



Church closes after 175 years | Page 8



Development freeze was illegal, top court rules

Kevin MacLean
The Lake Report

Niagara-on-the-Lake council acted illegally in 2018 when it ordered a freeze on development in Old Town, the province's highest court has ruled.

The interim control bylaw banning any new development in the area was passed by the newly elected council four years ago, just days after taking office.

However, the Ontario Court of Appeal, in a unanimous decision released last Friday, said council's actions violated the Planning Act.

The top court sent the case back to Superior Court for a trial on developer Rainer Hummel's claims "of negligent misrepresentation and misfeasance in public office."

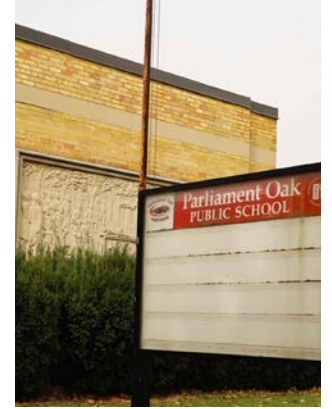
As well, "the issues of whether the process leading to the adoption of the initial interim control bylaw was illegal, and whether

Continued on Page 5

4,000 handmade poppies cascade over Court House



Denise Ascenzo helps hang more than 4,000 poppies at the Court House on Tuesday morning as part of the NOTL Poppy Project. SOMER SLOBODIAN READ THE STORY ON PAGE 4



Parliament Oak property sold to Two Sisters for \$8 million

Richard Harley
The Lake Report

The historic Parliament Oak property in Old Town Niagara-on-the-Lake has been sold to Two Sisters Resorts Corp. for \$8 million.

In an interview Monday, company president Benny Marotta said he took possession of the property Oct. 26, "two days after the election."

He said the plans for the property aren't set yet, but he is eager to "work with the new administration, with the new lord mayor and council, and to see what is the best way to develop in a way that will satisfy the needs of the town."

"The property itself, it's the jewel of the downtown core," Marotta said.

He added that "residents need to be part of the discussion. But at the end of the day, the town cannot go by what everybody wants, otherwise there will never be a decision. So, they need

Continued on Page 4

Niagara Nursery School: Time to celebrate 50 years of serving children



To help mark the 50th anniversary of the Niagara Nursery School and Child Care Centre, *The Lake Report* scoured the scant early records of the school, searching for photos and stories that would provide hints about how and why the school has survived a remarkable 50 years. Today, the school is a modern facility, with a growing waiting list, despite its expansion. In today's final instalment, we note that plans are afoot to formally celebrate its first 50 years, but the school is looking for the community's input.

Tim Taylor
The Lake Report

What a difference a half-century makes.

In 1973, the Niagara Nursery School and Child Care Centre had one teacher, 15 students and operated in rented quarters.

Today the school is licensed for 69 children, employs 14 staff and lives in brand new, state-of-the-art facilities, in a dedicated section of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Community Centre.

After occupying several temporary facilities over the years, the school moved into

the new community centre in 2010.

But demand just kept on growing.

"We saw a waiting list starting in 2015," says Candace Penny, the school's executive director. "There was a large influx of young families into the community."

Motivation for the purpose-built addition to the community centre came as the waiting list for attendance grew to many times the school's capacity — over 200 places by the time the school opened its

Continued on Page 13



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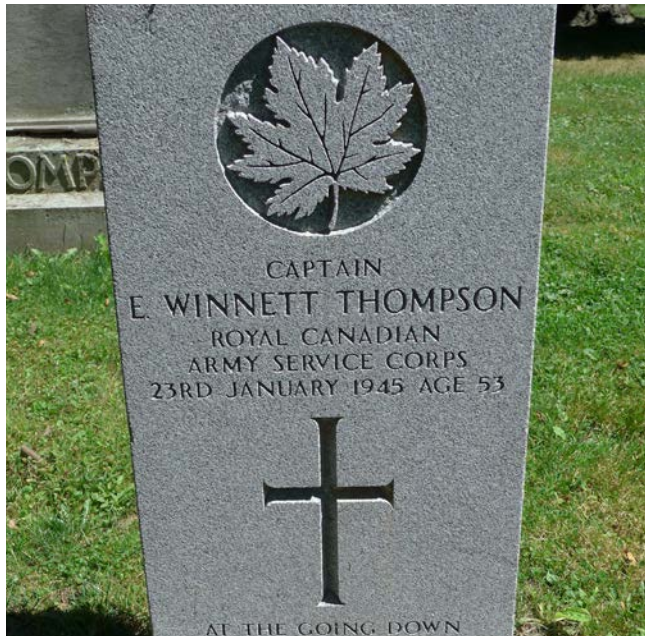
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Capt. Edward Winnett served in both world wars and died of coronary thrombus in Niagara-on-the-Lake in 1945. He was 53. CANADIAN VIRTUAL WAR MEMORIAL Right: Edward Winnett Thompson is buried at Mount Pleasant Cemetery in Toronto.



Gary Williams stands with his torn down trees and a licence plate remaining from a car chase that ended on his front lawn on Saturday night. JULIA SACCO

THE MONUMENTS MEN

The veteran: Capt. Edward Winnett Thompson

This year marks the 100th anniversary of Niagara-on-the-Lake's iconic clock tower cenotaph. In recognition of the cenotaph's century of service through two world wars and beyond, NOTL historian Ron Dale has been researching the stories of the people – all men – whose names are engraved on it. This is one in a series of stories to document and remember the sacrifices these combatants made. This week, part 23, is the final instalment on the Queen Street cenotaph. Next, we commemorate those memorialized on the municipal memorial in Queenston.

Ron Dale
Special to The Lake Report

During the Second World War more than 45,000 Canadian service men and women died from enemy action and from accidents on land, sea and air.

Often forgotten and not counted among those casualties are those who died in service from other causes not necessarily related to the war.

Life expectancy in Canada in 1945 was 68 for those surviving infancy. Today it has climbed to 82 for men.

In 1945, most adult males smoked and did not necessarily pay attention to following healthy lifestyles. Treatments for diseases like cancer and tubercu-

losis were rudimentary by today's standards.

The last death commemorated on the memorial clock tower cenotaph was a veteran of two world wars but whose death was determined to be "not due to service."

Edward Winnett Thompson was the son of Toronto hotelier Samuel Henry Thompson and Jessie Lillian Winnett.

He was born in Toronto on Aug. 23, 1891, and his father was born in Niagara-on-the-Lake. After completing his education, he worked at his father's hotel, the Prince George, as an accountant.

While continuing to work in his father's hotel, Thompson enlisted in the Non-Permanent Active Militia, in the Canadian Army Service Corps.

By 1918, as a lieutenant in that unit, he volunteered on Jan. 11 for deployment overseas. He was initially assigned to the Army Service Corps Training Depot in Toronto but was soon sent to England, arriving on March 4.

Again, he was assigned to a training depot in England.

Thompson spent the next few months in France assigned to the Canadian Engineers Mobile Transport Company. His posting undoubtedly placed him in war zones that underwent shelling by German artil-

lery, but he was one of the lucky ones who was not wounded in that war.

When the war ended on Nov. 11, 1918, Thompson had to wait with others for a chance to return to Canada. He was able to arrange an early return date thanks to his father's influence and sailed for Canada on Feb. 15, 1919.

Two months later, he married Dorothy Anderson in Detroit and then returned to Toronto. Soon afterward, his father died.

Between the wars, Thompson stayed on the reserve list while managing his father's hotel. He was called up for active duty on April 7, 1941.

In June he was posted to Monteith, Ont., a Prisoner of War and Enemy Alien internment camp. After a year and half managing the Royal Canadian Army Service Corps depot at the camp, he was sent to Brantford to manage the Service Corps depot at the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan Service Flight Training School airbase in that community.

His final posting on Aug. 5, 1944, was at Camp Niagara in Niagara-on-the-Lake, again commanding the Service Corps personnel at the camp. On Dec. 5, he was promoted to captain.

While Thompson was commanding Service Corps depots in Ontario,

his son and namesake, Lt. Edward Winnett Thompson was overseas with the Canadian Army, serving in England, Italy and North-west Europe.

Thankfully he survived the war and died in 1999 in Bermuda in his 80th year. His father had a shorter lifespan.

Captain Thompson, on duty at Camp Niagara, collapsed and died on Jan. 23, 1945, of coronary thrombus leading to coronary occlusion. The risk factors for this affliction include smoking, hypertension and obesity.

On Thompson's attestation papers from 1918 when he volunteered for overseas service his medical record shows that he was 5 foot 8 and weighed 208 pounds. On his medical file from 1942 he was reported to be half an inch taller but now 245 pounds and had high blood pressure.

Niagara-on-the-Lake was entwined in the fortunes of the Thompson family.

Captain Thompson's father Sam was born in NOTL but moved to Toronto. His mother lived in Toronto but moved to Niagara after Sam died – and their son died there.

Thompson lies buried in Mount Pleasant Cemetery in Toronto and his name is commemorated on the memorial clock tower cenotaph.

Car chase ends on NOTLer's front lawn

Julia Sacco
The Lake Report

Gary Williams was relaxing in his basement watching "A Walk Among the Tombstones" at around 10:30 p.m. on Saturday when the ending of the film was suddenly interrupted by an urgent call.

Williams was downstairs and didn't hear the commotion as a car chase that began in St. Catharines came to a chaotic conclusion on his front lawn on East and West Line.

"I had no idea what was going on until my neighbour Tim phoned me," said Williams.

"There were seven or eight cop cars out here. Apparently the guy lost control and ended up taking out three decent-sized trees, leaving all the garbage and car parts all over the place."

"He got out of the vehicle, ran up my driveway, dropped his machete and went behind my truck. He and the cops scuffled there. They tased him, all while I

was downstairs watching a movie."

Neighbour Zidadim Shabani was also watching television when he was shaken by noise from outside and ran to make sure all was OK.

"I heard the noise and I saw the police but other than that I did not see much. I was just worried about them," said Shabani.

Williams said police told him the driver was a young man who had been in trouble with the law before and was struggling with mental health issues.

After such a tumultuous night, Williams spent Sunday cleaning up the fallen trees, garbage and debris littering his front yard. He collected a licence plate, a shoe and some full trash bags.

Williams was disappointed to lose the beautiful trees that adorned his property for the 24 years or so he has lived there, but was relieved no one was hurt. And he eventually got to see the ending of his movie.



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Community rallies to raise money for farmworker who was hit by car

Somer Slobodian
Local Journalism Initiative
The Lake Report

The Niagara-on-the-Lake community is stepping up to help a farmworker who was badly injured after he was hit by a car while on his bicycle.

Ceto Reid, 51, a temporary foreign worker from Jamaica who works at P.G. Enns Farms, was struck on his bike on Oct. 6 in St. Catharines while riding back to the farm from the Laundry Tub.

