

Torquil Campbell to play amphitheatre this summer

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Jet boat operator wants to be part of Dock Area plan

Penny Coles The Local

The border may be open, but confusion and concern over hold-ups are likely to prevent U.S. tourists from returning to Niagara-onthe-Lake at pre-pandemic

The majority of those who buy tickets to Whirlpool Jet Boat Tours this side of the border are American visitors, says John Kinney, president of the attraction, which is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year. "And there is still some reluctance for U.S. visitors to come across the border, which will be with us for 2022 and beyond."

"The world-wide hospitality and tourism industry have paid the highest price during the pandemic,"

The first jet boat ride

in town was May 4, 1992. Kinney says he's looking forward to an official anniversary celebration, but will hold it in Queenston later on this month or early in June, when the weather by the water is a little warmer.

With an operation in Lewiston as well as Queenston, he has been crossing the border often, sometimes several times a day, he says. "Definitely disinformation is part of the problem. People are still afraid there could be quarantining. The Arrive/ Can app has smoothed this a bit, but the staffing shortage at the border is making it very difficult."

And not, as might be expected, due to lay-offs or illness, he adds, but because, with travel restrictions lifted, border officials are taking the holidays they've missed

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NOTL marks Day of Mourning for fallen workers

Penny Coles The Local

a small crowd gathers at the monument in front of the recognize the annual National Day of Mourning, which cidents.

place across Niagara, Canada, dad, and daughter Pam, then experienced skilled trades- charge, and fined \$325,000.

and around the world, in 100 14. different countries.

Every year, on April 28, -Lake, we remember husband and father Joel Murray, who was crushed to death in 1998 Centennial Arena in Virgil to at the GM plant where he and father just six months

remembers those who were ered outside the arena includ- killed tragically in a workinjured, suffered illness or ed his wife Wendy Murray place accident, one that MPP while, and without his knowldied because of workplace in- Nicholson and her family. In Wayne Gates says was not un- edge, protective switches had These solemn services take who was 12 when he lost his of Joel's death. Sevcik was an victed on a workplace safety ray's high school sweetheart

This year, they were joined Niagara-on-the by Brenda Sevcik and her daughter Breanna — daughter Kaitlyn was not able to attend. They lost a husband ago. Dan Sevcik had worked Last Thursday, those gath- for GM for 47 years, but was repair equipment in an area he rushed to the plant, and year at Niagara District Secattendance were her son Tom, like the tragic circumstances been disabled. GM was con-

man, considered one of the best, when he lost his life, Gates says.

39, went to work at the auto parts plant, as he had for 15

work and not know if they are coming home after. No work-On Nov. 4 1998, Joel, then er owes their life to their job," says Gates, who was president of the CAW Local 199 years, and didn't return home. at the time. When he got the He had been directed to call that morning from GM, where he hadn't worked for a walked beside the gurney as Murray was taken to an am- her dad went to work early, bulance.

> That day, Wendy Murdid not come home, he didn't

"No one should go to get to coach his son's hockey game that night, or hear about

his daughter's day. Pam Murray Froese recalls it was Take Your Kids to Work Day, an initiative for Grade 9 students to learn about the workplace. She was in her first ondary School, and because she went with a friend to her

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THE NOTL Pocal

Waterfront suggestion: jet boats, paddle sports, cafe

Continued from page 1

out on for two years, at a time when border checks are taking longer, with the app information for each person to be processed.

"I know we can't do much about it, but clearly COVID will be with us for sometime. It is frustrating. It's difficult both ways, but particularly entering Canada."

His boat tours from the American side of the gorge have already started, and he's anticipating boats leaving from the Queenston dock this weekend. The start of the season has been delayed by about two weeks, but not because of ice in the Niagara River, which is typically the determining factor of his opening date. Overall, "it's been a crappy spring," he says, and rebuilding a retaining wall that has been there since the sand-dredging days has taken longer than expected.

Those who pay attention to Niagara-on-the-Lake council meetings know that the Melville Street dock, and the jet boat operation licence agreement, have been a hot doors. Jet boats have been noticeably absent from the Old Town waterfront for three years, and little information has been made public about the future of the dock.



The retaining wall at the Queenston dock, there since the days of the sand-dredging operation, is being rebuilt for this season. (Photos by Jessica DiCarlantonio)

operation in the public pordown, told the town's lawyer said the matter should be

to the licence agreement side, and was told "no legal I did in 2019 and 2020, but

Last week Coun. Gary proceedings have been com-Burroughs tried to ask some menced," and also that the questions about the town's town has "not at this time" agreement with the jet boat issued a notice of default. To some other questions he tion of the council meeting. hoped would be answered, He was given some brief such as why not, he was reanswers before being shut minded they would be dealt with in a closed session.

Kinney says his lawyer discussed in a closed session. and the town's lawyer are Burroughs asked if there trying to come to an agreetopic, but all behind closed had been any amendments ment over his 2021 fees, which he said have not been during the last two years, paid — but quickly added and was told there had not. that he did not use the dock He also asked if any legal ac- at all last year. "I've asked tions had been taken on the repeatedly for a sit-down licence agreement by either about this, after paying what

ligation to the town in full ernment regulations dictate in 2019, he told The Local, maintenance is required although that was the year according to the number of of flooding in the dock area. hours the boats are operated, The high water levels drove and he was running more his operation completely to boats to accommodate few-Queenston, and he asked for er people, driving up those but was denied any reconsideration of his charges for the year.

stage of reopening allowed him to operate his boats from the Queenston dock with ing." just 12 passengers each tour on boats designed to hold 54 people, while all the fixed charges for insurance, staff,

He met his financial ob- continued, he says. Govcosts as well.

"Unfortunately, it comes to jet boats, there of the waterfront. Clearly In 2021, the provincial is no such thing as cutting back. You have to be fully engaged in what you're do-

> He was able to take advantage of some of the government subsidies, including for wages, he says, but there were no subsides for the rebuilding of engines or jet drivers that was required, "so we've just rolled with the punches. We've had no choice but to operate a full program out of the Queenston dock."

> Over the years, the town has basically directed him to move his operation out of the Melville Street corridor, he says, "so we moved the business to Queenston-Lewiston."

Kinney has a vision for the municipal waterfront property, but says he has yet to sit down with the town to it," says Kinney. discuss it. He'd like to have a small presence at the Melmillions for the property, he residents and tourists."

that didn't get me anywhere." marketing and other costs added, "but there is no bona fide use of it for the public."

He envisions much-discussed dle-sport launch, kayak rentals, public washrooms, and maybe a small cafe on the town-owned stretch of property.

"The town has been when wrestling with the best use the paddle sport industry is a very positive use," says Kinney.

> To the question of how the town will pay for those amenities, and a suggestion that some feel the jet boat licensing fee obligation for the Melville Street dock could be part of that, he says that to compensate for COVID closures and restrictions, the town helped other businesses, including supporting outdoor patios for restaurants. That has taken money away from the town in parking revenue, and while he applauds those decisions, he says there has been no consideration to help him.

> "The town spent hundreds of thousand of dollars on consultants to tell us what to do with the waterfront, and we've done nothing with

He is trying to have discussions with the town's seville Street dock, and see the nior staff to see what he can waterfront used for public bring to the table, he added, access, both for visitors and with a goal of "seeing more residents. Tax-payers paid experiences in the area for



Jet boats are in the water, with tours expected to begin this weekend.



Change occurs when 'something bad happens'

Continued from page 1

parent's job at a pharmacy, although she recalls she had friends who were going to GM.

"I remember that day clearly. I think of it often," she says. "I think of it every day."

Pam and her husband Ben Froese have four children who never knew either of their grandfathers. Ben's father Jamie, a well-known and respected farmer, was killed in a vehicle accident in 2002.

Their children are five, seven, eight and 10, and the couple talk to them about their grandfathers often, from GM, was the elected showing them photos as well, so they will know them. Pam says they also talk about how their grandfathers died. "We think it's good to be honest with them, and important that they understand."

As hard as it is for Ben and Pam to have lost their fathers so tragically, she says, "it really makes you appreciate life. It's a lesson to live life every day, to make every day count, and to below them." try to make a difference."

Brenda Sevcik told Wendy she recalls her husband Dan talking about having attended last week's service. some students at the Ontario Street plant that day in 1998 changed in relation to work-— he had taken a friend's son to work with him — and although she didn't know the Murray family, the day

of Joel's death will always be one she remembers. When the devastating news began spreading through the plant, Dan took the student home.

That her husband, with decades of experience in the plant could be killed in a workplace tragedy, makes Brenda very concerned for young employees. They need to learn to ask for help if they're unsure, and to be sure they get training for what they're asked to do, she says.

"Kids are anxious to get a job and want to do it well. Any job they get, they should have the proper safety training."

John Pula, now retired health and safety representative in the plant from 1994 until he retired in 2009. He was at the Virgil service last week, and also voiced his concern change until something bad for young workers. While happens." new employees rely on their supervisors for safety training, many supervisors don't have enough training themselves, he says, yet "they're responsible for the safety of everyone

Unifor's Local 199 Edward Steers, the current GM health and safety representative, also

He says while much has place safety in the decades since Joel's death, "there is always work that needs to be done. And unfortunate-



Shannon Mitchell, representing MPP Wayne Gates, with her son Owen, John Pula, retired GM elected health and safety representative, Wendy Murray Nicholson, Tom Murray, Brenda Sevcik and her daughter Breanna, and Edward Steers, the current GM health and safety representative, attended the National Day of Mourning service in Virgil last Thursday. (Photos by Penny Coles)

ly, events like this are sometimes the catalyst for change. It can be very difficult to enact

Coun. Gary Burroughs makes a point of attending the memorial every year. The importance of the annual gathering in Virgil is to remember that there are still workplace tragedies, and still work to be done.

He remains concerned for young people who may be going to work for the first time, at places where there is such a hurry to get work done that the proper safety training is not a priority.

"I have grandchildren at an age that they're ready to go

to work, and this is a worry. pening there, happening ev-We need to be sure we're doing all we need to do to keep them safe."

unsafe situation, "if we're not doing something right that has anything to do with safety, tell us, and we'll do something vincial election. about it."

Brenda had spent some time Thursday morning, before the Virgil Day of Mourn- her son Owen. ing service, at the GM plant, talking to people, and trying member Joel and his family, to raise awareness for workplace safety. Safety, she says, Murray family, "the pain of "is something we have to focus on, especially with all the new workers in the plant. But for workers across the provsome good things are hap-

ery day."

Gates could not attend this year's service. He hated to He told the crowd that miss it, he says, but it was the if anyone knows of an day the Conservative government was releasing its budget and was expected to adjourn until after the upcoming pro-

Representing him in Virgil was his assistant Shannon Mitchell, who attended with raged that when companies

She took a moment to reand said, for Gates and the ries. this loss is still fresh."

Gates continues to fight ince, and in the legislature

later that day, he introduced the Justice for Victims of Occupational Disease Act, a bill he wrote for victims of workplace diseases, including cancer, who are still fighting the WSIB for benefits. They and their families deserve fair compensation, and that isn't always the case, he told The Local.

He continues to be outare fined following workplace accidents, as GM was, the families are not the beneficia-

"Wendy and her family didn't see a dime of that money. That doesn't make sense to me. They never even received an apology."

Faculty of Humanities



to prevent them.



Coun. Gary Burroughs says workplace tragedies continue, and there is still work to be done Wendy Murray Nicholson lays a wreath at the Virgil monument, with Lou Ann Binning, president of the Niagara Regional Labour Council, looking on.



