



Council **rejects** Parliament Oak input from advisory committee

Evan Loree
Local Journalism Initiative
The Lake Report

Niagara-on-the-Lake town council appears to be at odds with one of its voluntary advisory commit-

tees over what the group's role is. Council has rebuffed the urban design committee for getting "off track" in a discussion about a development proposal from Two Sisters Resorts Corp. to replace the

old Parliament Oak school with a hotel. During its last meeting, council decided to ignore the committee after it suggested the town outright reject Two Sisters' plans. The move has sparked a

conversation about the primary function the advisory committee serves, what falls inside and outside of its jurisdictions and if this is the way it should operate. The urban design committee is a subcommittee of

council made up of volunteer residents who provide expert input on development applications. The town requires the members have expertise in architecture, urban design or planning.

When selecting new members, the town prioritizes applicants that are members of the Ontario Professional Planners Institute, the Ontario Association of

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Sharks in the water

World championship kicks off at NOTL Sailing Club



The Shark World Championships are on in NOTL this week. Above: A flotilla of Shark sailboats race on Lake Ontario. Left: Lord Mayor Gary Zalepa races with his crew aboard the Watershape. DAVE VAN DE LAAR/SOMER SLOBODIAN

Somer Slobodian
Local Journalism Initiative
The Lake Report

It's no easy feat to sail a 24-foot racing sailboat – but for the competitors taking place in this year's Shark World Championships, the challenge is only outweighed by the fun.

Resident Paul Kocsis took his boat out on the lake to watch the competition on Tuesday morning at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Sailing Club. "It's a riot (and) it's a workout," he said. The participants who are part of the Shark racing world – meaning they race

using a Shark sailboat – are called "sharkers" or "sharkies." The sharkies were off to the races on Aug. 18 and will be going head-to-head – or bow-to-bow until this Friday. The Shark sailboat was first built in NOTL in 1959 by George Hinterhoeller.

His son, Richard Hinterhoeller, is the race director for this week's competition. There are 48 boats with competitors from across North America and Europe participating in multiple races throughout the week, including as many as 10

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Wine industry's vision to **speed up economic growth** gains momentum

Jill Troyer
The Lake Report

Key Niagara wine advocates are optimistic that the provincial government is finally getting the message that the industry is on the

culsp of greatly expanding its economic influence in Ontario, but needs help to make it a reality. That was the message from industry leaders during a NOTL Chamber of Commerce forum last week,

the most recent in a series of presentations outlining the economic benefits of growing Niagara's wine sector – and the crucial support needed to make it happen. The gathering was attended by a mix of local

and regional politicians and leaders from business, tourism, theatre and wineries. There's a concerted campaign underway to champion the idea of creating a premium wine industry to drive dramatic economic

development with benefits to related sectors including culture, food, hospitality, and tourism. Industry leaders have made a series of presentations and speeches, released two major reports, and met

repeatedly with government leaders to build momentum. And they think it's working. Greg Berti, Andrew Peller Ltd.'s vice-president of

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Council **rejects** Parliament Oak input from advisory committee

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Landscape Architects or the Ontario Association of Architects, to name a few.

Coun. Erwin Wiens said the urban design committee can be helpful when it stays "on track," but claimed it has gotten "off track" with its recommendations on the Parliament Oak hotel proposal.

In a report to council July 25, the urban design committee suggested council reject Two Sisters' applications.

In response, Wiens asked if the committee should even be commenting on the zoning and planning issues of the application.

Kirsten McCauley, the town's director of community and development services, quoted the committee's operating terms, which state the mandate of the committee is to provide advice on aesthetic impacts.

"They could provide some information on how they feel about the proposal, but the intent of the committee is to provide urban design comments," she said at the meeting.

She explained that the committee was instructed to comment on the design of the proposed hotel but that it's not its job to replace staff in reviewing the application

Town heritage planner Denise Horne instructed the committee on this during its monthly meeting in June, saying that staff were looking for input on "potentially physical and aesthetic impacts," not broader planning issues.

During that meeting, the committee was much more focused on the planning of the hotel than the design of it.

Committee member Peter Neame argued that the applications from Two Sisters, if approved, would have significant impacts on the town.



Coun. Erwin Wiens said the urban design committee got "off track" with its recommendations on the controversial Parliament Oak hotel proposal. The hotel, at right, is being proposed by Two Sisters Resorts Corp. for the old elementary school site. FILE

"These are major changes to the official plan and the zoning bylaw. Not minor ones," he said.

Neame argued the purpose of the committee should be to shed light on these issues.

The operating terms also state: "The primary role of the committee is to assist staff in interpreting policy for specific sites and projects, as well as to define areas of concern that need to be resolved."

Lake Report columnist Brian Marshall, who sits on a similar committee, said the urban design committee is "charged with making expert recommendations to council and staff with respect to planning applications."

And David Snelgrove, a member of the urban design committee, said he was "disappointed" by the decision to reject the committee's input, though he declined to comment on his reasons.

He felt the committee had met its mandate in its work on the Parliament Oak Hotel.

In a letter to The Lake Report, resident and architect Connie Tintinalli wrote, "Land use is an important part of urban design. It is not outside the purview of urban design."



The role of the committee was not the only item of discussion. Decision deadlines for development proposals came up as well.

"Under Bill 23 (the More Homes Built Faster Act), we have some very, very tight timelines with some financial ramifications if we don't meet those timelines," Wiens said.

He argued the committee needs to stay on topic if the town is to meet its new deadlines.

The province no longer requires that the town form an urban design committee and the committees may become less common over time, Wiens added.

The deadlines he referred to were not introduced in Bill 23 but in Bill 109, The More Homes for Everyone Act, which passed on April 14 last year.

The bill amended Ontario's Planning Act by introducing a system of fines to penalize towns for processing development applications too slowly.

The new penalties and deadlines were to start Jan. 1 but were deferred until July 1 this year with the passing of Bill 97, the Helping Homebuyers, Protecting Tenants Act.

Notably, the amended act

explains that applications submitted before July 1 are not subject to the new penalties.

Two Sisters Resorts Corp. submitted the application for the Parliament Oak hotel in March so those penalties don't apply.

McCauley described the new deadlines outlined in Ontario's amended Planning Act as "very tight."

A staff report from December 2022 outlines which applications are affected and how much time the town has to process each.

Some applications affected by the legislation are to be processed in 90 days and others within 120.

Under the new rules, municipalities must now reach a decision on planning applications before the deadline or refund 50 per cent of the application fee.

The refund rate rises to 75 per cent 60 days past deadline and to 100 per cent after 120 days.

Developers are also permitted to submit non-decisions and refusals to the Ontario Land Tribunal, which settles land disputes, should council fail to reach a decision within 90 days of receiving the application.

In an interview, Wiens pointed out that the land tri-

bunal has a record of ruling in favour of developers.

In addition to recommending council reject Two Sisters' application, the urban design committee also suggested staff investigate the need for an additional commercial district.

These amendments, the committee stated, would effectively turn 325 King St., the Parliament Oak property, into a commercial area, similar to Queen Street.

At the June meeting, Neame questioned the completeness of the application.

He pointed out that the town's official plan requires applicants to provide an economic impact study when asking to rezone an area for commercial use.

He argued the application could not be considered complete without the study.

"It should be part of the package that the proponent is providing," he said.

No market impact study was provided by Two Sisters.

McCauley told The Lake Report the town requires a market impact analysis for any new major retail project that expands beyond existing commercial areas.

"The hotel is not considered a major retail development. Therefore, a market impact analysis was not

requested," she said in a statement.

When asked by Wiens nearly a month after the committee meeting if the town had ever approved an incomplete application, McCauley said staff were "very thorough" and the need for "additional information" may come up during the review process.

Columnist Marshall described the senior staffer's comments as "double-speak."

Urban design committee member Chrys Kaloudis bolstered Neame's arguments that the committee should, in fact, be discussing the broader planning issues.

She said the proposal was "a land use issue," first and foremost.

"I respect what we're supposed to do. It's hard to talk only about (the hotel design) given what this particular project is trying to do," she added.

Kaloudis described the proposal as "far outside" the parameters of the town's official plan.

Later, she told The Lake Report building projects like these have "long-term implications" and the public has to know that the process is "fair" and "above board."



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Swimmer conquers lake in record time

Evan Loree
Local Journalism Initiative
The Lake Report



Maggie Regan, covered in Vaseline, ready to launch her quest to swim Lake Ontario. EVAN LOREE

The first swimmer to conquer Lake Ontario this year arrived ashore in Toronto on Wednesday afternoon – and shattered a nearly 50-year-old record in the process.

Maggie Regan, a 31-year-old mathematics professor in Massachusetts, finished in 14 hours and eight minutes, making her the fastest female ever to complete the swim.

She broke Cindy Nicholas' 1974 mark of 15 hours 10 minutes by almost an hour.

The 51-kilometre Lake Ontario crossing starts at Queen's Royal Beach in Niagara-on-the-Lake and ends at Marilyn Bell Park in Toronto.

It is the longest swim Regan has ever done.

Minutes before her swim started, Regan's swim coach Christine Arsenault was covering the swimmer in a layer of Vaseline to help

insulate her from the cold lake temperatures and keep the sun off her back.

Arsenault said she met the marathon swimmer in Dover, England, in 2016 when Regan was participating in a relay to cross the 33-kilometre English Channel.

Regan reached out to her in October to help her train for the crossing of Lake

Ontario.

She told The Lake Report she swam competitively as a child and got into triathlons and open-water swims in university.

"I swim for myself and that's it," Regan said, adding it helps her deal with stressful days.

Two swimmers attempted to cross the Lake earlier in

August, but had to quit after getting battered by the currents near Toronto.

Regan said she wasn't going to think about the possibility of failure.

Arsenault said the swim started in good weather conditions.

The sun was bright and the water was above 21C when Regan hopped into the water Tuesday at 2 p.m.

When she crossed the English Channel, the hardest part was swimming in the dark.

"Jumping off of a boat in the middle of pitch black darkness where the only thing you can see is the light off the back of the boat is a little unnerving," she said.

But this time, she and Arsenault agreed the biggest challenge was to ensure Regan got enough to eat while in the water.

Arsenault, also a marathon swimmer, said that when she crossed the lake it took her about a week to fully recover.



Construction of the drystone wall at the new gateway to Old Town is nearing completion. DAVE VAN DE LAAR

Old Town gateway on track for August completion

Evan Loree
Local Journalism Initiative
The Lake Report

An unseasonably wet August has been a bit of a problem for dry stone mason Menno Braam, but not so much for the wall he's building.

The veteran mason started working on Niagara-on-the-Lake's new drystone gateway wall at the entrance to Old Town this spring and set himself a completion deadline of the end of August.

He said the project is coming along without too many hiccups, but he's

starting to pick up extra hours after missing the odd day due to rain and record-breaking heatwaves.

Though he's lost a few days, the rain poses no threat to his progress.

"There could be a flood here and it wouldn't impact anything," he said.

The wall's archway centerpiece is mostly complete.

Though such a dry stone archway might look a little less stable to the untrained eye, he said it will rely on the same physics as the rest of the wall.

The biggest challenge, he said was figuring out how to mount the town's coat

of arms to the circular face without compromising the overall look and feel of the design.

Rather than laying his stones in a circular shape, he followed the same solid pattern as the rest of the structure and cut a round, shallow recess into the wall.

When complete, the coat of arms will sit snugly into the circular-shaped setback.