"He was hit by a car on his way home from doing his laundry. And he was supposed to return home to Jamaica the next day," said Kit Andres from Migrant Workers Alliance Niagara.

He was taken to the hospital where he had hip surgery, she said.

Kathy Brown, the manager of the Avondale convenience store in Virgil, has set up a jar for people to donate to Reid's recovery.

Brown said she felt setting up a donation jar was the right thing to do.

"My family has been fortunate and I feel you have to help wherever you can," she said in a message to The Lake Report.

After she posted about it on social media, "it became apparent people wanted to donate directly so an email was set up so they could," she added.

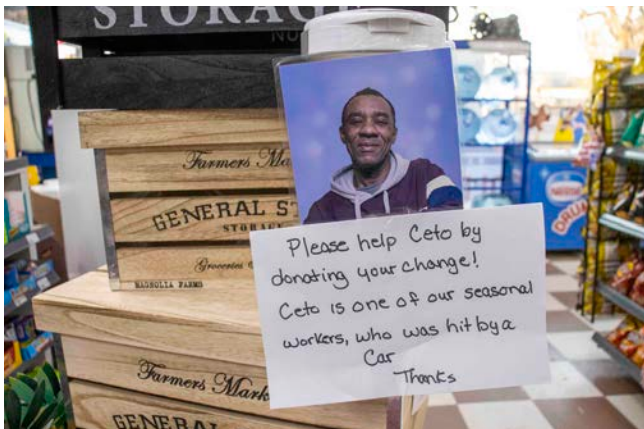
Reid was out doing his laundry before going home because there are no washers or dryers where he lives, said Kit Andres.

"At bare minimum, a worker should have access to a washing machine and dryer in their house," she said.

Asked if Reid's employers have been supportive since the incident, Andres said she didn't know.

"But I know there's been a lot of anger from workers for many years on this farm because of the lack of access to basic necessities," she said.

No one from P.G. Enns Farms responded to calls or emails from The Lake Report.



Ceto Reid. Top right: A 2020 photo of a clothing wash bin at P.G. Enns Farms. Employment and Social Development Canada says farms must have a washing machine for every 10 workers or provide workers with free weekly transportation to a laundromat. Reid was struck by a vehicle while riding his bike after picking up his laundry from the Laundry Tub in St. Catharines. SUPPLIED Bottom: A donation jar for Reid is set up at the Virgil Avondale. SOMER SLOBODIAN

A reporter who visited the farm on Irvine Road on Oct. 12 was asked to leave the property.

Niagara-on-the-Lake doesn't have a laundromat, so St. Catharines is the closest location. From Reid's bunkhouse, it's about a 16-kilometre round-trip.

The bunkhouse where Reid lives doesn't have a washing machine, only a washtub, said Andres.

This photo from 2020 shows a washtub at a P.G. Enns Farms bunkhouse on Lakeshore Road.

Many farmworkers drop their laundry off at the Laundry Tub and it is then delivered to them, thanks to a wash and fold service the laundromat offers, Kit Andres said.

But since Reid was leaving for Jamaica the following day, he went to pick the laundry up himself.

Contracts under the Seasonal Agricultural Worker Program "specifically state that accommodations must be equipped with laundry facilities including an adequate number of washing machines, and where

possible, dryers," said a spokesperson with Employment and Social Development Canada.

In the absence of washers and dryers, employers must drive workers to a laundromat weekly at no cost to the worker, the contract says.

The 27-year-old driver of the car that hit Reid, a woman from Thorold, was charged with careless driving, Niagara police said.

Now, instead of going back home to his family, sleeping in his own bed, and eating his favourite food he will be staying in Canada for two to three months while he recovers.

Reid's co-workers have stepped up to help him since he was discharged from the hospital.

"Often it falls on the shoulders of their co-workers to feed them, care for them (and) come up with grocery money," said Jane Andres.

However, his co-workers soon will be heading home.

"There's a network of volunteers, community members, service providers, who are meeting

together to come up with a support plan for when his co-workers return home and he's there alone," said Kit Andres.

It is great to see neighbours and community members stepping up and showing workers their support, she said.

On top of monetary donations, people from the community have been bringing him meals. Someone also donated a reclining chair to make sure he's comfortable.

As part of the Seasonal Agricultural Worker Program (SAWP), workers leave Canada by Dec. 15.

Reid needs to apply for an extension to complete his recovery here. It's unknown what he will do if he's unable to stay at the bunkhouse, where he currently lives.

Though it's great how the community is helping Reid in his recovery, Jane Andres said there needs to be a better support system in place for foreign workers.

"When Canadians get injured, they can get employment insurance (EI). (It) takes eight weeks for sick benefits, but there's support systems in place. They have a place to live," she said.

According to the federal government's website, Canadians will get their first EI payment about 28 days after applying.

"But with farm workers, they don't have the same support systems in place. I really think it's time to change how we can support them when these life-altering events happen," she added.

She said she's seen this happen too many times.

"It was 2007, (that) was my first experience with somebody that got cancer up here. And you know, they just had no support systems. It was his co-workers looking after him," said Jane Andres.

The workers don't need that stress, she said.

Anyone interested in helping Reid can donate at the Avondale convenience store in Virgil or send an e-transfer to niagaraworker-swelcome@gmail.com.

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Row on row the **poppies blow** for Remembrance Day

Evan Loree
Somer Slobodian
Local Journalism Initiative
The Lake Report

Remembrance Day is a time to be thankful.

That's what 11-year-old Nathaniel John Fee-Symonds said while he watched volunteers hang about 4,000 poppies Tuesday outside the historic Niagara-on-the-Lake Court House.

The poppies were hand-knit and crocheted by a team of 30 volunteers from the NOTL Museum.

"I think it's amazing for a town this size," said Nathaniel's grandmother, Sandra Porteous.

"That's the nice thing about coming to a place like this. You can tell that people actually think about it," she said.

Every Remembrance Day, Porteous's husband brings out his father's war box from the Second World War.

"It was his father's navy chest. And every Remembrance Day we open it up and look at his medals, and all the different things and the photos," she said.

While Porteous watched Tuesday, volunteers from the NOTL Museum and Davey Tree Expert Company unravelled the bundle of fabric poppies.



Volunteers help drape more than 4,000 poppies over the Court House on Tuesday morning. SOMER SLOBODIAN

"There's so many women behind that are not on the scene that have been knitting and crocheting since last August," said volunteer Nancy Macri.

The poppies were attached by twist ties to 14-foot sheets of netting.

Six of the sheets were hung from the Court House on Queen Street and the rest were strung from the NOTL Museum bell tower.

Last year was the first

year for the Poppy Project and the women who volunteered their time managed to knit and crochet 3,500 poppies.

After last year's success, the team decided to expand the project this year.

"It's about remembering the deceased, who gave you and me what we have here," Macri said.

With 4,000 poppies to make and 10 fewer volunteers than the 40 from last

year, the team had to start early.

Some of them began knitting as early as January.

The hanging poppies are the brainchild of project coordinator Barbara Worthy.

"It really is symbolizing the words lest we forget," Worthy said outside the museum, looking up at the freshly hanging display of poppies.

Worthy's great-grandfather and grandfather died

in service to their country during the First and Second World Wars.

She's not the only one who was commemorating a family member.

Terry Mactaggart remembers her father, who served as a bomber during the Second World War.

"He never talked about it," she said.

Except for one time, where she remembers him "spilling his guts" to one of

her brothers when he was asked to interview a veteran for an assignment.

She recalls finding a chest of photos from her father's time in the service.

"His squadron was the first into Belsen and so the pictures were horrifying," she said.

Most of the volunteers lament that family members didn't talk much about their time at war. They didn't want to remember.

"My dad was a vet and he died at 95 about four years ago," said Janet Guy, a volunteer with the Poppy Project.

He didn't talk about the war, she said. But when he was 17, he was eager to enlist, even though he had to wait until he was 18.

This year, the volunteers have also set up what they describe as a poppy garden.

The team created one handmade poppy for each of the 69 soldiers commemorated on the town cenotaph.

Pam Mundy, who came up with the idea for the garden, said she remembers all the men in her family who served.

The poppies have been staked into the museum's front lawn along with the names and death dates of the town's soldiers.

The display at the Court House and museum will be up until Nov. 13.

Developer hopes to work with **new town administration** on plan

Continued from Front Page

to trust council, especially the new council, in order to make a decision that we can all enjoy."

Heritage attributes on the property, like the stone engravings at the entrance to the building, will be included in whatever development occurs, he said.

"I think there's two stones. We are going to remove them, store them and make them part of whatever we're going to build," Marotta said.

As for what the town needs by way of development, Marotta said he thinks the town needs more accommodations and parking.

"Niagara-on-the-Lake is known more for tourism. So we need to make sure that when tourists come in town, they come and they stay here. So therefore, I think there's a big need for high-end hotels. There's a big need for parking facilities. There's a big need for restaurants," he said.

"And there's a big need for (developing) the downtown core in order for people to come in and not just walk up and down the street, have an ice cream and walk away," he said.

As well, "We, as a family, felt that having someone from outside, from Montreal, to come in and do something that may not go with what the town

really needs" wouldn't be positive for NOTL, he said.

Parliament Oak, at 325 King St., was bought by Montreal-based Liberty Sites (3) Ltd. for \$4.925 million in 2018, after the town failed to negotiate a deal to purchase the property.

The company had proposed a three-storey apartment building and 12 semi-detached homes on the site.

Residents loudly criticized the plan and eventually the property was listed again for sale.

Lord Mayor-elect Gary Zalepa said he looks forward to working with Marotta, as long as the

development considers the needs of the surrounding community and NOTL at large.

"These are important properties, these larger parcels like this," he said.

"During the campaign, I talked about hoping to have conversations with each of the villages about what type of amenities — and that includes housing and other types of services — do we really need in each village and what kind of structure could be appropriate for that."

Through the strategic planning process he wants to implement, "we really would like to get to each of the villages and get some feedback from

the community, which is understanding what things that we feel we need in each of the villages, what that could possibly look like."

"I'm really hoping to have that kind of conversation so that I have a better sense of what we could help the community move forward with on these on these significant parcels," Zalepa said.

Asked some things he's heard that NOTL needs, he said there's a need for institutions where residents can "age in place," noting the property is still zoned institutional.

"So, I'd be curious to see what the proponent has in mind going for-

ward," he said.

People in Niagara-on-the-Lake feel there is a lack of resources as they grow older, he said, whether it's "the kind of dwelling that allows them independence of their own, a more manageable home and property, or even a property that has some type of services that support them as they age in place."

"So I think that's an important amenity or feature that the town needs. I myself, my family, my parents, they would like to stay in town, right? And stay here longer term, but as you know, there's not a lot of types of housing that support that."



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Ontario's highest court has ruled the town acted illegally in implementing an interim control bylaw to freeze development just two days after the new council, pictured here, was sworn-in in 2018. RICHARD HARLEY/FILE

Town ordered to pay Hummel's legal costs

Continued from Front Page

there was bad faith in its enactment, may be litigated afresh," Justice Peter Lauwers wrote.

