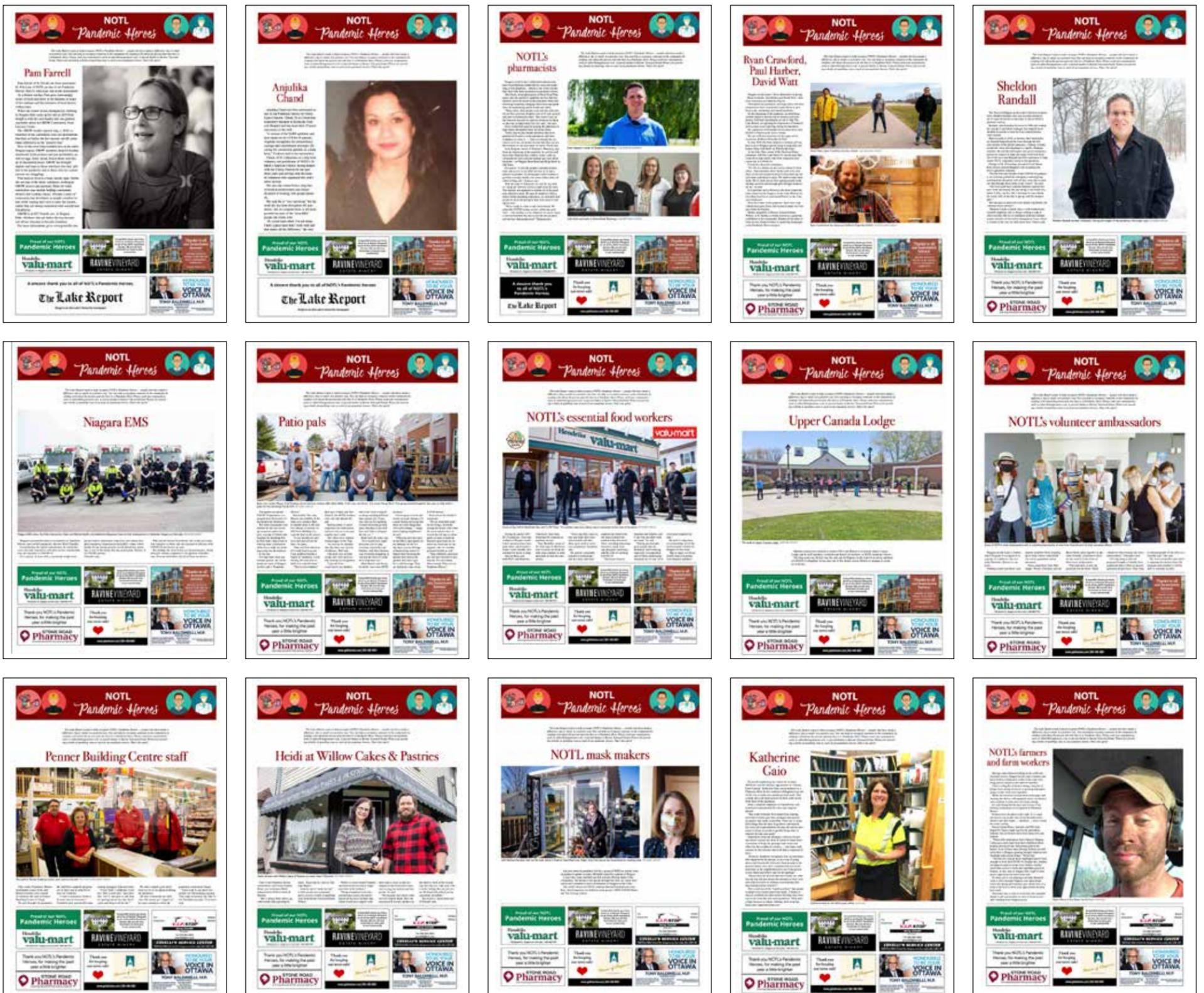


The Lake Report





The Lake Report has featured 15 weeks of NOTL Pandemic Heroes. This week's pandemic hero is ...

YOU

A message from The Lake Report

For 15 weeks, starting way back on Feb. 18 and ending on May 27, we celebrated individuals and groups across Niagara-on-the-Lake who were nominated as Pandemic Heroes.

From health care workers to restaurateurs, civil servants to posties, and, finally, our farmers and farm workers, they were all deserving of recognition and celebration.

This week, as you can see on this special Souvenir Edition four-page wrap, we wanted to honour YOU, all the others in the community who have made the essential sacrifices, to stay home, stay healthy and stay safe as much as possible.

As a tribute to our loyal readers, we wanted a unique way to show our appreciation and out of that came the full-page photo mosaic comprised

of hundreds of individual pictures of people from the community. It was painstakingly created by editor Richard Harley and co-sponsored by several community advertisers, including a personal message from Lord Mayor Betty Disero.

Be sure you view the online version of the page, which should allow you to zoom in on the many individual images.

If you spot yourself or someone you know, let everyone hear about it via our Niagara Now or Lake Report Facebook page.

We finally are in the home stretch of this pandemic, so let's all have a bit of fun and levity. It's not quite over yet, but YOU have already done the hard work to get us this far.

And we think that is something to celebrate.



Flag flies for Pride Month | Page 13

Ceremony honours 215 dead Indigenous children



Chayan Deheghan and Joe Shawana sing healing songs around a sacred fire Monday at the Niagara Regional Native Centre. EVAN SAUNDERS

Evan Saunders
Local Journalism Initiative
The Lake Report

At five in the morning on Monday, Joe Shawana arrived at the Niagara Regional Native Centre to start a sacred fire in honour of the 215 children whose remains were found buried near the former Kamloops Indian Residential School in

British Columbia.

The sombre occasion saw a small group gathered around the fire throughout the day, with people coming and going so that the centre could maintain COVID-19 safety protocols.

"We're only doing this for the children's spirits, because we know that spirits tend to stay when you don't do the ceremonies you're

supposed to do to send them home," Shawana told The Lake Report.

Shawana is the cultural resource co-ordinator at the centre on Airport Road in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

"My job is to do anything and everything with culture," Shawana said. "I've had at least 50 different messages from community members asking me to

host a fire for this specific reason."

"And whenever the community asks me to do something, I do it," he said.

The region of Niagara is the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee Six Nations.

"Before the European settlers came, when we were still living in our villages - here in this region actually

- we would wake up every day before the sun rose and go outside of our houses and give thanks for the day," Shawana said.

A sacred fire is a tradition practiced across many Indigenous cultures. It is lit and maintained tirelessly by a fire-keeper over a full day for special occasions. If the fire needs to last longer there would be multiple

fire keepers who could take turns caring for the flames.

On Monday, facing eastward, he and several others arrived early to give thanks and start the fire the moment the sun rose.

"We faced the east because we believe that all life begins in the east and ends in the west," Shawana said.

Continued on Page 2

Newborn foals a source of joy in difficult year

Jill Troyer
The Lake Report

Two adorable new arrivals are bringing big smiles to everyone at Red Ribbon Stables, and even drivers passing by the paddock on Concession 6 can't resist slowing down for a better look at the new filly and colt scampering about under their moms' watchful gaze.

Farrah, the filly, was born May 18, and the second foal, a colt, arrived on May 23. He's so new he doesn't have a name yet.

This is the first time for



Leslie McCormick with the colt. DON REYNOLDS

foals at the family-owned and operated barn in 10 years.

Coach and trainer Leslie McCormick beams with

pride and joy as she watches them gallop around. "Just look at them, they're so cute!"

McCormick can finally

sleep at night now that both foals have been born. As their due dates approached, she spent night after night, waking up every two hours to check on the expecting mares.

"We had cameras in their stalls and that saved me from having to actually get up and go to the barn every two hours," she recounts, but she was nonetheless happy when she could sleep through the night again.

"That's it, the maternity ward is closed and the mid-

Continued on Page 12



Nursery school reaches May fundraising target

The Niagara Nursery school reached its fundraising goal for May, raising a total of \$10,825 — \$10,000 of which will be matched by an anonymous donor. That brings the monthly total to \$20,825. "I am speechless, the community support has been so incredible," said executive director Candice Penny.



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Memorial mourns deaths of 215 Indigenous children

Evan Saunders
Local Journalism Initiative
The Lake Report

A Niagara-on-the-Lake mother has helped organize a memorial at St. Michael Catholic Elementary School, placing children's shoes near the front entrance in recognition of the 215 Indigenous children found buried at a residential school in British Columbia.

As of Wednesday morning, 81 pairs of shoes had been added and Megan Vanderlee expects more will be added over the next month.

The Virgil resident said she felt strongly that she had to make a public statement about the discovery.

"This community has to recognize it. We need to take some efforts to make a mark, make it known that you want the names (of the children) back," Vanderlee told The Lake Report outside the memorial.

She wants people to visit, pay their respects and add more shoes to the display.

"I'd like people to come and have their own moment. To bring their shoes, with their kids and reflect and visualize the damage done by one school," she said.

When the time comes for the shoes to be removed Vanderlee hopes she can send them somewhere meaningful in the Indig-



Megan Vanderlee and her children John, Claire and Sam place children's shoes at St. Michael Catholic Elementary School on Tuesday. RICHARD HARLEY

enous community.

"I wanted to find out who they could be of use for locally – at a women's shelter or the native centre. You know, a child is a child is a child," she said.

Vanderlee blamed long-burning cultural divisions for enabling atrocities like this.

"We've got to quit separating caring for children by where they're from or what language they speak," she said.

She emphasized she does not want the Virgil memorial to take away from the

attention the Indigenous community deserves.

"This is their pain and our wrong," she said.

Vanderlee's kids all attended St. Michael and were on hand to help set up the memorial.

When Vanderlee's son John, 14, heard the news he researched exactly what the numbers could mean.

"Johnny said to me, '215 kids, mom?' and I said 'Yeah, at one school,'" she said.

