Senior charged with manslaughter

Man, 74, accused in death of 94-year-old woman at Chartwell’s NOTL long-term care home

Richard Harley
Brittany Carter

A 74-year-old man from Niagara-on-the-Lake is facing a charge of manslaughter after the death of a 94-year-old woman at Chartwell Niagara Long Term Care Residence on Wellington Street in NOTL.

The victim, Verna Traina, was assaulted by a man on Aug. 9 at a long-term care facility in NOTL, where the two both lived, Niagara Regional Police said in a statement Monday.

Police refused to identify which long-term facility was involved, but a Chartwell official confirmed it happened at the company’s NOTL location.

Traina was taken to Greater Niagara Hospital in Niagara Falls where she died of her injuries on Aug. 20. Police launched their investigation into the incident almost three months ago, but have released few details and made no announcement about the attack until this week.

However, a public report to the Niagara Police Services Board on Sept. 26 states that a woman at the NOTL facility was pushed by a male resident and fell, suffering a serious, life-threatening injury. She died on Aug. 20.

The report says the incident occurred at about 7:45 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 9, and police responded to the incident the next day, Aug. 10.

Minutes of the September police board meeting state that there were no plans to file any charges in the case.

“An investigation into all the circumstances in this matter, including the fact that the (then) 73-year-old male was identified as having serious cognitive issues, and in consultation with the Crown Attorney’s office, it has been determined that charges will not be laid,” the document says.

IN-DEPTH: ‘Bird bangers’ least effective choice, long-term, researchers say

Dariya Baiguzhiyeva

Propane cannons, commonly known as bird cannons or bird bangers, have been used for deterring birds from agricultural crops for years, but many experts say they are only effective in the short-term or when used in conjunction with other deterrents.

Birds and other animals are smart and adaptable. Using only loud explosions does not deter them for long, extensive studies have shown.

During harvest season from late summer through autumn, farmers use a wide variety of techniques to scare away birds and animals from crops.

Loud, auditory deterrents – which inevitably lead to complaints from some residential neighbours and to “the farmers were here first!” push back from proponents – can include bird cannons, air horns, shotguns, electronic sound devices or pyrotechnic pistol cartridges.

Visual techniques such as tapes and streamers, balloons, scarecrows, falcons, American Kestrel nest boxes (a natural pest deterrent) and other methods.

If not deterred, birds can cause significant damage to agricultural crops, says the provincial ministry.

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Town at impasse over noisy, unapproved air-conditioning unit

Cold storage owner has tried to reduce noise and vibrations, but councillors are concerned unit was installed without approval

Dariya Baiguzhiyeva

Pat Doyle and Chiara Recine are some Cannery Park residents who have had issues with the illegally installed air conditioning unit outside the St. David’s Cold Storage facility on Four Mile Creek Road.

The company, at 365 Four Mile Creek Rd., owned by Alfred Dyck, provides

Cannery Park resident Chiara Recine, who has been dealing with an illegally installed, noisy industrial air conditioning unit outside the St. David’s Cold Storage facility for the past year, says she still “has faith” Niagara-on-the-Lake council will force the company to move the unit.

At the council meeting Oct. 21, town councillors couldn’t come to a consensus and deferred making a decision on the noisy unit to the next council meeting on Nov. 11.

Recine, who lives less than 50 metres away from the cold storage facility, questioned what prompted some town councillors’ vote against an amended staff report which suggested moving the existing AC unit to the south side of the building or up on the roof.

“The council needs to do the right thing,” Recine told The Lake Report. “Either (move the unit) to the south side where the other ones are or on top” of a new wing of the facility that is under construction.

The company, at 365 Four Mile Creek Rd., owned by Alfred Dyck, provides...
Town at impasse over noisy, unapproved AC unit

Dariya Baiguzhiyeva  
The Lake Report

Frustrated and fed up, Niagara-on-the-Lake resident Kaspar Pold was threatening to bring his uncollected garbage to the town hall Monday after he once again had to deal with garbage pickup that was delayed for several days.

Pold, who lives on Concession 2 Road, said his garbage wasn’t picked up last Thursday although his recycling material was collected. When Pold called the region the following day, he was told the crews would be collecting garbage until 8 p.m. Friday. His bin was left untouched until early Monday morning.

“It’s kind of depressing in a way,” Pold said. “It should not happen and I find it really difficult to understand how a crew driving one of those trucks could miss the (bin) standing there on the driveway beside the road. You just can’t miss that.”

Back in the summer he experienced similar problems with missed pickups.

“The staff administration should be dealing with them,” Disero said.

“I want to see what is available through the Municipal Act or through the Planning Act on setting a policy on how to deal with people that are asking for forgiveness rather than permission.”

At Nov. 11 council meeting. Disero also noted the owner speak, he had a better presentation showing that he had actually done a number of noise attenuation acoustics and he thought the cold storage units was so good they could do it themselves. To me, it felt like he was trying to compromise, like he was trying to do something, Cheropita said. “We didn’t have much of a discussion on that.”

Garbage delays continue to plague senior resident

Dariya Baiguzhiyeva  
The Lake Report

SALE ENDS NOVEMBER 30 · AT WINERY ONLY

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Virgil clinic makes flu shot easier with virtual reality headsets

Brittany Carter
The Lake Report

Niagara-on-the-Lake pharmacists are urging residents to get their flu shots now – and one pharmacy is using new technology to ease nervous patients through the door.

Julie Dyck, pharmacist-owner of Stone Road Pharmacy in Virgil, has a pair of virtual reality glasses to distract kids and adults alike while receiving their flu shot.

“It helps take their mind off the shot – no tears,” she said. The glasses virtually transport flu shot recipients underwater with a scuba diving app.

The Vanderlee family were the first to try out the glasses on Monday evening, with seven-year-old Sam Vanderlee stepping up first. He said the glasses helped to take his mind off the impending shot.

Stone Road Pharmacy is a member of Whole Health Pharmacy Partners, a national network of independent pharmacies.

The network launched the virtual reality experience for flu shots last year and was met with “extremely positive response from children and adults alike,” said a statement from Whole Health Pharmacy Partners.

“With the use of VR, patients become immersed in the video experience while being vaccinated by their pharmacist – decreasing both the fear and perception of injection pain. The aim is to improve immunization rates within each community, but also to enhance each patient’s overall experience,” the statement read.

Dyck said the shot is important to prevent the flu from spreading – even those who feel healthy can transmit the virus, she said. And getting the shot early is ideal.

“The sooner you get the flu shot the better because it takes a few days for the immunity to kick in,” said Dyck.

Already, she said the new pharmacy has administered an entire shipment of the quadrivalent flu vaccine, which protects against four strains of the flu virus.

She said there’s been an “overwhelming response” with the flu shot since the pharmacy began administering on Oct. 24.

Pharmacies can give the vaccine to anyone five years and older, anyone younger will need to see a physician.

“The same is true for the high-dose vaccine, a trivalent flu vaccine with a higher dosage protecting against three strains of the flu, which is only available for seniors through a physician.

“The Ministry of Health hasn’t expanded the (high-dose vaccine) to pharmacist offices yet, but we’re hoping for it. We’re petitioning for it – so fingers crossed that next year we’ll have access to that,” Dyck said.