The ruling, written by Lauwers, with Justices Ian Nordheimer and Benjamin Zarnett assenting, threw out an earlier decision by a St. Catharines judge who found nothing wrong with the town's actions.

The three-judge appeal panel systematically rejected the decision by Justice James Ramsay, saying he made several legal errors.

The case was the result of a lawsuit by Hummel Properties, a Niagara-on-the-Lake development company, which claimed the bylaw and the circumstances in which it was passed were illegal and unfair.

The appeal court also ordered the town to pay Hummel's legal costs. It is not yet known how much the loss will cost the municipality.

In the lawsuit, Hummel alleged an "insidious scheme" by Lord Mayor Betty Disero and council to stop development was aimed at a particular developer — Benny Marotta.

But by enacting the sweeping interim control bylaw, Hummel argued the town affected his company and other developers.

Hummel's six-unit townhouse project, now underway on Niagara Stone Road, was caught in the 2018 freeze.

In a statement after Friday's ruling, Hummel said, "The community as a whole and each individual taxpayer in this town deserves more from its elected representatives. These are the individuals in whom the public places a special trust. That trust must be honoured. It must not be breached."

He said it wasn't his intent to burden the town's taxpayers, "although cost is an unfortunate side effect of litigation. Rather, our intention was to protect our interests and the public interest, and to right an egregious wrong committed by the former council."

"In righting that wrong, we hope to send a clear message to the new council, and to other municipal councils, that in carrying out their important legislative mandate, they must ensure that they act lawfully, and that they govern themselves at all times within the principles of transparency, accountability and good faith. If that message is received, then our action will benefit the town and all of its residents."

Hummel's lawyers said this is the first time any Canadian appellate court has made a definitive ruling on a municipality's use of "the nuclear option" — an interim control bylaw.

In an interview, lawyers Sara Premi and Justin Safayeni noted the court ruled the powerful tool of an interim control bylaw cannot be used to restrict

the subdividing of land nor can a municipality have more than one such bylaw affecting the same piece of land in effect at any time.

When council passed its 2018 development freeze (repealed in 2020), the town already had an interim control bylaw restricting cannabis businesses across NOTL.

Under the Planning Act, there must be a three-year "cooling off" period before another interim control bylaw can be approved and the court said the town violated that provision, said Safayeni, of Stockwoods LLP in Toronto.

Premi said it will be up to Hummel whether to pursue the "bad faith" and "improper purpose" aspects of his original lawsuit now that those issues have been sent back to Superior Court.

Both lawyers emphasized that the appeal court ruling does not mean a municipality cannot invoke an interim control bylaw, "but they have to do it right and with caution," said Premi, a partner with Sullivan Mahoney in St. Catharines.

The legal ruling is an important one not just because of the precedent it sets, she said.

The decision is also in the public interest because it warns municipal governments that they must be "transparent and accountable," and use their powers properly, Premi said.

The lawyers also said it is significant that the Ontario Home Builders Association

and Niagara Home Builders Association also intervened in the appeal, supporting Hummel Properties' position that the town's actions were illegal.

The Court of Appeal ruling highlighted several mistakes by Ramsay.

"I have found that the application judge made three overriding legal errors in his brief six-page endorsement," Lauwers wrote.


"I have also found that the application judge did not adequately analyze whether the process leading to the bylaw's enactment was legal."


As well, Ramsay's "finding that there was no bad faith rested on these three errors, and on his inadequate analysis of the process leading to the bylaw's enactment. Accordingly, I would set aside that finding."

The court also said Ramsay "erred in this mootness ruling" over whether the potential illegality of the bylaw didn't matter because it was subsequently repealed.

Ramsay gave "no legal basis" for some of his assertions and did not address Hummel's argument that the notice of the meeting to pass the bylaw "was inconsistent with the principles reviewed by the Supreme Court."

The lower court "gave short shrift to these arguments. I would set aside his finding that the process leading to the adoption of the bylaw was not illegal," Lauwers wrote.






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Canada The Local Journalism Initiative is funded by the Government of Canada.

COVID Tracker

NOTL active cases (last 28 days): 51
Region active cases: 1,022
Region deaths: 637
Region total cases: 47,871

**Nov. 3 data per Niagara Region Public Health.*

Public health warns that "Due to the surge in COVID-19 cases, limited availability of testing, and changes to case and contact management practices, case counts shown (above) are an underestimate of the true number of individuals in Niagara with COVID-19. Data should be interpreted with caution." Case data for municipalities is also now being interpreted in 28-day cycles.



Contributed by **Patty Garriock**

"Whoever is happy will make others happy too."
 - Anne Frank

HOW TO GET IN TOUCH

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Train of dogs on Queen



Lake Report photographer Dave Van de Laar captured this photo of dogs being trained on Queen Street on Halloween Monday, in costume.

Editorial

A successful first step

Kevin MacLean
 Managing Editor

Anyone grow up in a small town or have friends or relatives who did? We all probably can answer that one in the affirmative.

For young people growing up in Niagara-on-the-Lake – and, yes, there are plenty of them, probably enough for the town to have its own high school – finding or having “things

to do” when you’re an adolescent or young teen can be a tall order.

’Twas ever thus.

A common theme for kids growing up in any small town seems often to be a desire to get out to somewhere bigger as soon as they are able.

But there’s a group of dedicated parents, led by Caroline Polgrabia, working very hard to change the narrative, to provide kids

with some of the things that THEY want and need in our wee town.

That’s why it was heartening to see last week-end’s initial success of the NOTL Youth Campus’ first gathering, unofficial though it was.

The kids and parents and volunteers who showed up at the old Cornerstone Community Church in Virgil proved that the Youth Campus envisioned by Polgrabia

and company is a welcome addition to the community.

It’s just a first step, but as our story about the pre-Halloween movie night shows, there really is a need and an appetite for youth-focused activities like the Youth Campus.

Kudos to those who made it happen, to those who turned out and to Cornerstone Church for helping give the campus a home.
 editor@niagaranow.com



Some Black cemetery gravestones were taken by locals

Dear editor:

I have read some of the newspaper articles concerning James Russell’s quest to find out more about the people buried at the Negro Burial Ground on Mississagua Street in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Perhaps I can shed some light on the recent history of this landmark.

From roughly 1975-81, I assisted Robert Ure (1928-2014) during his Saturday

hobby of restoring the houses he and his wife Dorothy owned in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

These included the historic Breakenridge House on Mississagua Street, near St. Andrew’s Church.

At times, we discussed a number of historical topics.

Curiosity may have led me to raise the question why the Negro Burial Ground was only marked by two headstones near the

front of the property and some fragmentary stones near the back.

Mr. Ure told me this reflected one of the more discreditable episodes of recent local history.

After the burial ground ceased to be in regular use and most of the Black families had moved away, he said some Niagara-on-the-Lake citizens helped themselves to the gravestones and used them as

flagstones for patios and walkways.

I got the impression that this was during Mr. Ure’s lifetime.

If this is the case, and I feel certain that it is, it seems very unlikely that digging in the grounds will uncover more than fragmentary remains of the gravestones, although that might still be worthwhile.

Kevin McCabe
 St. Catharines

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Change the road forward and **adopt design guidelines**



ARCHITEXT

Brian Marshall
Columnist

In the Oct. 13 edition of this newspaper, Evan Loree reported on an action taken by town council to have staff “assess the old Cobbler’s House” at 329 Victoria St. for “historical significance” and report back to council as soon as possible.

This action was motivated by the real estate listing for the property, which suggested the house might be a candidate for demolition to make way for a “dream home.”

The property was listed for sale, with the dream home suggestion, on Aug. 20, 2022, and came to the

attention of council the following week.

But, given the date the assessment direction was issued, it must have been clearly understood by council that, even should a staff report and municipal heritage committee recommendation be completed in record time, no action would be taken until after the new council was sworn in.

And, should that report and recommendation suggest the house was of historic significance, council’s only option would be to initiate the process of forced designation on the property.

And what is “forced designation”?

In short, it is a unilateral undertaking by the town to have a building or property (or both) designated under the Ontario Heritage Act in order to provide local municipal authority significantly greater controls and oversight on what, if anything, can be done to and/or with the property.

In action, this undertak-



This house on Victoria Street is under heritage scrutiny.

ing (if successful) severely curtails the rights of current and future owners of the property in terms of changing or altering the building(s) and/or landscape as it existed when a designation is granted.

Rather draconian ... don’t you think?

Still, and despite my firmly held belief that the rights of property owners should not be arbitrarily curtailed, there are rare occasions when this dire undertaking should and must be used.

When a demonstrably

threatened building and/or property that has significant ties to the warp and weave of the history of a community or is of national significance is in question, then this method of last resort should be actioned.

For example, based on my research, the house at 240 Centre St. represents the oldest surviving unaltered two-storey cubic-form Regency build in Canada and, when the Ure estate offered it on the open market, the town was fully justified to action forced designation to ensure its survival.

However, should we compare and contrast this against the forced designation of the Ontario Gothic Cottage at 27 Prideaux?

It is a common form, both locally and provincewide, that had been subject to at least five intensive renovations that had no significant identifiable social ties to any NOTL community history. So one wonders why the town would underwrite the associated upfront costs and

ongoing litigation expenses of such an action.

The is particularly questionable when this undertaking was largely based on a conceptually imagined aesthetic streetscape opinion by the serving municipal heritage committee and council.

The first undertaking on 240 Centre, I might suggest is completely understandable, while the past and current drain on the town’s finances inflicted by litigation associated with the second, at 27 Prideaux, must remain in question.

That brings us back to 329 Victoria which, like 27 Prideaux, has a historically added front dormer to present as common Ontario Gothic Cottage with a low or undetermined relationship to the historic milieu of the town.

Further, this property both sold and closed during the month of October so it is on to a new owner who may or may not be amenable to designating the property. If the latter is the case, the town

once again faces the potential expense of litigation.

While I believe it important to save our shared built heritage, it is becoming ever increasingly clear that this is not possible (or practical) working within the existing procedural framework and wielding forced designation as the method.

It is long past time to change the methodology by which development in Niagara-on-the-Lake is managed.

It is vital that our new council move without delay to direct the generation of a comprehensive set of design guidelines that will preserve the character of the town’s streetscapes.

Such guidelines could and should include proscriptive direction relative to the treatment of existing historic facades on buildings that are not heritage designated.

It seems only fair that folks should know what to expect prior to making a real estate investment. No?

Maybe new lord mayor can make **better use** of historic Court House

Dear editor:

I would like to make some corrections to and a comment on your Oct. 27 article, “Quirky NOTL history on display as Doors Open Niagara invites people to visit for free.”

While Willowbank is a heritage conservation school, it is formally known as the Willowbank School of Restoration Arts, whose patron is the former Prince of Wales, now King Charles III.

