



Is it hateful? Experts talk about 'traditional marriage' sign



Experts say a sign supporting "traditional marriage" is a form of hate to marginalized groups.
FILE PHOTO

Richard Harley
The Lake Report

A sign celebrating "traditional marriage" in Niagara-on-the-Lake recently caused a firestorm, after a neighbour and member of the LGBTQ+ community took to social media to decry it as a form of intolerance and microaggression.

The sign has since been removed, but The Lake Report's news coverage sparked numerous comments and letters from residents who denied the sign is hateful or intolerant.

Some commenters said it should be someone's right to support their traditional marriage if that's their personal or religious belief. Others suggested criticiz-

ing the sign is an attack on traditional marriage itself.

On the other hand, most people who commented on NOTL social media about the issue seemed to see the sign as a clear display of homophobia.

The homeowner, Rudi Koller, said his sign was a direct response to the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake supporting the LGBTQ+

community by celebrating Pride Month and a plan by the municipality to install a rainbow crosswalk in Old Town.

So, The Lake Report sought out some expert opinions on the subject.

Sébastien Roback, a researcher with the Canadian Anti-Hate Network, said while his organization tries to avoid making assump-

tions, the sign seems to send a clear message against gay marriage.

Using open-ended language is a common tactic for people who want to express hate or intolerance, he said.

"A lot of hate groups, hate peddlers or hateful individuals will use lan-

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Get your greens at library



Debbie Krause says the veggies are coming and going daily. EVAN SAUNDERS

Community garden supplies veggies

Evan Saunders
Local Journalism Initiative
The Lake Report

NOTLers have a new place to get fresh veggies – for free, or an optional donation.

The Niagara-on-the-Lake Public Library is branching out and, together with the town's Communities in Bloom committee, has opened a market stand – inside the library.

Fresh veggies from the community garden directly behind the library are available each Tuesday to Saturday.

The stand, just inside

the front entrance, is brimming with beets, tomatoes, potatoes, zucchini, eggplant and fresh herbs. More vegetables will come in as they sprout in the garden.

Debbie Krause, the library's community engagement co-ordinator, isn't worried about supply.

"The way the garden looks it seems there will be lots," she said. "I think we're going to have more than enough as the weeks go by."

The stand should operate until at least the end of September thanks to the inclusion of cold-hardy vegetables like carrots and potatoes, Communities in Bloom

chair Vicky Downes said in an interview Wednesday.

The stand has been busy and Downes said she needs to refill it regularly to keep up with demand.

Not all the community garden produce is being reserved for the market stand, though.

"We also gave a bunch of food to Newark Neighbours," Downes said.

"It's just coming on like gangbusters."

Vegetables are donated every Tuesday and Thursday to the Newark Neighbours food bank. They are stored in a new fridge donated by the NOTL Legion Branch 124.

In about two weeks, the committee will be giving a large donation of vegetables to Niagara-on-the-Lake's migrant workers.

Downes thanked the nine volunteers who have been tending to the garden and using their green thumbs to produce vegetables for the whole community.

While the food is free, residents can give back and thank Communities in Bloom for its generosity if they wish.

"You can leave a donation or not. There's no requirement but there is a donation jar there," Downes said.

Youth urged to get both COVID shots before school

Unvaccinated kids ages 12-17 need first dose by next Tuesday

Kevin MacLean
The Lake Report

With just over one-third of 12- to 17-year-olds fully vaccinated, Niagara Region public health is pushing hard for young people to get their shots before school resumes in September.

Because of the break needed between Pfizer shots one and two, unvaccinated youth are being urged to get their first jab in the next few days.

Young people who have received their first Pfizer shot must wait at least 21 days before their second dose.

That means teens need to get their first one by next Tuesday to be able to get their second dose by Aug. 24 and have full protection when school resumes.

"This week is the critical week for students to get their first dose and have enough time to get their second dose and have full immunity by the start of school," chief medical officer of health Dr. Mustafa Hirji told The Lake Report.

"The single most valuable thing to do to stay safe in schools is to get fully vaccinated," he said.

As of Wednesday, July

28, only 37 per cent of those 12 to 17 had received two doses, while 56 per cent had one shot. Overall in Niagara 58.5 per cent have had two doses and 69.7 per cent have a single shot.

"Youth still have a way to go to reach the same level of protection as adults in Niagara," public health spokesperson Courtney Westerhof said in a news release.

Saying it's "vax to school time," the region wants students to be fully vaccinated for the first day of school on Sept. 7.

Full protection against COVID-19 infection comes two weeks after the second dose is received, "so we are urging students 12 years and older to receive their vaccines as soon as possible," Westerhof said.

Public health is making it easy for young people to get the jab, noting they can walk in to any regional public health COVID-19 vaccination clinic from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. to get vaccinated.

A walk-in clinic is scheduled at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Community Centre on Friday, July 30.

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Council Roundup: Pedal Pub gets another lease on life

Evan Saunders
Local Journalism Initiative
The Lake Report

The future is looking good for the Pedal Pub a year after town council tried to bar it from operating in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

On Monday council asked town staff to work with the Pedal Pub and plan alternative routes so the popular ride does not roll down Queen Street and can continue operating in the municipality.

It was a matter of safety and of getting the Pedal Pub's operators what they originally wanted, Lord Mayor Betty Disero said.

"Originally when the Pedal Pub came out to us they said, 'We want to ride out to wineries,'" she told councillors.

A regional bylaw that states Pedal Pubs cannot operate on regional roads interfered with that plan, so the business routed down Mississagua Street and then down Queen before returning to its office on Mary Street.

The mayor recommended the mobile pub start heading to wineries along John Street such as Peller Estates Winery and Two Sisters Vineyards, avoiding Queen Street altogether.

Pedal Pub general manager Marlo Saganski was all in for the discussions.

"We feel very fortunate that they put the referral in for us to work with them to find a happy resolution," Saganski told The Lake Report Wednesday.

She was a little confused by the suggestion the Pedal Pub travel down John Street. It was doing that last year but stopped at the town's request.

"We worked with council last year to get us off residential roads," she said.

That's why the mobile pub started using Mississagua and Queen, both commercially zoned streets.

But Saganski said she's excited to return to the wineries on John Street that Pedal Pub visited in the past. Peller Estates was among the businesses that wrote to council in support of the business.



After demonstrating support from NOTL businesses and residents, it looks like Marlo Saganski and the Pedal Pub will become a permanent fixture in Old Town. EVAN SAUNDERS

"We would be thrilled to work with them again," she said.

Some councillors were against any council motion that interfered with the business. Coun. Alan Bisback referred to the suggestions as "punitive," saying they targeted a specific business.

Coun. Norm Arsenault felt the business had responded to council's concerns and said it was unfair for council to continue targeting the Pedal Pub.

"We've talked to them and they've adapted," he said. "I don't see this to be any more safety-related than the (carriage operators)."

Disero insisted that having the Pedal Pub operate down busy streets such as Queen and Mississagua was a safety concern.

"There's a lineup of five to 10 cars behind them and what starts to happen is the cars go around. Then you have cars coming the other way and all of a sudden you start to see brake lights coming on. That, to me, is an issue," Disero said.

Coun. Clare Cameron also felt the continued obstruction of the Pedal Pub's operations was punitive and wanted to end the debate once and for all.

"I don't think a referral is productive," she said. "I feel so uncomfortable about being punitive to this business at this point because I think they've tried to do things right."

The motion was passed with only Cameron and Coun. Erwin Wiens voting against it. Coun. Wendy

Cheropita abstained, citing a business conflict.

A follow-up report is expected in August.

33 recommendations for short-term rental enforcement

The town's short-term rental committee presented a list of 33 recommendations to reign in the short-term rental industry in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

The report focused on penalties for unlicensed operations, regulations for unhosted rentals and targeting problem properties.

"It did seem that the problems that we heard about were coming from maybe a half-a-dozen properties," committee chair Robert Browning told council.

"If there was a mechanism to deal with recommendations for those properties then that may make many issues disappear."

Browning did not comment on which properties were specifically causing problems.

The town recently launched a program with Granicus Host Compliance to track complaints about rentals. Granicus determined there may be over 200 unlicensed rentals in town.

Browning hopes that with the implementation of the Granicus tracking system the town will have a better picture of exactly which properties are non-compliant.

The majority of complaints about short-term rentals are about unhosted properties, Browning said.

He stressed that the town should adopt strict definitions for hosted and unhosted rentals to aid in enforcement.

A hosted property is a rental that the owners live in alongside renters. Unhosted properties are those in which the owner lives off-site while it is being rented, Browning said.

He also suggested that the town not utilize the term bed & breakfast to define rentals, saying it is merely a marketing term. All rentals should be categorized as either hosted and unhosted.

Councillors were taken aback by the size of the report and wanted to know which of the 33 recommendations should be prioritized.

Craig Larmour, director of community and development services, said councillors should make those decisions.

"I think if this is just sent away to us then the short-term rental committee has reported to staff and not to council," Larmour said.

Coun. Allan Bisback disagreed, countering that "I don't think it's appropriate to suggest that council make (suggestions)."

Lord Mayor Betty Disero said staff needed to vet the recommendations for feasibility before councillors told them which ones to act on.

Coun. Norm Arsenault is on the short-term rental committee and stressed the importance of recommendations 27 and 29.

Number 27 suggests strong penalties for unlicensed operators while number 29 urges the town to

move forward with a penalty system to make it easier for bylaw officers to charge non-compliant rentals.

The committee also addressed the issue of food service and merchandise sales in short-term rentals.

Browning and the committee supported allowing rental operators to serve appetizers and snacks to renters. They also encouraged allowing short-term rentals to sell local artists' wares inside their rentals to increase their audience.

"The audience would only be people who rented the short-term rentals. It wouldn't be to attract business off the street," Browning said.

An update regarding the monetary penalty system is coming in August, Larmour said. A report vetting the recommendations of the short-term rental committee is also expected in August.

Integrated regional transit cost update for NOTL

After complaints that Niagara-on-the-Lake would be footing the bill for other municipalities in an integrated regional transit program, the Region of Niagara has presented an updated proposal it says ensures municipalities pay only for the services they receive.

The new model presented by the region proposes that municipalities pay based on their hours of service.

NOTL currently pays \$1.8 million per year for transit services. The new model would see that cost increase by \$200,000 in 2023 and an additional \$700,000 in

2025, for a total of \$2.7 million per year. All of the town's share would be funded by NOTL taxpayers through a special levy to the region.

With the costs being uploaded to the region, the municipal budget would be decreased in kind, said Matt Robinson, director of GO Transit's implementation office.

Coun. Norm Arsenault asked why the town's portion would increase.

"There are inflationary costs, which you would see each year as you go through a municipal budget," said Heather Talbot, a special projects consultant with the region.

Talbot also said the prices will increase due to service updates and increased hours of operation.

Municipal transit in the form of NRT On Demand currently operates from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Under the new system, transit would be available from 6 a.m. to midnight seven days a week starting in 2025.

These hours would be standardized across all municipalities to make inter-municipal transportation easy for residents, Robinson said.

Under a segregated system, which is what currently exists, co-ordinating inter-municipal transit is difficult.

"That's where it's a bit disjointed," Robinson said. "(An integrated system) would allow for that seamless transfer between residents in St. Catharines who are trying to get to work in Niagara-on-the-Lake."

Coun. Clare Cameron suggested it should happen sooner than 2025. "Hopefully, that's something we can work on," she said.

