide Jeanne Matthews with the ongoing medical equipment, supplies she needs and home renovations like a wheelchair ramp to help her



Mary-Jo Werner and Meka Matthews stand outside MJ's Own Munchies where the fry-day fundraiser will take place August 15. JESSICA MAXWELL

return home.

Starting the fundraiser for her mother, who was diagnosed in 2013, was the hardest part as her mother is a very selfless person, said Meka Matthews.

Jeanne was taken by ambulance to St. Catharines hospital on May 12 after an MS attack to be stabilized and went through numerous tests.

She was moved to Hotel

Dieu Shaver hospital on May 27 and has been there ever since for rehabilitation because of the amount of pain she is in, said Matthews.

She cannot return home without accessibility accommodations made to her home and because the family did not qualify for any funding for renovations, her mother was starting to consider alternatives like moving into a nursing home.

"I had asked so many times before and she was 1,000 per cent against it," Matthews said.

**Read the full story online at [www.niagaranow.com/news.phtml/4270](http://www.niagaranow.com/news.phtml/4270)**

## Dr. Brown: Slow progress on Alzheimer's



Dr. William Brown is a professor of neurology at McMaster University and co-founder of the Infohealth series held at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Public Library.

Dr. William Brown  
Special to The Lake Report

My wife, now 77 and living in a NOTL nursing home, showed the earliest signs of dementia of the Alzheimer type more than 10 years before – signs of which family members, friends and I barely took notice at the outset.

Those signs became evident to all in later years, when working backward, we compared notes with one another and recalled the earliest memory lapses, mistakes in weaving which she would never have made before, which became increasingly common and frustrating. There also were subtle difficulties keeping track of financial accounts and calendar events.

An outgoing person by

nature, only later in the disease did she begin to lose some of her natural confidence and enjoyment of people.

These and other signs strongly suggest the cognitive and behavioural declines associated with Alzheimer's disease begin much earlier than most patients, their families and family physicians are aware and much earlier than all but the most discriminating neuropsychological tests might reveal.

However, PET (positron emission tomography) scans and studies of the cerebrospinal fluid reveal a different picture; amyloid deposits in the brain and elevated amyloid in the cerebrospinal fluid one or two decades before the first obvious symptoms attributable to Alzheimer's.

No surprise here – post-mortem studies of the brains of Alzheimer's patients point to the loss of 30 to 50 per cent of the brain cells in selected regions, such as the hippocampus, and the attendant loss of all the related often widespread neural connections by this stage.

Those PET and pathological observations make a compelling case for early intervention to protect the most vulnerable brain cells, long before the disease becomes clinically obvious,

when it may be too late to intervene.

Unfortunately, the Alzheimer world crashed a year ago because trial after trial of drugs designed to forestall or slow the buildup of amyloid and thus it was hoped, progression of the disease, failed. It was the end of a global 10-year investment in the amyloid hypothesis as the cause of Alzheimer's and an example that in medicine we sometimes put all our eggs in one basket and when they crash, so do our hopes.

Is tau, known to be responsible for the neurofibrillary tangles in Alzheimer's, the primary cause of the disease or yet another investigative mistake in the offing? (\* See note below.) Are we missing a more basic cause that might have little to do with amyloid or tau? At this point we don't know.

That's unfortunate as clinical trials in AD are very expensive because of the need, until now, for PET scans and for some trials, cerebrospinal fluid analysis for amyloid and tau. That's where the good news comes in.

Recently, blood tests for tau have been developed which apparently are as sensitive as PET scans and cerebrospinal fluid studies for identifying Alzheimer's. That's a huge plus if the

claims are supported, because reliable blood tests would make future clinical trials, especially for those in the very early stages of Alzheimer's, much cheaper and easier for patients and families.

There is hope on the horizon – hope many, including me – thought was dashed by the dismal outcome of so many promising drugs for Alzheimer's.

