

The Niagara-on-the-Lake LOCAL



Recognizing
the proud
graduates
of NOTL

pages 10,
11, & 12

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Celebrating Canada Day

Evelyn helps her mom, Amanda Gamble of the Friends of Fort George, pack up bags of goodies, delivered to locals Tuesday to help them celebrate Canada Day at home with their families. (Amanda Gamble)



Opinion:

Black history is NOTL's history

NOTL could lead the way for
change at federal level

Jane Andres
Special to The Local

Until the last quarter century, most of early black history in Niagara-on-the-Lake was buried in obscure documents, or barely acknowledged by one of our town's foremost historian, William Kirby. The following two events have survived the whitewashing of much of our history, and presently we take great pride in recalling them.

In 1793 an incident occurred on the banks of the Niagara River (close to Line 6) that prompted Lieutenant Governor John Graves Simcoe to pass the Act Against Slavery. A young Black woman, Chloe Cooley, had been taken from her family, bound, gagged and thrown into a rowboat after being sold to an

American, her cries of protest echoing across the river. She was never seen again.

Her owner was following the letter of the law.

It had been perfectly legal for such transactions to take place on Canadian soil for more than 100 years. The enslaved were considered a necessary commodity, and as a result, Simcoe faced intense opposition from all land owners and politicians.

In 1837, local officials arrested Solomon Moseby, who had escaped slavery in Kentucky. He was imprisoned, to be repatriated to his owner.

More than 300 townspeople, white and black, decided to take a stand and encircled the courthouse in a protective ring for three days. White

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Pilot project closing Queen Street for pedestrian safety

Penny Coles
The Local

After decades of discussing the merits and pitfalls of turning Queen Street into a pedestrian mall, council agreed, during a special meeting called last Friday morning, to a pilot project that prohibits vehicles on the main drag from King Street to Victoria Street.

But Monday, Lord Mayor Betty Disero and interim CAO Sheldon Randall, using the authority delegated to them to make decisions on behalf of council during the state of emergency, overturned some of

the details approved by council.

The first day of the trial period was to be Canada Day, and then was to continue on weekends and holidays, until the end of October, as approved by council, voting on a motion put forward by Coun. Clare Cameron, which also called for the streets to be closed from 10 a.m. Saturday to Sunday at midnight.

But after hearing from business owners, and meeting with Niagara-on-the-Lake Chamber of Commerce representatives, the decision was made to shorten the hours for closing the street.

Instead the pilot project is

now only for Canada Day and three weekends in July, and will extend a little further, past the Victoria Street intersection to the Post Office, stopping before the Hendriks valu-mart parking lot.

The timing was also changed, to close the streets Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. each day. Shortening the closure, Disero said, to cover just the time stores are open, will have less of an impact on residents, who are subjected to increased traffic in their Old Town neighbourhood.

The details now correspond to the request made Friday by

chamber president Eduardo Lafforgue, and Kim Gauld of the Heritage Merchants Group, who were both surprised, as were some councillors, by Cameron's motion to extend the pilot program until the end of October.

Gauld, who with her husband Scott owns The Sunset Grill, represents a group of about 40 downtown businesses, and also sits on the chamber board.

They stressed they want the street closed for safety and health reasons, allowing room for pedestrians to adhere to physical distancing guidelines, instead of crowding on the side-

walks during busy weekends.

"Safety and health are paramount for residents and visitors," said Lafforgue. "It's essential to promote that we are a safe playground."

Lafforgue was asking for a trial period of three weekends, and regular evaluations with chamber and town representatives to see if the street closure is working, and to allow for adjustments if necessary.

The results of the evaluations, with input from residents and businesses, will allow for adjustments, and a decision as to whether to continue the closures during the summer and

into the fall, said Disero Monday, after the announcement of the change in details. That allows for data to be collected in time for a decision to be made on how to proceed when council meets on July 20.

At Friday's meeting, Lafforgue explained he is not planning on offering festival-like entertainment such as music or buskers, as during other street closures. His goal is to keep the centre of the street empty for pedestrians. He suggested following the protocol used for the chamber's annual Peach

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Canada Day 2020, like no other



Canada Day celebrations were virtual this year, so we can't fill The Local with the traditional photos of residents dressed in their celebratory garb, the gigantic cake making its way through the crowds on Queen Street and all the excitement and activi-

ty in Simcoe Park and Fort George, all organized and carried off by volunteers for many years. We can, however, show you the efforts made by the Friends of Fort George, Willow Cakes & Pastries, and many of the same volunteers.

And we can say thank you to all who did what they could to make Canada Day special, the volunteers who made up and delivered the packages available through the Friends of Fort George, and also all the kids, parents, grandparents and others in the commu-

nity who celebrated the day in their homes, backyards and local parks, alone or in their circle of 10, or on restaurant patios around town. We hope you all enjoyed a safe Canada Day, and we look forward to celebrating with you next year!



Amanda Gamble, executive director of the Friends of Fort George, made packing and delivering Canada Day packages a family affair, with Henry along for the ride. (Tony Chisholm)



Jim Alexander, always a key figure in the Friends of Fort George Canada Day celebrations, drops off a bag of goodies to John and Judith Sayers. (Photo submitted)



Regional Coun. Gary Zalepa has spent many Canada Day afternoons in Simcoe Park, helping to cut the gigantic Willow cake and serve it to waiting crowds. This year, he pitched in by delivering packages to help with backyard celebrations, and next year will hopefully be back with an apron and a knife in Simcoe Park. (Tony Chisholm)

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Willow Cakes & Pastries made 208 boxes of cupcakes, with a few left over in the store, to help celebrate Canada Day. Willow's Catherine O'Donnell, who in past years has created a giant cake and accompanied it along Queen Street in the traditional parade cake walk, already has a design ready for next year. (Sean O'Donnell)



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REAL ESTATE WILLS BUSINESS

Weekend closures will be evaluated, adjusted

Continued from page 1

Celebration, which closes off the street for a day in August, or the Icewine Festival that shuts it down for several days in January. The chamber already has the logistics worked out from previous years, and could handle the closure easily and quickly, he said, with just eight steps that are followed every year for those two events.

He told councillors the chamber will notify residents who will be affected by traffic and parking on nearby streets, as it has done before other street closures.

Gauld told councillors that after several zoom meetings with retailers and restaurant owners, and three surveys, 90 per cent indicated they are in favour of some form of Queen Street closure, with a "compelling" desire to try something new.

She suggested using surveys at the end of each week to ask business owners if the street closure helped them to feel safer, if their customers felt safer, and if it helped their businesses.

"Then we can decide how we improve and move forward. The big thing is how to make everyone feel safe."

On busy weekends in town, she said, "residents and visitors are saying they don't feel safe."

Supporting the request for street closure at the virtual council meeting was Tim Jennings, executive director of the Shaw Festival, who is also a chamber board member and part of the Town's rapid response task force.

With the festival closed and hotels empty, the downtown

merchants need all the support they can get, Jennings said, encouraging the Town to try anything, even at the risk of failure, that might help Queen Street merchants.

Although the closure will be modelled on festival street closures, exactly how it will be managed "is to be determined as part of the test," Jennings said, reminding councillors that "this situation is not normal."

There was also a discussion about allowing retailers to move out onto the street, into parking spaces, as the restaurants are doing with their patios. It would encourage shoppers while also giving them space for physical distancing, said Gauld, adding there is a small number of retailers who have expressed interest in doing that.

Coun. Gary Burroughs said he could recall retailers moving their merchandise out on to the sidewalk during the Peach Celebration. If they want to expand their space on weekends when the road is closed, they can use the sidewalk in front of their shop and allow pedestrians to use the road. Otherwise, he said, "I think we're opening up all sorts of things that we shouldn't be."

Although council agreed to the street closures, there was no decision made to allow merchants to move outside, said Disero.

Other issues that have come up repeatedly in recent years during debates about creating a pedestrian mall on Queen Street were also discussed Friday, including the loss of parking spaces and parking revenue, and cutting off delivery to stores.

Most stores and restaurants

receive deliveries from trucks which stop in the middle of the street while they unload, but the majority of deliveries are Monday to Friday, said Gauld. She suggested trucks could make deliveries on weekends, if necessary, in the morning and evening.

While there were numbers given for revenue that would be lost from parking, Burroughs pointed out it would likely be more a matter of vehicles using other spaces further away, not necessarily reducing revenue.

Lafforgue, asked about encouraging visitors to wear masks by Coun. Norm Arseneault, said the chamber, through its website and answering outside blogs, will be reminding people planning to come to town about physical distancing. Wearing a mask "is absolutely essential. We're encouraging everyone to do it."

Coun. Erwin Wiens asked about merchants who lose revenue during street closures for other events, including Hendrik's valu-mart.

Jennings said there could be adjustments made after the first weekend, if necessary. "It isn't going to be a perfectly fair situation, and there is no way to make it a perfect situation," he added. Instead of making "perfect the enemy of the good," he said, "in terms of moving this forward, I would try, evaluate and adjust."

"We would not be able to satisfy everybody," Lafforgue agreed, "but we need to try."