The region will present an updated plan based on council's feedback later this year, with the final vote expected during the fall or early winter.

Resident feedback will be sought later through an online survey, said GO implementation office's Scott Fraser.

All councillors voted in support of the presentation excluding Arsenault and Coun. Erwin Wiens.

Everybody needs to **STOP!** at Old Town entrance

Evan Saunders
Local Journalism Initiative
The Lake Report



A three-way stop will be installed at Queen and Mississagua streets on Aug. 3. EVAN SAUNDERS

Big changes are coming to how drivers get into and out of Old Town.

The pivotal intersection of Queen Street and Mississagua streets will become a three-way stop as of Tuesday, Aug. 3, following unanimous approval at a council meeting this week.

The intersection will be closed for the day during installation and traffic will be temporarily detoured, the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake said in a public notice.

The three-way stop is a pilot project and resident opinions will be gathered to determine whether it becomes a permanent feature. As well, a “bump out” will be installed on the north side of Queen Street in the intersection, to help slow traffic.

All the new features are

intended to control traffic flow along Queen Street and create a moment of pause so tourists and drivers leaving Old Town do not miss the turn up Mississagua Street to get to the QEW.

Coun. Gary Burroughs was concerned that the appropriate traffic study was not completed by the town before making the changes.

“I’m kind of concerned that we do to many things that are not following the rules but following coun-

cil’s directions,” Burroughs said.

A traffic study is usually done to ensure road installations maintain provincial standards.

Director of operations Sheldon Randall said a study is not needed, referring to the changes as a “traffic-calming feature.”

For the time being, the bump out will be limited to repainting the lines at the intersection. It is expected to be incorporated into the

new gateway design planned for the site, with a garden bed planted to redirect traffic.

The bump out was recommended in the town’s transportation master plan and is intended to direct traffic up Mississagua Street when vehicles leave Old Town.

Drivers frequently drive right through the intersection not realizing they missed their turn for the highway, ending up in the narrow laneways of the Chautauqua neighbourhood, Randall said.

This was a common concern cited by the Friends of Ryerson Park group during their presentations to council trying to solve traffic concerns in the area.

“Our point is to try and create a feature that they have to navigate around and then stop so they have time to take a look at the signs directing them back to the QEW,” Randall said.

Balls Beach could get **kayak launch**

Evan Saunders
Local Journalism Initiative
The Lake Report



The Town of NOTL is considering opening a kayak launch near Balls Beach. EVAN SAUNDERS

The Balls Beach parking area will remain closed for another six months while the town looks for alternative areas to create launches for kayaks and paddle boards.

Lord Mayor Betty Disero spearheaded the idea of creating new recreational launch areas along the shore, suggesting Niagara-on-the-Lake has a problem with overcrowding at current locations.

“I’ve always thought we needed to look at spreading out the tourists and tourist activities in Niagara-on-the-Lake,” she told councillors Monday night.

“Everybody’s always trying to cram everything into a small space,” Disero said, referencing the popularity of Balls Beach as a hangout and a non-motorized boat launch.

The mayor recommended the area in front of 144

River Beach Dr. as an ideal space to create a new recreational vehicle launch. She suggested installing docks and even creating a sandy shore for visitors.

Disero also said the docks at Navy Hall on Ricardo Street and the area near the Niagara Pump-house Arts Centre are good candidates for new launch areas.

“It seems a shame that we keep all fighting for the same space,” she said.

The walk from River Beach Drive to Balls Beach is over 150 feet. At the

Navy Hall kayakers would only need to haul equipment 30 to 70 feet to get to the water, depending on the route they took, Disero said.

Her recommendations were added to a motion presented by Coun. Sandra O’Connor last week to keep the parking area closed while staff reviewed the environmental impact proposed changes would have.

Residents have complained the small parking lot and drop-off area is dangerous for pedestrians.

The motion was generally supported by other councillors but met with resistance from Couns. Erwin Wiens and Norm Arsenault.

“There’s always been a parking space in that parking lot – it has been there for 50 years,” Wiens said.

He said councillors were no longer addressing the safety concerns that originally prompted the review of Balls Beach and suggested O’Connor was placing the environment above residents’ safety.


“We hired someone to (make Balls Beach safe). Now we’ve gone completely off-topic and we’re talking about finding different beaches for people to go to. I won’t support it,” he said.

O’Connor took issue with the idea she was diminishing pedestrian safety.

“I never said the environment should take prominence over safety,” she said.

The motion has been referred to staff with a follow up report slated for January 2022.

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Canada

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COVID Tracker

NOTL active cases: 0
Region active cases: 49
Region deaths: 420
Region total cases: 16,339
Region resolved cases: 15,867

*July 28 data per Niagara Region Public Health



Contributed by Patty Garriock

"Enjoy the little things in life...for one day you'll look back and realize they were the big things." - Robert Brault

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Editorials

Public information: Part 2

Kevin MacLean
 Managing Editor

When a person is charged with a serious crime or in relation to a serious incident, the public's desire and right to know the details and to see that justice is done has been well-documented.

Our "open court" system is designed to ensure that people are tried fairly and openly, and that, in non-pandemic times, anyone who wishes can actually drop in to watch the wheels of justice in motion. Nowadays, to ensure transparency, those same court cases are available via Zoom.

But what if no one knows? In some countries, people have just "disappeared" into the police and legal system. That's not supposed to be how it works in a democracy like ours.

The police have a tough and unenviable job to do. They investigate all manner of tragedies and, when warranted, they bring information before the courts for our independent judiciary to freely and openly weigh that evidence during a trial and pronounce upon an ac-



cused's guilt or innocence.

But what if no one knows? In Niagara Region, the police have adopted a selective policy of often only releasing information about cases they solely deem to be either of public interest or compelling enough that the public must be informed about them.

In the vast majority of cases, this probably would never be an issue. A lot of the mundane crimes that work their way through the courts are really only of interest to those immediately affected: the victims, the accused and their families.

But sometimes lower-tier charges are laid in high-profile, even tragic cases. We have just been through exactly this scenario in Niagara-on-the-Lake with a two-month investigation into the circumstances that led to the death of 40-year-

old Matthew Wilson.

Based on the evidence they gathered, investigators determined that no criminal charges were merited and only a single Provincial Offences Act charge was laid – for failing to report an accident.

That might be wholly appropriate under the circumstances. Or maybe not. A judge will decide.

When a reporter repeatedly attempted to find out who was accused in this case, the Niagara Police Service steadfastly, but very professionally, refused to divulge the name. Because the charge is a relatively minor one, the force does not routinely release the names of those accused of such crimes. It doesn't really seem to be related to privacy issues, just that it is a minor charge, so not worthy of public revelation.

In most cases, no one would care who got ticketed, ourselves included. But in this instance, a pedestrian was killed, on a public roadway, his body found the next morning in a ditch.

We agreed to disagree with the police over their refusal to release the accused's name. We respect the police position; we just wholly disagree with it on principle.

We spent several days in a polite cat-and-mouse game with police, obtaining file numbers and other data related to the case and then asking the court office in Welland to try to find the file.

All to no avail. Without a name, tracking down the case proved impossible.

But what if no one knows? Thankfully, someone almost always "knows" and, finally, members of the public, unsolicited but interested in the case, revealed the accused's name to us. And the wheels of justice were able to roll on, with a light shone on the process.

Next: Does it need to be this way?
 editor@niagaranow.com

Parking enforcement at Ryerson Park

Kevin MacLean
 Managing Editor

It was great to see families and visitors enjoying the fine weather and great views at Ryerson Park on Sunday evening. All the while ignoring the clearly marked no-parking and no-stopping zones along the park's perimeter.

We love that visitors love Niagara-on-the-Lake, but it's not too much to expect them to follow a few simple rules. The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake has allotted parking along some nearby streets and promised to crack down on violators.

So, after months of debate and suggestions from area residents, new signs erected and increased fines passed (a \$150 special levy) by council (but no

signs warning of the new penalties yet), is the municipality serious about enforcing parking regulations around Ryerson Park?

On Sunday around 7:40 p.m. the stretch along Niagara Boulevard at Ryerson Park had 13 cars parked along its edge. There are parking spots for four vehicles. Four.

And on Wilberforce Avenue a few metres up from the boulevard, also in a clearly marked no-parking zone, was one more vehicle – parked on the wrong side of the road, facing the wrong way. That's a slam-dunk no-no.

Total number of parking tickets in evidence? Zero.

And not a bylaw enforcement vehicle in sight. In their defence, maybe they were busy elsewhere. But

they arrived a few minutes later, parked their red van on Niagara Boulevard, partly blocking the lone westbound traffic lane, causing congestion for a few other vehicles trying to get by.

There were two bylaw officers inside, but only one got out. While the male passenger officer sat in the van, it's engine idling (does that contravene the town's idling bylaw?), the female driver proceeded to slowly approach parked vehicles near the west end of the park as sharp-eyed owners scrambled and raced to move their cars, apologies galore.

Total tickets resulting – one. And several thankful visitors who drove off, happy to not have been fined.

Then, back toward the eastern end of the park, and a similar scramble by drivers. Total number of tickets issued: unclear. Maybe one.

So, if "education" is still the town's goal, perhaps it was achieved. But the reality is, only a fraction of the offenders were caught.

And that male bylaw enforcement officer enjoyed it all, seemingly oblivious, comfortably ensconced in the air-conditioned comfort of his official town vehicle. (Perhaps it was break time? Or he was feeling unwell. Or maybe that is protocol. Or did his shift end at 8 and it was just too close to clocking out and too much effort to park properly, step out and do what we expect him to do?)

Doesn't. Really. Matter. Not impressed.



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Action on climate change **crucial** for Niagara – and the rest of the world

Andrea Kaiser
Special to The Lake Report



Climate change is taking a toll on our planet. SOURCED

It is no surprise that as the federal Liberal candidate for our community, I am often asked why I am running for the Liberals.

In 2019, some people seemed surprised that a businessperson like me would run for a progressive political party. However, those that know me and my record on municipal council also know I believe that effective leadership is not only about prioritizing a strong local economy at all costs, but also the well-being of our community and our environment.

These three pillars of sustainability have always underpinned my philosophy of public service, because effectively balancing these imperatives is paramount to achieving a truly prosperous Niagara.

Naturally, you won't be surprised to learn that my three priorities as the federal Liberal candidate are to continue protecting your health, rebuilding our economy and protecting our environment.

In fact, one of the primary reasons I was inspired to return to politics was my recognition that these three pillars of sustainability had fallen out of balance for too long and as a result, we were on a dangerous path with respect to the devastating impacts of climate change.

As a lifelong Liberal, I was proud of the leadership our federal government demonstrated from 2015-2019 in fighting climate change after 10 years of inaction by Stephen Harper's Conservatives.

The government was bold in implementing Canada's first national framework to meaningfully address our greenhouse gas emissions, including a price on pollution. That plan would force big industrial emitters to pay for polluting our environment, while putting the money collected from this practice directly into the pockets of Canadians who are doing their part, thereby fuelling our local economies.

At the time, implementing a price on pollution was viewed by many pundits as politically perilous, but our government showed courage in taking this necessary step to fight the devastating impacts of climate. Economists and climate scientists have been clear that a price on pollution is a necessary part of any serious climate plan – and Canada is now recognized around the world as a global leader in implementing this important policy.

Despite the federal Liberals' strong record on fighting climate change from 2015-2019, I decided to run to be our area's MP because I felt we needed to do even more to protect our environment and grow our economy. After all, part of being a progressive is recognizing that better is always possible.

