



The Lake Report

Vol. 3, Issue 9

Niagara-on-the-Lake's most respected newspaper

March 5, 2020

Scam phone calls are 'real psychological terrorism'



Pauline Charlton, a NOTL resident and retired York University professor of psychology, thinks more needs to be done about scam phone calls. She receives as many as three scam calls daily. RICHARD HARLEY

Richard Harley
The Lake Report

Niagara-on-the-Lake resident Pauline Charlton is fed up with receiving fraudulent phone calls.

The recently retired York University professor of psychology, who lives on Charlotte Street, said she receives as many as three phone calls to her home phone daily from different scam companies.

Charlton called The Lake Report Friday afternoon after receiving a call,

during which she was told her social insurance number was compromised.

"It was about 2-2:30. I answered the phone, and there was a recording — a robot voice. The voice was very low. It was like RoboCop," she said.

The recording claimed she had made a fraudulent action and the Canada Revenue Agency had suspended her SIN because of it.

"(The voice said) if I want to know more detail, press one. Of course, I didn't press one," she said.

She and her husband are very pro-

ductive of their privacy, and although she knew it was a fraudulent call, she's worried the types of calls are "getting more and more sophisticated."

"The recording sounded very genuine. They have this spiel of you know 'your call may be recorded' etc., etc."

Charlton has received calls from a number of different scammers. Some claim she's committed fraud, while others are fishing for information, saying her Microsoft software is

Continued on Page 2



Volunteers Brenda Shah and Marilyn Rickard sort donations at the Newark Neighbours' food bank. DARIYA BAIGUZHIEVA

Thirteen wineries team up for annual NOTL food drive

Dariya Baiguzhiyeva
The Lake Report

The second annual food drive, launched by Reif Estate Winery in collaboration with Newark Neighbours in 2019, is expanding its

reach this year by having 12 additional wineries participate in the initiative.

The wineries involved in the Taste for Hunger food drive now include Jackson-

Continued on Page 3



Who really won the War of 1812?

Story on Page 14

INNOVATION IN WINE COUNTRY: PART 2

Lakeview Vineyard Equipment leads the way

Jill Troyer
The Lake Report

Innovation and expansion have fuelled the evolution of the wine industry in the past decade or more in Niagara, and Joe Pillitteri has been in the thick of it since 2007 when he purchased Lakeview Vineyard Equipment

in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

His natural enthusiasm becomes even more exuberant when he talks about how the growth in his company has created good jobs for the local economy.

"Jobs in Niagara matter to me. We have apprenticeships, technicians, salespeople, and our business

helps facilitate the growth of stable, well-paying, long-term jobs in NOTL, which are harder and harder to come by," he explains.

"We had six employees in 2007, now we have 21 people. Sales volume has increased five times during that period, and reach has extended into other prov-

inces and 38 different states in the U.S.," Pillitteri says.

As its name would imply, Lakeview Vineyard Equipment sells and maintains various types of machines used in the vineyards.

Labour shortages and improvements in technol-

Continued on Page 3



Lakeview Vineyard Equipment owner Joe Pillitteri shows new vineyard equipment at a trade show. JILL TROYER



**Peninsula
Flooring Ltd.**

13 Henegan Road
Virgil Business Park

(905)-468-2135
www.peninsulaflooring.ca

**DESIGN
SHOWROOM**

Wood • Luxury Vinyl
Carpet • Tile

From Top Designer
Names and Brands



Serving Niagara Since 1977



SIMPSON'S

Pharmacy: 1882 Niagara Stone Road
Virgill | 905.468.2121 | www.simpsonspharmacy.ca
Free Delivery From Both Locations

**We are the Ostomy Experts
in your Community.**

Regular customers' products kept in stock,
competitive pricing, discount days every month.
Available at our Pharmacy Location.

Frequent scam calls becoming 'the new normal'

Continued from Front Page

compromised. Others claim that money was fraudulently withdrawn from her bank account.

"In January, Christmas time, there's a lot of Visa calls that somebody made (\$300) a charge on (my) Visa. I knew it was fraudulent, but I still went and inquired to the bank," Charlton said.

The bank immediately recognized the signs, she said, and told her they'd had similar inquiries.

"So it's not just one person (getting calls). It's a lot of people."

She said a friend who lives in Hamilton also received a call from someone claiming to be with the Canada Revenue Agency, at which point she sought legal advice.

"She was so scared she went to see her lawyer. And I'm sure she had to pay for it," Charlton said.

"This is not something people should treat as funny, because after a while the genuine phone calls get confused."

She said it comes down to judgment of what is and isn't fraud.

"The voice is a real human voice ... they claim they are the bank, and then it donned on me — they call on a Saturday afternoon after 6 p.m. And I said to myself, 'Why would Scotiabank be calling me at this hour? Then I put down the phone and then I called them back. They went through the same spiel and then the human voice answered, and she said, 'Scotiabank, what is your account number?' And then I said, 'Just a minute, this doesn't sound right. You are calling me and you are asking me my account number.'"

Charlton said she's tried blocking numbers, but the calls still come, even though her number is unlisted.

"Computer and phone fraud, it's just unbelievable. And the invasion of privacy."

She recalls when she was extorted by email, too.

"Let's go back a year ago ... like October, November

I got an email. They said they had intercepted my email from the router and they were holding my email (account) for ransom."

The email accused her of watching pornographic material and threatened to expose her picture on the web if she didn't send ransom money.

After receiving the email she phoned the police, who traced the call to Chile.

"But they said there's no point chasing after it and I know that there's software they just bounce it all over the world."

Emails like that can take a heavy toll on people's mental health, Charlton said.

"I mean if (someone) had boyfriends who had nude pictures of (them). Well, for somebody like that it would be horrible. I mean what does your husband say? That's why they ask you for ransom."

"The other day the Royal Ontario Museum called, and I thought it was one of those fraudulent calls. I wasn't friendly to them at all. And it's an organization I've been supporting for many years. It makes people become so insensitive."

PAULINE CHARLTON
NOTL RESIDENT

She said her friend going to a lawyer is a good example of someone who got worried.

"It's real psychological terrorism," Charlton said.

For people who use email every day, scams have become "the new normal."

"I talk with my teaching assistant and I talk with a number of people who are younger than me and they are the type that are always on their email, and they say, 'Oh that's OK, ignore it. I get it every day.'"

Charlton said she thinks scam callers are targeting areas they know have a higher population of seniors, like Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Though she said she's never fallen for a scam call, she thinks something needs to be done about the problem.

"Microsoft will never call you like that. Revenue Canada would never call you like that. But the bank might call you sometimes if you're friendly with the bank manager ... but I know the person, I recognize her voice. So after a while, what is real, and what is unreal? If someone from Scotiabank calls me who is not the one I recognize, I will easily hang up or ignore it. But maybe there is real business or maybe there's a real charge on my card that hasn't been approved. Your reality starts to be blurred."

"It takes a little bit for you to catch up on the clues, right? So some of the clues may be 'Why is my bank calling me at this time of day.'"

She thinks there are people who probably have been duped, but are afraid or embarrassed to come forward.

"I'm sure there are people who might give into it, and thought to themselves, 'Oh that is so stupid,' and they wouldn't report it. I mean my girlfriend, she didn't report it, she just told her friend how stupid she was (to go to the lawyer)."

Her friend didn't end up giving any money away, she said.

"But the thing is, it really impugns on your mental health. Most people would like to think of the world as a caring world. A world where people have each other. You believe in positive behaviours and you're grateful that you have good friends and a good environment. Like Niagara-on-the-Lake, look how beautiful it is. But those types of things put you into a negative mode. And I only get a couple a day. Some people may get a lot more if they have a lot of social connections."

Charlton said the increasing volume of scam calls has the potential to make



Pauline Charlton gets as many as three scam phone calls every day. SOURCED PHOTO

human instinct "more negative than positive."

"Our brain has this mechanism, called the amygdala, it's in our brain, and it produces fear. So this type of phone call will induce fear."

"The other day the Royal Ontario Museum called, and I thought it was one of those fraudulent calls. And I just said one word, 'hello' ... I wasn't friendly to them at all. And it's an organization I've been supporting for many years. It makes people become so insensitive."

She said some people might be worried for their safety at home, too.

"It changes the way we think," she said. "Even if you don't know it, your brain will turn on those hormones and you will be under stress. And what does stress cause people? Bad health ... even cancer and depression. It attacks your belief system," Charlton said. "And also makes you depressed. You're helpless."

She said the worrying thing is there isn't anything people can do about it.

"Even if you call the police like I did, there's nothing they can do."

"As they get more and more sophisticated, it gets to a point where you wonder

whether you should have a phone or not. But a phone is essential, it saves people's lives. You have to have it."

She worries for people who aren't as tech-savvy receiving the calls or emails.

"I think especially in NOTL we have a lot of older people here and they are not as well-versed in new technology. You know, it's difficult. A lot of people say, 'I have a son or grandchild (who is) really good at computers and I can talk to them' but not everybody

has that."

Charlton said she doesn't know how to make the calls stop, but would like to see some solutions besides blocking the numbers.

"Blocking them is not going to help," she said.

"I want to fight back. I just don't think this is something people should tolerate."

A list of scams by medium (phone, email, text, etc.) can be found at www.antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca/scams-fraudes/medium-moyen-eng.htm

How do you handle scam calls?

Do today's scam robocallers make you long for the good old days of duct-cleaning services who just "happen to be in your neighbourhood?"

It seems everyone gets the calls now, despite promised government crackdowns.

How do you handle such calls?

Do you just hang up? Ignore the ringing and just let it go to voice mail?

Hear the pitch and wonder if, maybe, this one actually is legit?

Do you ever follow their directions and click through so you can hear the voice from the "CRA," "Microsoft," "Niagara Regional Police Teddy bear drive?" Have you ever engaged with the scammer?

What is your advice for your neighbours? Let us know and we'll compile a list of some of your suggestions and share the details with readers.

Email editor@niagaranow.com but be sure to put SCAM in the subject line.



BLIND TASTING *experience*

Let your taste buds guide you through this one of a kind experience. Only \$30/person.

konzelmann.ca



konzelmann
estate winery



Helping home owners for more than 20 years.

Jo-Ann CUDMORE
sales representative
905-468-4214
Direct: 905-321-8126
www.cudmorehomes.com

ROYALLEPAGE CANADA'S
REAL ESTATE EXPERTS

CARRIAGE TRADE

Lakeview leads path of innovation

Continued from Front Page

ogy underpin the growing demand for mechanized solutions to reduce manual work in all phases of vineyard management.

“It’s about becoming more efficient, but also about ways the mechanization has viticulture benefits compared to manual methods,” according to Pillitteri.

