Councillors agree to workshop on racism, report on diversity

Penny Coles
The Local

Niagara-on-the-Lake’s councillors have agreed the Town should hold a workshop to give diverse community leaders a chance to be heard, and should also look at the diversity of town staff and steps that could be taken to improve it.

These decisions, supported unanimously by councillors, came in response to a statement made against racism by Counc. Stuart McCormack, who was explaining why he wouldn’t sign last week’s message from town council and staff denouncing racism. In his statement made to councillors Monday, he condemned racism in all forms, and said he believes the issue merits more discussion in council than the signing of a letter.

“We exist in a democracy which at its essence requires freedom of speech and open discussion,” he said. The message released last week was signed by senior staff, and all councillors except McCormack.

In his statement, McCormack quoted human rights lawyer Anthony Morgan: “What we want is substance over symbols. We want the substance of your commitments.” McCormack echoed that sentiment, adding action is required, and “merely expressing disapproval is inadequate.” His former law firm, he said, provided “training for unconscious bias, fostered leadership development and outreach to diverse communities, and worked continuously on enhancing inclusiveness and support for those communities in our working environment.”

McCormack referenced a Law Society of Ontario report, with 13 recommendations to “build a community of support” and to “monitor and assess internal policies, practices and programs to promote diversity, inclusion and equality” as “obvious and substantive efforts not to simply recognize an issue, but more importantly to deal with it.”

McCormack questioned whether the message from councillors and staff “was even the right first step.” The message says, “Perhaps more importantly, we must step away from our privilege and listen, and excise silence to make way for the voices of Black people and people of colour.”

If council wants to listen, McCormack suggested, “it is incumbent on us to first have their voices at the table for the purpose of crafting this type of message, and more importantly, the path forward”.

He also suggested there is not much evidence of diver-
moved to employing technology. In some cases, staff visited councillors’ homes for brief training sessions.

One councillor, Erwin Wiersma, is usually in the town hall during meetings because of the quality of internet he can receive in his rural home, the others all partaking from home. Those who watched the earliest meetings in March would have only heard the council discussions. “Our major issue when we first became involved was to decide not to get into video conferencing,” Todd says. “We wanted to ease council into the technology, and allow them to become more comfortable with it.”

There were a few issues with the sound cutting out during the first meetings, but that has been resolved “and it’s running pretty smoothly,” Todd says. Video has also been added, although not all councillors choose to use their webcams.

Council meetings now could be run entirely remotely, Todd says, but a few staff members are usually in the office, including interim CAO Sheldon Randall.

Councillors are getting the hang of adding their names.

Continued on page 4

Businesses need financial aid, and they need it soon

Penny Coles
The Local

A group of 45 merchants, represented by Kim Gould of Sunset Café on Queen Street and Terry Lynn Woodhouse, of One Church on Victoria Street, made their ask clear for councillors at Monday’s committee meeting: they need immediate help.

Their 10-minute presentation was loaded with information about their high taxes, and some discouraging statistics as a result of the pandemic: 20 per cent of the businesses pay more than $100,000 per year, rent per square foot can be up to $200 on Queen Street, compared to the average commercial rent in Toronto of less than $27, more than 200 people have been laid off or lost their job since the start of the pandemic, and only 50 per cent of landlords are tak- ing advantage of the federal rent subsidy program.

Their mantra: We all survive, or do not.

Visitors don’t come to Queen Street to see empty stores, said Woodhouse. And they may not all survive, she added — there are a small number of empty store fronts, but they “desperately depend on the free month high seasons,” from May to September, to get through the year, and while there are a number of restaurants coming to town and people coming to Queen Street, that hasn’t translated into sales, Woodhouse told councillors.

There was discussion about the need for municipal representatives to lobby for federal and provincial support; there is talk about the immediate need to institute the heritage tax rebate program, which the majority of councillors have supported implementing next year; about closing Queen Street to allow more room for restaurant patios; about free parking; and other ways to help businesses, but there were no decisions made.

Following the meeting, Gould clarified the group’s main ask: implementation of the Heritage Tax Rebate program in the quickest manner possible, without hiring a consultant, which would save time and money; lobbying for assistance both at provincial and federal levels, and a plan for Queen Street reopening to be re-evaluated to ensure it meets the needs of businesses and residents, while keeping everyone safe.

Lord Mayor Betty Duerro of Clifton, and Wendy Chepota take the recommendations from the business group, in a presentation she is making Tuesday, and said she will talk with councilors about the report to see what impact it might have on moving to the Province for reduced market assessments, and including the cost of helping the business community in what the municipal- ity will be asking the Region and Province to cover as part of the costs of the pandemic.

Following Monday’s meet- ing, Chepota told Gould and Woodhouse the message, and Cape Vincent Standing Committee for Fi- nance and Economic Affairs Thursday is closely aligned with what the merchants are asking. “The purpose of my speech is to show the impact of COVID buy on the business community and to ask for Provincial support,” she said.

With only 50 per cent capacity allowed, it doesn’t make business sense to open for the six tables they would be allowed.

Their pop-up barbecue will continue, while they wait for restrictions to loosen.

Ravine Vineyard Estate Winery is working on its patio opening, said owner Paul Harber, who is anxious to get his staff back to work. This time last year he had about 120 em- ployees working, and at the moment he’s down to 20. Ravine is fortunate to have outdoor acreage that can be used for seating, and he’s looking at how best to use that space, ex- cepting also to have very tight control over numbers, with a limited amount of time for dining, and reservations only.

In addition to restaurants and bars serving customers outdoors, Niagara falls now also open shopping malls, bar- ber shops, hair salons and tattoo parlours, swimming pools and campgrounds.

Municipal buildings, pool, splash pad and wading pool “will soon reopen” the announcement says, but no dates have been released.

Physical distancing and sanitization must be followed to avoid the risk of new COVID-19 cases.

The breakdown by munic- ipality of statistics from public health, which was first released May 21, showed NOTL had 21 cases, and up until Tuesday, no new ones.

There is now one new case, an employee at the Outlet Col- lection in what is bringing the totals to 22.

Next stage of recovery for Niagara

Penny Coles
The Local

The Province has announced Niagara can begin stage two of recovery Friday, with more businesses and services permitted to open.

Community, recreational and outdoor spaces are also allowed to open, but all must be done according to provin- cial safety measures and public health advice.

“Although we seem to be heading in a positive direc- tion, COVID-19 remains a very real threat to the Niaga- ra-on-the-Lake community at large; therefore, we remain un- der a State of Emergency,” says Lord Mayor Betty Duerro in an announcement from the town hall Monday.