The home did not belong to Anna and Alex Hamilton but to Hannah and Alexander Hamilton.

I have read the correspondence of Hannah Jarvis Hamilton in the University of Guelph archives and that of Alexander in Archives Canada and not once did she refer to her husband as Alex, nor did he ever sign any correspondence as Alex.

It is too bad your reporter did not visit the Court

House on Queen Street, which had 875 visitors on Oct. 21.

I spent more than three hours there talking with people from Germany, Britain, Ireland, Australia and China as well as Alberta, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Seattle, Portland and numerous cities in Ontario.

A minority visited because they knew it was a Doors Open Niagara site. Most walked up the steps because they wanted to

view the interior of a stately building.

I spoke with outgoing Coun. Clare Cameron, who visited the Court House with her two children, and suggested that the first floor of the building be open more frequently than once every few years.

The lord mayor’s office, the magnificent council chambers with photographs of people who have been welcomed to the Court House, (including Queen

Elizabeth II in 1973, the Queen Mother in 1981 and all the governors general of Canada in the past 20 years), the hallway lined with historic photographs provided by the Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum, as well as the Gaol with its 1981 time capsule, should be accessible on a regular basis.

I mentioned to Ms. Cameron that the lord mayor ought to spend one afternoon a week in their Court House office welcoming

residents who would like to discuss town issues that concern them.

She agreed that would be far better than the current situation at the municipal offices in Virgil where people have to walk through four sets of doors before they can speak directly to the lord mayor.

I hope the 2022-26 lord mayor and town councillors will consider this idea.

Elizabeth Masson
NOTL

Looking forward to the **next four years**

Dear editor:

I am disappointed with outgoing Lord Mayor Betty Disero’s reaction and refusal to speak to The Lake Report after her election loss last Monday night, (“After four years, Disero passes mayoral torch,” Oct. 27).

Her reaction showed a lack of integrity and leadership and that kind of behav-

our is not representative of a leader of any kind.

I think NOTL voters made a wise decision.

I just hope she at least had the grace to concede to Gary Zalepa and congratulate him on a successful campaign.

We look forward to the next four years.

Judy Dykstra
NOTL

Sports celebrities and **destructive gambling**

Dear editor:

I want to affirm and support Ross Robinson’s Oct. 6 comment piece on hockey celebrities encouraging people to gamble, (“Using hockey stars to promote gambling is offensive”).

His arguments and historical references are convincing.

Given what we know about the destructive and

addictive effects of gambling, how could anyone, especially popular heroes of our culture, deceive people to follow a path that leads to sorrow?

Ultimately, the fault lies with the province and the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corp.

John Rempel
NOTL

NOTL **rises above** in election politics

Dear editor:

What a pleasure it is to live in a community where at election time the losers congratulate the winners and offer their support.

No talk of election fraud or flawed voting machines.

It is never easy to lose in any endeavour.

Where do we see that civility and respect in many other countries today? Democracy is not a given. We have to work to preserve it.

The world needs more of the class act of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Barbara Stratton
NOTL



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Christ Church McNab closes its doors after 175 years

Julia Sacco
The Lake Report

After 175 years of worship and 169 years in the same building, Christ Church Anglican has shut its doors forever.

The church known by NOTLers as Christ Church McNab has a long and fruitful history in the community, serving not only as a place of worship but as a community hub in its time.

Rector's Warden Colleen St. Amand has been involved with the church for as long as she can remember, from her days as a child in the village of McNab.

"There's a lot of history here. It's unfortunate we had to close. There's just not enough people to help out with all that needs to be done," said St. Amand.

Before the church was built in 1853, the missionary parish met in a one-room schoolhouse across the road.

In its time as a church and community hub, Christ Church McNab held youth dances, dinners, Girl Scout meetings and more. It will undoubtedly be missed.

The church said goodbye to parishioners with a final service on Sunday, Oct. 30, welcoming visitors old and new.

"We had 80 people here, which is a great turnout since we were down into the



A dwindling congregation and changing times has forced Christ Church McNab to close. A deconsecration ceremony will be held Nov. 15. JULIA SACCO

low 20s," said St. Amand.

"It was some people who grew up in this community and came to this church when they were younger and others who were in Sunday school here when the program was still ac-

tive."

The service included a visit from the archdeacon, as well as a choir, which had not been active at Christ Church for some time.

"There were some changes made to the inside of the

building so it doesn't have historical status. However, there's a lot of history and the diocese doesn't want to see it go so they are doing everything to keep it going," said St. Amand.

During this transitional

period, the church will be looked after until the diocese completely takes over.

"We are currently looking for somebody to lease it and if it doesn't rent, it will be purchased," said St. Amand.

"What would be nice is if

another church came in and purchased it."

On Nov. 15, Christ Church McNab will hold a deconsecration ceremony so that it will no longer be a consecrated space in the Anglican church.

COVID cases trending upward, Hirji urges booster and flu shot

Somer Slobodian
Local Journalism Initiative
The Lake Report

The temperature may be dropping, but COVID-19 cases are rising.

And coupled with that resurgence, flu season has arrived.

"For the last month or so (COVID has) been trending back upwards," says Niagara Region's acting chief medical officer of health, Dr. Mustafa Hirji.

"We've seen that in terms of wastewater data. We've seen that in terms of hospitalizations. And we see that in terms of the number of outbreaks that we have," he said in an interview.

Niagara had a wave of



Dr. Mustafa Hirji.

COVID-19 near the end of the summer that never really ended, Hirji said.

As of Nov. 2, the region had 19 outbreaks, the majority of them being in long term care and retire-

ment homes. The region also reported 1,022 active cases with 51 of them being in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

The more places you go, the fewer masks you see. However, with the winter approaching and more people returning to indoor areas like shopping malls, the increase in cases was expected.

"People are indoors more, everyone's back at school (and) back at work. That's going to create the environment where the virus can spread to the air and more people," Hirji said.

He said he's also seeing more variants popping up around the world that are more contagious than Omicron. They're not just

more contagious, but they're also more resilient to the vaccine.

"So we may be dealing with a variant that is more difficult to control, which could also cause more illness moving forward," he said.

While long-term care homes have seen a surge in outbreaks, there are fewer deaths since everyone is vaccinated in the homes, said Hirji.

Since the start of the pandemic hospitals have struggled and that doesn't seem to be ending anytime soon either.

"I've noticed that the number of COVID patients they have in the hospital has definitely increased over

the last couple of weeks and actually has been increasing for several weeks now," he said.

Moving forward, he urges anyone aged 12 and up to get their COVID booster shots.

"That's going to give us more protection against the variants that are currently going around," he said.

It'll probably help against future variants, too, he said.

On top of booster shots, he recommends people continue wearing masks indoors and to pick up free rapid tests from stores just in case you need to test yourself.

As well, everyone should get a flu shot, which is now available at pharmacies and

other locations.

"I would strongly recommend everybody go and get that vaccine as well," he said.

The southern hemisphere got hit hard – and early – this year with the flu and many are worried the same could happen here. The flu vaccine is a good protection against it.

"The less flu we have going around, the less hospitals are going to struggle, the less workplaces are going to struggle with staff absences," he said.

Shoppers Drug Mart and Simpson's Pharmacy in Niagara-on-the-Lake are offering flu shots to everyone over the age of five by appointment only.

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Graeme Somerville (A Christmas Carol, 2021). Photo by David Cooper.



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PASSING THE TORCH

VanNoort family hands keys to new owner

Sharon VanNoort
Special to The Lake Report

VanNoort Florists has been serving the community for over 60 years.

Rita and Harry VanNoort started this business back in 1961. In February of 1985, Harry and Rita passed the torch to Robert and Sharon VanNoort.

As the owner of this little flower shop, I can't tell you what it has meant to me personally to serve you over the years in this community.

Back in the day, the flower shop was where I live on the corner of Hunter Road and Creek Road. Rob and I and all our children grew up with our community coming and going out of our backyard. We have so many wonderful memories of our children growing up in a flower shop.

My best memory, one that I hold dear, is of two women: Ann Teggin, who worked in the flower shop, and Helen Bau, who worked in the greenhouse.

I loved these two women and they helped me so much over the years. We have worked with so many wonderful people over 60 years helping us make VanNoort Flower Studio what it is today.

A number of years ago we changed the name of the flower shop from VanNoort Florists to VanNoort Flower Studio. And in 2001 we moved the flower studio from our home to where it is today. We've enjoyed this location for 21 years.

There are so many things I love about being at this little flower shop. Firstly, are the people I work with and have worked with. From floral designers, delivery co-workers and customer service co-workers, flower suppliers and flower growers.

I have learned over the years that it requires a team effort to run a successful business, and I have had many "best teams" over the years.

A very close second, I love all the people who



Top: Sharon VanNoort passes the floral torch to Joanne Draper, the new owner of VanNoort Flower Studio. Bottom left: Sharon and husband Rob, with the store's founder Rita VanNoort. Right: Sharon and Joanne with staff members Lana Loney and Lilliana Merante, who will help with the transition. RICHARD HARLEY

walk into VanNoort Flower Studio. The relationships we have built over the years have meant so much to me as a small business owner.

Over the last few years, I needed to start looking at passing the torch. Rob and I knew our flower shop would not go to a third generation so we needed to think about a transition.

With anything that you love and care for you want to make sure you make the right decisions.

Well, on July 7, 2022, Joanne Draper came into my shop. We talked and

“With anything that you love and care for you want to make sure you make the right decisions. Well, on July 7, 2022, Joanne Draper came into my shop. We talked and listened to each other and I had this “feels so right” feeling ... and almost four months from that meeting I am passing the torch.”

SHARON VANNOORT

listened to each other and I had this “feels so right” feeling ... and almost four months from that meeting I am passing the torch.

Nov. 1, 2022, marks a new beginning for Joanne and

a new beginning for me. I am very happy to say that Joanne will have the support of Lana, Lilliana, Amy and Laura. These women have worked with me for many years and I love them

and I am so happy that they will be working with Joanne.

Joanne comes with much experience and knowledge. She is a graduate from our local Niagara Parks School of Horticulture. She began her career working for the City of West Vancouver planting and maintaining the city gardens.

Then an opportunity presented itself as the head gardener at the Banff Springs Hotel and Joanne continued to expand her skills.

She returned to Ontario to start her own landscap-

ing business in the Durham Region. After 15 years she welcomed the challenge of becoming the Head Perennial Grower for Kobes Nurseries, a large grower of nursery stock.

Throughout her career Joanne has designed and landscaped gardens for many of her clients as well as installed creative seasonal urns. Her parents, Brigitte and the late Case Bassie, are St. Davids residents, who are especially proud of their garden design.

Joanne has always had a dream to bring happiness to others through plants and flowers. She believes, as American botanist Luther Burbank stated, “Flowers always make people better, happier and more helpful; they are sunshine, food and medicine for the soul.”

I look forward to taking her lead and working through a transition with her for as long as she feels necessary. So many exciting things to look forward to.