There were 139 residential schools in Canada.

"I don't really understand

what it's like to lose a kid, because I am a kid," John Vanderlee said.

"But I know it's pretty big and important to the whole country that we know about this."

The Roman Catholic church ran the Kamloops school where the bodies were found.

School principal Janice Barretto Mendonca said she supports the shoe memorial and hopes it raises awareness of Indigenous people's issues, but she stopped short of apologizing on behalf of the institution she works for.

"That would be up to the Pope and the church," she said. "(Justin) Trudeau and the government and all of those people need to make those steps for us in our community."

Mendonca said the school teaches about Indigenous culture and history.

"We are doing it year-round. We have embedded Indigenous teaching and learning into our curriculum."

The school teaches about the residential school system through Orange Shirt Day in September, how

colonialism has stolen Indigenous land and makes a land acknowledgment announcement every morning.

Vanderlee was more vocal about the lack of an apology or recognition of the deaths from the Roman Catholic church.

"The church itself is dripping in opulence and our schools are underfunded. So, are we really on the same team?" she said.

"But reserves don't even have clean drinking water. So, how can I demand more when others have so much less?"

Fire ceremony sends spirits of discovered children to final resting place

Continued from Front Page

On the west side of the fire, what Shawana referred to as the Western Door, sat a pair of children's moccasins.

"We put them there as a symbol for – the children who didn't make it," he said.

The Anishinaabe believe that after death the protocols that are followed by your family are what enable you to rest peacefully and move on as a spirit. The ceremonial fire's intent was to give the dead children's spirits the respect they deserve to continue their journey.

"Those children didn't



Moccasins at the fire ceremony. EVAN SAUNDERS

have that opportunity, right? They were abused, they were abducted, they were kidnapped and taken from their homes," Shawana said.

Residential schools were opened by the Canadian

government as early as the 1870s. The government retained ownership of the schools but relied on various religious organizations to run them, notably the Roman Catholic Church.

The Roman Catholic Church operated the residential school in Kamloops where the mass grave of children's bodies was discovered.

"Some of them were as young as three years old, man. A lot of people don't understand the effect of how recent it was, how realistic it is. It could be as recent as a couple of generations ago," Shawana said.

The last government-owned residential school in Canada was closed in 1996 and the last privately owned school closed the following year.

An important aspect of the ceremony is having at-

tendees send their prayers into the fire. Sacred herbs such as tobacco, sage, cedar and sweetgrass are crumpled in the left hand, and then tossed into the flames with a spoken or internal prayer.

"The tobacco is our connection to the creator – to God. It's like your cellphone. The way you can pick it up and call your mom telling her you need something. The tobacco lets us do that with the creator."

Shawana said the national discussion coming out of the tragic discovery in British Columbia is important because Indigenous issues

are often overlooked or ignored by society.

"If this was to happen to any other group of people it would be all over the place," he said.

"That's what's most important. We have to keep talking about it and we have to keep bringing it up because it could happen again just as easily."

The sacred fire burned until well after the sun went down, with Shawana and other members of the Indigenous community singing songs, playing drums and offering prayers so the spirits of the 215 lost children could finally be at peace.



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The NOTL Legion Branch 124 has also lowered its flag at the clock tower cenotaph. EVAN SAUNDERS

Town, region lower flags in wake of tragedy

Evan Saunders
Local Journalism Initiative
The Lake Report

All municipal and regional flags were lowered to half-mast on Monday as the entire Niagara region honoured the discovery of 215 children's remains on a residential school campus in Kamloops, B.C.

"We all decided right away that this was something that the Niagara region and the 12 municipalities must do," Lord Mayor Betty Disero said in an interview.

The flags will remain at

half-mast for 215 hours, one hour for each of the 215 bodies found. The flags will be lowered until June 9 in NOTL.

"It was devastating news and an extremely sad, sad chapter in our history," Niagara regional chair Jim Bradley told The Lake Report.

Bradley spoke of the dark side of Canadian history that tragedies like the residential school system represent.

"We have to look back on our history and identify those areas which have not been a kindness. It's a dev-

astating discovery for the Indigenous community in Canada," Bradley said.

Bradley and the 12 municipal mayors released a joint statement on Monday addressing the deaths.

"The discovery of this mass grave is a stark reminder of the devastating legacy that the Canadian residential school system continues to have on Indigenous people across the country," the statement read.

"We must never forget that residential schools forcefully removed Indigenous children from their families, robbed them of

their culture, and exposed many of them to physical, mental and sexual abuse."

The announcement acknowledged that admitting to these wrongdoings is only the first step in reconciliation and reiterated a commitment to meaningful action by working with Niagara Indigenous leaders to address specific concerns.

The Niagara politicians joined a growing chorus calling for the federal government to implement a national day of mourning to ensure the continuing tragedy of the residential school system is not forgotten.

Shaw urges 'fairness' and asks supporters to reopen live theatre

Stephanie Beattie
Special to The Lake Report

The Shaw Festival has joined an aggressive provincewide campaign that is asking the public to demand the reopening of live theatre in Ontario.

As part of the #FairnessForArtsON campaign, a statement this week from the Shaw urges people to send letters to the premier, government ministers, MPPs, municipal leaders and other representatives.

"The decisions and changes made in the next few days will determine the fate of our stages for the next year," the Niagara-on-the-Lake theatre company said.

"If we are treated with parity to equivalent peer



SUPPLIED/DAVID COOPER

sectors, we can look forward to a summer of outdoor performance and a robust theatre season next year," the statement said.

The Canadian Live Music Association, which is spearheading the campaign, said it is "asking for fairness and action in supporting the live performing arts."

The Shaw also encourages people to amplify their support on social media with the #FairnessForArtsON hashtag and to tag politicians so they will see it.

"If we are denied equitable reopening, our stages will remain dark and our artists will remain out of work for many months to come," the theatre said in its message to subscribers and supporters.

"We are not asking for special treatment – only to be afforded the same reopening terms that equivalent peer industries have been given already," the statement said.

Shaw Festival executive director Tim Jennings was not available for comment.

The campaign began on Monday in response to Ontario's Roadmap to Reopen plan.

The Ontario government announced its three-step plan for reopening on May 20, leaving performing arts

communities at risk of more cancellations.

"The government's recently announced Roadmap to Reopening only offers a dead-end to the performing arts at a time when we are perhaps needed most," the Shaw statement said.

Last year, the festival cancelled most of its shows due to COVID-19 restrictions.

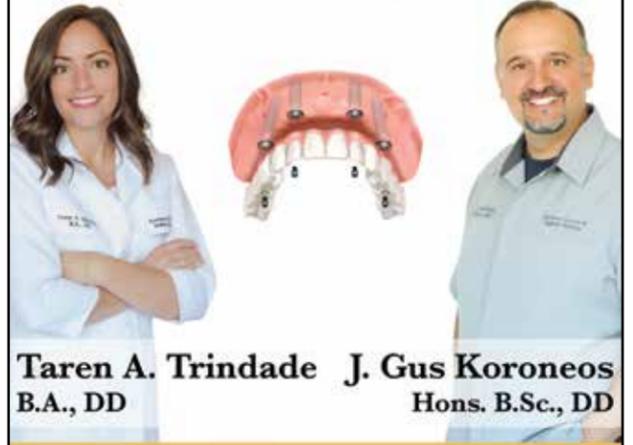
The festival's 2020 annual report said the Shaw gave 65 live performances with 2,460 attendees and eight digital performances with 76,671 viewers.

The Shaw has already cancelled shows up to July, when it hopes to stage some outdoor performances. In February, it cancelled the 2021 production of "Gypsy: A Musical Fable" due to pandemic restrictions.

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Editor-In-Chief: Richard Harley
Managing Editor: Kevin MacLean
Publisher: Niagara Now
Design & Layout: Richard Harley
Advertising: Rob Lamond, Lisa Jeffrey
Contributors: Evan Saunders, Jessica Maxwell, Jill Troyer, Tim Taylor, Bernard Lansbergen, Denise Ascenzo, Linda Fritz, Dr. William Brown, Brian Marshall, NOTL Museum, Kyra Simone, Gail Kendall, Norm Arsenaault, Patty Garriock, Steve Hardaker, Ross Robinson, Tim Carroll, NOTL Writers' Circle, Penny-Lynn Cookson, Brittney Cutler, Janice White and many more members of the NOTL community

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

COVID Tracker

NOTL active cases: 15
Region active cases: 601
Region deaths: 406
Region total cases: 15,804
Region resolved cases: 14,797

*June 2 data per Niagara Region Public Health



Contributed by Patty Garriock
 "Be thankful for what you have: you'll find that you will end up having more."
 - Oprah Winfrey.

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Editorial: Church shuns its responsibility

Richard Harley
 Kevin MacLean
 The Lake Report



The whole country has been taken aback by the discovery of the remains of 215 Indigenous children at a former residential school site in Kamloops, B.C., last week.

And rightfully so, many Canadians are demanding those institutions that perpetrated the horrific, racist, genocidal atrocity take responsibility – and be brought to justice, if possible.

Our governments have made it clear residential schools were wrong and the tragedies that transpired at them never should have happened.

And whether our leaders label what happened geno-

cide or the seemingly more favoured term "cultural genocide," it's clear what occurred in these schools was an unforgivable betrayal of the trust society put in institutions and governments.

However, let's not lose sight of the fact that, with residential schools operating until 1996, this is not "ancient history." It's on all of us.

With the Kamloops discovery, coupled with the ongoing tragedy of, in 2021, dozens of First Nations

reserves still not having clean water, perhaps we have reached the tipping point where we can finally say "enough is enough."

On Tuesday, children's shoes were laid at the entrance to St. Michael Catholic Elementary School in Virgil, the start of a memorial to the 215 lost Indigenous children. It is symbolic, of course, but it at least acknowledges our collective guilt.