The Town continues to ex- ercise caution while embrac- ing recovery measures, being rolled out by the Province, she says.

Town staff have already be- gan preparing for the reopen- ing of municipal buildings and facilities, and have also been working with restaurants to accommodate patio extensions as permitted. App- lications for restaurant patios were expected to be available online today, and restaurants are being asked to apply as soon as possible.

Maria Mavridis of Corks on Queen Street says they won’t be allowed to open — they have a patio, but it is covered, and that, she expects, will disqualify the use of the patio.

Orzo, across the street, will also remained closed, she said.

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Paul Harber of Ravine Vineyard Estate Winery is working on his $900,000 use the property surrounding the restaurant as an outdoor patio. (Photo supplied)

I am so happy to help this family move on through this transition in their lives. The new owner will restore this home back to the stately condition it deserves.

Nancy Bailey · Engel & Völkers Oakville
Birker, Private Office Advisor 7025 West Lake Road, Oakville, ON L6J 1H8 Tel: 905-615-6788 Fax: 905-615-8224 nancy.bailey@canvesatestate.com nancybailey.ontario@eastealstate.com

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Paul Harber at Ravine Vineyard Estate Winery is working on his $900,000 use the property surrounding the restaurant as an outdoor patio. (Photo supplied)

TOWN CONTINUES TO EXERCISE CAUTION

The Town continues to exercise caution while embracing recovery measures being rolled out by the Province, as the near finish of the pandemic brings an end to the virtual era of meetings. Instead, council sessions have returned to the town hall, with members now being able to attend meetings in person.

Meeting the needs of business- community and to ask for Provincial support,” she said.

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Fortunate to have a ‘little bubble’ of friends

The rest of the time, Zanner says, “you often find David resting on his eclectic porch, surrounded by his house plants that he lovingly cared for over the winter, and an antique bike decoratively hung pointing to the sky as if it is about to make lift off.”

Galloway says what he misses most about the pandemic is hugs. “I’m a hugger. I always feel there is energy coming from people when you hug them. I miss that.”

“Virus or not, held be happy to receive some of that energy, but ‘I’m not going to put that on someone who might be uncomfortable with a hug.’

“Even though he is alone in his house most nights, he says, if he needed anyone, he could call them in the middle of the night and they’d be over in no time.

His friends, he says, naming some of them he sees often, including Sally, Virginia and James, Gary, Donald and others, “are the kindest, most incredible people you could ever meet.”

For now, he takes life each day as it comes, the mostly good days, and the truly awful, when he is unable to do anything but sleep. He will stay at home as long as he is able, with the help of his mother, who has come from Listowel for a visit, and the dear friends who come regularly.

And he will do as much as he can in the garden that gives him a great deal of pleasure, focusing on what he can accomplish this season. Next summer, he says, “is just a dream.”

See story on page 1.

David Galloway shows off his salmon-coloured peony, which produced five blooms this year — four more than last season.

(Cooper’s)

(The Notl Local)
Artist tackles historic buildings for 30-day challenge

Penny Coles  
The Local

With the pandemic has come a resurgence of hobbies — new crafts attempted, iguanas puzzles resurrected, ambitious forays in the kitchen, and extra time spent in the garden. One local woman has discovered her love of drawing, and with it, her connections to the community she has always called home.

Nicole Vanderpek is a sales representative with Niagara-on-the-Lake Realty. She is also a graduate from the Sheridan College interior design program, a natural for someone who began sketching when she was very young, and which has been a good background for her work as a realtor.

In the early days of the pandemic, as socializing was severely restricted and evenings at home pretty much the only option, she set herself a challenge. Beginning May 1, she began sketching historic buildings and landmarks in NOTL using what she describes as rendering markers, used for perspective drawings, and she explains, which she had purchased for her interior design work.

“When COVID hit, I decided it was time to stretch my creative muscle, and get back into it,” she says.

She made a list of the sites, and was hard-pressed to narrow it down to the top 30, which was her goal. Some buildings were recommended to her by friends and colleagues who had heard her plan. During the day, she took reference photos of the locations she had picked, and sketched one each evening, posting them on Instagram when she was done. “I wanted to post them for people who would see them, and think, ‘I know that building’,”

Her father, John Vanderpek, is also a talented artist, and Nicole says she grew up with him always doodling, always with a pen in his hand. He still often is sketching something, either people around him or when he is on a machine he says he’s going to build someday. She says.

To some locals, he is remembered as the cartoonist for the old Niagara Advance, and he uses the technique she describes as rendering markers, used for perspective drawings, to create something to share with the community.

Nicole says with him as a role model, drawing seemed to come naturally, and she would take any medium she could get her hands on and give it a try. “It’s a great hobby,” she says. “I always wanted to do something like this, and what better subject than NOTL, the town I was born and raised in.”

Before beginning each drawing, she looked up the history of the building to learn about it. One that really surprised her was the Junior Commissariat Officer’s Quarters on the Butler’s Barracks property. Built in 1816, it originally housed commissariat officers, and at one time, in the latter half of the 20th century, was used as a community centre, with many other uses during the years in between. It is nestled not far from the Memorial Park playground and baseball field. Many locals are unaware of its presence.

Nicole was one of them, until someone suggested it as a subject. “I didn’t know it existed, even though I’ve been to the pool and park many times in my life. It was a shock to know it was there.”

It was also an eye-opener to learn about some of the buildings and their history, she says. She’d enjoyed it so much she still has a list of buildings she wants to tackle, such as the former Romance Gallery on King Street, and the Apothecary on Pearl Street.

As a future series, she says she’d love to draw buildings “once there, now gone,” such as the Anchorage Motel and Restaurant.

The most fun she had in the series she has just finished was Parliament Oak School, which she attended. While the building “doesn’t translate as well as some of the others,” as she was drawing it she thought about good friends and good times there, and attempted to remember details as she went. She also contacted a friend to ask about it. “It’s so overgrown right now, I was trying to remember what it looked like when I was there, and that was fun,”

The NOTL Sailing Club was another favourite. Her family has always been involved in sailing, and she took lessons there as a youngster with the junior sailing program. Drawing it brought back memories of good times with her parents.

She also enjoyed drawing Fort Mississauga, which she portrayed with its original flat roof. “We used to go there all the time as kids. We would go after hours, when there were no golfers. As teenagers, we would walk around the fort and hang out there. It was just a place to go.”

And by putting them on Instagram, she was hoping to spread some joy.

Although she has been working throughout the pandemic, with the real estate market still moving, drawing has brought pleasure and comfort to her, along with the memories of many special places.

