A warm welcome for new Canadians

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 Mayor Betty Deseo. 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
Shaw Festival citizenship ceremony a first for many

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

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 volunteering, 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 uncle 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.

“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 citizenship 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.”

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.

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Sarfaraj and Reshmaben Karolia were both awarded Canadian Citizenship on Friday.

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

Citizenship judge Rochelle Ivri and her husband Eldean.

An emotional Safica Neagu, from Romania, receives her citizenship alongside her two daughters and husband.
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 considering 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 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.
 Editorial: Get outside and enjoy our town

Richard Harley
Editor-in-Chief

Now that spring is finally showing its colors, 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 Lake-shore 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

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 author-ship can be authenticated. Only names and general addresses (eg. Virgil, St. Davids, NOTL) will be published.

Send your letters to editor@niagaranow.com or drop them by our office at 724 Mississauga St., NOTL.

May 2, 2019

The Lake Report

EDITORIAL & OPINION

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.

On the front porch, many guests want the privacy and the chance to experience the town as a local. Not 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

The Lake Report

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The Lake Report

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Sunset at Ryerson Park beach.
JORDYN MOTTOLA/SPECIAL

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

Jason Clements
NOTL

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Send your letters to editor@niagaranow.com or drop them by our office at 724 Mississauga St., NOTL.

Jason Clements
NOTL

The Lake Report
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 let-

ter he’d sent to your paper earlier this month.

The clarifications con-

cerned the lands on Lake-

shore Road that have been used by the

Department of Defence

and are now being handed

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 on April 25

(Turn defence lands into a

park, not wetlands), he
cites several problems he

still sees with our proposal. (That proposal can be seen on 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 presenta-
tion by Bruce McKenzie, who was involved with a similar project at the Biggar Ponds in Grimbly, 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.

Debt 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 fascinat-
ing stuff as I now have more time to explore.

The interlibrary loan service has been a lifeline that al-

lows easy access to it all, without adding to a collection of books and DVDs. I do 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 enhanced 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 edi-
tor 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 journalist-

ic integrity.

That was followed by defining Ford’s intent as “show-
ing 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 imagi-
nary 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 de-
bate. 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.

“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 community. “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. Liking the experience to being in a black hole,” Backshall said.

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,” Backshall said.

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.”

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

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 manager 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 BAIGUZHIYEVA
News

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 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.

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

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 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 goose 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 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.”
Join us week ends in May for 'Sip & Sizzle' to sample sizzling gourmet eats with perfectly paired VQA wine.

konzelmann.ca
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 Libraries Cooperative, 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 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 board wants us to try to find a solution. In terms of numbers, LiNC had overtaken the provincewide interlibrary loan program,” Cathy Simpson, chief librarian and CEO of NOTL Public Library, said.

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.

The libraries have posted on their websites that patrons were left high and dry, and the Niagara libraries were left with no simple way to return materials to their home branches.

In some cases, staff visiting other libraries can return or pick up books, but that isn’t a permanent or efficient solution, Simpson said.

The co-operative is looking for ways to fix the problem of “orphaned” materials sitting on shelves, waiting to be returned to the library from which they originated.

“We understand that it’s tough times for the province, so we want to work with them to try and solve this,” Simpson said.

The libraries have posted links about a number of ways that patrons can get involved. Go to notplib.ca or call Rob at 905.246.4671.
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.

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.

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Judo champ aims to empower kids

Jill Troyer
The Lake Report

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

“...I am 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 Fudson 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 fudsonyoga.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 25 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 market-place 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 until 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 PubDugs, 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 chefs 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 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.

Calling all cooks!

Local recipe book planned for 2019

The Lake Report is calling on all cooks, chefs, bakers and food enthusiasts in Niagara-on-the-Lake. We want your favourite family recipes, and the stories that go with them, to share with the community. Whether it’s a special stew, soup, or salad, the best bread or muffins; or a decadent dessert, we’d like to hear from you!

