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50 years a doctor**  
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spark debate**  
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# The Lake Report

Vol. 2, Issue 17

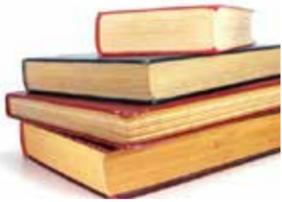
Niagara-on-the-Lake's first independent newspaper

May 2, 2019



## Coyote's Run closes abruptly

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## Province says mail is solution for libraries to send books

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## Crossroads centre still a go, developer says

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## A warm welcome for new Canadians

Citizenship judge Rochelle Ivri swears in new Canadian citizens Friday at the Shaw Festival Theatre. BRITTANY CARTER

## New citizens sworn-in at NOTL ceremony

Brittany Carter  
The Lake Report

Two dozen new Canadians were sworn-in at the Shaw's Festival Theatre last week and the special ceremony celebrated a series of firsts.

It was the first official Canadian act for the 24 citizens. It was the first citizenship ceremony attended by Lord Mayor Betty Disero. And it was the first time citizenship judge Rochelle Ivri, a Niagara-on-the-Lake resident, presided over a ceremony in her own town.

Ivri said she was happy to be able to showcase NOTL for the April 27 swearing-

in. The ceremonies are often held at the offices of Citizenship and Immigration Canada .

When she was asked to suggest an off-site location to hold the event, Ivri said she thought of NOTL.

"The first place I thought of was the Shaw. Not because I was thinking, 'Let's do a ceremony in Niagara-on-the-Lake,' but because it's such an integral component of the region."

Having sworn-in more than 10,000 new Canadian citizens since her appointment as citizenship judge in May 2018, she said it was

*Continued on Page 2*



Members of the Neagu Family, from Romania, all received Canadian citizenship on Friday. BRITTANY CARTER

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# Shaw Festival citizenship ceremony a first for many

*Continued from Front Page*

“really special” to be able to welcome new Canadians at such an important cultural landmark.

Ivri encompasses so much of what the Canadian immigrant experience means.

“I like to think that I’m a good representation of what it is to be Canadian and the Canadian experience, and the Canadian immigrant experience as well given that my parents were immigrants to this country.”

She said if she can inspire others to achieve greatness and do something meaningful, especially volunteerism, it makes the role worthwhile.

Her mother arrived in Canada from Jamaica in

1967. Initially, she was here for a short trip. When she decided to renew her work visa, Ivri said it was suggested she apply for citizenship.

“So, she applied and then subsequently my father and brother came. I have some aunts and uncles that came. My grandmother came. And, of course, some

stayed as well.”

Born in Canada, Ivri said she enjoys the best of both worlds. “My parents instilled in me that ... I won the lottery by being born in Canada, having the opportunities and privileges that go with being a Canadian. I’m very blessed.”

Building on those experiences, she said she thinks she’s well-suited for the role of welcoming, and sometimes deciding on the acceptance of new Canadians.

*“To be able to go around the country and meet citizens and hear their stories, and just to make that connection is really meaningful.”*

ROCHELLE IVRI  
CITIZENSHIP JUDGE



An emotional Saftica Neagu, from Romania, receives her citizenship alongside her two daughters and husband.



Sarfaraj and Reshmaben Karolia were both awarded Canadian Citizenship on Friday. PHOTOGRAPHY BY BRITTANY CARTER

The decision to appoint Ivri as one of 10 new citizenship judges last May wasn’t made lightly, she said.

“I’m also a paralegal professor, so I teach law at Mohawk College. Before that I was appointed to the council of College of Midwives of Ontario. I sat on (that council) for eight years. Then I was also appointed to the Niagara-on-the-Lake Public Library Board.”

In various roles on boards and taking part in disciplinary hearings in those roles, she said she already had the knowledge required for the citizenship position.

“In terms of that decision-making, reason writing, all of that, I had that skill-set. I also used to be an immigration practitioner, so I was an immigration consultant as well as a paralegal.”

The role offers flexibility and she is able to continue teaching, while enjoying the “feel-good moments” that go along with welcoming new Canadians.

“Citizenship ceremonies are very emotional, they’re fun. You’re doing something meaningful.”

Disero said she was “thrilled” to be on hand for her first citizenship ceremony as lord mayor.

“It was amazing to see how happy people were to be getting their citizen-

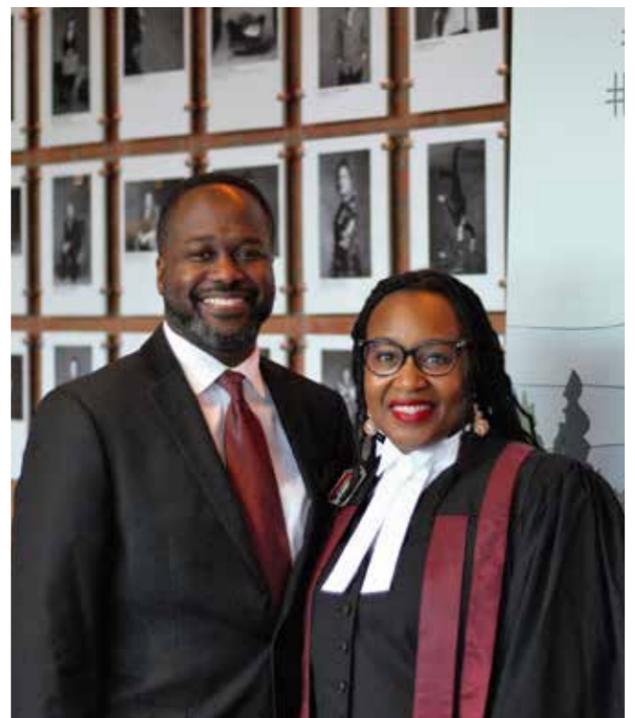


Brianna Arevalo is the daughter of new Canadian citizen Heydi Tobias.

ship and how proud they were,” she said, adding that she wanted to encourage the new citizens to grab any opportunities they encounter.

An emotional affair for the hard-working residents of Niagara, becoming an official Canadian citizen means so much more than just a certificate and recognition – it means the freedom and opportunities that go along with that.

Ivri said she feels blessed to be doing two things she loves. “I love to teach and I really love this job. To be able to go around the country and meet citizens and hear their stories, and just to make that connection is really meaningful.”



Citizenship judge Rochelle Ivri and her husband Eldean.

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# Crossroads Medical Centre still a go, developer says

## Virgil doctors could move to temporary home in old NOTL hospital

Kevin MacLean  
Managing Editor

Plans for building the Crossroads Medical Centre have not changed, the process is just taking longer than many people hoped it would, developer Lloyd Redekopp says.

The facility planned for the intersection of Line 2 and Niagara Stone Road beside Crossroads Public School in Virgil has been approved by NOTL council but still faces two separate challenges before the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT).

A case management conference among the objectors and Redekopp is planned for later this month, but the developer said he does not know if that meeting will resolve the two objections.

A neighbouring property

owner has concerns about storm water management and the second objector is the owner of the existing Virgil medical clinic behind Simpson's Pharmacy, Redekopp said.

"Our plans have not changed. Somebody started a rumour on social media that there has been a change, but it's not true," he said in an interview.

If the LPAT hearing goes in his favour, Redekopp hopes to break ground before the end of this year and have the new Crossroads centre open within two years from now, in spring 2021.

The doctors from the Niagara North Family Health Team have all signed leases with Redekopp and remain committed to moving to the new facility presuming it is approved, says Mary Keith,



executive director of the health team.

The physicians' leases at the current Virgil clinic expire at the end of this year and the health team is looking for an interim solution in case the doctors cannot extend their leases until Crossroads opens.

"We are working on it. We just don't have a formal plan to put forward at this point," Keith said in an interview.

The former Niagara-on-the-Lake hospital site in Old Town is one of the locations the health team is consider-

ing for a temporary home, Keith said. Some members of the health team already work out of the old hospital site, which is now owned by the Town of NOTL.

But that is one of "a couple of sites" in the area that are being considered if the team needs to relocate, Keith said.

Patients are top of mind in the process, she said.

"We are really trying to minimize the disruption and inconvenience for patients. The intention is to provide continuing care with minimal disruption."

# Sandbags available as water level rises

Brittany Carter  
The Lake Report

The town is making sandbags available to residents in areas at risk of flooding from rising waters and spring rain.

Sandbags will be stored at the corner of Ball Street and River Beach Drive, and the River Beach Drive and Nelson Street parking lots by today, May 2, according to an information report to council. Residents in the dock area will receive notices.

After encountering record high water levels in Lake Ontario in 2017, town operations staff have been monitoring critical locations in the dock area in an attempt to be ready to deal with potential flooding.

In a report dated April 24, critical areas were listed as the Ball Street storm



Sandbags are available for residents if needed, stored at lots on the corner of Ball Street and Rover Beach Drive, River Beach Drive and Nelson Street parking lots. BRITTANY CARTER

sewer, with water at 0.16 metres above lake level, the Ricardo Street storm sewer at 0.31 metres, and the Melville Street storm sewer, at 0.45 metres.

Water levels are being monitored by the town staff

to mitigate potential damage to residential property and town infrastructure – and to ensure public safety.

The information report said the town has rented a portable pump, with two more on standby. Preventive

testing of backflow devices, which were installed in 2018 in the storm system, will continue over the next few days.

Ball's Beach Park is closed temporarily for safety reasons.

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# Editorial: Get outside and enjoy our town

Richard Harley  
Editor-in-Chief

Now that spring is finally showing its colours, it's the perfect time to get out of the house and explore all of the wonderful activities this town has to offer — both the well-known ones and those a little off the beaten path.

As far as well-known attractions, we encourage you to walk or bike the Niagara Parkway, all the way to Queenston and beyond, if you're really ambitious. In Niagara Falls, the Niagara Glen (the gorge) offers a fantastic hiking trail for the more active explorer.

There are also plenty of places to go for wine and beer tastings, and as the summer progresses we have a plethora of outdoor events to attend. Check our calendar weekly for some of the best things to do in Niagara-on-the-Lake and the surrounding area.

Among some of our less-known places, Niagara Shores park along Lakeshore Road might be one of the best-kept secrets. If you haven't taken a walk down there, we recommend it. There are wild raspberries and strawberries, an abundance of wildlife, including deer and endangered bank swallows. And, of course, you'll typically meet other residents walking their dogs.

As well, there are plenty of local businesses to take advantage of, including paddle boarding experiences, bike and scooter tours and rentals, ghost treks and wine tastings.

The Lake Report encourages readers to spend time hiking our local trails, exploring history and combing our beaches. Take your cameras out, turn off your cellphone data and plunge yourself into the outdoors of Niagara's green belt

[editor@niagaranow.com](mailto:editor@niagaranow.com)



A Chautauqua resident canoes Lake Ontario Sunday. JORDYN MOTTOLA/SPECIAL

## Short-term visitors are vital to NOTL's economy

Dear Editor:

Do we not want tourists coming to NOTL?

I agree that local bylaws should be followed and all short-term rentals should adhere to fire and safety regulations.

I don't agree that all short-term rentals should be owner-occupied. There are over 100 homes licensed as cottages in NOTL. That brings a lot of tourist dollars to the area.

My wife and I are the owners of Niagara Holiday Rentals. We manage 25 short-term rentals in Old Town. We also own a B&B in Old Town.

Not everyone wants to host guests in their home, and many guests want the privacy and the chance to experience the town as a local.

Having access to the entire home allows someone to sit on the front porch, purchase food from a local farm stand, use the barbecue and cook a local meal.

Only allowing hosted properties (bed and breakfasts) would exclude families and many people from coming and experiencing the town and the history. And that would take away a lot of tourist dollars from NOTL's economy.

*Jason Clements*  
NOTL

## Protecting freedom trumps displeasure with protests

Dear Editor:

It is with dismay, that I read Mr. Cochrane's opinion piece in the April 18 edition of The Lake Report about carriage protesters in NOTL. I cannot possibly imagine that anyone can seriously suggest the banning protesters is in anyway an acceptable proposition in a free and democratic society such as ours.