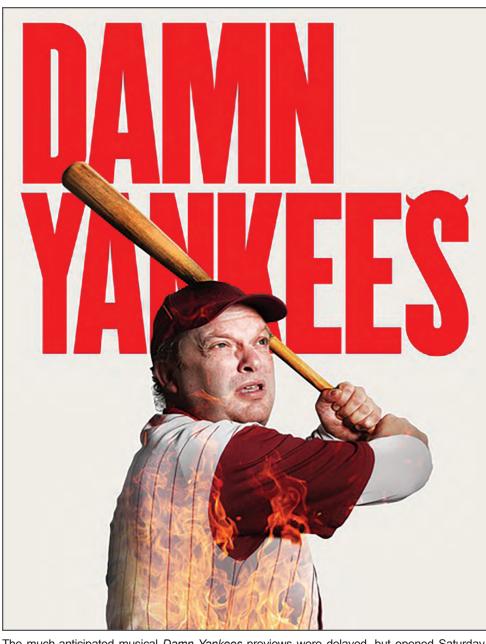
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COVID delays Shaw preview openings



The much-anticipated musical Damn Yankees previews were delayed, but opened Saturday. (Pictured: Shane Carty. Photo by Peter Andrew Lusztvk)

Penny Coles The Local

forced to cancel two pre- masked onstage, Jennings views of Damn Yankees says, and as soon as a cast due to COVID cases de- member steps off the stage, laying rehearsals, with its the mask goes back on. opening going ahead on date Saturday.

begin May 18.

Executive director Tim hearsals could not proceed hospitalized. "in a timely manner," to be ready to open as expected.

not-for-profit team of scientists, doctors and othand rapid tests, and apart do so. from actors when they're

around the theatre.

Testing is mandatory The Shaw Festival was for anybody working un-

"The province has deits rescheduled opening cided we have to learn to live normally, so other Too True To Be Good people have choices. For a previews for May 12 and performing actor, there is 15 have also been can- no choice. That's what they celled, with the Bernard sign up for," he says. "And Shaw play rescheduled to everyone is fully vaccinated and boostered."

Some of the staff mem-Jennings says COVID bers who contracted among staff, not just cast COVID have been quite members but in all areas sick, but none so seriousof production, meant re- ly they have needed to be and concert series on six

get through the pandemic ence of 48,750. Since the spring of right through to last fall's 2021, the Shaw has been holiday shows before seeworking with McMas- ing any positive COVID ter HealthLabs, a private, tests, and this season, in some cases COVID-like symptoms have ended up ers from McMaster Uni- being flu, which also imversity and the Research pacts not only rehearsals Institute of St. Joseph's for cast members, but the Hamilton, on workplace technicians that have to be testing, to keep staff safe on stage, moving things during COVID. They are around, and ensuring the tested regularly, with PCR safety of the actors as they

rehearsing on stage, staff real sense of COVID being keep shows happening."

wear masks as they move a super spreader, but we're seeing other flus, and other issues," says Jennings.

Even with more understudies than would be normal for other seasons, the show hasn't always gone on, although last year, the Shaw recorded a great year, despite the pandemic crippling theatre productions. The festival not only reported gross revenues of \$26,632 million last season, but once restrictions eased in early July, presented the largest North American theatre season of 2021. They delivered over 445 performances of 17 separate productions stages (three outdoor and The Shaw did well to three indoor), to an audi-

> Jennings said at the festival's annual general meeting for 2021, looking back on last season, that his most profound satisfaction came from the festival's ability to maintain employment and contracts for almost every one of its 550-plus staff and artists throughout the last two

And heading into the 2022 season, he says, "we'll "It's tricky. We have a do everything we can to

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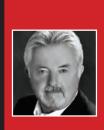
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Trapping, relocation not the answer to coyote problem

Removing food sources is the best solution

Penny Coles The Local

It worked in Niagaraon-the-Lake's Garrison Village in 2019, and it has been effective in several other municipalities, those who tuned in to the town's virtual coyote information session heard — if we simply stop providing meal sources, they'll stop roaming our streets and terrorizing our residents and their pets.

Food left outside for feral cats, garbage bags coyotes can tear open, bird seed from feeders, brush piles that rabbits call home, the covotes themselves are causing them to rove around the Old Town, often in daylight, frightening people who no longer feel neighbourhood, especially if they have small dogs.

coyote approach them, Lesley Sampson of Covote Watch Canada repeated the simple tricks she shared in 2019 to scare them off. Carry a garbage bag full of air and pop it, take an umbrella and snap it open, shout, wave your arms, and act aggressively and assertively, while picking up your dog. Look the coyote in the eye, and back away — whatever you do, don't turn and run. Throw things, but not at the coyote. Whistles and horns might work, but don't always, she said — and keep dogs on a short leash.

Providing insight as to who these animals are, Sampson explained that creating a safe and harmonious community for all, through best practices for co-existence, starts with the community.

"Everyone needs to be coyotes will move in." engaged, working together to establish safe, healthy sources for information and respectful boundaries than social media, includfor people and their beloved pets, and wildlife as

flow" to the presence of coyotes, she said. "It goes when the community ralcoyotes moved out of the es, said town CAO Marnie area. It can happen and does happen, but everyone needs to work together."

Coyotes are great at and even food put out for foraging and hunting, and don't need human handouts, which are harmful for them, Sampson said. Leave them to find their own food, and they can eat safe walking through their as many as 2,000 rodents a

Although there have For those who have a been many coyote sightings and experiences shared on social media, while it might be well-meaning, Sampson said, it's not always accurate, and it's not a good place to turn to for information.

> Sampson has seen the video of the woman and dog, and the coyote approaching them in the John and Gate Street area, and said the woman did everything right, acting aggressively with her dog's leash, and it worked the coyote fled, "especially with the man chasing it."

In response to questions about when a coyote is acting too aggressively, when more action needs to be taken, Sampson said it's difficult to know whether it's one or two "bad actors," and which ones are the aggressive animals.

range territory, she said.

"If you remove coyotes

There are more reliable ing the town's own website — it has done a good job of using its website to com-There's an "ebb and municate with residents, she said.

The information session good for a while, and then was organized in response it happens again." In 2019, to the growing number of human-coyote encounlied together, removed ters and conflicts, with bird feeders and stopped the intention of providing feeding cats outdoors, "the guidelines for best practic-

Resources and Forestry.

does not provide animal cult situation, and that the control, the audience of town recognizes there have but gives advice and information on how to prevent address conflict situations.

lies established in a home collaboration with several current provincial rules, partners, including Coyote in certain circumstances, treme measures, she said. Watch, the Lincoln County such as preventing damfrom the landscape, other Humane Society, the Ni- age to your property, you have followed the apagara Regional Police, and can capture, harass or kill representatives from the a coyote — however, if you meeting, and successfully Ministry of Northern De- capture it, you can only velopment, Mines, Natural move it within a kilometre.

> Cluckie acknowledged The provincial ministry that coyote issue is a diffiabout 240 people heard, been some frightening situations.

"There is understandconflicts, how to find a li- ably fear, frustration and censed trapper, and actions angst in the community," municipalities can take to and a variety of perspectives on how to handle the David Denyes, a pro- situation, some thinking vincial wildlife represen- it's being taken to the ex-

tion, with coyote fami- Cluckie, and was held in tative, explained under treme, others thinking the town should take more ex-

Other communities proaches discussed at the managed the canid-human conflict situation, she said, "so bear with us."

Residents were asked to continue filling out sighting forms online, including the time of sighting.

An in-person coyote encounter demonstration will be on Wednesday, May 11, from 6 to 7 p.m. at the field behind the communi-

Registration will be required and limited.



Relocation isn't an op- Dave Gilchrist captured this photo of a coyote in the Old Town.



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REAL ESTATE SERVICE YOU DESERVE

—EDITORIAL—

Day of Mourning a reminder of work to be done

an ever-increasing focus on workplace safety, tragedies continue to devastate families, and every year, more Canadian workers are injured or die from what we call workplace accidents.

are preventable. They occur as a result of workplace conditions; lack of adequate training, instructions or important information; and or money.

They are not always the workers. fault of the employer, but often they are.

At last Thursday's National Day of Mourning to remember those killed or injured from workplace incidents, or from illness due to workplace conditions, the point was made that after two years of shutdowns, there are many young people beginning new jobs. They are not the only workers who are vulnerable, but they are in a position of wanting to perform well, looking to impress new employers, and they may not even know enough to realdo something dangerous.

Those gathered in Virgil, and many in the community, know the devastating circumstances of Joel Murray's death. We've heard little of what happened to Dan Sevcik, who died at work for GM just six months ago — possibly because it is still

grow up and have children with a lovely family, including two adult children and grandchildren he loved, and close to retirement, which However, these accidents he and his wife Brenda will not get to enjoy together.

While he had decades of work experience behind young people are four times

More than half of serious and fatal workplace the workforce themselves. accidents involving young workers aged 15 to 25 take Mourning remains a replace within the first six minder of how life can months on the job, and almost 20 per cent occur instant, because of accidents during the first month.

Young David Ellis was just 18 years old and had ble circumstances that led been at a part-time job for to these workplace deaths, only two days when he was from which families will asked to clean a large, indus-never recover, are not isotrial mixing machine at the lated incidents. Despite bakery where he was work- all we have learned about ing. This was in Burlington, preventative measures for in 1999, and decades later, injuries and illnesses, and his father Rob, still grieving for his son, continues ize they are being asked to his mission to keep other to happen, to any age, in any young workers safe. He has industry. travelled across the country talking to high school ic that has created another students about what hap- level of issues of workplace he came to Niagara District care settings. Secondary School and told a

With what seems like very sad, one a man who ex- that the industrial mixer he a job they are not trained to supervisors and employees each one of us, parents, empected to watch his children stepped into to clean lacked do, that no job is worth an is important. We know inproper safety equipment. of their own, another a man He was a hard worker, a kid who wanted to please, who did what he was asked to do. Rob didn't spare the details of what happened to David when the mixer was activated, or what he saw when he reached the bedside of his son in the hospital that day. him, statistics show that He intended for those high school students to rememcutting corners to save time more likely to be injured on ber David's story and all the the job, compared to older details, including his death six days later, and carry it with them as they entered

> The National Day of change for a family in an that are preventable.

> The preventable, horridespite all the best practices put into play, they continue

Now we have a pandempened to his son. Years ago, safety, especially in health

When it comes to young very subdued, hushed audipeople starting jobs, parents ence of students that David can reinforce the message to had no idea his summer job their kids that it's a must to under investigation. Both so presented any danger, or say no if they're asked to do

injuiry or loss of life.

And all of us must reenough to wait until someaction. We know pre-

adequate staffing levels and rushing to get jobs done are member it's not good dangerous. We know shortcuts can cost lives, and all thing bad happens to take equipment has to be not only maintained but inspected. ventative education and Those are a few of the easy, awareness for employers, obvious solutions. It's up to

ployers, and employees of all ages, to be aware that safety always has to come first, and that getting home to loved ones at the end of the day is what matters most.

> **Penny Coles** The Local

All in a night's work



The Old Town fire station was completing aerial operations training, from arrival, securing a water source, and apparatus placement, at The Village Monday. Firefighters were "setting up and operating the elevated master stream from the platform," says Deputy Fire Chief Jay Plato. "The training goal is to work on efficiency and proficiency so firefighters are prepared to serve the community when called upon." Different locations are used throughout the community and throughout the year, he says, to provide firefighters with a realistic scenario while also having more space than the parking lot behind the fire hall. (Mike Balsom)



View from the couch

Donald Combe Special to The Local

Inside Claridge's is a three part mini series on BritBox (2012). Claridge's is a very grand, very understated, very British hotel in the Mayfair

and royalty, chiefly because has graciously agreed to share fascinated.