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@niagaranow.com

The top recipes will be published in an annual paperback book, which will be available (in limited supplies) 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!
## Community Favourites:

<table>
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<th>Sunday</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Legion Fish Fry every Thursday - 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.</strong>&lt;br&gt;St. Davids Lions Club Fish Fry, April 5, April 19 - 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Duplicate Bridge</strong> at the Community Centre, Tuesdays and Fridays at 1 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Tumble Tots</strong> - 10 a.m. to noon&lt;br&gt;NOTL Public Library</td>
<td><strong>St. Andrew’s Lector Years: Tommy, ows yer soul?</strong>&lt;br&gt;NOTL Rotary Club - Noon&lt;br&gt;NOTL Rotary Club</td>
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<td>Wayne Gates Office</td>
<td>Daddy &amp; me - 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.</td>
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<td>to 4 p.m. - NOTL Public Library</td>
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<td>Queenston Volunteer</td>
<td>Live Well Health &amp; Wellness Fair</td>
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<td>Firefighters Association</td>
<td>- 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. - White Oaks</td>
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<td>Spaghetti Dinner</td>
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<td>5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. - Queenston</td>
<td>- 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. - RiverBrink</td>
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<td>Yellow Door Theatre Project</td>
<td>Bravo Niagara! Presents 2019</td>
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<td>Coffee House Youth Series</td>
<td>YDTP Fall Performance Company</td>
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<td>7 p.m. - Yellow Door Theatre Project</td>
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<td>Auditions for the 2019 YDTP Fall</td>
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**CALENDAR**

May 2 - May 18

**LOCAL CALENDAR**

**Upper Canada Mechanical Heating & Air Conditioning**

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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 participat-
ed in a Wonderland fund-raiser 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.

Davin was born with congenital hypothyroidism. He said riding the Yukon Striker was fun but important to him because he understands what many young patients have been through.

“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.

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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 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, 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 grand children he sees mostly on holidays and long weekends.

“They’re 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.”

Dr. Julian Adams has been a NOTL family doctor for 50 years. BRITTANY CARTER
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 unmothched, 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 counter tops, wall and floor tile, and all installation materials, including the full line of Schluter products. Boasting they have “hot test 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 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 anything 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’d be headed in their update, the staff at Peninsula are quick to offer advice and suggestions.

Volunteer nominations open
Dariya Baiguzhiyeva
The Lake Report

“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.

Ice flows down river

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

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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

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE Niagara ON-THE-LAKE

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

Across
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)
31. Proof of being elsewhere (5)
32. Fastening device (5)
33. Steeps (5)
34. Apprentice (7)
35. Last of a series (5)
36. 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)
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27. Paradise (6)
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Have some fun

Crossword Puzzle

Sudoku

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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 Elwood 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 fulfillment 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

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 (Ingra), 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.

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

Exploring Photos: with Jim Smith

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

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

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The Lake Report

The Lake Report strongly encourages readers to support the local businesses that advertise with us. When reading, we ask you to remember: the businesses you see allow us to operate and keep the paper free and independent. When you’re looking for a service or product, check the paper and try someone local first.

There are a variety of great businesses inside to choose from — don’t forget to mention you saw them in the paper! 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 $2 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.

Thank you.

Did you know?
The Lake Report’s printer sources 100 per cent of its paper fibre from industry leading paper mills, which use quick-growth, sustainable, renewable plots of land, rather than clear-cutting forests. The ink is also vegetable-based.

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Come visit!
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 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 behind 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 the World by Christian-ity.” 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 possible 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 a training school. 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 investments, 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.niagaranonw.com
COMMUNITY

We invite you to submit photos and stories for consideration in this section. Send your submissions to editor@niagararanow.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.

Grilled cheese fundraiser gives back

Appreciating teachers

Students at Niagara Kung Fu Academy were asked to vote for a teacher who really inspires them. Bohden Cherevaty, left, and Fynnley Bantall, 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

Marienek Dupeose, 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

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

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 Answered first by Lori Forstinger. Email answers to editor@niagararanow.com for a chance to win a prize.
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. As the pieces are coming together, the walls. 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 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 needs only press a button, which instantly raises the whole set up and out. “The actor need to initially appear won’t slip. It’s all done with the button sets it down so it won’t slip. It’s all done 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 design is the master of stencils. 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 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.