One iconic sight in NOTL is the huge yellow harvester machine straddling rows of grapes, shaking them free from the vines when they’re ripe. There are 110 harvester machines in Ontario, despite costing anywhere from \$200,000 to \$480,000 each, depending on the features.

“The threshold for owning a harvester is lower in Niagara than anywhere else because of icewine. You have maybe one or two nights to pick, so you have to be ready, and you have to harvest quickly.”

Pillitteri adds that the timing for the harvest is so critical, his team is on call during that period in case a grower needs emergency maintenance on their machines.

While the harvester machines have been around for a long time, there are new innovations that complement the work they do.

One example is called the Easy Clean System, which



Lakeview exhibit of vineyard equipment at a recent trade show in Niagara Falls. JILL TROYER

Pillitteri’s team helped develop. It’s an add-on to the harvesters and “it blows out light debris, de-stems, sorts, and removes 99.8 per cent of MOG (material other than grapes),” he explains, adding “it used to be used by one in 10 growers, but now 100 per cent go out with that.”

Among the newer innovations, there’s “a sprayer that recaptures any material that doesn’t land on the leaf canopy. Early in the growing season, when the canopy is thin, it saves as much as 50 per cent of the chemical it applies. Later in the season, once the canopy is heavier that percentage is reduced because more of the material sticks to the leaves,” he says.

In either case, it eliminates waste and ensures the material only goes

where targeted and is not sprayed into the air or soil. This technology is only 18 months old, and so far less than 10 per cent of the market is using it.

Other vineyard tasks that have been mechanized include weed removal and leaf removal.

Mechanical weed removal tools pull up the weeds by their roots early in the growing season, making maintenance much easier and reducing the need to use pesticide.

Leaves in the fruit zone need to be thinned to allow for air circulation and sunlight. The leaf removal system uses compressed air to blow leaves off their stems, leaving the grapes intact. Mechanization allows this to be done more quickly than if it were manual, so it’s easier to complete this

at the optimal time in the growth cycle.

And after harvest time, there’s an optical sorter that’s available, though not yet widely used. “Using the optical sorter, two or three people can process 10 tons of grapes per hour. Manually, it takes 20 to 30 people to sort the same amount in an hour.” Grapes are sorted for consistent colour, shape and size.

Newer technology produces a speedier payback than it used to, according to Pillitteri, and “the price for grapes hasn’t increased, therefore growers need to become more efficient and productive to see any increase in revenue.”

Quite apart from all the technological explanations and improvements, this business is in Pillitteri’s blood.

“I grew up on a farm and I always believed I’d be a farmer, maybe because I always wanted to drive a tractor. I’ve always been in awe of equipment, I love machines. I’d be happy any day to get up in a harvester and pick grapes for hours. It’s peaceful, you’re out in nature, and contributing to making a product that people love.”

Next: How one NOTL grower has adopted a new tool that makes pruning faster and easier.

Thirteen wineries join in food drive efforts

Continued from Front Page

Triggs Estate Winery, Marynissen Estates Winery, Palatine Hills Estate Winery, Queenston Mile Vineyard, Ravine Vineyard Estate Winery, Inniskillin Wines, Reif Estate Winery, Southbook Organic Vineyards, Riverview Cellars Estate Winery, The Hare Wine Co., Peller Estates Winery, Trius Winery and Wayne Gretzky Estates.

Throughout March, residents can stop by the participating wineries with a non-perishable food donation and enjoy a complimentary tasting of select wines.

“I am so excited to have more wineries join this local food drive and expand our

reach into the community,” Andrea Kaiser, director of marketing at Reif Estate Winery, said in a statement.

It was Kaiser who came up with the idea of organizing a food drive for Newark Neighbours in 2019.

“With Easter just around the corner, the timing could not be better. The food bank aims to provide a supply of two weeks-worth of groceries and all the ingredients to ensure local families have access to a holiday dinner,” she said.

Usually, donations start to slow down once the winter holidays are over and that is why the food drive runs in March.

“The news of 12 additional wineries participating in rais-



The NOTL food drive will be collecting food during March. DARIYA BAIGUZHUYEVA

ing food for our community in need, comes at a very good time,” Newark Neighbours volunteer Jayme Swanwick said in a statement.

“We rely heavily each year on the Niagara-on-the-Lake Santa Claus Parade food drive to keep our shelves stocked, however,

because of the inclement weather this year donations were much lower than anticipated.”

“I am so thrilled to hear of the tremendous generosity of our local wineries and I am continually amazed at the care and compassion of our community.”

SERVICING NOTL FOR OVER 50 YEARS!

Warren
PLUMBING & HEATING
AIR CONDITIONING

NOW OFFERING RENTAL EQUIPMENT

- WATER HEATERS
- FURNACES
- FIREPLACES

FINANCING AVAILABLE

734 Charlotte Street | Niagara-on-the-Lake

(905) 468-2127

St. David's
VETERINARY CLINIC
stdavidsvetclinic.com

Have your pet food and supplies delivered right to your front door!

Call us today to set up your online account! ☎ 905.262.8777

PERRY JOHNSON
AT YOUR SERVICE

905-329-7200
PMJNOTL@GMAIL.COM

- PERSONAL SERVICE
- GENERAL MAINTENANCE
- ODD & OBSCURE TASKS
- RENTAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
- PROPERTY WATCH

SPECIALIZING IN THE THINGS YOU HAVE NO INTEREST IN DOING!

LONEY
CONSTRUCTION
NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE

Renovations
Fine Carpentry
Staircases
Kitchens
Additions
Custom Cabinetry
Wine Cellars
Cathedral Beam Ceilings

See our work at loneyconstruction.com

Advertising inquiries?
Email advertising@niagaranow.com

MUSIC TRIVIA
MONDAY NIGHTS @ 7PM
THEIRISHHARPPUB.COM/ENTERTAINMENT



TLR

Editor-in-Chief: Richard Harley
Managing Editor: Kevin MacLean
Publisher: Niagara Now
Design & Layout: Richard Harley
Advertising: Rob Lamond
Contributors: Brittany Carter, Dariya Baiguzhiyeva, Jill Troyer, Tim Taylor, Denise Ascenzo, Linda Fritz, Ross Robinson, Brian Marshall, Tim Carroll, Susan Des Islets, NOTL Writers' Circle, Jim Smith, Jaclyn Wilms, Collin Gooddine, Plunger Patrol, and many more members of the NOTL community

**Contributed by Norm Arsenault:**

Buy a reusable water bottle and/or insulated mug. Fill your water before leaving home and refill at public water stations such as the community centre or Zoom Bikes and other local places. All coffee shops will refill your insulated mugs. Keep the reusable bottle and insulated mug in your vehicle at all times. No more single-use coffee cups and no more plastic water bottles.

**Contributed by Patty Garriock**

All endings are also beginnings.
 We just don't know it at the time.
 – Writer Mitch Albom.

HOW TO GET IN TOUCH**Email:**

Letters: editor@niagaranow.com
 Story Ideas: editor@niagaranow.com
 Advertising: advertising@niagaranow.com

Phone

Newsroom: 905-359-2270
 Advertising Department: 905-246-4671

Office Address

496 Mississauga St., NOTL, Ontario, Canada.

Mailing Address

PO Box 724, Niagara-on-the-Lake, L0S1J0

Have a lead on a story?

Call 905.359.2270 or send an email to editor@niagaranow.com

Interest in advertising?

Call 905.246.4671 or send an email to advertising@niagaranow.com

Editorial

Police should take **scam calls** more seriously

Richard Harley
 Editor-in-Chief

When I was writing this week's main story about a local woman who contacted The Lake Report about scam phone calls, it was disheartening to learn that police simply told her it wasn't worth their time to investigate, and that she should ignore the calls.

Unfortunately, especially in Niagara, it seems our police are especially good at the "not my job" excuse. We've seen it before with carriage protesters breaking laws and police doing nothing. And now it's happening to residents of our town who are vulnerable to fraud and thieves.

How can our police force simply say it's not worth trying to solve a crime?

It seems like an easy way out for a police force with a fraud unit.

Regardless, if it's up to us to make sure we don't get bilked, The Lake Report would like to help. We will now be posting a "Scam Alert" column with information from the Canadian Anti-Fraud Unit on different active scams. Stay safe out there.

editor@niagaranow.com



Correction: Photo was not supplied by museum

The image in the article *Chloe Cooley and The Act to Limit Slavery* was not provided or endorsed by the Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum. The photo used was not of Chloe Cooley. The Lake Report regrets the error.

Yes, short-term rentals are **hollowing out** NOTL

Dear editor:

We would like to address the idea of hollowing out of NOTL that was mentioned in three letters in your recent Feb. 27 edition.

Two of the three letter writers made it clear that they have a financial interest in keeping short-term rentals in town.

To quote Alison and Nick Lloyd-Davis, the businesses "are keen to make a profit." And Jason Clements says he manages 25 vacation homes in the Old Town, from which I'm sure he takes a good percentage of the revenue as a management fee.

My husband and I live in NOTL (Old Town) all year-round. My family has lived in this same house for over 45 years. We now have only four year-round neighbours.

By neighbours we mean people we know by name, who we could go to if we needed help. We firmly believe that our neighbourhood has been hollowed out. In fact, it is quite obvious to anyone with eyes.

In the summer, we are surrounded by people we don't know, who are often rude, noisy and disrespectful.

These people are not neighbours. They are not part of

the community. They are clients. They in no way contribute to our sense of community. They only contribute financially to the businesses.

In the winter, we are surrounded by no one. At this time of year, we have to deal with unshovelled sidewalks, copies of the Niagara Advance newspaper piled up and rotting on the sidewalks and roads. We have long given up trying to pick them up and bring them home to recycle because there are so many.

This is hollowing out. The majority of these houses are empty, no one lives in them, and the problem continues to grow each time a house is put on the market.

Short-term rentals do contribute to the lack of affordable housing. If a large portion of a community's housing stock is tied up in short-term rentals, it is not available for anyone else to rent.

Communities like Picton, Ont., are limiting the percentage of their housing stock that can be used as short-term rentals so they can maintain some housing for long-term rentals for people who work in the community.

Alison Hepburn and Dave Galloway
 NOTL

Business improvement area **better than** accommodation tax

Dear editor:

Last week's story, "Tourism reps unhappy with mayor's advocacy for accommodation tax," on Lord Mayor Betty Disero's efforts to improve the appearance of the community through the introduction of a municipal accommodation tax is informative, but the lord mayor's efforts are misguided.

The explanation provided by Disero is that such a tax might be needed to offset capital improvements and upgrade charges to areas such as Queen Street and in Virgil – to the tune of \$1 million.

Have members of the business community been asked their opinion?

There are other tools that the municipality might use without establishing a municipal accommodation tax – like a Business Improvement Area, or BIA.