Donald Combe is a retired The Local.

district of London. It has English teacher who loves always provided the ulti- to go to movies. Until he remate in luxury to celebrities sumes going to theatres, he Claridge's makes them feel his opinions, through "short at home. The viewer will be and sweet" exclusives, of Netflix series and movies for



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COMMENT ___

-*Local*Letters----

Thank you, Barb Pearson, a local hero

The real heroes of April 20). this world are rarely noticed. They do not wave long remember her asto adoring crowds from sistance when we moved the back of an open con- to St. Davids. vertible. They are simply the people that get up kind, she guided us, May her retirement bee advertised by Ontario Hydro. every day and do what newcomers, through the blessed. needs to be done to keep maze of paperwork inour little world turning.

per for the article re: believe that a lot of newour postmistress Barb comers' first exposure to

My wife and I will

Infinitely patient and volved in a change of ad-Kudos to your pa- dress, etc. In retrospect, I Pearson (The Local, the local scene may often be in a post office.

and I were truly im-dangerous. pressed by this cheery, kind lady.

What's up with Call Before You Dig

Here's an odd problem not compatible with their sys-At any rate, my wife which could become really tem, and it kept rejecting me. hour wait.

Ontario One Call, call before She is our hero. you dig 1-800-400-2255, as managed to do it on their com-

tells you to go to their website done it incorrectly. **Joost Vandelinde** and watch a video showing you

We want to dig for a driveway On Friday, April 30, I called and pathway around May 15.

I went to the library and there was 27 hours! puter. When I returned home I The answering machine received an email saying I had

I tried phoning them again. **St. Davids** how to do a diagram of where The answering machine said you want to dig on your prop- there would be a two-hour wait. erty. I completed that only to I tried again the next day, first find that my Apple iPad was thing in the morning, and was

told there would be a seven-

I tried going through the contractor line and the wait

I hung up. I would imagine everyone would give up after that and decide to dig anyway.

Does anyone who works at Ontario One Call have any idea what is happening to their service?

> **Marilyn Rickard** NOTL

Environmental columnist tells story in photos

Penny Coles The Local

column, this week environmentalist Owen Bjorgan unsung ecological wonders 2023." is sharing some spring-related photos he has taken a fun and creative way," says the documentary series so

documentary series.

project during COVID Instead of his regular times, and the documentary plans to highlight the a public viewing in early of Canada's 'south coast' in

"This was a keep-busy ly remote areas are worth protecting. The documentary should be released for

He has filmed four of Hidden Corners nature the public about why these ra, Florida, East Andes Ec- making a run for it in Wain- plummeting directly into banks of Big Creek.

Queensland.

nature documentaries are hand; farmland adjacent ty cutting through oldavailable for viewing on his to Lake Erie's foggy, calm growth Carolinian Forests; Youtube Channel, Owen's waters at sunrise near Ron-Hiking And Adventures.

while working on his next Bjorgan. "I want to educate far: Hidden Corners Niaga- are of a white-tailed deer ly enormous sand bluffs"

fragile and surprising- uador, and Tropical North fleet; a wood frog, whose Lake Erie, past Long Point; The photos he is sharing he describes as "surprising-

body contains freeze-re- a sandy, idyllic-looking His Hidden Corners sistant proteins, held in his backroad in Norfolk Counand his canoe, named Old deau Provincial Park; what Baldy, which accompanies him on many of his adventures, nestled against the



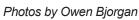














- **INCREASE** HEALTHCARE CAPACITY
- MAKE HOUSING AFFORDABLE
- **CREATE JOBS IN NIAGARA**



United Way Period Promise helps women, girls in need

Mike Balsom The Local

Since 2018, United Way Niagara has been chipping away at the period poverty problem in the region, and from now until May 27, is asking for our help.

The organization kicked off its Period Promise campaign last week, with the goal of collecting 400,000 feminine hygiene products over 30 days to distribute to women and girls in need.

United Way Niagara CEO Frances Hallworth says she wasn't fully aware of the need for period products until 2018, when she noticed that other United Way chapters had begun to hold collections.

"We then talked to some of the agencies that we fund," she tells The Local, "and we found that absolutely, there is a huge need. One in seven people in Niagara is living in poverty. Think about how difficult it must be to make decisions on the basic necessities."

According to the Borgen Project, a not-for profit organization addressing poverty and hunger, period poverty refers to the struggle many low-income women and girls face while trying to afford menstrual products, and encompasses the increased economic vulnerability females face because of the high prices of those supplies.

Today the Niagara chapter is one of many across the counon this front.

of Niagara's females struggle to purchase period products. And with the current highest inflation rate this country has seen in three decades, the problem has become even worse.

According to a United Way press release, lack of access to menstrual products often translates to isolation, mental duress, sick days and missed opportunities. The document quotes a girl named Casey, who was forced to stay home from school when she would get her period. That resulted in lower marks on tests due to her high number of absences, making her feel isolated and negatively affecting her mental health.

The problem seems to inordinately affect younger women. According to the United Way, one in three people under 25 who menstruate struggle to afford appropriate menstrual products. The isolation felt by girls like Casey can also lead to health risks and further barriers.

"Nobody should have to decide between putting food on the table or purchasing menstrual products," Hallworth says. "But when people are forced to choose between basic necessities, the effects can be detrimental for them and their dependents."

To that end, the organization also conducts policy work try attempting to effect change in an effort to ensure that menstrual products are available in Hallworth says a quarter an equitable way for everyone. For the past four years they have been urging companies to sign on to promise to make products available for free at their workplaces. The City of St. Catharines was one of the first to make that promise, and 18 Niagara businesses have as well.

Some other inroads have also been made in recent years. In 2015, the federal government announced that there would no longer be GST charged on them. In October, 2021, Stephen Lecce, Ontario's Minister of Education, revealed a three-year deal with Shoppers Drug Mart that would see six million sanitary pads distributed to school boards across the province annually.

Just last week, the Niagara Catholic District School Board outlined plans to install 70 dispensers (57 machines for sanitary pads and tampons, and 13 sanitary napkin dispensers) to address period poverty in their schools. One will be installed in each Catholic elementary school, alternative school, and continuing education school, while there will be two in each high school. Their press release states that only 13 of the dispensers are being provided by the provincial government, while the board will pay for the



Jane Oleksiw of Simpson's Apothecary encourages customers to purchase some extra feminine hygiene products this month to donate to United Way Niagara's Period Promise campaign. The goal is to distribute 400,000 period products across the region this year. (Mike Balsom)

remaining 57.

"I think the schools coming on board is a great start," Hallworth says. "I think people signing up across Canada on the Period Promise policy is another great step. When you see really large employers signing up, like General Motors, it becomes more of a norm, and the expectation will start to be there that these products need to be supplied."

Another aspect of the campaign, says Hallworth, is nation to the campaign. education.

more about period poverty," Hallworth stresses, "as well as health and gender equity. Periods are a fact of life. Period products are a right, not a luxury."

In 2021, United Way Niagara distributed over 380,000 individual period products through 18 community part-

ners. Hallworth feels this year's goal of 400,000 can be reached through financial contributions as well as physical donations of the products themselves.

In Niagara-on-the-Lake, Simpson's Pharmacy and Apothecary and the Body Shop store at the Outlet Collection at Niagara are acting as 'shop and drop' locations. Shoppers at those stores can add a few period products to their purchase and leave them behind as a do-

Current United Way Niag-"We want people to learn ara board member and former campaign chair Sean Simpson has supported the cause since 2018, with the launch that year of Tampon Tuesdays.

> "We know there are a number of women who are having difficulties making ends meet these days," Simpson says. "It's great that these necessary, ev-

ery-day items can be made available for them, and that other people can support them by purchasing a package and leaving it with us."

Hallworth also encourages people to host their own collection event with friends, family, work colleagues and neighbours. And financial donations can be made via the campaign website. A donation of \$120 will supply period products for one person for a full year.

Once the collection is completed at the end of this month, the United Way distributes the products through the various partner agencies whom they fund.

"They know who to give them to," she explains. "They have the clients coming onto their premises. And they don't necessarily have to be agencies we fund. Other agencies can just let us know they have clients in need."

The campaign wraps up on May 27 with a Community Drive-thru Collection from noon to 7 p.m. in the parking lot of the Seaway Mall in Welland. Financial donations can be made and information can be found at periodpromiseniagara.ca.

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Dr. Rebecca Zabek-Clark

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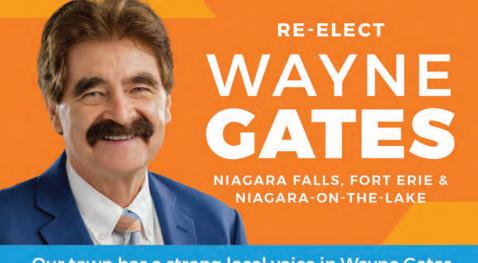


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- Respect cultural & natural heritage
- Defend our Greenbelt



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Bookies' Open Mic Poetry Slam a success

Coffee house-style event at Creekside

Brenda Sharp Special to The Local

Members of the book club at Creekside Senior Estates, known as the presented their first ever Coffee House and Open Mic Poetry Slam.

Their community centre was transformed into a coffee house, with residents performing their favourite poems or songs for Poetry Month.

the rest of the community. A song by Dylan, different genres of poetry, as well as some original pieces were enjoyed by everyone.

Organized by Creekside Creekside Bookies, have librarian Cyndie Leavitt, the night was such a success that everyone has requested that it be repeated again, however it was decided that it will become a yearly event held during April, which is National











Residents recited poetry and played music at the first annual open mic event at Creekside Seniors Estate, including Steve Leavitt (top left), Anne Howe (bottom left), organizer Cyndie Leavitt, (bottom centre) Joe and Julie Vandelinde (top right), and Peter Pepperman (bottom right). (Photos supplied)



The Highest Total Volume of Local Sales for the Past Decade

Highest volume in Niagara-on-the-Lake from 01/01/2011 to 09/21/2021. Source MLS.



532 VICTORIA STREET \$1,111,000. MLS 40243581 • Patricia Atherton and Caroline Polgrabia



50 FIRELANE 11A \$3,995,000 MLS 40241292 • Christopher Bowron and Nicole Vanderperk



\$3,300,000. MLS 40207740 • Christopher Bowron and Nicole Vanderperk



3120 MARINA BOULEVARD \$7,949,000 MLS 40219980 • Giovanni Rodriguez Martinez



513 GATE STREET LOT \$1,375,000

MLS 40191634 • Thomas Elltoft and Weston Miller



31 RICARDO STREET LOT \$1,498,000

MLS 40191827 • Thomas Elltoft and Jane Elltoft



240 NASSAU STREET LOT \$2,395,000 MLS 40206480 • Thomas Elltoft and Kim Elltoft

LOT 2 WILLIAM STREET \$1,295,000 MLS 40209734 • Thomas Elltoft and Kim Elltoft

Christopher Bowron***	. 905-468-2269
Kim Elltoft**	. 905-380-8011
Randall Armstrong**	. 905-651-2977
Victoria Bolduc*	. 905-941-3726
Philip Bowron*	. 905-348-7626
Bonnie Grimm*	. 905-468-1256
Nicole Vandernerk*	905-941-4585

Viviane Elltoft*	905-	468-214	2
Thomas Elltoft*	905-	380-801	2
Jane Elltoft*	905-	988-877	6
Cheryl Carmichael*	905-	941-027	6
Sarah Gleddie*	905-	685-245	8
Christine Bruce*	905-	328-970	3
Linda Williams*	905-	401-424	n

Caroline Polgrabia*	905-933-4983
Patricia Atherton*	905-933-4983
Weston Miller*	289-213-8681
Giovanni Rodriguez Martinez*	905-328-2145
Ricky Watson*	905-246-3387

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THE NOTL Goeal

Town uses provincial grants for website, digital information

Penny Coles The Local

Niagara-on-the-Lake construction project pages. launched its new website Tuesspecial features.