The time has surely come to discard the old tropes that all protesters are "interlopers who probably pay no taxes anywhere" or to assume that "working is something unknown to these protesting galoots" or "layabout sign holders." Mr. Cochrane's suggestion that there should be bylaws to stop protests is an affront to democracy and his use of divisive stereotyping and insults to council is not helpful in promoting constructive dialogue amongst all of our citizens.

However one feels about these particular protesters and validity of their arguments, one must remember that they, too, play an important role in our society. Just like the freedom of the press, the right to assembly and free speech is also cornerstone to our individual and collective liberties. Any curtailment, however seemingly small, threatens our democratic process. A little inconvenience in our Heritage District is a very small price to pay to protect our freedoms.

*Bill Talbot*  
NOTL

## We welcome your letters

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](mailto:editor@niagaranow.com) or drop them by our office at 724 Mississauga St., NOTL.

*The Lake Report*

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Sunset at Ryerson Park beach. JORDYN MOTTOLA/SPECIAL

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Harmony group wants a park for everyone

Dear Editor:

Thanks to James Tupman for acknowledging clarifications that I made in a letter to address a letter he'd sent to your paper earlier this month.

The clarifications concerned the lands on Lakeshore that have been used by the Department of Defence and are now being handed back to Parks Canada.

They also addressed some misrepresentations of the Harmony Residents Group's wishes for future use of those lands as a natural heritage park that everyone in town can enjoy.

In his letter of April 25 (*Turn defence lands into a park, not wetlands*), he



A bird's-eye view of the Defence Department lands on Lakeshore Road.

cites several problems he still sees with our proposal. (That proposal can be seen on [harmonyresidents.org](http://harmonyresidents.org))

Mr. Tupman mentions in his most recent letter that

there are very little woods in the large open area. That is true. But the Niagara Shores land, with its existing Carolinian forest, is part of the land owned by Parks Canada. And its future will also be considered in any decision about the lands' use. To clarify: the open green space of the former rifle range, the wetland areas, the forest lands of Niagara Shores that already exist and the shoreline will all be addressed in Parks Canada's plan.

He is also very concerned about the idea of wetlands in the park and the ponds in question that we believe could be revitalized. I urge him once again to come to

our annual meeting on May 22 to listen to the presentation by Bruce McKenzie, who was involved with a similar project at the Biggar Ponds in Grimsby, and to ask his questions. We want an open forum where questions like the ones from James Tupman can be addressed.

Mr. Tupman's vision of "a sanctuary for townfolk," of open spaces where children can play and people can stroll without encountering wild animals is not at odds with plans for wood trails and wetlands on the lands where those currently exist.

*Debi Goodwin*

**Harmony Residents Group  
NOTL**

### Loan system was entertainment lifeline

Dear Editor:

The interlibrary loan program has been the primary service I use at the NOTL library, as I am largely a consumer of non-fiction books and computer-based resources that cannot be freely accessed on the internet, along with independent, documentary and art films that are not the sort of best sellers which tend to be available in small communities.

Age has only increased my interest in new and fascinating stuff as I now have more time to explore.

The interlibrary loan service has been a lifeline that allows easy access to it all, without adding to a collection of books and DVDs I no longer use. I simply google the best resources I can find, cut and paste the relevant information into an email request addressed to the library's wonderful interlibrary loan staff person, and she generally has them waiting for me to pick up in short order.

I self-studied as a docent for the Darwin Martin House and Albright Knox museums in Buffalo entirely through resources obtained by interlibrary loan. And on and on. At any one time, I've had one to three interlibrary loan items on the go ever since I learned how to use the invaluable service several years ago.

But that's just me. I'd be interested in hearing from other NOTL interlibrary loan users and finding out how it has enriched their lives.

One of the very good things about the Stop the Cuts change.org petition posted by a fast-acting Stratford librarian is that it provides more details about what the interlibrary loan service does. (You can find the petition online by searching "Ford stop cuts library petition.")

Please consider joining that petition's signatories. If you prefer pen and paper, inquire about a paper-based petition at the library. The NOTL library boards and staff members can write letters to officials, but they need solid support backed up by numbers to reverse these cuts.

*Lou Fedorkow  
Queenston*

### Column was demeaning attack on Doug Ford

Dear Editor:

I was disappointed but not surprised when managing editor Kevin MacLean's opinion piece (*Stand up for libraries. And education. And public health*, April 25) turned from love of libraries to what appears to be a very personal and demeaning article on Premier Doug Ford.

I imagine the opinion will play well among our liberal elites as it touches on all the right buttons. Writing that living within our means is "an admirable sentiment" was the first hint that balancing our provincial budget is not a real issue, but just an ideal to be discussed and not acted upon.

I thought the real tone was set when Mr. MacLean mocked the premier's pronunciation, a class move for a paper seeking to reflect the highest degree of journalistic integrity.

That was followed by defining Ford's intent as "showing antipathy and disregard for those who read ..."

I am not sure why you feel the premier has antipathy for those who read, but then again why should imaginary motives be explained in an "opinion" piece. The opinion goes on to suggest any and all attempts to cut the deficit are evidence that the premier is "picking on" every single area where cuts are suggested.

Truly solving our massive deficit is an admirable sentiment that apparently must be resisted by everybody. Every program is sacred and there must never be any hardship or reduction in service.

I respect those that have different views, but I truly only see financial hardship ahead if the real debt issues are kicked down the road again.

You can disagree with policies but personal attacks and smearing character do not really advance the debate. Then again, advancing solutions was clearly not the opinion article's intent.

Respectfully,

*Michael Macdonald  
Niagara-on-the-Lake*

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# NOTL remembers the tragic death of GM worker Joel Murray on National Day of Mourning

Brittany Carter  
The Lake Report

Losing a loved one in a workplace tragedy is heartbreaking, but the family of GM worker Joel Murray gathered on Sunday morning to honour his memory and call for continued job safety improvements.

Across Canada on April 28, families and community came together to remember those who died or suffered illness or injury in the workplace, and to bring awareness to the need for proper safety and training on the job.

Murray was killed in an industrial accident at General Motors Plant One in St. Catharines in 1998. For his family, the pain is still fresh.

Dave Backshall, Murray's brother-in-law and friend, also worked at General Motors at the time of the accident. He said when he was told what happened, he was in a state of shock.

"I remember the day it happened as vividly as if it was yesterday ... I was at one plant and (Murray) was at the other."

He said he was told someone had been killed and when he heard the name, he was devastated.

"He said, 'Joel Murray' and my knees buckled. You can't imagine how you'd

feel when you heard that kind of news."

On every Day of Mourning since then, Murray's family has gathered at the Centennial Arena where his memorial is located, to pay tribute to him.

Backshall said Murray was very active in kid's sports and was a hockey coach, which is why the memorial is located at the Virgil arena.

"When you go to work in the morning, you expect to come home at night," Backshall said. "And, once in a while, something like that happens and you're reminded that they're not there yet as far as safety in the workplace goes."

Workplace accidents are on the rise, according to the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety's website. It states that in 2017, 951 workplace deaths were recorded in Canada, 46 more than the previous year.

"I don't think Joel's accident precipitated this day of mourning. It was happening all the time, but I think because this happened to Joel, who was vocal in the community where we have the ceremony, he was added to the list of locations," Backshall said.

Murray's death was particularly tragic because he was so involved in the com-



Lucas Froese, grandson of Joel Murray, attends the memorial ceremony for workers killed on the job. BRITTANY CARTER

munity. "So (the ceremony at the arena) was specifically for him."

This kind of tragedy brings families together, though it leaves them permanently scarred, he said.

"The family was always close, but it certainly brought us closer together in that regard. It's something you endure. If you haven't been through it, it's hard to imagine what it's like."

Likening the experience to being in a black hole,

Backshall said the family is in a depressed state of mourning.

"There's nothing you can do to get out of it because it's all you can think about. You never forget, but only time makes it a little better."

Calling for more diligent workplace safety measures, Backshall said the General Motors union has an active health and safety committee.

"They're constantly the watchdogs for GM in St.

Catharines. That's not to say that accidents don't happen, though."

MPP Wayne Gates was also in attendance on Sunday and has been championing for the family since the accident, Backshall said.

"Wayne Gates, he's been good all along. When he worked at GM, he was good with the family and he was good with Wendy (Murray's wife). He really took care of us, and a couple of other guys, too, who weren't there

today. They really kind of took Wendy especially under their wing and helped her through the mess that happened that day."

Backshall said he hopes the day of mourning continues to shed some light on workplace tragedies.

"After 20 years, we still do this. It brings the family closer together, but it devastates the family at the same time. It changed us all, it changes you forever. We're left with fond memories."

## Simcoe Park wading pool open again this summer

Dariya Baiguzhiyeva  
The Lake Report

The wading pool in Simcoe Park will soon be open for another season.

The pool will be available to the public starting Saturday, June 29, and will stay open seven days a week from 10 a.m. till 6 p.m. until Labour Day.

The wading pool will be supervised by two attendants who will be paid minimum wage, said Kevin Turcotte, the town's man-

ager of parks and recreation.

"They're summer staff so we bring them on to the wading pool. And they're usually younger staff," he said.

Turcotte couldn't provide the cost of operating the wading pool, but said the town has "budgeted 1,220 hours for summer coverage with wading pool attendants."

The water in the pool will be filtered throughout the day, and then drained and refilled every night, said Turcotte.

NOTL will also spend

\$25,000 on installing a drain pipe for the pool. According to the staff's 2019 budget report, the drain is undersized and takes a long time to drain. The project will increase the size of the pipe and connect the line to the sanitary system on King Street.

"There will be, hopefully, little disruption to the park," Turcotte told The Lake Report in a phone interview.

Turcotte said this project will be completed before the wading pool opens.



The wading pool in Simcoe Park will open for the summer. DARIYA BAIGUZHIEVA



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## Busloads of Niagara residents protest health care changes

Niagara MPP Wayne joined several busloads of supporters of the Niagara Health Coalition Tuesday at Queen's Park in Toronto for a major protest against the Ford government's planned changes to the health care system. KEVIN MACLEAN

## Coyote's Run abruptly shuts retail operation

Dariya Baiguzhiyeva  
The Lake Report

Coyote's Run Estate Winery has abruptly closed its retail operation.

Victoria Straker, the winery's retail manager, announced that all events and wine club member subscriptions have been cancelled.

"On a personal note, I would like to thank each and every one of you for your patronage and your loyalty not just to Coyote's Run but to my staff and me," she said in an email to customers on Monday. "I have enjoyed meeting all of you and our events spent together...Thank you and keep the wine flowing."

A sign posted on the door at the main entrance to the NOTL winery, reads: "Dear customers, Coyote's Run retail is now closed until further notice. Thank you for your patronage."

As of Tuesday, the winery's website had also been taken down.

The owners of the winery



Coyote's Run Winery unexpectedly shut down its retail operation on Monday. DARIYA BAIGUZHIEVA

couldn't be reached for comment. Postings on social media suggested that the winery has been sold to Canopy Growth Corp., a cannabis company based in Smith Falls, Ont. The Lake Report could not reach Canopy officials for comment.

The winery, located along Concession 5 Road, was

owned and operated by Jeff and Patti Aubry, according to the Wines of Canada website.

Some of the winery's core team members included David Sheppard, a winemaker; Chris Protonentis, assistant winemaker; Taylor Hulley, a lead cellar hand, and Ed Tonner, a vineyard manager.

## The loneliness of the lost-soul gander?

Kevin MacLean  
Managing Editor

What's the story with the lone Canada goose that has been camped out at Ryerson Park in NOTL for the past few weeks?

The goose, which marches along the top of the embankment periodically, spends most of his day staring out at the water. Is he lost, heart-broken or a young gander looking for love?

Canada geese mate for life, so there are a few possible explanations, says Nathan Clements, a wildlife biologist with the Canadian Wildlife Federation in Ottawa.

The goose might be a young male, under two years old, who is just patiently searching for his first mate. "Or he could



This lone goose has been camped out at Ryerson Park in Chautauqua for a few weeks. KEVIN MACLEAN

be an older male who has lost his mate. He could be staking his territory and waiting for another mate to come along," Clements said in an interview.