On Nov. 12, we will host an Open House, an opportunity for you to come in and meet Joanne and her team. I am very excited to see where Joanne will take the shop and I so look forward to seeing many of you on the 12th.

As for me, I may be stepping aside from what I have done for 37 years, but I have so much more to do. I will be more involved with epilepsy as this is a cause very close to me.

There are a few more organizations that I want to support so I am sure I will see you. I have been so fortunate with the support many of you have given me over the years, both personally and professionally, and I will forever hold that close to me.

Thank you for all the wonderful times that you let me into your life and you in mine. I look forward to my own next chapter as well as the shop's next chapter as Joanne takes over.

Thank you for letting me serve you and I hope to see you on Nov. 12.



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Kids enjoy first movie night at Youth Campus

Julia Sacco
The Lake Report

Halloween weekend was the perfect time for the Niagara-on-the-Lake Youth Campus to host its first unofficial gathering for kids to chill out and wind down.

On Saturday, kids and parents enjoyed a showing of "Hotel Transylvania 2" and "Hocus Pocus 2" along with pizza, popcorn, drinks and candy, all for only \$10 for a group of five.

Caroline Polgrabia, the "unofficial chair of the planning committee" and the brains behind the Youth Campus, was happy with the reaction of parents and children as about 40 to 45 kids stopped by.

"This movie night is one of the things the kids asked for," said Polgrabia.

"We definitely want to do more events like this, social events for the kids, but we think the focus will be drop-in programs after school."

Brenda Ferguson, who



Kids and parents gather in front of the projection screen for the showing of "Hotel Transylvania 2" during the Youth Campus movie night on Saturday. JULIA SACCO

helped hand out pizza alongside Wendy (Ms. Wendy) Culp, shared her elation over how well the first social went.

"We're excited. It's our first event, kind of a test to see how many people we can get and so far, I'm really impressed. It's a really good turnout," said Ferguson.

With people gathering in the Cornerstone Community Church as the doors opened at 5 p.m., the excitement from parents and children alike was evident.

"It's a great idea," said

mom Connie Lebrasseur. "Especially not being originally from here, it's a great way to meet people."

"I'm here for Hotel Transylvania!" added her son Tyler.

Mom Adriana Miele, who sat in on a meeting about plans for the Youth Campus, also was proud and excited.

"For my son, he was really looking forward to this. He's very happy to be here," said Miele. "Kids really need stuff to do in this community."

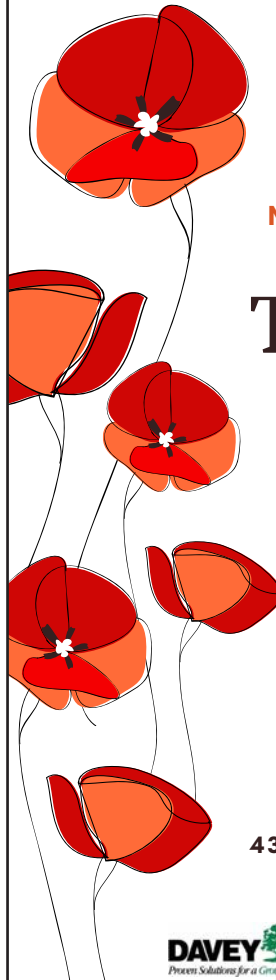
The Youth Campus has yet to officially launch,

as it is still in the process of completing vulnerable sector checks and ensuring that all volunteers are "fully vetted."

"We think we will be able to launch in January," said Polgrabia.

In the meantime, NOTLers can look forward to a few other gatherings contemplated by Polgrabia and company, including potential tech nights, dances, helpful courses and even a space dedicated specifically to teens.

"It's going to be what they want," she emphasized.





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 **FEATURED**



The Lake Report was all around town for Halloween. Top left: Ivy Mukiibi dances to the Monster Mash at the Niagara Regional Native Centre's celebration. Top right: Celina and Charayah Romo take kiddos under the sea with their themed trunk during Trunk or Treat on Sunday at Central Community Church. Bottom left: Cormack Nolan and Mila Sacco trick-or-treat around Chautauqua. Middle: Gabs laughs at mother Wanda Griffin's choice of costume at the native centre. Right: Students at St. Michael Catholic Elementary School get spooky on the dance floor. Below: Evelyn Anderson came to Halloween at Fort George this Saturday dressed as Hermine Granger. EVAN LOREE/JULIA SACCO/SUPPLIED
FIND MORE NOTL HALLOWEEN PHOTOS AND STORIES AT NIAGARANOW.COM

Candy and costumes *galore* for NOTL Halloween

Julia Sacco
The Lake Report

Lions, tigers and bears, oh my!

All of them were roaming around Fort George on Saturday, as costumed kids did some early trick-or-treating.

Children who showed up

at the historic fort dressed up for Halloween between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. received bags of candy and glow sticks from Maureen Hayslip, Louise Leyland and Tom Pekar.

Hayslip, a member of the board of the Friends of Fort George, said there was a great turnout.

"We had at least 30 kids come by (this morning), which is quite nice, and we're expecting more after lunch," she said.

After grabbing goodies, kiddos had the option to enter the fort and explore the usual activities during its final weekend before closing for the winter season.

Many families chose to roam around in costume.

Owen Urquhart, who was working the gift shop desk during the festivities, shared his favourite costume of the day.

"There was a little girl in an F1 costume. That one was probably my favourite!"




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Left: Candace Penny, executive director of the Niagara Nursery School, stands amid the happy chaos of a typical morning at the centre. Right: The Hawleys registered their children for Niagara Nursery School long before they were born. From left, Adam, Merritt, Malcolm and Brie. TIM TAYLOR

Today Niagara Nursery School is a modern facility with **growing wait list**

Continued from Front Page

doors in its current home last fall.

"After we opened, the waitlist went down to about 130. But now we're back over 200," Penny says.

"We are such a growing town now. We get calls from all over from people who are moving here and expect to have good daycare opportunities," she says.

"There are a lot more young families moving into the area, needing child care. It's hard when you see their face drop when we tell them there is a waiting list. It's heart breaking."

When Brie and Adam Hawley moved to town, they knew that if they had children they wanted them to attend the nursery school.

"When I found out I was pregnant with Merritt (now 5)," says Brie, "I went right on the list. That was more than three years before she

would actually attend."

Brie went on to become a member of the school's board of directors.

Adam Hawley is vice-president of Traditional Neighbourhood Developments, better known as The Village.

He came to Niagara-on-the-Lake as a child of eight with his parents. Brie is originally from Toronto.

"When I pick up Merritt and Malcolm (3), they can't wait to tell us about a new craft they learned how to make or what happens when a volcano erupts. The nursery school has fuelled their love of discovery and learning, and provided them a fun and safe place to explore."

On their way out the door to school one morning, stuffies in their backpacks, both children expressed grand aspirations: Malcolm to become Spider-Man, Merritt to be a scientist.

"I want to study wings. I want to fly," Merritt says proudly and with more than a touch of determination.

Penny has been committed to early childhood education from her early days as a trained babysitter.

"I love working with children," she says. "We set them up for success. Social skills too."

She is determined to celebrate the school's rich history, if they can document it.

"We've lost a lot of the history of the school. It has just been tossed away. I'd love to have something, as we move forward, so our heritage doesn't get lost," she says.

"It is important for all of us to remember. They leave pieces of their family with us. They make their mark on the school and the community."

The first order of business is a celebration.

"I'd like to do something out back behind the building. Gather for tours, alumni, a few speeches, to see how far the school has come. Share stories. Create a book of some sort."

But she needs the help of anyone who was a student, parent, teacher or administrator over the past 50 years.

"I sent out a social media posting looking for anyone who has a connection to the school, asking if they would email us a little snippet of their time, maybe share some photos. I hope to create a Shutterfly book, so we have it documented."

"I think it is really important, especially for an organization that has been in the community for decades, for the history of our community to know as much as we can about how we've evolved over the years."

If you can help, please send an email to niagaranursery@gmail.com.



This week's riddle is "Jeopardy!" style.
Category: MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

An engineer named Robert Moog developed this instrument in the 1960s

Last issue: In 2008 this German carmaker rolled out its five millionth 5 Series, a black sedan

Answer: What is BMW?

Answered first by: Bill Hamilton

Also answered correctly (in order) by: Margie Enns, Jane Morris, Jim Dandy, Rob J. Hutchison, Wade Durling, Elaine Landray, Pam Dowling, Gary Davis, Howard Jones, Michael Alberstat, Sheila Meloche

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FILE PHOTO/EVAN SAUNDERS

NOTL wins **third place** for Year of the Garden

Somer Slobodian
Local Journalism Initiative
The Lake Report

Niagara-on-the-Lake has won another major award in the annual Communities in Bloom competition.

This year, NOTL earned third-place honours for its celebration of the Year of the Garden at the 28th Communities in Bloom national and international awards ceremonies.

“The award for celebrating the Year of the Garden 2022 included a beautiful sign at the entrance to Queen Street and more than 21,000 red plantings, which was the colour chosen for this initiative,”

NOTL Communities in Bloom committee chair Vicky Downes said in a news release.

The Year of the Garden contest category celebrated Canada’s horticulture sector while also focusing on environmental sustainability and the country’s garden heritage.

Brandon, Man., and Coquitlam, B.C., were the top two winners in the category.

“In the context of climate change and environmental stewardship, Niagara-on-the-Lake is proud of its efforts toward meaningful environmental solutions that benefit the community,” said the town’s chief administrator, Marnie Cluckie.

First **Harvest Breakfast** in two years draws big crowd to St. Davids Lions Club

Julia Sacco
The Lake Report

Numerous community events had to be cancelled or postponed over the last two years and one of the most beloved was the Harvest Breakfast run by the St. Davids Lions and Lioness clubs.

On Sunday, for the first time in two years, NOTLers gathered at the St. Davids Lions Hall from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. to get their helping of breakfast and community spirit.

The turnout was immense and Lions member Rick Trapnell, who lovingly titled himself “Chairman of the Harvest Breakfast,” shared the communal excitement at seeing everyone together once again.

“It’s crazy busy, which is good. It’s nice to see everybody out,” said Trapnell. “We rolled out silverware for about 400 people and it looks like we’re going to go over that.”

To help out with such an immense group, the Lions



Bill Brew and Joe Typer cook the bacon for the Lions Club Harvest Breakfast. JULIA SACCO

teamed up with the Lionesses, as well as the Leos, who helped with the set up and bussing of tables.

A large group of Lions spent time in the “burger barn” prepping and cooking up meats as a team.

Joe Typer, who manned the back bacon station,

sported a smile from ear to ear while grilling food.

“So many people came out. It’s lovely to see,” said Typer.

Some of the staples for the meal were donated, including the eggs which were provided by EggSolutions in Etobicoke as well as biscuit

and pancake mix from ADM in Port Colborne.