We had to do more because the cost of inaction is just too high. We can no longer ignore the economic costs of inaction on climate nor the cost to our future health well-being as demonstrated by the devastation we have seen from the wildfires in British Columbia, and flooding across Ontario and Quebec.

This is exactly why I was so proud this past December, when Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced Canada's strengthened climate plan. It outlines a clear path to get to net-zero emissions by 2050.

As part of this plan, the government has implemented important policies like an electric vehicle buyer's incentive, plans to phase-out coal-fired

electricity, to end internal combustion engine vehicle and truck sales by 2035, to enhance our biodiversity, and a ban on single-use plastics by 2022.

The Canada Greener Homes Grant will help about 700,000 Canadian homeowners improve the energy efficiency of their homes and reduce their energy bills with retrofits. In addition to being a world-leading climate plan, this helps create jobs and grow our economy. There is tremendous economic opportunity in acting to fight climate change and Canada has the skilled workforce necessary to be a global leader.

Shockingly, the Conservatives under Erin O'Toole continue to ignore climate change. At its 2021 national convention, the Conservative Party of Canada voted against recognizing climate change as real ... yes, you read that correctly.

At the same time, they're ignoring the enormous economic potential that exists in building a clean economy. Because of the first-mover advantage created by Canada's strengthened climate plan, the Ford Motor Company announced a \$1.8 billion investment in its Oakville assembly plant to make it a global centre of electric vehicle production, securing 5,400 jobs.

Similarly, General Motors has decided to reopen its Oshawa assembly plant, which will create more than 1,700 jobs. To support the Canada Greener Homes Grant, new jobs are also being created with the recruitment and training of up to 2,000 new energy advisers.

While the progress we are making to fight climate change is impressive, if left unchecked, the impacts will undoubtedly destroy critical industries and in time our local economy.

Talk to any local grape grower or winemaker, they will tell you that increasingly unpredictable and extreme temperature fluctuations may require that we look at growing hardier grapes like they are already doing in France, or ones that are more heat tolerant, like in California. In 2019, Germany's wine industry was unable to produce an icewine vintage for the first time in history because of the impacts of climate change.

Although the work the federal government has done to build a clean economy is most noteworthy, we need to do more and must ensure that our plan is implemented in a way that protects workers and small businesses.

Unfortunately, our current MP voted against the implementation of much of the important progress we have made. As we build back better from the COVID-19 pandemic, it is time that our community has an MP who prioritizes climate action, instead of standing in its way.

If elected as MP, I will be a defender of our natural environmental treasures – like the Greenbelt, the Niagara Escarpment Biosphere and the Great Lakes – and a champion for good local jobs.

Andrea Kaiser is the federal Liberal candidate for Niagara-on-the-Lake, Niagara Falls and Fort Erie.

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 OPINION

‘Celebrating traditional marriage’ sign’s unspoken message is a **common refrain**

Dear editor:
I was not aware until recently that traditional marriage is under threat (“Traditional marriage” sign decried as homophobic, hateful,” The Lake Report, July 8).

Same with being cis-gender.

Yet some believe that both are being targeted by the LGBTQ+ community.

I read in your July 22 opinion pages of the “many residents in

NOTL” who are as upset with the proposed rainbow crosswalk as LG-BTQ+ members were with the traditional marriage sign displayed by a Virgil resident.

There is no equivalence here. The sign was unnecessary.

Gay marriages and partnerships do not undermine traditional ones any more than the gay community threatens the predominant major-

ity who are not. Moreover, the sign’s unspoken message is a refrain that non-cisgenders have been hearing forever.

Jordon Williams’ proposed rainbow crosswalk has an unspoken message too. It speaks of crossing over to the other side, of bridging the gap between intolerance and empathy.

Today, it appears to be manifestly necessary.

*Colin Brezicki
NOTL*



The traditional marriage sign. FILE PHOTO

Unvaccinated people put others **at risk**

Dear editor:
I can no longer stay silent. The absolutely ridiculous directions that we find ourselves going are too many to name, but there is one that should no longer be tolerated: Those who would block the push to vaccinate the world in order to curb and stop the spread of a deadly virus that has killed millions around the globe.

Yet in the same breath we have readily accepted those not willing to vaccinate (seemingly and especially the younger generations), despite the fact that their actions put the rest of us at great risk, and in fact may even eradicate all our efforts, sacrifices and gains to conquer COVID.

If it weren’t for the many evil writings and inaccuracies found on social media, by both individuals and groups, I suggest that we may never have been in this situation.

The past prevention and eradication of most diseases and viruses was predicated on vaccination for all, and many generations, both



past and present across the globe, have been thankful for this.

No longer should we remain silent while we constantly and always behold ourselves to all things deemed to be right and correct. For all too often nowadays, they may actually be abrogating our family and communal obligations and freedoms.

I urge everyone to pick up the book “Wake Up: Why the world has gone nuts” by Piers Morgan and get a grip.

*Philip Hoad
St. Davids*

Real estate values have **soared**, so why does developer Hummel deserve compensation?

Dear editor,
Here we go again, chosen as citizen of the year for 2018, but, more importantly, a real estate developer, Rainer Hummel is again trying to help himself out of the pockets of the overburdened resident taxpayer.

Having his earlier \$500,000 lawsuit against the Town of Niagara-on-

the-Lake dismissed by Ontario Superior Court Justice James Ramsay (in other words thrown out as a frivolous claim), he is having another go, as to be expected, by appealing this decision.

He is claiming costs as a result of the town’s building pause that took place in 2019, and was made neces-

sary by developers like him (although he likes to blame just one other developer for all of this).

It seems to me that his real estate holdings, like those of most others, have probably increased substantially since that time and are worth a lot more today.

Since any costs incurred

by the town in connection with this appeal ultimately come from the pockets of the resident taxpayers (who are already overburdened) perhaps he can explain in detail to them why he should be compensated for an alleged cost to himself as claimed.

*Derek Collins
NOTL*

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Town **losing** some of key advantages

Dear editor:

As more people are accommodated in the town, all the advantages they came for are disappearing: a local clinic/hospital, schools, retirement homes.

This is surely a complaint not only of longtime residents but newcomers as well. Is there no one in charge who sees this?

There is a stream of regret



constantly expressed in the paper about our community's development. I hope that it is not being dismissed as old folks standing in the way of change, but rather that it

is understood by our council that it indicates the view of a silent majority.

The original small town developed organically, services being provided for

the needs of the residents as it grew.

That basic premise to maintain a balance between growth and local services is what makes a livable community. When the town hands over control to commercial enterprises it is a scenario for opportunities lost and future regret.

Ann Handels
NOTL

Border reopening **badly handled** by Trudeau

Dear editor:

With all the political pre-election campaigning and posturing by Justin Trudeau, the proposed border reopening on Aug. 9 not only could be scuttled by the U.S. government but by our own border agents, who have now given their unions a strike mandate.

The agents have been

without a contract since June 2018 and, consistent with other federal, provincial and city employee contracts, these union actions could have been prevented.

To claim to have negotiated in good faith and pass a contract renewal date by years is utterly disingenuous. Should the border reopen, lines will

be lengthy and likely take hours to cross.

The Prime Minister's decision to make this political announcement, without prior consultation in concert with an American announcement, may well backfire. Americans may get their hackles up and not open the border to U.S. travellers.

During my career I have

sat at the union negotiating table on numerous occasions. More than 90 per cent of my working life was in management and ownership positions.

I come down 100 per cent on the side of the union. This is just another example of incompetent government stonewalling.

Samuel Young
NOTL

Show us **more** design options for NOTL gateway

Dear editor:

I just can't help but comment further on the now infamous Niagara-on-the-Lake gateway project.

It is a bit difficult to tell for sure from the supplied images published in The Lake Report what this stone structure really looks like.

But if the so-called obelisk they are planning is actually the classic type, then we really do have a problem. A 25-foot high one.

Is this to be the typical four-sided, tapered-to-a-point obelisk? The type that symbolizes the Egyptian sun God Ra?

It's a bit of a stretch to actually think anyone, let alone a visitor from who

knows where, would ever actually think this totally out-of-place structure was trying to present itself as a symbol of our earliest historic lighthouse.

Or are they going to actually do a scaled-down version of what is presented in some of the early historical prints showing the historical lighthouse? Why is this the only design they are promoting so strongly? Others are available, according to Coun. Clare Cameron.

Why have we not seen a selection of designs printed in the paper, not just on some online site that even fewer people will see and actually access?

Or is this the one preferred by the source of the money for this project, one that we really didn't know we needed so badly? And are there only two designs? That would be unheard of for this type of major public project.

Why not present them all and let the residents vote on the design? We have to live with this for a long time. This whole project and the way it is being presented really needs very close attention and scrutiny from all of us. Is anyone really offended or complaining about the display we now have?

Of course, any landscape

display can be presented in various ways and it may be time for a rethink of this site, but not this sterile and harsh presentation.

There is just nothing like a stone wall, 40 feet long and eight feet high in parts, with a possible 25-foot Egyptian obelisk sticking up.

No one told me this is something we really must have, but big money talks.

One more thought on the look as presented: It seems like the Niagara Parks Commission's "stone wall division" actually designed this. It could be one of their rejects, for sure.

Christopher Allen
NOTL

A **rainbow garden** instead of a rainbow crosswalk

Dear editor:

We are writing to express our thoughts around what we read in your paper several weeks about a proposal for a rainbow crosswalk in Old Town.

We understand that this is a contentious issue.

As NOTL residents, we want to present a fresh idea to possibly replace the

rainbow crosswalk with a rainbow garden of some kind.

This would help celebrate diversity, equity and inclusion.

Including a rainbow of colours in the garden where people can appreciate and admire the beauty of colours – and represent the LBGTQ+ community

and diversity as a whole.

Perhaps there could be a small plaque with an explanation of the garden and what it represents.

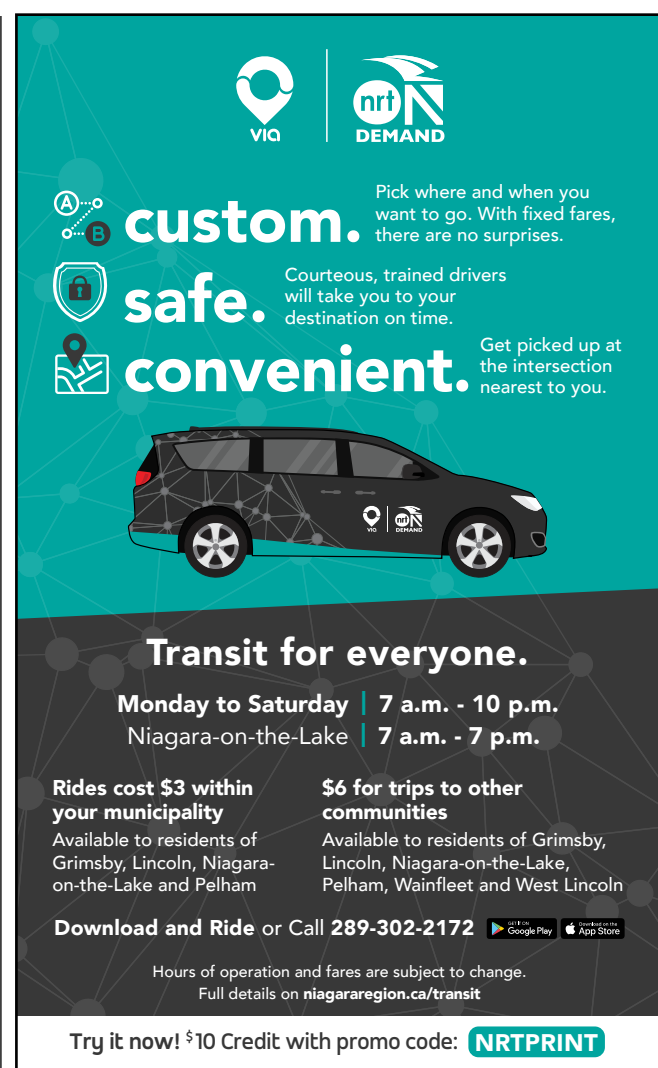
To keep costs low (for the town and taxpayers), the garden could be incorporated into an existing or future public garden.