Coun. Erwin Wiens mentioned other details that had not been discussed, such as third-party insurance, and who would shoulder the costs of

closing down the street.

"I would like to see what's best for residents and businesses. I don't want to be an impediment to them, I want to be an asset." But before he could support the request, he would want to see an operational plan from the chamber that lays out more of the details on who takes responsibility for what, and where the money is coming from, he said.

Disero said she walked along Queen Street last week with her clipboard, accompanied by Coun. Allan Bisback, to ask merchants their opinions on street closure.

They received a very mixed response from retailers and restaurant owners, she said, with 28 saying yes to trial closure on weekends, and 19 saying no, a different result than Gauld's surveys.

She asked business owners, not property owners, she explained, and not all of those she spoke to are familiar with Survey Monkey.

"A couple were impartial, anticipating COVID is going to kill their business anyway," she said. They are anxious, they don't know what to do, and some are saying, "just do what the Town thinks is best."

Some of those she spoke to asked not to be identified, "begging not to say who they are." They're afraid of repercussions if they say no to street closure, she said.

Bisback agreed he heard a mixed response as well. "There is a real feeling of anxiety, from retailers and folks who have been here 25 to 30 years." He got the impression a few shops will



Kim Gauld of Sunset Grill was able to open a patio on two Queen Street parking spaces Friday, and was happy for the opportunity to welcome guests. She was also pleased the Town agreed to a pilot project to close Queen Street three weekends in July. (Penny Coles)

close, and also that visitors are day-trippers, not here to shop.

Council also discussed another proposal put forward by staff, to block off parking spaces to allow for pedestrians, but leave the street open for traffic. It included closing a small portion of Regent and Victoria Streets, but not Queen Street.

Coun. Wendy Cheropita, who represents the Town on the chamber board, asked why council would look at other options, "when the majority of businesses have asked us to look at street closure."

After further dialogue between the chamber and merchants, "I think they understand the situation a little better. They came to council this morning because this is what the majority of merchants want," she said. "Better we do something than do nothing. Closing parts of Regent and Victoria doesn't help a lot of merchants."

On the motion put forward by Cameron, councillors agreed to close the street from King to Victoria Streets Canada Day, every weekend from 10 a.m. Saturday to Sunday at midnight, until Oct. 31, and on statutory holidays until then.

Cameron said she felt it would be "simpler to go all in" for four months, and easier to communicate, but as a test pilot would allow for adjustments to be made, including the potential for cancelling it.

She also called for town staff to create an operational plan laying out responsibilities and costs.

Lafforgue and Gauld both said after the meeting that Cameron's motion for the pilot project to extend through October took them by surprise.

Lafforgue says he is pleased that the message to visitors will be that NOTL is safe, and not so crowded that there is no room for physical distancing.

"We need to save Queen Street," he says. "We're losing who we are, and it won't come back easily. Imagine this town without Queen Street, without the restaurants, without the Shaw — unfortunately, it might happen. Whatever we can do to help, we should be doing it."

Gauld, who was happily busy Friday evening with a new Sunrise Grill patio created out of two parking spaces, said it was good to be open and back in business, hopefully on the way to a season of recovery.

She is also pleased with the pilot program for road closure. It allows for physical distancing, and adjustment to make it work for everyone, which is what they were hoping for.

"It's got to be good for everybody," she says. "But the number one issue is safety. If pedestrians have the space, they'll try to spread out. And if we give them that ability, most people will be respectful."

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More patios open as space, and special occasion permits, allow

Penny Coles
The Local

Now that summer is here and Niagara has moved into the second stage of recovery, residents and visitors alike are happy to be able to sit outside on one of the many patios open in town, enjoying a drink and a meal.

Restaurants with a licensed patio were able to open June 19, and some did. Other business owners took a little more time to prepare, but have opened since, and some without designated patio space have applied and received a special occasion permit from the Town to allow them to create a patio. For some, such as the Sandtrap Pub & Grill, it's on their parking lot.

By Monday, the Town had received 20 applications for patios, 13 had been approved, and seven were pending.

All must ensure physical distancing is being followed, and many staff are wearing masks. Although that's not mandated by the Province or the Town, it is a decision made by some restaurant owners to help their diners feel safe.

Kim Gauld of Sunset Grill was delighted to finally be able to open Friday, taking advantage of the Town's efforts to help local businesses, permitting them to move out onto two Queen Street parking spaces in front of their restaurants, which they pay for on a per-day basis.

The patio has been constructed with wood flooring, and decorated with plants, and filled up rapidly after opening, says Gauld.

"It feels good to have our doors open, to have people here," she said.

She had praise for the Town for working with restaurant owners, and making it possible for her to open.

Colleen Cone of OLiv says their patio has been open since June 19, the day the Province allowed Niagara to join in the second stage of recovery. They were

among the fortunate to already have a licensed patio area, overlooking vineyards and Four Mile Creek, and also had room to expand their footprint so they can set tables two metres apart and have the maximum they're allowed. It's been busy, said Cone, with reservations filling the patio most days, although they take the occasional walk-in when there is a table available.

It's a good feeling to be open and welcoming visitors, she says. "Everyone is so excited to be here."

It also felt good to bring back most of their staff, although not all full time, she says.

"We have a new seasonal menu, and although it has a few less items than we would normally have, there is still lots to choose from. It's working out really well for us."

Ravine Vineyard Estate Winery has been doing takeout only until this week, and although that hasn't brought in a huge amount of business, "we've been happy to feed the community," says owner Paul Harber.

This Friday, however, he's looking forward to welcoming locals to a new patio overlooking the vineyard, with an ideal set up to meet this situation.

As a winery, Ravine is licensed for serving alcohol "on all 34 acres of the prop-

erty," he says.

Harber says the winery recently spent \$20,000 on 30 new picnic tables to help out the St. Davids Lions Club, and with all events for the club cancelled, he asked if he could borrow them for the summer.

He has 20 picnic tables under a tent, the other 10 scattered outside the tent amongst the grapevines, and can serve six to a table. At the end of each table, he has placed a wine barrel, and intends for servers to place the food on the top of the barrels, and guests can take it from there.

The menu offers more pub-style food for now such as pizza from its wood-fired ovens, and burgers, but will be rotating with different items each day. It will be open Wednesday to Sunday for now. Harber says he wants to open gradually and cautiously and safely, but he feels confident with the amount of space he has, along with a spectacular view, he can offer a Niagara-on-the-Lake experience safely.

Most restaurants are asking for reservations for their patios, and they fill up quickly, but will accommodate walk-ins when tables are available. For the days and hours of opening, call ahead or check their websites.



Paul Harber of Ravine Vineyard Estate Winery wants a soft and gradual opening, beginning Friday. (Photos by Penny Coles)



OLiv's patio, located in Strewn Winery, overlooks the vineyards and a creek, and has been expanded to allow for more tables.



Paul Dietsch of the Sandtrap Pub & Grill says their new patio, on the parking lot at the side of the restaurant, has been busy since it opened.



Corks Bar and Grill on Queen Street didn't open its patio immediately, over some confusion whether a covered patio was permitted, but has been busy since it received permission from the Town. Among its first visitors was a couple celebrating their anniversary. (Photo submitted)



Andrew Niven of Konzelmann Estate Winery says the new patio, on a corner of the parking lot, has been popular, as has the tasting bar in the restaurant. They serve drinks outside, along with a charcuterie. It may be something they will look at doing permanently, as another option for visitors, he says.



The patio at the Colonel Butler Inn has been expanded to allow for more tables with physical distancing.

LOCAL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: PILATES EMPORIUM

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Pilates Emporium caters to a mature clientele

Pilates, the low-impact strength, balance and mobility workout is based on core exercises for stability and ease of pain-free movement. The classical Pilates Method was created 100 years ago by Joseph Pilates as a system that promotes the combination of physical and mental health. Today, contemporary pilates uses all the same principles with updated knowledge regarding physiological and movement patterns. The V2Max Reformer is the large Pilates Equipment utilized to achieve the goals related to Pilates at Pilates Emporium.

Barb Schmidt, Pilates Emporium studio owner and instructor, has recently renovated her studio to keep up with advances made in the popular exercise programming. Her boutique reformer studio, aimed at mature clientele, is in its 12th year of operation, serving seven clients per class, each with a \$12,000 fully equipped V2Max Reformer station providing 120 square feet of space per client.

The studio is now open for Physio-Pilates and private, one-on-one sessions. When the Province allows fitness

studios to resume offering classes, Schmidt will be prepared. Policies and procedures are already in place to allow clients and instructors to physically distance from the point of entry to exiting the studio, she says.

Schmidt created Pilates Emporium to address a need in our community specifically for mature clientele.

"Bodies change as we age," she says. "We need good movement that's safe, and challenging. Our goals are to ensure that full range of motion for every joint and spinal movement, avoiding injury while establishing normal muscle patterning, is addressed in every 50-minute session."