It uses new meeting management software, online payment Upanup Studios to design it. options, live chat, and interactive

In March, 2021, council modernization grant to fund

The website will continue to use www.notl.com.

The live chat feature allows day morning, with a number of approved using a provincial customer experience representatives to assist website users

the new website, and hired live and online. The website's CAO Marnie Cluckie said "the recreational facilities. launch is accompanied by an town is very excited to launch online survey, providing users with an opportunity to give feedback on their online expe-

Tuesday morning,

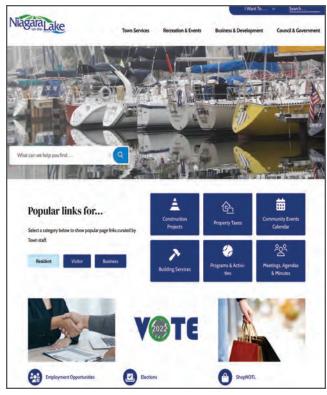
our new website to modernize and enhance the town's online services and improve the overall customer experience."

She also noted that the transition is still underway, and that some items such as agendas, meeting minutes, calendars, and LiveStreams, were to quickly and easily help resstill to be uploaded.

Another provincial grant, this one for \$107,300, will be spent on five digital information boards to be used at town

Three permanent boards will be used at the community centre and the arenas, with two portable units floating between additional entrances at the community centre, and at the Court House, when special events are held.

The software is intended idents find what room their scheduled programming is in, and to allow for the programming of maps to local restaurants, hotels, cafes, and shops.



Go to notl.com to check out the town's new website.



In-Person Coyote Encounter Demonstration

In-person demonstration session led by Coyote Watch Canada and Lincoln County Humane Society, with support from the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Wednesday, May 11, 2022

Time: 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Back field of the Community Location:

Centre (14 Anderson Lane,

Niagara-on-the-Lake)

Learn how to properly react and respond to a coyote encounter.





NOTICE OF PASSING TEMPORARY USE BY-LAWS 4316EF-22 & 500XV-22 TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF **RESTAURANT AND BAR PATIOS**

The Council for the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake passed Temporary Use By-laws 4316EF-22 and 500XV-22 on April 25, 2022 under Section 34 and Section 39 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, as amended.

By-law 4316EF-22 and By-law 500XV-22 permit the extension of restaurant and bar patios onto public and private lands, subject to the Town's Temporary Patio Program requirements, without application of any provisions of Zoning By-law 4316-09, as amended (urban areas) and Zoning By-law 500A-74, as amended (rural/agricultural areas). The Temporary Use By-laws expire on February 28, 2023. A copy of the By-laws is available on the Town website, www.notl.org/content/ public-notices-under-planning-act or at Town Hall.

The Temporary Use By-laws apply to all lands within the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake. By-law 4316EF-22 applies to all lands within the urban area boundaries (Old Town, Virgil, St. Davids, Queenston and Glendale) and By-law 500XV-22 applies to all lands in the rural/ agricultural areas of the Town.

In accordance with Ontario Regulation 345/20 under the *Emergency* Management and Civil Protection Act (related to Provincial COVID-19 measures) in effect when Temporary Use By-laws 4316EF-22 and 500XV-22 were passed by Town Council, there are no rights to appeal these By-laws.

Dated at the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, May 4, 2022

Ralph Walton - Town Clerk (clerks@notl.com or 905-468-3266) Town Hall, 1593 Four Mile Creek Road, P.O. Box 100, Virgil, ON LOS 1T0

May 4, 2022 11

- Local ARTS & CULTURE

Jackson-Triggs planning a sell-out season

Mike Balsom The Local

After a two-year absence, the cream of Canada's musical crop is returning to the Jackson-Triggs Niagara Estate Amphitheatre this summer.

The Sam Roberts Band, a perennial favourite, kicks off the Summer Concert Series with performances on June 24 and 25. The rest of the 15show lineup runs the gamut from indie rock to folk singer-songwriter and from country to world music.

Estate manager Sreejith Sasikuma says artists were champing at the bit to have a chance to walk the amphitheatre stage.

"They were excited," he tells The Local. "They were anticipating when they would be able to come back. Sam Roberts was truly over the moon. He's been coming to us for 14 years. There was some competition to get talent, though. Everyone is opening their venues at the same moment. We had hoped to book William Prince (Juno award-winner for Contemporary Roots Album), but he songwriters circle, and dewasn't available."

Montreal native Roberts was an obvious choice to begin the series in light of his popularity here in Niagara and beyond. He'll most definitely be playing tracks from his Juno-nominated 2021 album All of Us, as well as popular hits going back to his 2003 debut We Were Born in a Flame.

Rural Alberta Advantage hits the stage on July 8, while former Niagara-on-the-Lake resident Torquil Campbell has a bit of a homecoming the next day with his Montreal-based ensemble Stars.

"We're really happy to be back playing, and it will be really nice to be back in that amphitheatre on a summer night in a place that means so much to me," Campbell says. "It will be great to have a chance to see my family, too."

For Campbell, family means sister Beatrice, Shaw Festival stage manager, and mom Moi-Wylie, who still live in NOTL. Campbell and his wife Mova O'Connell moved to Vancouver with their daughter Ellington in

Campbell's most recent Jackson-Triggs show was without his band. He and St. Catharines native Ron Sexsmith performed in a



Broken Social Scene, from 2018, has been a favourite at the Jackson-Triggs Amphitheatre. (Photo supplied)

Campbell's NOTL home.

"Ron just played the a single lyric. Ron knows folksy." them all."

camped after the show to From Capelton Hill, com- playing the festival circuit, that it starts light and gets ing May 27.

"It harkens back to sort guitar for about three of the early 2000s Montrehours," he marvels. "It was al sound," says Campbell one of the most amazing of the album. "The sound things I've ever seen. That is big, with lots of strings guy knows every lyric to and brass, stuff that we be a special one. Come on Eileen! I've lis- moved away from for a

in September, hitting the us really well. It's very civi-East Coast in December, lized, it makes you feel that and heading off to Europe for the new year. The NOTL stop, though, will

"It's just beautiful in tened to that song 7,000 while. This one feels more those vineyards," Camptimes and I can't discern organic and, dare I say, bell says of the amphitheatre. "There's the natural He's looking forward to slope of the hill, and the

Stars has a new album, a busy year with the band, sound is really good. I love you've earned something." then moving into the U.S. really dark. And they treat known by his stage name

Afie Jurvanen, better

Continued on page 15



Serving the Niagara Region since 2005



COMMUNITY NOTICE

ANNUAL VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Every year, CN is required to clear its right-of-way of any vegetation that may pose a safety hazard. Vegetation on railway right-of-way, if left uncontrolled, can contribute to trackside fires and impair proper inspection of track infrastructure. The spray program is not being done for aesthetic

For safe railway operations, CN will conduct its annual spray program on its rail lines in the province of Ontario. A certified professional will be applying herbicides on and around the railway tracks (primarily along the 16 - 24 feet grayeled grea/ballast). All product requirements for setbacks in the vicinity of dwellings, aquatic environments and municipal water supplies will be met.

CN may use the following herbicides and active ingredients: VP480 (Dow), Esplanade (Bayer), Detail (BASF), Arsenal Powerline (BASF), Navius Flex (Bayer), Gateway (Corteva), Hasten NT (Norac), VisionMax (Bayer) using Glyphosate (480g/L or 540g/L), Indaziflam (200 g/L), Saflufenacil (29.74%), Imazapyr isopropylamine (26.7%), Metsulfuron-methyl (12.6%), Aminocyclopyrachlor (39.5%), Paraffinic Oil (586 g/L), Alkoxylated alcohol non-ionic surfactants (242 g/L), Methyl and Ethyl aleate (esterified vegetable oil) 75.20%

CN only uses herbicides that have been approved for use in Canada and in the Province within

The program is expected to take place from May to October 2022. Visit www.cn.ca/vegetation to see the list of cities as well as the updated schedule.

For more information, contact the CN Public Inquiry Line at contact@cn.ca or 1-888-888-5909.

CN.CA







Seniors Golden Years Guide

How to sleep through the night

(NC) Most adults need seven to eight hours of sleep to be their best. But many of us don't get enough. That can cause irritability, depression, high blood pressure and slow reaction time. Here are a few things you can do at any age for a restorative night's rest.

1. Set a routine

Try going to bed and waking up at about the same time every single day. You'll get into a rhythm so waking and sleeping feel natural. If you like a lazy weekend morning, try slow-start activities like reading or listening to music with a cozy cup of tea or coffee.

2. No napping

As tempting as it might be, taking a nap in the afternoon means you might not be as tired when your bedtime comes around, which will make it harder to fall asleep.

3. Stop with the screens

Turn off the tv and put down your phone about two hours before your bedtime. The light from your devices is thought to interfere with your body's natural rhythms.

4. Check your health

Try talking to your health care provider to see if you have a condition like sleep apnea or if you grind your teeth at night. In these instances, a simple machine or night guard can boost your quality of sleep immensely.

5. Mind when you eat.

Having a heavy meal within an hour or two of lying in bed can cause heartburn or stomach discomfort and make you have to pee. But don't starve yourself either: a hungry, grumbling stomach can also keep you up at night.

6. Use stress-management techniques.

It can be as simple as writing down your tasks for tomorrow or doing a short meditation before going to sleep. Whatever you do, try to keep your worries out of the bedroom so you can drift off peacefully.

7. Check your genetic profile.

According to a recent study by The DNA Company, 35 per cent of people have a gene that leads to interrupted sleep patterns. They suggest that variations in our genes affect our sleep in other ways too, such as making some of us feel stress for longer periods than others. By getting your genetic profile, you can learn how your genes affect your sleep so you can find the most effective tips for you.