A Business Improvement Area can access funding from other levels of government to improve a business area.

In particular, provincial legislation states that BIAs are

local boards and municipalities have considerable flexibility in the creation and operation of BIAs.

A 2010 BIA handbook is available online through a simple Google search. The handbook includes information on selected provincial economic development tools that local governments can use in partnership with local business and commercial property owners, including business incubator programs and Community Improvement Plans (known as CIPs).

Municipalities are encouraged to work with BIAs and local communities to devise solutions that work best in each area.

It may be time for the lord mayor to consider establishing BIAs in the Heritage District of Queen Street, as well as Virgil and St. Davids, to access readily available alternative funds, rather than to introduce a new tax that may be detrimental to our tourism industry.

Derek Insley
 Virgil

Thanks to all of the patients who have allowed me the opportunity to be part of their Dental Health Care over many years here in Niagara-on-the-Lake. I am grateful for your respect and confidence. As I look forward to my next chapter, I will cherish many fond memories.

Thank you, NOTL!

Sincerely,
 Dr. Fred Ross



OPINION

Dr. Brown: Nurse practitioners have an increasingly important role to play



Dr. William Brown
Special to The Lake Report

Much of my career was spent working in specialty clinics in Canada and the United States, such as neuromuscular, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) and multiple sclerosis (MS) clinics at London Health Sciences, Tuft's University Medical Center, St Joseph's Hospital in Thunder Bay and more recently the McMaster University Medical Centre.

In every instance, the clinic co-ordinator was a nurse and without exception they were amazing. Most were graduates of four-year nursing programs and left nursing while they had families only to return 10 to 15 years later looking for a day job in a clinic.

In the years they worked in the clinics those nurses acquired a comprehensive understanding of whatever clinical problems the clinic looked after – often rivalling the best of the physicians in the clinic and certainly the residents-in-training.

Their job was part-physician, part-social worker, part-shepherd for patients through the health care system, and trusted confidante for patients and families. If that were not enough, they often became involved in research projects.

At the MS clinic I ran in Thunder Bay, I was privileged to work with two such nurses, each of whom during their time in the clinic became very knowledgeable about the clinical features and course of the disease.

One in particular made it her business to know every patient and their family and spent many hours listening to them, providing excellent advice, helping them navigate the services available



Nurses and nurse practitioners are doing more work than ever. PIXABAY

to them and became the indispensable go-to person for most of the patients and their families when things went wrong.

These days nurse practitioners (NPs) have entered the health care system in force – largely driven by a shortage of family physicians and the realization that NPs provide valuable services quite aside from any supportive role they might have from time to time for the physicians in family health teams.

Originally, family health teams were created to sweeten the pie for physicians by offering a reasonably well-reimbursed, collegial environment in which they could work supported by a cast of social workers, psychiatric nurses and NPs to share the load while offering an expanded array of services impossible with the old model of solo physicians working strictly fee-for-service and supported, at best by a receptionist, if they were lucky.

One controversy simmering ever since the NPs came on the scene, centres on their expanding role north and south of the border. Because of the shortage of family physicians, NPs now staff an ever-increasing number of family health teams as the sole providers with little or no backup from physicians close at hand.

Certainly, that's the case in remote areas of Northern Ontario where they provide excellent care for most of what counts, in the total absence of physician boots on the ground.

Long before NPs, there were nurses like my sister Sally, who worked in Yellowknife for several years and was the de-facto midwife who delivered countless babies, sometimes getting there and back by dogsled! What counts is experience and Sally and many other nurses and midwives have that in spades. Which brings me to NOTL.

From what I've observed locally, NPs seem to fill several roles – triaging and offering walk-in care for relatively common minor medical problems, renewing drugs for those drugs they're authorized to prescribe, keeping track of and renewing vaccinations such as shots for flu and tetanus, and completing paperwork for patients.

In days past, family physicians might have seen these jobs as the part of the scut work of their practice, which took their time from the more urgent and "important" work of their practice.

Some family physicians continue to see NPs that way – adjuncts to their practice and not qualified to manage anything beyond the common and ordinary.

Indeed, one family physician once told me, "NPs don't know what they don't know." Maybe, but I venture the same holds true for some physicians all the time and all physicians some of the time!

According to an important recent study in the United States, NPs and family physicians see one another very differently.

As you might expect, NPs believe that they can take on much more responsibility, are more than capable of running family health teams, and should be paid accordingly.

Most family physicians take the opposite view. NPs should continue to work under the supervision of family physicians, because in the opinion of most family doctors, they simply aren't trained to the same standards as family physicians and should not operate as independent caregivers.

But as NPs become better educated (more and more have master's and PhD degrees) and acquire clinical experience equivalent to family physicians, the trend toward independent practice for NPs will, and should, grow.

The role of the NP is expanding. As patients, we need to be aware of these trends toward more participation and autonomy for NPs in our care. That's the subject of the next Info-health program on March 11 at 2 p.m. in the Niagara-on-the-Lake library given by nurse practitioner Erin Jarvis from our local family health team.

When I go to refresher courses in my specialty, at least one-third of the participants are NPs. Apparently, it's the same for other specialties. There's a lesson and wake up call for the future.

Dr. William Brown is a professor of neurology at McMaster University and co-founder of the Info-health series held on the second Wednesday of each month at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Public Library.

ARE YOU HAPPY WITH YOUR RETURNS?

8.8%* Since Inception

TFSA, RESP, RRSP & RRIF Eligible

Portland Private Income Fund
Investing Primarily in Private Debt Securities

- CAPITAL PRESERVATION
- REDUCED MARKET RISK
- INCOME
- ACCESS

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE FUND CALL: 905-708-8111
OR EMAIL: BMMATTER@MANDEVILLEPC.COM

*Inception Date January 7, 2013, Annualized returns on Series F as at November 30, 2019
**The awards are based solely on quantitative performance data of 207 Canadian hedge funds to June 30th, 2018 with Fundata Canada managing the collection and tabulation of the data to determine the winners. There is no nomination process or subjective assessment in identifying the winning hedge funds. The Sharpe ratio is a measure for calculating risk-adjusted returns. The Sharpe ratio is the portfolio return in excess of the risk-free rate divided by the volatility of the portfolio.
Brought to you in part by PORTLAND INVESTMENT COUNSEL
The Fund is only available to certain investors who meet eligibility or minimum purchase requirements such as "accredited investors". Commissions, trailing commissions, management fees and expenses all may be associated with investments. The Fund is not guaranteed, its value changes frequently and past performance may not be repeated. The Fund is not publicly offered. A redemption fee of 5% within 18 months and 2% within 19 to 36 months applies. Mandeville Private Client Inc. is a Member of the Investment Industry Regulatory Organization of Canada and a Member of the Canadian Investor Protection Fund. Mandeville Private Client Inc. is a registered trademark of Portland Holdings Inc. and used under license by Mandeville Private Client Inc. PORTLAND, PORTLAND INVESTMENT COUNSEL and the Clock Tower design are registered trademarks of Portland Holdings Inc. Used under license by Portland Investment Counsel Inc.

905-468-8727 | 358 Mary Street

Join us for ...

\$5 March MAYHEM!

- Select apps starting at \$5
- Local wines by the glass starting at \$5
- Pints starting at \$5
- All day every day all month
- Live music March 17

Did you know?

The Lake Report's printer sources 100 per cent of its paper fibre from industry leading paper mills, which use quick-growth, sustainable, renewable plots of land, rather than clear-cutting forests.

The ink is also vegetable-based.

Advertising inquiries?
Email advertising@niagaranow.com

BROCK BUILDERS INC.

CUSTOM HOME BUILDERS + RENOVATORS

Mark Holmes 905 262 0895 BrockBuilders.ca
Niagara-on-the-Lake



The Lake Report welcomes your letters to the editor. Please, write early and often. Letters ideally should be under 400 words long. Occasionally, longer letters may be published. All letters may be edited for conciseness, accuracy, libel and defamation. Please include your full name, street address and a daytime telephone number so that authorship can be authenticated. Only names and general addresses (eg. Virgil, St. Davids, NOTL) will be published. Send your letters to editor@niagaranow.com or drop them by our office at 724 Mississauga St., NOTL.

The Lake Report

Other communities are watching us, what will we show them?

Dear editor:

The prettiest town in Canada seems to be dividing itself from the inside. The current “residents against tourism industry” climate scares me. Twelve years ago, I moved to Niagara-on-the-Lake, a place where everyone cared and respected each other. I now fear we are losing our respectful and welcoming essence over years of accumulated political and budgetary decisions that all unfortunately led to the recent municipal tax increase for all.

I can’t stop myself comparing the current general climate with the famous tension between the Capulets and the Montagues: “Two households, both alike in dignity, In fair Verona, where we lay our scene, From ancient grudge break to new mutiny, Where civil blood makes civil hands unclean.” We also all know how it ends in a catastrophe before the two clans realize they are not so different after all.

A few points urgently need to be addressed. The accommodation industry (not to say tourism in general) seems to currently be blamed for a lot of our problems. The majority of our business owners, especially accommodation providers, are residents of NOTL as well! Just as everybody else, we all had our municipal taxes increased and we all witnessed the changes in the last few years; we are just as concerned and we do get it.

The current division between “residents” and “accommodation/tourism industry” seems to be based on old grudges imbedded in our local culture. It is indeed “human” to put the blame on something specific when things go wrong than to try fixing the issues together as a community. We all care and love this town and we all want to preserve its essence. This very “NOTL way of life” is what attracts people in our beautiful corner of the world and this very “essence” must be protected. We can all agree on this.

NOTL is not a big city. Our model is quite different from an urban one and our economy depends heavily on tourism. We are a unique little town and tourism destination; the solutions needed here will have to be well adapted as well. Also, defining people and businesses as “good” or “bad” only feeds into this wave of municipal self-division. Nothing is ever “black or white.” The problems we face can only be solved with true collaboration and understand-



Downtown Niagara-on-the-Lake. RENE BERTSCHI, SKYVIEW ARTS INC.

ing. The accommodation industry at large (B&Bs, inns, vacation rentals and hotels included) is an active part of our community, which would certainly be struggling way more than it is now without it. As an example, numerous historical properties across our municipality would most probably not be as well-kept if it wasn’t for the accommodation industry. The possibility for generated income and of tax-deducting a portion of home-related expenses is at the very core of the preservation of these properties, which would otherwise be very costly to maintain.

This idea that a certain kind of accommodation is better than another “for the town” is misinformed as they all serve a different purpose. One erroneous comment I have seen over and over states that “vacation rentals” are somehow “the bad guys” of the accommodation industry. My well-informed assumption is that this concept originated directly from inside the bed and breakfast industry years ago. After being on the board of the BBA for six years, I can tell you first-hand that trying to change this competitive way of thinking has been one of my focuses. A distinction does need to be made between locally-managed properties and others. Licensed and locally-managed properties are not the source of the problems the accommodation industry is being blamed for.