Classes are delivered by certified instructors guiding clients through their exercises, ensuring they are done with appropriate muscle engagement, says Schmidt. The V2Max Reformer uses springs and a pulley system, which mimic muscle movements to enhance muscle response. The V2Max Reformer converts to provide Mat, Reformer, Trampoline and Cadillac programming.

Clients range from requir-

ing athletic conditioning to rehabilitation, and classes are specifically designed to meet the common goals of the clients within each class. Physio-Pilates, through assessment and guidance of Pilates instructor Yulia Sternin PT, BSc, BHSc, MCPA, can also be accessed at the studio.

Pilates is beneficial for clients with MS, those recovering from a stroke or joint replacements, sacroiliac joint issues and back or neck pain, surgery, stenosis, herniations, osteoporosis, arthritis, or spinal deterioration.

"And if you don't have any physical issues, you will find that Pilates fitness will just make you stronger and more confident," says Schmidt. It is also very beneficial for those looking for athletic conditioning.

When Sherry St. Denis retired to Niagara-on-the-Lake a year and a half ago, she says she had never enjoyed exercising, but joined Pilates Emporium knowing that the secret to healthful aging was keeping her joints moving. "Barb has the most incredible knowledge of human anatomy and movement," she says. "I have safely become stron-

ger and more flexible than ever before. More importantly, I love exercising. I can't believe I can say that."

Her husband, a master cyclist with the St. Catharines Cycling Club, has also joined to maintain flexibility and core strength needed to stay competitive in cycling, she says. "The classes are so safe and so much fun, an hour passes by in the blink of an eye. We are so glad we joined."

Pilates Emporium will offer basic, essential, intermediate and athletic conditioning classes, as classes resume, and at the moment, private sessions are available.

Essential classes are designed for clients who are newer to Pilates, or need modifications requiring a slower pace to maximize specific strengthening. Intermediate classes are at a faster pace, and include more complex movements. Athletic conditioning is for experienced Pilates practitioners.

Every new client participates in a promotion program which provides three private sessions to teach the language of Pilates, basic cueing related to Pilates — helping a client move efficiently through an

exercise — and the principles and movements of Pilates, so they can enter a class with confidence.

Whether your goal is to add to your current physical activity level, rehabilitation or athletic conditioning, Pilates is a great way to get to know your body well, and

strengthen it in ways you never thought possible, says Schmidt.

Appointments are needed for complimentary consultation, tour and postural analysis.

For more information, visit pilatesemporium.com or email pilatesemporium@outlook.com.

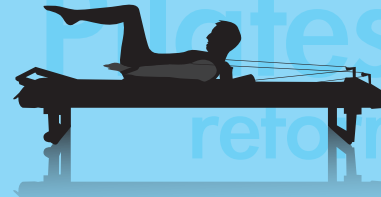
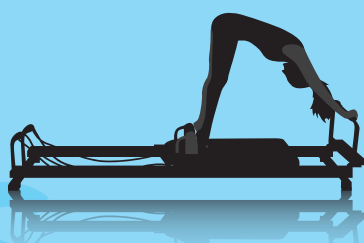
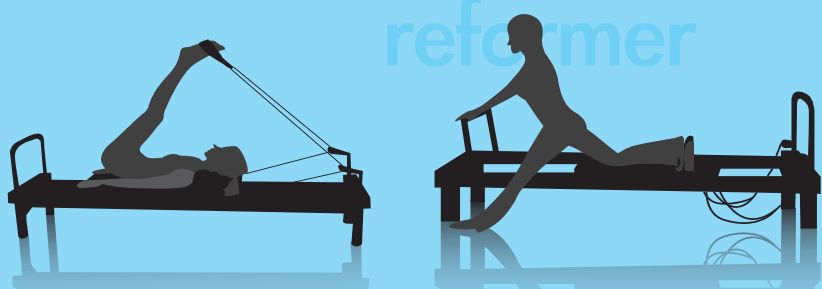


Barb Schmidt works with a client after a hip and shoulder injury.

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EDITORIAL

COVID brings attention to long-standing issues

We have just celebrated Canada Day, a day that always reminds us how proud, and how grateful, we are to be Canadians.

Never more so than during this pandemic, especially as we see what is happening in the U.S.

But we have our struggles. As we watched the news earlier this week, we learned there has been a large COVID spike in another farming community, and there are fears that will continue.

As a result, an advocacy organization for migrant workers was calling for a shut-down of Ontario's entire agricultural industry until every workplace is fully sterilized to stop the spread of COVID-19 among its workers.

Although anything and everything can change very quickly in this world, it didn't seem that was an idea that would float. It's a radical request in reaction to a problem which is serious, but very localized.

In the meat-packing industry, where the pandemic spread through close working conditions, specific locations were shut down to be sanitized. As they were deemed safe, with some extra measures taken, workers were screened and able to return to work. We didn't penalize or judge all in the industry.

Not too long ago, we saw the military march into long-term care homes, where the virus had taken hold and seniors' lives were at risk. Inspections in other homes were stepped up. We were horrified by what we learned, but also reassured to know

many facilities have kept their seniors safe.

It would seem logical to send help to farms where large numbers of workers have tested positive, to do testing, to sanitize work places, some of which are indoors, along with their housing, but unrealistic to expect the same across the province.

It would seem all employees should be treated the same, whether on farms, in meat-packing plants, or any other place of work.

Asymptomatic, positive-tested employees have not been expected or allowed to continue working in any other industry. It would seem seasonal employees on Ontario farms should follow the same guidelines as the rest of us who test positive, quarantined, and paid during that time. Hard on the agricultural industry? Undoubtedly, and that means repercussions for our food supply. But to expect men and women to work after testing positive, contrary to any other group of employees, is discriminatory, and dangerous. The health of all workers, in all industries and all communities, has to be paramount.

When we learned of the conditions in long-term care homes, there was an outcry for an independent review. This situation was nothing new, there had been calls for change for years, but the pandemic focused our attention on what was happening behind some closed doors, although certainly not all, and our outrage led to a promise from the Province for that long-overdue review.

We've been very fortunate

in Niagara-on-the Lake that our farmworkers have so far remained safe and healthy. We know many farmers are limiting the number of seasonal employees who shop in town, and others are ordering groceries and other supplies for them so they don't have to leave the farm. This is very similar to what our municipality and Public Health department have asked of all of us and our families.

We are also hearing more of the mistreatment of seasonal employees, a situation which is not new, but which has also become a focus during the pandemic. If there are changes made as a result, it will have to come from the top, with increased regulations in the programs that bring men and women to our country for seasonal employment, and which are intended to protect them while they are here.

Similar to long-term care homes, where there are problems, they need to be addressed, possibly beginning with a similar review.

Here in NOTL, we seem to be just a step ahead. There is already strong community support for our seasonal workers, and we know many farmers consider their employees family. We hope, and expect, in NOTL, that the majority of farmers respect their employees and treat them well.

There have been serious allegations made, and if true, must be addressed. But we must also be extremely careful not to judge without knowing the facts. If there is anything we can do locally, and as a society, it is for all of

us to have high expectations that all employers, including farmers, must do right by their employees.

NOTL town leaders, and residents, are doing a good job of protecting themselves and each other from COVID, and, undoubtedly, that is also helping our farming community.

Council's recent decision to test the closure of Queen Street on busy weekends is huge, and is based on continuing to provide a safe environment for all.

It's something that has been discussed for decades, with strong opinions for and against a pedestrian mall, without ever knowing the repercussions on downtown businesses. Will visitors still come to town? Will street closure attract even more out-of-towners?

Some think this is the worst time to experiment,

when businesses are already suffering. Others believe it's a timely opportunity to do something to help, and more importantly, the best way to keep visitors and locals safe, by moving pedestrians off crowded sidewalks and allowing for physical distancing on the street.

There is no doubt the viability of the main street is severely threatened. Retailers don't have much left to make the profits they need to see them through the long draught of winter. If, in the fall, they aren't in that position, there will be closures. And that doesn't just impact Queen Street, which is just one component of what supports restaurants, wineries, the Shaw Festival, museums and art galleries, and even the agricultural industry.

A failure on Queen Street will have serious consequences for all our sectors,

and for the spinoff lifestyle we enjoy.

Kudos to council for making a bold decision, and for the NOTL Chamber of Commerce for requesting the trial project and taking the lead in carrying it through. We'll watch with interest to see how street closures impact businesses and residents, and trust decisions will be made that continue to place safety first.

As an aside, municipalities in Ontario, and other provinces, are discussing mandating masks in certain situations. If we all did what we are being asked to do, including visitors to town, such regulations, difficult to enforce, wouldn't be necessary. We can only hope the town's increased messaging regarding masks will show some results.

Penny Coles
The Local



View from the couch

Donald Combe
Special to The Local


The film *Meet Joe Black*, produced in 1998, remains surprisingly fresh. Much of its success is because of the brilliant performances of Anthony Hopkins and Brad Pitt.

The former portrays a highly successful millionaire, and the latter's role is Death. The sudden twist, as the story unfolds, is the love interest between Death and the millionaire's daughter. I found the film fascinating; however, for me, the ending remains unsatisfactory.