One final possibility is the gander might be guarding a nearby nest. However, geese are often

extremely aggressive toward humans when they are protecting a nest, but this guy is docile and friendly.

"If the female shows up with a brood over the course of the next couple weeks, you'll have a better understanding of why he's

been standing guard," Clements said.

All that said, even after viewing photos, it's difficult to say whether the goose is male or female, he acknowledged. Without handling the bird up close, determining the gender is "guess work, really."

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# SORE wants to pack meeting on Randwood

## Activist group hopes to win official status before Local Planning Appeal Tribunal

Dariya Baiguzhiyeva  
The Lake Report

NOTL activists are hoping to pack the community centre next week when the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal hears a developer's challenge to his plans for the Randwood Estate.

The Save Our Randwood Estate group will also be hoping to get official status in a legal challenge between the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake and developer Benny Marotta.

The case management hearing will take place at 10 a.m. on Thursday, May 9, at the NOTL Community Centre.

Marotta is asking the appeal tribunal to quash the town's heritage designa-

tion of the Randwood Estate.

Lyle Hall, one of SORE's core members, said a high turnout at the community centre would help the organization's cause.

"If the folks doing the case management meeting see a significant number of supporters in the room, they can't help but understand how broad the support we have on this particular issue," Hall told The Lake Report.

Hall said SORE has five different reports prepared by five different experts which the group won't be able to present unless given what is known as party status.

"We've spent considerable funds on these extra reports, which we think have value.



Residents filled the community centre in April 2018 during a meeting about plans for the Randwood Estate. RICHARD HARLEY/FILE PHOTO

It's different information than what the town has," he said. "We've hired experts in terms of natural heritage review, in terms of the visual impact, in terms of peer review, in terms of

planning and traffic."

"We're not suggesting anybody is swayed by numbers but I don't think there is a downside of letting the tribunal know that this is an issue that has very

broad and very deep support across the community," said Hall.

There are a number of legal proceedings going on between the town, Two Sisters Resorts Corp. and

Solmar Niagara 2 Inc., also known as Solmar Development Corp.

Marotta, a developer and owner of Solmar Development Corporation and Two Sisters Vineyard, wants to build a six-storey hotel and a 160-unit subdivision on the old Randwood Estate.

SORE, which represents local residents, many of whom live close to the Randwood site, has already won party status in two challenges this year.

In April, the Ontario Superior Court allowed SORE to be an official party in an injunction dispute between the town and Marotta.

SORE also was awarded its legal costs for the proceedings.

And in January, the Conservation Review Board gave SORE party status in Marotta's appeal of the designation of all Randwood Estate properties under the Heritage Act.

## NOTL Horticultural Society annual plant sale is May 11



The NOTL Horticultural Society's annual plant sale returns May 11. DARIYA BAIGUZHUYEVA

Dariya Baiguzhiyeva  
The Lake Report

The Niagara-on-the-Lake Horticultural Society's second-biggest fundraiser is coming back to town.

The annual plant sale, one of the significant events for the society after its Garden Tour, is May 11 at the Meridian Credit Union Arena in Virgil.

The event runs from 9 a.m. till noon, rain or shine.

"I think it's important

for the town. It brings the Horticultural Society into people's minds," said Susan Dodd, one of the event's co-ordinators. "Niagara-on-the-Lake is known for its gardens."

About 30 volunteers help run the sale, which attracts 200 to 300.

The members of the society donate a variety of perennials and ground covers for the sale as well as small shrubs and house plants.

There also will be annu-

als, ferns in hanging pots, organic herbs and artisan tomatoes from local growers available for sale.

Last year, the sale raised \$3,500. Some of that money went to encourage gardening by students at Crossroads Public School and St. Davids Public School.

The society also donated money to Niagara College, to the garden behind the NOTL library and helped plant trees and daffodils in the town gardens.



## A sunny Sunday stroll

Nicolas and Zayla Van Burek out for a walk on Shakespeare Avenue. EUNICE TANG



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# Province tells libraries to send books via Canada Post

Kevin MacLean  
Managing Editor

The Ontario government wants libraries across the province to use the mail instead of an “inefficient” system of vans to transfer books among libraries.

Utilizing the mail or couriers would be “less than 25 per cent of the existing cost” of the van system, Culture Minister Michael Tibollo claimed in a letter to library managers.

The province has cut \$25 million from the budgets of two provincewide resource-sharing services, half their total funding.

That led to the shutdown on April 26 of the Southern Ontario Library Service, known as SOLS, and its northern counterpart.

On Tuesday, NOTL library CEO Cathy Simpson received the undated letter from Tibollo, who noted he was “disappointed” by the decision to shut down the two services.

“The current interlibrary service program is very inefficient,” Tibollo said. “It is administered by 12 vans physically criss-crossing the province at a cost of \$1.3 million per year. The goal of the service can be preserved by using mail, at less than 25 per cent of the existing cost.”

“In an age where consumers routinely receive products by post and courier, this would be a common-sense step to modernizing service delivery while reducing program cost,” Tibollo wrote.

It is unclear how using the mail would be “less than 25 per cent” what SOLS costs. Last year, the service delivered “over 710,000 packages to 153 main library branches across southern Ontario,” according to sols.org.

If the \$1.3 million expenditure Tibollo cites only includes book transportation



Cathy Simpson, chief librarian and CEO of NOTL Public Library. BRITTANY CARTER

expenses (and no related costs), that totals \$1.83 per book. Canada Post’s discounted library materials rate for a book weighing 1.28 kilograms (about 2.5 pounds) is \$1.38 to send and return the book.

However, Tibollo said he is leaving it up to libraries to decide what to do.

“Adopting a mail-and-courier approach to interlibrary loans is a decision for the library service boards to make and we hope they will make it.”

The interlibrary system is more than just a service that moved books and materials

around the province, Simpson said.

“They got us bulk purchasing deals. They do incredible professional training consulting. I rely on them for policy templates and governance training for the board. It’s an agency that in the long run saves the government money.”

It is unclear how the 50 per cent budget cut will affect those services.

Meanwhile, the NOTL Public Library is working with other libraries around the region to try to salvage Niagara’s own popular book sharing program.

The long-term future of the Libraries in Niagara Co-operative, nicknamed LiNC, remains unknown and the service is suspended until at least the end of May.

Simpson said the six libraries that form the co-op want the service to continue. The NOTL library board last week directed Simpson to look for ways to keep it going, she said in an interview.

“The board wants us to try to find a solution. In terms of numbers, LiNC had overtaken the provincewide interlibrary loan program,” she said.

In the first three months of 2019, library users borrowed an average of 762 items each month via the LiNC system and 45 items each month from libraries outside Niagara Region, NOTL library statistics show. However, it relied on the SOLS vans to distribute materials.

*“The board wants us to try to find a solution. In terms of numbers, LiNC had overtaken the provincewide interlibrary loan program.”*

CATHY SIMPSON  
CEO, NOTL LIBRARY

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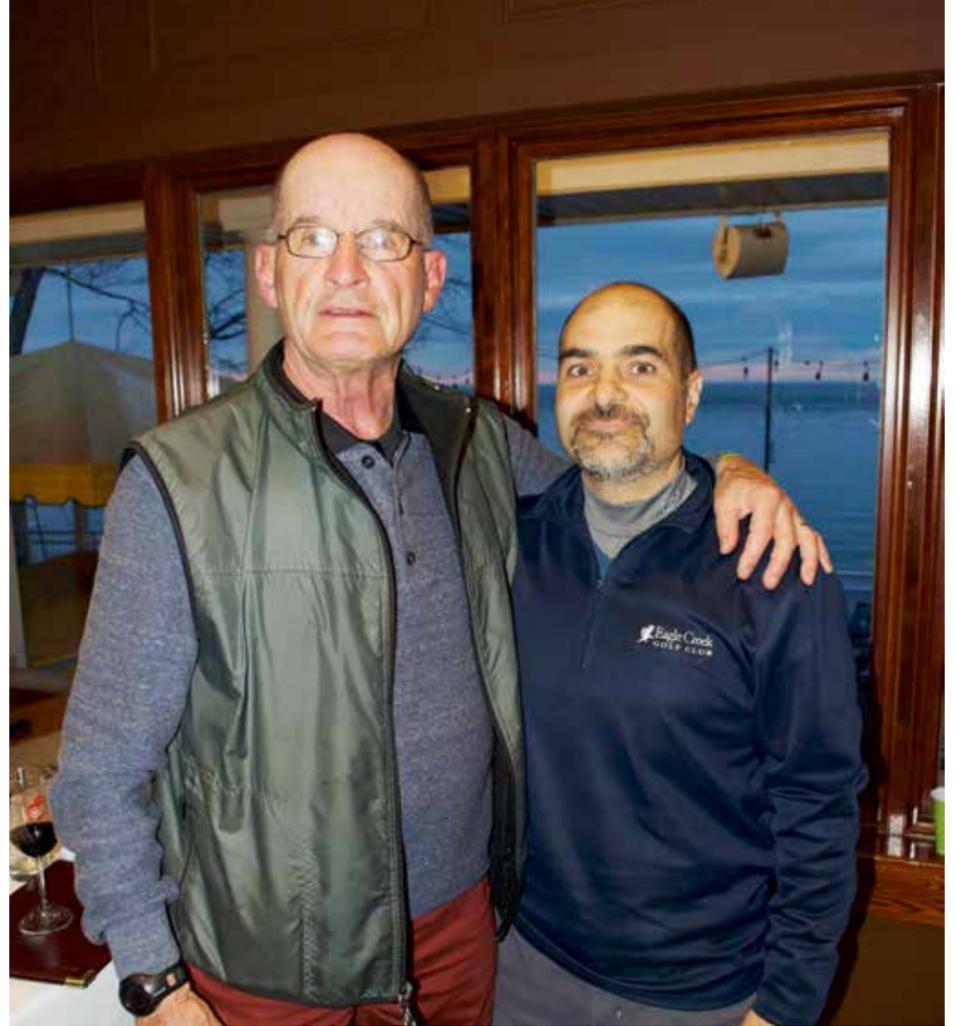
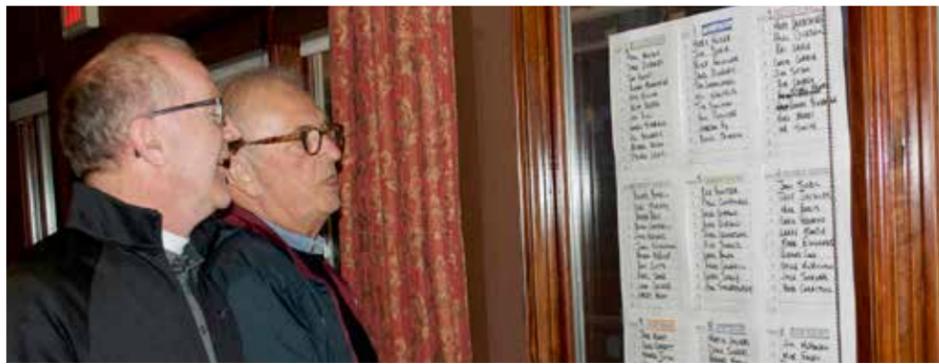
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Head pro Billy Simkin and men's team captains conduct the NOTL Golf Club Men's Night draft. Below left, Dow Wright and Jack Shrubbs check out the results.



Team captain Ted Wiens, left, embraces his number 1 pick, Joe Doria. Below, Tom Elltoft and Stephen Jenkins mull their choices. KEVIN MACLEAN PHOTOS

# Doria is #1 pick in NOTL men's draft

Kevin MacLean  
Managing Editor

Joe Doria, a talented low-handicapper who finished second in the NOTL Golf Club's championship tournament last year, was the top pick in the first-ever draft conducted by the club's Men's Night competitive league on Thursday.

Roughly modelled on the popular fantasy sports pool draft format (without the fantasy component), the draft featured 11 team captains selecting players from among more than 120 men who signed up to compete in the weekly league.