Simpson’s Pharmacy on Niagara Stone Road has administered at least 250 flu shots, said pharmacy manager and pharmacist Vicky Banka.

Banca said she encourages everyone to get the shot because “you not only protect yourself – you protect everyone around you.”

Leslie Alderman, supervisor of the vaccine and preventable disease program for Niagara Region public health, said 10 to 20 per cent of Canadians get the flu each year.

In Niagara, she said children nine years and younger most frequently go to court on Nov. 26.

He was released on $500 bail and ordered to return to court on Nov. 26. Janine Reed, senior director of communications and public relations for Chartwell, said in an email response that it would be “inappropriate to discuss a matter that is before the courts.”

However, she did say the company is “fully co-operating with the police.”

“We will continue to take steps to ensure the safety and security of all of our residents and employees, who are our primary concern,” she said.
Editorial
Take time to remember

Kevin MacLean
Managing Editor

The mournful sounds of The Last Post.
Rhythmic footfalls of veterans and cadets, marching to honour the past. Heartfelt, tearful tributes to men and women who fought for their country.

Young and old, and in between, paying respects as a nation stops to acknowledge and to say thank you.

The 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month.
The sounds of silence, everyone alone with their thoughts. Let us forget.

As crowds gather over the coming days at cenotaphs and war memorials across the country, we once again will take a few moments to remember the fallen, those who literally gave their lives fighting to protect the freedoms that we enjoy today.

Freedoms we too often take for granted – or worse, seldom stop to contemplate. Remember that.

We need only look around our world, where upheaval, war, terror and insurrection roil many countries to this day.

We are fortunate to live here in Canada, shielded and protected from most of the problems that plague many other corners of our world. Yes, we are lucky. Remember that.

However, being lucky does not diminish the fact that war could again rear its head.

As the aging veterans of the Second World War leave us, we must continue to ensure successive generations know and understand the sacrifices they made.

But, also, it remains our job to continue to educate them in an attempt to make sure peace triumphs over conflict. Remember that.

There is plenty to be hopeful about and it is heartening to see the work of veterans groups, the Royal Canadian Legion, teachers in our schools, community groups, families and others keeping alive the legacy of those who went before.

Over the next several days, there will be numerous opportunities to publicly show your respect and thankfulness for what our veterans did. Take time.

For you, it could mean wearing a symbolic red poppy, attending a Remembrance Day ceremony here in NOTL or elsewhere, or simply interrupting your own busy existence to take a break from the hustle and bustle.

Take time to contemplate, understand and appreciate how a generation of soldiers, many still in their teens, went off to foreign lands to fight a brutal war that is beyond the understanding of most of us today.

Many of those young soldiers never returned. Take time – and remember them.

editor@niagaranow.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Angel’s Rest Dog Sanctuary offers sincere thanks

Dear editor:
We at Angel’s Rest Dog Sanctuary would like to express our thanks and appreciation for the amazing coverage of our July 2019 fundraiser on our property 1079 Queenston Rd., in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

From this coverage, we have received so much help from the community with our old and ill dogs that we never would have gotten without your newspaper.

Sincerely,

Christine Van Moorsel
NOTL

Wright’s Miracle at Halloween an exceptional tale

Dear editor:
(“Miracle at Halloween,” Oct. 31).

It’s exactly what we need in these times of strife and bad news.

Mr. Wright has shared an exceptional tale of faith, beauty and friendship that will move all of us to reconsider the priorities of a meaningful lifestyle.

A miracle at Halloween! Of course, it couldn’t be otherwise!

Sincerely,

George Dunbar
Toronto
NOTL Museum expanding, asks town for budget increase

The Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum has long been underfunded and it is now asking for a “final major increase” in the town’s 2020 budget, the museum’s curator told council’s committee of the whole meeting Monday.

Sarah Kaufman made two presentations to councillors. She first asked for a letter of support for the museum’s renovation project and then made a request for more money in 2020.

“The museum hasn’t expanded since the 1970s and the renovation project is ‘long overdue,’ Kaufman said.

The $8-million project will make the museum fully accessible, with an elevator and universal bathroom, add community space and a community space and an accessible, with an elevator and universal bathroom, add community space and a community space and a community space.

In 2019, the museum received $209,790, while in 2018, council allocated $158,535 to the museum.

Between 2006 and until 2016, the town’s contribution to the museum only increased to $99,000 from $85,000. That means over a 10-year period, the museum on average received an annual increase of $1,400 or 0.02 per cent, Kaufman said.

If the town approves her request, the money will go to schools and community museums despite being the most valuable heritage assets in the community, museum and its heritage and maintenance of the museum and its heritage buildings, marketing events and programs, benchmarking, non-discretionary expenses and staffing to maintain the collection and provide better programming, Kaufman told councillors.

Without funding, the museum will see a reduction in programming, in exhibition and conservation of collection and fund- ing and will have to cut back on its marketing efforts, she said.

“The research and collection at the museum is one of the most valuable heritage assets of the community and must be protected. Without the collection, our hard-working researchers, staff and volunteers, the distinct heritage landscape of Niagara-on-the-Lake may not have survived the change of time,” Kaufman said.

The research and collection at the museum is one of the most valuable heritage assets of the community, museum curator Sarah Kaufman told councillors Monday.

DARIYA BAIGUZHIYEVA

Trees howled down on Halloween night

The Lake Report

Not long after witches and gobolins took to the streets on Halloween night, some scary weather blew through Niagara.

High winds caused downed trees and branches around NOTL and on Friday morning crews were busy cleaning up.

Several power outages were reported along Lake Ontario, particularly on Lakeshore Road, McNab Road and the Firelanes, said NOTL Hydro president Tim Curtis.

Hydro workers were out Thursday night fixing the damage and were busy re-storing power all Friday morning, Curtis told The Lake Report.

“It was multiple outages, not just a big one, so you got to fix each one of them. One at a time,” he said.

Curtis advised residents that anytime wires are down they should stay away — because a downed line could still be live.

There was minor damage around town and crews were also out cleaning up ar road areas, said the municipality’s community engagement co-ordinator Lauren Krutibosch.

Environment Canada had issued a wind warning and a special weather statement for Niagara on Thursday, warning residents of heavy rain and strong winds with gusts reaching up to 90 kilometres per hour.

The high winds and heavy rain have also caused significant flooding along Lake Erie.

Port Colborne experienced road closures, downed trees and power outages after the storm. The Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority issued a flood notice for residents living along Lake Erie shoreline.

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Let’s patronize wineries that don’t use bird bangers

Dear editor:

To those considerate farmers using non-can- non deterrents, I say stand up and let us know who you are so we can show our respect and gratitude by buying your wines in particular. (eg. Ravine Vineyard Estate).

To those state bankers ignore our plea to address the distressing antisocial farming practice of explosive wildlife deterrents, I say your effectiveness in protecting the community’s well-being amounts to lint gathering in the deep pockets of the offending farmers.