Donald Combe is a retired English teacher who loves to go to movies. His Facebook reviews have become popular with his friends and followers, and he has graciously agreed to share his opinions through "short and sweet" exclusives for The Local.



Anthony Hopkins and Brad Pitt star in *Meet Joe Black*.



Letters! We want letters!

If you have a letter to the editor you'd like to see published, please send it to penny@notllocal.com. Please try to keep it to about 350 words. Sorry, but we won't publish anonymous letters. The deadline is Monday at noon.

The Niagara-on-the-Lake LOCAL

The trusted voice of our community

P.O. Box 430, 1596 Four Mile Creek Road, Virgil, L0S 1T0

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The opinions expressed in submitted commentary, and letters to the editor, are those of the contributors and not necessarily those of The NOTL Local.

COMMENT

Crowds equal more litter, more rescues



Owen Bjorgan
Special to The Local

I'm driving down Decew Road towards the scenic, rugged, and refreshing Decew Falls on a hot summer's day. My best buddy is in the passenger seat, and we're looking to beat the heat and get some nature exposure time.

The parking lot is closed. Bold, yellow barricades seal the entrance to the usual parking space. A security guard sits in his car, assigned the task of preventing any cars or bodies from entering this spot. Was this lot still closed due to COVID-19?

We continued to cruise the roads surrounding the popular hiking spot. As far as the eye could see, socially distanced along the shoulders of the roads, were new "no parking" signs. They must have come up within the past few weeks, as I don't recollect seeing them. The results of such installations and control measures were dangerously evident.

While cruising to a free parking nook I know a ways away, my friend had looked up some recent news articles on the number of rescues at this spot over the past three weeks. We learned approximately 500 people were at Decew for some

of these days, with the new-found parking restrictions causing cars to block access to emergency vehicles for an urgent rescue which occurred.

Still looking for a spot, we saw groups walking up to four people wide across the road. It looked like a sea of concert-goers parading to Decew Falls. I put the van into slow motion, as I carefully weaved around the blobs of people on the road. Folks and Volkswagens were parked desperately far away from the falls, usually a good kilometre plus. This implies that the radius of free parking around this watery wonder world is substantial.

As chain link reactions exist ubiquitously in the natural world, I saw some disturbing ones that I believe somehow link a pandemic, to nature, and politics.

I've always eyeballed the garbage on the roads and trails as I've hiked around Niagara, but a new trend is emerging. In terms of volume, there's more litter. Within that category, I've noticed a surge in fast food rubbish in particular. Subway and McDonald's have made their way down to the base of Decew Falls and other difficult locations. Although not a first, there's simply more of it.

As food services were clamped down on upon coronavirus' arrival, fast food secured itself as one of the few reliable and available options. The drive-thru lineups have

been insanely long these days, coiling around the buildings like a snake on a rock. I feel this is the connection as to why we're seeing more of this trash in certain areas. The pandemic has influenced people's consumption and spending habits. When you consider this trend and the unusual results it spits out at Decew Falls, it is a firm reminder of how connected the world really is.

The falls remained timeless, classy, and photogenic as ever.

Do you ever admit to having a handful of conflicting values at once?

I walked through the curtain veil of water and let it pummel me. A free back massage! As I swam out into the swimming hole, it hit me that there were simply so many people. Like my buddy and I, they must feel like they earned this hike, considering the better half of it was on scorching asphalt with cars whizzing by. Thankfully, again, we had found a safe legal spot to march in from.

Never ever would I have thought that I'd have to calculate the moment before me as such; are most people in groups of less than 10? Are they sharing beer bottles? Are they sharing more than just a bottle of 'Corona'? Are these the sort of people who have been rescued over the past few weeks from wiping out when climbing back up? I take a deep breath, duck under, and re-



A quiet and memorable scene on the approach to Decew Falls, before the spot where crowds have gathered to cool off in a popular swimming spot. (Owen Bjorgan)

emerge with a new thought . . .

The government shut down nature when COVID arrived, so people to flock to these places when it's "allowed" again, fuelled further by gregarious weather. More volume simply means more inevitable human byproducts.

More of X equals more of Y. More littering, more unprepared people entering the woods in excitement with flip flops, and more humans means higher statistics of rescues. I

hold zero judgment against anybody there that day. We have recently been reminded as to how much we actually enjoy and appreciate nature during times of COVID. Our biophilic draw to the outdoors is insatiable, as I saw at Decew Falls.

While on the topic of ripple effects, I have a fear. I'm not spooked by tarantulas, dark jungles, or mosquitoes. When do the same governing bodies that shut these places down

during the pandemic eventually say, "Okay, look . . . people are showing up in too big of gatherings, trampling the ecosystem, and taxing our system with rescues. Now, you must pay to park here."

How would you feel about that as a local who generally respects the environment, and do you believe nature is truly accessible for citizens at that point?

We will wait and see, as we do every day, these days.

LETTERS

Closing Queen Street will deter locals

First, I would like to congratulate the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake for their support for the partial re-opening of town businesses with physical distancing as part of Stage 2.

For many of the restaurants with patios, offering sit-down meals for the first time in almost four months has been a welcome improvement. My husband and I tried one out on June 19 and plan to do so again if they have parking.

Other stores have been able to open following the restrictions that are in place for health reasons. But my concern is that we've only had these businesses partially open for 11 days and on July 1, the Town closed Queen Street to traffic. This can only make it difficult for these same stores and restaurants to economically make it through the summer. If the Town wanted a pilot project of closing their main street, this was not the year to do

so from an economic viewpoint. Personally, in the 25 years I have lived here, I have always made it a habit to shop downtown during the summer but this year I will go to Niagara Falls and St. Catharines instead and avoid the downtown. With a deteriorating hip joint, I can't walk all the way downtown and carry packages back, and I'm sure there are others in this situation.

Karen Gansel
NOTL

LETTERS

MP supporting back to work bonus

While Ontario moves forward with its reopening plan, I've heard from a number of residents and local business owners wondering how the transition back to a more open local economy will affect them in Niagara Falls, Fort Erie, and Niagara-on-the-Lake.

My Conservative colleagues and I are focused on getting workers and local businesses back on their feet. Conservatives believe it should always pay to work. That is why we are proposing to make the

Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) more generous and flexible, by introducing the Back to Work Bonus.

Under our Conservative plan, Canadians who lost their job due to the COVID-19 pandemic will continue to receive their full \$2,000 CERB. As businesses reopen, workers who make between \$1,000 and \$5,000 per month would qualify for the Back to Work Bonus, a CERB top-up that would be gradually phased out by 50 cents for every extra dollar earned over the \$1,000 threshold.

For a part-time server making \$2,000 per month, the Back to Work Bonus would result in a top-up of \$1,500, for a total monthly income of \$3,500.

After making it through an incredibly challenging few months, Canadians should not be penalized for picking up an extra shift or gradually returning to work as their employer reopens. Canada's Conservatives will keep putting forward constructive solutions to get you the help you need.

MP Tony Baldinelli



Bill Auchterlonie
Special to The Local

Again, a short example of this week's full version of Looking Up with Bill. The entire text is available on The NOTL Local's Facebook page and on www.lookingupwithbill.com.

Sunday, July 5: Again, an-

Looking Up With Bill

other Lunar appulse eclipse under a full Moon in Capricorn at 0:44 a.m. This is known as a Thunder Moon Eclipse (in South America, North America and Africa), which occurs two weeks after an annular solar eclipse. Just 35 per cent of the moon will be covered by Earth's penum-

bra, so this eclipse will be virtually impossible to observe. But it will have an effect as it pits the serious and 'I'm in charge' emotions of Capricorn against the sensitive Sun in Cancer. And today the bikini is 74. First introduced on July 5, 1946 in Paris, it's still a head-turner everywhere.



NOTL LOCAL Front and Editorial Banner Bookings

There are just a few dates left for these premium positions for 2020! Contact us today!

Don't miss out!

NOTL businesses: call Karen at 905.641.5335 or email karen@notllocal.com

outside NOTL: call Julia at 905.934.1040 or email julia@notllocal.com





Citizen Representatives Needed

Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake Representatives for Niagara-on-the-Lake Council Advisory Committees

The Corporation of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake is seeking local representatives for appointment to the following Advisory Committees:

Name of Committee/ Board	Number of Vacant Positions
Niagara-on-the-Lake Public Library Board	1
Environmental Advisory Committee	7

An application form and Terms of Reference are available on the Town’s website www.notl.org. Applications will be accepted until 4:00 p.m. on July 16, 2020. A resume identifying specific qualifications for appointment to the Board of Directors is required with the application.

Completed applications may be submitted to:

**Corporate Services Department,
Municipal Offices,
1593 Four Mile Creek Road,
PO Box 100, Virgil ON L0S 1T0
or by email to peter.todd@notl.com**

Peter Todd, Town Clerk
July 2, 2020

NOTICE OF OPEN HOUSE

What: Open House - Review of DRAFT Long Term Rental Housing By-law
When: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 at 6:00 pm
Where: This Electronic Open House will be recorded and will be available for viewing at the following link: <https://livestream.com/notl.com>
Regarding: The DRAFT Licensing By-law to regulate Long-Term Rental Housing in Residential Areas

What is this?
Council has directed Staff to investigate the feasibility of a Licensing By-law. Similar By- laws in other municipalities have been implemented to help mitigate concerns surrounding number of bedrooms, parking, property maintenance, and safety that often stem from long- term rental housing in residential areas.