Find more information about getting a report on your genes at thednacompany.com.

www.newscanada.com



Easy lifestyle habits for better brain health

(NC) When it comes to keeping your brain . Reduce or manage healthy, it's not just about doing puzzles or brain teasers like crosswords . and sudoku. While it may be fun to try the latest apps or pass the time with • a puzzle, there are many healthy habits that are easy to add in your everyday routine that will keep your

brain healthy. In fact, studies show

- study a new language
- Be physically active -30 minutes a day is all it
- Connect with other people — organize a

Some conditions may apply.

virtual coffee date

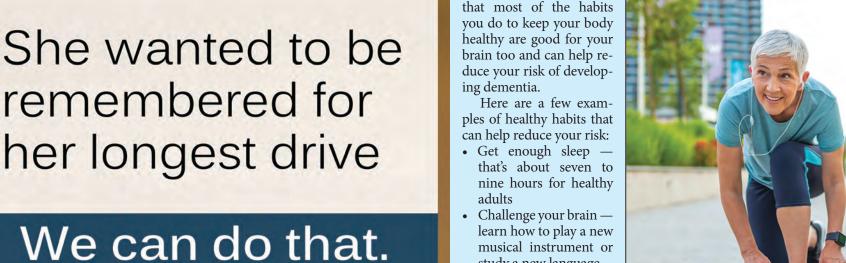
- stress try an online meditation class
- set a goal of one new healthy recipe each week Avoid smoking and shape.
- reduce alcohol consumption
- Protect your head to ca/dementia avoid brain injuries —

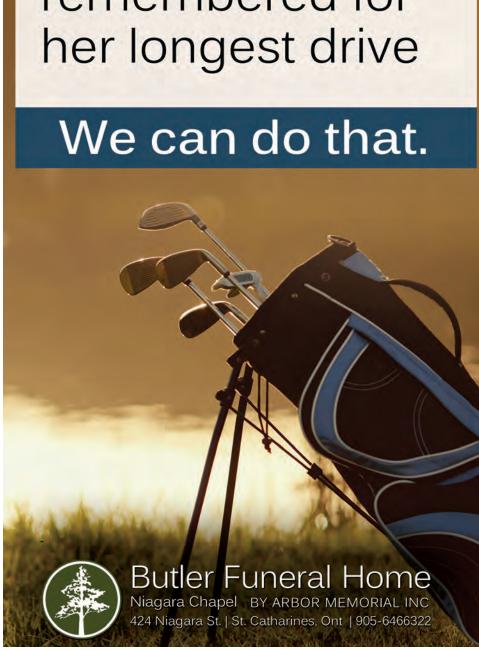
wear a helmet when cycling, skiing or skating

There are many simple ways you can help keep Eat a well-balanced diet your brain healthy practice a variety of them to keep your whole self in

> Find more information about dementia at canada.

www.newscanada.com







THE NOTL *Gocal* May 4, 2022 13 notllocal.com

Seniors Golden Years Guide INDEPENDENT LIVING

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Seniors Golden Years Guide

Tips on managing a virtual health appointment

(NC) Many physicians and other healthcare practitioners are providing care through phone or video calls. While this took off because of the pandemic, virtual appointments seem here to stay. They're a great way to help keep everyone safe while still addressing many of your healthcare needs.

To make sure you get the most out of your time with your doctor, follow these tips:

Before your appointment

- Choose a private and quiet location with minimal background noise.
- If it's a video appointment, make sure there is ample light so your doctor can see you clearly. If you need to show them a part of your body, wear . loose-fitting clothing.
- Have on hand any

may have recommended, such as a thermometer, bathroom scale or blood pressure monitor.

- Gather any information you may need, including your current medication list and pharmacy name, location and phone number. Also take note of any healthcare data such as recent blood pressure readings or glucose levels.
- Write down a list of questions and concerns. Have a paper and pen to take notes.

During your appointment

- Keep in mind the call from your healthcare provider may come in as a blocked number.
- Give yourself extra time, as the call may come in a bit before or after your scheduled time.

devices your doctor • Let your doctor know if someone else is with you and introduce them.

> Although the appointment might feel different, try to treat it like a regular visit. Ask ques

tions. Schedule follow up appointments if needed.

Technology tips

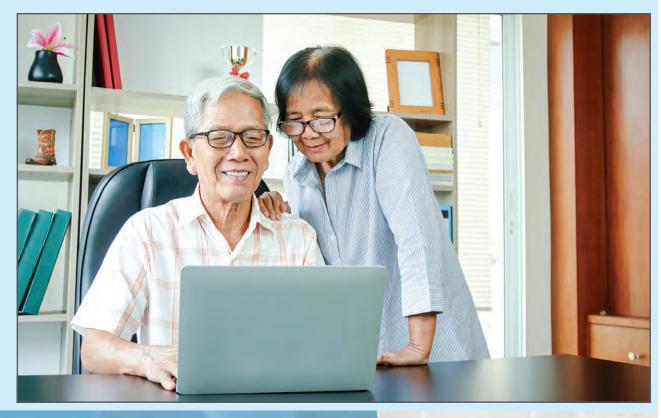
Keep an open mind. • Choose whether you'll use a smartphone, tablet or computer. Ensure that your device is charged and that you • When booking or con-kidney.ca.

have access to a reliable connection.

• Video calls work best with high-speed internet. If possible, consider using a wired connection.

firming your video appointment, ask which app or program your provider will use and download it before your session.

Find more health tips and information at



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THURSDAY MAY 19TH 2:00 TO 4:00PM

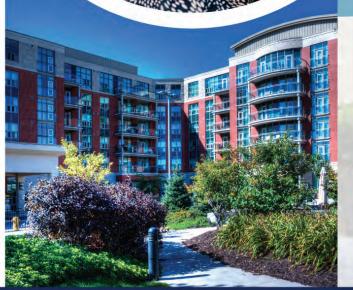


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YocalARTS & CULTURE =

Favourite Chantal Kreviazuk, closes out summer series

Continued from page 11

shows on July 21 and 22. He's followed by Burlington singer-songwriter and environmental Sarah Harmer on July 23.

The month concludes with, somewhat appropriately, performances by indie-pop bands July Talk on Friday, July 29, and all-female rock band The Beaches on Saturday, July 30.

The next month revs Toronto 10-plus-member cover band Dwayne Gretzand pop hits. Folk-blues artist Matt Andersen takes the stage Aug. 5, while folk artist Dan Mangan and his band will close out the weekend.

final weekend The comes in mid-August. Every night is a grand slam Country music takes the focus on Aug. 11 when

the Reklaws visit the amphitheatre. And on Aug. 12 Juno winner Alex Cuba Bahamas, performs two brings his mix of Latin and world music to the NOTL site for the first time.

"He shows what Jackactivist son Triggs is all about," Sasikumar says of the resident of Smithers, B.C. "We welcome all artists, and want to represent talent in all genres. We always strive for a big mix in the lineup that hits the preferences and likes of a multitude of people."

Another perennial faup Aug. 4 to 6 with three vourite, Chantal Krevinights of music. Popular azuk, closes out the series on Aug. 13.

"Jackson-Triggs ky opens the weekend with been associated with mutheir mix of classic rock sic since it opened," Sasikumar asserts. "It's important to us that we continue on that platform and that we support and bring in Canadian music to our site. There is nothing like our amphitheatre in Canada. event."

"There's excitement from



Torquil Campbell will be back with Stars in Niagara-on-the-Lake Estate manager Sreejith Sasikuma says crews are getting the to perform this summer. (Photo supplied)

everyone," Sasikumar confrom the customers is super-high, and the talent loves performing here as well. And our staff is completely ecstatic that we are bringing the concert series back."

Crews are busy spiffing on the stage. tinues. "The anticipation up the site for the return of concert-goers after a two- Concert Series went on year absence. Currently sale for the winery's wine our wine club tickets sold the amphitheatre roof has club members Monday, in a day," says Sasikumar. been removed for main- while the general public "I have no doubt that the tenance, and new floor- was able to purchase tick- entire season will end up boards have been installed ets as of Wednesday morn-selling out quickly."



amphitheatre ready for the return of concert-goers, including new floorboards, and maintenance on the roof. (Mike Balsom)

Tickets for the Summer ery.com.

ing via jacksontriggswin-

"Ninety-six per cent of

TO SERVE YOU SAFELY





Terns are welcome spring sight at North Shores

David Gilchrist Special to The Local

An interesting spring-(Hydroprogne caspia).

Described as "widespread but typically uncommon," it's great that they show up in our neighbourhood for a period of region they live for an esti-

Michigan in 1986 and was live there too. The terns found again in 2018 — 32 hover over the pond, spotyears old.

time visitor to the Niagara that they seem to live out Mile Pond. They are fast more. fliers and difficult to photograph.

time. In the Great Lakes pond and dove for fish liv-prize. ing there. There happens

ting a fish in the shallow My observations are water and diving quickly.

If they are successful Shores is the Caspian tern on Lake Ontario but do they fly back out into the foraging runs over Four lake, before returning for

> If not successful they will continue to circle the I attempted to grab a pond and make repeated photo as they flew over the dives until they get their

Definitely another remated average of 12 years, to be a lot of carp, but oth- warding sight at Niagara but one was banded in er species of fish probably Shores Park in the spring.







Caspian terns, fast and difficult to photograph, fly foraging runs over Four Mile Pond. (David Gilchrist)

N TO SERVE YOU SAFELY









Music Niagara concert fundraising for Ukraine

Mike Balsom The Local

When Music Niagara Festival founder and artistic director Atis Bankas announced a Toronto concert to Foundation back in March, Irene McEvoy of St. Catharines was inspired.

The daughter of Ukrainian parents who emigrated to Canada after the Second World War couldn't make it to the March 11 program in put on the line-up, too. At last Toronto. So she contacted Bankas and offered to help him organize a local fundraiser to support the cause.

Two months later, her efforts are coming to fruition next Thursday, May 12 when Music Niagara presents Freedom and Peace for Ukraine, an evening of music at Club Roma in St. Catharines.

Both Bankas and Music Niagara general manager Karen Lade laud McEvoy for her tireless efforts in organizing the event.

"She's secured the wine, the food, everything for free," Lade tells The Local. "She has helped us out so much. Irene and Atis have been working together on this. She's very, very passionate about it."

"When I told her I would love to do a show in Niagara, she jumped on it," Bankas adds. "She basically initiated it. It's really incredible what she has been able to accomplish."

McEvoy, a regular supporter of Music Niagara, set a goal that other than a few minor administration costs, all funds raised next week would go to the Canada-Ukraine Foundation. She says when she approached businesses for food and drink donations, with dogged determination, she said 'no' to every one of them who asked for their costs to be covered.

"There will not be anything that we will have to pay for," says McEvoy on the phone from her Port Dalhousie home. "Club Roma has donated their facility. Kacaba Vineyards is donating the wine Savoia Hors D'Oeuvres is donating the appetizers, and Regal Florists is donating the flowers for decorations. And we should hear this week about a brewery we've asked to come on board."

Originally, the show was scheduled to be a return to St. Mark's Anglican Church, home of many memorable Music Niagara concerts prior to the pandemic. At the last minute, that fell through when the diocese nixed the serving of any food or drinks due to COVID restrictions. McEvoy was instrumental in booking the date at the Vansickle Road home of the St. Catharines Italian community.

With the minutiae covered by McEvoy, Bankas has been able to concentrate on booking the musicians for

the evening, all of whom have agreed to play free of charge. More than just a fundraiser, ment that looks a bit like a the concert will be a celebration of Ukraine, and of freedom in general.

"The first half of the procomposers who were themselves refugees," explains Bankas. "Bartok, Rachmaninoff and Kurt Weill. The secmusic and musicians."

McEvoy did have some inyear's Music Niagara Brahms Oktoberfest event at Blackburn Brewhouse in Niagara Falls, she met Ukrainianborn soprano Inga Filippova, who performed that day.

"When we started talking about artists I asked him if he could book Inga," says McEvoy. "She has such a beautiful voice. In fact, we wanted to have this concert earlier but she was too emotionally distraught with the situation, as Music Niagara an opportunishe still has family there. She finally feels up to doing it now."

McEvoy says she also helped Bankas line up the two Ukrainian acts on the bill: Korinya Ukrainian folk group and Silver Bells, a Bandura Trio. As well, she has invited Patricia Latyshko, president of the Ukrainian Women's Organization of Canada, to introduce Silver Bells.

Bankas points out that the bandura, a stringed instrucross between a zither and a lute, is especially symbolic for this program.