Nicole Vanderpek set a goal of 30 drawings in 30 days. She accomplished that, but she’s not finished drawing. (Photo supplied)

Monday’s meeting, with the controversial cannabis control by-law on the agenda, attracted some delegations from the public. He usually asks the presenters to go through a dry run on the Friday before the meeting, just to be sure they are comfortable with the technology. Some presenters are already engaging in virtual meetings, but may be using other platforms, such as Zoom, as the Region does.

There are also processes in place for in camera sessions, and councillors who declare a conflict of interest.

“With provincial legislation has already been passed, there are some presentations during recent meetings, and they have also worked out well,” says Todd.

The previous council had included the ability for online participation, and councillors had taken part remotely on occasion. But the current council removed that as a choice when revising its procedural bylaw.

At Monday’s committee of the whole meeting, councillors approved a report recommending several changes to the current procedural bylaw, including electronic participation in meetings.

Once the state of emergency is lifted, as council returns to physical meetings, electronic participation by some councillors could assist with physical distancing, says Todd.

Changing the procedural bylaw in that regard could provide some options during the recovery period, he adds.

With the public health department allowing non-food items, the Farmers’ Market at the Village will be welcoming more vendors this Saturday, including Winemore Antiques, Neufeld Farm, and Canalside Soda. Tara Rosling and her Little Green Shop will also be at the market with her sustainable, eco-friendly products. There will be more vendors added in the coming weeks, including Smooth Edge Sharpening Services onsite June 27 to sharpen knives and scissors, but will not be servicing garden tools this year. (Photo supplied)

Saturday farmers’ market expands

St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church would like to thank the Niagara Community for supporting our Strawberry Festival for over 35 years.

Unfortunately, due to the current COVID-19 pandemic situation, and keeping in compliance with the Provincial and Municipal Governments regulations, we must cancel the Festival on June 20, 2020.

Our congregation encourages you to extend your support to the local retailers, farmers, and farm employees.

We look forward to community gatherings in the future, whenever that may be.

Continued from page 2

to the queue when they have a question, although with two tools for notifying the chair they want to speak, occasional-ly they will be missed — some are more “tech savvy” than others, says Todd.

Given that range of comfort with technology, he adds, “I think one of the biggest surprises is how everyone has adapted to the new process. We’re all pleased with how well it’s going.”

Although anyone asking to make a delegation is encouraged to submit their comments in writing, they can appear at a virtual meeting, and there have been some presentations during recent meetings, and they have also worked out well, says Todd.

“I just wanted to do a few little sketches that might make people happy. And it made me happy doing it.”

Delegations can join virtual meetings

Painting in Niagara-on-the-Lake for more than 40 years.

Robert Bradley  
905 380 0298
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Paintersnotl@gmail.com
Chapel Heights is the first of its kind in the heart of Niagara offering retirement living for today and onsite care for tomorrow. Wellness and specialized support programs for our independent seniors as well as assisted living and enhanced care is being offered for residents along with optimum amenities, under one roof and all on 4.7 acres of unparalleled grounds for senior living and opening this summer.

While recent times have been difficult, our seniors can take comfort in knowing that it’s still a great time to live and opening this summer.

Moreover, periods of ill health or medical events, may threaten recovery and longevity and may lead to life changes made by choice or by circumstance. So researching and planning your future is wise. Then, we can simply make decisions by choice or by circumstance. This is why Chapel Heights may be your answer. We are a resort inspired choice if a vibrant senior community lifestyle is hoped for and a solution by circumstance if care is needed.

Chapel Heights is coming to Niagara Falls in large part due to the experience and leadership behind Pioneer Elder Care of St. Catharines, a committed leader for dementia care. Mary Ellen Spear, one of the principals of both companies, said, “too often she hears heartbreaking stories of couples having to separate because one spouse is experiencing declining health and has to move to a residence with care, while the other spouse is too well to qualify for residency. At Chapel Heights, couples can stay together with the help of support staff, personalized care, nursing twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, and regular visits with our Doctors”. Another example of why we will be so popular by choice and by circumstance.

Speaking of couples, love is in the air. We have heard in many of our inquiry calls from seniors who share they have enjoyed the very best love story of their lives and those who hope that maybe they could enjoy a second chance at love. Well, we too believe in love, and if love blossoms among our residents, we can also host the wedding or the renewal of vows right here in our own historic Chapel.

So, when considering senior living, especially in these current times, look to the experience of the Chapel Heights’ team because comfort and care, safety and security comes to mind first. However, let’s not forget about hospitality and lifestyle opportunities. This is often true for widows and widowers or those caring for a loved one. Yes, having the peace of mind that excellence in care assures, but it’s not what makes us who we are, it’s our way of life.

Children of senior residents will tell you they are thrilled when they call their parents and they are never in their suites. For residents, there are far more exciting things to think about like the next bridge game, a billiard tourney, swimming in the indoor salt water pool, listening and dancing to live entertainment, gardening, or watching a movie with friends in the theatre. Most importantly for residents, is a sense of autonomy over when to seek out a conversation, and when to take advantage of solitude on their own terms. That should be the basis of deciding where to live at any age, through the lens of possibility. It serves everyone to consider any transition in that light and we are here to highlight the possibilities at Chapel Heights. Finding a residence should not be about finding a place to stay, but finding a place to live, a place to continue living a life with meaning and dignity. We believe everyone deserves no less.

Chapel Heights is enjoying inquiries from prospective residents and their families from all across Niagara, the Golden Horsehoe and large city centres. Given that the hometown of Chapel Heights is Niagara Falls, the most popular leisure destination in Canada, it goes without saying that our residents’ lifestyle will be amazing. Residents’ interests, hobbies, pursuits and passions will be woven into all of our offerings.

Learn more about Chapel Heights Lifestyle for Today, Onsite Care for Tomorrow by calling 905 371 0121 and visiting our website chapelheights.ca.

“How is your Dad?”

While life may be different moving forward, there is a silver lining when we recognize the opportunity to live life more fully, with meaning and purpose.

Chapel Heights is offering unprecedented protocols, plans and measures in these unprecedented times. Assuring the best in comfort and care in a safe and secure beautiful environment for our seniors, their families and our community.

Lifestyle for Today; Onsite Care for Tomorrow

Choose residency options featuring retirement living, add care packages, post surgery respite recovery and short stays.

Visit us at chapelheights.ca to learn more. Call Kim at Chapel Heights 905.371.0121 to reserve a suite now.
Kudos to Coun. McCormack for his stand on racism

Coun. Stuart McCormack is not your typical politician.

If asked, he would probably say he’s not a politician, but he wouldn’t say that to the media, because he’d make it very clear he doesn’t talk to the media.

He’s much more lawyer-like in his caution about what he says, which is not surprising, because he is a lawyer by profession.