The Town does not currently have a by-law in place that requires property owners to obtain a license to rent out all or a portion of their property to tenants for residential uses lasting longer than 28 days.

You are invited to attend this meeting to gather information and provide input regarding this matter. You can do so by speaking at this meeting (instructions noted below) or via a written submission to the Clerk of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake. All correspondence must be received before July 7, 2020 and be addressed to **Peter Todd - Town Clerk, 1593 Four Mile Creek Road, P.O. Box 100, Virgil, ON L0S 1T0**, or via email at peter.todd@notl.com.

Dialogue is encouraged:
Niagara-on-the-Lake Town Hall is closed to the public due to the COVID-19 emergency and in-person meetings have been cancelled. As permitted under Provincial legislation and the Town’s Procedural By-law, Council and Committee meetings are being conducted electronically during the declared state of emergency.

If you wish to participate and/or make an oral presentation or ask questions at this Electronic Open House, you must register in advance with:

Peter Todd
peter.todd@notl.com or 905-468-3061, ext. 228
(register as soon as possible but prior to 12 noon on Tuesday, July 7, 2020)

Following registration, you will be provided with instructions to connect to the Open House on your computer, tablet or telephone.

For more information regarding this matter, please contact **Peter Todd - Town Clerk**, at peter.todd@notl.com or **905-468-3266, ext. 228**.

A copy of the supporting documents pertaining to this proposal may be obtained via the Town’s web-site: notl.com/content/corporate-services-public-notice

NOTICE OF OPEN HOUSE

What: Open House - Review of updates to By-law 4588-12 (Noise By-law)
When: Thursday, July 9, 2020 at 6:00 pm
Where: This Electronic Open House will be recorded and will be available for viewing at the following link: <https://livestream.com/notl.com>
Regarding: Updates to By-law 4588-12 (A By-law to prohibit and regulate noise in the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake)

What is this?
Council has directed Staff to conduct a comprehensive review of the existing Noise By-law 4588-12 (A BY-LAW TO PROHIBIT AND REGULATE NOISE IN THE TOWN OF NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE).

You are invited to attend this meeting to gather information and provide input regarding this matter. You can do so by speaking at this meeting (instructions noted below) or via a written submission to the Clerk of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake. All correspondence must be received before July 9, 2020 and be addressed to **Peter Todd - Town Clerk, 1593 Four Mile Creek Road, P.O. Box 100, Virgil, ON L0S 1T0**, or via email at peter.todd@notl.com.

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peter.todd@notl.com or 905-468-3061, ext. 228
(register as soon as possible but prior to 12 noon on Tuesday, July 7, 2020)

Following registration, you will be provided with instructions to connect to the Open House on your computer, tablet, or telephone.

For more information regarding this matter, please contact **Warwick Perrin, Supervisor of Enforcement**, **905-468-3061, ext. 278**, warwick.perrin@notl.com.

A copy of the supporting documents pertaining to this proposal may be obtained via the Town’s web-site: notl.com/content/corporate-services-public-notice



Queen Street Pilot Program

At the June 26, 2020, Special Council Meeting, Town Council voted in favour of a temporary closure of Queen Street to vehicular traffic.

Notwithstanding Council’s decision, Interim CAO Sheldon Randall and Lord Mayor Betty Disero, with the support of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Chamber of Commerce, used their delegated authority to make changes to the details of the closure.

This decision was made in response to comments received by residents and business owners following the Town’s announcement of the temporary closure, as approved by Council.

Trial Closure Dates: Wednesday, July 1, 2020, and every Saturday and Sunday from Saturday, July 4, 2020, to Sunday, July 19, 2020*

Trial Closure Location: Queen Street, east of the Post Office to King Street
Closure Time Frame: 10 AM - 6 PM each day of the closure

*Dates of trial subject to change.

Town Staff will provide a report to Council reviewing the success of the trial closure and will make a recommendation as to whether the weekend and statutory holiday closure of Queen Street should be extended into August and beyond.

Alternative parking is being arranged for Queen Street tenants and employees. For further details, or to obtain a parking permit, contact the Niagara-on-the-Lake Chamber of Commerce at tourism@niagaraonthelake.com or **(905) 468-1950**.

We want your feedback! Visit jointheconversationnotl.org to complete the Queen Street Pilot Program survey.

Snider endorsed as Lions international director

Penny Coles
The Local

This isn't the summer Al Snider was expecting.

With his wife Susan, he was hoping to take his first trip outside the country as the only Canadian director on the 35-member board of Lions around the world. They were looking forward to the Lions Clubs International convention in Singapore in June, with a side trip of their own to Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam.

"Everything we had planned came to an end," says Snider.

"It's been a disappointment. This year would have been an opportunity to meet other Lions from around the world and that won't happen as planned."

There was to be a vote last May at a Lions convention in Ontario to elect him as Canada's international director, and since he was the only one running, he'd set his sights on representing Lions clubs across the country, which he will.

There was no convention, and no vote, but last week the long-standing St. Davids Lions Club member was "endorsed" as Canada's international director at a virtual meeting of representatives from 10 districts.

The job, he said last winter when he was in the running for the position, "is 75 per cent about being an ambassador for Lionism in North America. There will be a lot of travelling through the U.S. and Canada, especially during the winter months when the district conventions are held."

But of course the world has changed, and the only meetings at this time are virtual.

He is hoping international borders will open this fall and there will be opportunities to attend some meetings, but he has no interest in travelling to the U.S. any time soon, with its rate of new cases continuing to rise in some states.

His term as international director is for two years, and the next Lions International Convention is scheduled to

be held in June 2021. At that time, if it goes ahead, he will be officially elected, he says, and his term begins. Leading up to that, he has a year of training for the position.

Snider's introduction to Lionism began decades ago when he began helping out in the bingo tent at the annual carnival.

Since he joined the St. Davids club, he's been club president three times, club treasurer, carnival treasurer, district governor, and has taken on other offices and training roles, both locally and across the A-2 district, which includes 40 Lions clubs from Fort Erie to Tillsonburg.

He's received many Lions awards, and one from the Town for community service.

Volunteerism runs in his family, with his parents, Mary and George, setting an example for him and his siblings, and it has carried on through the next generation.

Susan, a paramedic about to retire, is also a St. Davids Lions, and Al says whatever comes along for him as a director, they'll do as a team.

He's fortunate that the St. Davids Lions Club backed him when he decided to run for the international position, he says. The money from the club that partially funded his campaign, which started more than a year ago, is not from fundraising, all of which goes back to the community. It comes from a levy on all members each year to support candidates for positions outside the club.

Snider's travel expenses as director will be paid for by the international association, again from funds elected from Lions' membership dues that go to administrative costs. Money raised by the international foundation goes to disaster relief around the world.

Although the local club's activities, such as the popular fish fry and the annual carnival have had to be cancelled, the club is still giving back to the community, although it has to be "judicious" in allocating funds with no revenue coming in, and no idea when fundraising activities can begin again, says Snider.



Although the vote to elect Canada's only director to sit on the board of Lions International was cancelled, St. Davids Lions Club member Al Snider has been endorsed for the position. (Photo supplied)

In the meantime, while he would typically be spending this time of year preparing for the carnival, he and other members have been doing some maintenance around the club — projects that needed doing, but were put off because there was never enough time to do them.

Now, of course, he says, there is nothing but time.

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PLEASE NOTE: OUR OFFICE IS OPEN MONDAY TO FRIDAY, 9 AM TO 2 PM. WE WILL REPLY TO EMAILS AND MESSAGES DURING THESE HOURS.

109 Queen Street 905-468-3205 • St. Davids Office 905-262-6996

Congratulations class of

2020

Congratulations grads!

The Local, and all the proud parents and family members of 2020 high school and university graduates, are happy to congratulate you on your success and accomplishments.

This has been a difficult year for graduations, for parents, family members and students, as you celebrate this milestone as best you can, but certainly not how you have envisioned.

We speak for the community when we say well done, and we wish you all the best next year.

If we've missed anybody, email a photo, name and high school or university, to karen@notllocal.com



2020
Isabella Antonucci
Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School



2020
Travis Chorney
Eden High School



2020
Josh Frena
Eden High School



2020
Ryan Galloway
Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School



2020
Blossom Goertz
Eden High School



2020
Bronwyn Jenkins
OCAD University



2020
Brianna Kerr
Havergal College — Toronto

Congratulations class of 2020



2020

Madison Key
Governor Simcoe Secondary School



2020

Olivia Klassen
Eden High School



2020

Trevor Lament
Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School



2020

Ethan Lett
Eden High School



2020

Angelique Merrill
Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School



2020

Andrea Neufeld
Laura Secord Secondary School



2020

Kelly O'Connor - JD/BCL
McGill University - Faculty of Law



2020

Ethan Pillitteri
Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School



2020

Bethany Pörtl
Laura Secord Secondary School

Geopark designation could help region on road to recovery

Mike Balsom
Special to The Local

Could the Niagara region earning a UNESCO Geopark designation be important to post-COVID-19 economic recovery? The members of the Empower Niagara Aspiring Geopark Task Force feel it is a key element.