Peace, quiet, and enjoyment of one’s property are normal expectations in any community. Our town has the authority to, and an obligation to make bylaws, uphold those bylaws, and to prevent violation of bylaws. However, the province and farmers formed the Normal Farm Practices Protection Board and included the explosive wildlife deterrents as a normal practice. Furthermore, this board has authority over and above our town’s by- laws, thereby eviscerating our council’s ability (perhaps from intimidation) to protect us from those smug farmers who think they have some kind of charter right to rake in their profits at the expense of our community’s well-being.

To minimize the violent effect of explosive blasts on families in their homes and children in classrooms and playgrounds within earshot, the farmers refer to these detonating devices as “bird bangers.”

The fact is manufacturers and retailers market these devices at 120-130 dB to deter animals including bears, foxes, rodents, etc. Really? Animals, as large as bears, are frightened away by the blasts? Is it conceivable children, infants, poultry and other farm animals are somehow excluded from the blasting effects? Let’s look at one aspect of community well- being. What is acceptable noise and what is excessive noise in our classrooms, daycare centres, playgrounds, homes, etc. Noise is mea- sured in decibels (dB). A watch ticking, a fridge humming and a dishwasher measures 20, 40, 60 respectively. City traffic, a noisy restaurant, a mower measures 70, 80, 90 respectively. These are more or less in the range of ambient noise. Here’s where the problems start. According to the World Health Organization, hearing loss can occur at dB 90, and lower dB for children. A car horn, rightfully meant to startle a person or child to mind the traffic, measures dB 110. At dB 120 (equivalent to a jet engine at 100 feet) fear and shock begin. A cannon blast emits 120-130 dB. How many of our students are experiencing anxiety and learning difficulties?

According to the World Health Organization, some of the known health effects of decibels over 80 include confusion, disruption to thought, inability to learn, difficulty concentrating, ner- vousness, anxiety, and increases blood pressure and heart rate. How many of our students are experiencing anxiety and learning difficulties? Addi- tionally, desensitization can occur. Is that what we want for our youngest? For them, while riding their bikes or walking through an intersection, to have become so desensitized that they fail to respond appropriately to car horns, vehicle back up beeps, sirens.

To those of us living farther from the can- nons, I say let’s not be so callous as to ignore the distress of the families whose homes are nearer to the appalling detonating cannons. Don’t we all have responsibility toward the well-being of our neighbours? To the offending farmers, I say knock it off!

To the Lake Report’s “Scandal” is not. Let me add, the panels of “analysts” used by most of the media too often means these forums are comprised of politically committed members (or per- haps “shills”) who are not objective, and hence, do not qualify as true analysts. The “analysis” of such panels is of little use, because “the analysis” by the members is almost always completely predictable.

Rick Kirby
NOTL

Let’s ban the word ‘promise’ from future election campaigns

Dear editor:

In light of our recent election (and elections everywhere), I have two rhetorical suggestions for election campaigns.

Any government is elected to advance national or regional interests and those of its electorate. Those interests must be pursued in dynamic, constantly changing circumstances, and unforeseeable crises. Policies must be based on reality in light of those fluctuations.

Somewhat facetiously, I suggest that the word “promise” be eliminated, even banned, from all campaign rhetoric and reporting. Any candidate, at most, can “promise” priorities, objectives, and, perhaps, outlines of general, related policy initiatives.

But given the ever-changing world, detailed specific “promises” may cease to make sense as situations evolve. A government must have the flexibility to adjust priorities and policies, rather than doggedly/slavishly implementing “promises.”

Sadly, the term “scandal” is far too frequently and freely used by all, espe- cially the media.

Often, the term is used speculatively, subjectively and/or simply for rhetorical impact, i.e. drama, and for giving a story lasting “legs” for political or journal- istic advantage. The term “controversy” is accurate, and generally objective/ neutral. “Scandal” is not.

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Rick Kirby
NOTL

I am OK with bird bangers

Dear editor:

I am not a grape grower but I do value them as neighbours and their crops are one of the reasons we moved to NOTL some 20 years ago.

Having done the research before purchasing our first home, we were ready for the bird bangers when they were fired and rested calmly knowing that the crops were saved and that the wine would flow.

The farmers were here long before me and wine country has developed. Meanwhile, back in Toronto and its close neighbours, the sound of indiscriminate gunfire rings with deadly results.

I’ll take the farmers any time and those that won’t can merrily finish their cof- fee, jump on the bus and enjoy the sound of real gunfire from whence they came.

Bill Cochran
Queenston

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@niagararazor.com or drop them by our office at 724 Mississauga St., NOTL.

The Lake Report
In honour of our country's veterans, a portion of the proceeds from this page will be donated to the Legion Branch 124. Thanks to all who helped contribute to our community.

Jean Baker
Special to The Lake Report

Christmas 1942 in wartime Britain was marked by austerity measures. Food and clothing rationing, a minimal petrol allowance for cars, infrequent bus services, mandatory blackout of all windows to avoid detection by enemy aircraft.

A childhood without toys, few books and a walk to school carrying a gas mask in case the wail of a siren warned of an imminent bombing raid.

The Battle of Britain was over but London was a place of buildings now in rubble, some smouldering. More attacks would devastation many other cities, including my home town Leicester. More deaths and hasty funerals.

Winston Churchill in a prophetic radio speech to the nation warned of the "spreading evil empire of Hitler's Nazi Germany would overwhelm and swallow up this island realm unless the war effort was stimulated by greater zeal."

Well, our iron railings in front of our house were confiscated for munitions without a knock. My mother, on noting the gaping hole left, promptly fainted. People gossiped on the street that Churchill was a warmonger. His gloomy prediction of a forthcoming apocalypse gained no traction.

No, the populace was exhorted to "dig for victory," plant potatoes instead of flowers, veggies where the raspberries once prevailed, be discreet on public transport where a grim reaper poster warned that careless talk costs lives.

Soom a chicken house would appear in our garden. Just think: real eggs, freshly laid instead of those horrible dehydrated tasteless dried eggs imported from the United States.

We could barter any surplus eggs with our neighbours in exchange for extra tea. My mother could bake a real cake instead of the fatless, eggless sponge! A win-win for everyone. What an event to break the monotony of the daily routine.

The afternoon the three Black Leghorns arrived, carried by my father by train and bus in a perforated box from his place of work, the fire station in Rugby was memorable for its humour.

The box opened, the three birds said to be on the "point of lay" promptly flew up into the trees, not interested in the bowls of grit, food and water placed in front of their new abode.

Father flapped his arms wildly around the trees. My sister, mother and I collapsed laughing at the kitchen window. Father was not amused. The birds were taken to the butcher the next day to have their wings clipped.

Bruised pride notwithstanding, my father took us to the fire station for the annual Christmas party.

After the usual fare of jellies, blancmange, sandwiches and lemonade, Father Christmas walked in carrying his magical sack.

Being resourceful chaps, the firefighters had used pillow feathers to stuff animals, dolls and wooden toys, which I coveted. I received a wooden scooter with wheels purloined from a wrecked pram. Now I could terrorize the neighbours, dolls and wooden toys, which I coveted. I received a wooden scooter with wheels purloined from a wrecked pram. Now I could terrorize the neighbour-

The following Christmas of 1943, Kurt Zerm entered our lives as a Christmas dinner guest.