The principal of St. Michael has supported this initiative and will leave the shoes in place for one month to show the school is in solidarity with the Indigenous community.

It's heartening to see a Catholic school commit to this while the Catholic church remains largely

silent, unwilling to shoulder responsibility.

Despite global attention to the discovered remains, there has been no apology or meaningful acknowledgment of these hate crimes committed against Canada's Indigenous peoples.

Along with many others across the country, we too demand that the Catholic church speak up. Now. How can it not?

It speaks volumes that our grassroots communities recognize the problem and are pushing for change and accountability.

It is shameful that the church is repeating the mistakes of past crises by hiding and ignoring its responsibility, refusing to do what we all know is right.

editor@niagaranow.com



Convert former hospital to parking garage, tourism office

Dear editor:

Further to the discussions regarding the old NOTL hospital site, social distancing and Queen Street as a pedestrian mall: Can we look into the possibility of turning the hospital site into a parking garage with the larger part underground and maybe two or three levels above ground?

The street-facing sides could be done with heritage-pleasing architecture that could also house such things as tourist informa-

tion, public washrooms and/or appropriate businesses?

I did suggest this back in the 1980s when they asked Queen Street businesses what could benefit them but it would take the pressure off the daily congestion of people searching endlessly for available parking.

It's also close enough for most people to walk, would add extra revenue and would free up the main street for pedestrian traffic when we get back to nor-

mal after COVID.

This also would allow for outdoor patios to remain because even post-COVID many will appreciate the space. Yes, I realize the initial expense would be high but I think it's worth considering as a long-term solution.

Niagara-on-the-Lake has a large number of restaurants and retail businesses that can support more people coming in and we all know they they are going to need all the help they

can get to recover.

As well, the parking garage/tourist information building could also be a hub for a bicycle rental business, a drop-off and pickup point for the horses and carriages, as well as providing extra parking for when and if concerts come back to the Commons.

I really think there are a lot of possibilities and a great deal of potential to be had here.

Kim McQuhae
 NOTL

Upcoming Rand Estate hearings are not to be missed

Dear editor:

As a resident of Niagara-on-the-Lake, I have the opportunity with others to attend the electronic public meetings with town council where the new proposed development application for the Rand Estate will now be examined with public input.

The public meetings are scheduled for June 15

and July 14.

However, it should be noted that both these meetings precede an important hearing by the Conservation Review Board to review in public the submission concerning the development proposal.

This hearing is not scheduled until July 19, even though the findings and recommendations

of the board are extremely important and should be available to all so that they can be taken into account prior to any input into the public meetings.

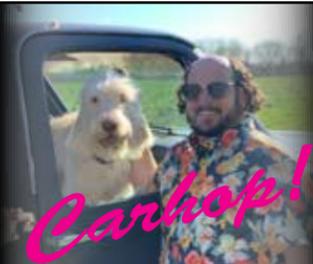
I am given to believe that the dates are fixed and cannot be changed. However, their scheduled order makes absolutely no sense to me and this has the unfortunate appear-

ance of a possible hidden agenda.

In this case then it should be accepted as logical that any public input into the earlier meetings can be revised subject to a review of the Conservation Review Board findings and what their recommendations may be.

Derek Collins
 NOTL

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OPINION

Op-ed: There is **light** at the end of the tunnel



Betty Disero
Special to The Lake Report

So here is some good news:

We're seeing more people getting their COVID-19 vaccinations, case numbers continue to decrease, the provincial stay-at-home order is slated to expire on June 2, and the province is preparing to launch its three-step recovery road-map starting June 14, pending achievement of its vaccination targets.

This is, no doubt, a time we have all been very much looking forward to, a time when we can start taking cautious steps toward regaining some semblance

of normalcy in our lives. We can see the light at the end of the tunnel, this time, not just because of fingers crossed, but because of the vaccine and the overwhelming number of people getting it.

In Niagara-on-the-Lake, we face a unique challenge in that we are a desirable and well-loved destination for visitors. This is a characteristic for which we have always been and continue to be proud.

However, we have already seen an increase in the number of visitors coming into our town to experience its rich heritage and breathtaking beauty, and we expect this will increase further once the province starts to ease restrictions.

If you're like me, the prospect of large crowds pouring into town is at least a little bit anxiety-inducing. I am thrilled that we are headed in the right direction. But the last thing I

want is for us to have to take steps backward.

As of June 2, we left the stay-at-home order period and entered a transition period. Transitions are challenging by their nature. The messaging from every level of government will be coming fast and furious. It may be confusing. For this reason, we must do everything we can as individuals to protect ourselves and each other.

Keep a distance from those outside of your household. Plan your schedules to avoid areas during times when they are typically busier. Always wear a mask indoors and outdoors whenever physical distancing is a challenge. Wash and sanitize your hands frequently. And don't touch your face.

If you have a COVID-related concern or wish to report contraventions of emergency orders, please email covidcomplaints@notl.com.

The town will continue to do its part to protect the health and safety of the public, using every available avenue to educate people about provincial regulations and public health guidelines.

However, our staff resources may be stretched even further, making it difficult for them to keep up. While the staff cannot be everywhere all the time, they will do the best they can to respond to inquiries and concerns.

As always, remember to be patient with yourself and with one another. In these times of heightened stress, it is more important than ever to be kind to one another.

I've said it before, and I'll say it again: we can and will get through this together. Thank you, Niagara-on-the-Lake, for your continued co-operation.

Betty Disero is lord mayor of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Farmers, please buy **safety vests** for your workers

Dear editor:

For years we have been encountering foreign farm workers (as well as others) riding on roads with no lights or reflectors on their bicycles, sometimes

dressed in dark clothes, no lights of any kind.

In the last few years we have had at least two surprising encounters.

So, I am asking local farmers to please purchase

some safety vests for their people, ensure they have one for every bicycle on their property and encourage their employees to wear them.

They are available for as little as 97 cents online.

Reflective safety vests should also be worn when walking along the highway at night. So little to invest to help avoid injury and save lives.

*J. Richard Wright
NOTL*

Village association **does not** speak for all residents

Dear editor:

In your May 13 publication there was an article about a four-way stop sign to be added at the intersection of Garrison, Jordan and Perez, "Council cuts through red tape on four-way stop in Village."

I took umbrage to read the Village Community Association believes it represents nearly 100 per cent of all independent homeowners that have taken up residence in what has become known by the locals as the Village.

To say the association polled 197 members, which may have included multiple members residing in the same household, and obtained 82 per cent approval for recommending four-way stop sign, is misleading.

In addition, association president Mona Babin states the group has signed up almost 50 per cent of the Village households as members and as such the organization represents the views and speaks on behalf of 100 per cent of all households. This is nothing more than projecting, flatly erroneous and, more importantly, over-reaching their social role within the Village.

The association merely anointed itself in an attempt to gain political clout with the town.

Let me be clear, I am not a resident nor a registered voter of the Village. While I live in the development, I am an independent homeowner and registered voter in NOTL. The Village Community Association

has no legal authority or legal basis to state it represents the voices of those that have taken up residence in the Village.

This group should not be given a megaphone by your newspaper suggesting it speaks on behalf of all residents when dealing with town council and the lord mayor on public infrastructure matters.

The association was created to promote social community events within the Village, with like-minded homeowners paying an annual fee of \$30 to attend such social gatherings throughout the year.

In the past year it has attempted to broaden its scope, hoping to evolve into some political activist group with a goal to elect a board of directors and

obtain a seat on town council. The association is trying to turn the Village into its own town, like Virgil, St. Davids and Queenston.

This group does not have support of over 50 per cent of the residents in the new part of the Village and definitely have no support of those household residents in the older part of the Garrison Village.

The majority of the residents are independent, freehold homeowners that do not require nor want the association to speak on their behalf.

We, like any other resident in NOTL, vote individually and independently to elect our town councillors to be our representatives as it relates to NOTL matters.

*Robert Murray
NOTL*



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Erasing racism **dismisses** pain, inequities of racialized people

Dear editor:
This is in response to Rick Kirby's letter, "Let tolerance and harmony reign," (The Lake Report, May 27).

I would like to acknowledge that Rick Kirby is correct that there is no genetic basis for racial distinctions, as we are all part of the human race.

However, this completely dismisses the fact that the hierarchy of race was invented, dating back to the transatlantic slave trade, and is the driving force of what this country was founded on: genocide and colonialism.

What he is describing here is called being "colour blind." If you Google "The Problem with Color Blindness and How It Upholds Racism," an article in Oprah Daily by Samantha Vincenty will pop up. It goes into great detail about this common mindset and why it is ultimately very harmful.

It is hypocritical to "fully support" letters written by racialized people and in the same breath try to erase these experiences by dismissing racism as a whole. To dismiss race and racism is to dismiss the pain and



Sue Batson Patterson speaks at a Black Lives Matter rally in 2020. FILE PHOTO

inequities racialized people face daily and how the white population benefits from white supremacy.

To erase the term "racism" and all its derivatives is to bury the fact that just last week, 215 bodies of Indigenous children were found buried near what used to be the Kamloops Indian Residential School. Some were as young as three.

They were children who would now be elders in their communities, people who carry language, tradition and stories. Genocide is the erasure of their possible legacy. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau can act surprised

but he's spent \$100 million fighting residential school survivors in court. Surely the \$16 million that the OPP spent in six months surveilling and harassing land defenders of 1492 Landback Lane could have been put to better use?

These events do not happen in a vacuum and date back to when the first settlers arrived on Turtle Island. Under the guise of care, white Christians took it upon themselves to rip children out of their mothers' arms and steal the very land that Indigenous folks steward, in an attempt to erase Indigeneity.

The violence that continues to happen at the hands of the RCMP, police forces, child welfare agents, social workers, the prison industrial complex, the mental health industrial complex, health care, schooling (just to name a few) is due to the basis of race. This is the same idea that racialized people were seen as worthy as long as we were able to assimilate into Eurocentric Christian values, which largely influences policy-making even today.