An online meeting June 26 brought together politicians and stakeholders from across Niagara to learn more about the push to have the region recognized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

Board member Michael Halle led the session, describing it as the opening of a conversation about a new vision for tourism in Niagara.

“Since the COVID crisis hit, everything has changed,” he explained. “We know how dependent on tourism we are in the Niagara peninsula, and I think it’s become crystal clear that the size of the tourism economy is much greater than those not involved in the industry have ever thought.”

According to Halle, who has vast experience developing and supporting cultural and Indigenous tourism, the time is ripe for Niagara to push for the geopark designation.

Halle described a three-pronged approach proposed to jumpstart the tourism industry in Niagara.

The first would involve using cell phone data to track movement of tourists across the region. Visitors could download an app that would allow them to check in at different sites, while at the same time providing key information about where people go when they come here.

Next would be a survey conducted by local businesses to de-

termine what tourists think and how they feel about hospitality in Niagara. The data would be shareable across the region, allowing a business in Niagara-on-the-Lake, for example, to compare itself to a similar business in Wainfleet or Fort Erie.

The third element is the launch of a program called I Am Niagara, which would turn local residents into tour guides and ambassadors of a sort. As Halle explained, with the U.S. border closed, and people less likely to travel from afar, local tourism is the order of the day. Attracting and engaging the visiting friends and relatives (VFR) segment will be important to economic recovery under these conditions.

Task force co-chair Darren Platakis began the process to push for the UNESCO Geopark designation about three years ago. Since then, nine of Niagara’s 12 municipalities, plus the regional government, have backed the application in theory. He also has earned the endorsement of the Niagara Escarpment Commission and the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority.

Platakis lives and breathes geography, as executive director of the non-profit Geospatial Niagara. The spark of the geopark idea came to him around 2014, when he stumbled onto the website of Stonehammer in New Brunswick, the first in Canada to earn the UNESCO designation. “As I was going through it, I immediately saw the potential that designation could have for Niagara,” says Platakis. “It’s about coaxing people out to explore more of the Niagara region, utilizing more of the assets that we have, beyond the usual areas that people visit.”

His 2019 presentation to regional council was well-re-

ceived, and he’s hoping for continued support from all levels of government so the initiative doesn’t lose steam during and after the pandemic.

Platakis, who attended the 2018 UNESCO Geopark Conference in Trentino, north of Italy, says Niagara already has everything it needs to become a geopark. But the application process takes time.

It begins with a self-evaluation spreadsheet, outlining the geological specifics of the region. That’s where Niagara-on-the-Lake resident Perry Hartwick comes in. As a geologist, he is a key member of the task force.

“The UNESCO Geoparks are based on geology,” says Hartwick. “In order to qualify as a geopark, the first thing you have to figure out is do you have globally unique geology that is hard to find anywhere else.”

Hartwick has dug deep into the geological history of the Niagara region, which Platakis says covers five significant geologic time periods. Hartwick has contributed extensively to the task force’s website (niagarapeninsulageopark.com), and is collecting background papers and scholarly research as support for the application. A number of Brock University professors also serve on the volunteer board.

“Being UNESCO,” says Hartwick, “you can imagine there is a lot of paperwork and a lot of boxes that have to be checked. A geopark is composed of a number of geosites around the region. They can be cultural, agricultural, rivers, it’s not just about rocks. But these are the integral makeup of the geopark.”

Both Hartwick and Platakis point to Willowbank in Queenston as a shining example of one



Geologist Perry Hartwick is a key member of a task force trying to have the Niagara region designated a UNESCO Geopark. (Photo submitted)

of these geosites. “What we noticed is that Queenston had all of these layers in one nice, tidy package,” Hartwick explains. “The geology, the location near the river, the war involvement, an Indigenous travel place, the artifacts that have been uncovered there, and the house itself. On top of that you have the School of Restoration Arts.”

The group decided to use Willowbank as the model geosite for the geopark. They were planning an event there to launch the application process, with a big announcement this weekend, but the coronavirus made that impossible.

Undaunted by the lockdown, the task force has reimagined the geopark as the key element in the recovery of Niag-

ara’s hard-hit tourism industry.

NOTL Regional Coun. Gary Zalepa attended the online meeting. He told The Local that he is open to any option that could work toward bringing Niagara out of the economic challenges posed by COVID-19. However, he adds that he’s not a fan of adding another item onto the government’s menu, and wants to know the task force’s ask when it comes to a budgetary contribution from the Region.

To that end, a figure was not mentioned by Halle during the presentation. Hartwick points out that the task force board consists of volunteers who are all passionate about Niagara. When asked about the cost, he says, “that’s the next step for the task force. We have an idea

about the cost for a six-month pilot program, and how much it will cost going forward. But ideally, right now, we want to bring together all who are interested in this, let’s work up a budget together, and see where we want to go with this.”

Platakis remains eager to have Niagara named the fourth UNESCO Global Geopark in the country, and to add it to the list of 147 current such parks in 41 countries around the world. “To me it’s an absolute no-brainer, in terms of how it brings communities together,” he enthuses.

“The possibilities are endless.”

The task force is planning to hold its next online meeting this Friday, July 3.





MacLean Press
Western University



Holly Schaaf
Hillsong College Sydney, Australia



Olivia Trudeau
University of Waterloo

As more businesses and services reopen, and with social gatherings increased to 10 people, we all must continue our efforts to protect each other.



Practice physical distancing, stay two metres apart.



Wear a face covering when physical distancing is a challenge.



Continue to **wash hands frequently.**



Get tested if you are worried you may have COVID-19, or have been exposed to the virus.

Inside or out, stay safe. Save lives.

NOTL has an opportunity to lead push for change

Continued from page 1

women worked alongside their black neighbours, as they cooked and brought food to those who could not leave their place in the human barricade. Two Black men, one of them a local school teacher, were killed by police guards trying to prevent the wagon from leaving as Mr. Moseby was being taken away.

They were taking a stand against a system that was perfectly legal.

These historic events which took place in Niagara-on-the-Lake paved the way for change. Niagara became a beacon of light for men and women trapped in a legal system of slavery south of the border. It is now a source of pride for us that the town became well known as a key destination on the underground railroad.

The farm work program started in 1966. The assurance of a dependable labour force allowed farms to expand in ways that had not been possible previously. Farmers were allowed to sponsor their employees from Jamaica. Some chose to bring their families here, others chose to winter over in Jamaica and return the following season.

A few are still working in local wineries such as Pillitteri

Estate Winery and Inniskillin Wines, all these years later. I've written about some of these relationships in previous editions of The Local.

When Mexico joined the Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program (SAWP) in 1974, there was a major shift. Farm owners were no longer allowed to sponsor employees to move here. The dynamics shifted, creating an expendable labour force that was now motivated by intense competition with another country.

Hiring Hispanic workers also had the added benefit that they could be more easily isolated, unable to communicate with locals.

Farm workers, regardless of origin, have heard the familiar refrain, "there are 100 guys waiting to take your place. If you don't like it, stay home."

The Mexican consulate and the Jamaican Liaison Service have become increasingly ineffectual, rarely protecting the men and women they are supposed to advocate for. Instead, the primary concern of these organizations is to ensure their country's place in the queue to supply a labour force to Canada.

Local employers are quick to blame the media for illuminating the cracks in the system. Nevertheless, recent words from an article written

by Edward Dunsworth in the Globe and Mail ring true.

"The coronavirus is merely the latest symptom of a decades-old illness for Canada's migrant agricultural work force. To treat it properly will require a complete overhaul of the temporary foreign worker regime, a key component of which will be the granting of permanent residency status to all participants, as has been done for front-line migrant workers in many other countries during the pandemic.

"Only then can Canada begin to correct the rank hypocrisy of treating essential workers as expendable."

Jennifer Pfenning is a councillor in Wilmot Township serving New Hamburg and the surrounding area. She also serves as the director of marketing and human resources for Pfenning's Organic Farms. She is the second generation to run their large family operation that hires as many as 150 employees, 35 of them farm workers from Jamaica through the SAWP.

She was interviewed on a Kitchener radio station this past week.

"I've tried to use my position to talk about why we need to change things. There have been changes to the (SAWP) program but most of those changes have been paperwork and they have not constituted



Shaun and Eric (Louie) Thomas, a father and son, have worked on the same farm in Niagara-on-the-Lake. With them is Uton Bell, who came to NOTL from Jamaica in the early days of the seasonal workers program, was sponsored in the 70s and allowed to stay here, raised a family and now has grandchildren growing up in Niagara Falls. (Jane Andres)

an increased protection for the workers or increased dignity or increased access. And I understand that the pilot project for residency is well intentioned, but it's not good enough. We have to change the parameters around what we value because these guys have proven their value to our country for 50 years plus.