"Why not," my father suggested, "invite a German prisoner of war from the nearby camp to share in our meagre festivities?"

Would the Commandant grant permission if my father gave a solemn undertaking to bring him back at the appointed hour of 7 p.m. According to our neighbours the bounds of patriotism were being breached, but with the blessing of the authorities, Kurt came to our home.

We enjoyed our traditional glass of non-alcoholic ginger wine (my father was a strict teetotaler).

After the skinny chicken with all the trimmings, my mother, to loud applause, imitating Mrs. Cratchit in Dickens’ "A Christmas Carol," triumphantly bore in a speckled cannon ball-sized pudding sporting a holy sprig. Heartfelt carols sung around our beat-up old Collard and Collard piano ended a happy day.

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However, we had established a bond with Kurt. He became a good friend and was allowed back to assist in the digging of potatoes, which remained a substan-

What’s happening Remembrance Day in NOTL?

Ceremonies

A Remembrance Day ceremony will be held at the Old Town cenotaph on Queen Street at 10:45 a.m. on Nov. 11. There will also be a ceremony at the Queenston cenotaph at 12:45 p.m.

Concert

There will be a Remembrance Day concert at St. Mark’s Anglican Church at 11 a.m.

Indigenous ceremony

A ceremony honouring and remembering Indigenous veterans is being held at the Landscape of Nations Memorial on Saturday, Nov. 11.

Hosted by Niagara Parks, the ceremony will recognize sacrifices made by Six Nations and Native Allies during the Battle of Queenston Heights and throughout the War of 1812.

The rain or shine event will start at 10:45 a.m. in front of the Queenston Heights Restaurant before a procession to the Landscape of Nations Memorial at 11 a.m.

The ceremony will also be held in recognition of National Aboriginal Veterans Day, which is celebrated on Nov. 8.
IN-DEPTH: ‘Bird bangers’ often not most effective choice

The collaborative project among Brock, the Grape Growers of Ontario and Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers’ Association, won the Provincial Premiers’ Award for Agri-Food Innovation Excellence in 2016. The best solution to reduce birds destroying grapes or other berry crops is using a variety of bird abatement techniques. Willwerth said.

“Acoustical types of deterrents such as propane cannons are normally used for short time periods and in conjunction with other types of deterrents, such as visual deterrents, as it is important to diversify and have randomness to keep birds from habituating to the deterrent,” Willwerth said in an email response to The Lake Report.

“Local research from (Brock) found that attract natural predators such as birds of prey (kestrels, Cooper’s Hawks, etc.) can be beneficial for reducing birds from congregating and foraging in vineyards.

New technology being explored for bird control season, combined with a wine-tasting experience at the estate winery, can draw tourists.

“People are fascinated to watch the falcon, so it can actually be a part of their marketing. And it’s been shown by some of our research that economic incentives are there to use natural means or falconry because the public is willing to pay more for fruit that has been protected in that way as opposed to fruit that’s been protected by shooting or poison,” Steensma said.

Birds of prey (kestrels, Cooper’s Hawks, etc.) can be beneficial for reducing birds from congregating and foraging in vineyards.
Steve Hardaker  
Community Correspondent

Last week, we learned about Glendale and Niagara Region’s project to develop the Glendale Niagara District Plan, a proactive development strategy.

Phase 1, the visioning and concept planning stage, was completed in September 2018. Phase 2 commenced in October 2018 with an objective to transform the vision into definitive land use plans and strategies for economic development within the district.

To accomplish this in a collaborative fashion, a community focus group was formed along with planned community information centres where stakeholders, residents, Niagara College, landowners and businesses could provide input.

The final public information centre before the plan is finalized is set for Nov. 20 at the Holiday Inn Express off York Road in Glendale. A technical advisory committee was formed to look at urban design, commercial land needs and transportation. Phase 2 will be completed later in 2019 with the preparation of the district plan with approval from Niagara-on-the-Lake and Niagara Region councils and the drafting of a regional official plan amendment.

When fully built out over the next 20 plus years, Glendale promises to be a live-work-play community with a mix of low-, medium- and higher-density housing options accommodating a full spectrum of ages and lifestyles.

Mixed uses will be incorporated in a number of areas of Glendale with businesses occupying street level spaces and residential above. Employment areas north of the QEW will include traditional industries and mixed-use employment and retail ensuring a range of employment opportunities.

It is envisioned that Niagara College will be integrated into the community experience with restaurants, open spaces and housing options. A tree-lined Main Street is being planned between Glendale Avenue and the Outlet Collection with pedestrian-friendly sidewalks.

Views of the Escarpment and other natural heritage areas will be maintained. There will be robust transit connections, walkable streets, trails and connections across the QEW. With growth and the influx of new residents and businesses, amenities like a grocery store, theatre, community centre, schools and festivals will be attracted to Glendale.

Steve Hardaker has lived in Glendale for nine years and is active in many community organizations.

NOTL Dart League Scores

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Close Shavians</td>
<td>41</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legion Guzzlers</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legion Guyz</td>
<td>38</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legion Airs</td>
<td>36</td>
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<tr>
<td>Silks Jini</td>
<td>35</td>
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<tr>
<td>Silks Legends</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandtrap</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legion Dartbags</td>
<td>10</td>
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</tbody>
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Each week, dart teams face off at local restaurants and pubs. We’ll be publishing those scores in the paper weekly, exclusive to The Lake Report.

Steve Hardaker  
Community Correspondent

Glendale’s envisioned future main street.  
STEVE HARDAKER/TLR CORRESPONDENT

Glendale Notes: Info meeting Nov. 20 for new phase of district plan
Sunday
Artists’ Studio Intermediate - 10 a.m. - Niagara Pumphouse Arts Centre
Sunday Jazz Brunch - 11 a.m. - Queen's Landing Hotel

Monday
Remembrance Day Concert - 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. - St. Mark’s Anglican Church
Council - 6 p.m. - Council Chambers
Fun Duplicate Bridge - 9 a.m. to noon - NOTL Community Centre
We’ll Meet Again Performance - 7 p.m. - Niagara Historical Society & Museum
Remembrance Day

Tuesday
Transportation Committee - 2 p.m. - Council Chambers
Municipal Heritage Committee - 6:30 p.m. - Council Chambers

Wednesday
Communities in Bloom - 2 p.m.
Lord Mayor’s Youth Advisory Committee - TBA
NOTL Newcomers Monthly Meeting - 11 a.m.