*NOTE: At the end of my neurology training in Toronto, I was involved in research on Alzheimer's. The project involved using aluminium to induce the pathological hallmarks of the disease in the brains and spinal cords of cats to learn whether cells jam-packed with neurofibrillary tangles, functioned normally, or not. At the end of the study, which involved recording from single motor nerve cells in the spinal cord, every one of which had tangles, the findings weren't at all what I expected. Every single one of those cells behaved normally despite the tangles. Hence, I've been skeptical of the amyloid and tau hypotheses since they emerged several decades ago. And if you're wondering whether I would consider repeating a study like that on cats – of course not.*

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## Obituaries

### Marcia Elizabeth (Liz) Hawley



MARCIA ELIZABETH "LIZ" HAWLEY (nee GOULD), 60, was killed on July 29, 2020 in Niagara-on-the-Lake in an automobile accident. Daughter of the late John (1975) and Marcia (2009), she is survived by her husband John, her three brothers; Hal (Kim), Jay (Jan), Tim (Bonnie), her three children; Adam (Brienne), Ransom (Whitney), Jay (Samantha), and her six grandchildren; Ransom, Merritt, Easton, Callie, Malcolm, and Levi. She was an unbelievable wife, mother, nana, sister, and friend. Her love for her Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, was evident to all who knew her, and compelled her to continually find ways to love those around her.

During her life, Liz gave much of her free time to supporting women that were escaping abuse and recovering from addiction. She directed proceeds from her businesses to organizations that fought human trafficking, and she would often spend hours a day praying, talking, crying, and laughing with friends when they needed help through dark times or wanted to celebrate milestones and victories.

Liz was a gifted and celebrated interior designer. She found outlets for her incredible creativity in everything she did, including in Refuge Antiques & Giftery, a beloved store in Niagara-on-the-Lake, and in her unique sense of style, her jewelry designs, her poetry, her sense of humour, and play time with her grandchildren.

Liz and John and their sons moved to Niagara-on-the-Lake from Toronto in 1991 and never looked back. She loved her adopted hometown, and her positive impact and legacy can be felt through her visionary work as a Co-Founder of The Village neighbourhood and the cherished Farmers' Market and SupperMarket community events, as well as her invaluable behind the scenes efforts helping John with his role on the important work of creating the Landscape of Nations memorial at Queenston Heights, and the Voices of Freedom park in Old Town.

Her favourite place and refuge was the family cottage in Ridgeway, where she would find rest and peace with John, and laughter and fun with her children and grandchildren. There she designed beautiful spaces for her family to relax, create, and enjoy one another's company. It is impossible for her family to express just how much she will be missed.

A private Funeral Service for family will be held on Friday, August 7, 2020. A celebration of life will be held at a location and on a date yet to be determined. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Joy Smith Foundation and/or Rising Angels.

Memories, photos and condolences may be shared at [www.morganfuneral.com](http://www.morganfuneral.com)



### Kenneth Norman Young



YOUNG, Kenneth Norman - Passed away peacefully at home with his family by his side on Sunday, August 2, 2020 at the age of 80. He will be deeply missed. Devoted husband of 58 years to Ayesha. Loved and loving father of Wesley (Katrina), Roshana (Glenn), and Zack. Cherished grandfather of Olivia, Aidan, and Georgia. A man of many passions, music and sports were an integral part of his life, he will be missed by his many sports colleagues. Ken Young was the Owner and Creative Director of DW2 Inc. for