Living in a white supremacist society means being seen as less than human and less deserving of basic

rights, such as having clean drinking water. More than 50 reserves across what is colonially known as Canada are still enduring a clean water crisis, which politicians had vowed to eradicate by March 2021 ...

It should matter to everyone that people still do not have clean drinking water. It should matter that Black and Indigenous people die at the hands of police at disproportionate rates compared to their white counterparts, or that Children's Aid continues to rip Black and Indigenous families apart and wreak havoc in these communities to continue the settler colonial project.

I cannot describe the pain of seeing members of my own community get attacked daily due to Sino-phobia.

I wish I could go into more details about how racism is sewn into the fabric of society, but honestly, as a racialized person, I am tired. I am tired of having to justify my experiences and it is not my job to beg people to care.

Canada continues to bury these realities, so it is

of utmost importance we continue having conversations about race and racism. Do not allow yourself to be complicit in a system that thrives on the death of Black, Indigenous and racialized peoples.

The conversation of race and racism is uncomfortable, but we must not bury our heads in the sand. That does not make the problem go away. It only serves to ease the conscience of those who benefit from white supremacy in this country.

Shout out to Erwin and Dorothy Weins and Sue Batson Patterson for sharing their stories. They are important ones. Racialized people have been telling their stories and folks just need to listen.

Here are some resources I found helpful in my journey: "Policing Black Lives" by Robyn Maynard, "Me and White Supremacy" by Laayla F. Saad, "The Skin We're In: A Year of Black Resistance and Power" by Desmond Cole.

Let the eradication of white supremacy reign.

**Joey Ho
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Noel Folkard and his wife Pamela are looking forward to visiting his son in Suzhou, China. BERNARD LANSBERGEN

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

After the Pandemic A visit to son in China

Bernard Lansbergen
The Lake Report

When the pandemic hit, Noel Folkard and his wife Pamela, who live in Old Town, were forced to cancel a planned journey to Suzhou, China.

It's a trip they take every year to see their son, Justin, who's been living and working there as a teacher for the past six years.

"We were going to go last October and because of COVID we couldn't leave the country and they weren't allowing visitors in China at the time," says Noel.

Even though it's now been two and half years since the Folkards visited their son, they still chat regularly. "We talk on a video call system," says Noel. "We stay in touch that way, but it's kind of nice to go and visit and be

there and do stuff."

The Folkards have four other children. Three of them live in Ontario, but they also have a daughter, Amy, in Boston whom they haven't seen in two years.

"Hopefully, they're coming here for Father's Day in June," says Noel, noting that not being able to see his children and grandchildren has been the hardest part of

the pandemic.

In the meantime, he has been keeping busy around the house: "We have been renovating and basically staying sequestered, which is not tough to do with the town right here and we can go for walks along the lake."

Noel says they hope to go to Suzhou soon to visit their son: "We now have booked ourselves for this October, so the hope is we can go."

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Vendors happy to be back at farmers' market

Jessica Maxwell
The Lake Report

Vendors were bundled up and ready Saturday morning to welcome customers at the first farmers' market at the Village for the 2021 season.

Market shoppers arrived early for colourful bouquets from Bartel farms, award-winning jams and jellies from Gryphon Ridge Highlands and fresh produce from vendors like Bee Inspired Farms.

Bill McMillan from Bee Inspired Farms said he was so excited that he could barely sleep the night before the market. "It's like Christmas morning," he said.

"I like getting out and selling our produce and meeting everybody. It's the first market of the season so I get to see all of our customers again, so that's very exciting."

Safety measures in place



Rose Bartel of Bartel Farms hands a fresh-cut flower bouquet to a customer. JESSICA MAXWELL

for the market during the pandemic have made for a functional setup that makes customers and vendors feel safe, said Kim McQuhae of Gryphon Ridge Highlands.

"It's really well-organized," she said. "People can come through and there's no crowding."

Vendor tents are spaced

six feet apart and each tent is 10 feet wide, which gives people a lot of space to move through the market, she said. Like last year, pedestrian traffic moves in one direction to ensure distancing.

"I think they're doing a good job keeping everyone separated and they've got a nice flow through the farm-

ers' market," McMillan said.

McMillan encourages community members to come out for fresh produce in a safe environment.

"It's definitely safe here, people should come out and support local," he said.

"Everything's organic. It's better than the grocery store and we work a lot harder for it."

Just Listed!
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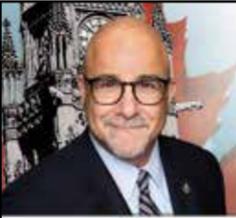
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Pauline Reimer Gibson
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Ravine chef cooks up **brisket** for men's culinary group

Jessica Maxwell
The Lake Report

A regional chapter of a men's culinary group, Les Marmitons, paired up with Ravine Vineyard Estate Winery on May 29 for a virtual dining and food education experience.

Les Marmitons Niagara chapter president Michael Berlis chose to team with Ravine chef John Vetere to highlight one of his specialties – brisket.

"For the last few years he was working at Oast House and he was known for his brisket," Berlis said.

"It is a somewhat complicated, long process to put together a good brisket, but he's certainly created a name for himself in that."

Vetere noted, "I'm lucky that BBQ has this enigma kind of interest around it that people are just generally drawn to."

"In terms of brisket, it's like this weird thing that everyone loves but no one really knows how to cook. So I think it was a perfect topic because there's a lot that goes into barbecue. There's a lot of alchemy that happens behind the scenes."

Previous to COVID-19, Les Marmitons Niagara would meet regularly at Niagara College for guided culinary experiences and workshops facilitated by area chefs. This past year has pushed the culinary group to find inventive ways to keep its members engaged, including virtual

cooks through Zoom with professional chefs.

"We obviously can't sit down and make a brisket in a short 12-hour stint, but what we're doing is kind of a combination thing," Berlis said.

"We've ordered some brisket from (Vetere) so he's preparing it as a takeout dinner and then each individual Marmiton will pick it up and bring it home."

The chapter president says participation in these online events has varied during the pandemic but the men who are participating enjoy the virtual offerings. Last Saturday, 23 of the Niagara group's 39 members took part.

"I think we've been trying just to think of different



Online video courtesy of Ravine Vineyard to accompany the meal. JESSICA MAXWELL

formats and different ideas throughout the last year just trying to keep people interested," he said.

The element of interaction through these online events is a big factor during the

planning stage, said Vetere.

"We workshopped maybe a cooking class and then kind of came to the conclusion of a meal to go with some Q&A and a little demo video."

Les Marmitons Niagara will continue to look for innovative ways to keep members engaged while focusing on education and support of the culinary and wine industry, Berlis said.

Your Garden: Expert tips for successful companion planting



The second in a 10-week gardening series organized by the Niagara-on-the-Lake Communities in Bloom committee.

Marla Percy
Special to The Lake Report

Companion planting means placing different plants in close proximity to one another for their mutual benefit. An easy topic, so I thought.

I could share the list passed on by my mother.

But after some reading, I found most old lists were not science-based. And newer information is much more complicated than anticipated.

If you are committed to companion planting, let me introduce you to "Plant Partners" (2020), by Jessica Walliser, with forward by Jeff Gillman. This book details companion planting for large- and small-scale farming, which I couldn't do justice to in a short column.

For now, here are some tips to meet your small-scale companion planting needs.

1. Everyone wants their own tomatoes. Basil planted around the base of your tomatoes will fend off hornworms, thrips and mosquitoes, plus it enhances



PIXABAY PHOTO

es the tomatoes' flavour. If some of the basil flowers, the bees will love it.

Planting onions (leeks, shallots) near tomatoes emits a pungent odour, which masks the attractive smell of the fruit. Borage planted near tomatoes attracts many beneficial insects, which in turn

may eat the pests on the tomatoes.

2. Borage is another good companion for strawberries and it also enhances the flavour.

3. Planting the three sisters – corn, beans and squash – together makes a perfect trio. The large leaves of squash smother

weeds and beans use the corn as support while fixing nitrogen around the roots.

4. For peppers of any kind, plant with green onions and chives, or plant with flowers such as cosmos, zinnias (single-petal variety), yarrow or peppermint. These attract lady bugs, which eat the aphids, and parasitic wasps, which eat the leaf miners. If your pepper problem is white fly, then planting crimson clover nearby lures bugs that will gorge on them.

5. Nasturtiums lure insects from crops and attract caterpillars away from brassica like cabbages.

6. Peas and beans have nitrogen-fixing abilities and have increased the size of potato tubers when grown together.

7. Beets work well with

mint, sage, cauliflower, garlic, bush beans and corn, adding minerals to the soil. Onions, garlic and chives repel red spider mites. Peppermint deters rodents and insects, while parsley attracts hoverflies, aphids and swallowtail butterflies.

8. Finally, marigolds repel plant parasitic nematodes, which can cause twisted leaves and stems, and carry viruses and bacterial diseases. Marigolds also attract damsel bugs, which kill white fly. So plant them everywhere in your garden. (Mom was right about marigolds – she was always right.)

Go ahead. Create diversity in your garden and forget monocultures.

Marla Percy is past-president of the NOTL Horticultural Society.

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Queenston teen cellist is a rising star

Anika Grieve is a performer with Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra

Linda Fritz
The Lake Report

There are a lot of house renovations going on in Queenston. Anika Grieve and her parents, Alistair Grieve and Cathy Merkley, are living through one of them.

So, during the pandemic, walkers in the village have seen Anika helping out by lugging wheelbarrows full of stones from one location to another. This, however, is not her primary interest.

Anika is a cellist and, at age 16, she's making a name for herself in the classical music world.

In fact, those Queenston strollers, on occasions when stones aren't being moved, can hear the music of composers such as Bach, Handel, Vivaldi and Respighi coming from her home.