Captain Ted Wiens, a NOTL Sports Wall of Famer, won the draw to choose first. After selecting Doria, he opted with his second pick to draft Harry Huizer, the eminent and affable statesman of the club, and a former club champion. "Commissioner" Billy

Simkin, the club's pro, and assistant Ricky Watson managed to keep the room of rowdy hackers focused and entertained, wrapping up the whole draft in barely one hour.

The Men's Night league, which hits the links this Thursday for the first time this season, uses a handicapped Stableford scoring format under which participants play nine holes each week and accrue points for their team.

So, a high-handicap player who has an exceptional game one week could be an invaluable asset as he would tally far more points than a low-handicapper who has just an average outing.

To keep things interesting for the gents, gross and net skins games and 50/50 draws are included each week, with hundreds of dollars at stake on some occasions.

As well, sources say, some

teams also compete among themselves for loonies, toonies and more. However, like many gamblers, none of them would admit to doing worse than "breaking even."

No signing bonuses were reported, but matching, colourful plastic beer cups were distributed to members of each team. Many of them promptly forgot them when they headed home after the draft.

The Men's Night league will culminate in a finale banquet in October, with high-stakes closest to the pin shootouts on the first fairway, a delicious meal and literally thousands of dollars worth of prizes up for grabs. And, apparently, some beer is consumed. And some golf is played.

*\* Full disclosure: The author is a member of the NOTL Golf Club and a participant in the weekly Men's Night festivities.*



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# Judo champ aims to empower kids

Jill Troyer  
The Lake Report

Fraser Bridgeman has judo in her blood.

By the age of nine, she says she “started training and competing for the fun of it.”

Bridgeman moved away from home at 15 to train full-time and pursue serious competition. “It’s who I am,” she says.

She competed successfully into her early 20s, before taking some time off, then returning to active competition again seven years ago. Along the way, she also earned a degree in psychology.

Now 36, Bridgeman has multiple world, Canadian and U.S. competition medals to her credit, both in judo and jiu-jitsu, and she is a Level 2 national coach.

She taught at an MMA gym in St. Catharines for three years before moving to Niagara-on-the-Lake six months ago to train and teach in her own gym.

“It has a Rocky kind of feel to it,” she says of the facility tucked in behind her brother’s electrical shop.

Bridgeman and her brother



Judo champ Fraser Bridgeman says she knows what it’s like to deal with anxiety and depression. SUPPLIED PHOTO

er Tim Bowslaugh built the gym together and it’s certified by Judo Ontario. Bridgeman offers self-defence, judo, and jiu-jitsu lessons there.

Her clients include young people who are suffering from low self-esteem and social anxiety. “Last year I struggled with depression and anxiety, so for the first time I really understood what that feels like,” Bridgeman says. “I realized a lot of people are struggling,

so I am trying to use my experience with life to help people.”

She teaches basic fitness, and how to box and wrestle. “I get really positive feedback, I love to see them come out of their shell. Often they come in, and they’re quiet and shy, but soon they’re chatty and relaxed.”

Bridgeman says people with anxiety can be tough on themselves, so it’s a wonderful moment to see them

“elated at their progress at the gym.”

Another passion for Bridgeman is empowering girls. Even with her own tremendous success, she says “being a woman in a man’s sport included times of heartache” and even now she can still feel “alienated and unappreciated by male coaches.”

Today Bridgeman wants to “teach girls to be whatever they want to be, because it was so hard for me, I would like that to be easier for them.”

She says she’d love to see her coaching in NOTL grow and she’s in the process of “looking at options, and developing my direction here.”

Many clients connect with her by word of mouth, but she also has a Facebook page (@judoshopnotl), and she is partnering with Foxden Yoga to offer two camps for kids aged 5 to 8 and 9 to 11 this summer.

One camp will focus on mindfulness, well-being, and nutrition. The other camp will focus on judo and fitness. Details are still being developed, so check in at foxdenyoga.com a little later in the spring.

# SupperMarket returns with a ‘twist’

Dariya Baiguzhiyeva  
The Lake Report

Niagara-on-the-Lake’s SupperMarket is returning on May 22 and there’s a new twist to the popular event.

This year, there will be 20 to 25 food trucks and about a half-dozen food vendors. Under the tent provided by the Meridian Credit Union, there also will be a new vendors marketplace for about 12 farmers and artisans.

The market will also have local beer, wine and cider, as well as a free kids zone.

The SupperMarket will operate Wednesdays at Garrison Village from 4:30 to 9 p.m. It runs till Sept. 18.

“It is probably going to be the best year we’ve had yet for the number of vendors and different things that



will be available,” said Sharon Brinsmead-Taylor, the market co-ordinator.

The SupperMarket, established in 2012, has grown over the years, now attracting up to 3,000 locals and visitors every week. Staff and volunteers start preparing for the upcoming season right after the end of the previous one, she said.

“We really focus on bringing together community and giving people of Niagara-on-the-Lake and surrounding areas a place

to get together and enjoy each other’s company and support local businesses,” Brinsmead-Taylor told The Lake Report.

She said she enjoys the “whole community feel” of the evening. “We really focus on 100 per cent local. Everybody is from the Niagara Region. It’s a real family event.”

Organizers try to bring a mix of food vendors to make “as many unique offerings as possible,” Brinsmead-Taylor said in a

phone interview.

The evenings will include live music from about 20 local musicians and bands such as the PubJugs, the Rusty Jacob, Cory Cruise, Jessica Wilson and others.

The market is also in the process of starting a new program to promote young local musicians who will be chosen through an application process.

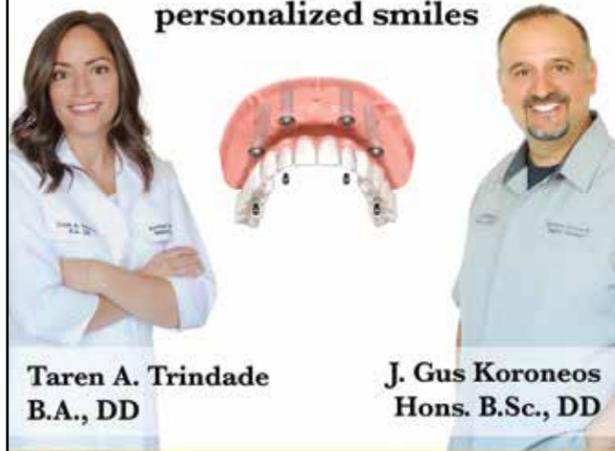
“(They) would come up and do two or three songs during the regular scheduled band break, so it gives them a little bit of exposure and a little bit of experience playing in front of a live audience,” said Brinsmead-Taylor.

Despite the weather always being a concern, the SupperMarket runs rain or shine as long as there are no safety issues, she said.

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We’d love it if you could include pictures of the food where possible, and of the family member who might have passed the recipe down. If there is any family folklore associated with the recipe, we’d love to hear that too. Maybe there’s a certain occasion when it’s always made, perhaps there’s a funny or sad story to tell that relates to that particular recipe, or certain traditions that accompany it.

We will publish selected recipes regularly, and at the end of the year we’ll compile all the recipes together as a book of NOTL family favourites. Proceeds from the sale of the book will be donated to a local charity.

**Please send your recipes, pictures and stories to: [recipes@niaganow.com](mailto:recipes@niaganow.com)**

The top recipes will be published in an annual paperback book which will be available (in limited supply) to residents of Niagara-on-the-Lake at The Lake Report office. This year’s book (title uncertain!) will be released in the coming months!



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<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<p><b>Love your Lake</b> - 10 a.m. to noon - Queen's Royal Park</p> <p><b>The 74th Anniversary of the Battle of the Atlantic Memorial</b> - 1 p.m. - Navy Hall</p> <p><b>Ghost Tours of Fort George</b> - 8:30 p.m. - Fort George</p> <p><b>Artisanal Breads</b> - 9 a.m. - Canadian Food &amp; Wine Institute at Niagara College</p> <p><b>Auditions for the 2019 YDTP Fall Performance Company (Ages 10 to 18)</b> - Yellow Door Theatre Project</p>	<p><b>Fun Duplicate Bridge</b> - 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. - NOTL Community Centre</p> <p><b>Committee of the Whole</b> - 6 p.m. - Council Chambers</p> <p><b>Public Meeting: 358 Four Mile Creek Road</b> - 6 p.m. - Council Chambers</p> <p><b>Community Drumming Night</b> - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. - Niagara Regional Native Centre</p>	<p><b>Tumble Tots</b> - 10 a.m. to noon - NOTL Public Library</p> <p><b>NOTL Rotary Club</b> - Noon - NOTL Community Centre</p> <p><b>Duplicate Bridge</b> - 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. - NOTL Community Centre</p> <p><b>3 Course Mill St. All Organic Beer Pairing</b> - 6:30 p.m. - The Irish Harp Pub</p>	<p><b>St. Andrew's Lectures</b> - 7:30 p.m. - St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church</p> <p><b>Years: Tommy, Owen, Garrison</b> - 10 a.m. - St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church</p> <p><b>InfoHealth: Immunization in Cancer</b> - 2 p.m. - NOTL Public Library</p> <p><b>Trivia Night: Exchange (Spring League Week)</b> - 7:30 p.m. - The Exchange</p>
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<p><b>Bravo Niagara! Presents 2019 JUNO-winning pianist James Parker and the New Gen</b> - 2 p.m. - Stratus Vineyards</p> <p><b>Ghost Tours of Fort George</b> - 8:30 p.m. - Fort George</p>	<p><b>Fun Duplicate Bridge</b> - 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. - NOTL Community Centre</p> <p><b>Town Council Meeting</b> - 6 p.m. - Council Chambers</p> <p><b>Monday Night Teen Hang Out</b> - 6 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. - NOTL Public Library</p> <p><b>Community Drumming Night</b> - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. - Niagara Regional Native Centre</p>	<p><b>Tumble Tots</b> - 10 a.m. to noon - NOTL Public Library</p> <p><b>NOTL Rotary Club</b> - Noon - NOTL Community Centre</p> <p><b>Duplicate Bridge</b> - 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. - NOTL Community Centre</p> <p><b>"Ageism" with Speaker Dion McParland (CARP, Niagara Chapter 31)</b> - 1:30 p.m. - Royal Niagara Golf Club</p>	<p><b>Simpson's Seniors' Luncheon</b> - 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. - Simpson's Seniors' Centre</p> <p><b>Cricut Design Your Own Workshop (Adult)</b> - 10 a.m. - NOTL Public Library</p> <p><b>Trivia Night: Exchange (Spring League Week)</b> - 7:30 p.m. - The Exchange</p>