He has also said he doesn’t read newspapers, especially not the local ones, so it feels this is a little like talking behind his back.

The fact that he sent his statement regarding racism to the media is an indication how important that statement is to him.

As it should be. It’s an important issue, possibly one of the most important this council will address, and so it’s important to get it right.

He got it right. That’s an opinion, of course, and we hope it somehow balances in some small part of the fog that was — his one and only one — on social media, for not signing a message sent from the town condemning racism.

Of course, that’s what social media is best at, never letting a good vitriol get in the way of the facts.

Some may have wondered, when he said he would explain his reasons for not signing it, what he could possibly say that would make his lack of support for the letter justified.

What he said was exactly what we needed to hear. He wasn’t at the recent racists protest — Coun. Allan Bisback, by the way, was the only one to ignore that gathering and attend — but McCormack showed that he gets it, echoing one of the most important messages to come out of the rally: “What is required is action, merely expressing disapproval is inadequate,” he said in a council meeting. Monday, and he issued a call to action on the part of the municipality.

Thank you, Coun. McCormack. I don’t expect you to read it, but maybe one of your friends will pass it on. You have done the municipality a huge service by taking a necessary step toward examining racists, talking about racism, and hopefully doing something about racism.

Penny Coles
The Local

Although some of his remarks are quoted in a story about Monday’s discussion, since he sent it to the media, and since he took such care in crafting it, it deserved to be shared in its entirety.

Here is Coun. McCormack’s response to last week message from town councillors and staff on racism, with the exception of the motions he made, which are reported in The Local story:

“Let me start by saying I condemn racism in all its forms. As a lawyer I every other Ontario lawyer in Ontario file annually with the Law Society a declaration stating that I respect the requirements of human rights legislation and undertake to honour the obligation to not discriminate.

As well as being as significant in my personal life in a public forum, let me add that I have had a heightened sensitivity to the issue of racism during the last 10 years of her life, was a Holocaust survivor who managed to survive the horrors of Auschwitz. So on a personal level I stand how pernicious racism can be.

So why wouldn’t I sign the Message from the Town Council Condemning Racism? There are a number of reasons.

Firstly, in my opinion this issue merits far more discussion in the open public forum of council, not simply “sign this message.” We exist in a democracy, which at its essence, requires freedom of speech and open discussion. To fail to have that open discussion robs everyone of the opportunity to reflect and grow.

Secondly, what is required and demanding a recent quote from the human rights lawyer Anthony Morgan. “What we want is substance over symbols. We want the substance of your sentiments. “I echo that sentiment, with all due respect to the signatories, what is required is action, merely expressing disapproval is inadequate.”

My former law firm has been engaged in diversity efforts for decades. We had training for unconscious bias, fostered leadership development and outreach to diverse communities and worked con-

massively on enhancing inclusivity, diversity, inclusion and equality. “To me these are obvious and substantive efforts not to simply recognize an issue, but more importantly, to deal with it.

Thirdly, I query whether the message was even the right first step. The message states, “It’s more important, we must step away from our privi-

leged and listen, and exercise self-reflection in order to make way for the voices of Black and mixed and people of colour”. If we want to listen, isn’t it incumbent on us to first have their voices at the table for the purpose of crafting this type of message, and more importantly the path forward.

Let me raise another concern which may be shared by others on council in the context of the Town itself. As I look at the Town staff, the signatories to the message, and myself, I do not see much evidence of diver-

sity. Surely this must change.

Diversity must be an afterthought. It must be a thoughtful and purposeful approach to ensure that we get the right talent and the right mix of talent that will represent the Town.

After the message was published, I received vitriolic mes-

sages for my failure to sign. I did not respond to those messages.

Hopefully the foregoing explains why I would not respond to those messages.

As for me, I think it was the right first step.

The Niagara-on-the-Lake

Lett’s support each other

For some time I have been trying to understand how the Town has been addressing the social distancing issue. A couple of recent incidents have left me confused.

Nina Gelatka and Pantry Shop for example - As a frequent customer, I noted that the own-

ers had taken appropriate steps to mark out and ensure proper dis-

tribution for their customers coming into the store. Yit, Nina has been issued a sizable fine/ticket by the Town staff and the business. The action seems a little harsh and unnecessary for a business that was only trying to stay open and provide a pleasurable service during a challenging time.

Another example that sur-

prised me was a situation in a supermarket which our friends, also residents of Old Town, got a substantial parking ticket. And all they wanted to do was get some exemp-

tions and enjoy their daily walk together.

Seems like the parking au-

thorities were being somewhat overzealous.

Carol Greenwood
NOTL

Looking Up With Bill

Bill Auchterlonie
Special to The Local

I got hooked on the award winning, twenty-six episodes of The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel and will tell you that Midge Maisel is a sunny, energetic, sharp, Jewish woman whose mid-

dle name must be Hutzpah. She moves abruptly, but easily from

housewife to standup comedian, Bertin and sweet” exclusive reviews for

this one promises

many new beginnings with home and family and values. Make a list of what you want. Figure out how to make these things happen. On this day in 1788, the United States’ Constitution comes into effect when New Eng-

land’s ninth state to ratify it. The full week is on

The Local Facebook page plans on the Podca

Looking Up with Bill

karen@notllocal.com • 905-641-5335

Donald Combe is a retired teacher who loves to go to the movies. But with movies unavailable for now, he has agreed to share his opinions on what he is watching on TV, with “short and sweet” exclusive reviews for The Local.
Look to Hong Kong for examples of ‘new normal’

Our friends at the Rotary Club of Virgil and the Niagara Region have been strongly supporting us with food and monetary donations. The local businesses and community members have been extremely generous to us.

We are proud of the work our team has built and the new friendships we have made. We are very thankful for the support we have received.

Our focus now is on helping those in need during this difficult time. We are working with local organizations to ensure that everyone has access to food and other essential items. We are also providing support to those who are isolated or in need of medical care.

We urge everyone to follow the advice of public health officials and continue to take precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Together, we can make a difference.

Laura Gibson
Ride Alone — Together this year’s theme for fundraiser

Penny Coles
The Local

There may not be a large group Ride for Dad this year, but those who want to take part in the annual fundraiser can still do so. Saturday’s 10th annual Ride for Dad in Niagara, a motorcycle event to raise money and awareness for prostate cancer, has been postponed. And the rescheduled date of August 22 is also not looking promising, says local organizer Mathew King, while the need for fundraising and education continues, as does the fight against prostate cancer.

To allow an event to go ahead, permitting physical distancing, the theme for this year’s event is Ride Alone — Together.