When The Lake Report stopped by last Friday, two metal workers were affixing the town's name, in steel lettering, to the new wall.

Darren Huinink runs a small welding and metal

cutting business called Dark Metalworks out of Hamilton.

He was cutting the letters with his colleague Dayton Koning, who works for Unity Construction.

Koning said he's drawn to projects like this one because much of what he does on other projects gets lost over time.

"In the trades, there's lots of work that you do that doesn't necessarily get seen."

Projects like these, however, survive their makers.

"People will get to appreciate it after we're gone, hopefully," he said.

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Mural in Virgil will highlight NOTL's agricultural roots

Somer Slobodian
Local Journalism Initiative
The Lake Report

Virgil is about to get a huge splash of colour.

In collaboration with the Niagara Arts Pumphouse, a new mural representing Niagara-on-the-Lake's connection to agriculture will be displayed on Niagara Stone Road on the Niagara Orchard and Vineyard Corp. building.

The project is expected to cost \$23,000 and the money has now been raised so the project will move forward, the Pumphouse said in a news release.

The original oil painting, "Days End" by NOTL artist Ron Clavier, represents the farming community — or as he calls them, the "heroes" of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

It depicts a farmer looking out into a field.

"I felt that this was towards the end of his workday and he was just looking over the accomplishments of the day, exhausted and proud," said Clavier.

The piece is part of a larger collection called "Thanks for the Meal."

"I think a lot of people don't realize, not just the labour that goes into the production of food, but

there's a lot of love that goes on," said Clavier.

He said he's always admired the farming community and is "very grateful to people who devote their lives to feeding us."

The idea for a mural began a year ago with Lise Andreana, chair of the Pumphouse board and the founder of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Arts Collective.

The project is one of the many efforts the Pumphouse is making to display more artists from NOTL. Another project around town is the beautification of hydro boxes.

Clavier is one of 25 artists who comprise the NOTL Arts Collective and while many of them included agriculture in their work, "Days End" stood out to Andreana. "This is the only one that really speaks to the agricultural roots and actually has a farmer in the painting," she said.

She hopes to have the mural completed before the end of the year, but said they need to wait for the construction of Highway 55 in front of the building to wrap up.

The building is corrugated like a cardboard box, she said, and when you peel it back it has a rippled surface.

The painting will be reproduced on vinyl and the

section of the image with the farmer and the field will then stick to aluminium foam core board.

"You don't have to do the whole wall in the foam core. You can't do the image on a rippled surface, but the sky can go on a rippled surface," she said.

It will be applied by contractors.

The piece is meant to add to the beautification work already taking place in Virgil.

Along with the new road construction, Andreana said there's going to be more road upkeep and gardens to make Virgil more attractive — and the mural will add to that.

"We have several facilities in the downtown core which could be perked up a little bit, and this is one of them," she said.

Arnie Lepp, owner of the Niagara Orchard and Vineyard Corp. building, said he's excited to see the mural go up.

"The traffic may slow down a little bit in Virgil because of it," he said.

He said Clavier's mural is a great piece of historic art.

Lepp, along with Coun. Erwin Wiens, have been big supporters of the project and helped with the fundraising throughout the past year.



Above: A rendering from the Pumphouse Arts Centre projects how the completed mural at Niagara Orchard and Vineyard Corp. could look. SUPPLIED Right: Coun. Erwin Wiens, Niagara Orchard and Vineyard owner Arnie Lepp, artist Ron Clavier, and Gail Kerr and Lise Andreana from the Pumphouse. DAVE VAN DE LAAR

Habitat restoration continues at Two Mile Creek with new installation

Somer Slobodian
Local Journalism Initiative
The Lake Report

Work to rehabilitate the forest and stream of Two Mile Creek began its third phase this week, with the hope of improving the creek's natural environment.

Staff from the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority's restoration team installed a structure called a cross vane that controls the flow of water.

This is the second one they've installed in Two Mile Creek — the first being about 100 metres away — at the end of Butler Street in Niagara-on-the-Lake. This represents

"It's going to create a better habitat for the fish

and help reduce the amount of sediment," said Stuart McPherson, one of the restoration specialists.

During phase two last year when staff planted 4,800 native trees, he said they noticed some erosion along the banks of the creek, along with sediment buildup in some of the pools.

The creek has a ripple pool sequence, he explained, and a lot of the pools were filling up with lots of sediment.

Installing the cross vane with natural materials, like downed trees and stones, directs the creek's energy into a specific spot and flushes out the build-up of sediment, he said.

"The cross vane is a little

bit like putting our thumb on the hose," McPherson said.

It works to reduce soil erosion on the creek banks and clean out sediment buildup within the creek, as well as create a healthier environment for wildlife such as fish.

"Those pools are refuge spots for fish (and) when they're swimming upstream on hot days, they're going in there, and they don't like it full of sediment," he said.

The project costs \$3,500, plus staff time, and is being funded by the conservation authority, said Erika Navarro, the conservation authority's communications specialist.

The creek winds its way through Niagara-on-the-



A restoration crew from Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority installed a cross vane at Two Mile Creek this week. SOMER SLOBODIAN

Lake to Lake Ontario near the Lakeshore Road sewage treatment facility.

Come fall, the crew will come back and plant native plants, such as willows and dogwoods, that thrive along the water's edge.

"They will come in here

and their roots will help hold the banks so they get less erosion," said McPherson.

The conservation authority is focused on improving water quality, wildlife and the overall health of its watershed, which is why it started the restoration grant

program to make projects like the one at Two Mile Creek possible.

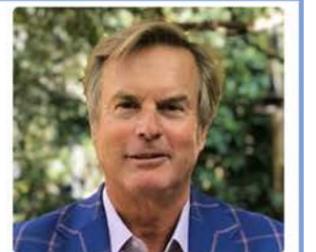
Navarro said intake will open up for its restoration grant program in a few months and people can learn more and apply at npca.ca/restoration.



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Left: The 85th Battalion marching to the front lines. LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA Right: Edgar Fisher.

MISSING IN ACTION

Edgar George Fisher, the final casualty

In both world wars, there were men killed in action or who died in service who had a connection with Niagara-on-the-Lake but for various reasons were not commemorated on either the memorial clock tower cenotaph in Old Town or the Niagara Township war memorial in Queenston. In some cases, they lived for only a brief time in Niagara and had no family here when the monuments were built. In other instances, they had lived near McNab, not then part of NOTL or Niagara Township. While their names are not read out at the ceremonies at these monuments on Remembrance Day, they too should be remembered.

Ron Dale
Special to The Lake Report

Edgar George Fisher, known as Ted to his friends, did not choose to be a warrior.

Ted was born in Grimsby on June 22, 1896, the youngest child of Mathias Fisher and Margaret Ferries. Mathias was a farmer in Grimsby.

Before 1911, he moved to Niagara Township with Margaret and young Ted after his other five children left home.

Ted attended the Niagara High School, now part of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum, finishing his senior third (grade 11) before leaving school. After the First World War broke out in 1914, Mathias, Margaret and Ted moved back to Grimsby.

While many young Canadian men volunteered for active service during the war, Ted did not enlist.

From 1914 through 1916, voluntary enlistments had been sufficient to maintain a strong Canadian Corps presence in France and Belgium. However, by 1917 enlistments were no longer sufficient to reinforce the army.

The Canadian Corps had suffered heavy losses in battle and through disease. This prompted the government of former prime minister Robert Borden to

introduce conscription with the contentious Military Services Act in 1917.

By the end of the war, more than 125,000 Canadian men were conscripted into the army. About 48,000 were sent overseas to England and of these men, 24,000 were sent to France and Belgium to fight. Ted Fisher was among their number.

Ted was drafted into the 2nd Battalion, Central Ontario Regiment, on Feb. 20, 1918. He trained in Canada over the next three months and was shipped to England, arriving in Liverpool on May 27.

Here, he received additional training at Witley Camp. He was considered ready to fight by September.

On Sept. 20, he was temporarily assigned to the 4th Canadian Mounted Rifles and the following day he landed in France. He was again transferred to another regiment, the 85th (Nova Scotia Highlanders) Battalion.

The 85th had suffered very heavy casualties in the Hundred Days campaign, which had begun with the Battle of Amiens on Aug. 5, 1918. Ted joined that unit at the front on Oct. 4.

For the next month, the Canadian Corps was fighting continuously as the German defences of the Hindenburg Line were cracked and the Germans

were forced into a fighting withdrawal.

By the time Ted went to war, victory was just around the corner.

From Oct. 28 to Nov. 2, the 85th fought in the Battle of Valenciennes in France, finally capturing that devastated town.

The Germans retreated only to set up a new defensive line, with a heavily defended position established at what was known as Fosse 2 near the town of Quievrechain, close to the Belgian border.

On Nov. 6, the 85th with other battalions was ordered to attack the new heavily defended German position. The battalion set off at 5:30 a.m.

Canadian artillery set down a heavy rolling barrage, with shells landing just in front of the advancing Canadian troops.

Enemy machine gun fire and mortar bombs swept the field as the Canadians went forward.

The Canadians won the battle, overrunning the German positions at Fosse 2, liberating Quievrechain, crossing the Aunelle River and finally entering Belgium at the Honnelle River.

The 85th suffered 27 men wounded and 15 killed that day. Among them was Private Edgar "Ted" Fisher.

According to the official report, or "Circumstances of Death," Fisher met his

end as such: "Killed in action while taking part with his battalion in the attack on the village of Quievrechain near Valenciennes, he was hit in the head and instantly killed by enemy shrapnel."

When the smoke cleared, Fisher's body was recovered and buried in the Valenciennes Communal Cemetery.

This was the last battle for the 85th Battalion in the war that would end only five days after Fisher was killed.

Two years later, his mother received a Silver Cross medal, issued to widows and mothers of the fallen, a memorial scroll and a bronze plaque known as the "dead man's penny," honouring his sacrifice.

No doubt the arrival of these memorials caused a new wave of grief over a son who she had described as "a dear boy and a good soldier."

Fisher was the last man associated with Niagara-on-the-Lake killed in action in the First World War.

On the heels of The Lake Report's 53-part "Monuments Men" series, which exhaustively documented the story of every soldier commemorated on the town's two cenotaphs, Ron Dale's "Missing in Action" stories profile Niagara-on-the-Lake soldiers who died in wartime but are not listed on the town's monuments.

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Old-fashioned garden party celebrates NOTL's history

Kevin MacLean
The Lake Report

More than 700 homes in Niagara-on-the-Lake are over a century old and Catherine Novick sees this as a great, untapped historical legacy that deserves to be celebrated and explored.

With that in mind, she and a team of volunteers been working with the NOTL Museum on a plan to showcase one of these spectacular homes this year, featuring it in a new, and possibly annual, community fundraiser for the museum.

The Aug. 31 Heritage Garden Party aims to not only to raise some money for the museum but also to highlight some of the lost, forgotten or unknown history and heritage that permeates the town.

"While history might be considered the investigation of the past, heritage refers to artifacts and traits from earlier generations, both buildings and customs," said Novick, a resident of Old Town.

"With support from residents, businesses and visitors alike, we have an opportunity to join together to showcase and celebrate our rich heritage in so many ways," she said.

This year's garden party will be at the former home



of NOTL's first mayor, Alexander Davidson, a remarkable man whose story is one of the best-kept secrets in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

With almost no promotion or publicity, this year's inaugural gathering is already almost sold out.