We feel this idea is one that would unite people as

opposed to dividing them as anyone can appreciate the beauty and harmony of a garden.

Such a garden would help to better represent the diversity of the Niagara-on-the-Lake community.

Karen Brown
Shirley Edwards
NOTL



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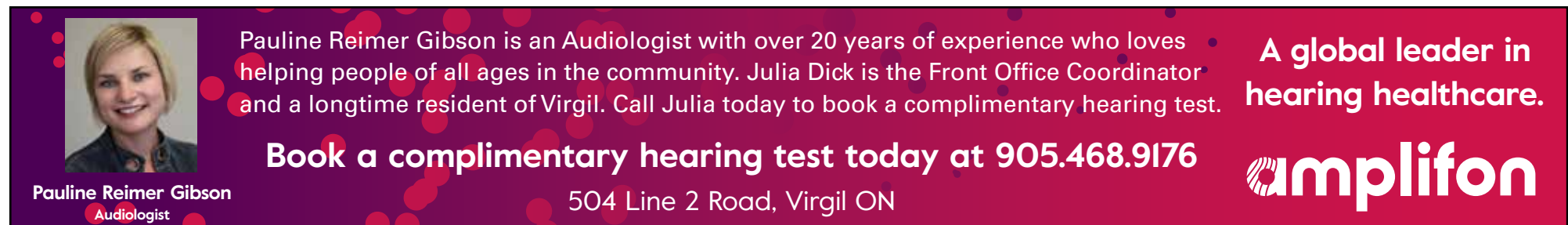
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Pauline Reimer Gibson
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Ross' Ramblings: A **proposal** of Olympian proportions

Ross Robinson
Special to The Lake Report

Sometimes it seems a higher power gets involved in our lives, creating an unique tableau that will be remembered forever.

On Sunday evening, as the sun set over Lake Ontario, my helpful young neighbour Ty Sherlock and I were affixing the five Olympic rings to a bench in Ryerson Park and an "every second year task" became a memory for life.

BYBGR. My acronym for blue, yellow, black, green and red. The colours of the Olympic rings, from the left.

A young couple were sitting and chatting on a park bench and we politely asked them if they could relocate for a few minutes while we completed our ad lib task with the coloured hula hoops and Canadian flag.

They were happy to oblige, and kindly offered to assist us. We quickly learned that Stephanie Lee is a pharmacist, working at the world-renowned Juravinski Cancer Centre in Hamilton.

Her loquacious friend,



A memorable moment last Sunday in Ryerson Park, as Alex Tsermentselis proposes to Stephanie Lee in front of the Olympic rings hula hoops. ROSS ROBINSON

Alex Tsermentselis, is a data analyst at Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre in Barrie. They are fairly regular visitors to Niagara-on-the-Lake and a favourite spot is Ryerson Park for sunsets and picnics. A Zoom bike rental, two winery tours in the afternoon, a cold Barnraiser at Oast House, et voila, whaddaday.

Further, Alex is of Greek ancestry, so the Olympic rings have special significance to him. Stephanie and Alex provided some useful suggestions as we erected

the hula hoops.

Since 1994, my Olympic hula hoops have been displayed 14 times, coincident with the Summer and Winter Games. They are a bit worse for wear, but a local fun tradition in our neighbourhood. And, the price is right, eh?

After about 20 minutes of injury-free work, the rings and maple leaf flag were ready for the traditional photo. Alex rather timidly asked if Ty and I could spare "just a few more minutes, to take another photo with his

camera, of Stephanie and him. Of course, we said.

As I framed the photo, he elegantly dropped to one knee, proffered a fancy box, and proposed to the lovely and shocked Stephanie. She pondered and then replied in the affirmative.

I announced the occasion to the other folks in the park and spontaneous applause broke out. Congratulations and best wishes were called out. Harry Schlang happened by on his Vespa and was able to provide some oom-pah-pah

music to the scene.

Another picture of the now-engaged couple waving festive sparklers. Wow, what an event ...

Stephanie and Alex both graduated from the University of Toronto a few years ago and planned to get engaged fairly soon after that.

The ongoing deadly global pandemic scuppered their plans, so finally the stars aligned to make a truly wonderful moment in Ryerson Park last Sunday. We wish them well – and they promised to visit NOTL again.

Since we are in the middle of the 2020 two-week Olympic Games, let me respectfully comment that some of the new events seem a bit of a stretch. Synchronized two-metre diving? How about synchronized co-ed pole vaulting in 2024? Perhaps synchro 400-metre hurdles?

Two women on the uneven bars at the same time? The 400-metre men's individual medley, with swimmers accelerated by wearing flippers?

Rock Climbing? Hey, between 1900 and 1920, the Games included tug

of war. And, in 1904, at the St. Louis Olympic Games, Canadians were thrilled when Etienne Desmarreau won the gold medal for tossing a 50-pound shot 10.46 metres, using two hands.

Etienne was a Montreal gendarme and also competed in tug of war. He was inducted into the Canadian Olympic Hall of Fame in 1949.

We Canadians want to win more Olympic medals. Thanks to childhood church picnics, many of us are good at the three-legged potato sack race. Usually about 40 metres, a turn and back.

On a personal note, my Olympic studies peaked in 1984 aboard the Queen Elizabeth II. NOTL drumming legend Penner MacKay did an evening stand-up comedy routine on the lido deck, including an analysis of the anatomical anomalies of Canada's magnificent women and men rowers. To tumultuous applause, Penner's finale was a backward belly flop into the swimming pool, tux and all.

Yes, the Olympics provide wonderful memories, in many ways.

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Experts say traditional marriage sign is **form of hate**

Continued from Front Page

guage that kind of intends to whitewash the original statement. You see that a lot with groups that use words like White Lives Matter, which is a way to talk about white supremacy without necessarily sounding like they're white supremacists," Roback said.

For instance, anti-transgender groups will talk about promoting women's sex rights instead of gender rights and try to use that as kind of a differentiating factor between kind of the belief that they state, and kind of the hateful belief that they're being alleged of holding.

As for Koller's sign, "without making too strong of an assumption, I think it's fair to say that the person is, by stating their support for quote, unquote 'traditional marriage,' and then surmising that traditional marriage is one man, one woman, it does appear to me at least that what they're saying in practice is, 'We don't support same-sex marriage.'" "The sign was next to an anti-lockdown sign, which Roback said can be connected to other hate movements.

While many people who subscribe to the anti-lockdown movement don't hold any hateful belief, his organization found "more or less every single (hate) group that we followed before COVID started ended up becoming a part of the anti-lockdown movement," he said.

There has been "quite a bit of correspondence" between anti-lockdown supporters and people who were active in what he calls "the hate scene."

"Especially (the) anti-Muslim hate scene back in 2017, 2018, 2019, who went on to become active members of the anti-mask movements as well."

While talking about the issue is a good start to combating intolerant views, neighbours who are directly affected by Koller's sign should display their own signs.

"It's emotionally exhausting to have to explain why you deserve rights like the right to marry," he said,



A sign supporting "traditional marriage" has been taken down from a Virgil home. FILE

adding people could put up their own lawn signs to support inclusivity. In Lincoln, two local residents did just that recently, producing lawn signs that say, "Hate has no home here."

Roback said while he's not a legal expert, Koller's sign likely doesn't meet the criteria for hate speech.

"But the legal definitions don't encompass the full scope of what it means to be (hateful), or what hate is in practice."

He reiterated that in many cases, the purpose of whitewashing a message is to avoid accountability.

"It's also because you're trying to spread your message, so if you spread it through the most abrasive way, it might not engage people in the way that you would want to do it," he said.

"Whereas messaging like 'Celebrating traditional marriage' or 'White Lives Matter' instead of stuff like 'White Power,' these words kind of like put a positive twist on what is objectively a hateful thing to stand for."

That creates a degree of separation where the person can have "plausible deniability. Not necessarily in the court of law" but in the court of public opinion, Roback said.

Judith Taylor, a professor of sociology at the University of Toronto, offered a simple anecdote to explain why the sign is viewed as a message of hate.

"This reminds me of when a student asked, 'Why

isn't there a white club?' and I said, 'There is, it's called the Ku Klux Klan.'"

"When majority groups publicly celebrate their statuses it's redundant because they already receive the most social approval and no one is harming them due to their choice to love one another," Taylor said.

"What we understand as gay pride is the attempted reversal of the common: anti-gay fear, anti-gay bashing, anti-gay rejection and anti-gay shaming," she said.

First people need to understand the idea behind Pride movements.

"The concept of pride for straight-oriented and identified people might be misleading. So, gay pride isn't actually about pride. It's actually a kind of assertion of the potential of visibility that isn't attached to abuse," she said.

For groups that have a history of experiencing violence and discrimination, "Pride is a hope. Pride is a potential. And it's mapped against violence, rejection, exclusion, discrimination and the like."

That's what she tells people who may feel "assaulted by the concept of gay pride, or feel like, 'Oh well, if you have gay pride, then I have straight pride.'"

Straight pride, she said, is "not a hope."

"It's a reality that has led to systematic violence against people who can't or won't subscribe to it. So that's a big difference,"

though it might be hard

for people who don't much think about violence, discrimination and inequality, she said.

She offered another analogy.

"What if someone put up a sign that said, 'Let's support our homeless brethren. And then someone else put up a sign that said, 'Proud to own my own home.' Well, we would be like, 'That's really gauche,'" Taylor said.

"It's a privilege and it's lucky to have had everything go well for you in life that you can buy your own house, but other people have met extraordinary misfortune, and the point is to create a sense of sympathy and humanity with them, not to reaffirm our own happiness that we're not them, or our own privilege against their misfortune."

Or what if someone wrote "White Pride" on a sign on their front porch, she said. "How would we feel about that? Well, historically white people don't have a problem with being over identified and killed by police officers, for example."

She said combating these types of messages comes down to really examining data of who is and isn't marginalized.

"And what does it cost privileged people to allow for the concept that people who experience discrimination want pride for themselves, want to feel good about themselves, want to feel as good about themselves as straight people do?"

She said it boils down to

whether people like Koller feel supporting gay marriage is tarnishing their own somehow.

"If we let people love who they want to love, does that mean that straightness isn't as special? Like your wedding's not going to be as special, your prom is not going to be as special, your dinner isn't going to be a special, your lying down at night together isn't going to be as special?"

She said that leads to the question, "What's the fear? And then what does it mean to boast that you have a lot more power than other people?"

A lot of the issues surrounding intolerance require rhetorical questions, which could make our neighbours think more deeply than they were prepared to before, she said.

Taylor also found it interesting that marriage sign was next to one for "No more lockdowns."