Another big misconception has to do with “Airbnb.” As with other well-known platforms, Airbnb is nothing more than a computer program. Factually, none of these platforms currently asks the user to download a copy of their licence to oper-

ate in our municipality. Airbnb and other “hotel booking platforms” are neither good nor bad. It is the individuals using them without getting a town licence who are not following the rules. I would go further and say that some people might not even know or think they need a licence to operate. Some homeowners are still using Airbnb in a way referred to as “home sharing.” Are you aware that the current NOTL short-term rental bylaws do not include a licence category representing the “home sharing” model? The concept has been around since Airbnb’s international expansion started in 2011.

The only category for an “owner-occupied dwelling” in the bylaws is the “bed and breakfast licence,” which some places are not. One could state that if people don’t view themselves as “a proper bed and breakfast,” they could assume they don’t need a licence at all. Once again, nothing is as “black or white” as many might think. The only way to have a general idea of what is going on is to have been closely involved in the accommodation industry for many years and having dealt with the problems that have arisen along the way.

The solutions needed for NOTL are more complex than simply imposing new rules and new fees/taxes. All of our wallets have already suffered the consequences of such actions. “Easy fixes” are costly and they fail to address the essence of the problems. I’m afraid they are not the type of solutions that will put us back on the right track. NOTL needs a real change this time. New rules? Yes. New intelligently targeted user fees and fines? Let’s figure

this out together. Possible tourism-based municipal funding mechanism? Let’s talk. An open collaboration with the tourism industry to make sure we are not killing our own town in the name of protecting it? Essential.

The short-term rental bylaws do need a rewrite and I have already offered to collaborate with the town on this matter. The involvement of the accommodation industry is crucial in making sure the new resulting bylaws make sense for our unique situation for years to come. Some of the comments and “proposed solutions” I have read in our different newspapers and on social media are misinformed and would be disastrous if implemented.

I know for a fact that other municipalities are currently watching us closely. Communities dealing with similar issues are waiting to see how we will reconcile our differences about simultaneously being a small historic rural town and an international tourism destination. Essentially, our responsibility is greater than we might think. We need to be “the small tourism destination community that all came together and successfully solved their problems in a unique, respectful, imaginative and positive way.”

It is time for all of us to rise above our differences of opinion and start working together toward finding solutions that will still allow NOTL to stay true to its welcoming reputation and historical nature. Time to become this international model and give hope to other municipalities that “it can be done.” I have faith in Niagara-on-the-Lake. If one community can succeed, I believe it is definitely us.

We are all centre stage and the spotlight had been turned on; what kind of show will we decide to give the world? What do we want NOTL to be known for? Our ability to come together or our current discording ways? Going back to Shakespeare’s prologue again: “(…) The continuance of their parents’ rage is now the (..) traffic of our stage; The which if you with patient ears attend, what here shall miss, our toil shall strive to mend.”

I personally am hopeful we can still have a positive ending to our story here. Are you?

David Levesque
President

NOTL Bed & Breakfast Association



Pauline Reimer Gibson
Audiologist

Pauline Reimer Gibson is an Audiologist with over 20 years of experience who loves helping people of all ages in the community. Julia Dick is the Front Office Coordinator and a longtime resident of Virgil. Call Julia today to book a complimentary hearing test.

Book a complimentary hearing test today at 905.468.9176

504 Line 2 Road, Virgil ON

A global leader in hearing healthcare.

amplifon

To vote, visit
lakereport.ca

The nominees are in.



43 Castlereagh Street | 905-468-3912 | www.nhsm.ca

Nominated for:

- Best Museum
- Best Summer Camp
- Non-profit/Charitable Organization



Thank you
for your nomination!

Cast your vote at www.lakereport.ca

The first ever NOTL's Choice Awards nominees are in, chosen by residents of Niagara-on-the-Lake. Many businesses wanted to say thanks to the community for nominating them. Find a full list of nominees at www.lakereport.ca and make sure to vote for your favourites. Voting closes March 30.



Redesigned intersection to help vehicles get to QEW

Dariya Baiguzhiyeva
The Lake Report

The collaborative project among the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Niagara Region and the Ministry of Transportation to redesign the Glendale QEW interchange is steadily moving forward.

Representatives from the region and the ministry made a presentation to the urban design committee last Tuesday providing updates on the project which is at the procurement stage for design and construction.

Ministry senior project engineer Hossein Hosseini noted the concept designs shown at the meeting could still be changed depending on the final submission by a successful design builder who is expected to be hired sometime in June.

The scope of the project involves reconstructing the QEW and Glendale Avenue interchange into a so-called diverging diamond interchange. This involves building a loop ramp and a connection road from Glendale Avenue to York Road and the Airport Road intersection, and extending the right-turning lane of Glendale Avenue between Taylor Road and Niagara on the Green Boulevard.

There will also be a new community carpool lot with 100 parking spaces at the northwest quadrant of the interchange, a single-lane roundabout at Glendale Avenue and York Road and pave-



The intersection at Glendale is being redesigned.
SUPPLIED PHOTO

ment repairs on the QEW, in both directions, from the east end of the Garden City Skyway bridge about three kilometres to the split point of Highway 405.

The new interchange will diverge traffic on Glendale to the left-hand side of the road through two cross-over intersections, allowing the left-turning traffic to access QEW without waiting for traffic signals or oncoming traffic, Hosseini said at the meeting.

"This improves the safety of the intersection and also the functionality of it from a vehicle movement perspective by reducing the number of conflict points from 26 to 14," Hosseini said.

The new interchange will be the first in Ontario and third in Canada, with the other two located in Alberta and Saskatchewan.

With the proposed roundabout at Glendale Avenue and York Road, there are opportunities for installing decorative street lighting and plantings, said Carolyn Ryall, regional director of transportation services.

The additional features, such as sidewalks or multi-use paths, will also help connect the community and promote active transportation, she said.

In regard to the loop ramp and a connection road, the intersection at York Road and Airport Road will be extended to provide access to the carpool lot and bike parking as well as a direct connection to the new interchange.

Construction will be divided into five stages and is scheduled to start in 2021.

There will be temporary lane, sidewalk and driveway closures from time to time but businesses in the area will remain open throughout the construction period.

The interchange is expected to be open for use in November 2022.

Traffic will be kept open during construction, however, there will be lane restrictions which will result in delays, according to the regional website.

The construction is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2023.

Obituary

MORRISON, Barbara Joan



Passed away peacefully after a long and courageous struggle with Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis, on Wednesday, February 26, 2020, at Hospice Niagara-Stabler Centre, at the age of 87. Beloved wife of Ken for 64 years. Loving mother of Kirk (Michelle), Bruce (Debbie) and Karen Trudeau (Jeff). Cherished grandma of Robert (Jamie), David (Nicole), Andrew, Nina, Matthew, Alex and Kate. Dear great grandma of Jax and Blakeley, and sister-in-law of Jean Houston. Fondly remembered by many nieces, nephews, family and friends. Predeceased by her parents Jack and Margaret Houston and brothers, Donald (Rose) and Robert Houston. Barbara was an avid golfer, swimmer, and tennis player. Among her many talents, Barbara was a particularly gifted quilter. She was a member of the Mississauga Quilters Guild, and later of the NOTL Needlers. Barb and Ken have been happy to call the

Niagara-on-the-Lake community their home for 24 years. The family would like to thank the caring staff and volunteers at Hospice Niagara-Stabler Centre, Marek and Alex of the Saint Elizabeth Health Care Team, the members of their Local Health Integration Network, Dr. John Bertley, Dr. Martin Kolb and Dr. Jeremy Child.

A celebration of Barbara's life will be held at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 323 Simcoe St., Niagara-on-the-Lake, on Saturday, March 21, 2020 at 11 a.m., with a reception to follow in the Kirk Hall. Interment to take place at a later date in Greenfield Cemetery, Arthur, ON. For those who wish, memorial donations to either the Canadian Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation or to Hospice Niagara, would be appreciated by the family. Photos, memories, and condolences may be shared at www.morganfuneral.com

backhouse
wood-fired dining | 289-272-1242

Ruffino's
Naples-on-the-Lake PASTA BAR & GRILL
the old "rest" door 242 mary st
tuesday & wednesday 4pm
289-819-0179



St. Davids-Queenston United Church
 1453 York Rd. St Davids
 905-262-5242
 www.stdavids-queenstonuc.ca
 Minister: Rev. Rick Hawley

Sunday Worship
 10:30 a.m.
 + Sunday School

All welcome!
 Sunday 10:45am
 redbrickchurch.ca

1775 Niagara Stone Road
 Niagara United Mennonite Church

LIDA KOWAL MBA, CPA, CMA
 CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANT

• Personal Tax • Corporate Tax • Small Business Specialist •
 • Accounting & Bookkeeping Services •

FREE LOCAL PICK UP FOR SENIORS
 1627 Niagara Stone Road, Unit B2, Virgil, ON

For appointment call
905-468-5300

*Tax preparer is approved by
 Canada Revenue Agency (CRA)

ART LIVES HERE

Image Detail: Tom Thomson, Twilight, pre-1914 Collection of Samuel E. Weir ©RiverBrink Art Museum

RIVERBRINK ART MUSEUM
 Winter Hours: Wed - Sat 10AM - 5PM
 116 Queenston St., Queenston
 905-262-4510 riverbrink.org

CLARE'S HARLEY-DAVIDSON
 Harley-Davidson Cycles
 Niagara

590 York Rd Niagara on the Lake ON L0S1J0
 905-684-4647 www.claresharleydavidson.com

Pauline Reimer Gibson is an Audiologist with over 20 years of experience who loves helping people of all ages in the community.