Novick noted that in addition, "Donations are gratefully appreciated to continue programs to preserve the heritage in NOTL."

The soiree will be hosted at the home of Patty and Bill Garriock, at 164 Johnson St., on the property where Davidson built the original house around 1840.

The Garriocks have lovingly cared for and renovated the gardens and home, which they have named "Charlou."

With the help of NOTL architect Victor Tarnoy, who has special skills in historical renovations, they just finished restoring the home's original front porch, which had been lost to age.

Research at the NOTL Museum provides an interesting profile of Davidson, who was born in Ireland in 1794 and immigrated to Canada in the early 1800s.

He was a teacher and a writer as well as post-

Architect Victor Tarnoy and other organizers of the NOTL Museum garden party fundraiser, Ruth Denyer, Catherine Novick and Deborah Williams, stand on the Garriocks' restored porch at 164 Johnson St.

JANICE WHITE

master, storekeeper and served as the town's first mayor. He and his wife Mary had three sons and two daughters.

Around 1840, Davidson had an elegant home constructed on an acre lot at the corner of what is now Johnson and Gate streets. The house has been added on to over the years but has maintained much of its original and special charm.

As a teacher, in June 1828, Davidson noted to George Hillier, the civil secretary at York (Toronto), that nine out of 10 books in use in schools were from the United States.

"Unless some proper elementary books be got into general circulation, common school education will continue to be little better than a mere farce, and a useless expenditure of public money," he wrote.

To correct this, Davidson completed "The Upper Canadian Spelling Book" in 1829. And in 1840 he succeeded in getting the manuscript published as "The Canada Spelling Book," the first copyrighted book in Upper Canada.

A prominent layman in the Wesleyan Methodist Church, Davidson also compiled a tune book entitled "Sacred Harmony." Published in 1838, it became one of the most influential and comprehensive of the pre-Confederation tune books in Canada.

Davidson settled in 1837 in Niagara-on-the-Lake as postmaster. From the post office he ran a bookshop where he sold a wide assortment of books, including his own, as well as stationery, hardware and garden supplies.

His career included seven years on town council, frequent re-election as a trustee of the grammar and common schools, and several terms on the board of health.

In 1849, he served as

president of the Niagara Board of Police and in January 1850 was named the town's first mayor, serving a one-year term.

Davidson was also involved in the newspaper business, becoming publisher and editor of the Niagara Mail in April 1846. A reform paper, the Mail was in those years "marked by wit, vivacity, originality, (and) literary ability."

After securing three mortgages for the Johnson Street property, Davidson built a quality two-storey home influenced by the Greek Revival style, with a centre hall plan and large living and dining rooms.

Davidson's wife Mary died in June 1855 and he died in February 1856 at the American Hotel in St. Catharines.

For this year's inaugural garden party, Niagara's Finest Hotels is donating the food and tea, while Konzelmann Estate Winery is contributing the wine. Other sponsors and volunteers are assisting as well.

Novick noted it is rumoured that Alexander Davidson himself might attend.

Tickets at \$75 per person (including a partial charitable donation receipt) are available on the museum's website notlmuseum.ca.

Two more NOTL sports legends inducted into Wall of Fame

Evan Loree
Local Journalism Initiative
The Lake Report

Two local lacrosse legends have been inducted into the Niagara-on-the-Lake Sports Wall of Fame.

Paul French and Monty Slingerland, both recognized for their contributions to lacrosse, were honoured at a plaque unveiling at the Meridian Credit Union Arena Friday night.

French played competitive lacrosse for the University of Virginia and then professionally in the National Lacrosse League.

In 1989, he joined the Philadelphia Wings in winning their first championship.



Monty Slingerland, left and Paul French, pictured with his 18-year-old son Colin, are the newest inductees to NOTL's sports Wall of Fame. EVAN LOREE

But for French, the best memories of his storied career are from his championship run with the NOTL Warriors in 1981.

"What matters to me is I

won the championship for Niagara-on-the-Lake," he said.

Looking back at the Wall of Fame, French said it was an honour to have his photo featured next to some of the

best athletes he had ever known.

Slingerland spoke about the magical championship run of the 1973 NOTL Warriors.

Slingerland, who coached

the legendary 1973 team, regaled the audience with stories of the team in moments of struggle and unabashed success.

The 1973 team won gold

at the Ontario Games, Canada Games and the Ontario Lacrosse Championships, an unprecedented accomplishment in the world of lacrosse.


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Hit-run wakes Ricardo Street residents

Julia Sacco
The Lake Report



This white Dodge Ram crashed into the hydro box on Ricardo Street at around 10:30 p.m. Saturday. The owner said the vehicle was stolen. SUPPLIED

Residents of Ricardo Street were jolted awake late Saturday night when a truck hit a hydro box, causing an outage in the surrounding area.

Niagara Regional Police said a white 2021 Dodge Ram struck two parked vehicles about 10:30 p.m. and then crashed into the hydro box.

The truck has a visible logo for G.L. Hawk Concrete Cutting Coring and Contracting on it. The operator of that company told The Lake Report the truck had been stolen.

Police said the driver fled the scene shortly after the collision. The case remains a hit-and-run investigation.

Linda Sauro lives across from the hydro box on Ricardo Street and was awakened by a loud banging.

“It didn’t sound like the raccoon opening up my green bin, which has happened a few times.”

Shortly afterward, her power went out.

Coun. Gary Burroughs lives right next to the hydro box that was hit.

The councillor was on his computer in his basement at the time and said he had to make his way outside in the dark.

“It was almost like having

a new street gathering,” he joked. “All the neighbours were out.”

Burroughs said that the family in the cottage next to his house actually witnessed the crash. Their 17-year-old daughter took photos of the truck to share with police.

“I was so impressed, first of all, that she had the insight to take the picture and second that she gave it to the police,” Burroughs said.

Burroughs said he was

impressed with how fast NOTL Hydro responded and got the power back on.

“All the cables were working by 2:30 in the morning. Unbelievable how they all worked as a team. Hydro, the police department, Cogeco, they were all working in the middle of the night.”

Police are appealing for witnesses and asked residents to check their surveillance footage for any relevant information.

Wine industry execs urge province to act now

Continued from Front Page

economic development, said these leaders are now going to government meetings “with one voice” on the subject.

“They’re paying attention, they’re more than intrigued by this concept. I see that as something important. And they’re appointing people within government to address this issue,” he said.

Del Rollo, Arterra Wines’ vice-president of corporate affairs, said he’s optimistic and feels there’s a “shift change” on the matter. “I think the government will come forward to help,” he said.

John Peller, president and CEO of Andrew Peller, kicked it all off in February with a speech describing what he called a grand vision for Niagara: to create a world-class destination building on Niagara’s natural advantages including wine and food, history and theatre, culture and parks.

“There is no other industry that has a greater growth impact on economies than premium wine-based economies,” Peller said.

On the heels of that speech, the Wine Market-

ing Association of Ontario laid out its 2030 vision, predicting the number of visitors to the province’s wine regions will rise to 3 million a year by 2030, from 2.6 million now.

The report also projects a 75 per cent increase in capital investment by Ontario wine producers and growth of more than 40,000 direct and indirect jobs in Ontario’s grape and wine production, tourism and hospitality sectors.

Then in July, a Deloitte Canada report called Uncork Ontario quantified the opportunity of what it calls the Niagara cluster of related sectors, including food, tourism and culture, with the wine industry at the centre, showing it could drive \$8 billion to the GDP in the next generation.

Ontario Craft Wineries, Tourism Partnership of Niagara and Wine Growers Ontario jointly commissioned Deloitte’s report.

It describes the scope of the opportunity, as well as the conditions needed to achieve it, many of which need more active support from the provincial government.

Brady Peller, senior manager of corporate strategy for Andrew Peller, said the Niagara wine industry has an “incredibly unique” opportunity.

The “cluster” in which it exists cannot be artificially created, he pointed out, thanks to the specific geographic and climate conditions in Niagara that enable the growing of grapes for premium wine.

“We have direct access to a world-class tourism asset in Niagara Falls and a huge tourism population, upwards of 40 million people within a one- or two-hour drive,” he said.

On top of that, he added, there’s a growing base of food and hospitality experiences and cultural entertainment such as the Shaw Festival.

It’s an \$8-billion opportunity, but there are certain conditions that need to be in place in order to achieve it. The Deloitte report identified those by looking at best practices in successful wine regions around the world.

First, Peller said, is “dominating” the domestic market: Ontario’s share of its own market is about 33 per cent, compared to places

such as Australia, France and Italy, which have between an 80 to 95 per cent share of their own markets, he said.

He also criticized the “punitive” 6.1 per cent tax on Niagara wines sold at wineries. Instead, he wants to see the province championing Niagara wines “to ensure that we’re being set up for success.”

Industry leaders have long called for changes to taxation, better marketing and distribution arrangements, but this campaign has brought more voices together, including many from outside the wine industry, Berti noted.

Rollo called on those present to do their part to spread the word and build support, by talking to others and joining a letter-writing campaign to the provincial government – to show that the Niagara region stands behind this push to boost the industry.

“We need to have that groundswell of individuals who are really passionate about this,” he said.

“Right now we’re at that tipping point. I’m optimistic, I think it’s going to go the right way.”



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Contributed by Patty Garriock

“It takes as much courage to have tried and failed as it does to have tried and succeeded.”

- Anne Morrow Lindbergh

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Friends and fives foray at Fort



Fife and drum corps from across Canada came out to Fort George last weekend for the annual fife and drum muster. JULIA SACCO

Editorial

Time to support the wine industry

Jill Troyer
Guest Column

The time is right to make your voice heard, to weigh in on the vision that the Niagara wine industry is advocating, in concert with partners in tourism, food, culture, and hospitality.

The vision is detailed in the recent Deloitte report called “Uncork Ontario.”

It juxtaposes a tremendous opportunity, to the tune of an \$8-billion boost to the economy in the next generation, against existing barriers to growth. Barriers that need to be removed if the opportunity is to be realized.

The opportunity is compelling.

Niagara already has acclaimed food and wine experiences, the renowned Shaw Festival, beautiful parks, fascinating history, warm hospitality and a great reputation for tourism.

It has direct access to 160 million people within a one- or two-hour flight, and it's the largest grape growing region on the east coast of North America, the report points out.

Research on other wine regions found that the wine industry is a catalyst for growth in all related sectors, so that investments in the wine industry ripple benefits throughout the region's economy. The report cites a few examples.

In New Zealand, wine tourists spend 50 per cent more than general tourists. In Germany, wine tourists spend 15 to 25 per cent of their holiday budget on entertainment. In Walla Walla, Wash., 17 per cent of restaurant revenue and 40 per cent of hotel revenue is driven by the wine sector.

The micro climate in Niagara creates a rare pocket of land capable of growing grapes. Worldwide, only 0.53 per cent of arable land is planted with wine grapes and in Ontario it's only 0.03 per cent.

And there is literally room to grow in Niagara. There are currently 18,000 acres of vineyards here, with conditions available to plant 12,000 more.

Opportunity knocks, but the barriers are real.

Some of the telling facts in the report underline how

government policies handicap Ontario's wine industry.

Taxes top the list. According to the report, Ontario is the most heavily taxed wine region in the world, while in contrast, “leading wine jurisdictions around the world receive billions of dollars in subsidies.”

Not only does that make it difficult for Niagara wineries to make a profit and reinvest capital, it makes it hard to compete with imported wine.