Community Favourites:
Legion Fish Fry every Thursday
4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Duplicate Bridge at the Community Centre Tuesdays and Fridays at 1 p.m.
**Wednesday**

- **Tumble Tots** - 10:30 a.m. - NOTL Public Library
- **Therapy Tails with Jasper** - 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. - NOTL Public Library
- **Under African Skies Film Screening** - 7:30 p.m. - NOTL Public Library
- **Parents and Tots Play Group** - 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. - GateWay Community Church

**Thursday**

- **Fall Yoga Series** - 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. - RiverBriink Art Museum Coach House Studio
- **Yoga with Jenny** - 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. - NOTL Public Library
- **Knit a Bit** - 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. - NOTL Public Library
- **Beefsteak Dinner** - 7 p.m. - Navy Ladies Club
- **Flu Shot Walk in Clinic** - 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. - Simpsons Pharmacy
- **Tumble Tots** - 10:30 a.m. - NOTL Public Library
- **Fall Yoga Series** - 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. - RiverBriink Art Museum Coach House Studio
- **Yoga with Jenny** - 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. - NOTL Public Library
- **Knit a Bit** - 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. - NOTL Public Library
- **St. Davids Lions Bazaar** - 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. - St. Davids Lions Hall
- **Christmas Market** - NOTL Christmas Market - 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. - Mori Gardens
- **New Year’s Eve Party** - 8 p.m. - RiverBriink Art Museum Coach House Studio
- **Christmas with Heart 2019** - 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. - Niagara United Scholars Hall

**Friday**

- **Fall Yoga Series** - 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. - RiverBriink Art Museum Coach House Studio
- **St. Davids Fish Fry** - 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. - St. Davids Lions Hall
- **A Very Mori Christmas Palooza: NOTL Christmas Market** - 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. - Mori Gardens
- **Annual Tookie Auction and Fish Fry** - 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. - Niagara Regional Native Centre
- **Knit a Bit** - 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. - NOTL Public Library
- **Friday Night Pizza and Live Music** - 6:30 p.m. - ‪Downtown Niagara‬
- **Christmas Market - 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. - Grace United Church
- **ChoralFest: Celaya Conservatory Children’s Choir** - 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. - ‪Downtown Niagara‬
- **ChoralFest: Sing Along Messiah** - 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. - St. Mark’s Anglican Church
- **How to get Published: A Brian Henry Workshop** - 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. - NOTL Public Library
- **Annual Big Band Fundraiser** - 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. - 10 Niagara Jazz Festival 169 King St.

**Saturday**

- **Sunday Jazz Brunch** - 11 a.m.
- **Sunday Chess Club** - 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- **Fall Yoga Series** - 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. - RiverBriink Art Museum Coach House Studio
- **St. Davids Lioness Bazaar** - 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. - St. Davids Lions Hall
- **A Very Mori Christmas Palooza: NOTL Christmas Market** - 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. - Mori Gardens
- **Christmas with Heart 2019** - 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. - Niagara United Scholars Hall
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Some familiar faces, some new names

Cast revealed for 2020 Shaw season

Mike Keenan
Special to The Lake Report

Shaw Festival artistic director Tim Carroll is offering an eclectic theatre mix for the 2020 season.

Carroll is maintaining popular series such as "Sherlock Holmes" and "The Raven's Curse," projections designed by Cameron Davis, more Narnia ("Prince Caspian") directed by Molly Atkinson, and associate artistic director Kate Henning, who stars in "Gypsy," choreographed by Kimberly Rampersad, and last performed in 2005.

Gypsy’s music is directed by Paul Sportelli and features a strong cast that includes Andrew Broderick, James Daly, Kristi Frank, Kyle Golemba, Drew Plummer, Kiera Sungster, Olivia Sinclair-Brisbane, Jacqueline Thair, Jay Turvey, Kelly Wong and Jenny L. Wright.

Inspired by the memoirs of famous striptease artist Gypsy Rose Lee, this production features traditional romance, the complete-opposite of this season’s exciting offering, “The Russian Play,” which I loved.

Stephen Sondheim’s darkly comic musical revue “Assassins” presents the nine men and women who have attempted to kill an American president.

Would-be assassins are Andrew Broderick as Giuseppe Zangara, Jason Cadieux as Samuel Byck, James Daly as John Wilkes Booth, Kristi Frank as Lynette Fromme, Kyle Golemba as John Hinckley and David Herold, Jeff Irving as the Proprietor, Olivia Sinclair-Brisbane as Emma Goldman, Jay Turvey as Charles Guiteau, Kelly Wong as Leon Czolgosz and Jenny L. Wright as Jane Moore.


“Charley’s Aunt” at the 305-seat Royal George Theatre might prove to be the season seller, given that it’s directed by Carroll and therefore enjoys a powerful cast, including last year’s star Mike Nadajewski, along with Neil Barclay, Rong Fu, Patrick Galligan, Claire Julienne, Marla McLean, Sarena Parmar and Ric Reid.

In partnership with Parks Canada, the company will also move slightly away from its theatres for “The History of Niagara,” a 30-minute production at Fort George.

The 2020 holiday season will feature Charles Dickens’ “A Christmas Carol,” directed by Molly Atkinson at the Royal George Theatre for its fourth year and a revival of “Me and My Girl,” directed by Ashlie Corcoran.

Cast revealed for 2020 Shaw season

Newark Neighbours expands to help school food program

Dariya Baiguzhiyeva
The Lake Report

Newark Neighbours has expanded its mandate and is now offering help to non-profit groups not only in Niagara-on-the-Lake but across the region.

Newark has partnered with Food4Kids Niagara and has donated $3,000 to the St. Catharines-based not-for-profit organization.

Food4Kids provides food packages to 240 children in 14 schools across Niagara.

The organization, which ran a pilot project in January 2018, works with the Catholic and the public school boards to identify children from kindergarten to Grade 8 who have limited access to food.

A cheque was presented to Food4Kids this Tuesday at its office.

“We’re really glad to start the partnership with Food4Kids and it ties in with our mission: we don’t want anybody to go hungry,” said Newark Neighbours’ chair Laura Gibson.

“What a worthwhile organization to contribute to,” Carroll said.

The organization will go toward making Christmas stockings for children, said Food4Kids’ executive director Amber Hughes.

“It’s been great. The community has welcomed us very warmly,” Hughes told The Lake Report.

“We’re thankful for partnerships like the one we have with Newark Neighbours. It lets us provide a little bit extra for our kids.”

Each stocking will have treats, such as hot chocolate and gingerbread cookies, and some necessities, such as a toothbrush, socks and mittens.

Newark’s board has recently started looking at expanding its mandate and reaching out further into the Niagara community, Gibson said.

She said Newark will make sure NOTL people continue to be looked after, but the expansion makes her “very happy” because it means Newark is a successful organization able to give back to the community.

“And because people who come in to purchase from our thrift shop, which, in turn, helps our food bank, are all from the Niagara region,” Newark’s vice-chair Suzanne Vaillant added.

“So, it’s not necessarily just people from Niagara-on-the-Lake who come shopping. It’s the whole region, so we’re trying to help everyone.”

Each food package, prepared by Food4Kids, costs $10 per child or $400 to feed a child for an entire school year, Hughes said.

Each package has 12 to 14 food items such as ready-to-make meals, fruit, vegetables and snacks.

After parents fill out a registration form, organization volunteers deliver packages to schools each Friday morning so children have something to eat for the weekend, Hughes said.

The organization’s pilot summer feeding program, which provides weekly food bins to the whole family as opposed to each

NOTL resident Elodie Gillett will join the cast again next year. DAVID COOPER

Newark Neighbours’ chair Laura Gibson, Food4Kids’ treasurer Jonathan Charron, executive director Amber Hughes, Newark’s vice-chair Suzanne Vaillant and Myles Watson with the $3,000-worth cheque donated by Newark Neighbours to Food4Kids. DARIYA BAIGUZHIYEVA

The 2020 holiday season will feature Charles Dickens’ “A Christmas Carol,” directed by Molly Atkinson at the Royal George Theatre for its fourth year and a revival of “Me and My Girl,” directed by Ashlie Corcoran.