She said the premise of a lockdown, especially in Canada, is that we're not willing to lose lives.

"More people lost their lives in Florida than lost their lives and all of Canada. So different countries have different appetites for inequality, and different countries have different appetites for suffering. And different countries have different reckonings about the relationship between individual liberty and collective safety," she said.

"So, when I see a sign that says 'No more lockdowns,' it says to me, 'I get my liberty, and I don't care what happens to you.' So you see a kind of privileging of the kind of individual and this kind of like invincibility, like, 'I matter, you don't' in both signs," Taylor said.

That creates an ideological pairing that says someone is not only angry about the potential of gay and lesbian equality, but about a "whole suite of commitments to equality," she said.

Koller maintained that he'd been raised to never show hate toward anyone.

Taylor said some people can be against gay rights, but on the other hand say, "I'm a good person, and I respect everyone," which is

a really complicated contradiction.

While Judeo-Christian culture often promotes respect thy neighbor or love thy brother, she said, "There's a tremendous amount of investment in sort of prioritizing hate ... whether it's preaching against lesbians and gays in church, whether it's churches mobilizing against desegregation efforts of churches or neighbourhoods, we can think of lots of ways in which churches are really kind of working against the basic ideologies that they espouse."

She said it is really important for people who are members of churches to "think about those inconsistencies and to raise them with ministers and with pastors."

Taylor noted it's a "common social psychological failure" for people to think they're good people, but also espouse hate.

"That's a common human social failing that we work against in schools and in public policies, but we're not really succeeding."

People need to weigh whether having a rainbow crosswalk in town is really compromising the strength and the importance of their marital status and relationships, she said.

Putting up a sign that celebrates a majority can be encouraging to others to put down minorities, she said.

When Donald Trump called Mexicans rapists and said "immigrants are awful, then people started to confront people at the Walmart. They would say 'Stop speaking that language,' or like 'Get out of my way,' or like 'Immigrants last.' So when you put up a sign that says the majority rules, or 'We're powerful and we want to keep it that way,' it does act as a kind of subversive invitation to average people to enact hate."

The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake said it made Koller remove his sign for contravening its sign bylaw, which doesn't allow lawn signs. However, several anti-lockdown signs have remained up around town throughout much of the pandemic.

Carriages horses rescued from slaughterhouses: Supporters

Evan Saunders
Local Journalism Initiative
The Lake Report

A petition supporting horse-drawn carriages has garnered more than 2,800 signatures since it was launched on July 6 with international support coming from England and Ireland.

Organizers Kimberley Hall and Richard Henderson say the carriage business protects horses by saving them from slaughterhouses.

The petition was started in direct response to anti-carriage protesters who have frequented NOTL for more than three years.

“We just want council to know that (the protesters’) isn’t the only opinion, that there is an opinion by people who enjoy carriages and even like them,” Hall told The Lake Report.

Sam Addario, of the group Ban Horse-drawn Carriages, wants the practice to end.

“Our position is that it’s cruel and exploitative to put horses in traffic. It’s a position that’s dangerous and uncomfortable for them.”

“They suffer tremendously wearing all that gear and being in the heat. Being prey animals in a dangerous, fast-paced environment makes them suffer. We don’t think it’s fair to exploit animals in traffic and make them work against their will.”

Hailey Beattie, 17, who works for Sentineal Horse Carriages, noted their horse Ethan weighs over 2,000 pounds “and can pull three-times that weight.”

“If he didn’t want to do something, he wouldn’t. He would tell us, he would show us, we understand how



Rob Henderson and Kimberley Hall at their pro-carriage stand at the corner of Simcoe Park. The two have been collecting signatures from people who also support horse-drawn carriages. EVAN SAUNDERS

to read horses,” she said.

One of the anti-carriage protesters’ suggestions to keep carriage operators in business is a switch to electric carriages.

“We have the technology. We don’t have to be doing this. There’s a reason we don’t ride horses any more for transportation,” Addario said.

Queen’s Royal Carriage owner Jeff Sentineal has previously suggested his company is open to transitioning to electric carriages, a stance the protesters were eager to mention.

But Henderson wants the people who would see horse carriages taken off NOTL’s streets to consider where the horses would be without the industry.

“Their horses are rescued,” he said.

“They rescue them from the slaughterhouses and

protect them and let them have that life that they deserve.”

Sentineal Carriages staff said that is the reality for work horses.

“We get a lot of our horses out of slaughterhouses and meat auctions,” said Sentineal driver Jade McLachlan.

“A lot of them are old Amish work horses and they just can’t pull a plow like they used to. It’s harder for the horses to do that work than it is for them to pull a carriage.”

She was standing beside Ethan, an old show horse who didn’t quite fit in with the rest of the animals.

“Clydesdales have a bit of a higher fancier step and he just didn’t have that,” she said. “He could have ended up in a meat auction.”

Unlike other industries, the carriage company

doesn’t send its horses to meat auctions when they are too old to keep working.

The oldest horse that owner Fred Sentineal had was 42 when they ended up having to put him down, she said. “But he lived out a great retirement with us.”

McLachlan said the horses like to work, having been bred by humans for various jobs for thousands of years.

“We had an old guy named Duke. We tried to retire him two years in a row,” she said.

“Every time summer picked up and we started to get our carriages out he would actually break down the fence and go and stand by the trailer because he wanted to go back to work.”

She also stressed that the horses are well taken care of.

“They get their yearly shots, they get their fecal

matter checked to make sure they don’t have worms and they have a full body check over.”

The horses even have customized diets to make sure they are getting the specific nutrients they need, she said.

Hall said she and Henderson started the petition on change.org to represent the people who support horse-drawn carriages and not to change people’s minds about the issue.

“If somebody says they don’t want to sign we say, ‘Thank you very much and have a nice day.’ We don’t want to influence anybody.”

Another petition to ban all horse-drawn carriages in the Niagara region had more than 19,000 as of Monday.

A petition more localized to NOTL entitled “Pledge not to visit Niagara-on-the-Lake until horse-drawn

carriages are banned” has gained 1,280 signatures in three years.

Henderson and Hall said the 2020 death of animal rights activist Regan Russell while protesting in Burlington prompted them to get involved in the NOTL debate.

“We saw the dangerous acts that the protesters were doing at Fearman’s and then we saw the, for lack of a better word, propaganda they were posting online about how safe their protests were and that led us to noticing what was happening down here,” Hall said.

Russell was hit by a transport truck during a protest outside a Fearman’s Pork Inc. slaughterhouse.

Some visitors seem divided on the issue.

“I’ve never taken a ride on them because I actually think it’s very cruel,” Stoney Creek resident Rose Murdoch said while visiting NOTL with her husband.

“We support animals. Do these horses even get water to drink?”

Bolton resident Pat D’Alessandro took the opposite view.

“This horse here was going to be slaughtered so I don’t have any problem with this,” he said.

“Our driver has had her own horse since she was nine and it was six months old. They grew up together. If anyone knows how to take care of them, how to groom them, how to feed them and how to exercise them it’s these people.”

D’Alessandro thought the idea of releasing all work horses was ridiculous.

“Cats and dogs are domesticated too. Do you want to release all of them?”

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Take in an exhibit : Art by Lynn Dooly-Marek



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Mike Shatkosky
 Owner

Going Green: Save money by **reducing** your food waste and being creative with leftovers

Robin Jinchereau
Special to The Lake Report

The amount of food waste or recyclables finding their way into our garbage bags is falling, but there remains lots of room for improvement.

The target for the waste diversion for the region is 65 per cent and it has not yet been reached. Most of the remaining 35 per cent of items also could be recycled.

When food waste rots at the landfill it produces methane which is actually worse for the environment than carbon dioxide.

Let's examine how we could reduce our food waste.

According to a survey done in 2017 by the National Zero Food Waste Council of Canada, 63 per cent of the food that could have been eaten is wasted.

This amounts to 140 kilograms per household and \$1,100 per year. The survey estimates vegetables compose 30 per cent of food waste, fruits 15 per cent, leftovers 13 per cent, bread/bakery 9 per cent and dairy/eggs 7 per cent.

To reduce food waste, first keep track of your fridge contents and plan your meals by using a list for shopping. While shopping, choose imperfect fruits and vegetables. Improve your knowledge about food dating. Give food scraps to pets, consider having a backyard compost and freeze your leftovers the same day you cook them.

Another way to reduce food waste, according to the National Zero Food Waste



Portion sizes recommended by Love Food Hate Waste Canada. SUPPLIED

Council, is to use perfect portions.

The size of your fist should be the quantity of rice, pasta, potatoes that would be consumed in one portion.

The size of your hand when it is open is the size of your fish or vegetables portion. Your palm is the size of a beef, pork, chicken or eggs serving. Finally one cupped hand is the appropriate quantity of fruits, nuts or seeds.

You can find illustrations at the website lovefood-hatewaste.ca.

Here are some other strategies to help you reduce food waste.

If you have fresh tomatoes and they have started to turn, remove the rotten portion and cut the rest into cubes, add a bit of salt and pepper, and freeze them instead of using canned tomatoes.

Leftover potatoes can be used once they become soft for making soups such as leek, potato and clam

chowder, pea soup or a nice vegetable bisque, which you run through your blender.

If you have bought too many vegetables, you can blanch them by putting them in boiling salted water for two minutes, cool and freeze to use another day.

Apples can be made into applesauce by adding sugar, cinnamon and lemon juice, cooking and blending them. It will last two weeks refrigerated and two months frozen.

Bananas where the peels have turned brown can be reused for baking as their sugar content will be high. Banana bread, banana muffins or even banana cookies are excellent uses of ripened bananas. They can create a great blank canvas to a mixed fruit smoothie. Freeze till you are ready to use them.

Great ways to use day-old bread include making croustons, creating a panzanella salad, making a stuffing in your oven even if you don't have a bird, just use

Corning ware to cook the stuffing.

Alternatively you can create meals such as french toast, bread pudding and grilled cheeses. Finally if you cut the bread into small pieces, your local birds will thank you.

With dairy products such as milk or cream, don't trust the expiry date printed on the carton, instead trust your nose and your eyes. We regularly use skim milk two weeks past the expiry date in our house as it's fine. Just remember that the higher the fat content the more likely the milk can sour quickly.

If we all make an effort to buy less, waste less we can help fight climate change.

Niagara-on-the-Lake resident Robin Jinchereau has degrees in human biology and business administration. He is retired from a long career in the pharmaceuticals industry and has been fascinated for the last 45 years about how to reduce waste.

RIDDLE ME THIS

I have lakes with no water, mountains with no stone, and cities with no buildings. What am I?

Last issue: I am served at a table, in gatherings of two or four. Served small, white, and round. You'll love some, and that's part of the fun. What am I?

Answer: A pingpong ball

Answered first by: Susan Hamilton

Also answered correctly (in order) by: Sheelah Young, Margie Enns, Mary Drost, Margie Enns, Margaret Garaughty, Maria Janeiro, Pam Dowling, Robert Morley, Robert Wilms, Ron Cane, Chris Yakymishen, Elaine Landray

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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Public health says kids need first COVID shots **by Tuesday**

Continued from Front Page

Hirji predicted that cases in the region will increase – soon.

“I think it is almost certain we will see cases begin to rise, possibly as early as mid-August. How large that rise will be is going to be dependent on how much people are vaccinated by then. If people are not vaccinated, a large wave is much more likely,” he said.

He expects schools will be a “primary setting” for outbreaks.