"In the times of the Russupport the Canada-Ukraine gram will feature music from sian Czar, the bandura was looked at as very nationalistic to Ukraine, and it was forbidden to be played. They did that to other cultures, too. In ond half will feature Ukrainian Lithuania, the language was forbidden to be spoken, their instruments were made illegal to be played, their books were forbidden to be read. It's very symbolic to have this trio here."

Also performing on May 12 will be perennial Music Niagara favourites Quartetto Gelato, 15-year-old violinist Gloria Verhovsky (a student of Bankas'), pianist Victoria Kogan-Korchinsky, soprano Mira Solovianenko (a Ukrainian native) and Bankas himself on violin.

The concert will also give ty to announce their upcoming 2022 season. Bankas savs a number of performers will be familiar to Niagara audiences from previous Music Niagara events.

In addition to familiar faces, the British acapella group The Gesualdo Six and Juno award-winner Susan Aglukark, who is known for blending Inuit folk music with pop



Silver Bells, a Bandura Trio — a bandura is a stringed instrument once banned by the Russian Czar— will perform for Music Niagara. All musicians are donating their time.

and country on songs like the Meier, makes it hard for her was attended by about 400 1995 number one Canadian to sleep. country hit O Siem, will be part of the 2022 lineup.

when composers such as Beethoven and Brahms were celebrated on their birthdays, this summer will focus on Franz Schubert in honour of the 225th anniversary of his birth.

The tireless McEvoy answered an email from The Local at 6 a.m. Tuesday. When it was suggested that she is a morning person, she a rally. I envisioned this condemurred, informing The Local that her excitement for organizing this event with such great people as Bankas, Lade

One benefit of all of her work on this project is that And, as in previous years, she's been too busy to follow the news from the Ukraine as deeply as she did when the invasion began on Feb. 24.

"When the war started I was heartbroken by the destruction of the country and the loss of lives," she laments. "It was important for me to do something more than just raising money and attending cert to enjoy Ukrainian culture through music."

Bankas says the Toronto program, which was held on and Quartetto Gelato's Colin Lithuania Independence Day,

people and raised \$14,000. But McEvoy has set her sights higher, partially because some generous donors, including Rankin Construction with a \$5,000 gift, have chipped in.

With the proceeds from the tickets, the wine and a raffle with 20 bottles of local Niagara wines as the prize, McEvov is confident the local event has the potential to raise as much as \$30,000 to hand over to the Canada-Ukraine Foundation.

Tickets are \$60 and are available at musicniagara.org. The evening begins with a reception at 5:30, and performances starting at 7 p.m.



Freedom and Peace for Ukraine



Fundraiser Concert for Humanitarian Aid in Ukraine

May 12, 2022 at Club Roma in St. Catharines. Reception starting at 5:30, performance starting at 7pm

FEATURING

Quartetto Gelato, Korinya, Silver Bells - Bandura Trio, Inga Filippova - Soprano, Gloria Verhovsky - Violin, Mira Solovianenko. - Soprano, Atis Bankas - Violin Victoria Kogan-Korchinsky - Piano

Music Niagara to announce their 2022 Summer Season during the performance

Tickets are \$60/person. This will include the performance, appetizers, sweets and coffee. Wine will be available at \$5/glass.

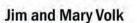
All funds raised will go directly to the Canada-Ukraine Foundation

Buy tickets online at musicniagara.org















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Well-liked farmworker celebrates with family, friends

Penny Coles The Local

Lincoln Thomas just celebrated the best birthday of his life, in style, with family and friends to make it a special day for him.

When he turned 65 in April, for the first time ever he had his oldest son and daughter with him on his birthday, along with about 50 fellow farmworkers and neighbours.

Like many other migrant workers, when he comes to Niagara-on-the-Lake eight months of the year, as he has for the last 38 years, he leaves his family at home and misses out on many family occasions and celebrations. With a spring birthday, the him for almost four decades.

Linda and Dave Epp live both of them. on Concession 6, neighbouring the Lepp family farming operation, where Lincoln works. They have come to know him and some of the other seasonal workers her life growing up. over the years. Linda met them through her job at the Queen Street LCBO, where they would go to buy their beer. She's moved around to various stores in the region, but spent 21 years working at the Niagara-on-the-Lake us." branch, and during that time, Lincoln and some of the other farmworkers became friends. This spring, she met his daughter Janelle, who was able to come to Canada to visit her dad, and to organize a birthday for him.

The Thomases have family in Ontario, in Paris, and North York, and Janelle

gunno Fruit Farms on the leave," she says. Niagara River Parkway.

this year. He's not been come to." around the family to celebrate in the past, and I wanted to be here with him," she says. "It's been a dream for makes that difficult, she says. me to come and see what our father does here. I wish my other siblings could be here."

Phillip is 34, Janelle 31, day has gone unmarked for and being with their father on his birthday was a first for

> Their father, she says, "comes here in March or April, and comes home in his life here. He has not really November," and that's how lived a life at home." she remembers every year of

> It was interesting to see where he lives for eight his gratitude is obvious months of the year, she says, his previous birthdays have and to see first-hand the sacrifices he makes by choosing celebration was really meanto be away from his family. "I definitely know he did it for

> Her brother has been doing the same for the last three Epps, a week later, "the first years, and although she was in my life to have one of my surprised he too made the boys and one of my girls with choice to leave two young me." children to come to work in Niagara, he also appreciated the hard work his father did for his family, and wants to long as I have the energy, I'd do the same for his.

"He has two kids, and

stayed with them, visit- now he's doing the same ing with her dad in Niaga- thing for them. They're too ra-on-the-Lake when she young to understand or appreciate it now, but as they Her older brother Phillip get older they will underis also here, working at Tre-stand why their daddy has to

"It's hard work and long Janelle told The Local her hours, but I appreciate and younger sister and brother respect what they do for us. wanted very much to make This is a good opportunity the trip with her, "but it's very for them to come and work. difficult to get visas," she says. These men are grateful to "I really wanted do some- have the experience, and thing special for my father to know they have a job to

> Phillip and his father meet up as often as they can, but being on different farms

> She was leaving to return to Jamaica Saturday, but she says she has taken lots of videos of both of them, to show family when she gets home.

> "I don't know that I could make the same sacrifice," she says, "but I'm a product of what my father did. He lived

> When Lincoln talks of the special day he spent with his family and friends, gone by unmarked, so this ingful. He was still feeling good about the party Janelle arranged for him, held outdoors at the home of the

> Although he is retirement age, "I'd like to stay here another two or three years. As like to keep working."



Lincoln's nickname, Prento, has endured for 38 years. When he first started working here, someone called him a 'prento' which means a newbie, or inexperienced worker, and the name stuck. (Photos supplied)

misses his family when he's home, working on his own a family." not with them, but this has small farm, where he grows become his life — farming vegetables, and has coconut in NOTL eight months of and banana trees. "It's not It is hard work, and he the year, and when he goes much, but it's enough to feed

He says working in Niagara-on-the-Lake has made it

Continued on page 19



Lincoln Thomas (centre) was able to celebrate his April birthday with his son Phillip and his daughter Janelle — for the first time.

THE NOTL *Pocal* May 4, 2022 19

Canadian citizenship should be reward, daughter says

Continued from page 18

possible for him to send his kids to school, and while he's sorry to see his son follow in his footsteps, "he's happy to loons, and on the day of the was Jamaican music and be here, happy to be able to help his family the way I did, and I'm happy to have him here. Jobs here are secure, and we can make a much better living."

met Lincoln at the LCBO, he off, "and it turned out to be a good to spend that time at home, and when Janelle was a DJ, a band and sound him."

ed to arrange a party for her afternoon. It was amazing." father but wasn't sure where she would hold it, Linda of- talking about Lincoln, fered their property.

tions, and a lot of food.

arrived and said she want- system, and it was a beautiful

including some of the She ordered some bal- farmworkers, and there party, a Sunday afternoon, dancing. "It was just like Janelle arrived with more a wedding, really aweballoons and other decora- some. It was great to be able to hear them and watch It worked well that Lin- them having so much fun. coln and his fellow farm- Lincoln deserves it - he's Linda says when she first workers had the afternoon such nice man. It was

what they do."

thing she could change to year, and be entitled to Cahelp her father, it would be nadian health care. "I'd like work. She would like to see for him to receive permanent to at least see him given the him able to spend some time status in Canada. He will re- choice. He should have citiceive a Canadian pension, zenship for this country. This his home for so much of the which he has paid into for is where he lives. He goes all the years he has worked home for just four months. would chat about his family great party," she says. "There with him and celebrate with here. But because he has not For eight months he is proworked in his own country, viding something valuable CN Tower."

she likes to honk and wave at those benefits from Canada. for Canada." them, and to let them know She'd like to see him able to

She says the men are he won't be entitled to the to this country and its econall such hard workers, and health care benefits others omy. Citizenship would be a Everyone took turns when she passes by in her car receive, nor will he receive reward for what he has done

> She says her father has "how much we appreciate travel back and forth freely never seen Niagara Falls, as a Canadian citizen, maybe has never travelled as far as Janelle says if there is one stay in Canada for part of the Toronto or visited the CN Tower — he comes here to here, in what has become year, when he retires,"and be able to take a drive to Niagara Falls if he wants to, or to the



cleaning up the waterfront at Queen's Royal Park a fam- his waterfront cleanup. (Photos Submitted) ily adventure Sunday

Cleaning up



Jessica and Ed Ball, with Ellowyn and Evaiyah, made Karoline, Wells, and Sage Suroka helped Tim Balla with



Tim Bala (front, centre) had a great turnout for his waterfront cleanup from Navy Hall to North Shores Park this weekend, an annual event that had been cancelled for two years.



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May 4, 2022 THE NOTL Spocal

Moving memorial recognizes Battle of the Atlantic

Mike Balsom The Local

Fred Martin was just 17 years old when he enlisted in the Royal Canadian Navy to serve on H.M.C.S. Portage during the Second World War.

Now 96 years old, the Niagara Falls resident was a guest of honour at the Royal Canadian Naval Association's (RCNA) memorial service to recognize the 77th anniversary of the Battle of the Atlantic.

The longest military campaign of the war began on Sept. 3, 1939 with the sinking of the British passenger ship the SS Athenia by a German U-boat just west of Ireland. The attack killed 118 of the 1,400 passengers on board, including four Canadians.

The peak of the naval battle occurred between mid-1940 and late 1943. By the time it ended with the defeat of the Nazis in May, 1945, 26 Canadian warships had been lost. As well, 32 Niagara-based ships and 233 civilian sailors fell during the skirmish.

The moving ceremony to honour the lost ships, officers and civilians was held last Sunday at Navy Hall. At the last minute Navy League cadets hurried to move chairs back inside the facility to escape the rain as it began to fall shortly after noon.

The change in surroundings meant participants and guests were not able to experience the visual impact of the usual casting of carnations on the river in honour of the Canadian and Allied Armed Forces and Merchant Marines. But the ceremony inside, especially with Martin attending, was just as poignant.

Martin served as Able Seaman-Torpedo on the 225-footlong 1,300 tonne (fully loaded) minesweeper near the end of the war.

We were all 17 or 18, just kids," Martin said Sunday. "Everybody joined the navy, that's just the way it was. We weren't trying to be heroes. As it happened, I was injured later in the Navy, in Bermuda, when a depth charge exploded on the surface. It wrecked my hearing. That was the only cost to me in Chuck Johnston was happy for the Navy."