King will do just that. At 49, he’s at an age where he has friends and colleagues who have fought and are fighting now against prostate cancer. “It’s definitely personal,” he says. He rides for them.

Prostate cancer, he says, is curable if caught early. That’s why awareness is so important. The annual ride is an opportunity to get that message out, to advocate that men be checked, and to raise money for research.

“What’s most important is telling guys, ‘you need to get tested. If it’s caught early, you have a chance to do something about it.’”

All the information necessary to register, and participate in a Ride Alone — Together route, is available online at ridefordad.ca. In Niagara, the route is similar to other years, beginning at the Royal Canadian Legion hall on King Street.

Riders are encouraged to ride out alone, or with a few registered friends, follow the route, and at specified locations along the route, stop and take a selfie to post on social media. Participants can ride the route as many times as they like, collecting pledges right through the summer and into the fall.

‘Have some fun in a group of up to 10 riders, stay safe, and stay within the guidelines provided,’ says King.

Local student recognized with Kristen French Scholarship

Peadar Nolan, a graduate of St. Michael Catholic Elementary School in NOTL and now in Grade 10 at Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School, has been given The Kristen French Scholarship, awarded in memory of Kristin (Daves) French, a former student of the high school.

This award is presented to a student in Grade 10 who has maintained honours standing in Grades 9 and 10, been active in co-curricular activities, and shown school spirit and demonstrated leadership qualities.

On last year’s Ride for Dad, local organizer Mathew King had his photo taken in front of Niagara Parkway. This year, participants in Ride Alone — Together, are asked to take selfies and post them on social media. (Photo supplied)

Library reading program aims for kids to have fun

Penny Coles
The Local

This year’s Summer Reading Program is going to be one for the books, says children’s librarian Kasia Dupuis. The Niagara-on-the-Lake public library is again encouraging children to take part in the program, and since it has to be online, Dupuis is doing everything she can to make it fun and engaging for young readers.

She’s concerned, with schools closed since March and all instruction done since online, that this year’s summer slide may be a bit more steep than other years.

She’s also worried kids will associate everything online as too much like the school lessons they’ve been doing, “thinking of it as online learning, instead of fun. I’m really trying to make it as enjoyable as possible,” she says.

And she wants to keep kids connected to the library, “even though they can’t come in.”

She is also trying to keep the online work child-friendly as possible, to limit the need for parents’ involvement.

To add to the fun of reading, she has put together kits for kids that can be picked up curbside. Each child who registers will be given a book, chosen with their age, reading level and interest in mind, that they get to keep. They will also be given material for STEAM and art activities, as well as beads and tags to continue with last year’s popular Read for Beads program — rewards earned for reading.

Last year the reading program attracted about 100 kids, and Dupuis says she’d like to see more this year, because of the circumstances.

Virtual programming is taking main stage during the summer, but just because you can’t come to the library doesn’t mean you won’t be able to connect with us,” says Dupuis.

And reading, she says, can provide a good, stimulating indoor activity when kids need a break from the outdoors.

The reading program will allow an event to go ahead, permitting physical distancing, the theme for this year’s event is Ride Alone — Together.

All the information necessary to register, and participate in a Ride Alone — Together route, is available online at ridefordad.ca. In Niagara, the route is similar to other years, beginning at the Royal Canadian Legion hall on King Street.

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Niagara-on-the-Lake Kicks Off Photo Contest

The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake is inviting hobby photographers to highlight the community through photos. Submit your best snapshots from around Old Town, Queenston, St. Davids, Virgil, and Glendale through jointheconversation.org now! Whether your photos were taken recently or years ago, in Winter, Spring, Summer or Fall, we love to see them all!

Photo submissions are being accepted in the following five categories: Amenities and Places, Art, Culture and Events, Innovation and Economy, Nature and Parks, and Recreation and Sports.

At the end of the submission period, Town Staff will shortlist the top photos in each category for the public to vote on. Please note that all submitted photos will be considered available for use on the Town’s website as well as in reports, on social media, in future Community Guides, and other promotional material.

The five winning photos will be professionally framed, with credit given to their respective photographers, and displayed in a prominent location to be determined at a later date.

Visit jointheconversation.org/photo-contest for full contest details. Happy snapping!

Pop-up PigOut fundraiser to support museum

Penny Coles
The Local

The Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum is missing revenue during the pandemic, and locals are missing their SupperMarket. Next Wednesday, the museum is teaming up with PigOut, a popular staple at the market, to bring in some much-needed revenue.

PigOut will be set up at Trinity Lutheran Church, 2027 Niagara Stone Road, and will be delivering orders to cars drive-thru style. It is recommended that food be purchased in advance online, for pickup between 5 and 7 p.m., Wednesday, June 3.

Portions can be pre-purchased through the Museum’s online shop for $10 each at http://notlmuseumshop.square.site/.

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‘Have some fun in a group of up to 10 riders, stay safe, and stay within the guidelines provided,’ says King.
Shoppers, she added, are requiring masks for the main street. Some stores have raised $2,700, and sold about 40 masks, in a space available “by appointment or by chance,” says Boot, at 2252 Four Mile Creek Road.

Volunteers will be out again this Saturday, June 20, at Mori Gardens and at their sidewalk site in Old Town near the post office at Victoria Street. Masks will also be available “by appointment or by chance,” says Boot, at 2252 Four Mile Creek Road.

Masks available downtown, Mori Gardens, and Creek Road

Penny Coles
The Local

The Community Mask Campaign is winding down, after raising $21,000 for homeless shelters and food banks. An additional $12,000 matching grant for the same cause has been donated to the United Way by the Humeniuk Foundation.

Boot, one of the volunteer mask campaign organizers, sets up a mask tree near the Old Town post office Saturday and Sunday afternoons, from noon until 4 p.m., and sold about 40 masks each day, in a space provided by a store owner.

The streets were busy, says Boot, but not so busy so as to make physical distancing a problem — it was good to see people out, enjoying the fresh air and a walk on the main street. Some stores are requiring masks for shoppers, she added.

The group is asking for a donation of $10 to $20 for their masks, and recently made a donation of $12,000 to Niagara homeless shelters for adults and youth, and to the Community Care food bank in St. Catharines.

Encouraged by the enthusiasm of new and continuing volunteers, they have now raised another $9,000, and are hoping to find a matching grant for the second phase of their campaign, says Boot.

She says special mention must go to Laurie, who lives in Welland. The local volunteers have never met her in person, and are grateful for the 940 masks she sewed, some of which were part of their initial campaign for frontline workers, to whom the group gave more than 4,700 masks, before turning their attention to the growing need in the community, as more and more residents choose to wear masks in public.