Newark Neighbours expands to help school food program

Cast revealed for 2020 Shaw season

Some familiar faces, some new names

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Sparks write letters to NOTL veterans for Remembrance Day

Leslie Moulson
Special to The Lake Report

The Niagara-on-the-Lake Sparks wrote and decorated post cards for 20 veterans in the area at their meeting on Nov. 4. Addresses for the veterans were provided by the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 124.

In the language of five- and six-year-olds, the Sparks thanked veterans for their service to our country and for their sacrifices in assuring our peace.

Some of the comments made were, “Soldiers are the best,” “Happy Remembrance Day,” and “Thank you for keeping us safe.” Each card is sure to bring a smile and perhaps a tear to the eye of recipients. We wanted to send the message that “We Won’t Forget!”

Businessman, community builder, Dave Wall dies at 91

Brittany Carter
The Lake Report

Niagara-on-the-Lake’s Dave Wall died at age 91 on Saturday, Nov. 2, at the Greater Niagara General Hospital.

A prominent business owner and sportsman, he operated Wall’s Furniture and Appliances in Virgil for many years.

Wall was inducted into the NOTL Sports Wall of Fame this past summer for his behind-the-scenes contributions toward helping build the sports park, two arenas in Virgil and baseball diamonds.

He is survived by his wife Helen, and children Sharon MacMunn and Richard (Cathy) Wall, grandchildren Brandon, Thea and Taylor, and his brother Jack Wall.

A funeral service was held Wednesday, Nov. 6, at Niagara United Mennonite Church.

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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Have some fun

Crossword Puzzle

Across
7. Missing (6)
8. Enormous (8)
9. Type of lights (8)
10. Shrink back (6)
11. Saviour (8)
12. Man (6)
13. Moving to and fro (11)
18. Austrian composer (6)
20. Inspector (8)
22. Light-hearted TV show (6)
23. Person practising deception under an assumed name (8)
24. Forced high notes (8)
25. Tooth covering (6)

Down
1. Bally (7)
2. Uneasy (8)
3. Flowing water (6)
4. Yes (3,5)
5. Tapered frozen mass (6)
6. Circumscribed (7)
8. Supreme commander (13)
14. Cozy (8)
15. Abroad (8)
16. Of local interest (7)
17. Regimental commander (7)
19. Charge (6)
21. Small sword (6)

Last issue’s answers

Across
7. Missing (6)
8. Enormous (8)
9. Type of lights (8)
10. Shrink back (6)
11. Saviour (8)
12. Man (6)
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17. Regimental commander (7)
19. Charge (6)
21. Small sword (6)
Purple Ribbon Gala aims to end stigma of epilepsy

Brittany Carter
The Lake Report

Niagara-on-the-Lake’s Carson Tucker says he is planning the Purple Ribbon Gala in January to raise money and awareness for “severely underfunded” Epilepsy Canada.

Tickets for the black tie affair are already on sale online at https://www.epilepsy.ca/black-tie-purpleroibbon-gala.html for the Jan. 11, 2020, gala which will be held at the Old Court House on Queen Street in Old Town from 8:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

Tucker is a volunteer firefighter well-known locally for driving Sentinel Carriages with his dog Stella. He said he decided to host the fundraiser after someone he knows had a seizure.

“I have someone close to me who has epilepsy. There’s a pretty big stigma with epilepsy – I’m just raising awareness,” he said. “A lot of people think they need to hide it,” Tucker said, which is one of the reasons he said he’s holding the event. “A lot of people don’t like talking about it.”

Though once he began organizing the gala, he said he was surprised by how many people shared their personal stories of relatives and friends living with epilepsy.

“I just jumped down the rabbit hole researching. It’s a really common problem,” Tucker added.

The gala will feature a cocktail hour, live music by X-Prime, and Matt Anthony performing magic. Tickets start at $80 and include hors d’oeuvres, with a cash bar.

Sponsorship ticket options are also available online from $250 to $2,500.

Music Niagara’s Choral Fest first of its kind in region

Brittany Carter
The Lake Report

Music Niagara will bring a collection of choirs together for its first-ever ChoralFest – featuring eight concerts by nine choirs performed over 10 days.

From Nov. 16 to 25 each choir will put on a performance that will be “powerful and tremendously moving,” said artistic director and founder of Music Niagara Atis Bankas.

ChoralFest is Bankas’ passion project, one he said he’s been loosely planning for more than six years.

But the plans began coming together in the form of the concert series with sponsorship and funding from Niagara Investment in Culture, the Niagara Community Foundation and the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Bankas said over his 22 years running Music Niagara, he has seen firsthand an appreciation for choral music – adding that he’s happy to be able to present ChoralFest, the first festival of its kind in the area.

The series is also “ethnically diverse,” featuring three children’s choirs, one internationally-acclaimed all-male choir, and several troupes local and abroad, he said.

He plans to hold concurrent Choral Festivals, likely every three years.

“The logistics that went into co-ordinating nine choirs close to the holiday season was tough, he said, but it will all be worth it.

“All of the choirs were very much willing to participate. It was a lot of work in that way, organizing the choirs and booking them for November as many choirs are busy during the season,” he said.

Concert dates and times can be found at MusicNiagara.org.

Fire halls gets all dressed up

Dariya Baiguzhiyeva
The Lake Report

Two of Niagara-on-the-Lake’s fire halls opened their doors last Thursday night for their annual Halloween celebrations.

Both St. Davids District 2 fire station and Queenston District 4 fire station held parties with costume contests and prizes.

Firefighters from the Glendale fire station 5 also celebrated Halloween by handing out candies in Niagara on the Green.

The Queenston Volunteer Firefighter Association started the night with a fire truck going around the block, which is a tradition to let children know it’s time to stop trick-or-treating and come to the party, said Virgil resident Erin Mitchell.

Assistant district chief Dave Jones recalled coming to Queenston’s Halloween parties when he was a child. “They do a great job at giving back to the community,” he said.

Mitchell, who used to live in Queenston and was at the event with her two sons, Morgan and Spencer, said they attend every year.

“They do a great job at the fire hall with a party,” she said.

Firefighter Steve Ray said holding a Halloween party was an opportunity to give back to the community, let people meet the firefighters and see what the firefighters do.

St. Davids resident Teresa Coles said she likes seeing different costumes and meeting up with people at the party, while Corey Carter said the St. Davids fire hall “always puts out the best Halloween party for the kids.”

Firefighter Carson Tucker says he is one he knows had a seizure.

Though once he began organizing the gala, he said he was surprised by how many people shared their personal stories of relatives and friends living with epilepsy.

“I just jumped down the rabbit hole researching. It’s a really common problem,” Tucker added.

The gala will feature a cocktail hour, live music by X-Prime, and Matt Anthony performing magic. Tickets start at $80 and include hors d’oeuvres, with a cash bar.