Book a complimentary hearing test today at 905.468.9176

504 Line 2 Road, Virgil ON

amplifon

CORPORATE FACILITY SUPPLY

7 Neilson St. St. Catharines
 905 68-CLEAN

"The Nice Guys with Cleaning Supplies"

Cleaning Products, Cleaning Equipment, Paper Products, Safety Supplies and Odour Control

RENT MY HUSBAND in Niagara-on-the-Lake

See what he can do for you at:
www.rentmyhusband-notl.com

Or call me, **Marion (905) 321-5776**

Warren

RENOVATIONS
 905.468.2127

PLUMBING, HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

905-988-6263

HAMBLET'S
 ROOFING • SIDING • WINDOWS

Let The Professionals Handle It!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
<h1>The Lake Report</h1> <p>COMMUNITY FAVOURITES: Legion Fish Fry every Thursday 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Duplicate Bridge at the Community Centre Tuesdays and Fridays at 1 p.m.</p>			
<p>8</p> <p>International Women's Day - - Yoga under the Full Moon - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. - Riverview Cellars Estate Winery 8th Annual Evening for Women - 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. - Club 55</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Committee of the whole - Planning - 6 p.m. - Council Chambers Public Meeting: Zoning By-law Amendment - 6 p.m. - Council Chambers Public Meeting: Community Planning Permit System - 6 p.m. - Council Chambers Fun Duplicate Bridge - 9 a.m. to noon - NOTL Community Centre Babies and Books - 11 a.m. - NOTL Public Library</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Table Tennis - 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. - NOTL Community Centre Coffee with Lord Mayor - 4-5 p.m. - Queenston Library Duplicate Bridge (ACBL Sanctioned) - 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. - NOTL Community Centre NOTL Rotary Club - Noon - NOTL Community Centre Niagara Golden Age Club: Seniors Euchre - 1 p.m. - NOTL Community Centre</p>	<p>German Conversation - 9:45 a.m. to 11:20 a.m. - Community Centre NOTL Toastmasters - Niagara College Danforth Campus Community Skate - 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. - Wayne Estates Winery Rink Beginners Yoga and Pilates - 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. - NOTL Community Centre Japanese Language - 10 p.m. - NOTL Community Centre</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Writers' Circle - 2 p.m. - NOTL Public Library Bravo Niagara! presents MILOS - 3 p.m. - St. Mark's Anglican Church</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Fun Duplicate Bridge - 9 a.m. to noon - NOTL Community Centre Babies and Books - 11 a.m. - NOTL Public Library Scientists in School Present: Obey Newton, It's the Law - 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. - NOTL Public Library Monday Mug Menagerie - 3 p.m. - NOTL Public Library</p>	<p>17</p> <p>St. Paddy's Day Party RSVP 905 935 1800 - 2 p.m. - Royal Henley Reading the Rainbow storytime - 10 a.m. - NOTL Public Library Duplicate Bridge (ACBL Sanctioned) - 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. - NOTL Community Centre NOTL Rotary Club - Noon - NOTL Community Centre Niagara Golden Age Club: Seniors Euchre - 1 p.m. - NOTL Community Centre Table Tennis - 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. - NOTL Community Centre</p>	<p>STEAM Story Time - 11:45 a.m. - NOTL Public Library German Conversation - 9:45 a.m. to 11:20 a.m. - Community Centre NOTL Toastmasters - Niagara College Danforth Campus Wine and Words: Kathleen Ashenburg - 7:30 p.m. - Winery Chess Club - 5 p.m. - NOTL Community Centre Library</p>

Know of a local event? Tell us. Submit it directly to www.niagara.com

The Lake Report

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

PIN ME UP!



March 5 - March 21

UPPER CANADA MECHANICAL
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE
905-651-0470

KeepRite

Ravenshead Homes inc.
www.RavensheadHomes.com
Renovations ~ Additions ~ Inspections
289 969 5991

Royal Henley

Voted Best Retirement Community

Inquire Today
905-935-1800

Independent Living, Assisted Living and Respite Care Available.

582 Ontario Street, St. Catharines
www.RoyalHenley.com

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	5 Table Tennis - 10:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. - NOTL Community Centre Homeschooler Drop In - 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. - NOTL Public Library Tinker Thinker - 6 p.m. - NOTL Public Library Seniors Drop in: Casual Bridge - 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. - NOTL Community Centre	6 Shaw Festival Annual Meeting - 2 p.m. - Royal George Theatre Yoga with Jenny - 10 a.m. - NOTL Public Library Knit a Bit - 2 p.m. - NOTL Public Library Duplicate Bridge (ACBL Sanctioned) - 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. - NOTL Community Centre	7 Paper Bag Princess Day - 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. - NOTL Public Library Youth Skate Night - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. - Fort George Skating Rink Culinary Regions of Italy - 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Canadian Food and Wine Institute Home and Garden Craft Show - 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. - Crossroads Public School
11 Senior Group - 7 p.m. - El J Patterson Day - 11:30 - Gretzky and Mindfulness - NOTL Community Group - 7:30 - Community Centre	12 Table Tennis - 10:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. - NOTL Community Centre Seniors Drop in: Casual Bridge - 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. - NOTL Community Centre Homeschooler Drop in - 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. - NOTL Public Library Customer Experience and Technology Committee - 4 p.m. - Council Chambers	13 Duplicate Bridge (ACBL Sanctioned) - 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. - NOTL Community Centre Knit a Bit - 2 p.m. - NOTL Public Library Steve Goldberger and the Gentle Spirits - 9 p.m. - The Old Winery Restaurant	14 A Ball in the Regency Style - 7 p.m. - Fort George The Breakfast Club - 10 p.m. - Club 55 Indoor Goat Yoga - 1 p.m. - Small Talk Vineyards
18 11 a.m. to - Public Library Senior Group - 7 p.m. - El J. Patterson Catherine - Reif Estate 10:30 - NOTL Public	19 Customer Experience and Technology Committee - 4 p.m. - Council Chambers Committee of Adjustment - 6:30 p.m. - Council Chambers Lecture Series All Along the Waterfront: Peter Mulcaster - 7:30 p.m. - NOTL Museum Table Tennis - 10:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. - NOTL Community Centre Seniors Drop in: Casual Bridge - 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. - NOTL Community Centre Homeschooler Drop in - 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. - NOTL Public Library	20 Popcorn Flix: Frozen 2 - 1 p.m. - NOTL Public Library Flowers for Seniors Welcome Spring - 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. - Meridean Arena Virgil Duplicate Bridge (ACBL Sanctioned) - 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. - NOTL Community Centre Knit a Bit - 2 p.m. - NOTL Public Library	21 Planning Before you Plant: Garden Seminar - 10 a.m. - Mori Gardens Spring Open House - 9 a.m. - Clare's Harley Davidson Indoor Goat Yoga - 1 p.m. - Small Talk Vineyards

J&S Performance

905-468-9735 Sales & Service

BEAT THE RUSH ON SPRING TUNE-UP/SERVICE

Service & Repairs to all makes and models

901 East/West Line, RR2, NOTL

(289)-868-9603 oldtowngoodies.ca

29 QUEEN ST.

ICE CREAM - SANDWICHES
PUZZLES - GAMES - LUGBAGS

Grace United Church
Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario
222 Victoria Street 905-468-4044

Sunday Service @ 10:30 a.m.
Check us out at
www.graceunitedchurch.com

TRAVELLING?
Don't let your house be a burden to friends or family?
Contact Nancy at :

ATTENDANTS HOMEWATCH
905.468.7111

J&S CONSTRUCTION

RENOVATIONS - CUSTOM BUILDS - ADDITIONS - DECKS & FENCES
"Putting Niagara Residents First"
WWW.JS-CONSTRUCTION.CA 289.697.5757



Have some fun

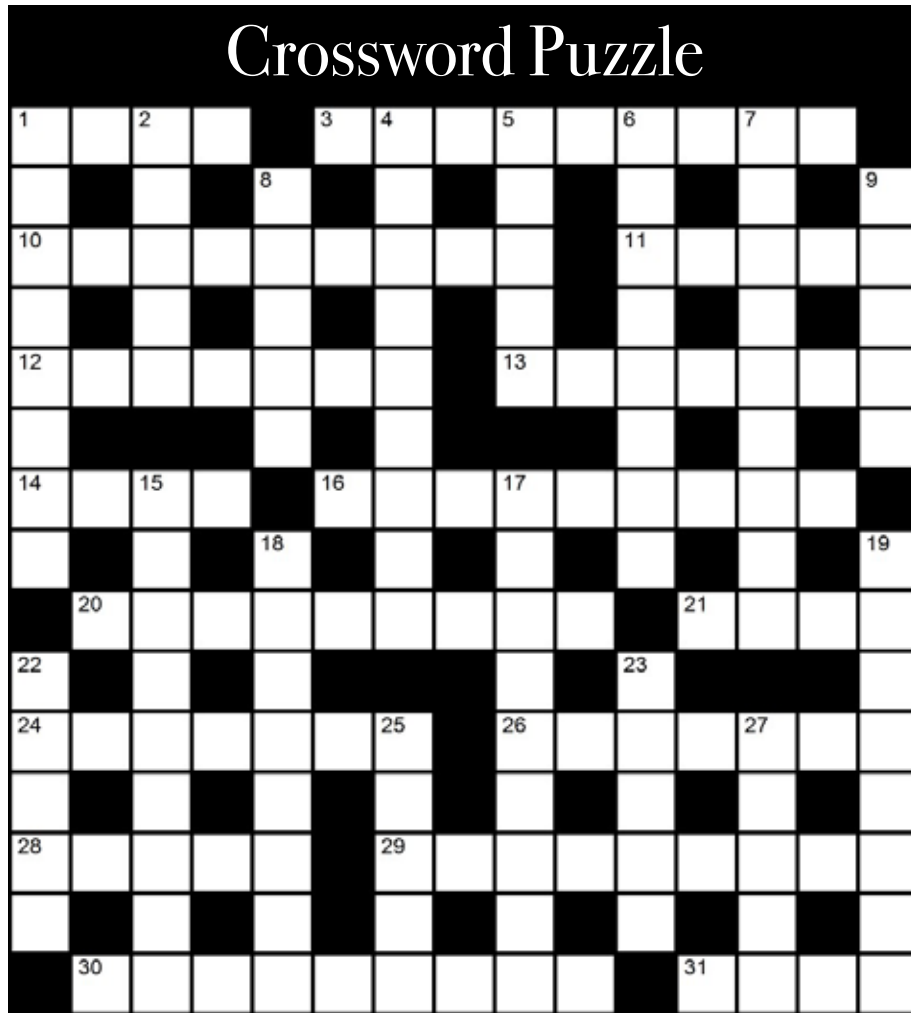
The Lake Report is looking for puzzle makers who would like to help develop this page. We are seeking both standard and cryptic crossword writers. editor@niagaranow.com

Across

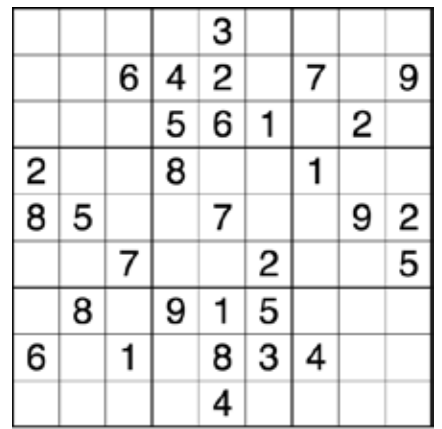
- 1. Relating to aircraft (4)
- 3. "The Hay Wain" artist (9)
- 10. Moving stairway (9)
- 11. Joanna (5)
- 12. Hopelessness (7)
- 13. Among (7)
- 14. Back of the neck (4)
- 16. Poisonous mushroom (9)
- 20. Custom (9)
- 21. Doing nothing (4)
- 24. Pear-shaped fruit (7)
- 26. Breakfast flatbread (7)
- 28. Dull yellowish brown (5)
- 29. Professional personal car driver (9)
- 30. Observe with festivities (9)
- 31. Irritate (4)

Down

- 1. Removing faults (8)
- 2. Speed contests (5)
- 4. Farthest from the centre (9)
- 5. Rub vigorously (5)
- 6. Desire for food (8)
- 7. Type of impermanent tenure (9)
- 8. Communion table (5)
- 9. Injury (5)
- 15. Rectory (9)
- 17. Air-freshener (9)
- 18. Put on a pedestal (8)
- 19. Investigate (8)
- 22. Small nails (5)
- 23. Rigid (5)
- 25. Happen (5)
- 27. Wide-awake (5)



Last issue's answers



Stories of black history in NOTL

By Shawna Butts/NOTL Museum/Special to The Lake Report

Solomon Moseby

Before the American Civil War, thousands of people enslaved in the southern United States escaped to find freedom in Canada. Regrettably, not all those who sought freedom were granted it.