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One new case of COVID-19 in NOTL

Penny Coles
The Local

Niagara-on-the-Lake recorded its 22nd case of COVID-19 Monday. Since Niagara Region Public Health began releasing numbers by municipality May 21, there had been no new cases in town until this week.

A McDonald’s employee provided by a store owner.

Masks available downtown, Mori Gardens, and Creek Road

Penny Coles
The Local

The streets were busy, says Boot, at 2252 Four Mile Creek Road.

Mask campaign volunteers Fran Boot and Elaina Vanderberg have cloth masks available near the Old Town post office Saturday. (Photo supplied)

Celebrate solstice in your backyard

Penny Coles
The Local

The Summer Solstice celebration, which traditionally includes Drumming Down the Sun and Yoga in the Park at Ryerson Park, has been cancelled.

With the limit to gatherings due to the pandemic, the annual celebrations at Lakeside Park and Charles Daly Park are cancelled as well.

Carla Carlson, organizer of the events, is hoping folks will celebrate the longest day of the year at home, and send in photos for a contest, to her Niagara Nature Tour’s Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/niagaranaturetours/.

For details see Carlson’s Facebook page.

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For details see Carlson’s Facebook page.
Couple feel fortunate to be recovering from COVID-19

Leslie and Bud Mouelson, at home on their back deck, both experienced severe cases of COVID-19. (Penny Coles)

Penny Coles
The Local

As Leslie and Bud Moulson sit on their backyard deck, the greenspace of the Virgil Sports Park spread out in front of them, they say there was a time when neither of them were sure they would enjoy that view again.

Those are on the rebound from serious cases of COVID-19, and each of them had their moments of doubt over whether they would recover.

“I dreamed about getting back here in the nice weather,” says Leslie, “although there were times when I thought we wouldn’t.”

Bud, 83, doesn’t remember a lot of that happened when he was in the hospital, but he knows the doctors were asking Leslie to make decisions for him about intubation, ventilation and resuscitation. “I guess I was in bad shape. From what they were telling Leslie, they were looking at the worst that could happen. I’m very lucky, I guess. And I thought she was worse than I was.”

“We were both very sick,” she says.

Leslie is a note-taker. She became accustomed to being an advocate for Bud when he had an ankle injury years ago, and that has continued. She says one of the most distressing parts of being so sick with the virus herself was that she was unable to advocate for or tend to Bud. However, she does have notes that take her through some of the events leading up to their hospitalization, and what unfolded after that.

She knows it was March 13 when they both began feeling sick. Shortly before that, she had taken two trips to Toronto, March 5 and 12, on the GO Train to attend a ballet with her sister and two friends. They also had lunch at a restaurant that day, but she’s not sure.

The only other possibility she can think of was a trip to the emergency room for X-rays in mid-February for Bud, who had broken a rib. She doesn’t remember COVID being on her radar, but she does know they asked for masks when they got there.

By the time they realized they were both sick, Premier Doug Ford had just shut down schools and some businesses.

Leslie, a fit and active 71-year-old, had all the typical COVID symptoms: fever, cough, and eventually, extreme shortage of breath.

Bud’s symptoms were different. He had no fever or cough, but also no appetite or energy. In the days that followed the onset of their illness, they both slept a lot. Leslie in her bedroom and Bud on the couch, “and we would meet occasionally in the kitchen for toast and something to drink.” That was about all they could manage, she says.

Bud’s health continued to worsen — his blood pressure was low, and he was difficult to rouse. At one point, he fell and twisted his ankle in the house.

By then, Leslie was also quite ill, “but I had no idea how sick we were,” she says.

When she called her doctor, she was asked to call public health to ask for testing, but when she did that, was told she didn’t meet the criteria.

Their friends, Judy McHattie and Pat Fryer, had been calling regularly, says Leslie, and on March 25, McHattie recognized how sick they were. She told her there was reason to be “concerned and vigilant,” making her realize Bud was very sick indeed.

Four days after their son arrived to take Bud to the hospital, he was experiencing a high fever and body aches, says Leslie. He sought testing and was confirmed positive. He had already planned a two-week vacation, and used it to isolate at home during his illness. Their daughter-in-law, a nurse, had tested negative at her place of employment. She ultimately developed pneumonia but continued to test negative.

Continued on page 11
During her eight-day stay, she was given oxygen until her oxygen levels improved, and antibiotics by IV for pneumonia. “Generally, I didn’t feel too badly,” she says. She was able to get up to shower, sit in a chair, and was starving, eating everything she could get her hands on. She even found herself hoarding bits of food, such as the bun that came with dinner, for later in the evening, because she knew she would be hungry. She believes when she was home she was too ill to eat anything, and was making up for it in the hospital.

She says she once mentioned her evening hunger to a nurse, who brought her some yogurt, but she really didn’t want to bother the nursing staff with extra requests. “They were so busy, trying to save lives. I couldn’t ask them to bring an extra pat of butter for my bun.”

As well, she explains, with all the personal protective equipment that had to be put on and then removed for each room staff entered, asking for something minor required too much time and trouble on their part. “There was no just popping in to check up on you, to see if you needed anything,” she says. “They couldn’t do that.”

On April 17, a little more than a week after being admitted, she was discharged. Bad was not so fortunate. By then he had been in the hospital for more than three weeks, and still he had another couple of weeks left to go. He was being given IV antibiotics and oxygen, and required help getting from bed to wheelchair and bathroom without putting any weight on his ankle. He was very weak, and unable to do it himself.

During the middle stages of his hospitalization, he was depressed, and ready to give up. He says the days were long and confining, and he remembers very little from about two weeks of his hospitalization, although Leslie says they did have some conversations that made sense. He felt very isolated, especially from Leslie, unable to talk to her many days, unable to turn on the TV, and when hospital staff came in dressed in their PPE, he didn’t know who they were. He was still very sick, but also sick of being in the hospital.

“Everyone who came in looked the same to me, in their protective gear. They all had the same blue gloves, yellow gowns, and masks.” He says he had no way of knowing whether they were doctors, nurses or cleaning staff. If they told him their names, he often couldn’t hear them.

He had one nurse who realized he couldn’t hear much of what was said to him, and would write things down. Another wore a protective shield with her name written across the top of it in marker — both seemingly minor attempts to add some kindness and humanity to a difficult situation, but both very much appreciated he says.

Eventually, “he came around to being cranky and eager to be home,” says Leslie. And finally, he was deemed strong enough to go home, on May 1.