At only \$10 for adults and \$5 for children, guests could enjoy back bacon, side bacon, scrambled eggs, fried eggs, pancakes, homemade biscuits and more, with all proceeds going toward Lions Club causes.

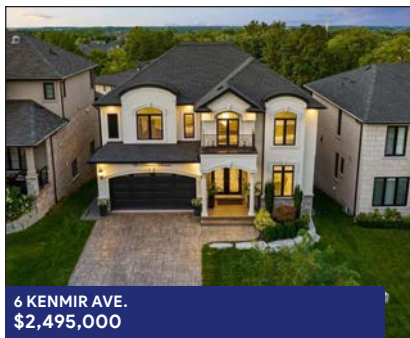
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Pumphouse exhibits **stunning photos** from around world

Staff
The Lake Report

From a rare view of the Milky Way and the Northern Lights taken in a single frame in Iceland, to a breath-taking panorama of a bright blue ice cave in Antarctica, photographer Rick Vrostko's exhibition at the Niagara Pumphouse inspires viewers "to get back out there and start travelling again."

"Travel Inspirations," the November show in the Joyner Gallery, offers a glimpse into some of the Niagara-on-the-Lake photographer's favourite spots.

He has visited more than 46 countries and the collection features images of unique global locations selected to show why a "journey to these places is worth taking."

Through his art, Vrostko wants to "elicit a sense of awe and wonder of a new location, to make people curious about it" and maybe add it to their travel list.

"My dream is that through my images, I can create a desire for anyone looking at them to say 'Wow! I need to see that place for myself.'"



Left: Rick Vrostko's photo of the Icelandic Northern Lights. Top right: Rick Vrostko. Bottom right: One of his shots of Niagara Falls. SUPPLIED

For viewers who have already visited the scene featured in the photo, Vrostko hopes to help bring back to them the memories and sensations from their travel experience.

He said he is driven by an "insatiable love and curiosity of the world and desire to explore and cap-

ture as much of its beauty as I can."

Vrostko is predominately a still life photographer and he combines the use of professional equipment with traditional photographic techniques to capture and refine a photo that results in his fine art images.

He describes it as a

"visually captivating, bold and dynamic image that straddles the line between the realistic and artistic enhanced impression of a given scene."

Born and raised in Welland, Vrostko divides his time between Niagara-on-the-Lake and Toronto.

Photography has been

his lifelong passion and he deals with a versatile range of subjects including travel, architecture and nature.

His exhibit is on until Nov. 27 and the public is invited to an opening reception on Sunday, Nov. 6 from 2 to 4 p.m. and to meet Vrostko in person.

For those interested in

learning more about the stories behind some of the captivating images in the show, he is hosting a lecture called "Travel Photography: Antarctica and the Stories Behind the Photos" on Sunday, Nov. 27.

Registration for the talk is available through the niagrapumphouse.ca website.

Wood sculptures bring NOTL artist Gail Hawkins full circle

Staff
The Lake Report

When Gail Hawkins was 11, her father gave her a toolbox as a lesson in independence.

And she discovered how to use that treasure trove to imagine, design and build.

While her creative journey over the decades took some interesting twists and turns – musician, author, business owner – it's come full circle, back to that childhood toolbox and the form, function and beauty of wood.

Her first exhibit as an emerging artist, is called *Where We Wound Up* and it opens to the public on Nov. 5 at the King St. Gallery (153 King St., Niagara-on-the-Lake). It runs until Nov. 19.

The show is a collection of vibrant wall-mounted



Gail Hawkins' show at the King St. Gallery features a collection of vibrant wall-mounted and free-standing sculptures using a variety of woods. ARLYN LEVY

and free-standing sculptures – utilizing various wood species and integrating elements that include stone, metal, paper, acrylic, resin and fabric.

"While my work is abstract, even a little whimsical, I think the universal themes in 'Where We Wound Up' are relatable – navigating life, relation-

ships and making space for opposing perspectives," says Hawkins.

"It represents a journey – looking back at who we were and at all the pieces that come together, over time, to create a whole."

As for what led to where she wound up, Hawkins, who trained as a classical guitarist, had a band in

the 1990s performing her own original songs.

Like other struggling young musicians (she refers to that time as her "bread and peanut butter years"), Hawkins had to supplement her income and got a job at a music camp for people with autism spectrum disorder.

That led to recognizing how underserved the population was, an entrepreneurial employment pilot program, and the eventual start of her own agency – Hawkins Institute – where she developed a curriculum that became emulated internationally.

Over the decades, Hawkins wrote the first-ever book on the topic of Asperger's and employment. It's been translated into four languages.

She created feature-length "edutainment" for

– and with – people on the spectrum and opened two upscale espresso bars in downtown Toronto that served as apprenticeship locations for her clients.

"It was exhausting, exhilarating and I was inexperienced about running a restaurant," she says.

But not knowing how to do something is never an excuse – you find mentors, you study successful businesses, and you throw yourself into it. At least that's what you do when you're a serial re-inventor."

When Hawkins moved to NOTL with her partner in 2017, she took up banjo and became serious about woodworking, "like most women do in retirement," she jokes.

"I feel like I've come full circle in so many ways. I grew up in a small town quite similar to

NOTL – so moving here felt like coming home. And to have the luxury of time in my studio every day, to create art, is heaven."

From the variance in grain pattern and texture, to the abundance of Canadian species, to the natural aromatics in her Virgil workshop, Hawkins lets the attributes suggest the shape and style of the sculptures she creates.

"If you ask a woodworker, they'll say wood talks to them. Because it can crack, warp, cup or twist, it's got a tendency to try to dictate how you work with it," she says.

"I like that challenge. It appeals to the problem-solver in me. I sketch out an idea, visualize the finished piece and then relish the journey – how I get there from here."



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Winemakers donating sales of tasting pass to Farmworkers Hub

Somer Slobodian
Local Journalism Initiative
The Lake Report

Sipping wine never tasted so good.

For the month of November, all of the proceeds from the \$35 Winemakers' Selections Tasting Pass will be donated to the Farmworkers Hub.

"We're thrilled for their support. And I know the funds that they raise will make a big difference for next year," said Julia Buxton-Cox, founder of the Farmworkers Hub.

Buxton-Cox started the Farmworkers Hub in 2021 to support seasonal agricultural workers in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

The workers are here for about eight to 10 months each year and the hub provides them with essential items at no extra cost.

"Workers come in and they're allowed to pick three items of clothing and three items of household goods and the toiletries don't count towards those items," said Buxton-Cox.

The wine-tasting pass costs \$35 and allows wine lovers to enjoy one tasting of a winemaker's selection from each of 16 participating wineries.

"I don't think there's anyone else in the com-



Seasonal agricultural workers at the Farmworkers Hub. This season, the hub helped more than 3,000 workers. SUPPLIED

munity that could do it quite like her (Julia). She's so positive and she's so passionate," said Andrew Niven, the marketing chair for the Wineries of Niagara-on-the-Lake, which has organized the tasting pass program.

The hub is run by about 38 volunteers. This season, it helped more than 3,000 seasonal workers.

Niven wants to help out in any way that he can and after talking to Buxton-Cox he learned that, though the hub had many successes this year, financial stability remains a big concern.

So he came up with a new way to help the hub. With two months left for the Winemakers' Selection Tasting Pass, he thought it would be a good idea to

give the November proceeds to the hub.

When Niven brought the idea to the board, it was approved unanimously.

All of the money will go to the hub's operating costs in 2023. Anything more will go toward food for farmworkers, said Buxton-Cox.

Workers earn minimum wage and are often support-

ing their families back at home. The workers don't eat a lot so that they have more money to send back to their families, said Buxton-Cox.

"Like any family here in Canada, poverty at that minimum wage for a whole family is a real issue," she said.

Since farmworkers aren't citizens, they aren't able to go to a foodbank, she said.

This year the hub was able to provide some food to farmworkers thanks to a grant received through Kairos Canada, a group that advocates for human rights and ecological justice.

"I think it was about seven weeks in total. And at the end, we were going through \$1,000 worth of food a week," she said.

Even then, workers were limited to three food items each.

"And so for us to be able to provide just some basic food items was a real blessing this year, so we'd like to continue that next year," she said.

The passes can be bought online at the winemaker group's website, wineriesof-niagaraonthelake.com.

Though the Farmworkers Hub is now closed for the season, Buxton-Cox is still accepting donations for next year.

"We really need jeans and work pants, so anybody can contact me anytime," she said.

She can be reached at thehubnotl@bell.net or at 905-483-9717.

"Our job is just friends helping friends, neighbours helping neighbours. And making them feel (like) a part of the community while they're here," she said.

Tickets selling quickly for Rotary Club's annual Holiday House Tour

Sarah Laughton
The Lake Report

Tickets for the Niagara-on-the-Lake Rotary Club's 23rd annual Holiday House Tour are selling briskly – and some time slots are already sold out.

On the popular tour, patrons can see "six beautiful seasonally decorated homes, visit local historic and cultural sites, sample complimentary tastings from three featured wineries and enjoy specially priced luncheons and dinners," organizers said.

Interior design, architecture and seasonal decorations are brought together each year for the Rotary fundraiser. All proceeds support NOTL Rotary's local and international

charitable causes.

Tickets for the general day tour will provide entry to all six homes any time from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 2 and Saturday, Dec. 3.

Early-bird tickets are now on sale for \$40. After Nov. 18, prices rise to \$45. Eventbrite fees are extra for all tickets.

The six homes featured on the tour are at: 15526 Niagara Parkway, 265 Ricardo St., 28 Cottage St., 83 Shaw's Lane, 95 Wall Rd. and 1354 York Rd.

This year, the Rotary Club will provide hourly updates on lineup wait times via social media.

As well, several participating sites around town, including the NOTL Museum, McFarland House,



This home at 15526 Niagara Parkway is one of the stops on the upcoming Rotary Club of Niagara-on-the-Lake's Holiday House Tour. SUPPLIED

Pumphouse Arts Centre and RiverBrink Art Museum, will be decorated for the holidays.

Peller is the platinum sponsor for the tour and also will showcase its various properties around

town, including Riverbend, which is new on the tour this year.

And once again, the McArthur family will open their John Street manor for the "A Merry and Bright Christmas" evening tour.

Separate tickets are required for the McArthur tour.

The Rotary Club said the McArthur estate includes an "enchanted tour of the grounds and first and second floor of the house,

seasonal lights, live music, complimentary sparkling wine and hot cider, cookies, Santa and his elves, the Canine Manor, the reindeer stables, and more."

The McArthur tours will have four, one-hour reserved time slots between 4:30 and 8:30 p.m. on Dec. 2 and 3.

Tickets are limited and always sell quickly, organizers said.

Adults are \$60, children five to 12 are \$10 and children under five are free. Eventbrite fees are extra.

Tickets to both tours are sold online only on the Rotary Club's website, niagaraonthelakerotary.ca/page/holiday-house-tour.