In 1837, a slave owner from Kentucky came to Niagara demanding the arrest of his slave, Solomon Moseby, for the crime of horse-theft; a capital crime in the United States. Moseby was imprisoned in the Niagara jail, where he was to stay until transportation could be arranged back to America.

African Canadians knew that Moseby would be enslaved once again or, worse, face death for his alleged crimes. In order to prevent extradition, residents, both black and white, signed petitions protesting his return. In the days following Moseby's arrest, more than 200 supporters from communities across the Niagara region gathered in protest at the jail.

On the day Moseby was to be taken to America, a riot occurred. Herbert Holmes and Jacob Green were killed trying to prevent the wagon from leaving. In the commotion, Moseby escaped. To this day Solomon Moseby's case has influenced Canada's extradition and refugee policies.

For more information on Niagara-on-the-Lake's black history and to learn more about the story of Solomon Moseby, please visit vofpark.org.



The owner of this NOTL house, William Steward, signed a petition for the release of runaway slave Solomon Moseby. His wife Susannah might have been among the women blockading the carriage that Moseby was to be transported in, though no documentation exists to prove her participation. FILE PHOTO



niagara symphony orchestra

MASTERWORKS 5:

undaunted

Sunday, March 15 at 2:30pm
FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre

for tickets: 905.688.0722

niagarasymphony.com



Respighi
PINES OF ROME &
Rachmaninoff
SYMPHONY NO. 2



NOTL's Paul and Dawn Jacot, on the deck of the Queen Mary 2, along with The Lake Report. Find more Hometown Traveller stories at www.niagaranow.com PAUL AND DAWN JACOT/SUPPLIED



The Queen Mary 2, the only ocean liner in the world, is so-called because of its double steel hull. It carries more than 2,600 passengers, plus 1,292 crew, has 15 restaurants, five swimming pools and a planetarium. PAUL AND DAWN JACOT/SUPPLIED



Paul and Dawn Jacot in the desert near Dubai. SUPPLIED

Hometown Traveller: The Queen Mary 2

Paul Jacot
 Special to The Lake Report

At the reception desk of a five-star hotel in Singapore, the front desk clerk pointed a silver gun at the foreheads of my wife and I.

"Hold steady. We must take your temperature before you can register," the mask-covered face said. Welcome to the new world of travelling in the era of the coronavirus.

My wife Dawn and I were on a trip of a lifetime, a cruise on the Queen Mary 2, the only ship in the world that can be called an ocean liner, not a cruise ship (because of its unique hull construction).

With all its elegance, white-gloved, tea-serving waiters and champagne flowing lounges, the glamour of the black-tie nights (Roaring Twenties, Black and White, Royal and Maritime balls), the grand old dame supplied nutritious and delicious food, and offered a wide range of activities, from insightful and stimulating lectures, ballroom dancing, golf lessons, acting and art classes, even fencing.

We began the cruise in Dubai, a fascinating place created just 15 years ago from barren desert surroundings. Now, Dubai is a bustling city commanding an endless stream of skyscrapers.

It has one of the world's busiest airports, connect-

ing Europe with Asia and beyond. Just outside the city limits, we experienced an unforgettable "dune crashing" expedition into the desert.

After leaving Dubai, we sailed without incident through the Strait of Hormuz, which divides the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman. Iran's top general had just been killed by the Americans and we were told we were being escorted by two British warships – though we never saw them. We sailed on to Muscat, the capital of Oman.

Oman's Sultan (whom the people adored) had just died, so there were 40 days of mourning honouring him. The Sultan was famous for being the broker in the Middle East, specifically between Saudi Arabia and Iran.

He advanced Oman's country's education and health systems and built one of the most prized opera houses in the world, a must to see. His \$350 million yacht sits in the Muscat harbour.

We sailed on to Sri Lanka, a place I had to see as my mother (in the British forces) visited there during the Second World War as an entertainer of the troops.

She said that if you ever wanted to see a Garden of Eden on Earth, go to Sri Lanka, formerly known as Ceylon. We toured the oldest tea plantation and witnessed the women on the

hillsides picking the "right" leaves (small and bright green ones) off the tea bushes. The plantation also featured cashew trees, pepper trees, plentiful rubber trees and cinnamon bushes.

Then came the "feared" official word from the captain of the Queen Mary 2: because of the coronavirus, the ship was heading for Australia (missing out a myriad of scheduled ports on the ship's world-cruise itinerary (Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Hong Kong, Vietnam, Cambodia, etc)).

We had a choice to get off at Kuala Lumpur and see southeast Asia or go straight to Perth, another eight days at sea. We decided, along with our travelling friends, to get off.

We then visited Kuala Lumpur, 34C, lush foliage, tasty food choices, a city fabulously rich with history and culture and an exotic bird sanctuary, featuring hundreds of colourful species from peacocks to parrots.

Singapore, with its bustling splendour (a tax-free playground for billionaires), features a spectacular botanical garden (the only one granted World Heritage status), a Formula 1 racing circuit and the world's largest hotel rooms.

Next, we flew to Japan and stayed at a hotel in Tokyo with a spectacular view of Tokyo Bay. The virus-infected ship Diamond

Princess was quarantined nearby in Yokohama Bay.

In Tokyo (in February), there was not much public mention or advertising for the 2020 Summer Olympic Games to be held in Tokyo this July, internal news was all about COVID-19, telling the nation to wear masks and advising telecom workers to work from home if possible, and all avoiding the mass transit routes.

Japan's economy is at a stand-still because of the China-U.S. trade wars, and on top of that, the country is worried about attracting visitors for the Summer Games amid the global virus scare.

Almost everyone wore masks, as did we, in the Far East in February, including Tokyo. The Japanese people are ultra-courteous, polite and helpful. We took the public transit (fewer riders than normal) subway, monorail and train, and visited the famous sites, including Japan's oldest Shinto shrine, the Sensoji Temple built in 628, the smell of incense wafting in the 13C air.

For Dawn and myself this was the trip of a lifetime, fraught with travel adjustments, yes, but intensely fascinating, allowing us to deeply inhale our world with its rich cultures and unique personalities.

However, it's a new world out there for travellers, so be prepared!



At the souk market in Muscat, Oman, where bargaining is a must. PAUL AND DAWN JACOT/SUPPLIED

People from Niagara-on-the-Lake travel to some of the most interesting places on Earth and we'd like to hear about your vacations.

So, if you have ever wanted to be a travel writer, here is your chance. Send us a travelogue story about your vacation, along with some photos.

It's impossible to include everything, but stories ideally should be 250 to 600 words and focus on a unique, quirky or particularly interesting aspect of your trip. It can be about a vacation you have just taken, one you're on now (lucky you!), or a holiday you took a few years ago.

Sometimes, just a picture is worth a thousand words. So, if you aren't able to write a story about your trip, send us two or three snapshots from your holiday and we will try to publish some of them.

In all cases, smartphone photos are perfectly acceptable. Just make sure each digital image you send us is around 1 to 2 MB in size. Include destination information and the names (from left) of everyone in each photo. And tell us who took the photo, if possible.

As a bonus, bring along a copy of The Lake Report and include it in your photo!

Send your stories and photos to editor@niagaranow.com and be sure to write TRAVEL in the subject line.

Happy trails.



Delicious homemade cajun shrimp. COLLIN GOODINE

COOKING WITH COLLIN

Cajun shrimp a crowd pleaser

Collin Goodine
Special to The Lake Report

Whether your desire is lobster, crawfish, shrimps or langoustine, these beautifully sweet crustaceans are a treat at the table. A few weeks ago I brought you a nice recipe with the leftover shells of the lobster, so this week I thought I would talk a little bit about shrimp.

Since farmed shrimp are getting a bad rap, I figured it was an opportune time to share one of my favourite dishes. This Cajun shrimp recipe was one of the first items I made as a line cook on the hot apps station. This is a crowd pleaser for sure and will grace your table for years to come.

If you are not a fan of the butter, feel free to omit. Instead, use a little coconut milk and add a bit more spice.

Cajun Shrimp

Ingredients:

21-25 black tiger shrimps, peeled and deveined (wild preferred)	1/2 pint cherry tomatoes
1/2 tsp cayenne	1 red bell pepper
1 tsp paprika	1/2 medium red onion
1 tsp garlic puree	2 tsp olive oil (for saute)
2 pinches cumin	1 cup white wine
2 pinches salt	2 tbsp lemon juice
1 pinch pepper	1 tbsp honey
2 tsp olive oil (for shrimp mix)	1/4 lb butter (in small cubes)
	2 tbsp parsley

Directions:

Toss shrimps and seasonings in a bowl with olive oil and set aside in the fridge until ready to use.

Cut cherry tomatoes in half. Small dice the pepper and red onion. Chop parsley.

In a large pan heat olive oil and sautee the peppers and red onion.

Add the seasoned shrimp mixture. Cook while continuously moving the shrimps to avoid sticking.

After about two minutes of cooking add the white wine to deglaze the pan. Simmer until the shrimp is fully cooked. Remove the shrimps into a separate bowl.

Turn up the heat to reduce the wine, add the lemon juice and honey.

Once the liquid is reduced by half, turn the heat down to a simmer.

Slowly add the butter in small cubes one at a time, stirring constantly. This will thicken the sauce (monte au beurre).

Add the shrimps, parsley and the cherry tomatoes.

Toss once or twice and serve with French bread.