Schools will have a large concentration of unvaccinated people since children under 12 can’t yet get a shot – and vaccine uptake for those over 12 is likely going to be below average, he said.

He estimated that “95 per cent or higher vaccine coverage” will be needed to have a “herd immunity” level of vaccination.

“That obviously won’t be possible in elementary schools where most students won’t be eligible for vaccination yet. It will be hard to get that high in high



Athina and Carson McConkey pose in front of Crossroads Public School on the first day of school Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2019. FILE PHOTO/DARIYA BAIGUZHIEVA

schools,” he added.

Children do die from COVID-19, just not at the same frequency as older persons, Hirji said.

Statistics from the Public Health Agency of Canada show that among those under age 19 across the country there have been 14 deaths, 164 children were treated for COVID in ICUs and 1,399 children were hospitalized, he said.

“These numbers would likely be higher if students hadn’t been forced to stay at home, but had been in schools, in sports, and in other extracurricular activities this past year,” Hirji said.

“As students return to these activities this fall, I worry unvaccinated students could be at risk for

hospitalization, ICU admission, and in very rare cases, death.”

Besides public health walk-in locations, young people can also book an appointment online through the provincial portal at ontario.ca/bookvaccine or by calling the provincial booking system at 1-833-943-3900. A full schedule of clinics is listed on the region’s website.

Youth can also find a pharmacy in their neighbourhood administering Pfizer by visiting covid-19.ontario.ca/vaccine-locations.

Public health also suggested young people to check out @REACTniagara on Instagram to see health messages from Niagara teens who have got the shot.



A portion of one of Lynn Dooly-Marek’s paintings. SUPPLIED

Pumphouse exhibit features cafes and markets of **Aix-en-Provence**

Staff
The Lake Report

The Niagara Pumphouse Arts Centre is back and opening its first art exhibit since pandemic lockdowns ended.

For the month of August, the exhibit titled *Bistros & Marchés of the World: Where it All Began* will feature the work of Whitby artist Lynn Dooly-Marek.

The exhibit runs Aug. 4 to 29, with an opening reception Aug. 8 from 2 to 4 p.m.

“Lynn recreated the vibrant glow of street scenes in Aix-en-Provence and other locales in her unique, impressionistic style,” said Pumphouse marketing coordinator Aimee Medina.

“Her 20-plus paintings, most rendered using Senelier brand oils imported from Paris, burst with colour, create a relaxing atmosphere and invite viewers to share the artist’s warm emotions.”

Cafes are a way of life, Dooly-Marek said in explaining the theme of the exhibit.

“They evoke a sense of the old world, of relaxation, of life, of stopping time as you sit at a café for hours people watching. The markets are filled with noise and vitality and life.”

She said she doesn’t paint places. “I paint stories. I’m not painting the buildings. I don’t paint what I see, I paint what I feel, the instant response upon seeing the subject.”

Her art hangs on walls around the world, including in the office of the mayor of Toronto.

The “REAL” Report

The NOTL real estate market continues to hold strong while the last three months show signs of the market stabilizing and becoming more balanced.

June 2020 thru June 2021 **(+37.9%)**

QUEENSTON:	+41.9%
LAKESHORE:	+40.9%
GLENDALE:	+39.7%
VIRGIL:	+39.6%
TOWN:	+37.4%
ST. DAVID’S:	+34.0%

April thru June 2021 **(+3.4%)**

TOWN:	+3.4%
QUEENSTON:	+3.4%
VIRGIL:	+3.3%
GLENDALE:	+2.7%
ST. DAVID’S:	+2.2%
LAKESHORE:	+0.5%

*Stats provided by the Niagara Real Estate Board, based on actual sales of MLS listings and using a benchmark home price index formula.



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Town OKs expansion of Royal Oak School

Evan Saunders
Local Journalism Initiative
The Lake Report

Royal Oak School is expanding again, leasing two more rooms in the old NOTL hospital on Wellington Street where the school operates.

The independent school was started in the Niagara-on-the-Lake courthouse in 2016 and had 12 students

in its first year, head of school Julia Murray told town councillors last week.

Council approved the school's plan to lease the additional space.

In the five years since its inception the school has grown to more than 60 students this year, nine full-time staff and two part-time employees, she said.

"Over 30 per cent of our

families receive financial bursaries. That's really important to us," Murray said.

"That's why we exist. When the school started it was not because we wanted to have an elite independent school for students. We wanted to offer high-quality education to every child in Niagara."

The school would be responsible for any

renovations that the rooms require, said manager of parks and recreation Kevin Turcotte.

The rooms are to be included in the school's current lease with the town.

The old hospital is up for sale by the town and requests for expressions of interest on the property will be put out in September, noted Coun. Gary Burroughs.

Museum to host treasure hunt, pig roast

Staff
The Lake Report

The Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum is putting on a treasure hunt.

Well, sort of. On Monday, Aug. 2 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. the museum will hold its Treasure Sale and Pig Roast.

While normally the museum would host its holiday festival for the Civic Holiday long weekend, this year the pandemic has caused many people to clean out their attics, resulting in some "treasures" being donated to the museum.

Items include books, lamps, jewelry, vintage shoe forms, nesting tables, china and other hidden gems. Pork on a bun will also be available for take-out from PigOut Catering. All proceeds will support the NOTL Museum.

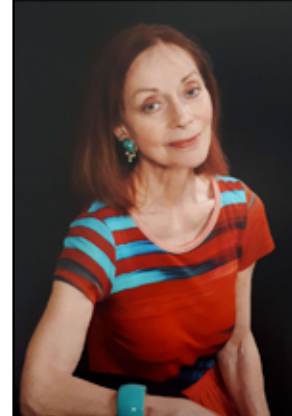
The museum will also debut its Tiny Museum to the public for the first time. The "pint-sized" version of the museum will be used for portable exhibits and educational projects throughout Niagara.

The Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum is located at 43 Castlereagh St.



Shawna Butts, assistant curator of the NOTL Museum, shows of some of the treasures. SUPPLIED

Landscape and Memory



Don't miss Penny-Lynn Cookson's virtual lecture series "Landscape and Memory," which runs Aug. 4 to 25 at the Pumphouse Arts Centre. Registration is free.

niagarapumphouse.ca/programs

Book launch

A book launch of Albatross Hall, a historical fiction novel, to take place Saturday, Aug. 7, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the NOTL Museum.

Come and meet author Jean Baker!

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Ken Porter and his granddaughter, Georgia, with the latest finds from the front yard golf ball hunt. SUPPLIED

Fore! Errant golf balls come from two directions

Kevin MacLean
The Lake Report

Ken and Janet Porter love the home they built at Front and Simcoe streets, facing the Niagara-on-the-Lake Golf Club.

But every once in a while they are jolted by the loud bang of a golf ball slamming into the side of their house.

"It sounds like a picture falling off the wall," says Ken Porter. "The house gets hit four or five times a year, but we've never had a broken window."

Yet.

They enjoy the picturesque views of the ninth green on the Simcoe side and the first fairway along Front Street.

The downside is a lot of golf balls zinging their way onto the lawn and gardens of their property, mainly in spring and early summer as golfers refine their game.

A few weeks ago, "a ball hit a car on Front Street, bounced a few times and rolled up the driveway into my open garage as I was getting into my car," Porter says. "I've seen a few cars hit and windows broken."

From the ninth hole, balls regularly bounce across Simcoe to the Porters' yard and other homes facing the fairway. Other than some

large trees, the street and parked cars, there's not much to stop them.

But the closing hole only accounts for about 20 per cent of the way out-of-bounds balls, Porter says.

It's a much tougher shot from the first hole to the Porters' yard, but plenty of hackers still manage to find the corner property. About 80 per cent of the wild shots come from that direction.

To make such a high-calibre bad shot, golf balls must soar over several trees and a high fence on the course property, fly over a walking path, past another line of trees and shrubs, miss a line of parked cars and then cross the road and a sidewalk.

On a weekend visit, Porter and his granddaughter Georgia, 2, went golf ball hunting in the front yard and gathered another 15 balls in various spots around the gardens. Whenever Georgia visits, she looks forward to the golf ball hunt, Grandpa says.

"I check the gardens a few times a month and before I cut the lawn each time," he says.

His two most memorable finds were a "Canada Cup ball that would have been over 30 years old, and cost under a dollar then, and another ball that was

sitting perfectly positioned on a chair cushion – on the second-floor balcony."

Then there was the time a few years ago when he saw a ball from the first tee land on the front lawn and waited to see if someone would come by looking for it.

Most golfers are pretty shy about claiming a shot-gone-so-badly-wrong. Not this player. And he had a plan.

"A guy comes over and sees his ball on my front lawn and then goes back to get a club to play the ball off my lawn," Porter says.

"I came out of the house and asked him to get off the lawn and to just pick up his ball and leave," he recalls. "He was serious about playing the shot even though he was some 30 yards out of bounds." (For those who don't golf: that's a major rule violation, not to mention just a bit audacious.)

Porter estimates he has recovered more than 300 balls over the past seven years.

He's a member of the golf club, so he donates the balls to the club's junior program where they'll have a second life among the next generation of players.

Except that vintage Canada Cup ball. He still has it around – "somewhere."

Tutton has one-shot lead in Legends Cup tourney

Kevin MacLean
The Lake Report

Warren Tutton has a one-shot lead after the first round of the annual Legends Cup tournament at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Golf Club.

The Legends is an 18-hole total score competition played over consecutive Tuesdays – but it is restricted to players aged 80 and up.

This year 18 players are competing, organizer Bill Katrynuk said.

The smooth-swinging Tutton carded a 4-over 40 this week, one shot ahead of defending Legends champ Doug McCulloch.

Close behind were Daryl Fry (43), Kerry Knapp (44) and Jim Cosgrove and Gerry Shelly (46).

The final round in the tourney is set for next Tuesday.

Meanwhile, in WOOFs league play on July 27, Don Allen was low gross winner with a 38. Charlie Rate took low net with a 34.

Martin Vagners was closest to the pin on #4 and



Warren Tutton leads the 2021 Legends Cup after round 1. FILE PHOTO

Brian Heer's birdie on #6 won the hidden hole. Larry Heim won \$50 in the 50/50 draw.

Women's results: This Tuesday's 18 hole women's league play was cut short by thunderstorms for many participants.

The women earned

points for hitting their drives in the fairway and then subtracted points for each putt needed to finish the hole.

The winners were: Cathy Murray, 17 points (\$20), Susan Gagne, 14 points (\$15), while Ginny Green and Kim Hrycko earned 12 points each (\$10).

The weather pre-empted the 9 hole women's league.

Men's results: The leaderboard for Thursday's men's league was crowded on July 22.

Sean Simpson led the pack with 23 points under the modified Stableford scoring system. Sam Ride-sic was right behind with 22 points.

Tied for third with 21 were Martin Vagners, Norm Kerr and Randy Churchill.

Next up, with 20 points, were Michael Berlis, David Gagne and Greg Keldson.

Former men's champion Joe Doria won a \$100 gross skin for a birdie on #3 and Larry Mantle scooped one with a bird on #6. No net skins were won, so the cash prize will carry over to this week.



Olivia Miele receives her \$200 art scholarship. SUPPLIED

Art student gets \$200 scholarship

Staff
The Lake Report

NOTL's Olivia Miele has 200 reasons to be excited as she prepares to head to university.

The Niagara Pumphouse Arts Centre presented Miele, 18, with its \$200 art education scholarship last week. The scholarship is set up in honour of one of the Pumphouse's founding members, the late Ian

Butler, and is given to a NOTL graduating high school student who is pursuing art.