34 years. DW2 Inc. was a renowned Design Studio specializing in design concepts and planning for Worlds Fairs, Museums, Halls of Fame, Visitor Centres, Industrial Pavilions and Multimedia Graphic Campaigns. He was a Consultant to Disney Imagineering California, Associates and Ferren Long Island and Bran Ferren's Applied Minds Inc., where he took up the post of Chief Designer in Glendale, California. Retiring in 2009, he returned to Canada and Niagara-on-the-Lake as an illustrator and painter. Please take some time to view his past and current work at [www.kenyoungartanddesign.com](http://www.kenyoungartanddesign.com). Special thanks to nurses Michael and Helen, RNP M. McKelvey. and Drs. K. Conen and S. Durocher for their dedicated and compassionate care. As per Ken's wishes, cremation has taken place. Respecting the restrictions of COVID-19, including maximum occupancy levels and the requirement for face coverings (see [www.thebao.ca](http://www.thebao.ca)), a Funeral service in celebration of his life will take place at the PATTERSON FUNERAL HOME, 6062 Main St. Niagara Falls on Tuesday August 11, 2020 at 1 pm. In memory of Ken, memorial contributions may be made to The Niagara Health Foundation (Walker Family Cancer Centre), and would be appreciated by his family. Online condolences at [pattersonfuneralhome.com](http://pattersonfuneralhome.com)



## COVID forces Rotary Club to **reinvent** fundraising plans

Jessica Maxwell  
The Lake Report

The Niagara-on-the-Lake Rotary Club is hard at work finding creative new ways to fundraise in 2020 and some of those ideas will come to life in October.

"Everyone needs to think outside of the box this year because some of the more traditional methods of fundraising are just no longer available," said Lynne LeGallais, who is chair of the multi-location estate sale, one of the club's new fundraisers.

"As a fairly new member of Rotary, I can tell you I see a lot of people who care, who want to make a difference and are willing to work hard to make that happen," said LeGallais.

In keeping with the club's



NOTL Rotary Members Ken Schander (president), Lynne LeGallais (estate sales chair), Jolanta Janny Kudlats (fundraising chair and marketing co-chair) and Patricia Murenbeeld (president elect and new generations chair) discuss upcoming fundraisers. JESSICA MAXWELL

motto, Rotarians are people of action, says Jolanta Janny, fundraising chair and marketing co-chair of the NOTL club.

The two new events are the estate sale and a virtual tasting tour.

The estate sale is Oct. 3 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and the club is seeking item donations now. Money raised will support and feed children in Niagara.

Items collected and donated in the community will be for sale at five Niagara locations, part of an effort to split up attendees and maintain physical distancing.

Donations are encouraged to be dropped off from Aug. 12 to 14. This will ensure the items can sit untouched for a week to 10 days to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19.

Those interested in donating items can contact Rotary members Janny at [jolantajanny@gmail.com](mailto:jolantajanny@gmail.com) or 905-468-2297 or LeGallais at [rlegallais8@gmail.com](mailto:rlegallais8@gmail.com) or 910-986-1305.

Niagara-on-the-Lake locations include 19 Colonel Butter Cres., 8 Centre St. and 949 East West Line. Niagara Falls locations include 6831 and 6849 Carmella Place. A rain date

for the sale is Oct. 4.

The Virtual Tasting Tour will be held on Tuesdays in October:

Participants will be able to purchase a ticket online for each week of tastings.

Each week will feature a different winery. NOTL wineries included in the virtual tastings include Caroline Cellars, Strewn, Hare Wine Co. and Between the Lines. Delivery from each winery will include two bottles of wine, white and red.

The wine will come with tasting notes, recipe suggestions to pair with the tasting and some history on how the wine was produced and aged.

Area residents can pick up their wines from the wineries directly.

As a result of COVID-19 shutdowns and restric-

tions many annual events run by Rotary have been cancelled this year, like the Holiday House Tour, which has operated for the past 22 years.

As a result, coming together to brainstorm and reinvent the fundraising model for the non-profit organization was crucial.

NOTL Rotary president Ken Schander became involved with the club when he moved to town after retiring. Recognizing that everyone involved has something different to bring to the table and make a difference is an important part of what Rotary does, he said in an interview.

"How do we put these people to work, how can we expand what we're doing because everybody brings a gift" are keys to success, Schander said.