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Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>2</b> <b>Niagara Golden Age Club: Cribbage for Seniors</b> - 1 p.m. - NOTL Community Centre <b>Customer Experience and Technology Committee</b> - 3 p.m. - Council Chambers <b>Opening Reception of Living Desert Exhibit: Robert Herman</b> - 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. - Niagara Pumphouse Arts Centre <b>Cribbage for Seniors</b> - 1 p.m. - NOTL Community Centre	<b>3</b> <b>Wayne Gates Office</b> - 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. - NOTL Public Library <b>Queenston Volunteer Firefighters Association - Spaghetti Dinner</b> - 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. - Queenston Firehall <b>Yellow Door Theatre Project: Coffee House Youth Series</b> - 7 p.m. - Yellow Door Theatre Project	<b>4</b> <b>Daddy &amp; me</b> - 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. - NOTL Public Library <b>Live Well Health &amp; Wellness Fair</b> - 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. - White Oaks Resort <b>Auditions for the 2019 YDTP Fall Performance Company (Ages 10 to 18)</b> - Yellow Door Theatre Project
<b>8</b> <b>Practical Genealogy: Beginner Class</b> - 1:00 p.m. to 3 p.m. - NOTL Public Library <b>Cribbage for Seniors</b> - 1 p.m. - NOTL Community Centre <b>Practical Genealogy: Intermediate and DNA Workshop</b> - 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. - NOTL Public Library <b>Minecraft Club</b> - 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. - NOTL Public Library	<b>9</b> <b>Practical Genealogy: Beginner Class</b> - 1:00 p.m. to 3 p.m. - NOTL Public Library <b>Cribbage for Seniors</b> - 1 p.m. - NOTL Community Centre <b>Practical Genealogy: Intermediate and DNA Workshop</b> - 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. - NOTL Public Library <b>Minecraft Club</b> - 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. - NOTL Public Library	<b>10</b> <b>Mahjong Game Drop In</b> - 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. - NOTL Community Centre <b>Duplicate Bridge</b> - 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. - NOTL Community Centre <b>Wayne Gates Office</b> - 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. - NOTL Public Library <b>Humour &amp; Hops Comedy Show</b> - 9 p.m. - The Exchange Brewery	<b>11</b> <b>Artist Workshop: Small Feats with Lenore Walker</b> - 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. - RiverBrink Art Museum <b>Bravo Niagara! Presents Alfredo Rodriguez &amp; Pedrito Martinez</b> - 7:30 p.m. - Stratus Vineyards <b>Spring Fling: Gardening and Yard Sale</b> - 9 a.m. to noon - St. Mark's Anglican Church <b>NOTL Horticultural Society Plant Sale (Rain or Shine)</b> - 9 a.m. to noon - Meridian Virgil Arena <b>The Greatest Songwriters You've Never Heard</b> - 7:30 p.m. - Yellow Door Theatre Project
<b>15</b> <b>Cribbage for Seniors</b> - 1 p.m. - NOTL Community Centre <b>Minecraft Club</b> - 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. - NOTL Public Library <b>Art &amp; Fashion Lecture Series: "Exposed" A Brief History of Underwear with Rita Brown</b> - 7:30 p.m. - Niagara Historical Society	<b>16</b> <b>Cribbage for Seniors</b> - 1 p.m. - NOTL Community Centre <b>Minecraft Club</b> - 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. - NOTL Public Library <b>Art &amp; Fashion Lecture Series: "Exposed" A Brief History of Underwear with Rita Brown</b> - 7:30 p.m. - Niagara Historical Society	<b>17</b> <b>P.A. Day</b> - - <b>Duplicate Bridge</b> - 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. - NOTL Community Centre <b>Mahjong Game Drop In</b> - 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. - NOTL Community Centre <b>Family Movie: Spider-Man Into the Spider-verse</b> - 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. - NOTL Public Library	<b>18</b> <b>Virgil Stampede</b> - - 1567 Niagara Stone Road <b>The War of 1812 Officers Day</b> - - Fort George

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# St. Davids teen wins **Wonderland** thrill ride

Kevin MacLean  
Managing Editor

A 14-year-old St. Davids boy literally had the ride of a lifetime last week.

Davin Warner was one of the first people to ride the new Yukon Striker roller coaster at Canada's Wonderland.

He was among 72 lucky riders who were drawn from among those who participated in a Wonderland fundraiser for SickKids Hospital in Toronto.

The campaign raised more than \$34,000 for the SickKids Foundation and on April 17 Davin found out he had secured seat number 17. He raised \$510 for the hospital.

The Yukon Striker is billed as the world's longest, tallest and fastest dive roller coaster, with a 90-degree drop from 75 metres in the air.

"It's a bit crazy," Davin said in an interview. He's a "coaster enthusiast," as they call themselves, and riding Yukon Striker was quite a thrill.

Riders hang over a 90-degree drop, frozen in space for three seconds. "You can feel the suspense," Davin said. And then you drop "straight down," reaching speeds of up to 130 km/h.

Riding it once wasn't enough, though. He went on it 10 times last Wednesday.

A Grade 8 student in French immersion at Prince Philip Public School in Niagara Falls, Davin was born with congenital hypothyroidism. He said riding the Yukon Striker was fun but helping out SickKids was important to him because he understands what many young patients have been through.



Davin Warner was one of the first people to ride the new Yukon Striker roller coaster at Canada's Wonderland. MELISSA WARNER PHOTOS



"I had tons of needles when I was younger. Tons of them," he said. "I'm lucky because now I only need it once a year."

The children at SickKids "are some of the bravest of any in the world."

His mother Melissa said Davin is something of an expert on roller coasters and closely followed the construction of the Yukon Striker for most of the past year.

Coasters are one of his

passions, said Davin, who is keenly interested in their engineering, components and manufacture. "Roller coaster design could be a career," he said.

In addition to last week's coaster preview, Davin who

is a season pass holder, received a Wonderland day pass for raising more than \$500.

So, he'll be back at the park soon, riding the Yukon Striker with one of his friends.

## Sponsored content

# Ravenshead Homes a true Niagara business

Brittany Carter  
Sponsored

Custom-built and within budget, Ravenshead Homes Inc. is the go-to for large or small remodels and renovations in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

James Green, owner of Ravenshead Homes, has 15 years of experience in construction and contracting work – lending his knowledge and expertise to create the envisioned remodel, addition or renovation of your dreams.

Everyone is busy and Green knows that, which is why he had an interactive online forum developed.

"We do have a user-friendly, interactive web page to be able to build your dream addition."

The Nest program allows

hopeful residents to fine-tune potential projects while remaining within budget. The free service is available online at Ravensheadhomes.com, established to help determine if Ravenshead is the right fit for your next renovation project.

"So, that way you can tailor a preliminary estimate based on your selections. They can go through and pick all their options, and if the estimate is too high, they could go through and change some of their options to better suit their budget."

He's not in the business of wasting time – he's efficient and wants customers to receive exactly what they're looking for in home improvement endeavours.

He understands that sometimes, you may not know which direction you're

vation project – that's where The Nest program comes in.

On top of preparing initial estimates and showcasing available options, Green also educates on materials and services available – one of the qualities setting Ravenshead Homes above its competitors.

"When we try to tell people about the options for an addition and foundation, some people don't know that you don't have to do a full basement, you don't have to do a crawl space. You can accomplish that with helical piles."

In addition to a rapidly growing reputation of efficient, quality work, Ravenshead Homes is a verified Baeumler Approved business.

Bryan Baeumler is the founder of Baeumler Qual-



James Green, owner of Ravenshead Homes, with his wife Kayla and son Cameron. BRITTANY CARTER

ity Construction and is a Gemini-award winning host on home improvement TV shows House of Bryan, Disaster DIY and Leave it to Bryan. Under his brand, Baeumler Approved members need to demonstrate quality work and customer satisfaction to become certified.

Ravenshead Homes has done that in spades.

Green went to Niagara College to become a certi-

fied home inspector, using that knowledge to take the renovation business a step further.

"It is a benefit knowing all the aspects of a home. We'll go through the home in a renovation mindset, but also with a keen eye to see anything that would stand out in a home inspection standpoint."

A member of the Ontario Association of Home Inspectors, Green's credentials

and experience speak for themselves.

As an active member of the Niagara community, Ravenshead Homes is sponsoring the Garden City Comedy Festival, from May 1 to 4.

Just finishing up on a large family home on King Street, Green says Ravenshead is available for your next large-scale renovation.

"Inspect, design, build – we come full circle."



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**James Green - 289 969 5991**




# Family doctor Julian Adams marks 50 years practising in NOTL

Brittany Carter  
The Lake Report

After half a century as a trusted family physician in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Dr. Julian Adams has been treating local families for generations – and he wouldn't have it any other way.

This February marked 50 years working in the same location on Niagara Stone Road. He's a part of the Niagara North Family Health Team, which has been updated and renamed over the years.

He's unwavering in his belief that he's exactly where he should be – no regrets, no second-guessing whether he made the right call; he was always going to be a doctor.

"I can't remember ever really thinking about it. I just sort of drifted into it more than anything else. I'm not going to say it's any sort of service to mankind. I didn't really think like that as a kid."

Born in Dublin and raised in the small town of Enniskillen, Ireland, he says he spent most summers with his aunt and uncle in York, England. Both were doctors and he followed suit, gliding into a career in medicine.

In 1969, he took what he thought to be a temporary position in a small town he couldn't even locate on a map. He flew to Canada from Ireland and has been living and working in NOTL ever since.

"I have no regrets. I'm very happy."

He took the job posting from the British Medical Journal and made the journey with his wife of one day – he married Emma the day before flying overseas, arriving in NOTL for what he believed would be a brief posting.

"We said, 'We'll take this job and then we'll go to Toronto and get a proper job.' We stayed here. No regrets at all."

Being "soft" is one of the qualities he says make him well-suited for the role. His love of people and his method of addressing ailments as



Dr. Julian Adams has been a NOTL family doctor for 50 years. BRITTANY CARTER

a whole have kept Adams interested in family practice all these years. The longer he's been working with an entire family, the better he is able to gauge their medical issues and concerns, so he can begin working toward plans for healing.

"I'm not boasting, but when my patients come in, I can almost already guess what's wrong with them. I know what they're going to complain about before they say anything."

He treats people's ailments like jigsaw puzzles. There's more to the story than just the immediate complaint, which he says he doesn't really treat as complaints.

"We call them complaints, but they're just pieces of the puzzle of each person."

And he has had no shortage of patients in town.

Over the course of his career, he delivered babies who have grown up to have him deliver their children. "That's when I stopped (delivering babies)."

"In those days a lot more family physicians did deliver babies. You got the whole family ... It all fit well into a family practice."

For the first 30 years of his career, he handled births, set fractures, and did more hospital visits in general. In the last 20 years he's focused more of his energy on family practice – he says

it's not fair to the patients in the office when he leaves for patients at the hospital.

"It becomes very difficult in family practice. Delivering a baby at two in the morning, that's fine. I just flash into St. Catharines, that's great. But at 10 in the morning and the office is full, you crawl out to deliver a baby – you keep one patient happy, but you have many that aren't happy."

It became too destructive to his practice, he says, which he had spent decades building.

Guarding his age closely, at this point in his life, he says that's probably his only secret.

Retirement isn't in the plans yet, but it's "definitely on the horizon."

Since his wife Emma died in 2010 he has been living on his own. His children, both in their 40s, live in Toronto with their families. Between them, he has five grandchildren he sees mostly on holidays and long weekends.

"That's probably why I'm still working. It's like occupational therapy. It is something to do and I love my job."

He doesn't make it to as many social outings as he used to, "That's probably because I'm not a couple anymore," but he says he has no shortage of friends in town.

Retired NOTL physician Ranjit Ahluwalia worked with Adams for 30 years and says he was very socially active and liked by everyone.

Ahluwalia considers him a close friend and an exceptional doctor, noting he often referred patients to Adams. "In fact, he's my doctor now."

Eager to kick up his feet at the end of the day, Adams is a fan of soccer and American football, "believe it or not."

"I watch some good shows like Game of Thrones as well."

In his career, he says he never turned down an opportunity to learn from people.

"I remember a family doctor once told me, 'Never fight with your patients. There's a reason they're fighting you.' I took that to heart."

He says how people adapt to different situations always surprised him.

"Some people adapt to their medical problems much better than others. That's a pretty obvious statement, but it's amazing how people are totally different. Some people, a little ache really bothers them, and other people put up with a lot more."

"It's just the beauty of the job."

Joseph Ribkoff

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Locals For Carriages' Pasta Trivia Night on May 11th is sold out thanks to this amazing community! But we are still looking for items that can be used for our raffle, silent auction and nickel sale. If you or your business is interested in helping out with a donation in any way, it would be so greatly appreciated!



Locals for Carriages

**Did you know?**

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# Ice flows down river



Massive ice floes floated into Lake Ontario from the mouth of the Niagara River on Sunday. BRITTANY CARTER

## Volunteer nominations open

Dariya Baiguzhiyeva  
The Lake Report

Niagara-on-the-Lake's devoted volunteers will be recognized for their contributions to the community.

"We want to recognize people that are helping others, helping organizations, helping the community," says Lord Mayor Betty Disero.

"Sustainability is not all about money. It's also about the human aspect. So, in order for our town to be sustainable, we also need to have great volunteers, which we do."

Volunteers will become more important as the time goes on, Disero said in an interview with The Lake Report.

For the past 23 years, the awards were awarded in collaboration with the Niagara Advance newspaper. This year is the first time the award has been called the

"Lord Mayor's Volunteer Award," said Disero.