Sponsorship ticket options are also available online from $250 to $2,500.
Chaptalization

Each week, the staff of Ravine Winery share their expertise and offer a brief explanation about an aspect of wine. So, whether you're an expert oenophile or a newbie just finding your way around wine country, we trust you'll enjoy. Cheers!

Chaptalization is the addition of sugars to unfermented grape juice. The intent is to increase the alcohol percentage of the wine; it is not to make the wine sweeter. This process was developed by Jean Chaptal, a French chemist who later became minister of the interior under Napoleon.

The legality of chaptalization depends on the wine region, however it is accepted in most cool-climate regions. This is common practice in regions such as Burgundy and Champagne, France and also legalized in Bordeaux. According to VQA requirements, chaptalization is allowed but it is controlled.

Victoria Gilbert

A slight Parisian girl with metal in her tragus, on her fingers, and around her wrists, Amélie Boury could very well be a French rock star if she weren't Ontario's edgiest winemaker. “This is leaking: fix it now please,” she says kindly but firmly to a worker in the bustling barrel room of Château Des Charmes in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Harvest is in full swing and Boury’s attention is sharp – from overseeing 255 acres of vineyard on four different sites, to managing the immaculate winery of the expansive châteaux, the petite winemaker is a force to be reckoned with.

With two wine related degrees from France, Boury set out to work the harvests of the wine world. “My idea was to do a vintage in Canada and keep going, travel the world, but I’m still here, nine years later; I just love it,” she says atop an oak barrel she has jumped up on for the interview. She joined Château Des Charmes in August of 2011 and as Vice President of Winemaking and Operations, Boury says making wine in Canada is “like a big game!” because of the variety of grapes she’s able to play with.

“In Bordeaux you can only grow only five varietals. In Alsace, only the Alsatian varietals, in Beaujolais, the Beaujolais varietals,” she explains from atop her cask.

“You are restricted to what the appellation lets you grow. Where, here in Ontario, at Château des Charmes, I have the Burgundian varietals, I have the Alsatian varietals, I’ve got the Bordeaux varietals, so it’s just amazing to be able to make wine with all of those varietals; I always call it the winemaker’s playground.”

Boury was sworn in as a Canadian citizen in 2018 and her lime green and neon yellow plaid shirt seems to reflect her Canadian and French identity all at once. Her pride in the Niagara-on-the-Lake terroir makes introducing Ontario wines to visitors from her native country a special pleasure.

“When I get a group of French who come here, they are always surprised at the quality of the wines. They don’t expect the new world to be like this – California they know – but Canada? – it is surprising.”

As we talk, harvesters are working the rows of the Chardonnay grapes around the Paul Bosc estate. The Bosc family started the winery in the mid-seventies and the estate continues to be family run; Paul-Bosc Jr. at the helm with continued guidance from his now elderly but razor-sharp father, Paul Bosc Sr. Both father and son were impressed by Boury’s talents as a winemaker and her demand for excellence.

“Amélie represents the future leadership of our industry,” writes Bosc Jr. in one correspondence. It’s easy to be swept away by Boury’s enthusiasm for her profession and the wines she puts her hand to, after all, it is obvious she herself is swept up in the beauty of her vocation.

“Every vintage is so different,” says Boury. “Taking those grapes and turning them into a wine and give a bit of my signature on it – but not too much – because I love to respect the terroir and I love that you have a sense of place when you drink the wine and give emotions to people when they drink it.”

NOTL resident Victoria Gilbert has been telling the stories of wine people in Canada and abroad through print and video for 15 years.

Château des Charmes winemaker Amélie Boury samples wine using a “wine thief.” MARIO TROYA

Sugar cubes. SOURCED PHOTO
If you could afford a craftsman-built house in the decade after the War of 1812, the choices of architectural style were few. Of course, the venerable Georgian remained the dominant preference among the traditional crowd, while English Neo-classical designs offered a decorated facade without any hint of American taint. Finally, if you wanted to follow the latest fashion in architecture, the newest style from England was the Regency, like the cottage built by Judge Butler in 1817. But, that was a cottage and, among the well-heeled in town, perhaps a little modest? What to do, what to do? How could one be in fashion and make that all important success statement?

The answer came in late 1818 when the plans for the new Upper Canada Legislative Assembly building were approved for construction in York. Finished in 1820, the central massing of this building featured a Regency design but it was big, two storeys, and very impressive.

It wasn’t long before the pens of local architects were busy rendering drawings of residential interpretations for clients among the moneyed class. Possibly the first of these manors (and to my knowledge one of the oldest surviving examples in the province) built in NOTL was John Breakenridge’s circa 1823 home at Mississauga and Centre streets, but it was certainly not the last. These imposing homes were “the” choice for many country estates and prosperous farms.

Regency manors survive here and there across Niagara-on-the-Lake. If you're looking, watch for the cubic form as your first clue.
Private Stanley Byfield: A soldier’s story

By Denise AsceznoExclusive/The Lake Report

As we approach Remembrance Day, it is only fitting that the story of Stanley Byfield be told - a young man, like millions of others, who joined the Canadian Army during the First World War to fight for the freedoms that we all enjoy today.

On Aug. 4, 1914, Britain declared war on Germany and Canada had officially entered the First World War. The rallying call went out across Canada with the hope that 25,000 men would volunteer. A new training facility in Valcartier, Que., was hastily set up and by Sept. 3, 1914, over 33,000 volunteers were billeted in the new camp.

Unemployment in Canada had been very high prior to the First World War so many young men signed up for what many thought would be the adventure of war. Unlike the first wave of Canadian volunteers, his training was a bit more extensive before he was shipped over to England several months later.

By July of 1916, Byfield was with the 70th Overseas Battalion of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, where he was found serving at the Battle of the Somme with the 5th Canadian Mounted Regiment, 24 Battalion. He wasn’t there long when he suffered multiple shredded wounds to his hands and arms. As well, he was shot, with the bullet lodging behind his heart. Byfield was sent back to England, where he spent 99 days recovering from his wounds.

In November 1916, having recovered from these wounds, Byfield was sent back into the war, back to the trenches, back to the Battle of the Somme. Just 16 days after returning to the front, he was wounded again. This time he was hit in the left shoulder, hand and arm. Back to England he was sent to recover from his wounds. He spent 53 days in the hospital this time.

However, once he was healthy, he was not sent home but back to the trenches where men were desperately needed. Prime Minister Robert Borden (1911-20) had pledged to send 500,000 Canadian soldiers overseas in the First World War. From a small population of just over eight million in Canada, this was a very difficult promise to keep. By December 1915 only 330,000 Canadian soldiers were in the war. Thus all soldiers who were wounded, but had recovered were sent back to the front.

The war raged on through 1917. Byfield would have been in several battles throughout the first half of this year. The Battle of Arras was from April 9 to May 16, 1917. Part of this same offensive was the Battle of Vimy Ridge, from April 9 to April 12, 1917, where four Canadian battalions proved that Canada was a fighting power not to be taken lightly.

Then from July 21 to Nov. 10, 1917, the Battle of Passchendaele was fought. Byfield was with the Canadian battalions in this offensive as well. In October 1917, Byfield was injured for a third time. He was buried alive when an exploding shell fell near the trench he was in. He survived, but barely.