Guests are encouraged to bring their own masks and to follow the latest COVID protocols.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Public Information Centre

Glendale Secondary Plan Update

Overview

Niagara Region and the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake are working together to prepare an update to the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake's Glendale Secondary Plan.

A Secondary Plan is a land use plan for a particular area, which includes detailed policies guiding future development. The Glendale Secondary Plan, which was originally approved by Town-of-Niagara-on-the-Lake Council in 2010, applies to the area surrounded by Queenston Road, Concession 7 Road, the Niagara Escarpment and Homer Road in the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

The purpose of the update to the Glendale Secondary Plan will be to review and revise the existing policies for this area so that they align with the Glendale District Plan, which was endorsed by Niagara Region and Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake Council in 2020. In support of this work, technical studies, including a natural heritage/subwatershed study, transportation assessment, infrastructure analysis, commercial/employment lands study, and financial impact assessment are currently being undertaken to assess and refine the concept plan for the Glendale area that was prepared through the District Plan process. The final outcome of the project will be an amendment to the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake's Official Plan that will contain detailed policies and guidelines for future development in the area.

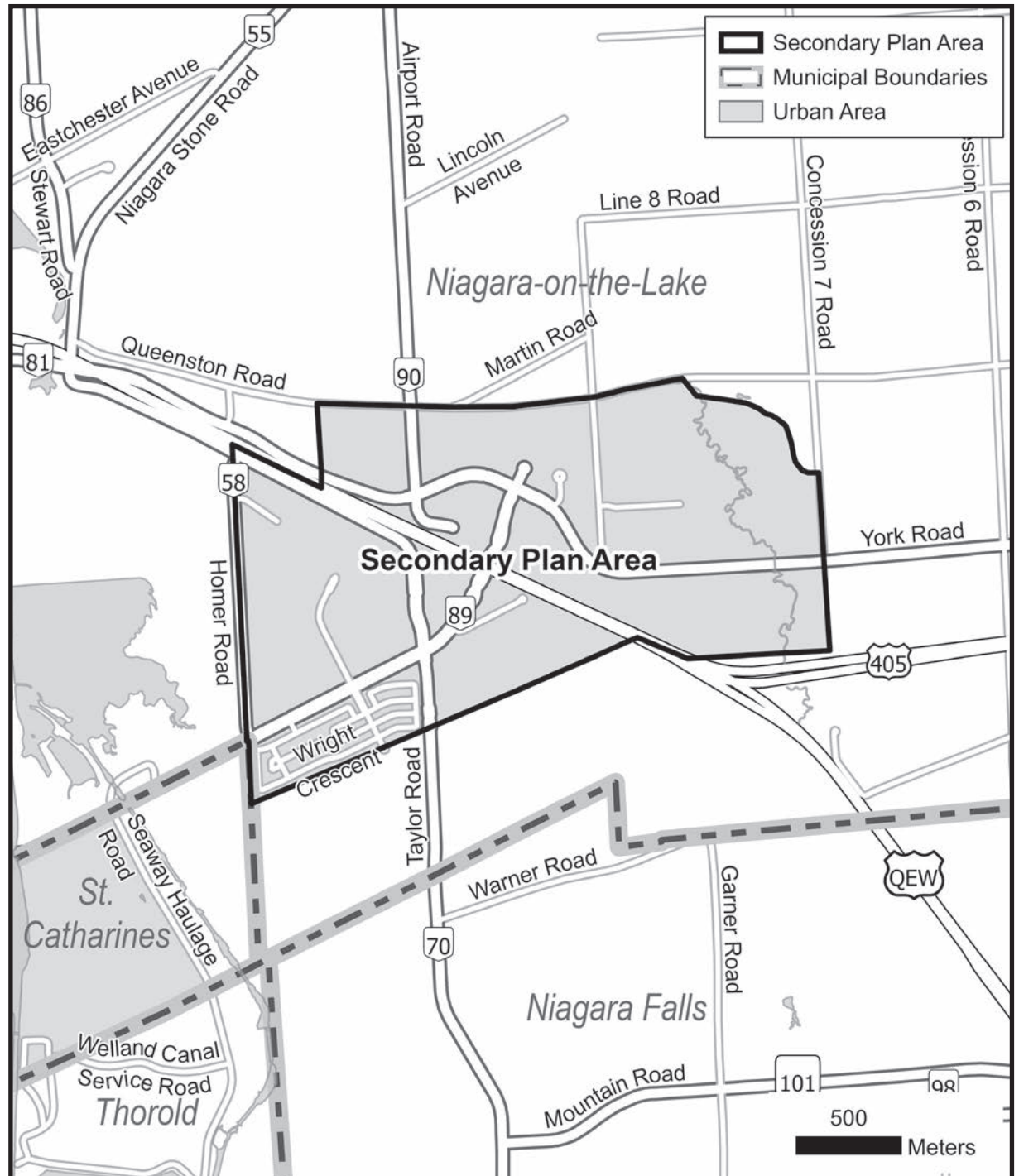
Purpose

The purpose of the Public Information Centre will be to introduce the Glendale Secondary Plan Update and share an overview of the work completed to date, as well as what the next steps in the project will be.

The Public Information Centre will be an opportunity to ask questions of the project team, and to identify opportunities or issues that should be considered as the project moves forward.

Public Information Centre Date and Location

Monday November 7, 2022
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Hilton Garden Inn, Garden View B
500 York Road, Niagara-on-the-Lake



More Information

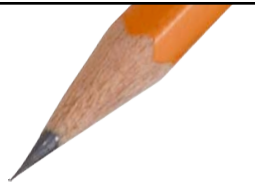
For more information about the project, timeline and background, please visit niagararegion.ca/projects/glendale-secondary-plan-update, or contact:

Niagara Region
Amy Shanks
Senior Planner
905-980-6000 ext. 3532
amy.shanks@niagararegion.ca

Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake
Kirsten McCauley
Director of Community and Development Services
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Have some fun



Across

- 9. Playwright (9)
- 10. Moor (3,2)
- 11. Space surrounding an altar (7)
- 12. Quickly (7)
- 13. Runner (9)
- 14. Cougar (4)
- 18. Distinct sort or kind (7)
- 20. Surgical knife (7)
- 21. A great deal (4)
- 22. Herald (9)
- 26. Hedge (7)
- 28. Books of maps (7)
- 29. Young hooter (5)
- 30. Abbreviated (9)

Down

- 1. Decree (5)
- 2. Executives (10)
- 3. Biting (9)
- 4. Fiddle (6)
- 5. Old liners (8)
- 6. The Roman Empire's home country (5)
- 7. Large mass of floating ice (4)
- 8. As thumbs are (9)
- 15. Disagreeable (10)
- 16. Psalter (5,4)
- 17. Moon (9)
- 19. Astonishment (8)
- 23. Lea (6)
- 24. Threescore (5)
- 25. Stage whisper (5)
- 27. Depend (4)

Crossword Puzzle

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Last issue's answers

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No butts about it: Cigarette recycling comes to Niagara



Keeping it **Green** 

Kyra Simone
Special to The Lake Report

An environmental cleanup on Nov. 12 in Niagara-on-the-Lake will mark the launch of a new Community Butt Recycling Program.

The program, run by non-profit agency A Greener Future, aims to prevent smoking litter from entering the environment.

Through annual Butt Blitz cleanups, A Greener Future volunteers have reduced pollution by plastics and toxic chemicals by picking up more than 3.3 million tossed cigarette butts.

Now, the Community Butt Recycling Program is an extension of these

efforts to collect smoking litter at the source.

People who smoke can participate in the free program, which offers long-term, no-hassle recycling for this tricky type of waste.

Niagara businesses can also take part by collecting butts in receptacles to raise awareness and act as ambassadors for positive local change.

Cigarette butts collected will be recycled through TerraCycle, a company that melts the plastic filters into materials like decks, outdoor furniture, flooring, and playground footings.

Sending back smoking product packaging, extinguished butts, filters, or rolling paper to TerraCycle also raises money for charity.

WHERE THERE'S SMOKE ...

In Niagara, more than one in every seven adults smokes cigarettes daily.

Worldwide, cigarette butts are the most-littered item: about two-thirds of the 6 trillion cigarettes smoked each year end up in the environment, according to

a report at the World Health Organization's convention on tobacco control.

Smoking is a personal choice, but the waste generated leaves a ghostly legacy in the environment.

Not only is this pollution harmful to wildlife and human health, it also starts a large number of fires. A 2019 study from the University of Fraser Valley showed that smoking materials cause about 10 per cent of fires in five provinces.

BACK TO HAUNT

"Cigarette filters are made out of cellulose acetate ... a type of plastic," says Rochelle Byrne, founder and executive director of A Greener Future. "They just break into smaller and smaller pieces. They don't go away."

And when a single cigarette butt is littered, it releases enough nicotine, arsenic and heavy metals to contaminate 1,000 litres of water. These chemicals are toxic to most animals, as well as humans.

Despite these chilling environmental and health

impacts, cigarette butts are still the most common litter found during cleanups by A Greener Future.

GETTING GOOSEBUMPS?

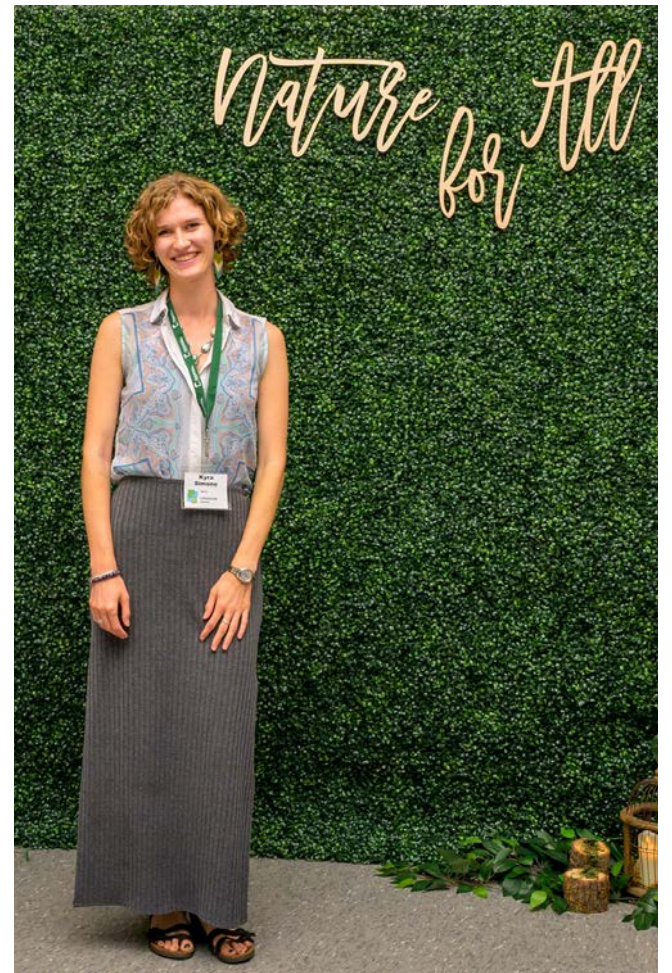
Though the issue of smoking litter can seem a bit monstrous, there's no need to be scared silly.