It's fun to stop and listen. If you speak up above the village hubbub, you can ask for a repeat performance of certain passages. (The local robin population has also been known to join in.)

Anika has been playing the cello since she was four. Earlier in her career she played with Toronto's Mooredale Youth Orchestra, which provides opportunities for musicians as young as six. Since 2019, Anika has played with the Toronto Symphony Youth Orchestra.

Anika says she enjoys score study, the lecture programs geared toward young players and the master classes offered by senior musicians.

2020 was a big year for Anika as she became a



Anika Grieve with her friend Sarah Cupit perform a distanced backyard concert. SUPPLIED

founding member of the Sound Post String Quartet, which won the platinum medal at the Toronto Kiwanis Music Festival that year.

She also founded "Quarantunes," a music program for the residents of her grandfather's home, Toronto's Christie Gardens Retirement Community, and she has performed for seniors living at other residences via Zoom.

Anika is in Grade 11 at Northern Secondary School in Toronto and when school resumes next year, she will be president of the Intersectional Feminist Club. She is also interested in law. Inspired by the mock trial program she was involved with this year, she and some of her friends have started a law society.

These activities, of

course, don't fill up all her time. Anika bakes a mean chocolate chip cookie, which she has been known to leave at neighbours' doors, and she is a competitive swimmer. After Grade 12, she plans to go to university with a double major in English and music.

She comes from a musical family and speaks of performing duets with her father as she was growing up. She has been known to amuse herself, and confuse him, by changing the part she is playing in the middle of the piece.

Alistair and Cathy own and run The Sound Post in Toronto and Ottawa. The business provides services to the stringed instrument community and the staff in both locations help potential musicians find out what instrument suits them best, and try to fit

them with an instrument. They also appraise instruments, as well as deal with trade-ins, consignments and rentals.

Stringed instrument labs are also a part of the offering. As their home in Queenston nears completion, the family has decided to make space available for musicians to stay and work on their projects.

Anika isn't the only musician in Queenston. Another neighbour, Tony Dekker, is talking about putting together a concert with his band Great Lake Swimmers for locals when the pandemic is over, as is Anika.

When the world was a different place, Queenstonians enjoyed listening to the outdoor concerts from Art Park in Lewiston, N.Y. Residents are now in a position to look forward to their own live music scene.

RIDDLE ME THIS

If you have me, you want to share me. If you share me, you haven't got me. What am I?

Last issue: I have many teeth but I can't bite. I'm often used early but rarely at night. What am I?

Answer: A comb

Also accepted: Saw, dentures

Answered first by: Sheila Meloche

Also answered correctly (in order) by: Jennifer Risdon, Howard Jones, Sylvia Wiens, James Langendoen, Tammy Florio, Maria Janeiro, Susan Hamilton, Wade Durling, Mary Drost, John Venables, Pam Dowling, Marjorie Shwed, Al Brockway, Bob Stevens, Kim McQuhae, Brenda Bartley, Margie Enns, Tee Bucci, Elaine Landray, Katie Reimer, Robert Wilms, Josh Langendoen, Greeba-Ann Birch, Aislin Whitwell, Timo Kontkanen, Debbie Petrucci

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

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Planche is **big winner** in men's golf kickoff

Kevin MacLean
Managing Editor

Ron Planche was the big winner as men's league play resumed at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Golf Club last week.

Planche tied for first with Johnson Hu and Steven Levy, accruing 21 points each under the modified Stableford scoring format.

A birdie on the fifth hole proved very valuable as it won Planche a \$43 gross skin and a \$66 net skin.

Other gross skins went to Ted Wiens (#1) and Michel Trudeau (#2). Net skins

were won by Trudeau (#2) and Stu Young (#8).

Reigning men's club champion James Grigjanis-Meusel lit up the field with a low gross score of 3-under 33. He also was closest to the hole on #9. Rob Haylor won closest to the pin on #4.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE: The foursome of Susan Gagne, Patty Garriock, Sue Sherk and Janice White earned the best team score with a 93 in the 18-hole ladies league kickoff.

The special "Pink Ball" contest was won by Ginny Green, Lisa Allen, Carolyn Porter and Mary Powers.



Janice White, Patty Garriock, Sue Sherk and Susan Gagne had the best team score with 93. KEVIN MACLEAN

Ross' Ramblings: A team in need of **leadership** and inspiration

Ross Robinson
Special to The Lake Report

Each spring, St. Davids resident and CBC Hockey Night in Canada legend Ralph Mellanby is repeatedly asked to predict the winner of the Stanley Cup. His stock response is, "Which-ever team avoids injury and has a hot goalie."

This theory flows right down to the NOTL Hot Tub league, Wallbangers, and other old timers leagues. Add in the variable of key players leaving during the playoffs for holidays in Florida or Mexico, and game results are often influenced by which team members are not able to be on the ice.

What fun it was in NOTL for the past two weeks to have such positive energy and good natured sporting rivalry on display on the mean streets of our COVID-19 weary town.

On Charlotte Street, elegantly riding her chestnut Belgian gelding Whiskey, was Meagan Sentineal wearing a Toronto Maple Leaf sweater. She spent time working with horses in rugby-mad New Zealand and said, "I was surprised and happy the Kiwis had heard of our great national game of hockey. But Rocket Richard was the most recognizable name."

That being said, Meagan told me her mother Laura is a passionate and long-suf-



From left: Angela Medoco, Meagan Sentineal and Franca Pingue sport their team jerseys. PHOTOS BY ROSS ROBINSON

fering Leaf fan, and would be devastated if they came up short again.

Last Saturday, a delightful spring morning, Niagara-on-the-Lake's well-known "Walking Lady" Angela Medoco was wearing a blue and white Leaf sweater as she power-walked along Mary Street in Old Town.

"I'm not a serious hockey fan, but after so many years, friends tell me this has got to be the year the Leafs go all the way and win the Cup. It's been how many years now? Has it been 54?"

And while picking up another mouth-watering pizza on Sunday evening at Garage Pizza on York Road in St. Davids, pizza meister Franca Pingue proudly curbsided in a replica Habs sweater.

"It's mostly red, which is good when you are working with our delicious, fairly famous marinara sauce. When we get really busy in the kitchen, weird things can happen."

During the Leafs-Habs

first round series Mellanby's annual prognostication proved true. Maple Leaf captain John Tavares was sadly badly injured in the first period of the first game. Then, perhaps the most positive teammate in the NHL, Leaf goalie Jack Campbell, was really warm in the crease. Really warm, but not hot. It was hard to watch this fine young man during his post-game news conference after his Leafs had been upset by les Canadiens de Montreal.

The Canadiens avoided serious injury and their magnificent goalie Carey Price was sizzling hot for all seven games. Yes, crease ice melting hot!

The Leafs have now lost seven consecutive play-off series. They just can't figure out how to clinch and win. Leadership, grit, depth, team spirit. What's the problem? Maybe when four of their star players are earning 50 per cent of the team's total payroll, the other lads feel a bit

hard-done-by. Who knows? Something about putting too many of your eggs in four baskets?

We could spend an evening yacking in a NOTL sports bar and not determine the major difference between these two Original Six franchises. The red, white and blue sweaters seemed to fly, needing to win. The blue and white sweated Toronto players sometimes seemed to be up and down like a toilet seat. They really seem to try, they answer the post-game questions diplomatically, but the intangible, the necessary spark, is usually missing.

With the tragedy in B.C., it is a delicate and sad time in our history now. The conversation is on now, everywhere, including here in NOTL. The Leafs need a true leader who has "it." Always trying to win, never slacking off in practice, always aware of the head spaces of his teammates, tough as nails, funny when appropriate. A grinder.

I am talking about a proud Anishinaabe person, from near Sudbury, Ont., George "Chief" Armstrong was his name, and he died just last January at age 90. Captain of the Leafs for 13 years, he led the team to four Stanley Cups.

He was of Irish-Algonquin heritage and played 21 seasons in the NHL, all with the Maple Leafs: a record 1,188 games, 296 goals, about 14 per year. Some big goals.

Strategies and styles change, but speed and grit, desire and desperation always win. Not that long ago, goalies played a stand-up style and goals through the five hole were rare. Then the butterfly style became all the rage. Tony Esposito from the Soo, Dominik Hasek from Czechoslovakia and Erwin Wiens from right here in Queenston were early adapters back in the 1970s.

Really sharp sharpshooters now aim at the five hole, and the first goal of Game 7

went right between Campbell's legs. Ugly...

The day of the Game 7 final, I was flummoxed to hear Leaf coach Sheldon Keefe say, after losing the fifth and sixth games, "As much as it sucks how we got here, and what we've been through the last couple of games – and we hate it – I really feel, frankly, that we are right where we're supposed to be."

Did he really say that? Did he? They were supposed to have won Game 5 and Game 6. Too much deep thinking in the Leaf organization. The Shamp-plan has not worked after seven years full of dashed hopes. Perhaps move on.

What a magnificent game of hockey we watched, Game 7 between the Maple Leafs and les Canadiens. Fast, hard-hitting, non-stop action, and close, so close.

In the end, never bet against a streak – the Leafs were on the sad side of the traditional handshake line.



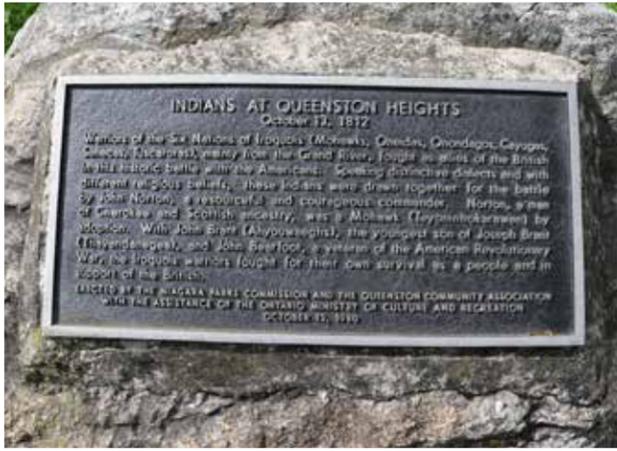
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A plaque at Queenston Heights. FILE PHOTO

Niagara Parks hosting virtual talks for Indigenous Month

Staff
The Lake Report

Niagara Parks, in co-operation with the Landscape of Nations 360 project, will be hosting three virtual talks for Indigenous Month throughout June.