The report reveals that taxes comprise 40 per cent of wine sales in Ontario, versus 8 per cent in the U.S. and 17 per cent in France.

Market share is key. It has been stagnant and sits at 33 per cent in Ontario. The report cites “the lack of representation on LCBO shelves” and lack of marketing for that.

In other countries, such as Australia, U.S. and France, they dominate domestic market share, with 82 per cent, 60 per cent and 87 per cent, respectively.

Changing those barriers rests with the Ontario government and industry leaders have been sharing the

vision and the supporting data to lay out the opportunity as well as the needs.

They report that officials are intrigued with the vision because of its broad base of economic development and benefits, and appear open to hearing about what's needed to get there.

That's what makes now the moment to be heard. The big ideas are gaining traction and direct communication from constituents can have real impact at this juncture.

Whether you write on behalf of your business or organization, or as an individual, your opinion matters.

Here are some email addresses you can send letters to: Premier Doug Ford at premier@ontario.ca, Patrick Sackville, Ford's chief of staff, Patrick.Sackville@ontario.ca, Finance Minister Peter Bethlenflavay at minister.fin@ontario.ca.

Have a look at the report for yourself at uncorkontario.ca and take the time to let our politicians know what you think. And stay tuned to see how things develop.

editor@niagaranow.com



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Letter of the Week

Speeding crackdown needs to hit drivers **in the wallet**

Dear editor:

In response to all of the recent material about speeding in Niagara-on-the-Lake, I would like to add my input.

I am in St. Davids and I captured, on video, a car doing close to 100 km/h, overtaking another car on Concession 3 Road. The road is a 50 km/h zone.

I brought the video to the Niagara Regional Police and they commented and agreed with my speed estimation. I had the plate details.

The officer said, "Well, there was no accident, no one got hurt," and they kinda hope that nothing happens. Not exactly the firm response I was hoping for.

I have several other pictures of cars speeding by a speed minder device on Concession 2, just before East and West Line, near where an 84-year-old cyclist was killed in a hit-and-run incident last month.

There were cars speeding through the signs at over 99 km/h but the sign is only a



Letter writer Frank Hayes snapped this photo of cars speeding along Concession 2.

two-character display and therefore goes blank.

That's more than 30 km/h over the posted limit – and people do not care. Those devices are used to determine if there's a problem. But it is only considered a

problem if more than 15 per cent of vehicles are exceeding the speed limit.

Heck, I might as well join the club and speed and I'll be among the 15 per cent.

I also have an image of a large truck doing an unsafe

pass by me while cycling in St. Davids.

This time the driver came barrelling by me, at more 50 km/h, within 200 metres of a stop sign and the truck's driver had crossed the centre line and forced the

oncoming traffic to put two wheels onto the sidewalk to get out of the way.

I brought the image and the plate number to the police. The officer said he'd call the registered owner and caution them.

I asked about the new close pass law requiring vehicles to give bicycles at least one metre of space and he said, it isn't going to go anywhere.

So what are we to do? It is clear that trying nicely to caution, advertise, educate and remind people is not working. The only sure-fired way is to hit them in the wallet.

I have heard that we are supposed to be getting speed cameras by the school in St. Davids, I haven't seen them yet, but this is a good approach.

While we are all complaining about taxes and what we don't get for them, I believe speed cameras are considerable revenue generators. The upfront cost is high, but they will pay off, and then the revenue is gravy.

I say yes to speed bumps/humps as an interim measure, but ultimately it is only when speeding hits the drivers in the wallet that we can expect a visible change in behaviour.

At the same time, I would like the Niagara police to announce that they are getting serious about this issue.

I agree with comments that it is locals who "know the road blindfolded" who are greater contributors to this issue, because I see the behaviour throughout the week, when the tourists are not as prevalent.

Unfortunately, familiarity breeds contempt.

One thing is for certain, out of frustration and a desire to protect their families, people will start to attempt to deal with this directly themselves and this will only lead to confrontation and conflict.

Niagara Regional Police need to pay heed to this, because we are at a turning point now.

Frank Hayes
St. Davids

Premier Doug Ford **lied and flip-flopped** on Greenbelt development



Wayne Gates
Special to The Lake Report

While celebrating the Peach Festival in Old Town here in Niagara-on-the-Lake, I spoke to many business owners, farmers and workers who all reinforced my belief in how important our local tender fruit industry is.

We know our agricultural and wine industries are the backbone of the economy in NOTL and that we must do everything we can to support local growers and preserve farmland.

This is why I have been such a strong advocate for protecting the Greenbelt

and why I am so outraged at the recent report issued by the provincial auditor general on the investigation into the Ford government's decision to open up the Greenbelt for development.

The report was clear in its findings: to quote directly, "About 92 per cent of the approximately 7,400 acres ultimately removed from the Greenbelt are five land sites put forward by two developers ... who had access to the (housing ministry's) chief of staff in September 2022."

This is corruption, flat-out.

After telling the people of Ontario repeatedly he would not touch the Greenbelt when running for office, Premier Doug Ford then flip-flopped and pushed forward Bill 23 (the so-called More Homes Built Faster Act), without proper consultation or input from municipalities, or committee hearings at

Queen's Park.

His housing minister's chief of staff then met with developers, who had direct input over what lands were chosen to remove – and those developers now stand to make \$8.3 billion or more in profits on those lands.

“It's clear – this was never about building more housing ... It was always about benefiting well-connected developers.”

MPP WAYNE GATES

The report also restated what we already know: that there is enough land available right now in the province to build the target of 1.5 million homes without touching an inch of

the Greenbelt. The government's own housing task force also said a shortage of land wasn't the cause of the housing crisis.

It's clear – this was never about building more housing or working constructively with municipalities to tackle the housing crisis. It was always about benefiting well-connected developers.

And it comes directly at the expense of our local economy, natural heritages, and resources: Bill 23 has removed tender fruit farmland from Greenbelt protections and can lead to removing areas that were previously considered protected wetlands.

This is terrible in and of itself: we are already losing close to 320 acres of farmland every single day across Ontario. If the pandemic have taught us anything, it should have been the importance of our farmers and local food supply.

But our natural resources and farmland are also a massive part of the \$2-billion tourism industry in Niagara. More than 13 million people visit the region annually and we have some 2,800 tourism businesses and more than 40,000 tourism jobs here.

I spoke on this topic when I visited NOTL council earlier this year to discuss my opposition to Bill 23.

From the beginning, I opposed the legislation, because I knew it was not a serious proposal to fix the housing crisis, that it would jeopardize local farmland and our economy, and that it was pushed through without thoughtful or proper consultation with municipal governments, like the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Now, we know the process was tainted from the start.

Premier Ford and Housing Minister Steve Clark have

eroded the trust people have in their government.

Ford lied, flip-flopped and his minister's staff took part in backroom deals that put developers ahead of municipalities, farmers, young people and our environment.

It's clear that Clark has lost the public's faith in his ability to carry out his duties and he should resign.

I have also called for us to return to the legislature immediately. Bill 23 needs to be repealed and we also need to ensure this entire affair is investigated properly.

As your MPP, it is my job to advocate for our community's interests and to hold the provincial government to account when it betrays the public trust.

I will continue to do so.

Wayne Gates is the New Democratic Party MPP for Niagara Falls riding, which includes NOTL and Fort Erie.

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Columnist Brian Marshall says Niagara-on-the-Lake is recognized as having the highest concentration of neoclassical homes in the province and likely the country. SUPPLIED

Grand expressions of neoclassical design

Brian Marshall
Columnist

Before we get into this week's Arch-i-text, I want to correct an inadvertent error in last week's column about the role of the town's urban design committee.

When I submitted my overly long column on Tuesday evening to be edited down to a more practical length for the paper, the first sentence of the ninth paragraph was edited to read: "Under membership qualifications, it says that people on the committee must have been members of professional associations ..."

This inserted a factual error.

It should have said: "Preference will be given to individuals who are or have been in the last five years members of the following professional associations ..."

The wording didn't change the substance of my argument, but I want to be sure that the record is corrected.

Now, let's go back in time to observe a curious convention of the 18th century in Europe, where affluent young men could be found wandering from one historic site to another with all routes leading to Italy.

Referred to as the "Grand Tour," not only was it a prerequisite for confirming one's social status, but success (which was measured by the quantity and quality of the items acquired during travel) could actually underwrite an individual's (and family's) social climb.

Further, the Grand Tour, focusing as it did on the art, literature and accomplishments of classical antiquity and the Renaissance, became an integral part of a scion's education while creating networking opportunities in the aristocratic and fashionably polite society of the European continent.

Perhaps it was inevitable that Grand Tour graduates, upon their return home, should seek to demonstrate their educational experience by lionizing the cultural achievements of classical society.

The 16th-century Italian architect Andrea Palladio, who drew upon rationality for its clarity, order and symmetry, while paying homage to antiquity through the use of classical forms and decorative motifs, was the first source

British architects drew upon.

Then, in the early 1700s, architect Colin Campbell published the three volumes that comprised "Vitruvius Britannicus." That truly launched Palladianism in England.

However, by 1800, Palladianism had been supplanted by the neoclassical movement in architecture. In essence, it was a refocusing on classical forms and details derived directly from Roman antiquity as opposed to Palladio's Renaissance interpretations.

Palladianism had already hopped across the Atlantic into the British colonies in the 1700s – Thomas Jefferson's Monticello, for example – and neoclassicism followed, landing in Upper Canada near the end of the first decade of the 19th century.

It should come as no surprise that, during the rebuilding of Niagara-on-the-Lake after the War of 1812, neoclassical designs found a high level of public favour.

Not only were neoclassical homes built in significant numbers, but enough of them have survived into the present day that NOTL is recognized as having the highest concentration in the province (and likely the country).

Two expressions of the neoclassical dominated during the rebuilding.

Representatives of the first expression can be seen in the clapboard homes located at 234 Johnson St. (Clench House) and 392 Mississagua St. (Breakenridge-Hawley House).

With both homes, we see that order and symmetry take centre stage. Pilasters topped by Ionic capitals carry a weighty dentiled cornice entablature which wraps around the house to enclose the gable ends forming pediments.

On both, the main entry is an eye-catching statement with gorgeous elliptical fanlights, detailed sidelights and Ionic pilasters to either side of the six-panel door.

The second expression is built of brick and features a facade decorated by elliptical arcades, which recall the Colosseum and aqueducts of ancient Rome.

Again, the main entry is a treat, with beautiful sidelights and elliptical fanlight together with stylized classical pilasters.

A double arcade version of this expression can be found at 165 Queen St. (MacDougal House), while the single arcade version is shown on the home located at 42 Prideaux St. (Stewart-McLeod House).

In all cases, neoclassical designs presented windows that were taller (in relation to their width) with finer muntin bars than in the windows of similar period

Georgian homes.

Back in Britain, neoclassicism's focus on "all things Roman" had been displaced by what was described as the "purer and more correct" culture and architecture of ancient Greece.

This sentiment caught fire in the United States where, the fragile new republic, immediately identified with the "original democracy" which was, at that time, engaged in a struggle for independence.

From these roots, architecture developed the Greek Revival style.

North American pattern books, foremost among which was the pivotal "The American Builder's Companion" by Benjamin Asher, were widely distributed and, "everyone who was anyone" in the U.S. was building homes in the style.

However, in the British Canadian colonies, despite waning anti-American sentiments of the 1830s, the popularity of the Greek Revival was constrained.

Still, some Niagara citizens, likely underwritten by the work of British architects, would move forward with new homes in this style.