Martin admits that even at his late entry into the war, with so many lives already lost, he didn't fully understand the situation into which he was

"We knew that some people from Niagara Falls had died," he said. "In 1939 I was only 13 years old." Even four years later he didn't comprehend the danger involved.

Martin, who celebrates his birthday this week, says he tries to get to the memorial service every year, but almost skipped this week's event to attend a grandson's track meet. The last-minute cancellation of that event allowed him to show up Sunday, though he didn't have time to don his Navy uniform.

Following the war, Martin go to the Pacific. He was dis-February, 1946 and returned home to Niagara Falls to continue what became a 43-year career on the railroad.

24-year-old Arms Jacob Edwards of St. Catharines was pleased to have Martin attend Sunday's ser-

"It's great to have veterans coming out," Edwards said. "It's very important to honour those that have fought for our freedoms. My great-grandfather was in the Merchant Navy, and that's kind of why I joined. To know that there are others still out there today is pretty cool."

Prayer service during Sunday's memorial was delivered by Major Dr. Reverend Harold Ristau, a chaplain for the Canadian Armed Forces for the past 11 years. Ristau is currently serving as a professor at Wilfrid Laurier University's Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary, and for a military reserve unit.

The author of At Peace with War: A Chaplain's Meditations from Afghanistan, was filling in for the usual Padre who was unable to attend.

"I'm truly honoured to be here today," he told The Local. "I was in Afghanistan for two tours, including a long 10-month tour. I spent most of my time on the front lines with the main base of supporters. As a minister, you want to be with the soldiers right where the battle is."

Ristau recalled being shot at, being blown off of his feet, donning medical gloves for first aid treatments, helping to carry bodies, and seeing mass graves during that conflict.

"As a chaplain, all of that is a real blessing," he explained, "because you earn your credibility amongst the soldiers. For me, spiritually, being able to be around these soldiers to build their faith, and to share their faith, makes me feel blessed. They provide for my physical safety, and I provide for their spiritual safety."

the ceremony's return to Navy Hall about five years ago after a stretch during which it was held in Port Dalhousie. There was no ceremony during the two years of the pandemic.

"This is the proper place," Johnston explained. "This hall was used for building ships years ago, and it was used during the War of 1812. I just wish we could have been outside today."

Remembering the Battle of the Atlantic in particular is important for Johnston as it was so crucial to the Allied effort to topple the Nazi regime. Without successful passage of Canadian ships across the ocean the Allied forces would have been continuously short of soldiers and supplies.

Lord Mayor Betty Disero subsequently re-enlisted to attended the memorial service, representing all three charged from H.M.C.S. Star in levels of government. She acknowledged the many lives lost during the battle and the courage of the many individuals who played a part in the Master at victory who lived in the heart of Niagara.

> "Every day we live a free and peaceful life," she said. "We must remind ourselves of those who did not have that privilege, and of those who fought for us. Thank you to those brave soldiers who fought for us to give us the life we are able to live today."

> She was followed by Commander Leeane Crowe, who was the first female Commanding Officer of a Canadian Forces diving unit. The 38-year veteran of the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) outlined the contributions made to the Allied effort during the Second World War.

> "The Second World War would have been lost without Canada's contribution," she told the gathered crowd. "The Battle of the Atlantic was essentially a struggle between the Allies and the German forces for control of the Atlantic. The outcome of the war was dependent on the success of our Merchant ships reaching the United Kingdom."

Canadian forces escorted a staggering 25,000 merchant ship voyages during the war, helping to deliver 165 million tonnes of cargo to sustain the effort.

"The Battle of the Atlantic was bravely fought by the men and women of the Canadian Merchant Navy, the RCN and the RCAF (Royal Canadian Air Force)," continued Crowe. "It was difficult and dangerous work, and Canadians shared in some of the worst hardships at sea."

Deeply moving highlights of the memorial service included Shipmate Genevieve-Renee Bisson singing a hymn, piper Peter McKenzie playing Amazing Grace, and Steve Finkelstein playing The Last Post and Reveille on his trumpet.

Later, Shipmate Jeff Seburn read off the names of the war-RCNA Niagara president ships sunk during the battle, while fellow Shipmate Harvey Villard rang the ship's bell in commemoration. As well, Navy League cadets and Shipmates George Williams and Cam Scott cast carnations on the river out of sight of the crowd.

> Crowe concluded her speech by explaining the complexities faced by today's Armed Forces in Canada, while staunchly standing behind our country's role in conflict situations.

"Our sailors still epitomize the core values established by those who served before, and enthusiastically embrace the call to duty," said Crowe. "They currently serve globally, and protect Canadian interests closer to home. They remain ready to help, ready to lead, and ready to fight."



Lord Mayor Betty Disero helps veteran Fred Martin with his pin. (Photos by Mike Balsom)



Shipmate Harvey Villard ringing the ship's bell, twice for every one of the 26 Canadian warships lost during the Battle of the Atlantic.



Master Piper Peter Mackenzie plays Amazing Grace.



Shipmate Genevieve-Renee Bisson with her 10-month-old son Lincoln.







SILLY PET PHOTO

is all ready for a good teeth cleaning!

April 2022

Volume 2 · Issue 6

FIND THE SMILEY FACE HIDDEN ON THIS PAGE!

nnouncements

rolling in for the art con- you some extra love! test (see below for details). Check out the June 1 issue over the border there is a periences in the theatre deto see if you are the winner!

Did you know that May 4 is the unofficial Star Wars their website, "Theatre of empathy and establish a lifeday (to celebrate the Star Youth Company, Inc. (TOY) long connection to the arts." Wars franchise)?

WITH YOU!

Be sure to celebrate this by child-centered, and profes- mation.

Review by Taleah Bucci, II

view one of my favourite

books: *The Story of Jumping*

Mouse written and illustrat-

a Native American legend

about a young mouse who

dreams of traveling to a won-

derous place called the far-off

land. The old mice warned

him that the journey would

adjective _____

(1. ADJECTIVE)

(11. VERB ENDING IN-ING)

came and

noun ____

adjective

camping with

article of clothing

season ______ 8. song title

ed by John Steptoe.

Today I'm going to re-

This story is based on

stimulates the imagination,

Book Review: The Story

of the Jumping Mouse

the mouse would not be dis-

told her where he was going,

named him Jumping Mouse

and gave him the power to

jump really high. Later on in

FINISH THE STORY

With a friend, finish the story by filling in the blanks with words

7. adjective

11. verb ending in -ing

9. food

(2. SEASON)

had never been there before. I was sure to pack my _

the entire way. When we got there I could smell

because of that, my camping trip was

10. adjective __

from the appropriate part of speech.

. We were going to

we went off to bed. All at once

d on the bed! I (13. PAST TENSE VERB) (14. PAST TENSE VERB)

be long and dangerous, but self unselfishly to help them.

couraged. He set off one day ing Mouse reaches the far-

in the early morning. On the off land, Magic Frog is there

way, he met a frog named and rewards him for being

Magic Frog. When the mouse unselfish and putting others

she decided to help him; she ing Mouse into an eagle and

his journey, Jumping Mouse about helping others and

meets others who need help, keeping hope alive within

and he gives so much of him-you; I give it a 5-star review.

Submissions have been giving the animals around sionally-produced live the- Q. What do you want to be atre programs. TOY believes If you enjoy theatre, just meaningful childhood exwonderful theatre com- velop confidence in creative pany just for youth! From thinking skills, cultivate

Currently Disney's Beau-MAY THE FOURTH BE nurtures the creative spir- ty and the Beast is running it and enhances the edu- at TOY through May 22. The first week of May is cation of young people by Check out https://theatre Be Kind to Animals Week. engaging them in relevant, ofyouth.org for more infor-

Spoiler Alert: When Jump-

first. She transforms Jump-

promising he will live in the

This is a beautiful story

far-off land forever.

13. past tense verb

14. past tense verb

(9. FOOD)

outside. All

15. adjective ____

_ day I was getting ready to go

when you grow up?

Interview w

I want to be an actor. I watch a lot of shows with A. good actors and I want to meet them all. My favourite is Tom Holland, I like how he does flips.

Q. What is your favourite

My all-time favourite is Ham Helsing. In the book Ham finds a vampire and the vampire ends up being nice. They become friends and fight the spider queen.

Q. What do you do to help others?

A. I give them hugs. That's what I'm known for in school. I give people hugs if they are sad. I also ask what I can do to help them. At home I help with the dogs (we have three).

What is a fun family tradition you have at home?

We have family game night. It's a nice night where we play games and have fun with family. My favourite game to play with them is Mario Kart.

Q. What's that certain something that makes you special?

Animals really like me. We went to the Buffalo Zoo and all the animals would walk or swim up to me. The seal was following me a lot. It scared me at first but then I played with it for a while.

Q. What is your favourite thing about Niagara-onthe-Lake?

The parks. There is a lot of room at the parks so I can play. I like going on the swings and going really high, it's almost like a roller coaster. I also really like the monkey bars. Sometimes we go to Simcoe Park for school recess and sometimes my family walks to Queen's Royal Park for a breakfast picnic.

How did you keep yourself busy during COVID lockdowns?

I spent a lot of time facetiming my cousin and playing games online with him. And we went on walks around town.

Q. How would you change the world if you could?

I would punish people who litter.

Q. What is your ideal day in Niagara-on-the-Lake?

A. First I would wake up and go to Sunset (Grill) with my family. Then, I would get a hot chocolate from Starbucks and go to Simcoe Park with some friends. Then I would have lunch at Budapest Bakeshop. Then, I would go for a swim at Balls Beach. I'd head home after that and watch a movie. For dinner I'd go to Gyros on the Lake.



Skielor Reese, 8

Hometown Happenings

Jenna sent this photo of the flowers blooming at Simcoe Park.



CONTEST ALERT!

Using any art form, use your imagination to depict what summer in Niagara-on-the-Lake means to you. It can be anything from a poem about swimming in the lake at Queen's Royal Park to a drawing that shows you playing at the Virgil splash pad. The winner will be announced June 1 in the Gazette and will receive a gift certificate to the Old Town treat shop of their choosing. If you are new to town and have not spent a summer here yet, depict what you are looking forward to most about spending summer here in NOTL!

Send submissions to joyousnotlkids@gmail.com. GOOD LUCK!

and I (5. ARTICLE OF CLOTHING) in my bag, it is _____ and ____ so it's perfect for _____ so it's perfect for camping. On the way there in the car we listened to (8. SONG TITLE) Mountainview LemonAlD being cooked, and it smelled $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}_{\text{(10. ADJECTIVE)}}$. After setting up camp

Day in support of FA Children helping Children

go to camp.

On June 12, 2022 watch for a lemonade stand in your neighbourhood and buy a cup to support the kids!



SUBMISSION INFO

(15. ADJECTIVE)

The hope for this page is to get kids involved and interacting with the community in a positive way. We welcome submissions for all categories from kids of any age. Please keep the reviews positive and all submitted content appropriate for kids of all ages. Please send all submissions to joyousnotlkids@gmail.com and in the subject line please put the category for which you are submitting. Thank you.

CHARITY

We are looking for charities in which kids can participate. If you would like your organization to be highlighted here, please send your information to joyousnotlkids@gmail.com.

- Local Sports

Friesen anticipates busy, successful season ahead

Mike Balsom The Local

The past two weekends of stock car racing were full of emotion as well as success for Niagara-on-the-Lake native Stewart Friesen.

When it was over, he wins, a second- and a sixthplace finish, and chances to honour two people who have meant a lot to him.