Speakers include Indigenous leaders, historians and artists.

The talks cover Indigenous contributions to the War of 1812 and the cultural significance of the strawberry moon.

The last talk will focus on

the battle of Chippewa, the longest and bloodiest battle of the War of 1812. It will revolve around Indigenous contributions to the battle and lasting effects on the First Nations Haudenosaunee, who lived on the Niagara River.

The talks are scheduled for June 10, 17 and 24 at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$15 per event or \$35 for access to all three.

Information and tickets at niagaraparks.com/indigenous.



A Second World War-era artillery shell found in NOTL was destroyed out of an abundance of caution Tuesday. SUPPLIED

Police detonate WW2-era artillery shell found in lake

Staff
The Lake Report

The single loud boom some Niagara-on-the-Lake residents heard late Tuesday night was the sound of police explosives experts detonating a Second World War-era artillery shell that was found in Lake Ontario.

A retired police officer who was exploring the lake bottom with a bathyscope not far from the old defence department rifle

range, discovered the shell in about 50 feet of water.

Niagara Regional Police noted the area west of the old range historically was used for Second World War military training.

It was unclear whether the shell was still “live,” so after bringing it ashore, officers blew it up just before 9:30 p.m. as a precaution.

Police cautioned anyone finding objects resembling explosives or ammunition not to touch them and to call authorities immediately.

Foal brings joy during lockdown

Continued from Front Page

wife is off-duty” she said with relief.

“It’s good to have two babies at the same time. They can be good buddies and the mares can get a rest and take turns looking out for them once they’re a little older. And it’s good to socialize them as babies,” McCormick said.

There’s also a reason they’re turned out in the paddock beside the busy road.

“We have them out in the front paddock so they get used to all the commotion of people coming and going, cars going by, and all the noise.”

The new foals and their antics are an especially welcome source of amusement and excitement in this year of the pandemic.

Successive lockdowns have been challenging for the business. Lessons had to halt, stripping away income, but expenses don’t change. “Horses still have to eat,” said McCormick.

With the easing of restrictions on the near horizon, she is looking forward to resuming the lesson program with returning and new students.

As for the foals, “it will be so fun to watch them



A new foal with its mom at Red Ribbon Stables on Concession 6 Road. DON REYNOLDS

grow and develop their personalities.” She expects them to become large ponies and eventually be trained for the hunter ring, and successful show careers.

But for now, their only job is to grow, and, of course, to frolic as only foals can do, much to the delight of any and all onlookers.

Anyone interested in learning more about the lesson program at Red Ribbon Stables can inquire by email: redribbonstables1@gmail.com.

NOTL flying progressive flag for Pride Month

Richard Harley
The Lake Report

The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake is flying the Pride flag high for Pride Month.

This year, the town is flying the “progressive Pride flag,” which Pride Niagara member at large Darryl Dyball said is inclusive of the whole LGBTQ+ community.

“(It) is absolutely beautiful, fully encompassing our community,” he said during a small, distanced flag-raising ceremony on Tuesday at town hall.

The progressive flag includes a chevron with black, brown, light blue, pink and white stripes representing people of colour, trans individuals and those living with HIV/AIDS.

Dyball noted this is the second year that all Niagara



A progressive Pride flag flies at town hall. RICHARD HARLEY

municipalities and the Region of Niagara have raised the Pride flag. And for the first time both the Niagara District and Catholic school boards are flying flags, he said.

“This shows that the Niagara region is such a progressive place. We still have work to be done, but we’re on the right path,” Dyball said.

“And by having all the municipalities showing

their support, shows that we are doing something and as a community as a whole.”

He said flying the flag raises awareness and sends a message that people in Niagara can be accepted where they live.

“I say this over and over and over again, but our community doesn’t have to go to a big city like ... Toronto or Vancouver to be gay or to be out. They can be out and create roots in

the Niagara region.”

Commenting on a protest against the Catholic school board’s decision to fly the Pride flag, Dyball said the people against celebrating Pride are in the minority.

“The protesters against are always going to be smaller than the people who are for,” he said. “And there will always be people against it.”

“But you know, love wins in our case, and the Niagara region is so lucky to have such forward-thinking people.”

Lord Mayor Betty Disero, who helped fly the flag, said the message to the LGBTQ+ community is that “they’re loved, they’re a valued member of the community, and that we appreciate them very much, and they’re very welcomed here as residents and visitors.”



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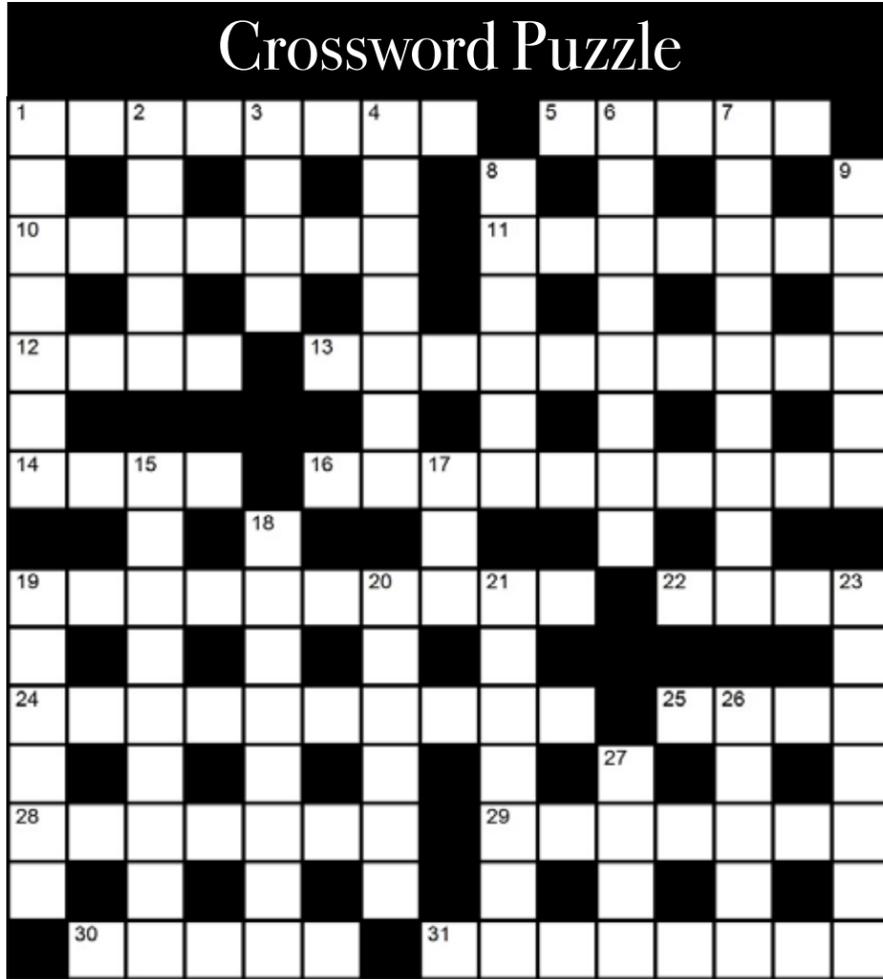
Have some fun

Across

- 1. Beautiful (8)
- 5. Moves through water (5)
- 10. Unconventional (7)
- 11. Pilot (7)
- 12. Pollen gatherers (4)
- 13. When the living is easy (10)
- 14. Otherwise (4)
- 16. Artificial sparkler (10)
- 19. Corridor (10)
- 22. Yorkshireman (4)
- 24. Preceding wedlock (10)
- 25. Precious stones (4)
- 28. Shining (7)
- 29. Hollowed inward (7)
- 30. Bovine mammary gland (5)
- 31. Austrian Alpine resident (8)

Down

- 1. Farewell (7)
- 2. Plunder (5)
- 3. Paradise (4)
- 4. Lie (7)
- 6. Restaurant worker (8)
- 7. Marriage (9)
- 8. Opera by Bizet (6)
- 9. Current of air (6)
- 15. Pendent (9)
- 17. Large island in the Channel (1,1,1)
- 18. Computer information store (8)
- 19. Thin and translucent (6)
- 20. Expels (6)
- 21. Disorder (7)
- 23. Oriental (7)
- 26. Fill with high spirits (5)
- 27. Untie (4)



Last issue's answers



 EXTRA SPICY



making our mark
NIAGARA
OFFICIAL PLAN

ADD YOUR VOICE TO NIAGARA'S OFFICIAL PLAN

NIAGARA IS GROWING!

The region is forecasted to grow to a minimum of 674,000 people and 272,000 jobs by the year 2051. To guide this growth, Niagara Region is creating a new Official Plan.

The Niagara Official Plan will set out objectives and policies to shape Niagara's physical development, protect what's valuable, and balance the interests of current and future residents. Niagara is facing many growth management challenges, including; housing affordability, protecting the natural environment, minimizing impacts from a changing climate, and increasing economic prosperity. A made in Niagara solution, is being developed to address these challenges.

YOU'RE INVITED

Attend a series of virtual public information centres to learn more about key draft policy directives and core policy content that is intended to be part of the Niagara Official Plan.

Updates on other key sections of the official plan will also be provided. Background information and draft policies are now available for review through niagararegion.ca/official-plan.

If you require any accommodations for a disability in order to attend and participate in meetings or events, contact the Niagara Region's Accessibility Coordinator at 905-980-6000 ext. 3252 or accessibility@niagararegion.ca.