Again, we have two primary expressions evident in NOTL – the Monumental and the Temple.

Monumental, as implied by the term, was a full-blown, large-scale expres-

sion of ancient Greek elements in the form of a residence (mansion) and purely the purview of the wealthy.

NOTL has two outstanding examples of this expression, both with classical Greek details, pillars and colonnades. The first is in Queenston and houses the Willowbank School of Restoration Arts.

The second, Glencairn, at 14795 Niagara River Pkwy., has an incredible facade that can unfortunately only be seen from the river.

More common was the Greek Revival temple form, which presented closed or partially closed gable roof ends (to suggest a full pediment) to the street but might, if finances permitted, be augmented by wings to either side of the primary building.

At 343 Queenston St. is the Winged Temple Durham-Slingerland House which, if one ignores the wings, displays the basic temple expression.

Then, once again engaging your imagination to replace the Gothic details of the porches with Greek pillars and entablature, one can see the upscale temple with wings.

Stay with me ... Gothic Revival is next.

Brian Marshall is a NOTL realtor, author and expert consultant on architectural design, restoration and heritage.



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It's time to deal with Old Town parking headaches

Dear editor:
Forty-plus years would seem sufficient time for our prior and current council members to discuss a solution to the ever worsening Old Town and Heritage District residential parking problem.

Yes, that is the time since the problem was first addressed by John Drope, the founder of the Pillar and Post.

Since then, subsequent councils have kicked the can down the road.

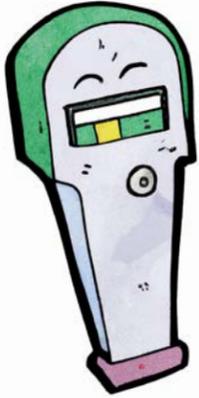
Better to be seen implementing non-consequential, low-hanging fruit than tackling the hard decisions.

The fate of the former Niagara-on-the-Lake hospital also comes to mind, whereby the previous council called for residents' proposals, several of which then-Lord Mayor Betty Disero classified as very interesting.

All were subsequently thrown in the trash can for future councils to start all over again.

So, here we are today, no further ahead.

Residential Old Town and



beyond is one big parking lot. And it's not a good look.

Can we consider approaching "Greenbelt" Doug Ford and sever part of Simcoe Park adjacent to the Shaw Festival and develop it as a major parking hub?

Route the incoming tourists down East and West Line to the Niagara River Parkway and straight to this lot.

From a pure common sense standpoint it would avoid routing traffic volume through the residential areas of Niagara and Charlotte streets, as has been proposed – and is very much a dumb idea at best.

Samuel Young

Shred-it proves to be a huge success

Dear editor:

On behalf of Niagara-on-the-Lake Community Palliative Care Service, we are happy to report that our Shred-it fundraiser was a huge success on Saturday.

We thought that with a paperless world developing there might be less of it year after year. At one point we contemplated not holding this fundraiser this year.

But we are so happy we went ahead again.

We saw a lot of people who we haven't seen for years, as well as the townspeople who support us year after year.

It's so amazing to see the variation. Some people with one bag, coming out just to



All trucks were filled during Saturday's Shred-it event. Bonnie Bagnulo expressed her gratitude for all those who came out to support NOTL Palliative Care. SUPPLIED

support our crucial service, and some with truckloads of documents to be shredded.

We actually had to shut

down early this year, due to both collection trucks being full.

The donations totalled

\$4,485 and this money will be used toward our equipment-lending program and for mileage for the volunteers who deliver it for us.

Thank you to our community support volunteers, without whom, we couldn't hold this fundraiser.

Thank you to Meridian Credit Union for sponsoring our event, and this year, thanks to Rainer Hummel for disposing of all of the cardboard for us.

But the loudest thank you goes to the people of Niagara-on-the-Lake. And if you missed us, don't worry, we'll be back next year.

Bonnie Bagnulo
NOTL Community
Palliative Care Service

Drivers need more patience and common sense

Dear editor:

What happened to motorists' courtesy and common sense?

Recently I was driving along Mary Street toward Mississauga when I came upon waste collectors picking up bins on the curve near Dorchester Street.

The curve creates a blind spot. With the garbage truck ahead of me, I couldn't see whether traffic was approaching from the other direction, so I sat and waited until I could safely pass.

I hadn't been sitting there long when a black Nissan came up behind me.

It immediately pulled around me and the garbage truck, right into the path of an oncoming van that had to take evasive action to avoid a head-on collision with the Nissan.

This person just missed causing a serious head-on crash.

What happened to exercis-

ing a little common sense and patience?

And by the way, after I made it safely past the garbage truck and reached the intersection at Mississauga, the Nissan was sitting at the light, waiting.

Janice White
NOTL



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Left: Mark Shantz from the Niagara-on-the-Lake Sailing Club guides his Shark, Amicus, out to the starting line. The boat placed first in the long race on Tuesday. Right: Jennie Gordon from NOTL with her crew on the Red Dwarf. Below: Rob Vanderperk, Cameron Smith and Chris Russell sail their Shark Toga Party! to the start line. SOMER SLOBODIAN

Sharks hit the water for world championships races

Continued from Front Page

course races and a long-distance race.

Tuesday's long-distance race required sailors to travel 20 kilometres from start to finish.

Though the end destination was the same for everyone, the boats looked like they were going in all different directions.

This is because, when out on the water, sailors have to look for "clean air," said Kocsis.

"If there's a boat ahead of you, that wind is being interfered with by their sails and when it hits your sails you're not going as fast," he said.

"Boats are constantly looking for clean air. You never want to be sailing behind someone," he added.

Many sailing competitions across North America use a Performance Handicap Racing Fleet rating system, which allows different classes of boats to race

against each other.

They race on time, said Kocsis, so even if a boat crosses the line first, it could still lose the race.

Sharks, however, race boat to boat — whoever finishes first is first.

"They call it a one-design fleet, so it's all the same design. They don't do time, it's all about first, second, third," said Kocsis.

Emily Chan and Bryan Milne, first-time world competitors from Kincardine and Hamilton, respectively, said Monday's three races were very tough.

"First race was really intense, then the wind kind of dropped a little bit for the second and third races, but the mark roundings were really chaotic," said Chan.

Milne said there were "major pileups" at the mark during the second and third races, with some boats getting hooked on the mark.

"It was a very interesting day," said Josh Wiwcharyk, one of the organizers and



competitors from the NOTL Sailing Club.

He's competing with Chris Clarke and Alex Letchford on the boat Crunch.

As of Wednesday afternoon, Crunch was sitting in second place overall in the

world championship, ahead of Niagara-on-the-Lake brothers Levi, Jacob and Malcolm Harper who were in third place.

"We're just so happy that there's wind — it looks like — for most of the week," said Wiwcharyk.

"You never know at this time of year you could get shut down," he added.

In addition to the races, the NOTL Sailing Club held a Caribbean-themed night on Monday and will continue to do fun social activities in the evenings for

the competitors.

Friday is the last day for races and the day will end with dinner that requires competitors to dress up in the era their Shark boat was made.

The competitions start every day around 10 a.m.


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NOTL kid's lemonade stand raises \$1,800 for Niagara Dog Rescue

Julia Sacco
The Lake Report

Seven-year-old Ishani Ayona Pal has been a passionate animal lover ever since rescuing her family dog Spot through Niagara Dog Rescue.

To show her support of the rescue group, the Crossroads Public School Grade 2 student started a tradition of running a lemonade stand in support of finding “fur-ever homes” for dogs like Spot.

This year, Ayona Pal's little stand raised \$1,810 for Niagara Dog Rescue on Aug. 5, doubling the



Ishani Ayona Pal ran her lemonade and popcorn stand for her second year in a row. She was inspired to help Niagara Dog Rescue after adopting her beloved Spot. SUPPLIED

amount she raised last year (\$905).

Her mother, Urbee Shome, said she was more than eager to peddle out lemonade and bags of popcorn once again.

“We thought, ‘She’s a kid, she’s just gonna maybe do it for a few minutes and then run off to play’ but she

stayed for the entire time,” Shome said.

She added that Ayona Pal told her parents to call her over whenever a customer stopped by so she could greet them.

“She was very diligent about it,” Shome said, laughing.

After raising \$1,810,

Ayona Pal and her family met up with a representative from Niagara Dog Rescue to hand over her donation cheque at a very special spot.

“They were waiting at the Husky Gas Station and that’s where we picked up our Spot two-and-a-half years ago,” Shome said.

Tug-of-war during Sunday's Ceilidh



Seven-year-old Cedric Olsen put in his best effort to carry the team during a game of tug-of-war at Sunday's Ceilidh celebration outside McFarland House. The event celebrated Scottish culture and heritage. JULIA SACCO



This week's riddle is "Jeopardy!" style.
Category: THIS IS THE WAY

Drive your Jaguar out of Jacksonville on I-95 south & I-4 for a couple of hours to this city to enjoy attractions like EPCOT.

Last issue:

Category: DRAFTS

Clue: Lost on an island before "Lost," Simon is a bit of a precog in this 1954 novel, foreseeing his own death in an early draft.

Answer: What is Lord of the Flies?

Answered first by: Claudia Grimwood

Also answered correctly (in order) by: Lynda Collet, Catherine Clarke, Val King, Pam Dowling, Gordon Yanow, Marjory Walker-Barone, Jim Dandy, Debra Jacobs, Nancy Rocca, Bob Wheatley, Jane Morris, Elaine Landray

*REMEMBER TO PUT "WHAT IS" FOR JEOPARDY QUESTIONS!

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As construction work continues on Niagara Stone Road, Virgil businesses along the route are suffering. This special section is designed to encourage NOTL residents and readers to support those businesses. Order a pizza, book a table — whatever it takes. While it is a pain to drive the wildly bumpy roads, and the work seems to be taking forever, it's even worse for business owners and staff who are struggling. The project won't be completed until fall.



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NOTL Pickleball Club expanding with **six new courts**

New home base will be at Central Community Centre on York Road

Kevin MacLean
The Lake Report

The Niagara-on-the-Lake Pickleball Club will soon triple the number of indoor courts its members can play on, thanks to a pilot project in conjunction with the Central Community Centre on York Road.

The NOTL club, bursting with 388 members, has targeted late September to launch its expansion, says president Roy Sampson.

The group has three courts that will continue operating at the NOTL Community Centre weekdays, evenings and weekends.

And it will add six more courts open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday to Friday under its agreement with the Central Community Centre.

“We’ve been on the lookout, as we have for the last few years, for additional

court space either outdoors or indoors,” Sampson said in an interview.

After three months, the club will assess how the new arrangement is working and determine if any changes need to be made, he said.

A year ago the NOTL club, which also draws people from Niagara Falls, St. Catharines and Hamilton, had 250 members. Now, it has 36 people on a waiting list.

It has seen an almost 50 per cent membership increase in the past year and as great as the facilities are at the town’s community centre are, those three courts haven’t been enough to satisfy the needs of the growing club, Sampson said.

The privately owned centre on York Road is associated with the Central Community Church and “is



The Niagara-on-the-Lake Pickleball Club has found a new home for its 388 members. The club plans to launch its expansion in late September. SUPPLIED

a state-of-the-art facility, a multipurpose facility, which really is going to suit our needs quite well,” he said.

“There’s a lot of space there.”

Near the end of August or early September, the club plans to hold an open house at the new site, so members can “come and see the new facility and really gain a greater appreciation for the quality the venue itself,” Sampson said.