Once there, when he had his first shower, Leslie noticed two pressure wounds that hadn’t been seen or attended to in the hospital — on his ankle, where it had rubbed against the cast, and a large blister on his heel. She’s looking after those for him. “Overall the care we both received at the hospital was good, but when I saw those sores, they sent me into orbit.” They were both large and painful, and she questions how they could have been missed.

Bad now has a boot cast, which he is excited to get off this week.

Leslie has had a chest X-ray showing atelectasis — collapse of the little pillows at the bottom of her lungs — and scarring on her lungs. She is active, back to cooking and gardening, but still coughs from exertion, she says, and finds her legs get tired. She hopes to start walking soon, an activity she enjoyed before the coronavirus put an end to it. She’s hoping to have a follow-up X-ray in August.

Her biggest and most obvious question now is what would have happened if she had been tested the first time she called to ask for an appointment.

“This might have been a different story, maybe even a different hospital,” she says.

There is no doubt the experience has changed them.

Leslie says she has noticed a difference already in their priorities. Little things that would have mattered no longer seem important.

And although they have always known NOTL to be a caring community, the depth of love, care and support they have been shown is overwhelming to them both.

When Bad was “down in the dumps” in the hospital, Leslie sent out an email appeal for cards and messages to boost his morale. By the time he was discharged, he had a shoebase full to take home with him. They even heard from one woman they didn’t know, a member of the British Car Club they belong to, who said she was praying for him. “That brought me to tears,” says Leslie.

Neither of them are religious people, but there was definitely a spiritual element she felt in the enormous outreach from the community, that helped them through, she says.

A leader of a Sparks group in NOTL, Leslie received cards made by the young girls in the group, and a bright green piece of Bristol board with photos of the girls and their cards. And Pat (Fryer) made arrangements with all the guides to make us meals when we got home, one every two days, and always enough for two meals,” she adds.

“I’m convinced all of that outpouring made us better,” she says. “All the prayers and the love and the cards contributed to our recovery.”

“Undoubtedly,” agrees Bad. “How can you not appreciate it, and not take something from it. We can never thank them enough.”

The experience, says Leslie, “has increased our strength. Our inner strength.”

They assume they are no longer able to catch or spread the virus, but there is still much that is uncertain. They are looking for any chances, still staying at home, with friends dropping off what they need. And they are really looking forward to the time when they can gather with their friends at The Sandtrap Pub and Grill, a regular Monday night gathering, or get out with their car club friends. They both miss seeing people, and are grateful visits are permitted in small groups, as long as there is physical distancing.

“We are so fortunate to have such good friends here,” says Leslie. “We always knew this was a great community, a caring community, but it’s different now, what you are the recipients of. “I’ve lived in Toronto all my life and never knew my neighbours,” adds Bud. “Here, everyone is your neighbour.”
What we are doing to keep you safe...

takeout, pickup & openings

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Order any 2 bottles or more online and receive FREE shipping in Ontario.
Lawn bowling club suspends its season

Penny Coles  
The Local

The NOTL Lawn Bowling Club has decided to suspend its season. Its traditional May opening had to be cancelled, with the community centre facility closed.

Since then, says long-time member Paul McHoull, it has taken a while to come to a decision. “After a Zoom meeting, and further discussion and voting by means of email, we have decided to suspend the season,” he said Monday.

In a message to the members, club president Ron Gourlay said, “the risks of opening far outweigh the need to open. Many of our bowlers value the bowling experience and the interaction with other members. With there being no jitneys, pairs league, 4-3-2-1 or afternoon tea, a great number of our members would likely take the summer off from bowling.”

It’s a decision “that sits very heavy with everyone on the executive,” he said. “We all want the interaction, the camaraderie and the thought of having somewhere to go. But safety and prudence tell us that it would be foolishly to open under the present circumstances. Heading into the heat of the summer and with no benches or shade umbrellas, it becomes even more complicated.”

The situation may change when the restrictions and requirements laid out for opening the equipment such as mats, rakes, umbrellas and benches. The requirements would involve sanitizing, booking times and further discussion and voting. “After a Zoom meeting, it has taken a while to come to a decision,” said Gourlay.

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Town to offer fun-filled day camps

Penny Coles  
The Local

The Town has announced details of day camps to be provided this summer, with two regular, themed camps running at the community centre, and a sports camp at the Centennial Arena in Virgil. The decision to open day camps, once permitted by the Province, was made to provide children with a safe and inclusive camp experience, while also helping parents with their work schedules and day care needs.

Unlike previous years, camp registration is for full weeks only, with no single days. There will be different themes for each of the 10 weeks of camp.

“Camp activities will be modified to ensure appropriate physical distancing measures are maintained. Camp staff will also be diligent in ensuring enhanced cleaning measures are adhered to,” the Town website says.

They will look different than previous years, but staff are promising a “fun-filled summer camp schedule” for kids ages six to 12.

For updated information regarding registration, camp requirements and pricing, visit notl.com/content/camps.

Camps will include cooperative games, sports, arts and crafts, science experiments, and outdoor adventures. Each group will include eight campers and two staff members.

Now Offering:

- PPE packages for business to re-open
- Disinfectant fogging service
- PPE for community residents
- Curbside pickup and delivery
- Community drop-off for clothing and small household items
-秦三乐
garden services

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There has been much in the news lately regarding the systemic racism which most of us who have grown up in a white dominated culture have been blissfully unaware of, yet benefited from.

We have a lot to process, especially when the institutions which we relied on for education and spiritual guidance have remained silent, insisting that there was no such thing as systemic racism in Niagara. I was fully convinced as well, trusting to educators and church leaders who were never to be questioned. That unquestioning trust began to unravel though through the series of events.

This is just one of them. I remember the day we first met back in August 2009. Driving down Penner Street, I saw locals enjoying live music, peaches and ice cream at the Peaches Café, an annual celebration of the peach harvest.

Across the street, Jamaican men from a nearby farm were watching everyone eating the fruit they had meticulously pruned, thinned and harvested. There was a new face among them, so I parked the car and went over to welcome him to our town.

Jermaine was new to the farm work program, having arrived three months earlier. We chatted briefly and he was eager to connect with an inviting symbol of Newworldon, a popular local band, the following Sunday at the Henley grandstand.

The next Sunday afternoon I picked him up early, listening to a story untold on the drive to it. It was an animated conversation, his real first interaction with a local since arriving, and he excited to finally be at the confines of the farm.

He came to Niagara on the farm work program recommended by his personal mentor, the Rev. Oliver Daly, a prominent figure across the Caribbean.

Jermaine had not had an easy life, growing up in an orphanage.

He was ambitious, not afraid to work hard to support his wife and three-year-old son back home in Mandeville. It was his first time being away from his son and he found communing with him a few minutes a week was no substitute for the close relationship he longed for. Although he had graduated with good marks in high school, moving on to college or university was an impossible dream.