Information will be collected in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

VIRTUAL PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRES

Register for each of the following session at niagararegion.ca/official-plan. Video recordings will also be available online following the sessions.

**Wed., June 9 | 6 p.m.
GROWING REGION**

- Growth Allocation and Land Needs - Draft Policies
- Regional Structure - Draft Policies
- Housing - Draft Policies
- Settlement Area Boundary Reviews -Update

**Thurs., June 10 | 6 p.m.
VIBRANT REGION**

- District & Secondary Planning - Draft Policies
- Urban Design - Draft Policies
- Archaeology - Update

**Wed. June 16 | 6 p.m.
COMPETITIVE REGION**

- Agriculture - Draft Policies
- Employment areas - Draft Policies
- Aggregates - Draft Policies

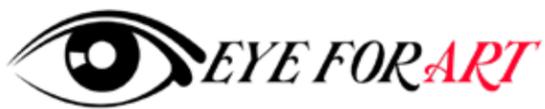
**Thurs., June 17 | 6 p.m.
CONNECTED REGION**

- Transportation - Draft Policies
- Infrastructure - Draft Policies

**Wed., June 23 | 6 p.m.
SUSTAINABLE REGION**

- Natural Environment System - Update
- Watershed Planning - Update
- Climate change - Update

If you are not able to attend, you can provide input or ask questions by emailing makingourmark@niagararegion.ca or contact David Heyworth, Official Plan Policy Consultant at 905-980-6000 ext. 3476.



'The Gust of Wind'

Penny-Lynn Cookson
Special to The Lake Report

Friday last, a cold wind was sending branches, leaves and flower petals all over lawns and streets in our town. Birdsong, bird sightings and gardeners were noticeably absent.

The lake, no longer enticing, was forbidding, grey and choppy. An artist friend, always attuned to the present and unpredictable in art and life, sent an image of a painting to me that morning titled "The Gust of Wind," soon up for auction at Sotheby's Paris. How appropriate it was to the day – and what a discovery. I was totally unfamiliar with this artist and his work.

Jean-Jules-Antoine Lecomte du Nouÿ (1842-1923) was a Parisian academic artist, primarily in the Orientalist style, during

turbulent social and political changes in France when art movements were in flux from Neo-Classicism, to Impressionism, to Neo-Impressionism, to Fauvism, to Cubism.

He studied at the atelier of Charles Gleyre, was mentored at École des Beaux-Arts by the renowned academician Jean-Léon Gérôme, exhibited at numerous salons and became a respected artist of detailed mythological, historic and religious paintings.

At 23, he travelled to Cairo where he became instantly captivated by its exoticism and thereafter spent years travelling in Egypt, Greece, Turkey and Italy. The romantic appeal of Orientalist works featuring oasis, harem and mosque scenes had been inspired by French colonial conquests and travel in Egypt, the Levant and Algeria.



Jean-Antoine Lecomte du Nouÿ, "The Gust of Wind," 1875, oil on canvas, private collection. SOURCED IMAGE

When these subjects fell out of favour, Lecomte du Nouÿ's later years were spent in Romania as the painter to the Romanian royal family. He returned to France to die in Paris in 1923. Few of his paintings are in museum collections, most being privately held. He is one of those accomplished artists who "disappear," due to changing taste and the vagaries of the art market.

"The Gust of Wind" is a complete departure for Lecomte du Nouÿ as a subject and approach in style. It is so unlike his usual oeuvre that one wonders what possessed him to do it? Apparently, it was done as a joke. A terrific work of humour rare in French art.

It is an artist's rendition of an artist who has set out for a pleasant "en plein air" creative day and is caught in a most unex-

pected situation of being literally "at sea."

A thunderstorm, rain and wind have come up suddenly and everything has gone flying – his jacket into the water, his hat spinning through the air, paintbox, brushes, chinks and tubes of paint are tumbling into the waves, the easel is toppling.

He desperately holds on to his sunshade umbrella blown inside out, his own position now untenable and pre-

carious on the tilting metal buoy. What craziness! Why is he out there?

His tumbling canvas reveals he was painting the two ships in the distance. The sails of those anchored ships are down but they are heaving about in the currents, waves and wind. Seagulls wheel overhead riding the updrafts near the masts.

On shore, curtains billow out of open windows of buildings, a woman leans forward against the walled terrace anxiously watching the drama and a man stands at the dock stairs, hands to his face, hollering to the artist.

Who will rescue him? Is all lost? Is this the uncertain fate of the artist? Paradoxically, it became his most sought-after painting.

Penny-Lynn Cookson is an art historian who taught at the University of Toronto for 10 years. She also was head of extension services at the Art Gallery of Ontario. Watch for her upcoming lecture series at the Pump-house Arts Centre and at RiverBrink Art Museum.

Dr. Brown: Navigation using the Earth's magnetic fields

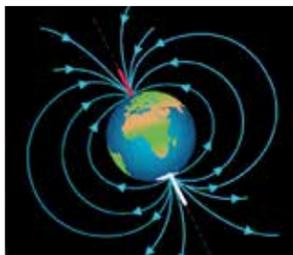
Dr. William Brown
The Lake Report

Every airplane I've flown had a magnetic compass located in plain view well above the panel.

With it, I could determine my magnetic heading should vacuum-driven devices such as the directional gyro or horizontal situation indicator fail, or perhaps their electrically driven equivalents fail for want of electrical power.

There are errors associated with magnetic compasses, such as lagging or leading on turns off northerly or southerly headings or speeding up or slowing down, especially on westward or eastward headings, but understood, those are momentary errors and easily compensated for.

So important is the magnetic compass, that just before takeoff, I always check to see whether the heading shown on the directional gyro and horizontal situation indicator corresponds with the runway heading



SOURCED IMAGE

and the magnetic compass. It's good to have agreement all round, then, throughout the flight and before making approaches.

Of course these days, with ubiquitous GPS devices, full panel flight instruments and moving map simulations available on iPads, backup has become so multilayered that it poses an unwelcome distraction in emergencies when dissonant information may be not only confusing, but dangerous.

But what if I told you that fish, including great white sharks, can navigate thousands of miles using the Earth's magnetic fields to guide them?

And what if I told you that some types of bacterial cells orient themselves

according to the surrounding magnetic field or that mammals such as mole rats and wood mice apparently find their way to their nests using magnetic field lines.

That's very impressive and all the more so when we realize that the strength of the Earth's magnetic field is so tiny (25 to 60 microtesla).

Given the relative weakness of the magnetic field, it's no surprise that radio interference, especially in the AM band, can disrupt some migratory birds who depend on the Earth's magnetic fields to find their way over long distances out of sight of land.

If so many different species possess a magnetic sense, it's fair to ask whether humans or for that matter our ape relatives, also possess the same sixth sense. The answer is probably yes – but proving so is tricky.

One way to test for a human magnetic sense is to see whether changing the magnetic field surround-

ing test subjects alters the electrical activity generated by the brain recorded using electroencephalography (EEG).

This approach, developed by Joe Kirschvink, a geophysicist at Cal Tech in California, showed that altering the magnetic field surrounding humans changes the EEG – but how and whether the changes provide meaningful information are two questions that remain unanswered.

Given that so many remotely related species appear to possess magnetic field sensing, suggests that the acquisition of magnetic sensing occurred very early in evolution, possibly as early as some of the first bacteria.

Some of the latter magnetic-field sensitive bacteria may have been adopted by other cells roughly two billion years ago, to become the host cell's resident energy machines – the mitochondria – which confer sensitivity to magnetic fields on the host cell. Or at

least that's what Kirschvink speculates.

There is evidence that some nerve cells in the inner ears of pigeons fire in response to changing magnetic fields. Maybe so, but where are the postulated magnetic-field sensitive receptors in the inner ear that would be equivalent to photoreceptors in the case of vision, cochlear cells in the case of hearing or skin receptors in the case of touch? So far, none have been found.

What's known is that a wide variety of lifeforms from bacteria to worms, frogs, lobsters, fish, birds and some mammals exist, which have been shown to be sensitive to the Earth's magnetic fields, and some use those fields to navigate great distances. The missing link is figuring out how those fields are translated into meaningful information.

To that end the search is on to find the receptors. Are they tiny intracellular magnetic crystals – per-

haps magnetite or as some suggest, are cytochrome molecules found in mitochondria the missing link? We don't know.

To return to the magnetic compass and flying – on two occasions I was in cloud and lost my directional gyro because of instrument failure but with the magnetic compass on hand and the full suite of other navigational instruments on board, flying the remaining course and approach was easy.

For that happy, safe outcome, I was grateful for the periodic flight checks and many instructors who from time to time "failed" the odd instrument or two by covering them to find out whether I was up to doing with less.

Doing with less is not a bad lesson for living, too, and I'm not talking about flying.

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



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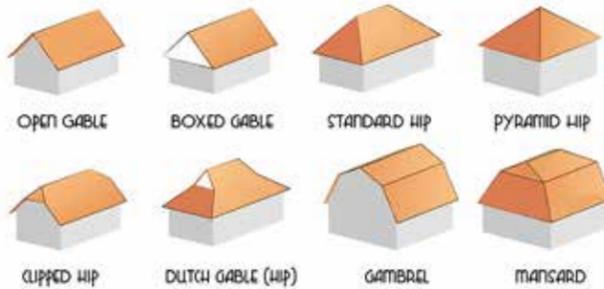
Soldiers lunch at Queenston Heights

This First World War photograph is from an album owned by the family of Niagara Camp Commandant Lt.-Col. William A. Logie. Soldiers are resting for their two-hour lunch break on Queenston Heights after their 14-kilometre trek, along Progressive Avenue (Concession 2) from Niagara Camp (Fort George Commons). Following their break, the soldiers would head back to their canvas tents on the Commons, along the scenic River Road (Niagara Parkway). Soldiers, sometimes carrying their weapons and 60- to 70-pound packs, would be permitted to break every few hours along the way. The march often included music from the regimental bands and drinks or fruit from the civilian huskers along the way. Residents participating in the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake's Step Challenge may want to give this historic route a try if they're looking to win the top prize.