Daily sessions at the com-

munity centre cost \$5 and fees for the new location, where rent is higher, likely will be about \$8, club treasurer Stephanie Howcroft said in an interview.

Officials with the Central Community Centre could not be reached for comment on the pilot project.

Initially the club figured it would be able to fit just five courts into the new facility, but after taking closer measurements, officials determined they had room for six

of the 20- by 44-foot courts.

Howcroft is looking forward to playing at the new facility.

“This is going to give us the opportunity to provide the services that people have signed up for. We will be able to play a lot more, we will be able to appease all the different skill levels,” she said.

“We’ll have a better-running club with lots of space and time for everybody to play.”

Pickleball has taken the sporting world by storm and, besides its surge in membership, the NOTL club hosted its first major tournament in June, which was a huge success.

“The interesting thing about pickleball for me is that it’s as much a social activity as it is a sporting activity,” Sampson said.

And that makes it a perfect fit for the populace of Niagara-on-the-Lake, where many people like to mix recreational and social activities.

But even with the huge growth the sport has seen, Sampson feels pickleball has just scratched the surface when it comes to attracting participants.

“Pickleball itself, I think, really hasn’t fully exploded yet in terms of its popularity. We could be at the tip of the iceberg,” he said.

And the deal with the Central Community Centre could be the start of something special.

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Close matches highlight tennis club's doubles tourney

Kevin MacLean
The Lake Report

A great week of doubles tennis culminated on the weekend with the crowning of men's and women's champions and consolation winners at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Tennis Club.

The women's championship ended when Coral MacKenzie injured her knee and couldn't continue.

Tournament director John Ramsbottom noted it had been a very competitive match to that point as MacKenzie and her partner Nicole Marsh Burke had won the first set 6-4.

As a result of the injury, Cathy Reid and Margaret Hobbs Mancuso were declared champions.

The women's consolation championship featured another competitive match, ending 6-3, 7-5 as Fran Doran and Deb Robert defeated Shannon Brander and Charlene Duras.



PHOTO GALLERY
See more pictures at niagaranow.com



Left: Nicole Marsh Burke and Coral MacKenzie, left, lost the women's doubles championship final when MacKenzie was injured. Cathy Reid and Margaret Hobbs Mancuso were crowned champions. Right: In the men's B consolation final, Terry Ratovsky and Mac MacSween, left, emerged victorious over Glen Barr and Ted Scott. TADY SACZOWSKI

On the men's side, the A championship final needed a tie breaker as both teams won a set.

Eventual champions John Pilling and Scott Lewis won the first set 6-3 but Rob Lipovsky and Brad Butler battled back to win the second set 6-4.

The tie breaker was a

tight affair, but Pilling and Lewis pulled it out 10-8.

In the men's B championship match, winners Rob Lamond and Doug Campbell also needed a tie breaker to win the first set 7-6 (8-6 in the tie breaker) over David Rodgers and Flory Massi.

Another competitive match with the first set going to a tie break which Lamond and Campbell won, 7-6 (8-6 in the tie break). They also took the second set 6-1.

In the men's A consolation final, Jim Reid and Manny Umoquit defeated Jerry McIlhone and Peter

Rider 6-3, 6-4.

Mac MacSween and Terry Ratovsky won the men's B consolation final 6-1, 6-2 over Ted Scott and Glen Barr.

Ramsbottom noted that running a tournament requires a lot of help behind the scenes and he singled out Marilyn Francis, Jill

Evans, Jayden Jeong, Janice Schachtshneider, Hugh Dow, Shawna MacFarlane "and Mother Nature" for helping make the tournament a success.

The club's annual singles tournament is set for the week of Sept. 11, with the finals to be played on Saturday, Sept. 16.

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NOTL lacrosse team honoured 50 years later



They're a lot older and a little less athletic, but the surviving members of the legendary 1973 Kinsmen Junior B Warriors got together to celebrate their 50th anniversary last Friday. The team won gold at the Ontario and Canada Games, plus the provincial championships. At right, captain Jojie Engemann cuts the commemorative cake. DAVE VAN DE LAAR



Chautauqua Open, plus men vs. women on the links

Kevin MacLean
The Lake Report

The annual Chautauqua Open golf tournament last week attracted 60 players, its biggest turnout ever, and raised about \$700 for the community association.

“Sixty golfers is the most we have ever had,” organizer Kurt Hamm said. “It was a beautiful day, beautiful friends and neighbours, beautiful golf course.”

The day is designed to be a fun gathering for neighbours at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Golf Club, not a fundraiser, “but it is nice to have some money in the bank to share with our community,” Hamm said.

On the scoreboard, the tourney had a tie as two teams shot remarkable scores of 7-under par 29 for nine holes.

The teams led by Ricky Watson and Evan McGaughey placed first.

It was a busy week at the NOTL course.

In addition to all the regular league play, the women’s competitive Solheim team teed off Friday morning against the men’s senior Ry-

der Cup squad in the annual Pro’s Cup tourney.

The men prevailed 27 points to 15 in the match play format, which pitted 14 male and female groups against one another.

In other play, during Friday’s Couples league scramble top shooters were Jill and Ron Planche, Janice and Jim McMacken with even-par 36.

Eileen and Jack Hanna, Mary Holley and Steve Millward were one behind at 37 while Deborah and Grant Williams, Peggy Larder and Gerry Shelly were third with 39.

Jeff Brookhouser was closest to the pin on #4 and longest putts on #8 were by Gerry Shelly and Victoria Interisano.

In men’s league competition Thursday, McMacken’s 1-under 35 was tops and Rick Schultz’s 23 points was the best Stablford score.

Other winners: Ben Berti (longest drive #1), John Grimstead (closest to pin #2), Don Cruikshank (closest to pin #4), James Grigjanis-Meusel (longest putt #6), Derek Merza (longest putt



#7) and Mark Derbyshire (closest to pin #9).

Net skins winners were Peter Falconer (#3), Greg Fedoryn (#4) and Paul Wilson (#9).

In Tuesday’s nine-hole women’s league, Suzanne Rate chipped in on #5 and birdied #7. Victoria Interisano had the longest drive on #2 and Deborah Williams sank the longest putt on #8.

Don Allen’s 38 was the best score in the Tuesday

WOOFs league. He was the best shooter for the second straight week after shooting 39 on Aug. 15

Rai Lauge had low net with 32 and Gerry Shelly was closest to the pin on #4 this week. Grant Williams won the hidden hold with a birdie on #7.

Last week Randy McCartney had low net (32) and Jeff Jacques was closest to the pin on #4. Brian Heer’s birdie on #8 won the hidden hole prize.



Top: Members of the NOTL Golf Club’s women’s Solheim team gathered Friday for their annual match versus the men’s senior Ryder Cup team. KEVIN MACLEAN Bottom: Tara Bartolini, Jeff Carlson, Ricky Watson and James Grigjanis-Meusel teamed up to shoot 7-under 29 at the Chautauqua Open. That tied them with Evan McGaughey’s group for top spot. KURT HAMM

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Have some fun

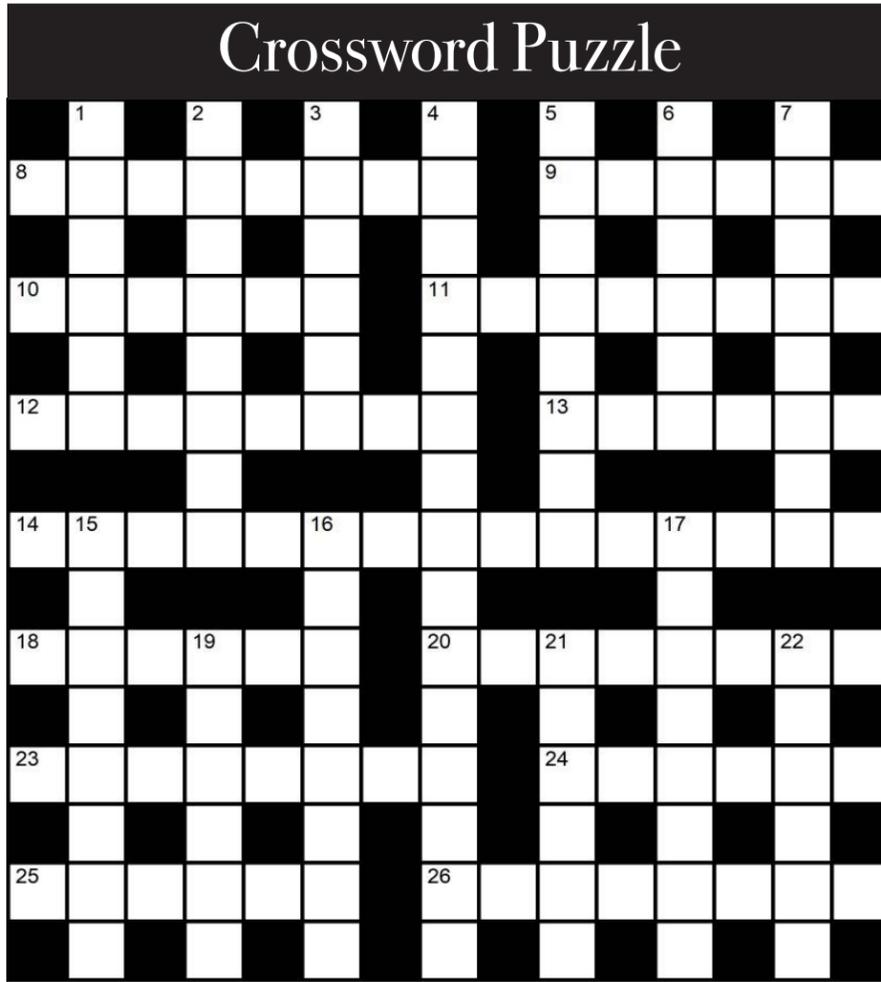


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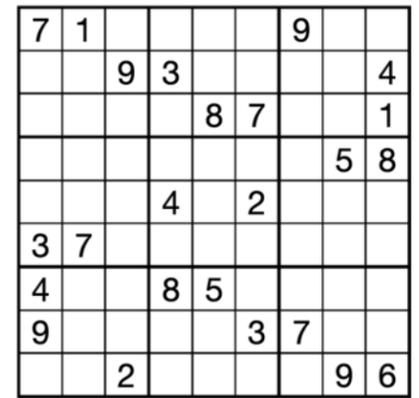
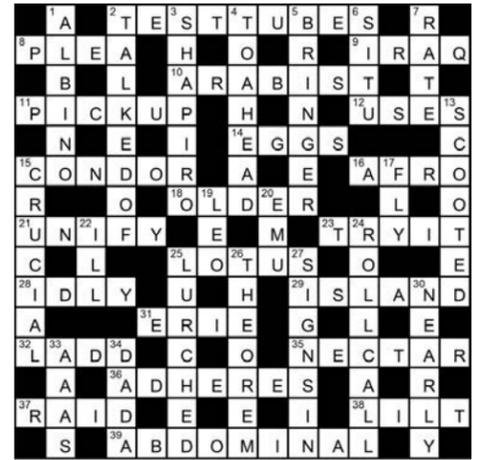
- 8. Smallest state down under (8)
- 9. You can't get out this way (2,4)
- 10. Sultanate in Borneo (6)
- 11. Kind of ale (3,5)
- 12. Switch positions (2,3,3)
- 13. Victorious WWII force at Midway (1,1,4)
- 14. Broad appeal (7,8)
- 18. Knight cap? (6)
- 20. Or go West, badly weakened (3,5)
- 23. Old Scratch (3,5)
- 24. Hanseatic port on the Weser (6)
- 25. They are acquired on marriage (2-4)
- 26. Author of "The Rivals" (8)