Now that he was in Canada, he was hoping he could find a man named Peter, whom he had met in Jamaica, although he had no idea where he lived.

“West Indies is a very big country,” I remember saying and laughing.

“I do know a man called Peter Moffitt, who went to Jamaica with our church (South Ridge) years ago.”

Jermaine stared at me incredulously.

“That’s his name,” he said.

“I began to piece things together. A group of members from the church I attended, Southridge Community Church, had made a trip to Jamaica to help rebuild an orphanage and church that were seriously damaged by Hurricane Ivan in 2004. Before the initial trip to do the structural repairs, Peter Moffitt, his wife Linda and others from Southridge continued to travel back to the island to set up computer labs at the school affiliated with the orphanage. Twelve years later, Jermaine was an enthusiastic participant, eager to learn from his Canadian friends. They returned them as very sociable and studious young boy, carrying his books wherever they went. They loved watching him interact with a pet goose that followed him everywhere.

I promised I would connect him with Peter and we marveled at how ridiculous these odds were.

We arrived that day at the Henley grandstand in plenty of time, and picked seats halfway up the steep amphitheatre over looking the water. The sun was setting low, crowds below us, and within minutes exclaimed, “Know that guy?”

He pointed to a young pre teen girl about 10 rows down.

He didn’t want to hear my patient explanation that it was impossible, but started dribbling over the empty seats below that fall.

The young girl turned around and squawked, “Jerm,” with obvious delight.

The woman beside her laughed, her eyes wide with surprise and secondarily later they were embracing like long lost friends.

By the time I navigated my way to their seats they were oblivious to the curious crowd around them. The woman was my good friend, Claudene Bell and the young girl next to her was her niece, visiting from Jamaica. They had met Jermaine outside of a grocery store in Kingston, Jamaica years earlier.

He had left the orphanage when he had reached the maximum age, and was trying to get by on his own in the big city. They had invited him to their house for supper, where he became a regular visitor until Claudene moved to Canada. It was a joyful reunion, and one more amazing coincidence.

The concert that night was just the icing on the cake, especially when the band started jamming on some of his favourite choruses from back home. It was also a great opportunity to meet other Jamaican men who worked on farms and their Canadian friends who had invited them.

When he attended Southridge Church in St. Catharines the following week, it felt like coming home to reunite with some of the people whom he had come to know as a young teen and later while travelling.

Jermaine had told me he had no photos of growing up at the orphanage. Team members sent me photos to print, and I was surprised to have an album of their time together as a keepsake when he left later that fall.

In February, Jodie Godwin and I attended his church in Jamaica. It was a privilege to meet his mentor, Rev. Oliver Daly, and spend the afternoon with his family. We could only imagine how hard it would be to leave that little family behind for eight months.

Jermaine returned to Niagara earlier the following spring. Chris Fowler, a youth leader at Southridge who helped with the reconstruction, invited Jermaine to speak at a large youth gathering for teens on a Friday night. A few weeks later, Jermaine was on the stage, sharing a remarkable story of his faith and the determination to improve his life that brought him to Niagara on the farm work program.

His engaging message introduced the audience to a faith so many of the men on the farms share—a faith that keeps them pressing on through the isolation, long hours and homesickness.

I was impressed with his earnest message, but would have been able to sustain that enthusiasm if he returned in the coming years?

Next week, I’ll share Jer miaen’s journey since then, one that has required every ounce of courage once he decided he would try to apply for permanent residence here. That story will lead up to the present.

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MACDOUGALL, PATRICIA ANNE (NEE LOWREY)—It is with profound sadness that the family of Patricia Anne MacDougall announce her passing on Sunday, June 14th at St. Catharines General Hospital in her 77th year. Beloved wife of Donald for nearly 54 years. Dear mother of Allen (Andrea) MacDougall, Elizabeth (Ray) Lamb, and Nancy (Finlay) Keir. Cherished grandmother of Gavin and Claire MacDougall and Adam Lamb. Dear sister of Norma Jane (Blair) Harber and Howard (Willma) Lowrey. Predeceased by her parents Howard and Norma Lowrey and her sisters Lonna (Edward) Andrusiw and Nancy (Ron) Dunn. Much loved by many nieces and nephews and sisters-in-law Mary and Mavis.

Pat enjoyed spending time with her family, friends and pets (especially her cat Fergus). She took a special interest in the athletic and artistic activities of her children and grandchildren. Pat had the ability to light up a room with her smile and her laughter was contagious. She had a passion for cooking, baking, canning, and gardening; she loved to entertain friends and host family gatherings.

Pat was a lifelong resident of St. Davids and faithful member of the congregation at St. Davids-Queenston United Church where she also served on the Board of Session. She was also a past member of the St. Davids Lionesses. Her inspiration, dedication, guidance, and love of life will be missed by both family and many friends.

There will be a celebration of Pat’s life to be held at a later date. Cremation has taken place. For those who wish, memorial donations may be made to the St. Davids-Queenston United Church or to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada.

Special thanks to Dr. Robert Mackett, Dr. John Nolan, and the cardiac care teams at St. Catharines and Hamilton General Hospitals.

Arrangements entrusted to Morse & Son Funeral Home, 5017 Main St., Niagara Falls, Ontario.

Memories, photo and condolences may be shared at www.morseandson.com

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PUZZLE ANSWERS

Sudoku solution from June 11, 2020

48 31 7 5 6 9 2 1 8

Across:
1 Elma, 2 Leia, 3 Background music, 4 A ka, 5 Malady, 6 A C, 60 Steps, 61 Tsar.
15 Aura, 48 Nice, 50 Data, 51 Spar, 54 Net, 55 A ft.
41 Hydrant, 43 Rivets, 44 Mitts, 45 Gulag, 46 Gaucho, 48 Nell, 49 Down:
35 Onus, 36 Coals, 37 Nunn, 38 Ton, 39 Horde, 40 Posse, 42 Evoke, 7 Tide, 8 Rag, 9 One-class, 10 Greenhouse gases, 11 A ids

Across:
1 Elba, 5 Metro, 10 Gal, 13 Leak, 14 Avian, 15 Trio, 16 Grade, 25 Sloan, 26 Barely, 28 Matthew, 31 On-off, 32 Swiss, 34 12 Lose, 15 Treat, 20 Calf, 22 Hots, 24 Refs, 25 Smile, 26 Booth, 17 Lodge, 18 Reds, 19 Oak, 20 Cake, 21 Cheese, 23

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- **Wear a face covering** when physical distancing is a challenge
- **Wash hands** thoroughly and often

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