"It's time to stop pretending that doesn't matter and change it so that they have the right to live here in this country where they have been working for decades."

When asked what changes she would like to affect she responded, "I would like to hear more of their voices

in this discussion, but finally, they can't change it. They don't have the power to change the program so we have to...

"What I would like to see changed - I would like to see them have access to residency upon arrival."

Exposing the local "bad actors" here is merely a distraction, deliberately avoiding the more serious underlying structures that have been built into the system.

The story of the farm workers is also our story.

The decisions we make now will be written indelibly into the story of Niagara-on-the-Lake.



We must move forward

together as a community to support the right to status on arrival, to ensure our families can all lead a whole and healthy life. People like Jermaine, men and women who have proven their worth from both countries, deserve the same human rights that we take for granted.

Niagara has enjoyed the admiration of other agricultural areas in Ontario for the way we are choosing to make our community a welcoming one.

They are looking to us to lead.


Let us focus on pulling together our resources to affect change at the federal level.



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Opening July 3rd. Summer Hours thereafter will be
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Former National Defence meteorologist living retirement dream

**Mike Balsom
Special to The Local**

When it comes to weather, Glendale resident Steve Hardaker has seen it all.

It was all part of his 35-year career, first with Environment Canada, then with the Department of National Defence. Hardaker retired to Niagara-on-the-Lake in 2010, having fallen in love with the area while his son was attending Brock University.

In less than 10 years, he has become a fixture in the local community, volunteering on the Glendale Community Task Force as vice-chair, and at St. David's-Queenston United Church, as board and congregational chair. He also volunteers with the Niagara Falls Community Outreach Soup Kitchen. And he is known for his comments and sometimes warnings about weather activity on social media.

In his past life, though, his expertise has been instrumental in assisting pilots, setting up remote weather stations in places like Labrador, and offering advice to NATO allies operating in Afghanistan.

Born in Eastern Ontario, Hardaker says he was eager to get out into the workforce when he graduated from Coburg District Collegiate Institute East in 1975. His guidance counsellor there informed him of a three-month program to train as a meteorological technician through the federal government. He chose to give it a try, and upon finishing, he was shipped off to Sault Ste. Marie to work as a weather observer for Environment Canada.

His next stop was in Toronto, where he was a weather observer for both the Toronto Island and Pearson International airports. In 1981, he was promoted to Environment Canada's Ontario regional headquarters, where he was responsible for managing climate stations across the province. His final stint with Environment Canada took him to Downsview, where he was the assistant project manager for the first generation of automated avia-

tion weather observing systems.

In 1990, Hardaker made the jump to National Defence in Ottawa. He was brought in to the Directorate of Meteorology and Oceanography, where he became involved in project management. Hardaker helped install automatic weather stations at all the tactical helicopter bases run by National Defence.

He speaks fondly of his time in Goose Bay, Labrador. There, he took the lead on a project to install the first operational Doppler Radar weather system in Canada. This was long before every television station in the world was using Doppler for their weather images.

If all of that doesn't sound interesting enough, it gets better!

Next up for Hardaker, in the 1990s, was a shift from observation to the data side of things. He was invited to sit on two NATO committees, which took him overseas twice a year to work closely with Canada's allies, especially those in the U.S. and Europe. It was a collaboration based on data. The goal was to make the shared data available to air bases back home in Canada. But, according to Hardaker, more importantly, satellite links were used to send the data from Trenton to forces operating in Afghanistan.

"Meteorological data, like weather observations and what the wind is doing, is generally deemed to be unclassified data," he explains. "When it becomes classified is when you use that data to reveal a limitation on an asset, like a weapon system, or a navigation system, or some sort of sensor system on a fighter jet. As soon as you reveal a limitation, it becomes classified."

"We had weather observation sites in Afghanistan," Hardaker continues, "and the data was available. But the latitude and longitude of where the stations were was classified. That was never revealed."

One of his final projects with National Defence was to transfer the entire database on an ongoing 24/7 dynamic basis from the unclassified domain to the classified domain. Hardaker says this allowed people who were supporting operations to work with that data

solely on the classified side.

"It really changed the way things were done. When I joined National Defence, meteorology was very much an Air Force trade. By the time I left National Defence, it was part of the Intelligence community."

His role involved attending meteorological meetings on both the technical and support and operations side at NATO. In 1994, the Partnership for Peace was established, broadening NATO's area of responsibility, as well as Hardaker's connections.

All those years observing and working with weather data make Hardaker a good person to have on your side when facing climate change deniers. "Climate is a collection of data over long periods of time, usually 40-year increments," he explains. "The trend is those figures are going up. It's getting warmer, and we're seeing an increase in severity of storms. It all points to something going on in the extreme, and we as humans have to do something to mitigate it."

Since his retirement, Hardaker has avoided being drawn back in to consult on weather-related projects. "I know if I stayed in the Ottawa area," he posits, "that I would have probably been doing that. But to me, that isn't really retirement, it's just continuing to work, with the money coming from a different pot."

He says he had two goals when he retired: to work at a golf course, and to work at a soup kitchen. He accomplished both within his first three months. He volunteers at the Royal Niagara Golf Course five hours a week, which allows him to play a free round at the course once a week. And he's been involved at the Niagara Falls Community Outreach Soup Kitchen since 2011.

Hardaker loves to talk about his work at the soup kitchen. For a few years he was the property manager there, and he helps out at the kitchen on Tuesdays. But he is especially proud of the work they have done preparing income tax returns for low income individuals.

"For the 2018 tax year," he explains, "we accounted for



Steve Hardaker volunteers at the Royal Niagara Golf Course, plays a little golf, and sits on a committee forging the future of the Glendale area. (Linda Hardaker)

\$1.1 million dollars in benefits for our clients. That's GST credits, Ontario Trillium Benefits, the Climate Incentive Benefit and the Canada Child Benefit. By having volunteers doing their taxes, it ensures they get their benefits and social assistance. And that money is spent back in the community, too."

Hardaker's name has been in the news most recently, though, through his involvement in the Glendale Community Task Force. As vice-chair of the task force, he would like to see signs welcoming visitors to the Glendale section of Niagara-on-the-Lake.

He's excited about some of the vision for the area, including a potential "main street" development extending from the Niagara-on-the-Green subdivision entrance up to the outlet mall. Hardaker sees that as a walkable commercial area, with both sides lined with stores, and perhaps statues on the roundabout honouring Laura Secord and other notable women from the region's history, as well as Niagara's Indigenous history.

When asked about the recent developments within the Glendale area (the outlet mall, hotels, the ETFO office and new Central Community Church under construction), he says they are perfect anchors for future development.

"The area where the hotels are is known as the hospitality area," he says. "Restaurants will be built there. Townline Road is the employment area. And

the Outlet Collection is a good anchor for commercial amenities. All of these bring jobs and a sense of community."

He doesn't think the pandemic has pushed the planning behind too much, but with more than 400 hectares of developable land in Glendale, he's pretty sure shovels won't hit the ground for five years anyway.

It's clear his voice on the task force is a vital one, con-

tinuing the work done by earlier members such as Linda Morgan, Karen Glauser and Matt Rocca, for all of whom he expresses the utmost respect.

The work started by this group may not be fully completed until past 2040, and Hardaker says he's not sure he'll still be around to see it all come together.

In the meantime, though, he'll continue to be one of the biggest boosters of the Glendale community.



After hostilities ended in the Balkans in the mid-late 1990s, Steve Hardaker explains, Canada deployed to Bosnia and Herzegovina as part of NATO's Stabilization Force. Military meteorological personnel were deployed in support of artillery and helicopter detachments, and Hardaker's task was to set up a weather office for pilot and commander briefings, as well as meteorological instruments for surface weather observing to support flight operations. Because of the continued threat of hostilities and mines, he was issued a flack jacket and helmet. In the photo, Hardaker is shown with computer equipment connected back to Trenton. "We never actually had to use the protective gear," he says.



Steve Hardaker, in the 1990s, about to take a familiarization flight over the Canadian theatre of operations in the southern high plains of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and into a British detachment in Splitt, Croatia to pick up a NATO engineer.

Health team doctor explains working through COVID

Penny Coles
The Local

During the uncertainty of the pandemic, patients of the local family health team may have wondered what to expect if they wanted to see their physician.

Dr. Steve Durocher says physicians have been working full-time all through the pandemic and available to their patients, although they have limited office visits to those requiring urgent care.

With an office in the Niagara Medical Centre, Durocher is a doctor with the Niagara North Family Health Team, which includes many Niagara-on-the-Lake residents in its roster.

Initially, Durocher says, physicians tried to avoid physical exams unless urgent. Some were working from home, some physical distancing in the office, and were offering telephone or video appointments.

"That was in early March, when there was a fear of the unknown," he said.

From the start of the pandemic, the local health team has been following the guidelines of Niagara Public Health and the Ontario Medical Association, he said.