Down

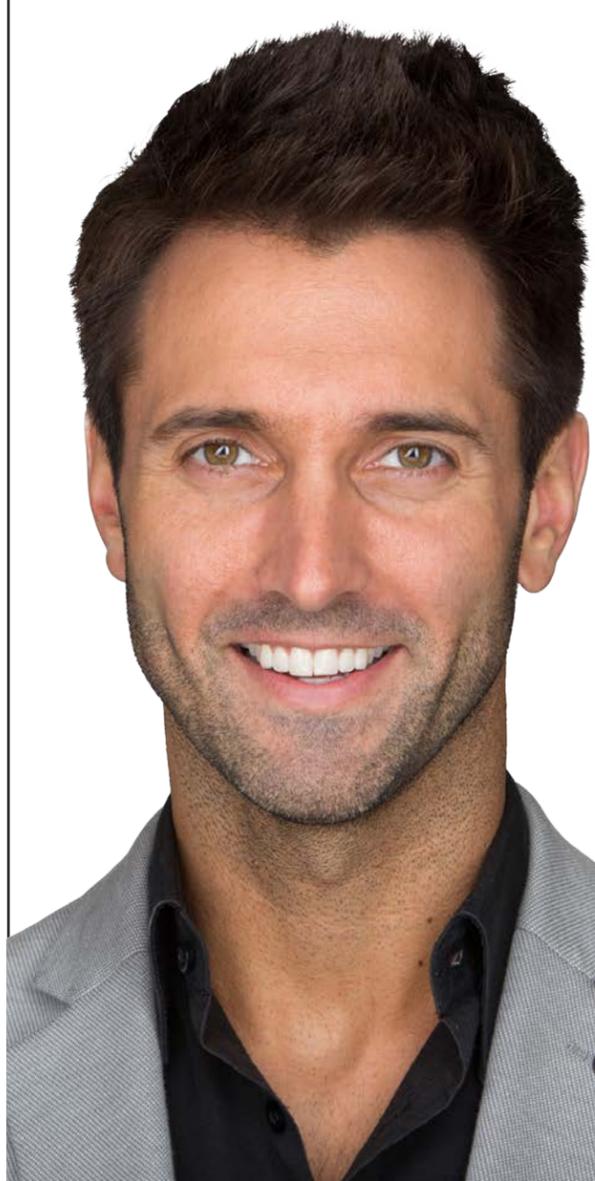
- 1. Sterile (6)
- 2. Lofty place (8)
- 3. Dark blue powder (6)
- 4. An enlarger (10,5)
- 5. Coach (8)
- 6. Impulse transmitter (6)
- 7. Delivery professionals (8)
- 15. Type of seal (8)
- 16. Efforts to change society (8)
- 17. Appeared with Nyasaland on stamps, once (8)
- 19. Dividing line in a triangle (6)
- 21. Turn these to gain an advantage (6)
- 22. Oscillate (3-3)



Last issue's answers



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Library series focuses on **positive psychology** and mindfulness



DR. BROWN

Dr. William Brown
Columnist

The brain is incredibly complex – so complex that some scientists – including Nobel Prize-winning particle physicist Steven Weinberg, were prompted to wonder whether humans will ever fully grasp how this marvellous organ functions.

Other than focusing on simpler subsystems such as vision, hearing, position sense, facial recognition, skin and muscle senses and the motor systems, will we ever really understand it?

Highly integrated complex systems such as emotion, thought processes and especially the nature of attention and consciousness and many behavioural and psychiatric disorders, are whole other matters well beyond our reach, probably

for a long time.

Fortunately, we don't have to understand all the molecular and cellular details of how the brain operates to help others and ourselves deal with stress-caused symptoms without resorting to drugs to calm troublesome chronic anxiety, depression, headache and a host of other stress-related symptoms.

For much of the 20th century, the focus in clinical psychiatry and psychology was on recognizing and managing a broad range of psychiatric, behavioural and cognitive disorders using descriptive manuals of nervous and mental diseases.

As well, there was a small range of drugs with limited effect if any one disorder and too often they had troublesome, sometimes, long-lasting side effects.

Little attention was given to what patients might do to help themselves by building on their personal strengths. Nor was much attention given to the broader public, whose symptoms might not meet the international criteria for this or that psychiatric or psychological disorder but who need help



Dr. Brown's upcoming library series is on mindfulness and meditation. RICHARD HARLEY/MIDJOURNEY

managing their symptoms daily without recourse to drugs.

That's one of the reasons why the field of positive psychology was launched in the latter half of the last century – to harness the power of mindfulness and positive personal resources to overcome negative emotions and symptoms.

The power of positive psychology, mindfulness and meditative practices to manage stress and improve mental and physical well-being and health has been credibly shown many times,

including rigorous clinical studies.

That's why major health care organizations such as Harvard and the Mayo Clinic embrace what they now accept as legitimate helpful assists or alternatives to standard medical care.

Until recently, the major roadblock to adopting mindful therapies in family practice clinics has come from the medical profession, many of whom were wary of practices they didn't understand and had little experience with.

Indeed, many health care professionals suffer from similar stress-related symptoms and until not long ago were equally clueless about dealing with them.

That's changing rapidly because not only have alternatives to what have been standard medical practices proven to be effective, in some instances they help reduce health care costs.

There has been a sea change in general acceptance of positive psychological approaches not only by the medical establishment but influential major companies such as Google, which offers similar programs to

their employees.

Positive psychology and closely related mindfulness and some meditative practices provide patients with effective ways to minimize negative thoughts and emotions, while strengthening their more positive equivalents.

Most of us, most of the time are barely aware of how we're feeling except when we become vaguely anxious or upset in some way, often without connecting the dots between our symptoms, our feelings and what causes them.

Our bodies and brains were engineered by evolution to deal with acute stress (the classic fight or flight response), but chronic day-to-day stress is a whole other matter.

Why? Because lasting too long without resolution, chronic stress increases blood pressure, makes platelets stickier (increasing the risk of heart attacks and strokes), releases pro-inflammatory factors that can damage heart muscle (causing arrhythmias and even lead to heart failure), damage the kidneys and gut, and impair the immune

system.

And those are just some of the more important downsides to chronic stress.

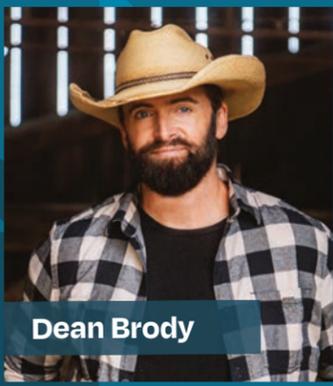
To reduce risks to our health we need to reduce those stress factors that are within our power to change. Or if that's not possible, we need to manage our stress in more creative and positive ways by fostering the power of positive thinking and emotions, while dwelling less on factors we can't change.

• **The upcoming series on Mindfulness and Meditation** is designed for beginners and seasoned practitioners alike by providing an overview of positive psychology, mindfulness and meditation, including some of the underlying science, and will offer practical workshops to start us on the way. David Elkins and I hope to see you beginning next Wednesday, Aug. 30, at 2 p.m. in the NOTL Public Library and thereafter at weekly intervals for six weeks.

Dr. William Brown is a professor of neurology at McMaster University and co-founder of the InfoHealth series at the Niagara-on-



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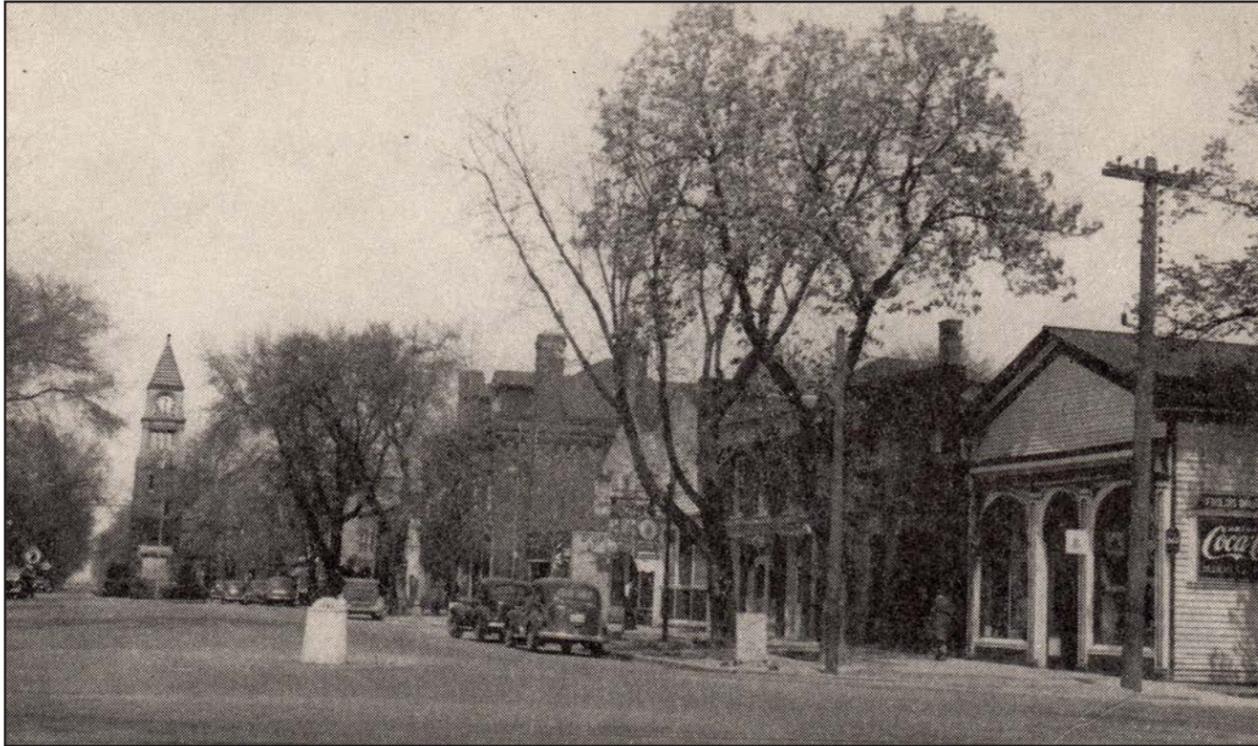
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EXPLORING PHOTOS WITH NOTL MUSEUM



Queen Street in the 1950s

This postcard features the west side of Queen Street. The Apothecary is on the corner with a classic Coca-Cola sign. Note, instead of the beautiful flowerbeds we have today, there is a white concrete dome in the middle of the street, often called a ‘dumb policeman’ or a ‘silent cop.’ These markers were placed in the middle of the intersection to direct turning drivers toward the right of the road. Young children in town would often leapfrog over it whenever they crossed the street.

Solitary sights on a Sunday morning sidewalk in NOTL



Ross's Ramblings

Ross Robinson
Columnist

As the Man in Black sang, “There’s something in a Sunday that makes a body feel alone.”

It was an early-morning catch-up breakfast with my daughter at Butler’s Sports Bar last Sunday morning, the day after an incredibly busy day in downtown Niagara-on-the-Lake. The sidewalks had been jammed and the multitudes of ice cream lickers were ever so happy.