There are seven award categories: working with seniors, working with youth/education, culture (arts, music, heritage), sports and recreation, environment, volunteer under 21, and community/civic engagement.

Disero, Deputy Lord Mayor Clare Cameron and one representative from each of NOTL's three weekly newspapers will review the nominations.

Residents can submit their nominations online to Victoria Steele, the town's community engagement co-ordinator, or drop off a hard copy at the town hall by May 13 at 4:30 p.m.

One winner for each category will then be recognized at the council meeting on June 10. Volunteers have to live in NOTL and be also willing to have their photo published.

### Sponsored content

## Meet Peninsula Flooring's new owners: Art and Carol Hubert

Brittany Carter  
Sponsored

Born and raised in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Art Hubert and his wife Carol, the new owners of Peninsula Flooring, are taking the already trusted name in local flooring and building on it.

They're aiming to provide the best in product selection and customer service. The couple took over the flooring business at 13 Henegan Rd., which has been in operation since 1963.

Since the Huberts' bought the business in 2017, Peninsula Flooring has held on to the core business model and concept – providing expert service at competitive pricing. While the basic quality of service remains untouched, the Huberts have been eager to update the

business with a fresh and innovative eye.

This Sunday, May 4, Peninsula Flooring will hold a public open house at the store. From 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., the community is invited to browse the variety of products and styles available, learn about the latest innovations and trends in flooring and meet and interact with the knowledgeable staff on hand.

Bringing in more brand names, products and options for flooring and tile, the Huberts want you to know you can count on the staff's combined years of experience in home renovation to help find the best options available.

Come into the store to see the large selection of custom area rugs, quartz countertops, wall and floor tile, and

all installation materials, including the full line of Schluter products.

Boasting they have "hottest styles and trends" in available selections, Peninsula Flooring also offers free quotes, professional installation and in-home consultations with flooring experts.

The showroom has been entirely remodelled since they took possession of the business. After in-house updates and renovations, it's like stepping into an entirely new location.

Walking into the showroom, you're met with positive, knowledgeable staff and friendly faces; exceptional customer service is their claim to fame. Not only will you be greeted promptly and with positivity, you'll be given in-depth information about the different products



The Peninsula Flooring team: Carol Hubert, Art Hubert (owners), Samantha O'Brien and Wendy Janzen. BRITTANY CARTER

Peninsula Flooring carries. From standard vinyl and carpeting to loose-lay options, and everything in between, there's something on hand to suit the style and budget of any renovation project.

The Huberts' drive to deliver in-depth product knowledge is evident in their desire to continue working closely with existing staff of the business. Treated as members of the family, the team at Peninsula Flooring

come together to provide a dynamic flooring experience.

Customer service specialists Wendy Janzen and Samantha O'Brien have been in the industry for more than two decades. Janzen has been with Peninsula for 20 years and O'Brien for nine years.

"Sometimes customers come in not knowing what they want. With Wendy and Samantha's product knowledge, they can learn any-

thing about flooring," Hubert says, "As much as they're willing to absorb."

Providing more than just the products, they educate customers on available options.

Able to help those with a clear idea of their renovation's vision to those unsure of the direction they're headed in their update, the staff at Peninsula are quick to offer advice and suggestions.



**Peninsula  
Flooring Ltd.**

13 Henegan Road | Virgil Business Park (905)-468-2135



Saturday May 4<sup>th</sup> 9am - 2pm

Light Refreshments Will Be Provided

**Store-wide Sale**

### Hearing show makes noise

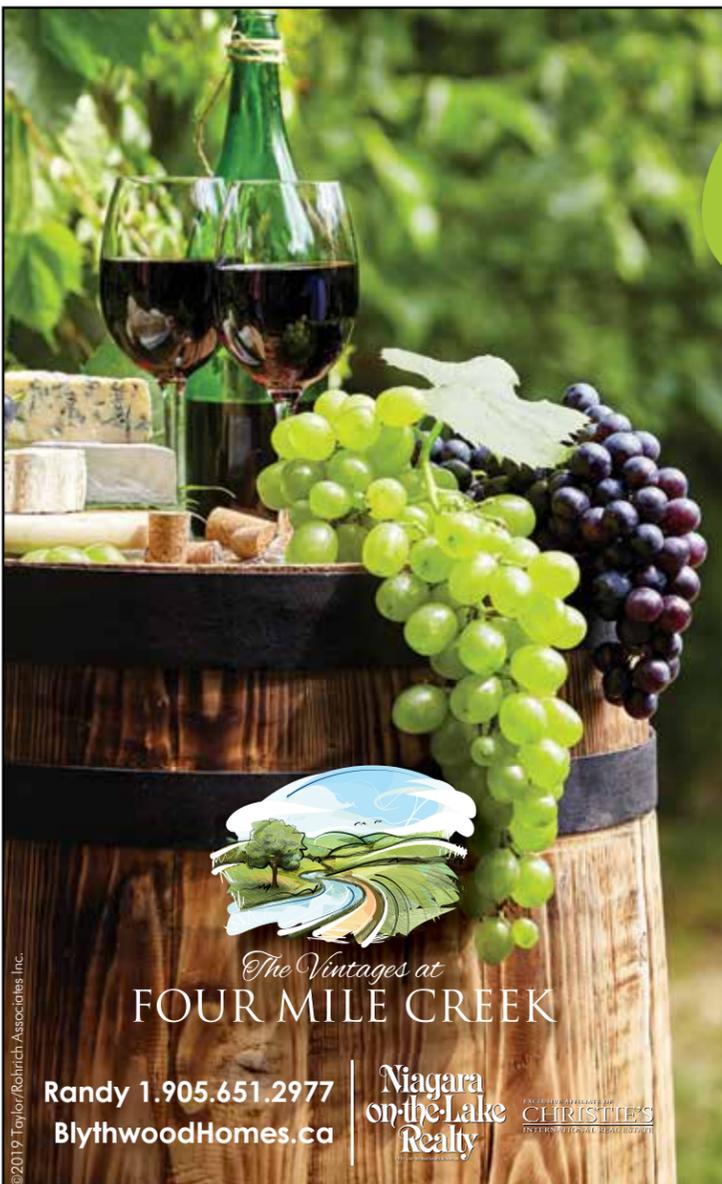


Gus Koroneos, hearing clinic owner, welcomes residents to the hearing clinic at the community centre on Wednesday. BRITTANY CARTER



# A SONG OF ICE AND GOLF

Kurt Hamm tunes up for the season at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Golf Club on Sunday. In the distance, some of the huge ice floes from the Niagara River are visible in Lake Ontario. EUNICE TANG



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- Across**
- 4. Arm joint (5)
  - 9. Cheering person (7)
  - 10. Texan mission (5)
  - 11. Existence (5)
  - 12. Difficult question (7)
  - 13. Brusque (5)
  - 14. Arcadian (5)
  - 17. Sovereign's seat (6)
  - 18. Shooting star (6)
  - 19. Card dispenser (4)
  - 20. Kidnap (6)
  - 22. Small measure (6)
  - 25. Republic between Iran and Syria (4)
  - 26. Plot (6)
  - 29. Far distant (6)
  - 30. Hebrew patriarch (5)
  - 33. Steps (5)
  - 34. Apprentice (7)
  - 36. Seaport in NW Israel (5)
  - 37. The last of a series (5)
  - 38. Spire (7)
  - 39. Preen (5)
- Down**
- 1. Helper (Abbr.) (4)
  - 2. Asked (8)
  - 3. Machinery repairer (8)
  - 4. Cinder (5)
  - 5. Wild rose (5)
  - 6. Move back and forth (6)
  - 7. Formal gesture of respect (6)
  - 8. Group discussion (10)
  - 15. World's southernmost city (7)
  - 16. So be it (4)
  - 17. Semiconductor device (10)
  - 21. Fastens a knot (4)
  - 23. Performs surgery (8)
  - 24. Adults (5-3)
  - 27. Paradise (6)
  - 28. Accident (6)
  - 31. Proof of being elsewhere (5)
  - 32. Fastening device (5)
  - 35. Ridge of rock (4)



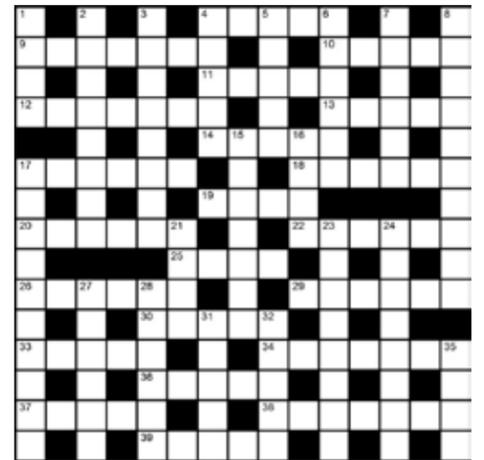
*Have some fun*

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](mailto:editor@niagaranow.com)

### Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9				10			
11			12				
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20			21			22	
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34				35			

### Last issue's answers



### Sudoku

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		3	4				7	
		4				8		9
8	1					5		
	1				8	9		
3	8	7						4
5		3	2		1			





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\$699,000 | MLS 30728501



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174 WRIGHT CRESCENT, NOTL  
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# OBITUARIES

For obituary and memorial inquiries, please contact editor@niagaranow.com.

## Bruce Pospiech



POSPIECH, Bruce William Allen – Surrounded by his family, Bruce passed peacefully due to complications from pneumonia, on Sunday, April 14, 2019, at the St. Catharines General Hospital. Bruce was born October 3, 1946 in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. Predeceased by his father Nicholas (2000) and his mother Joanne (Saganski) (2014). Survived by his wife Maureen (nee Donihee) of 48 years, his three children Matthew Carleton (Sarah), Daniel Nicholas and Kathleen Mary. He was very proud of his only grandson Nicholas Phillip Rosebush. Also survived by his brother Rob (Janet 2001) and sister Ruth Hunter (Glenn), nephew Raymond Hunter (Tracey) and nieces Wendy Beam (Ken Stewart), Jolene Ellwood and Amanda, sister-in-law Barbara Donihee (Robert Graham) of Rockcliffe. Bruce arrived by train from Prince Albert to his lifelong home in Virgil, at the ripe old age of two weeks. He attended Col. John Butler, Virgil Public and Niagara District Secondary School. He received a Bachelor of Science Degree from Carleton University in 1969. He began working for Chipman Chemicals in 1971 and married Maureen the same year. During this time, he began farming his own grapes and that of his father. Having promised Maureen the home of her dreams he rebuilt the original farm house on the creek to suit their growing family. He enjoyed the farming and winery community and was President for two terms of the Niagara Fruit and Vegetable Association. He also felt giving back to his village and town was important. He was Chairman of the St. Vincent de Paul Roman Catholic Council where he founded a youth group. He was also President of the NOTL Community Hospital during an extensive fundraiser. Bruce volunteered at Royal Canadian Legion Branch No. 124 for the fish and chip nights. In

Virgil he volunteered with the Virgil Businessmen's Association, helping design the new arena pavilion and putting it up and taking down the canvas sides for years. When working for the Canadian Cancer Society for over 20 years, he would say "Maureen knocks and talks, I drive the rural routes and count the money." He enjoyed being Chairman of the NOTL Christmas Parade Committee for the past 30 years. The thrill never went away. For that he won Town Council's event of the year. He also won the "Peggy Anderson" award for volunteer of the year. He truly loved NOTL Warriors Minor Lacrosse. He got the town to change the team colors to red and black (NOTL town colors – who knew?) before a Provincial Tournament. For the personal fulfilment coaching gave him, and the enjoyment summer camping trips gave the entire family, he mentioned that memorial donations to the NOTL Minor Lacrosse Association would be much appreciated.

The family received friends at MORGAN FUNERAL HOME, 415 Regent St., Niagara-on-the-Lake, on Monday, April 22. A celebration of Bruce's wonderful life was held at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 124, 410 King St., Niagara-on-the-Lake on Tuesday, April 23.