She also received a one-year membership to the Pumphouse.

"We are delighted to present the 2021 award to Olivia. We wish her all the best in her chosen field," said Pumphouse board member Gwen Laing.

"Through our various programs and initiatives,

we want to encourage the local youth and emerging artists to pursue their creative interests."

Miele recently graduated from Laura Secord Secondary School and will be attending Ontario College of Art & Design University for graphic design in the fall.

Some of Olivia's original artworks can be viewed online at the niagarapumphouse.ca website.

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Heritage Trail Phase 1 Completion

The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake's Heritage Trail Committee is excited to announce the completion of Phase 1 of the Heritage Trail Rehabilitation. The public is invited to enjoy this beautiful multi-use trail and to see the outstanding rehabilitation work that has been completed from John Street to East West Line.



INSTALLATION OF AN ALL-WAY STOP AT THE INTERSECTION OF QUEEN STREET AND MISSISSAGUA STREET



NOTICE is hereby given that the Council of the Corporation of the Town Niagara-on-the-Lake has amended By-Law 4308-09 to establish an all-way stop at the intersection of Queen Street and Mississagua Street.

Currently, only Mississagua Street traffic is required to stop. Based on the amended By-Law, now drivers on Queen Street are required to stop as well.

Drivers are urged to use extra caution at this intersection as traffic on Queen Street adjusts to the new stop signs.

New stop signs will be erected on the week of August 3rd, 2021, weather permitting, and the intersection will be closed for the day during installation, with detour routes in place. Enforcement of the all-way stop will commence immediately upon installation.

Those with questions are encouraged to contact Mike Komljenovic, Engineering Supervisor for the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake by emailing mike.komljenovic@notl.com or calling (905) 468-3266.



Temporary Speed Reduction Regional Road 55 (Niagara Stone Road)

(600m South of Line 4 Rd. to 70m South of Line 3 Rd.)

The Regional Municipality of Niagara, in collaboration with the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, will be reducing the posted speed limit on Regional Road 55 (Niagara Stone Road) between 600m South of Line 4 Road to 70m South of Line 3 Road.

The speed reduction is necessary to facilitate the installation of the watermain on Niagara Stone Road. See the map to the right for location details

The new posted speed limit of 50 km/h will take effect July 26, 2021. The speed reduction will remain in place for the duration of the project.

Emergency Services will have access to the road at all times.

Any inquiries concerning this project may be directed to Rob Andrea, Engineering Technologist for the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, at 905-468-3266.

Your co-operation is appreciated.





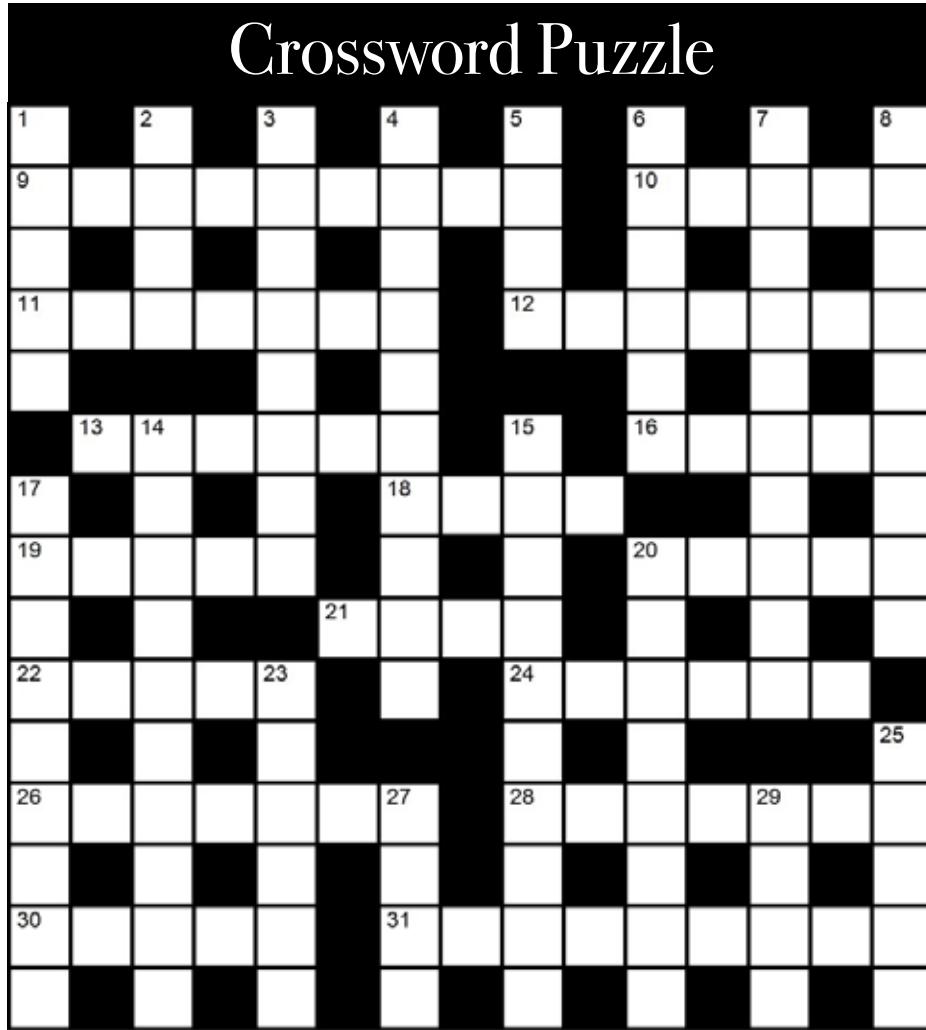
Have some fun

Across

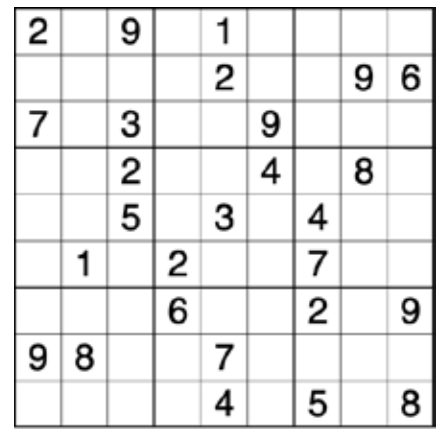
- 9. Cloudburst (9)
- 10. Move stealthily (5)
- 11. Possibly (7)
- 12. Glitter (7)
- 13. Reach one's destination (6)
- 16. Eddy (5)
- 18. Thick cord (4)
- 19. Overturn (5)
- 20. Long stories (5)
- 21. Seethe (4)
- 22. Irritably impatient (5)
- 24. Passenger ships (6)
- 26. Dental filling (7)
- 28. Out wooing (2,1,4)
- 30. Run up (5)
- 31. Christian festival (9)

Down

- 1. Burst forth (5)
- 2. Coffin stand (4)
- 3. Betrayer (8)
- 4. Crustacean catcher (7,3)
- 5. Little devils (4)
- 6. Squirts (6)
- 7. Minstrel (4,6)
- 8. Insomniac (9)
- 14. Opposition (10)
- 15. Enchanted (10)
- 17. Smallest continent (9)
- 20. Parched (3-5)
- 23. Curdled milk (6)
- 25. Cults (5)
- 27. Brood (4)
- 29. Speck (4)



Last issue's answers




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'The Persistence of Memory'

Penny-Lynn Cookson
Special to The Lake Report

As time and space coalesce, how will we remember these COVID-19 days, weeks, months?

Will we despair of time lost in the absence of family and friends? Will we laugh at the memory of spontaneity that brought joy? Will we treasure the unexpected that altered our perceptions?

In isolation, did we become more open, more forgiving, more generous or more guarded and uncaring? Did we dream of love and places to see or feel nostalgia for homes and landscapes left long ago? Were we confused by our dreams and skewed reality? Did we describe what we were experiencing as "surreal"?

The Surrealist movement, championed by André Breton, Apollinaire and Magritte among others,

came at a time of chaotic change. The 1910s had seen the horror and slaughter of the First World War and revolutions after which no one believed life as "normal" would ever return.

The 1920s brought strikes, the stock exchange crash, Prohibition, the jazz age, radio, cinema "talkies," Einstein's Nobel Prize for physics, Fleming's discovery of penicillin, Lindbergh's flight across the Atlantic, death on the streets of Ireland and Germany, and civil wars from Mexico to China.

The 1930s were no less dramatic as the capitalist west entered the worst depression ever. Civil war in Spain, Hitler and Mussolini were a foretaste of the fascism to come.

Elsewhere it was business as usual: exploitation in Africa, upheavals in South America, unrest in India, travel by sea, railways and

air, Hollywood glamour and musicals to help everyone forget the mess. Into this time frame emerged Salvador Dali, the most famous and controversial Surrealist of them all, born in 1904 in Figueres, Catalonia, Spain, and by 1934 an art world sensation.

Dali had studied at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Madrid, where his talent and technical prowess were apparent and where he considered his teachers inadequate to judge his work. Immersed in Cubism, Futurism and the avant-garde movements of Dadaism and Surrealism, he joined the Surrealists in Paris in 1929 as they shared his interest in releasing the creative powers of the unconscious mind and making the contradictions of dreams and reality an absolute reality.

He was profoundly influenced by Sigmund Freud's



Salvador Dali, "The Persistence of Memory," 1931, oil on canvas, Museum of Modern Art, New York City. SOURCED

research into dreams and sexuality, and his theories of how the unconscious can reveal latent desires and paranoia. Dali developed his "paranoic-critical" method of engaging in self-induced hallucinations to access the subconscious for artistic creativity and to systematize confusion and upend reality.

His "The Persistence of Memory" was exhibited to acclaim in Paris and the Wadsworth Athenaeum in 1931 and in 1933-34 in New York. Dali's eccentric persona of bulging eyes, upturned thin Velasquez moustache, relentless self-promotion and admiration for American popular culture were as notable as his

art. But the man was in earnest stating, "The difference between a madman and me is that I am not mad."

In "The Persistence of Memory," Dali combines hard and soft imagery. His out-of-place hard pocket watches morph into soft forms melting in the sun. An unconscious symbol of the relativity of space and time, the collapse of our ideas of a fixed cosmic order? Einstein's theory of general relativity? "No," said Dali, "nothing more than the soft, extravagant, solitary Camembert cheese of time."

But the hands are set at 12.30, 6, 6:55 – a subjective past, present, future? One watch has a fly on it,

symbolic of decay and time devouring itself. One face-down hard orange watch is covered with crawling ants, their hourglass-shaped bodies a reminder of human mortality and impermanence against a "sands of time" landscape.

A leafless olive tree with cut branches suggests the death of ancient wisdom in a time of war and unrest. The anthropomorphic form in the middle is a self-portrait in profile, one long lashed eye closed in sleep, tongue extending from the bony nose like a soft, plump snail, the enigmatic figure in dreams.

The craggy, golden cliffs of the Catalan Cap de Creus peninsula, the timelessness of the sea, the light on sky, shore and rocks synthesize home to Dali. His absolute realism gives us suspended time, relative not fixed.

Penny-Lynn Cookson is an art historian who taught at the University of Toronto for 10 years. She was also head of extension services at the Art Gallery of Ontario. Her upcoming virtual lecture series "Landscape and Memory" runs Aug. 4 to 25 at the Pumphouse Arts Centre. Registration is free.