On the way home from The Sporty, I decided to wander around town on my bicycle, just observing and feeling lucky to live here. The weather was perfect for a ride and Niagara-on-the-Lake showed well. Town and residential flowers were beautiful and the sky was a cloudy blue.

But where was everybody? Between 9:30 and

11 a.m., I rode through the Chautauqua Circle, exchanging pleasantries with a few dog walkers. Ryerson Park was empty and nobody was swimming or hanging out on the beach that the winds of Mother Nature have kindly provided this year.

I sat on the beach and listened to Johnny Cash sing Kris Kristofferson’s lyrics: “There’s something in a Sunday that makes a body feel alone.”

And, perhaps the most wonderful metaphor ever, “Then I fumbled in my closet, through my clothes and found my cleanest dirty shirt.” Haven’t we all been there at some distant time in our past?

Just picture it and admit it. “My cleanest dirty shirt.” It’s so perfect and relatable, eh?

Then down Niagara Boulevard to the fourth green of the golf course and a pedal along the long pathway on the shore of Lake Ontario. Well-constructed a few years ago and only two dog walkers enjoying the peace and quiet and views this morning.

Up and over the solidly overbuilt boardwalk near Fort Mississauga, and tentatively across the second fairway and past the ninth



The parks and streets of Niagara-on-the-Lake were deserted this past Sunday morning, writes Ross Robinson — which brought to mind a song made famous by Johnny Cash. SUPPLIED

green. No one was putting.

Where were the golfers? Only three women were waiting on the ninth tee, down by the Charles Inn. No one on the first green or fairway. It was almost eerie, on a day like this.

Queen’s Royal Park and the historic gazebo and the flat area where tennis used to be played, still quiet but anticipating another day welcoming visitors from all over the world.

Families spending time together, enjoying the peace and freedom that Canada provides. We have made some terrible blunders during our history in North America, but our acceptance of other people’s

and their beliefs is rightly admired around the world.

During my peripatetic lifetime, I have spent considerable time alone, but the lyrics of Johnny Cash singing about lonely Sunday morning sidewalks hauntingly continued to fill my head.

A few Sharks were sailing on the lake, getting ready to compete in the Shark World Championships, but the lack of people out and about was odd and unsettling. Was I missing something?

Several NOTLers pulling weeds or trimming their hedges, but where was everybody? Ah, a couple of dog walkers in Simcoe Park, and a dad and daughter

on the swings. Some earlybirds for church at St. Vincent de Paul and St. Mark’s.

Still enjoying this perfect day, I rode up to Veteran’s Memorial Park and its perfectly groomed baseball diamond, but not one kid or adult with a glove or a bat.

Six perfect tennis courts, but only seven players. The outdoor pool was empty.

Now, the big and glaring sadness. Municipalities across North America waste their money maintaining and grooming sports fields and kids just don’t play any more. Sure, if there is an organized match or clinic or tournament, kids and parents are there.

But to just go out and play alone or with some friends? Perceived safety issues and keyboards and screens combine to keep people sedentary. A looming health crisis in our futures.

So what are we to do? We live in a country where “perfect weather” days are limited. Not like San Diego and Honolulu or perhaps Victoria and North Carolina. As summer turns subtly to autumn then winter, it will be me you see outside enjoying the fresh air.

Perhaps I benefit from the long ago memories of my mother sending my older sister Pat and I out to play in Kirkland Lake and Winnipeg, on the cold, coldest days of January and February.

There was nothing to do inside, before television and other screens. “Get warm clothes on, get outside and play, and I don’t want a weather report. I know it’s cold.”

How Canadian, eh?

Happily, long gone are the Sunday mornings when I occasionally woke up “with no way to hold my head that didn’t hurt.”

For the next few Sunday mornings, if the weather is fine, let’s make the effort to join Johnny Cash “on a Sunday morning sidewalk.”



Thank you!

MAC Inc. hosted its first annual charity golf tournament at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Golf Course and raised more than \$12,000 for Ronald McDonald House Hamilton. A big thank you to the sponsors for making this possible!





Left: Aronia melanocarpa. Right: Beautyberry bush. Both are shrubs that produce berries with the arrival of autumn. Aronia's berries can be used to make wine, jam, juice and more. JOANNE YOUNG

Plants with beautiful **fall berries**



GROWING TOGETHER 

Joanne Young
Columnist

I don't want to rush things, but fall will be here in just a few short weeks.

I must admit that I love autumn. The beautiful fall colours of the leaves make everything seem magical.

One way to extend interest in your garden late into the season and even into winter is by adding plants that have showy berries.

Here are some plants that will lengthen your enjoyment of your garden.

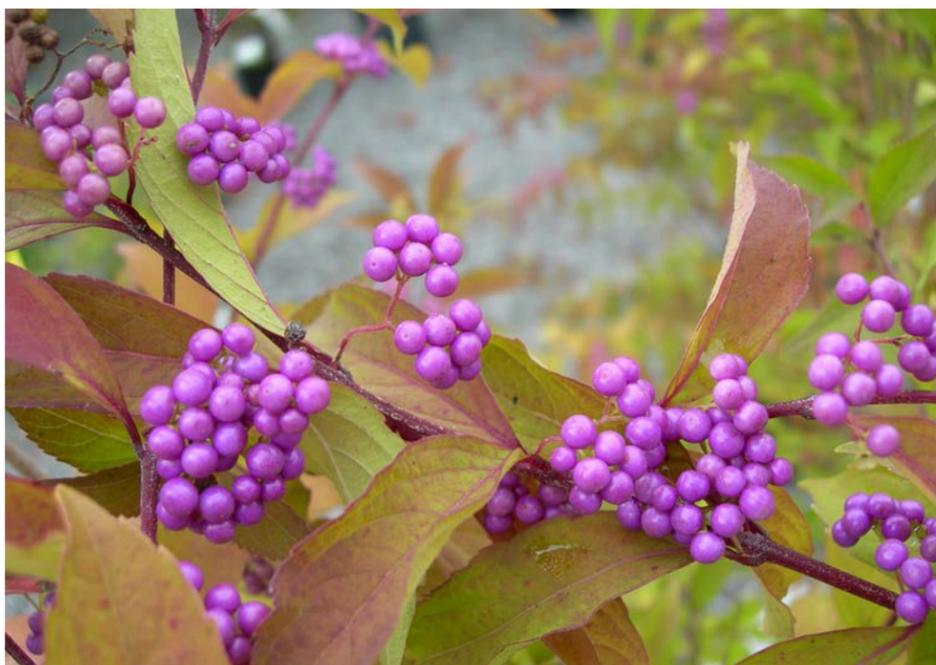
Aronia, commonly known as **chokeberry** (not to be confused with choke-cherry) is a native shrub that likes to grow in damp, boggy areas. It will also grow well in regular soil.

Although it is not a common sight in gardens, it does deserve a spot.

Chokeberry has several seasons of interest. The plant is a mass of small white flowers in spring and has small, dark green, glossy leaves in the summer.

As fall approaches, clusters of black or red berries begin to ripen and remain on the plant into winter. This native shrub also has leaves that turn bright, wine-red in fall.

The two species that you will see for sale are



aronia melanocarpa (which produces blackberries) and aronia arbutifolia (which produces red berries).

Even though the berries are quite sour when eaten raw, they can be used to make wine, jam, syrup, juice, soft spreads, tea, salsa, extracts and ice cream.

The berries have also been found to have several health benefits including anti-cancer properties.

The aronia melanocarpa grows three to five feet high and wide. Aronia arbutifolia is larger growing reaching up to ten to twelve feet high and wide. Tolerates sun or part shade.

Highbush cranberry viburnum (*Viburnum trilobum*) is another native shrub. It can be commonly found growing more at the edge of forests.

I love that a lot of the native shrubs have beautiful flowers, berries, and great fall colour and highbush cranberry viburnum delivers it in all departments.

In mid-spring this shrub

sports large, flat, lacy clusters of white flowers. By late summer, large clusters of bright red berries begin to ripen and remain on the plant throughout the fall and winter months.

They are a favourite of many birds. Also, the leaves will turn fiery red in the fall.

This viburnum can tolerate full sun or part shade. This shrub will grow to eight feet high and wide.

Beautyberry bush (*Calli-carpa bodinieri* 'Profusion') is a little-known shrub with amazing berries in the fall.

What makes this shrub unusual is its amethyst-purple clusters of berries that persist into winter.

Not only are the clusters of berries just at the tips of each branch but continue down the arching stems as well.

The plant has tiny, mauve flowers in late spring-early summer. This shrub attracts bees and butterflies.

Beautyberry grows four to six feet high and wide and will fit into a mixed border

very well.

It tolerates full sun or a partly shaded area. It will definitely be a highlight of your fall garden.

There are other plants as well that will provide you with fall/winter berries and extend your season in the garden.

There are two types of hollies: the evergreen varieties (*Ilex x meserveae*) and also deciduous hollies (*Ilex verticillata*).

With the hollies, there are male and female plants. The females produce the berries, but the male plants must be planted close by for cross-pollination.

Other plants to consider when thinking of berries are firethorn, cotoneaster, barberry, and porcelain berry vine.

So, if you want to extend the seasonal interest in your garden, any of these plants will be "berry" good additions.

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

Obituary

Lili (Lillie) Kvederys



KVEDERYS, Lili (nee Revas)-

A brilliant light has departed our Earth, to join the stars above us.

Our beloved Lili, at 72, passed away peacefully at home with her family by her side on August 18, 2023, after enduring a short brave battle with cancer.

Lili was much loved and will be forever missed by her husband of 51 years Joe,

her daughter Jenny, her sister and brother-in-law Jean and Bruce Pritchard, as well as many friends and colleagues.

Lili was an involved member of her community. Once responsible for monthly event planning as an Executive Member of the NOTL Newcomers Club, an active member of the NOTL Social Club and a volunteer and contributor to local migrant worker projects. Lili was instrumental in bringing the Free Little Library to St. Davids. She was an avid traveler, a competitive mahjong player, loved reading and music and couldn't keep herself off the dance floor.

Lili was always up for a new challenge which fueled her diverse and exciting career path. A career beginning at Legal Aid Ontario, working with law students and public defenders. Next, Lili joined a major law firm and worked for the managing partner as the paralegal, for corporate and commercial real estate. Lili's next adventure was in sales and business development with N.C. Cameron & Sons, and Thomas Sabo Ltd. In the role of Area Sales Manager for Thomas Sabo Ltd., she had the opportunity for exciting global travel, throughout North America and Europe. Lili's ability to create strong relationships with her colleagues and clients led to many additional life long friends.

After a brief retirement, Lili devoted her time to her true passion projects; Cruise & Vacation Specialist for Expedia CruiseShipCenters and her favourite hobby, interior design.

A special heartfelt thank you to Dr. Luigi Ricciardi and Nurse Helen Ferley, of Niagara North Family Health, Dr. Robert Dinniwel and Nurse Leanne, of the Walker Family Cancer Clinic, and Bonnie Bagnulo, Executive Director of NOTL Community Palliative Care.

In honouring Lili's wishes, cremation has taken place. A Celebration of Life will be announced shortly. Memories, photos and condolences may be shared at www.morganfuneral.com.



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Kevin lives, works, and plays in Niagara-on-the-Lake, is a member of the local Rotary Club, and volunteers at Niagara PumpHouse. Call to discuss the market or just to say hello.



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