Byfield was sent back to England yet again to recover, but this time he was deemed unfit for duty. The term used was “shell shock” coined by Medical Officer Charles Myers in 1917. He determined that this condition was caused by being buried alive or having suffered through heavy bombardment. Today, it is known as post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

Byfield was one of the lucky men to have survived the First World War and return home.

On his return to Canada, Byfield tried to fit back into civilian life here in Niagara-on-the-Lake. However, like many others, he suffered for years from the effects of war.

He died on Oct. 11, 1961, at the age of 67 and is buried in the cemetery at St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church in Niagara-on-the-Lake. He was wounded multiple times during the First World War, but survived. Today, it is known as post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

May they all rest in peace as we remember their valour, their strength and their willingness to die for our beautiful country – Canada.

I wish to thank Stephen Steele for his research on Stanley Byfield and for permitting me to tell Byfield’s story.

More Niagara’s History Unveiled articles about the past of Niagara-on-the-Lake are available at: www.niagararowanow.com
We invite you to submit photos and stories for consideration in this section. Send your submissions to editor@niagaranow.com for a chance to be featured.

**Smile Cookie campaign raises $8,000 for Red Roof Retreat**

In just a week, Tim Hortons’ Smile Cookie campaign has raised $8,033 for Red Roof Retreat.

“We like to make sure the funds stay in our community and Red Roof Retreat does such amazing work with a group of people that don’t always get all the support they should benefit from,” said Virgil Tim Hortons’ franchise owner Lori Paterson as a cheque was presented to Red Roof last week.

The national campaign kicked off on Sept. 16 and ran until Sept. 22. Each cookie cost $1 and all proceeds, raised from four Tim Hortons locations across Niagara-on-the-Lake, will go toward the charity.

Red Roof executive director Steffanie Bjorgan said she is “surprised but not surprised” with the amount of money raised for the organization. “Our community is great,” Bjorgan told The Lake Report. “That’s a hell of a lot of money. And a lot of cookies.” “It’s fantastic. Being for the first time in the campaign, that’s an overwhelming amount of community support in a week,” added Karen Post, Red Roof’s special events co-ordinator. “It makes such a big difference for us as far as being able to put the money toward the programs and keep doing the work that we do.”

**Bazaar attractions**

Maggie Davis browses a variety of items on sale at the St. Davids-Queenston United Church bazaar. DARIYA BAIGUZHIYEVA

**The Legion open mic**

Keith Williams performs some tunes at the second monthly open mic held at the Legion. DARIYA BAIGUZHIYEVA

**Riddle Me This**

I am the least spoken language in the world. What am I?

Last Week: I’m tall when I’m young, I’m short when I’m old, and every year I make my home in a pumpkin. What am I?

Answer: A candle

Answered first by: Lynne Stewart

Also answered correctly by: Quinn Tiller, Julia Klassen, Wendy Bosela, Marion Briston, Margie Enns, Susan Pohoryly, Dinoah Centeno, Ginny Green, Sandie Lawrence, Pat Braun, Britney Turaz, Crispin Bottomley, Elly Kopp, Viv Andres, Brian Emes, Claudia Grimwood.

Email answers to editor@niagaranow.com for a chance to win a prize.

**The Gatehouse Kitchen & Cafe**

Devin Stewart accepts the Golden Plunger for Gatehouse. THE GOLDEN PLUNGER

As we strolled through the historic town of NOTL, we stopped by the Gate House Kitchen & Cafe restaurant for a quick “nibbly.” The Gate House has quite a history dating back to the 1700s where it was a common meeting place in Upper Canada. Some of the original stone work is displayed throughout the cafe. The bright and cheery dining room reflects the menu and the service, which we enjoyed very much. The restrooms did not disappoint and were privately located, providing accessibility to all. The lavatory was welcoming with several stalls for customers’ convenience. The porcelain bowl sink was surrounded by a basket of hand towels and “goodies” for the most delicate hands. Be sure to check out the framed self-portrait, known to most as a “mirror.”

4.5/5 Golden Plungers

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Survey shows The Lake Report is #1 among NOTL readers

Kevin MacLean
Managing Editor

We asked and you answered.

Nearly 500 readers participated in The Lake Report’s first readership survey this fall and we are indebted to you for the exceptional feedback and suggestions we received.

We also are impressed with how much trust and faith you put in The Lake Report and the fact you demand, expect and turn to our paper for the most accurate and comprehensive news coverage of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

It’s a tall order and we strive to live up to your expectations.

In addition to your comments and critiques, you told us what we knew anecdotally from the comments we hear from people all over town every week: You really love The Lake Report and look to us to bring you the news, features, information and advertising about what is going on in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

And you said unequivocally that, more than any other publication in Niagara Region, our newspaper is where you turn to know about your community.

We appreciate the faith you have put in our almost two-year-old newspaper, and we promise to continue doing the things you have told us are important to you.

In designing our readership survey, we needed to ensure the questions and data analysis were fair and balanced. So, we turned to continue doing the things you have told us are important to you.

The survey was overseen by NOTL retiree Steve Ferley, former president of Canada’s Print Measurement Bureau. He brought to the project his years of experience in providing media research and readership information to Canada’s newspapers, magazines and ad agencies.

Having Ferley’s guidance “just adds a whole new layer of credibility and accuracy to our results, knowing we had a professional carve out our questions, organize the survey, and help us with the analytics,” said editor-in-chief Richard Harley.

He was happy with the overwhelmingly positive reaction from readers. “It’s always a bit nerve-wracking putting yourself out there for open feedback, but it’s extremely rewarding to know people really love our paper, and that people want us to keep doing exactly what we’re doing.”

“We have, since the beginning, strived to be the gold standard for community papers, recognizing that publications around the country are suffering. Now, ‘hyper-local’ papers like ours are proving themselves to be sustainable across the nation, at a time when trustworthy local news is demanded, perhaps more than it ever has been.”

Among the survey’s key findings:

* 80 per cent of Niagara-on-the-Lake residents prefer The Lake Report for NOTL news and information.
* 75 per cent of The Lake Report readers read the paper every week.
* 73 per cent of The Lake Report readers usually read 75 per cent or more of the paper.
* 78 per cent of The Lake Report readers live in NOTL for all or most of the year.
* 74 per cent of The Lake Report readers rate the paper 8, 9 or 10 for enjoyment (1-10 scale).
* 60 per cent of The Lake Report readers are female.
* 52 per cent of The Lake Report readers spend over $3,000 on annual vacation and travel.

“These days there are so many ways to receive feedback, from comment sections on social media, to word of mouth in a small town,” Harley said. “But it’s not the same as hard data. Knowing we can really put our name behind these numbers is a big accomplishment and it shows us that our paper really resonates with people.”

Our young journalists, numerous volunteers and staff, the vast majority of whom live here in Niagara-on-the-Lake, are dedicated to the community.

“We’ve taken the hole that was created with the demise of the Niagara Advance, and filled it with a newspaper NOTLers can open up and find filled with stories that matter to them.”

Rick and Carol McIntosh with their prize gift certificate for a three-course dinner for two at Ravine Vineyard Restaurant. They won the draw for participating in The Lake Report’s readership survey in October.

RICHARD HARLEY