**Opened Tuesday - Sunday 5 p.m. - 9 p.m.**  
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**EXPLORING PHOTOS**  
WITH NOTL MUSEUM



## Second World War farmerette

Here is a photo of a farmerette from the Second World War working on one of the local farms with her supervisor, Mr. Woods. These young women, usually aged 16 or older, were hired through the Farm Service Force to assist in harvesting fruits and vegetables for the canning industry. Depending on the job, the pay was 25 cents per hour, or they were paid by the number of baskets collected. These young women were put to work in Niagara, St. Davids, Queenston, Virgil and other locales within the township. Some of the girls were housed in tents in orchards, while others were placed in high schools or empty motels. In the fall, they would return home until the following year.

**ARCHITEXT**

## A French royalist in Niagara

Brian Marshall  
Columnist

The politics of Revolutionary France was a battleground of conflicting philosophies and interests; as Joseph-Geneviève de Puisaye and other members of the constitutional monarchist Girondins had found to their dismay.

As royalist exiles living in England, their attempts to regain a foothold in France had failed and, by 1797, many were prepared to consider a plan championed by the Comte de Puisaye for a French Royalist settlement in the Canadas. By leveraging English fears of spreading republican sentiment in the colony, de Puisaye successfully negotiated the



The Comte de Puisaye House. SUPPLIED/BRIAN MARSHALL

Crown's agreement for land grants and support that would allow the exiles to build a monarchist community in Upper Canada.

Early 1799 saw the exiles clearing land and building houses on land in what is now Richmond Hill. However, de Puisaye was not to remain. Purchasing the land and house of Walter Butler Sheehan (nephew of Col. John Butler) in Niagara, he moved here without delay.

In 1802, having written his memoirs, improved the Niagara farm, and acquired

a second property in York, de Puisaye sailed back to England leaving his brother-in-law to manage his holdings. Perhaps he intended to return, but he never did.

The house in Niagara was converted to a store. During the War of 1812, both sides took turns using it as a hospital. After the war it returned to its original status as a dwelling and passed through multiple hands until the 1960s when it was threatened with demolition.

Money was raised and the house was moved to McFarland Park. Eventually it was

privately acquired, moved again, restored and adjoined as the wing of a modern house.

Built circa 1793, the house was a respectable 1.5-storey structure in the Loyalist Georgian tradition. Clad in clapboard, the rigid symmetry centred on the main entry with two openings to either side is typical of the style, as is the formal, almost severe trim.

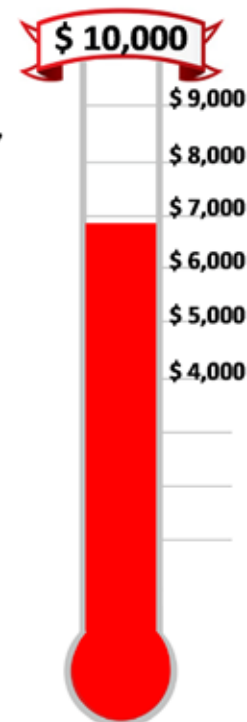
Ranking the centre dormer directly above the main entry provided a precise vertical axis allowing the other two dormers, placed equidistantly to either side, to display a pleasing balance.

While the restoration architect's choice of shed dormers (as opposed to gable) and casement windows may be historically improbable on a late 18th-century house, neither is beyond the realm of possibility. Moreover, each of these elements contributes to the distinction between old and new in the overall composition of the current "blended" house.

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# Cleaning up the lake

COVID forces annual environmental blitz to change direction

Brittany Carter  
The Lake Report

Rochelle Byrne paddled her way into Queen's Royal Park in NOTL late Saturday morning, leaving 420 kilometres of cleaner shores in her wake for the Love Your Lake project, which collected more than 40,000 pieces of litter.

The stand-up paddle board excursion and shoreline cleanup is run by A Greener Future, a not-for-profit founded by Byrne in 2014. It works with local communities to promote environmental preservation and Love Your Lake is a series of 100 litter cleanups along the shores of Lake Ontario.

In previous years Love Your Lake featured public shoreline cleanup events from Niagara-on-the-Lake all the way to Kingston. But due to COVID-19 physical distancing measures, Byrne said her team needed to devise a new way to continue the program without holding public events.