Friesen took the checkered flag on Sunday, April 24 at the 40-lap Montgomery County Open Jack Johnson Memorial Sunoco Modified 12-minute drive from the

Jessica and son Parker in Sprakers, New York.

Friesen took home \$12,000 for the win, but just as importantly, he honoured a person he has greatly admired throughout his entire

Jumpin' Jack Johnson, as counted four races, two he was known, made Fonda Speedway his home. The big-block modified driver won the Super DIRTcar Series four times and is one of the most successful dirt drivers in U.S. history. Johnson passed away in early April at 76 years old.

"Jack was a mentor and feature at Fonda Speedway. a friend," Friesen says on The track is just a short the line while driving to pick up Parker from his kinhome he shares with his wife dergarten class. "I've raced



Friesen and his Halmar-Friesen team following his victory in the Diamond State 50 at Delaware International last Wednesday. (Photos supplied)

Local HAPPENINGS



Royal Canadian Legion Br. 124 | 410 King St., 905-468-2353 | legion124@gmail.com

SORELLA NIAGARA **MAKERS FOR MOMS ART & CRAFT MARKET** THE HARE WINE CO. MAY 7TH & 8TH | 10 AM - 4 PM

769 Niagara Stone Rd, NOTL



Sat. May 14, 2022 9 am - 5 pm

St. Davids Lions Club 1462 York Rd., St. Davids, ON

> Food & Drink trucks, 40+ Artists & Vendors

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PLACE YOUR COMING EVENT COMMUNITY SOCIAL HERE

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The Jack Johnson throwback truck Friesen will be driving Friday at Darlington, with his number 52.

with his son Ronnie at Fonda, too, for years. It's really cool that we were able to win that race."

Since 2015, he's been the there, earning five track runner-up spot. championships in the last seven years.

Short Track Super Series.

Starting from the sixth position, Friesen exercised his mentor's footsteps in as they arose, methodimaking Fonda his home. cally advancing into third

From Fonda, it was about after a lap 19 caution, Friesen a row." a seven-hour trip to Dela- jumped into the lead. He

amond State 50 stop in the ond victory in four days and chance to honour a mentor, his third straight win in that race, worth \$5,700.

One might say Friesen patience early in the race, there," Friesen says. "For throwback style as number has been following in taking the opportunities whatever reason we continue to run well at Delaware. The track is kind of techniplace by the 10th lap. Three cal, a little bit different than dent in the Adirondacks. modified driver to beat laps later he was in the what we see here in the Northeast. But it's been fun, mous impact on stock car When Delaware native and it's definitely cool to win racing, and was credited Jordan Watson slipped up that one for the third year in with reviving the sport in the

ware International Speed- held on the rest of the way, Friday night at Utica-Rome mote races for the family's way in Delmar for the Di- ending the race with his sec- Speedway, gave him another

this time a family member.

Friesen's usual number "We had a good run 44 modified was redone in 68 in tribute to his uncle Alex Friesen, who died in 1996 in a snowmobile acci-

Alex had an enor-Northeast. His career began Friesen's next stop, last at 21 years old, helping proracetrack in Ransomville.

In 1989, Alex bought Lancaster Speedway. He went on to purchase a number of racetracks in New York and Pennsylvania, including Utica-Rome, where Stewart's father Jamie continues to tend to the track on a weekly basis.

When he raced, the younger Friesen brother drove a number 68 car in the Sportsman division.

"It was a tribute to Alex and everything he did behind the wheel and as a promoter," says his nephew. "It was great to see a lot of old friends and to show our love





10:00 a.m. **Worship Gathering** Online & In-Person

Message: **Kevin Bayne** The Identity of Disciples Revelation 14:1-5; 15:1-4

www.ccchurch.ca



Continued on page 24





Compassionate **Transparent** No Pressure www.morganfuneral.com

CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU

1	2	3	4	5	6			7	8	9	-	10	11	12
13		1	1				14					15		1
16	1	1	1				17		1		Н	18		
19	1	1	1			20			1	1	Н	21		
			22	1	23				24		25		1	t
26	27	28			29	H		7	30					
31	1				32			33		34		35	36	37
38					39				40		41			
42	1			43		44					45			t
			46		47		48				49			
50	51	52				н	53			54				
55		+		56		57				58		59	60	61
62		1		63					64			-	1	
65				66		-		3	67		-			
68	+			69					70		+			+

Across:

- Statue of Liberty material
- Got together
- 10 Buddy
- 13 Dry gulch
- 14 Cab 15 Lawyers' grp.
- 16 Flower of Rhode Island
- 17 Rends
- 18 Affirmative signal
- 19 Call the whole thing off
- 20 Very strong winds
- 21 First lady
- 22 Stand-up guy
- 24 "Thanatopsis" poet William --- Bryant
- 26 Large handbag 29 Noah's boat
- 30 Dumped in Boston harbor
- 31 Homeless child
- 32 Thick slice
- 34 First light
- 38 Bart Simpson's driver
- 39 Cheryl --- of "Suburgatory"
- 41 Wine valley
- 42 Terse
- 44 Aflutter

- 45 Operation Overlord
- 46 Half a Latin dance
- 48 Wetland
- 49 Snitches
- 50 "Mamma Mia" mamma
- 53 Fidgety
- 55 Pursue ardently
- 56 Ascends
- 58 Worn out
- 62 Limb
- 63 Repast
- 64 Medical prioritization
- 65 National boys' gp.
- 66 Corrosive
- 67 Confer
- 68 Male offspring
- 69 Directed
- 70 Fall flowers

Down

- 1 Grotto
- Are you out ---? (Poker)
- 3 Nudge
- Cops in general
- Intention of Baloney
- Postal delivery
- Anticipate 9 Cold comforts?

- 10 Control board 11 Aloft
- - 12 Burdened
 - 14 Heptathlete's specialty
 - 20 Little lady
 - 23 Pulverize
 - 25 Lots of things to do
 - 26 Pairs
 - 27 Cuss
 - 28 Former Yugoslav dictator
 - 33 Sires
 - 35 Zilch
 - 36 --- the crack of dawn
 - 37 Is profitable
 - 40 Coordinate
 - 43 Rising current of warm air
 - 47 Each
 - 50 Gun-barrel cleaners
 - 51 Trunk
 - 52 One of the old empire builders
 - 54 Fast rabbit relatives
 - 57 Stated
 - 59 Deceased
 - 60 "Prince ---", Borodin opera
 - 61 Tidings
 - 64 Uninformative schedule

b 8 5 3 6 3 8 9 6

IN MEMORY OF

JOHN FRYER MAY 20, 1946 - MAY 3, 2019

Dearest John:

Your life was a blessing,

Your memory a treasure,

You are loved beyond words,

And missed beyond measure!

We know you and Tallinn are keeping each other company. Much love Pat, Lisa & Andriy, Steve & Kaite, and Ella & Henry.



NOTICES

To place an Obituary or In Memoriam in our Classifieds, please contact Julia at: julia@notllocal.com or 905.934.1040 Deadline is Tuesdays at 1 p.m.



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PUZZLE ANSWERS

Sudoku solution from **April 27, 2022**

6	5	4	1	8	3	2	7	9	
1	8	9	6	7	2	3	5	4	
7	3	2	4	5	9	8	6	1	
8	6	3	9	4	7	1	2	5	
4	7	1	2	6	5	9	3	8	
2	9	5	3	1	8	6	4	7	
3	4	8	7	2	1	5	9	6	
9	1	7	5	3	6	4	8	2	
				9					

Said, 59 Late, 60 Igor, 61 News, 64 T B A. Apiece, 50 Swabs, 51 Torso, 52 Roman, 54 Hares, 57 35 Nada, 36 Up at, 37 Pays, 40 Sync, 43 Thermal, 47 Laundry list, 26 Twos, 27 Oath, 28 Tito, 33 Begets, 12 Laden, 14 Track and field, 20 Girlie, 23 Mash, 25 6 Rot, 7 Mail, 8 Expect, 9 Tissues, 10 Panel, 11 Above, Down: 1 Cave, 2 Or in, 3 Prod, 4 Police force, 5 Eye to,

Bestow, 68 Son, 69 Led, 70 Asters. in, 62 Arm, 63 Meal, 64 Triage, 65 B S A, 66 Acid, 67 49 Rats, 50 Streep, 53 Itchy, 55 Woo, 56 Rises, 58 All Napa, 42 Short, 44 Edgy, 45 D-Day, 46 Cha, 48 Fen, 14 ,eaniH 9E ,othO 8E ,qunuQ 4E ,dal2 SE ,fisW 1E 21 Eve, 22 Comic, 24 Cullen, 26 Tote, 29 Ark, 30 Tea, ABA, 16 Violet, 17 Rips, 18 Nod, 19 End it, 20 Gales, Across: 1 Copper, 7 Met, 10 Pal, 13 Arroyo, 14 Taxi, 15





LocalSPORTS

Looking forward to wife, son joining racing tour

Continued from page 22

for Uncle Alex. Hard to believe it's been 25 years since he passed."

Friesen wasn't able to take the win in his uncle's championship. name as he did for Johnson. native Mat Williamson for third place on the eleventh lap and jockeyed back and forth in the top positions for a number of circuits. With only five to go, he went up lead but went over the bank and finished sixth. Matt Shephard won the race.

month of April Saturday night by bringing the number 68 Alex Friesen throwback back to Fonda.

big splash early in the race, pulling into the lead for the Tools 200 Friday. first three laps before Rocky Warner pulled into position. Starting from the 12th position, Stewart chipped away at those ahead of him. He fell just short of overtaking winner Matt DeLorenzo, who took the lead from Warner for good in the 13th lap. Jessica placed fifth in the 30-lap modified feature.

As of press time, Friesen was heading into Swedesboro, New Jersey for the King of the Blocks at Bridgeport Motorsports Park, the opening event in the 2022 Super DIRTcar Series

This Friday Friesen will He passed St. Catharines be in Darlington, South Carolina for the next stop in the NASCAR Camping World Truck Series. He's currently holding down the third spot in the season point series.

"We've had a really good top to make his run for the start," he says of his Halmar-Friesen Racing truck team. "We've been making some points, and I feel like Friesen closed out the a win is right around the corner. We've been making good stage points, and we've had a lot of top five finishes."

The team unveiled an-His wife Jessica made a other throwback design for

"We decided to hold an auction with proceeds going he'll stick with his usual 52 months ahead of him, gest it's ever been over the to Aim Autism (a Markham, Ontario-based children's charity)," Friesen "We're actually doing another Jack Johnson throwback at our winners' request. We raised \$4,000 for the charity."

Short of changing the number on his Toyota truck,



the Darlington Dead On Stewart Friesen hoists the \$12,000 cheque he earned in his first-place finish at Fonda Speedway in the Jack Johnson Tribute Race. (Photo supplied)

but it will be lettered just like Johnson's 1992 Syracuse Super Derby dirt modified. The orange and yellow paint scheme with a checkered flag accent will be a marked difference from his blue and red.

Friesen has a busy two

as well.

"We're heading into an this up." eight-week stretch where we race every week with the parking lot to pick up his truck," Friesen explains. "It's young son, one could alexciting. It's something we've most see Friesen's face light never done in the truck series. We're looking forward the phone. He says Parker is to it. Our team is the stron-

As he nears the school up with love and pride over having a great year at school.

"He's looking forward past three years of building to the summer, and travelling to all the races," Friesen laughs. "He loves it. It's a big social game for him, he's made a lot of friends at the tracks. After June he and Jess will be doing the whole truck schedule on the road

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