Memories, photos and condolences may be shared at [www.morganfuneral.com](http://www.morganfuneral.com)

*That man is a success who has lived well, laughed often, and loved much; who has gained the respect of intelligent men and women and the love of children; who never lacks appreciation of the earth's beauty, or fails to express it; who follows his dreams and pursues excellence in each task; and brings out the best in others, giving only the best of himself. This was Bruce.*

## Norma Smith



SMITH, Grace Norma- Peacefully, on April 28, 2019 at Henley House at the age of 101. Predeceased by her husband Leslie. Loving mother of Donald (Joan), Terry (Lesley) and Jim (Heidi). Proud grandmother of Sherry (Gary), Robert (Kutea), Rick (Cheryl), Sandra (Dave) and Jamie (Inara), Gregory (Patricia), Kelly (Glenn), Shannon (Tom) and Erin (Phil), Jeffery (Angie), Julie (Tim) and Tracy (Terry). Great grandmother of 28. She will be missed by many nieces and nephews.

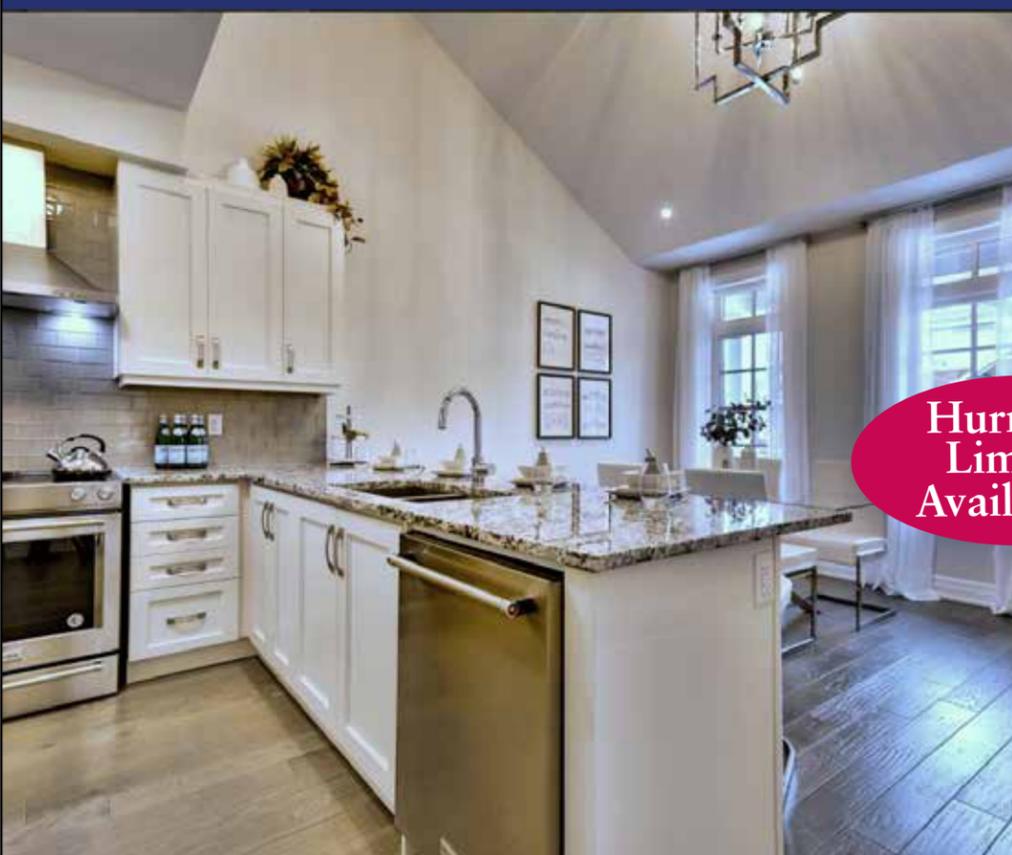
Special thanks to the staff at Henley House for their excellent care of Grace over the years.

Cremation has taken place. A celebration of life will be held at Morgan Funeral Home, 415 Regent Street, Niagara-on-the-Lake on Thursday, May 2nd at 1 o'clock. Private family interment. For those who wish, memorial donations may be made to the CNIB. Memories, photos and condolences may be shared at [www.morganfuneral.com](http://www.morganfuneral.com).



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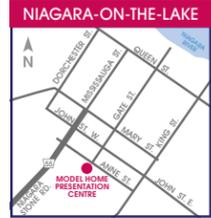
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# Corporal West's Adventures

By: Richard West

Corporal Dick West served in the British Army, Royal Artillery during the Second World War, while his wife Winnifred (Winn) struggled with the war in London, England. They were my parents. These short stories are derived from them telling me what it was like in those times. All the characters except for Corporal West and his wife Winn, are fictitious.

Dick was first called up in 1938 during the Munich crisis. He returned to civilian life in 1939 only to be called up again in late summer as the Second World War broke out. He was finally demobbed early in 1946. These stories are in chronological order.

*Editor's note: This story will be published as a series of 10 short stories. This is part six and seven. Check the paper weekly to keep up with the series.*



## BIGGIN HILL AIRFIELD

'Aircraft warming up. Look lively. Keep your eyes peeled and the gun pointed at the sky.'

'We do this all day long Corp. Why is it so special right now?'

'Cause when they take off or land, our lads are at their most vulnerable.'

'Ah. Come, Come. The Battle of Britain is long over. The chances of German bombers showing up at Biggin Hill, are slim.'

Dick glanced at the smart arse.

'Stinky. It's not bombers we are worried about. It's a lone fighter roaring out of the clouds to strafe our lads as they take off.'

'Yes Corp.'

'Gun crew all present and correct., Corp.'

'Thanks Sandy. Now, you know the drill. Traverse the gun across the sky . All eyes open.'

The sound of Merlins roaring along the runway drew Dick's attention. He stared as they raced towards his gun emplacement.

His worry slowly growing. They were still racing down the runway, neither slowing or taking off, just tearing towards them. Too close.

'Get that gun down.' He bellowed.

Stinky didn't hesitate. Like a madman, he worked the wheel that adjusted the gun's elevation, then jumped off his seat onto the ground.

The Spitfires roared over them, only feet above where the gun, and their heads, had been moments before.

Dick raised himself to see the last two Spitfires climbing away, rocking their wings.

'Bugger. Those crazy fools did that on purpose.'

'I think that's the new Squadron, Corp,' Sandy said. 'Someone told me they are Canadians.'

'Mad Canadians.' Dick blurted.

That evening an RAF Corporal arrived by motor cycle.

'Can I help you Corporal.' Dick said.

He picked up a crate of beer from his sidecar, handed it to Dick, smiled and said 'Compliments of the Canadians, Corp.'

## TOO YOUNG

Dick stood watching the people disembark from the train. Most of the passengers were men and women in uniform: the remainder were civilian men. No civilian women. Typical for Britain in 1943. Then Winn appeared wearing a flowered dress under a faun coat.

God. It's good to see her. She'll be a lot better at this than me.

Once she was through the ticket barrier he hugged her. She stood back and studied him.

'He asked for us?'

'Yes.'

'Doesn't sound good, Dick.'

'Here's the money for your train fares.'

She looked at him with raised eyebrows.

'The lads had a whip-round. Even the Lieutenant chipped in.'

'That's so touching.'

'Tommy is one of us, Winn. The youngest, in fact.'

'Where is he?'

'Netley Hospital. It's a military hospital just outside Southampton. I've found out which bus goes there.'

The bus came after a short wait and they travelled through Southampton and then along the East side of The Solent, passing through neat suburbs and villages.

After half an hour the conductor waved at them to get off at the next stop.

From the bus stop it was a half mile walk to the hospital. It was located in a large park and faced The Solent.

'It's nice here,' Winn said.

Dick looked glum. He was feeling bad about the visit and it showed.

Once inside a nurse escorted them through the North Wing of the building and then let them into a small ward. It had six beds and one was surrounded by screens.

She took them behind the screens and there was Tommy lying in a cot. His left ear was wrapped in bandages. Tommy's eyes followed them as they entered and then he started to struggle to get up.

Dick ordered, 'At Ease Private.'

'Thank you, Corp.' Tommy whispered. He lay back, closed his eyes and let out a long sigh, as he repeated in a small voice, 'Thanks Corp.'

Winn went straight to him and kissed him. Tears swelled up but he smiled.

She took his hand. Dick sat close to him and quietly talked to him about how the squad was doing. Tommy stared at them intently with tears wetting his cheeks.

After an hour nurses arrived and they had to wait outside while his dressings were changed.

The Sister came to speak to them.

'We are applying hot poultices to try to drain the poison in his ear.'

'So it's an ear infection?' Winn asked.

She nodded.

Dick said, 'Thank you for telling us, Marm.'

'He told us he has no family but he asked for you Corporal West, and Mrs West. I am so glad you have come.'

'Does he realize how serious it is?' Winn asked.

'Yes. He knows it we don't kill the infection, it will spread and probably kill him. In fact, it has already spread and his temperature is rising.'

'He's too young,' Dick protested.

'Twenty,' the Sister replied.

'God,' Winn said.

'What's so sad, is the new antibiotic drugs could probably save him.'

'Why can't you get them?' Dick asked.

'They are very new and in short supply so are reserved for frontline troops.'

'But he is a soldier.'

'It's not a wound,' she replied.

'Oh. No.' Winn exclaimed.

After they returned to Tommy he could not talk to them. The discomfort from the poultice took all his attention.

They sat there all afternoon, evening and into the night.

At two pm Private Tommy Banks died from an ear infection.

Winn kissed him.

Dick saluted his lad.

'Winn. I can't believe it. I pray I don't lose any more of my lads in this bloody war.'

Winn hugged him as she shed a tear.

There was nothing more they could do.



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# Exploring Photos: with Jim Smith

Exclusive to The Lake Report

## FRANK'S BARBER SHOP



Up to the 1970s, we had three barber shops on Queen Street in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Harry and Helen Steele raised a large family and ran a barber shop in the store that is now the Stage Coach Restaurant.

Gus Tranter had his barber shop in the building connected to what is now the Shaw Festival's Royal George Theatre. The third shop was run by Mr. Frank, who can be seen standing in his doorway in this vintage photograph at a time when sidewalks were made of wood and called board walks. In later years, Fred Curtis and his wife Jean ran a very successful barber shop in this building until he retired.

SUPPLIED PHOTO/JIM SMITH



## Once it's gone ...

Brian Marshall  
Featured

Despite the fact that in most areas my attitude is libertarian, I must confess to being a militant regarding the protection of our built heritage.

Perhaps this is due to my belief that architecture is an irreplaceable repository of our shared history and it provides unique insight into the lives of our ancestors. The joys and struggles, the successes and failures of our people are writ large in the homes they built and occupied.

To me, the loss of even a single heritage house not only diminishes each of us but also robs our children



The New Traditional in our photo is a perfect case-in-point with every detail working in concert to evoke the historic Canadian interpretation of the Queen Anne style.  
SUPPLIED PHOTO/BRIAN MARSHALL

of an opportunity to learn and celebrate the history of our nation.

For what more is a country than the centuries-long shared experience of its people? While national pride is not something that Canadians lack, the common will to enshrine it tends to be

missing-in-action. This is particularly true of our approach to the protection of built heritage which, largely left to the goodwill and inclination of each property owner, has proven widely ineffectual.

Consider the process in England and Wales established in 1947. In

brief, any British citizen can raise an application to have a building listed with a central government agency (Historic England or Cadw in Wales). Once filed, the building is assessed by the agency's experts and, based on their findings, recommendation is made to the Secretary of State for the building to be "listed" (or not).

Should the building be listed, it may not be demolished, extended, or altered without special permission from the local planning authority, which typically consults the aforementioned central government agency.

Further, listed buildings are required to be maintained by the owner(s) and failure to do so may result in criminal prosecution. Here the intent is clear: protection of built-heritage is of national importance.

This attitude is not uncommon. Next week, we'll look at an American approach..