Royal Oak student report



Royal Oak students hold certificates given to them by the Legion. SUPPLIED PHOTO

Remembrance Day essays with the Legion

Ruby Elltoft
Royal Oak Community School
Special to The Lake Report

The students of Royal Oak recently welcomed our neighbours from the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 124.

Back in November, the Legion ran it's annual Poster, Essay and Poetry Contest. The students at Royal Oak tried their best to show their feelings and the history of Remembrance Day. The Legion judged each and every entry to see who could best show the feelings of our gratitude and sadness around wars. The Legion does this event every year, to help everyone in this amazing town remember the war where so many soldiers died. Everyone had amazing posters and worked so hard and I'm guessing the judges had a hard time deciding which child will have a higher spot at the top! ROCS hopes that everyone will remember the tragedy of war, and keep it forever in their heart.

STAY FIT NOTL

Recovery and repair

Jaelyn Willms
Special to The Lake Report

Recovery is important for the body. It gives the body time to replenish energy stores and repair damaged tissues. The type of recovery I'm talking about is beyond good sleep, nutrition and hydration. It involves giving the body an extra push to promote and elevate the body's natural way to repair itself. This may involve a cold plunge, infrared sauna, massage, meditation or foam rolling. Here is a quick workout to help you with recovery.

Foam Roll:

1. Roll IT Bands
2. Roll Glutes
3. Upper Back
4. Restorative pose against the wall - legs up

For videos on how to perform these stretches correctly visit @niagarafit on instagram.



Jaelyn Willms and Danielle Lepp demonstrate a Foam Roll. STAY FIT NOTL

Join the FITSIDE
The Healthiest Take Out + Smoothie Bar | 358 Mary St. NOTL FITSIDE Express



EXPLORING PHOTOS

WITH JIM SMITH



Inside the clock tower: Part 1

Very few people see what it looks like behind the face of the town's clock tower and cenotaph. As seen above, there are four light bulbs hanging behind each face. The original knob and tube wiring that lights these bulbs has never been changed. The milk glass that used to be in the clock face has been replaced with plexiglass. As the plexiglass was translucent white, it has been sprayed from the inside with yellow to give the face a warm appearance at night.

SUPPLIED PHOTO/JIM SMITH

ARCHITEXT

Doing the right thing wrong

Brian Marshall
Featured

Sometimes the undertakings of government leave me confused. Take, for example, the recent draft bylaw addressing garage setbacks introduced by town council on Feb. 3.

In what I am sure was a well-intentioned attempt to "encourage design that does not result in a garage-dominated streetscape", the sponsor(s) of the draft apparently feel that this can be accomplished by pushing attached garages back five feet behind the main facade and limiting its size (width) at 50 per cent of that facade to a maximum of 24.6 feet.

Did anyone consult an ex-



Thom's brilliant Watchill House could not be built in NOTL.
SUPPLIED/BRIAN MARSHALL

pert in architectural design?

I suggest had this been done, the response would indicate that the bylaw would have negligible results relative to its stated purpose. Further, it would have multiple downside consequences to builders, home buyers and architects.

Fact is, even a single-car garage opening is big and most doors utilitarian. Size alone will have a tendency to establish the opening as a dominant feature; whether it is set proud of, even with, or five feet back from the main facade. To make matters worse, there is a driveway

from the street leading directly to the opening. In most cases, it is not the garage itself which dominates the streetscape but rather the repetitious parade of driveways and garage doors.

So, what is the most successful legislative strategy to address this unfortunate design legacy leftover from the days when car ownership was a status symbol?

One answer, which requires a long overdue paradigm shift, is to eliminate all front-facing garage doors. In new developments, this would mean garages built behind the house (whether

attached or detached) with driveways serviced by rear laneways. On in-fill builds and retrofits in established neighbourhoods, several options might be contemplated, including courtyard designs. Still, while this solution would be more successful than the proposed bylaw, it is not possible to legislate good taste and skilled design, which is really the root of this issue.

The best (not perfect) answer is instituting architectural design review guidelines for the town, provided we understand this runs the risk of taking the art out of architecture. However, given the conditions of the proposed bylaw, more than 30 per cent of Ron Thom's brilliant designs (including heritage-designated 4 Old George Place in Toronto) could not be built in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Perhaps council may wish to contemplate expert input prior to revisiting this draft on March 9.

Learn about River Cruises with AVALON WATERWAYS®

Join Avalon Specialist and local travel professional Silvia Fuchs from The Travel Agent Next Door for a FREE PRESENTATION with an Avalon Representative

SATURDAY MARCH 21 | 2:00p.m.

In the Mori Room at the Community Centre
14 Anderson Lane, Niagara-on-the-Lake
RSVP to Silvia Fuchs CTC by Mar. 18, 2020
905-321-5892 | sfuchs@thetravelagentnextdoor.com



Silvia Fuchs CTC
The Travel Agent Next Door

1003-55 York St. Toronto, Ontario, M5J 1R7
(416)367-8264 ext. 2547 (905)321-5892
TICO#50021282

Complimentary Refreshments & Door Prizes



Looking for a way to contribute?

Are you looking to give back to the Niagara-on-the-Lake community?

The Lake Report is looking for extra help with advertising sales, and we're hoping there are volunteers out there who would spend some time helping us out. Volunteering with NOTL's favourite newspaper is a fantastic way to give back to your community. The paper, which is delivered free to every home in NOTL, support countless local charities and initiatives and informs readers about truly important issues you won't find covered in any other local publication.

If you're interested, give Rob Lamond a call at 905-246-4671, or send an email to roblamond@niagaranow.com

Support The Lake Report

Did you know?

The Lake Report's printer sources 100 per cent of its paper fibre from industry leading paper mills, which use quick-growth, sustainable, renewable plots of land, rather than clear-cutting forests.

The ink is also vegetable-based.



NOTL: SPECIAL WINTER EDITION

The Lake Report's winter magazine highlights some of the best places and things to do in NOTL.

You can pick up a physical copy at all restaurants, hotels and businesses or you can visit our office at 496 Mississagua St. in Old Town.



NOTL'S CHOICE AWARDS

You took the time to nominate your favourites, now it's time to vote on the best businesses, organizations and individual professionals in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

To vote, go to LakeReport.ca



PRESS PASS PROGRAM

The Lake Report Press Pass Program gets local residents discounts at a long list of businesses in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Valid for local residents only.

To sign up, visit our office for a card at 496 Mississagua St. in Old Town.

Who **really** won the war of 1812?

It's complicated, as Britain, Canada, the U.S. and Indigenous nations all had a variety of goals. But the real winner was ...



Denise Ascenzo
Exclusive/The Lake Report

On Dec. 24, 1814, the newspaper headlines around the country might have read, "The War is Over – Peace Finally."

Here in Niagara-on-the-Lake, however, there were no such headlines. The town had been devastated by the retreat of the American forces a year previously and there were no newspapers to make any proclamation of peace.

Just who won the War of 1812 in North America has been an ongoing debate since the Treaty of Ghent was signed on Christmas Eve in 1814 in Belgium.

There are numerous articles and papers written to support all sides. Some say the Americans won, some say the Canadians/British won, while it is generally agreed that the Indigenous allies definitely lost. In Europe, there were many aspects of the Napoleonic Wars that spilled into North America, but it is generally agreed that France lost.

I decided to ask Ron Dale, an acclaimed historian of the War of 1812, what the end result of this particular war was. Dale says one has to look at what the war aims of each side were and decide if they were achieved. Here is how he explained to me who won the war of 1812.

The war in Europe had been ongoing for almost seven years with Napoleon in power since 1799 as the First Consul of France. There was an uneasy peace throughout Europe with unresolved disputes over land boundaries and economies.

Napoleon was trying to enforce his idea of a European Union under the name



Re-enactors show what officers' dinners would have looked like in the War of 1812 for the people in the upper class.
DARIYA BAIGUZHIEVA

of the Continental Trade System. Many countries were given no choice but to accept this new system while others balked at being governed in trade by France.

In May of 1803, Britain declared war on France and was soon bolstering the armies of countries that stood against the French. From 1803 to 1806, there were battles throughout Europe; Prussia, Sweden, Saxony, Russia and England were the main players against France.

Napoleon had even considered invading England but he needed to take control over the seas. The Battle of Trafalgar in 1805 saw a decisive sea victory with England defeating France and Spain, thus guaranteeing full control of the seas. This fact alone is one of the precursors to the War of 1812 in North America.

With Britain now in full control of the seas, it set up blockades of all French ports with a plan to starve France into surrender. While the blockade continued, France engaged in several land battles with Prussia, Russia and Austria and France was victorious in all.

In 1812, France tried to invade Russia but was defeated. This defeat emboldened several other countries

to engage France again and in 1813 Prussia, Austria and Russia defeated France in several battles.

Now let's bring the War of 1812 to North America. Britain was blockading all French ports. France's largest trading partner was the new republic of the United States.

The U.S. needed to keep France as a trading partner to help recover from its revolutionary war against Britain. With the Royal Navy blockading all French and American ports, no goods from the United States were reaching France.

Next the Royal Navy, needing a continuous supply of sailors, was boarding U.S. vessels and impressing any seaman they thought was English.

The final proverbial "straw that broke the camel's (American's) back" was the continuous support given by Britain to the Indigenous Nations who were loyal to the British crown. They were promised that for their loyalty to Britain, they would be given sovereignty of their land. This promise would stop the westward expansion of the United States.

In May of 1812, the United States declared war on Britain and invaded British North America (Canada).

Now, back to Ron Dale's

very clear explanation as to who won the War of 1812.

Britain's prime goals were to defeat Napoleon, to preserve British North America and to once again bring the United States to the negotiating table. The end result was: Napoleon was defeated; the Americans were at the negotiations; and British North America remained intact.

Britain was a winner. British North America/Canadian goals were to defend their homes against American invaders; to remain loyal to the British crown and to thwart annexation by the Americans. Although a few thousand lives were lost and houses, farms and mills burned by the Americans, the Maritimes as well as Upper and Lower Canada successfully resisted American invasions in 1812, 1813 and 1814.

Canada was a winner. The goals of the Haudenosaunee and the Seven Nations of Canada were to defend their homes in Upper and Lower Canada, as well as to retain their independence and sovereignty. These allies of Britain were successful in defending their homes but gradually lost much of their power, influence and independence in the two decades after the war.

For the War of 1812, at least, they were winners.

Western Indigenous Nations were also allies of Britain. Their goals were to defend their territory from westward expansion by the United States and to establish their own sovereign native territory that would be acknowledged and respected by both Britain and the United States. While they fought hard to achieve their aims, the Treaty of Ghent left the Western Indigenous Nations' lands in control of the United States and Britain resolved not to interfere in American dealings with the Indigenous people. This led to the loss of their lands. The Western Indigenous Nations were not winners.