ARCHITEXT

Know your roof

Brian Marshall
Columnist



Common roof types. SUPPLIED

When identifying the architectural style of a home, the type of roof is often a vital clue. So, let's consider some of the most common roof styles.

We'll begin with the gable roof, which can be described as having two sides which rise from the building's vertical walls and slope toward one another to meet at the top or ridge. The sloped surfaces form the roof while the triangular spaces on either end wall are known as gables.

When the wall cladding (outside finish) rises uninterrupted to the sloping eaves, as in many Georgian homes, the form is called an

Open Gable roof. Alternatively, should there be a break in the wall cladding stretching across the wall from eave to eave, creating closed triangular gables, as often seen on Neoclassical houses, the form is referred to as a Boxed Gable roof.

A hip roof has four sloped sides. A standard hip is found on a rectangular building and has two long sides (usually the front and rear walls) and two short sides. This produces a ridgeline at the junction of the long sides running between the peaks of the two short sides.

The angle of all the

sloped surfaces on the roof is identical. On a square building shape, each of the sloped roof surfaces are equal in size and rise to meet at a centre point and is known as a Pyramid Hip, a design common on cubic form Regency houses.

If we take a standard hip roof and abbreviate the two short sloping sides, a four-sided polygon gable is produced on both affected walls. This roof type is variously called a clipped hip, clipped gable or jerkinhead.

Again modifying the standard hipped roof, if we mount a triangular gable set parallel to the building

walls at roughly nine-tenths of the way up the short sloped roof surface, then extend the ridgeline and adjacent sloping surfaces on the long sides to close the gap, the result is a Dutch Gable roof.

Standard hip, clipped hip and Dutch gable roofs were favourites of the Arts & Crafts designers.

When many people picture a barn, they visualize a roof with two sides, each of which are comprised of two sections with different slopes; the lower section quite vertical while the upper section displays a much gentler slope. With an open gable (gambrel) on either end wall, the gambrel roof was to the go-to for Dutch Colonial Revival homes and their later derivatives.

Take a gambrel, wrap the roof slopes around all four sides of a house (as in a hip roof) and the result is a common Mansard roof as seen on 19th-century Second Empire and 20th-century Mansard-style homes.

NOTL SNAPS



Coyote on the loose

NOTL resident Larry Blight captured this photo of a coyote on the trail in the Paradise Grove area due east of the Parade Grounds. SUPPLIED



Little Virgil library

Katie Reimer's Little Library at 92 Loretta Dr. in Virgil has been up since before Christmas. It had jig saw puzzles and movies and she says it is very well used. SUPPLIED

Kendall's Corner



Parkway sunset view

Lake Report writer Gail Kendall captured this sunset scene along the Niagara Parkway. SUPPLIED



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(fried egg, bacon, cheddar & hot sauce)
 - Olde Smokey \$16
(bacon, KC BBQ Sauce, crispy onion, cheddar & chipotle mayo)
 - Bacon Cheese Burger \$16
(cheese, bacon, lettuce, tomato & pickle)
 - Beyond Meat Burger \$16
(lettuce, tomato & pickle)
 - Bacon Portobello Mushroom \$16
(bacon, mushrooms & Swiss cheese)
- EXTRAS: Sautéed onions or mushrooms on a burger +\$2

DESSERTS

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- Creme Brûlée \$8
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- Reuben Sandwich \$17
- Meat Loaf Sandwich \$16
- Turkey Club Sandwich \$16
- Chicken Caesar Wrap \$16
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- Shepherd's Pie Poutine \$16

EXTRAS: Gluten-free bread +\$2

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- Award Winning English Style Fish and Chips \$18
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- Liver and Onions \$17

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- Caesar Salad \$12
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FRIDAY: Fish Fri-Yay \$16 - 1 piece | \$24 - 2 pieces
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SATURDAY & SUNDAY: Slow Braised Ribs \$23 half rack | \$30 full rack
Cooked with Angel Cider and Guinness Stout, brushed with Forty Creek BBQ sauce or Honey Jack Daniel's glaze. Served with pork beans and house made coleslaw. Add fries, mashed potatoes or salad for only \$3.

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We are beyond excited to announce the opening of our English Beer Garden On June 14! Can't wait to see you then NOTL!

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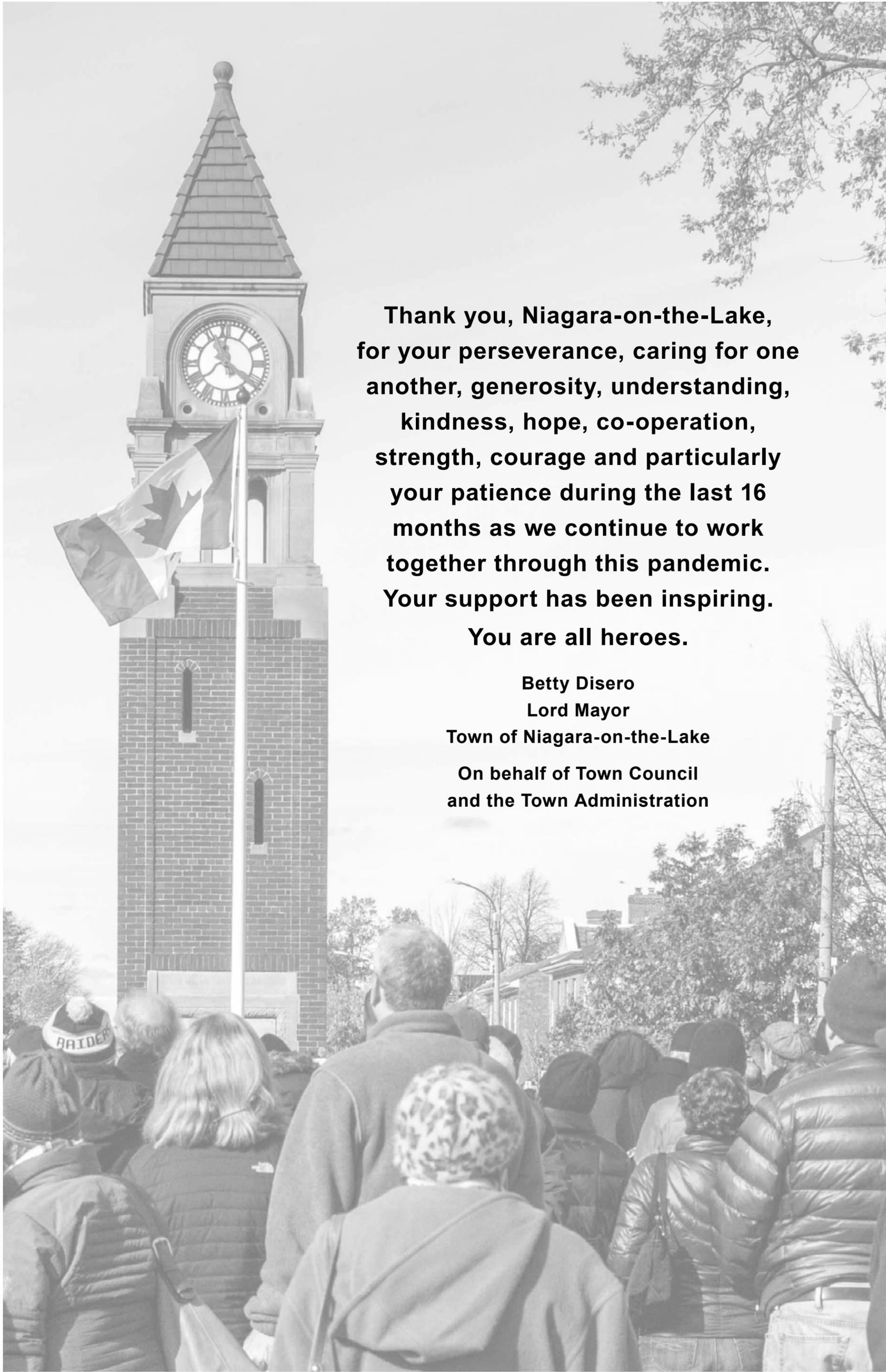


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for your perseverance, caring for one
another, generosity, understanding,
kindness, hope, co-operation,
strength, courage and particularly
your patience during the last 16
months as we continue to work
together through this pandemic.
Your support has been inspiring.**

You are all heroes.

**Betty Disero
Lord Mayor**

Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake

**On behalf of Town Council
and the Town Administration**

To NOTL's Pandemic Heroes

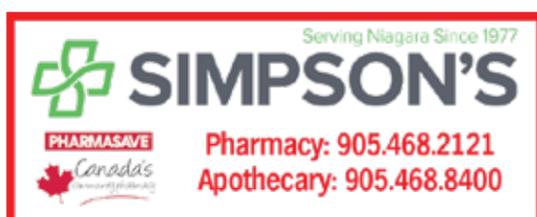
Thank you for protecting our community

Our worlds have changed. And it seems like it's been constant, with no end in sight. But, thanks to people like YOU, who have made the effort to stay safe and protect others by following public health advice, we're one step closer to finally being through this pandemic. We're starting to see our beloved parks reopening, and soon we'll be able to head out and support our local businesses. While we continue this fight, we want to acknowledge the people who are doing their part, wearing masks, sanitizing, distancing, and keeping public health and safety at the top of their minds.

Do your part, get vaccinated

If you haven't already, please sign up to be vaccinated against COVID-19. Your vaccination doesn't just protect you, it protects the entire community, country and in turn the entire planet. Book your vaccine at a Niagara public health clinic, area pharmacy or through your doctor. <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/book-vaccine>

The Lake Report



Niagara-on-the-Lake
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Radiant
Care