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**THURSDAY MAY 23 :**  
**Caregiver Relief**  
with Joan Graham, Mental Health Nurse

**THURSDAY MAY 30 :**  
**Elder Care (Palliative Perspective) Alzheimer's**  
with Dr. Pratik Kalani

**THURSDAY JUNE 6 :**  
**MAiD - Medical Assistance in Dying**  
with Dr. Karen Berti

**THURSDAY JUNE 13 :**  
**The Importance of Palliative Care**  
with Dr. Kim Adzich

**THURSDAY JUNE 20 :**  
**Grief and Bereavement**  
with Merri-Lee Agar, Death Doula

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You are welcome to attend one or multiple workshops!

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The Lake Report would also like to acknowledge and thank those who have made financial contributions to the paper, whether through our donate button online or by mailing us a cheque. The paper encourages all residents to support the paper through a "voluntary subscription" annually. For those interested in supporting us, we suggest \$1 per issue, per household, at 52 issues per year. That's only \$52 — less than most people spend on pizza and wings. Larger donations are also greatly appreciated. For transparency, donations of more than \$1,000 will be published in the paper (with a big thank you) and donors will receive an exclusive limited edition Lake Report mug, as well as a copy of the first edition of the paper signed by staff. (Limit of 20 special mugs) To support The Lake Report, mail cheques to the Niagara-on-the-Lake Post Office, L0S1J0, PO Box 724. Please make cheques payable to Niagara Now Ltd. and note it as a donation.

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## St. Vincent de Paul Church: Part 1

Denise Ascenzo  
Niagara's History Unveiled  
Exclusive/The Lake Report

A mix of old architecture from 1834 and new architecture from 1964, St. Vincent de Paul Roman Catholic Church sits at the corner of Picton and Wellington streets.

The Roman Catholic population on this side of the Niagara River never grew to any substantial numbers until many years after the War of 1812. The few Roman Catholic adherents before this time would have been military personal.

There are documented records of Jesuit priests, as early as the 1620s, travelling with the French explorers throughout the Great Lakes region converting the Indigenous peoples to Christianity and offering mass to the early French settlers.

There were no established parishes for people to gather and worship together. In fact, from the 1670s to the 1820s the entire Niagara Region, on both sides of the Niagara River, was under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Quebec, who did not appoint a permanent priest to the area.

Then the first massive increase in the Roman Catholic population occurred in the 1820s in Peterborough, Ont. A gentleman by the name of Peter Robinson paid for 12 ships to carry poor Irish from Ireland to Upper Canada (Ontario). By the 1830s, Upper Canada, with the growth of Roman Catholic parishioners, was placed under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Kingston and priests started to be assigned to parishes.

Later, breaking from the Celtic tradition of staying where your family graves are, as more Irish left Ireland for a better life in Upper and Lower Canada. Niagara-on-the-Lake benefited from this migration. By the mid-1840s, the Niagara Region parishioners were placed under the



St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church. SUPPLIED PHOTO

jurisdiction of the Bishop of Toronto.

From 1831 to 1850, over 500,000 Irish immigrated to Canada, settling in Quebec and Ontario. The biggest push of immigration came during the Irish Potato Famine, which started in 1847.

With a massive increase in numbers in NOTL, St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church was finally established as a parish and the church was built.

The first church, which is still in use today, was built in 1834. The addition to the front of the church was built in the 1960s.

The graveyard beside and behind the church had been used for about a decade before the church was built but unfortunately many of the internments did not have grave markers.

The oldest recorded burial in the graveyard is in 1825 for Catherine Lyons. A stone was not erected on her grave until her husband's death in 1888.

The oldest grave marker in the cemetery is that of John Battle, who died in 1843 at the age of 49. The inscription says, "Erected by Nelly to the memory of her husband." There is no record of Nelly having been buried in the St. Vincent de Paul graveyard.

In the graveyard are two stone monuments, each with a large sphere and Roman Catholic cross on top of the sphere. This represents the "Conquering of the World by Christianity." People who supported the missions around the world often had this symbol on their monuments.

Two other stone monuments use the Celtic cross,

which is unusual to find in a Roman Catholic graveyard. This is possibly in recognition of where the deceased had been born. As well, many of the Irish families put on the grave markers where the deceased was born.

Only one priest has been buried in the graveyard, Rev. J.J. Lynch. On Sept. 9, 1897, at the age of 34 and in his 10th year as a priest, he died suddenly. He had only been with the parish for three years but in that time he made a significant impact on the parishioners, with many praising his good works, his good nature and kind heart.

The Chisholm family has one of the most impressive mausoleums in NOTL. Alexander Chisholm and his wife Mary Margaret Phelan were a poor Scottish family who arrived

in NOTL in 1827. Their struggles were similar to those of other poor immigrants to this country, so how could they afford such a grand mausoleum?

Janet Carnochan explained that one son had been very successful in life. Hugh J. Chisholm, born in NOTL on May 2, 1847, was the fifth child of Alexander and Mary. In 1859, when Hugh Chisholm was just 13 years old, his father died and, like his older siblings, he was forced to leave school in search of work to help support the family.

Chisholm's first job was in Toronto selling newspapers on the Grand Trunk Railway trains between Toronto and Chicago. He saved his money and soon bought his own papers to sell on the trains and later the ferries that crossed

Lake Ontario. At the age of 16, Chisholm was able to buy out the employer from whom he bought his papers and with his brother they started their own paper business.

While still running the newspaper business, Chisholm furthered his education enrolling in Bryant & Stratton College. He is listed among many famous alumni of the college, including John D. Rockefeller and Henry Ford. Through many successful businesses in the pulp and paper industry, publishing and investment, Hugh Chisholm became a prosperous and wealthy businessman.

*More Niagara's History Unveiled articles about the past of Niagara-on-the-Lake are available at: [www.niagaranow.com](http://www.niagaranow.com)*





# COMMUNITY

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



*Ice floes end up in lake*  
Photo by Eunice Tang/The Lake Report



## Artifact of the Week: Janet Carnochan's Luncheon Plate



**Answer:** This week's artifact is a luncheon plate owned by the first president of the Society and Museum, Janet Carnochan. Luncheon plates were sized between the salad and dinner dishes and were meant for a smaller meal. Miss. Carnochan was a long-time resident of Niagara-on-the-Lake and was instrumental in developments within the community. She began an academic career in teaching and was appointed as the first woman principal at Niagara Public School in 1872. She went on to achieve other accomplishments such as forming the Niagara Historical Society in 1895 and acquiring a collection of local artifacts to put in the museum building (Memorial Hall) for which she donated land. After its opening, Miss Carnochan acted as its first Curator, President and Corresponding Secretary. A year after resigning as President of the Society, she passed away in 1926 and is buried at St. Andrew's Church.

**The Artifact of the Week column is submitted by the Niagara Historical Society & Museum, exclusive to The Lake Report.**



Can you guess next week's artifact? >

**Clue: Any way the wind blows doesn't really matter to me.**



Congrats to Mike Palmer, shown with daughter Nora and son Russell. They found realtor Stepan Regier's \$500 Golden Egg hidden at Rye Park, cold and wet under a bush. SUPPLIED



**Betty & Jane: Plunger Patrol**  
**Inspecting NOTL's bathrooms:**  
Caroline Cellars



Staff at the Hare Wine Co. accepts their Golden Plunger award. PLUNGER PATROL

The Hare Wine Co. isn't just named after the symbol of fertility and good fortune, it's also the namesake of owner John Hare. Us two old crones had a great time hopping about during our visit. The winery is committed to producing 100 per cent Ontario-grown VQA wines. Rustic and reclaimed materials are used throughout the building. The reclaimed bricks used on the exterior of the building are over 100 years old. Reclaimed barn board flooring has been repurposed into shelving throughout the estate. The grand tasting room and retail boutique are designed to resemble a turn-of-the-century factory with high ceilings and industrial elements. In the palatial setting of the Hare Wine Co. we checked out the throne rooms. Spacious and elegant, they did not disappoint.

**Caroline Cellars**  
**4/5 Gold Plungers**



## Appreciating teachers

Students at Niagara Kung Fu Academy were asked to vote for a teacher who really inspires them. Bohden Cherevaty, left, and Fynnley Bentall, right, say they admire all their teachers, but sports teacher Mr. Holowchuk, centre, is extra special. He always listens and encourages kids, they say. SUPPLIED PHOTO

## Grilled cheese fundraiser gives back



Marieke Dufresne, communications manager of Niagara's Parmalat Canada, and Brenda Disher, office manager and driving force behind the Grilled Cheese Fundraiser, held on Thursday, April 25. BRITTANY CARTER

## RIDDLE ME THIS:

I cry, but never when I'm blue.  
What am I?

**Last Week's Riddle:** I can fly, but other times I can go a turtle's pace. **Answer: Time**  
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Featured local story

## BEHIND THE 'SCENES'

### Creative and technical ingenuity at play in sets at Shaw

Jill Troyer  
The Lake Report

When the dark comedy *The Ladykillers* opens at the Festival Theatre on June 11, the set will play an integral role in the production, and many hands are busy making sure it will perform its part as envisioned.

The set is designed by Judith Bowden and it's the job of the skilled staff at the Shaw Festival's scenic construction and scenic art shops to make her vision a reality, delivering the creative spirit as well as flawless functionality.

Lesslie Tunmer, head of scenic construction, says with a wry smile, "This one was one of the harder ones to get my head around." He explains it can be quite a journey taking the tiny maquette, or miniature model, to a full-size, fully functional set with all the requisite moving parts.

*The Ladykillers* takes place in an old woman's home in London after the Second World War. A ragtag band of amateur criminals moves in, posing as musicians, while in reality planning a big heist. Mishaps, misadventure and mayhem ensue to create what the Shaw Festival calls "a deliciously macabre comedy."

Tunmer says there are several tricks, or gags, that had to be built into *The Ladykillers* set, and they have to work seamlessly on stage, so "this one was a tough one."

But Tunmer clearly revels in solving the puzzle and he's delighted to show off



Top left, scenic art head Gwyneth Stark. Top right, A maquette for *The Ladykillers* set. Bottom left, Lesslie Tunmer, the Shaw Festival's head of scenic construction, holds a miniature model of a set. Bottom right, scenic carpenter Bob Vernon works on a full-size set piece. PHOTOS BY JILL TROYER



how it all works, and share the ingenuity behind it all. The audience will enjoy the laughs they get from surprise moments and never see the clever mechanics making it all work.

All of the sets built for the Shaw Festival must be movable. "A big part of the design is changeover, because entire sets have to move out and new ones move in, between afternoon and evening performances," Tunmer explains.

Many set pieces are "also moved by actors as part of the show and it can't be complicated, because if they're concentrating on

moving the set piece, or if it's too heavy, they can't focus on acting," he adds.

Tunmer demonstrates with a large set piece under construction for *Cyrano de Bergerac*. It moves, he notes, "with the touch of a finger." The actor need only press a button, which instantly raises the whole thing onto wheels, making it easy to slide to a new position.

Another touch of the button sets it down so it won't slip. It's all done with compressed air and the controls are hidden inside the walls.

The whole set gets built

and assembled in the scenic construction shop, a cavernous warehouse buzzing with sounds of hammers and power tools, filled with the scent of sawdust, and alight with sparks from the welder's blow torch.

It's tucked into the back of the Virgil Business Park, quite removed from the downtown theatre stages where the sets are destined.

As the pieces are completed, they move to the adjoining space, the scenic art shop. It's the domain of scenic art head Gwyneth Stark. She and her team take charge, transforming the structures of wood and

steel to mimic the most minute of details in the maquette.

Stark explains that most of the brick walls in the set are opaque, but other parts need to initially appear solid, and later be transformed with a change of lighting. That section will be painted on screen and it has to match the texture and depth of the solid pieces. "It's all shadow and light," Stark says.

The audience might reasonably assume the wallpaper they see on a set is – well, wallpaper. But that's not the case.

In the old home that is

the central location where action unfolds in *The Ladykillers*, the wallpaper is painstakingly created with hand-cut stencils to create the exact look needed for the design.

Scenic artist Becky Lee is the master of stencils in the scenic art shop. She says "actors take a lot of time rehearsing, but we take a lot of time making and creating." For *The Ladykillers*, at least three different wallpaper patterns had to be created.

*The Ladykillers* opens on June 11 and runs at the Festival Theatre until Oct. 12.



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