If you smoke cigarettes or run a business that could collect waste from customers, this free recycling program will ensure that the waste is transformed into new, usable materials.

For those interested in celebrating the program launch, a kickoff cleanup will take place at 3 p.m. at the Outlet Collection at Niagara on Saturday, Nov. 12. Gloves and litter-grabbers will be available.

Cleanup participants can register on Eventbrite.

Kyra Simone is a PhD student in environmental science, with master's degrees in biology and science communication. When not researching climate change, she advocates for a sustainable future, picks up litter and makes recycled jewelry.



The Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority has honoured NOTL's Kyra Simone as part of its 31st annual Conservation Awards. Simone, the environmental columnist for The Lake Report, was singled out for her advocacy work and her membership on the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake's environmental advisory committee. A PhD candidate at McMaster University, she received the lord mayor's Volunteer Award for her environmental efforts in 2021. SUPPLIED



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EXPLORING PHOTOS
WITH NOTL MUSEUM



Training for the trenches, circa 1916

While training at Niagara Camp, soldiers practised digging trenches. There were newspaper reports of intact trenches being maintained on the Mississauga Commons. The training site was equipped with sandbags, barbed wire, support trenches and more to simulate the experiences of trench warfare. The men trained here day and night to prepare them for what came next in Europe. Although real bombs and ammunition were not used, they could still be surprised by ambushes and hand-to-hand combat in the trench. The original owner of this photograph captioned it as an “up-to-date trench” which may be a play on the fact that some of the first trenches created at the camp were in great shape and unrealistic compared to those in Europe. Although we don’t know who the people featured in the photo are, we can assume that it is an officer touring his visiting child through the training camp. Earthworks of these trenches can still be seen today on the Niagara-on-the-Lake Golf Course.

A special visitor



Todd Kane and his family had a special visitor at their Hungarian chimney cake business, Budapest Bakeshop, on Tuesday. The president of Hungary, Katalin Novak, centre, stopped at the Queen Street shop to say hello and pose for a few photos. SUPPLIED

Looking to the Stars

Your ideas and emotions might not be on the same page

Thursday, Nov. 3: The sun in Scorpio, the moon in Pisces and later, Venus in Scorpio – all in harmony today. It’s a time where quality, feelings and accomplishments work together to bring a bit of light to shine. The great American football player, Bronko Nagurski, was born Nov. 3, 1908, in Rainy River, Ont.



Friday, Nov. 4: The moon meets Jupiter in Pisces. It’s a gift. From spirit. To everyone. Enjoy flights of fantasy and flights of all kinds, too. It was Nov. 4, 1922, that English archeologist Howard Carter discovered the doorway to the tomb of King Tutankhamun.



Saturday, Nov. 5: An exciting, new somebody appears. While this creates some stress, it is also the start of a new chapter in your book of life. Ideas and emotions are likely not on the same page, so slow down and say it to yourself before you say it out loud. Born in Kingston, now based in Vancouver, it’s happy birthday #62 to Bryan Adams, whose “Everything I Do (I do it for you)” was Billboard’s Song of the Year in 1991. It also won a Grammy Award.



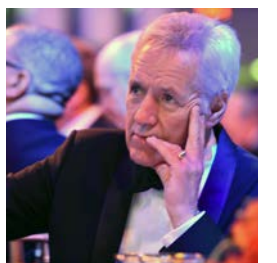
Sunday, Nov. 6: Everything is high speed today, so it’s a good time to dial it back and relax until your confidence is pumping for you. James A. Naismith, inventor of the modern game

of basketball, was born Nov. 6, 1861 in Almonte, Ont.

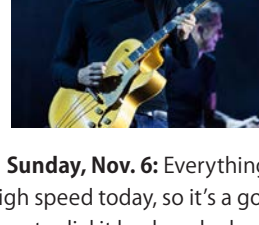
Monday, Nov. 7: Venus in Scorpio is 90 degrees from Saturn in Aquarius. Roadblock. And even though this happens in the middle of the night between Nov. 6 and 7, the inability to get things going lasts all day. Canada’s poet/singer Joni Mitchell turns 79 today. First an artist then a folk singer, then on into jazz-influenced tunes, Mitchell is the master of many arts.



Tuesday, Nov. 8: It’s the day of the full moon in Taurus at just past 6 this morning. With the sun, Mercury and Venus just below the eastern horizon and the moon, Uranus and the north node just at the western horizon, today continues the theme of karmic lunations, going on for some weeks now. Alex Trebek, longtime host of “Jeopardy,” died on Nov. 8, 2020, after battling cancer.



Wednesday, Nov. 9: With the sun in opposition to Uranus and the moon and Jupiter in harmony with Pluto, it’s a day of walking contradictions as someone so famously suggested. It was Nov. 9, 1984, that Wes Craven’s “A Nightmare on Elm Street” premiered in the U.S.



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All Along the Waterfront

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Still plenty of fall chores to be done in garden



GROWING TOGETHER 

Joanne Young
Gardening Columnist



Dig out your canna and dry the bulbs in the sun before storing. JOANNE YOUNG

Over the last three weeks I have been writing about things that you can still be doing in your garden before winter sets in.

I am certainly not trying to rush the onset of winter. It has been such a beautiful fall and as far as I am concerned it could stay like this until spring.

But experience tells me that, like it or not, winter is on its way. Here are a few more fall garden chores to tackle before packing up the garden gear.

Remove annuals from containers and gardens: As of late October, we still hadn't had a killing frost in Niagara, but the annuals have had a great season.

It is best to remove them, including root balls, in the fall so that any disease or pest problem isn't overwintering and becoming a problem for your new plants next year.

If you compost, you can cut up your annuals and add them to your compost bin or use them in your lasagna garden. Only use material that is disease-free.

Dig and store your summer blooming bulbs: Plants such as canna lilies, calla lilies, dahlias, gladiolas etc. will not survive our winter if left in the ground.

Once the first frost has touched the leaves and they begin to turn black, it is time to dig up the bulbs or tubers and store them inside for the winter.

When digging up the plants, start by putting your shovel or garden fork in the ground away from the base of the plant so as not to damage the bulbs. Cut the stem and leaves off close to the bulb.

Remove as much soil as possible from the bulbs

before placing them in an open cardboard box, bushel basket or mesh-type bag. Do not put them in a closed plastic container. Keep bulbs for the winter in a cool, dark, dry spot like a fruit cellar.

Plant spring bulbs: It is not too late to plant your spring blooming bulbs such as daffodils, tulips, crocus, hyacinths, alliums and snowdrops.

Follow the information on the packages to know how deep to plant. If no instructions are included, the general rule is to plant them three times deeper than the diameter of the bulb (so, if the bulb is two inches wide, plant six inches deep).

Bring in your house plants: If you haven't brought your house plants and tropical plants in for the winter yet – do it now.

Most need to come in before the temperature goes down to 5C. Make sure you clean up the plants and remove any leaves with insect or disease problems.

If you have had insect issues, you may want to spray them with Safer's Soap before bringing the plant inside. Once plants are inside, you can expect them to drop some leaves as they transition to their new home with different light and humidity conditions.

Planting trees and shrubs: You can still plant trees and shrubs now. When the air temperature is cooler, but the soil temperature is warm, there is still plenty of root growth happening.

I would not recommend planting perennials at this time, especially if they are in smaller pots, as the frost

could heave them out of the ground.

Cut back some perennials: Once your perennials have gone dormant, it is a good idea to cut back some of them and clean up the leaves. This is true for any perennials that had insect or disease problems this past season.

Certain perennials should not be cut back in the fall, though. Evergreen or semi-evergreen perennials like dianthus, heuchera, heuchella, tiarella, creeping Phlox, ajuga and red hot poker should not be cut back.

Also, perennials with woody stems like peren-

nial hibiscus, Russian sage, lavender, and butterfly bush should be left until spring before they are cut back.

I like to leave any perennial that will offer winter interest and can also provide seeds for birds. Varieties such as baptisia, coneflowers, ornamental grasses, sedum and helleborus can give some life to your garden throughout winter.

Hopefully the good weather continues and we can enjoy some more time in our gardens.

Joanne Young is a Niagara-on-the-Lake garden expert and coach. See her website at joanneyoung.ca.



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Obituaries

Matthew Arthur Dick



Matthew Arthur Dick
November 4, 1976 -
October 20, 2022

It is with the heaviest of hearts that we mourn the sudden loss of Matthew Dick, proud and devoted father to his three young sons Mason, Kenny and Bronson and wife Holly (Goertzen). He was a loyal big brother to Samantha Dick (Adam and River) and Catherine Leniarsky, (Andrew) and leaves behind his trusted friend and stepfather, Paul Leniarsky (Lee) and Grandma Jean, cherished aunts, uncles and cousins, as well as countless friends, colleagues and mentors.

Matthew was predeceased by his parents, Wayne Dick and Elizabeth Leniarsky (née Williams).

Matt's passions included classic cars, enjoying life in the great outdoors, music and most of all, laughter. He will be terribly missed by so many that loved him. Proud owner and operator of MAD Customs Autobody for two decades, Matt was highly regarded as an industry leader, who left a lasting impact on all who met him.

A family friendly Celebration of Life will take place on Sunday, November 6 from 1 - 4 p.m. at Club La Salle, 111 Arthur St., St. Catharines, Ontario. Children are warmly welcomed to attend.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to support future expenses for Matthew's three young sons. Please visit givesendgo.com/G9E9C for more information.

Susan Stokes Sutherland



SUTHERLAND, Susan Stokes

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Susan on Sunday, Oct. 30, 2022, at the Juravinski Hospital, Hamilton, at the age of 69, after a courageous battle with Leukemia.

Beloved wife of David for 41 years. Dear sister of Robert (Penny), Jim (Lisa)

and Elizabeth (Norbert). Dear daughter-in-law of Shirley and sister-in-law of Brenda (Stephen).

Fondly remembered by nieces (Caroline and Kathryn), nephews (Ronnie [Melissa] and Matthew [Chelsey]), great nieces and nephews, cousins and friends. The family would like to thank Dr. Leber and the entire staff who cared for Susan over the last 10 months. Words cannot truly express the gratitude that we feel for the Juravinski Hospital.

The family will receive friends at Morgan Funeral Home, 415 Regent St., Niagara-on-the-Lake, on Wednesday, Nov. 9 from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. A service to celebrate Susan's life will be held at the funeral home on Thursday, Nov. 10, 2022 at 2 p.m. As an expression of sympathy, those who wish may make a memorial donation to the Juravinski Hospital. Memories, photos and condolences may be shared at www.morganfuneral.com



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Audiologist

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