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The Niagara Local Club is a quarterly selection of unique wines from Niagara. Sommelier Selected & Chef Tested. (August, November, February, May)

The International Sipper Club is a quarterly selection of low intervention wines from Chef Crawford's travels & tastings. Each wine has a story: we're sure you'll love tasting each one. (September, December, March, June)

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EXPLORING PHOTOS

WITH NOTL MUSEUM



Post office circa 1900s

Recognize this building? It was previously the Niagara-on-the-Lake Post Office during the early 1900s. The man standing outside is likely the postmaster, Joseph Healey, who took on that role from 1904 to 1930. Healey was a well-liked gentleman who originally lived in the township area but moved to the Paffard house that stood on the corner of Queen and Victoria streets. This storefront is part of the Rowley Block that was owned by a resident named Fanny L. Rowley, who lived at 177 King St. Many would recognize this building today as Plusios Gifts at 23 Queen St.



My favourite architectural style

Brian Marshall
Columnist



A conservative Art Moderne home in Hamilton. SUPPLIED

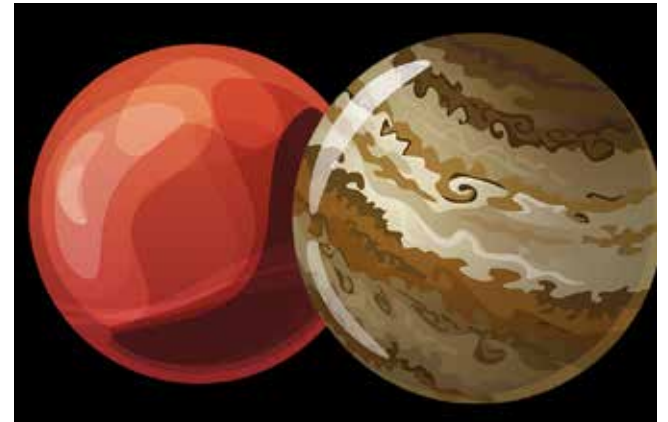
During my speaking engagements on Canadian architecture, one of the questions I'm most often asked is, "Do you have a favourite architectural style?" Although I usually attempt to reply that I appreciate virtually all architectural styles when it's the work of a skilled designer, if the questioner is persistent, I eventually admit that there is one pair of "sister" styles that truly make my heart sing but, unfortunately, these expressions rarely found favour here in Canada. The older sister was born in France at the turn of the 20th century during a time when society believed the industrial machine would deliver as-yet undreamt of benefits. Architects of this fledging

school drew inspiration from the expressiveness of the Art Nouveau school of artists (not architects), from the established English Arts & Crafts movement, the art of Tiffany, Galle and Lalique, the schools of Cubism and Surrealism, from ancient Egyptian and African folk art, and the traditional forms of Japan and China. All of these forms were combined, distilled, blended and then rendered through the screen of industrialism. The architectural expression was jubilant, stylized and expressed in soaring vertical lines with an emphasis on geometric and stepped pyramidal forms. Products of the "modern age" were featured; materials like Bakelite, monel,

aluminum and vitrolite commonly integrated. Then, all design concepts were assessed against the "machine ethos" to ensure the optimum uncluttered visual and use efficiency had been achieved. In 1925, at the Paris Exposition Internationale des Arts Décoratifs et Industriels Modernes, this older sister was embraced and later labelled Art Deco. Where the older sibling may have been born in Europe, the younger sister began life in North America. By 1930, the exuberance of the Roaring Twenties had been replaced by the austerity and increased emphasis on efficiency begotten by the Great Depression. The industrial designers of cars,

airplanes and ships were focused on simpler, aerodynamic lines and forms that, in turn, influenced architects. From this aesthetic, Art Moderne (or Streamline Moderne) evolved out of Art Deco. Where the older sister was vertical, decorated and exuberant, the younger expression was horizontal, streamlined and demure. That said, socio-economic constraints of the time simply acted to funnel architectural creativity. The architect's response, by juxtaposing straight lines with sweeping curves while reducing Art Deco's geometric decoration to its essence, was to create a sensuality in the built expression rarely equalled since. While Art Deco residences were relatively rare internationally, homes in the Art Moderne style were much more common everywhere, except Canada. Perhaps that sensuality of form just made our conservative countrymen uncomfortable? In any case, the closest Art Moderne example can be found in Hamilton, and it's worth searching out if you're in that neighbourhood.

Looking to the Stars



Good time to adopt a healthier lifestyle

Bill Auchterlonie
Special to The Lake Report

This week the third quarter moon is in Taurus on Saturday. And more.

Thursday, July 29: It's a good day to take on a new healthier lifestyle as Jupiter bumps Mars, bringing good energy to health and work matters. With the moon in Aries there is courage in the air, so go for it. It was July 29, 1609, that Samuel de Champlain shot and killed two Iroquois chiefs at Ticonderoga, N.Y., thereby setting off 200 years of animosity.

Friday, July 30: In spite of some feelings of insecurity, there is a lot of love out there. Connect with the love and dispel the insecurity. Today Lisa Kudrow, Phoebe Buffay on "Friends," turns 58.

Saturday, July 31: It's the day of the third quarter moon in Taurus for 2021. Quarter moons are often tense, this one especially so due to a conjunction with Uranus and a square with Saturn. In addition to the pressure of completing chores of importance, a surprise may waylay our planned day and so feelings of inadequacy are best set aside for now. On July 31, 1917, the Battle of Passchendaele resulted in 500,000 dead, many of them Canadian. In 2008, a Canadian film was released about the First World War and the battle. It starred Paul Gross and a regular Shaw performer of the day, Jim Mezon.

Sunday, Aug. 1: While serious and clever behaviour can help to heal an old wound, thinking from an insecure place is a recipe for failure. On Aug. 1,

1774, English chemist Joseph Priestly discovered oxygen. Of course, it was always there, but Priestly was the first to separate it from air. (Air is about 21 per cent oxygen and 78 per cent nitrogen).

Monday, Aug. 2: Do you remember when I spoke of Chiron turning retrograde a few weeks ago? At that time, I mentioned us "becoming our own medicine." Today proves a fine example of how dedicated thinking will prove that to be true. Scottish-born, a Canadian citizen and an American hero, Alexander Graham Bell died on Aug. 2, 1922, at 75 years of age.

Tuesday, Aug. 3: A surprise makes for feelings of pride. And earthy passions get happy, also in a surprising manner. Happy birthday to the NBA. It was Aug. 3, 1949, that the Basketball Association of America (BAA) and National Basketball League (NBL) merged to form the National Basketball Association (NBA).

Wednesday, Aug. 4: The moon moves from Gemini into her home sign of Cancer tonight. It's another day of healing as Chiron and the sun connect. Aug. 4 is and was a big day for pop music. Elvis Presley's recording of "Hound Dog" reached #1 on Aug. 4, 1956. Billboard published its Hot 100 for the first time on Aug. 4, 1958. At #1 was Ricky Nelson's "Poor Little Fool."

Next week we see the new moon in Leo.

Obtain your personal birth chart including a forecast for the year ahead on Bill Auchterlonie's podcast at auchterlonieonastrology.ca.

Astrology is a form of entertainment, not a science.



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Angelica Fenuta is engaged to her longtime partner but the pandemic is messing with wedding plans. BERNARD LANSBERGEN

Now that more and more people are getting vaccinated and there is finally a clear pathway out of this pandemic, we will periodically check in with different Niagara-on-the-Lake residents to see how COVID-19 has affected their lives – and what their hopes and dreams are for when things return to normal.

After the Pandemic Finally getting married

Bernard Lansbergen
The Lake Report

Angelica Fenuta, who recently bought a house in Old Town, has been together with her fiancé Daniel Battaglia for almost 10 years now.

Last New Year's Eve he surprised her by proposing under the Christmas tree. "We were talking about it but I didn't know it was

going to be now," says Fenuta. "He didn't tell anybody because he didn't want anyone to ruin it."

Getting engaged during a pandemic meant the young couple was quite limited in the ways they could celebrate.

"We couldn't do an engagement party because we were in lockdown. I just FaceTimed everybody but

you can't really do a big, nice engagement party and celebrate it."

Fenuta says she's not looking to have a gigantic wedding but would still like to be able to invite everyone she wants. "I don't like the attention on me. A hundred (people) is good, but even that is a lot."

Because of the pandemic she hasn't begun planning

her nuptials yet.

"I don't know when to start because I don't know what's open and (what) if somebody closes by the time I get married and then I lose my deposit."

So, for now, all she is doing is dreaming of her big day. "I would love to get married in Italy, or a vineyard here. It's all up in the air."

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Gardening: Putting your garden to bed for the cold winter months

This is the final instalment in a 10-week gardening column series, organized by the Niagara-on-the-Lake Communities in Bloom committee.



Joanne Young
Special to The Lake Report

The to-do list is long when putting your garden to bed for the winter. To help you navigate the process, here are some answers to commonly asked questions.

What trees and shrubs should I prune in the fall?

Do not prune any of the ornamental trees and shrubs in the fall. Wait until late winter or early spring for



Plant your early spring bulbs in the fall. SOURCED

most pruning. Pruning in the fall leaves open wounds that may result in additional winter dieback. Pruning also stimulates new growth that may not have a chance to harden off before cold weather arrives.

When do I plant my bulbs?

Fall is the time to plant all early spring blooming bulbs, i.e., tulips, daffodils, crocus, hyacinths, grape

hyacinths, allium, anemones, etc. The best time for planting these is late September to mid-November.

Bulbs will adapt to many different soils, but most prefer loose, porous soil with lots of organic matter (i.e., compost). They must have good drainage or there is a chance of them rotting. When planting bulbs use bonemeal, a good source of phosphorus, to help get

them off to a good start.

What do I do with my roses in the fall?

Do not prune roses in the fall unless canes are so tall that they will be damaged. Pruning done in the fall will stimulate new growth that will not have a chance to harden off before winter. Let the last flower go to seed – do not deadhead at this time. This will help the plant go dormant and result in less winter damage. The best time to prune roses is early spring when the buds begin to swell (when the forsythia come into bloom).

Do I need to wrap my plants for winter?

If plants are properly placed, that is, planted in the right sunlight conditions and in the right exposure, they should not need protecting for the winter. If your plants are going to be exposed to severe winter

winds or salt spray, wrapping may be needed. When wrapping trees with burlap or protective blanket (never plastic), it is best not to wrap the shrub directly, but to put stakes into the ground and wrap the burlap around the stakes. Sometimes you just need to put protection on one side of the plant to stop strong winds. Never cover the top of the plant.

The best protection that you can provide all evergreens (conifers and broadleaf) for the winter is to water them heavily just before the ground freezes for winter. This way there will be moisture available to the plant throughout the winter and it will cut down on winter desiccation.

What other chores should I be doing this fall?

Clean up any diseased leaves from the ground to reduce the chance of

diseases spreading back into the plants in the spring.

Make sure you clean up garden tools and pruners before storing them away for the winter.

Before putting the lawn mower away, shred or mulch fallen leaves and spread them onto your garden for extra winter protection. The leaves will also break down over winter and become compost, enriching your present soil.

Happy gardening
* Visit jointheconversationnotl.org/garden to check out the Garden of the Week contest, run by the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake's Communities in Bloom committee, and submit your garden or garden feature for consideration in one of 10 categories. Submission deadline is July 30.

Joanne Young is a garden coach and designer.



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