The leaders of the United States of America had several goals in mind when they declared war on Britain: To force Britain to rescind the Orders in Council (an order forbidding all trade by any nation with France); to halt the impressment of American citizens into the Royal Navy; to stop the British from supporting the Western Indigenous Nations to thwart U.S. plans for western expansion; to force Britain to accept American sovereignty and, finally, to capture all of Canada and drive Britain out of North America.

The outcome for the United States is quite different than one might expect.

The British had rescinded the Orders in Council on June 23, 1812, before learning of the American declaration of war against them. The Americans did not achieve this goal in the War of 1812.

Impressment of American sailors continued until France and Napoleon were defeated in 1815. The Royal Navy was then reduced in size and there was no longer a need to impress sailors. Note: this impressment issue was not even mentioned in the Treaty of Ghent. So this American goal was not achieved by the Americans through the War of 1812.

As for the Western Indigenous Nations, contrary to popular belief, the British were actually trying to prevent them from declaring war on the United States. It could be considered an American "win" when the British determined to not interfere after the war in any Indigenous issues in the Ohio Valley.

The British did recognize American sovereignty before the war but violated it in their war against the French. Once again, the war had no impact on this sovereignty issue.

The Americans suffered embarrassing defeats in 1812, 1813 and 1814 and failed to annex Upper and Lower Canada or the Maritimes.

The British were not driven from North America.

Final conclusion: the United States was not a winner in the War of 1812.

The headlines in a newspaper after the Treaty of Ghent was signed could have read, The War is Over, Canada Won!

Many thanks to Ron Dale for providing clarity in resolving the question of who won the War of 1812.

More Niagara's History Unveiled articles about the past of Niagara-on-the-Lake are available at: www.niagaranow.com



43 Castlereagh Street
Niagara-on-the-Lake
905-468-3912 | www.nhsm.ca

COMMUNITY



We invite you to submit photos and stories for consideration in this section. Send your submissions to editor@niagaranow.com for a chance to be featured.



NOTL resident John DeLorenzi spotted a group of deer at Two Mile Creek near Butler's Burial Ground on Saturday.



Remembering NOTL's first female Citizen of the Year

Violet Anne 'Vi' Mills (Taylor) died on Feb. 28, 2020. She was NOTL's first female citizen of the year in 1969. SUPPLIED



NOTL Sparks celebrate culture day

Here are some beautiful photos of our cultural day presentation on India. The girls and leaders thoroughly enjoyed the presentation by myself (Priya Litt) and my daughter (Achal Litt) who is in Sparks at the NOTL branch of Girl Guides of Canada. It was an amazing night where we all shared cultural food and talked about our heritage and roots. The three girls in the photo are Achal, Maggie and Maansi. SUPPLIED/PRIYA LITT



THE GOLDEN PLUNGER

With Betty and Jane

The Ice House Winery



Evelyn Zhuge, store supervisor, accepts the Golden Plunger for The Ice House Winery. THE GOLDEN PLUNGER

In February, the Plunger Patrol found the perfect "love story" when we stopped at the Ice House Winery. This sweet spot has a rustic, old-school charm, accompanied with award-winning icewines to taste. The story begins with an icewine specialist, a foodie and a proposal that happened on "The Big Decision" — an episode of the reality TV show Dragons' Den — that secured a blessing from Jim Treiving. The rest of this "icy story" is history. The washrooms continue the rustic theme with a healthy dose of artistic flare, providing you with the necessary comforts. On that sweet note, the Ice House Winery was awarded 3\5 Golden Plungers.

3/5 Golden Plungers



NOTL DART LEAGUE

Each week, dart teams face off at local restaurants and pubs. Find scores here weekly, exclusive to The Lake Report.

Silks Jini	197
Legion Guzzlers	170
SandTrap Close Shavians	161
Legion Guyz	146
Legion Airs	138
SandTrap	133
Silks Legends	121
Legion Dartbags	102



Tarot of the week

Lisa Tache/Special

DATE: March 5, 2020
The Eight of Pentacles is a card of skill and mastery. It suggests a need for getting things done. The more we work on something the better

we become at it. Be open to developing your skills. You may already have experience in a specific skill set, but now you're working on mastering these skills. You are aware that this will require more studying, but you will work hard at it. This card encourages you to keep doing what you are doing, as it will eventually lead to success. Continue to work on yourself and make improvements to make sure you're the best person you can be. If you are learning something new, see the Eight of Pentacles as reassurance that the energy you invest in your development will be worth your while. Stick with it!

ASK YOURSELF THIS
How can I sharpen my skills?

RIDDLE ME THIS

I have two legs, but they only touch the ground while I'm at rest. What am I?

Last Week: Give me food and I will live. Give me water and I will die. What am I?

Answer: Fire

Answered first by: Natalie Early

Also answered correctly (in order) by: Margie Enns, Lynne Stewart, Quinn Tiller, Kathy Neufeld, Wendy Bosela, Ross Scozzafava, Katie Reimer, Hilda Kroeker, Susan Davies, Brenda Homer, Mike Davies, Gary Davis, Sheila Meloche

Email answers, with your name, to editor@niagaranow.com for a chance to win a prize.



NOTL: SPECIAL WINTER EDITION

The Lake Report's winter magazine highlights some of the best places and things to do in NOTL.

You can pick up a physical copy at all restaurants, hotels and businesses or you can visit our office at 496 Mississauga St. in Old Town.



NOTL'S CHOICE AWARDS

You took the time to nominate your favourites, now it's time to vote on the best businesses, organizations and individual professionals in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

To vote, go to LakeReport.ca



PRESS PASS PROGRAM

The Lake Report Press Pass Program gets local residents discounts at a long list of businesses in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Valid for local residents only.

To sign up, visit our office for a card at 496 Mississauga St. in Old Town.



FEATURED LOCAL STORY

All about that **bass**

Ross MacIntyre has built himself an award-winning career. Now he's bringing his talent to the Shaw Festival

Brittany Carter
The Lake Report

Niagara-on-the-Lake newcomer Ross MacIntyre says pursuing a career in music was always his only option.

And he has travelled the world for gigs, performed on Juno Award-winning albums and stood in for notable lead bassists. Most recently he has been contracted to play the double bass on a show-by-show basis for the Shaw's Festival Theatre orchestra.

"I had a teacher once who said, 'If you can see yourself doing anything else with your life outside of music, then do that. But if your only option is to play music and there's just nothing else you can do with your life, you can't see yourself in any other field, that's when you do – music.'"

"I was definitely one of those people from the beginning – no question," MacIntyre says. "I found it. This is it. This is the whole thing."

As a 42-year-old working musician, he says he thinks he's on the right path. Apart from a few part-time jobs throughout high school, he's only ever worked in the industry – and he intends to stay the course.

"I mean I've never really had any other marketable skills, other than music, so I can't really see myself doing anything else."

He plays the bass, an instrument he initially chose "out of necessity," he says, though he adds that over time he's fallen in love with it.

"There was a band that needed either a drummer or a bass player. Bass looked easier to carry, so I just kind of chose that."

He went from playing electric to double bass and started playing in orchestras and jazz bands, he says. He's a jazz musician by trade – he earned a degree in jazz at the University of Toronto. But he says he enjoys playing any style.

MacIntyre dove into music early with piano lessons at age four. But it was his immersive arts education at Cawthra Park Secondary School in Mississauga where he resolved to make a living as a working musician.

"I was in that arts high

"I actually really enjoy practicing and I always have, so ideally I would put in a couple hours a day. It doesn't always work out with two young kids, and just the reality of life."

ROSS MACINTYRE
SHAW FESTIVAL BASSIST

school so there was a bunch of other like-minded young musicians. We were very motivated to go out and make money playing music," he says.

He landed his first gig at about 15, he says, while playing in a band with friends.



Ross MacIntyre plays the double bass and is currently performing with the orchestra at the Shaw Festival Theatre.
BRITTANY CARTER

"We went out to the coffee shops in Mississauga and asked if they wanted to have a live jazz band, and most of them said no, but a couple of them said yes."

He says watching some of his friend's parents make a living as professional musicians showed him it was something that could realistically be done. Being a "rock star" was never the goal, he says.

"There's not too many famous rock and roll bass players out there anyway – it's kind of the nature of the instrument. You kind of have to do a whole bunch of different things and play with a whole bunch of different musicians," he says.

He says that spontaneous mindset is important for any musician to have. In an industry where "every day is different," he says you never really know what you're going to get walking into a new venue.

"The career of a jazz musician is very similar to

jazz music itself, because it requires so much improvisation and adaptability and more often than not when you're playing jazz the music will go somewhere that you didn't expect it to. But it's still good," he says.

He says he enjoys the challenge of being under pressure in spontaneous situations; it's a good fit for him.

His ability to lean into spontaneity helped when we got a call to fill in for a "Phantom of the Opera" performance at the Princess of Wales Theatre in Toronto, he says.

"Their bass player had a medical emergency, so I got a call to play with about 25 minutes' notice. I lived half an hour away from the theatre so I had to get there as fast as I could."

He says he went into the pit with the other musicians and had to sight read a concert he had never played before.

"It was a real challenge

and something that I really enjoyed. I enjoyed being under that pressure. And then, after I did it and didn't make too many mistakes, it was a really good feeling."

And while a certain amount of adaptability is important, he says he wouldn't have gotten very far without hard work.

"I actually really enjoy practising and I always have, so ideally I would put in a couple hours a day. It doesn't always work out with two young kids, and just the reality of life," he says.

He has two young children with his wife, Stacey MacIntyre. As soon as he discovered he was going to be a father six years ago he says he started practising "like crazy."

"I'm more motivated to become more successful in music. Before I had kids, it was just me that I had to worry about. But now there's other people who are depending on me getting

work and feeding them and putting them through school."

Throughout his career so far, MacIntyre says he's been lucky to have the opportunities he's had. He says he's performed with many incredible musicians over the years, adding that he's most proud to have worked with Heather Bambrick and Matt Dusk.

"They are two people I work with the most," he says.

He's not certain of his exact goals long term, but he plans to continue working hard to improve his skills. Right now, he says he's happy to have the opportunity to work at the Shaw Festival and to become a part of the community in NOTL.

"I have a friend who says, 'If you take care of music, music will take care of you.' So, I kind of take that to heart and try to be the best musician I can be," he says. "Hopefully, it'll all work out."

**The Rennie**
Seniors Apartments *by Signature*



584 ONTARIO STREET

ST. CATHARINES, ON

WWW.RENNIEAPARTMENTS.COM

BOUTIQUE-STYLE INDEPENDENT SENIORS APARTMENTS WITH FULL KITCHENS | BOOK YOUR TOUR TODAY (905) 935-1800