The stand-up paddle board was added to the mix after the pandemic hit. Byrne said with many parks and beaches closed off in the beginning, she realized the only way to reach some shoreline areas for a cleanup was by water. After discovering a love for paddle boarding only a year ago, she made a plan to take the journey.

"We still wanted to be able to engage the public and hopefully raise awareness and get people involved, even if it is just virtually. So, we still did cleanups, but we did them independently. It was with our team and some of our core volunteers that have been out with us before," Byrne said.

This year the team members worked in the opposite direction. They began in Kingston on July 1 and as Byrne manoeuvred



Top: Rochelle Byrne leaves Toronto for her journey to clean up the shores. Left: Byrne after arriving at her final stop in NOTL. Right: Byrne paddles into Queen's Royal Park, concluding her 420-kilometre trip from Kingston.  
BRITTANY CARTER/SUPPLIED PHOTOS/ CHELSEA BRASH



the stand-up paddle board along the lake, her team followed on land, gauged her distance, and did cleanups at each stop. The excursion concluded on Aug. 1 at Queen's Royal Park.

In total, the team collected 40,670 pieces of litter over the month, with 5,923 pieces collected along shorelines in Niagara.

Byrne, 33, said she knew she could handle the endurance side of paddle boarding more than 400 kilometres in a month, having twice completed the Camino de Santiago, a 790-kilometre pilgrimage in Europe.

The navigation, weather

forecasting and her lack of paddle boarding experience proved the most challenging. While she has logged many hours in her first year, that is still a relatively short amount of time to decide to paddle around the lake, she said.

"There was definitely a lot of challenges along the way that I didn't have experience with because I've only been paddle boarding for just over a year," she said.

"There were a lot of times where there were waves that were really big and winds against me and I didn't even realize until halfway that the current was actually against me a majority of the

way because all the water is flowing towards the St. Lawrence."

And though some sections of her ride were a bit risky because there was nowhere to get off the water if the weather turned, for the most part she said it was "a lot of fun."

"For someone who was really inexperienced, it would be really scary to be caught in a situation where you can't get out of the water, and you don't have anyone to come help you," she said.

NOTL was an ideal ending point because of the long-standing partnership between A Greener Future

and Paddle Niagara, she said.

"We partner with Paddle Niagara because we usually do a big cleanup here. Last year we had about 60 people come out," she said.

"Tim at Paddle Niagara has been awesome because he really believes in what A Greener Future is doing and it just seems to mesh really well together that like he loves being on Lake Ontario and showing people how to paddle board and I want to keep the lake clean. It just kind of works together."

Tim Balasiuk, owner of Paddle Niagara, said the company runs a kids camp and one day of the

week-long camp is dedicated to beach cleanup.

"Every week there's a day that's dedicated to the environment ... every single time we have beach cleanup we talk about Rochelle and all of her efforts with A Greener Future," Balasiuk said.

As for Byrne's drive to paddle the 420 kilometres to NOTL, he said he's "super, super, proud" of her.

"I can't believe it, 420 kilometres. I've been paddling for a long time. I'd like to think that I know a bit about paddling and when you talk about long distance paddling, 420 kilometres is, for me, that's crazy."

"So, it just goes to show that anyone can do anything they put their mind to," he said.

Byrne said she hopes this excursion and future efforts by A Greener Future and Love Your Lake will continue to bring awareness to each person's impact on the environment.

"One step at a time, becoming aware and making one change at a time. If you try and do too much at once it gets overwhelming and then probably not going to end up being successful."

She said people can make a difference by just deciding to use a reusable water bottle instead of buying plastic, or, once COVID is over, to bring your reusable coffee mug to the coffee shop instead of getting a paper cup.

"It's little things like that that really add up over time. And if you're out on the lake paddle boarding, picking up a piece of litter. It doesn't take a lot of work and every little piece helps," Byrne said.

Her team continues to engage with communities to promote environmental preservation. You can follow the organization's progress and learn about ways to get involved at [agreenerfuture.ca](http://agreenerfuture.ca).

STEELE GALLERY

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