Although physicians continue to offer virtual appointments, as they became more comfortable with the safety precautions being taken, "we have lowered our threshold for office appointments," he said, although physicians within the health team use their own discretion when deciding whether to see a patient.

There is always a physician present for urgent needs at the

clinic during office hours, he says, and after-hour clinics are still operating.

There might be slight differences between the Virgil clinic and the one in the former hospital on Wellington Street, and between doctors themselves, depending on their comfort level, "but our policies are very similar."

Initially, the number of calls to the clinic was down drastically, says Durocher.

"People might not have known their doctors were still working, or might have been afraid to seek medical advice."

That changed to a large influx of calls, which have levelled out now, he says.

If a patient calls to make an appointment, they reach voice-mail, and are asked to leave a message. "That might leave the impression the office is closed," he says, "but a secretary working from home will call back shortly."

Patients are then screened over the phone, and if an office visit is arranged, when they arrive, the office door is locked, and they are asked to call a number, and are screened again before they enter.

"It's important to let patients know we're screening them so we know where to direct them, and so we can be prepared with the correct protective equipment."

Patients are also asked to bring a mask with them, but if they arrive without, they are handed one and escorted to an office, says Durocher.

Appointments are spaced out so the need for waiting is reduced, and if there is a wait, patients might be asked to wait in their cars, he says.

"Appointments are organized to minimize traffic as much as possible."

There are also waiting areas set up inside, if needed, that allow for physical distancing, he says.

With testing for COVID-19 now readily available, "there is a very low threshold for a physician to recommend testing," which is generally accompanied by a referral to one of the assessment clinics."

The Virgil clinic has some resources, but "definitely a low percentage" of testing is done at the clinic — most are at the assessment clinics, where local doctors also help.

The recent months have seen an evolving process at the clinics, he says, "definitely with a high degree of uncertainty initially, but we've been adapting to the situation as time progresses, up to the patients' level of comfort."

Durocher describes the current situation as "less clinical gestalt" and more patient-centred medicine.

Advising patients by phone or video presents some limitations, he says. "There are the things we could potentially miss," and in some cases, physical exams are offered to reassure patients and provide a level of comfort for them.

If a patient is "significantly unstable, a doctor will see them at their discretion, or send to an emergency room where they are screened, triaged, and sent to separate areas to keep everybody safe."

Durocher says it's important for patients to know if they have any medical issue "they should have zero hesitation to call the office, and although



Dr. Steve Durocher, a physician with the NOTL branch of the Niagara North Family Health Team, explains how doctors are treating patients during the pandemic. (Photo submitted)

we are working remotely, they should leave a message. Even though our door is locked it doesn't mean we're not here. It's just for safety precaution."

Durocher says for him personally, he's now at the point where he has the same number of "clinical encounters" as during pre-COVID times.

He's working more hours to get less work done, he says. Screening, leaving extra time between appointments, putting on PPE and taking it off, all take a significant amount of time.

Could some of the pandemic measures become the

new norm?

"I don't know if they're temporary or long term," says Durocher. "It's up to the Ministry of Health as to how we provide patient care."

In the early stages of the pandemic, physicians were getting new information all the time, sometimes changing information throughout the day.

For instance, he says, he has travelled at the end of February, and when he returned, he was told medical practitioners "should consider isolating for 14 days."

He was going to work from home, but the next day, the message was that health care practitioners should go to work and monitor their health. Shortly after that, the message changed to "you definitely need to quarantine."

The information about COVID-19 was rapidly evolving, he says, and physicians were trying to make decisions with the best information available, but there was still much that was unknown.

"Physicians are accustomed to having a certain comfort level with uncertainty," he says. "Nothing is ever black or white. But there definitely was a level of fear with this that hasn't been completely eliminated. There is still some fear, although now I'd say we are working with vigilance and diligence, as opposed to fear."

He's getting a lot of questions about antibodies, about testing, about how people can know if they have COVID, he says.

"There is still a lot of uncertainty, and part of being a doctor is working with uncertainty. This isn't new, but it is more significant. We have to remain patient as new information comes forward."

Durocher says in addition to the uncertainty, "talking into

a telephone" to diagnose patients is not ideal.

"I became a doctor because I love human interaction," he says.

"Not having that interaction can be frustrating."

But like everyone else, "I'm adapting to the situation, making the most of it, and trying to be as readily available as possible for patients, even if virtually. I just want to be sure they are receiving the appropriate health care. And if this is the future, I'll adapt to it."

While the concern for frontline workers has crossed his mind, especially because of his parents, he says he thinks health care workers may actually be safer than the general public. They take extra care about distancing themselves, and he has never been without PPE or had to fear it would run out.

"I'm more concerned for the grocery store employees not having it. I think it's more society as a whole that's at risk. Even though I work at the clinic, I feel protected," says Durocher.

"But when I think of the frontline workers where there wasn't enough PPE, when I think of having to work without enough PPE, it scares the bejesus out of me. That was never the case for me personally."

He sees a bit of relaxing now in attitudes toward the pandemic as the number of cases has decreased dramatically, and a lessening of fear. It's helped him to "take a step back" from watching the news as much as he was, which was too much, and which became fear-provoking and overwhelming at times.

But while there may be some relaxing now, less living in fear, he says, "it's still important to remain vigilant."

Local student wins art scholarship



Emily Goldsworthy, a graduate of Holy Cross Secondary School, was selected to receive the 2020 Niagara Pumphouse Arts Scholarship. Emily, handed the award by Pumphouse volunteer Patty Knipe, is a young creator with an interest in and appreciation for a variety of art and media. Her artwork includes the creation of digital art pieces, traditional animation, photography, and the development of video compositions. She will continue on to post-secondary studies at Durham College with a focus on video production and animation. She hopes to build her career around the art of storytelling through visual mediums. The Niagara Pumphouse Arts Scholarship for Art Education was set in 2010 after the passing of Ian Butler, a founding member of the Pumphouse. The purpose of the fund is to support an annual scholarship award to a deserving NOTL graduating high school student pursuing a recognized post-secondary visual arts program. From the fund, a \$200 scholarship will be awarded each year to a selected student. (Photo supplied)

LOCAL HAPPENINGS

FIRST ONTARIO PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

#NiagaraPerforms

July 2 @ 7 p.m.

The Foster Festival

A live reading from Here On the Flight Path

July 3 @ dusk

The Lost Boys (outdoor film)

July 4 @ 7 p.m.

The Mark Lalama Trio (outdoor concert)

July 5 @ 7 p.m.

Culture Reject (live streamed)

July 9 @ 7 p.m.

The Gallery Players (live streamed)

View via PAC's Facebook and YouTube channels

www.FirstOntarioPAC.ca

THE NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE MUSEUM

The Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum presents a series of online talks in the month of July. All presentations start at 4 p.m., are free and require registration.

July 2 @ 4 p.m. | Rick Meloen

The History of the Chautauqua Neighbourhood in Niagara-on-the-Lake. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7811111111>

July 9 @ 4 p.m. | Ted Rumble

Ordinance Boundary Stones of Niagara-on-the-Lake <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7811111111>

July 16 @ 4 p.m. | Shawna Butts

Some Women in Niagara-on-the-Lake's History <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7811111111>

July 23 @ 4 p.m. | David Hemmings

Was your grandmother a British Home Child? <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7811111111>

July 30 @ 4 p.m. | Sarah Kaufman

Ask the Curator <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7811111111>

TD JAZZ FESTIVAL

July 3 @ 7 p.m.

Miles Black Duo with Tom Keenlyside (live streamed)

July 4 @ 7 p.m.

Aline Homzy (live streamed)

niagarajazzfestival.com

COVID-19 DIARIES NIAGARA HISTORICAL MUSEUM

July 4 @ 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

For those of you who like to write and journal, the Niagara Historical Museum is looking for your insight. You can participate in the recording of our history, today. In 50 or 100 years we may just have an exhibition on the COVID -19 Pandemic and your journals will help us tell the stories of how Niagara-on-the-Lake made it through. Please visit: www.nhsm.ca for details or call 289-719-1918 to record your audio diary.

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With or without a border, colour graphics optional. Include your Logo! Prices starting at \$20. Deadline: Monday 3 p.m. Call Karen 905-641-5335 or email: classified@notllocal.com



Pickleball in full swing

The Virgil pickleball courts are being well-used in the good weather. Monday, a wind screen was being installed on all three sides of the court, funded by the NOTL Pickleball Club. (Photos by Penny Coles)



Fun in the sun

The Virgil splash pad opened Monday, and drew local families hoping to cool off on a very warm day. Attendants hired to control the numbers entering the fenced-off splash pad said it had been busy, but without a line-up. They were cleaning the facility, and washrooms, at regular intervals throughout the day.

LOCAL WORSHIP

**CORNERSTONE**
COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday, July 5th

Speaker:
Kevin Bayne

Message:
Psalm 122 - Worship

Please be advised that with the current state of COVID-19, your safety is of utmost importance to us. We will now be live streaming our service at 10:00 am on Sundays. There will be no in-person church service.

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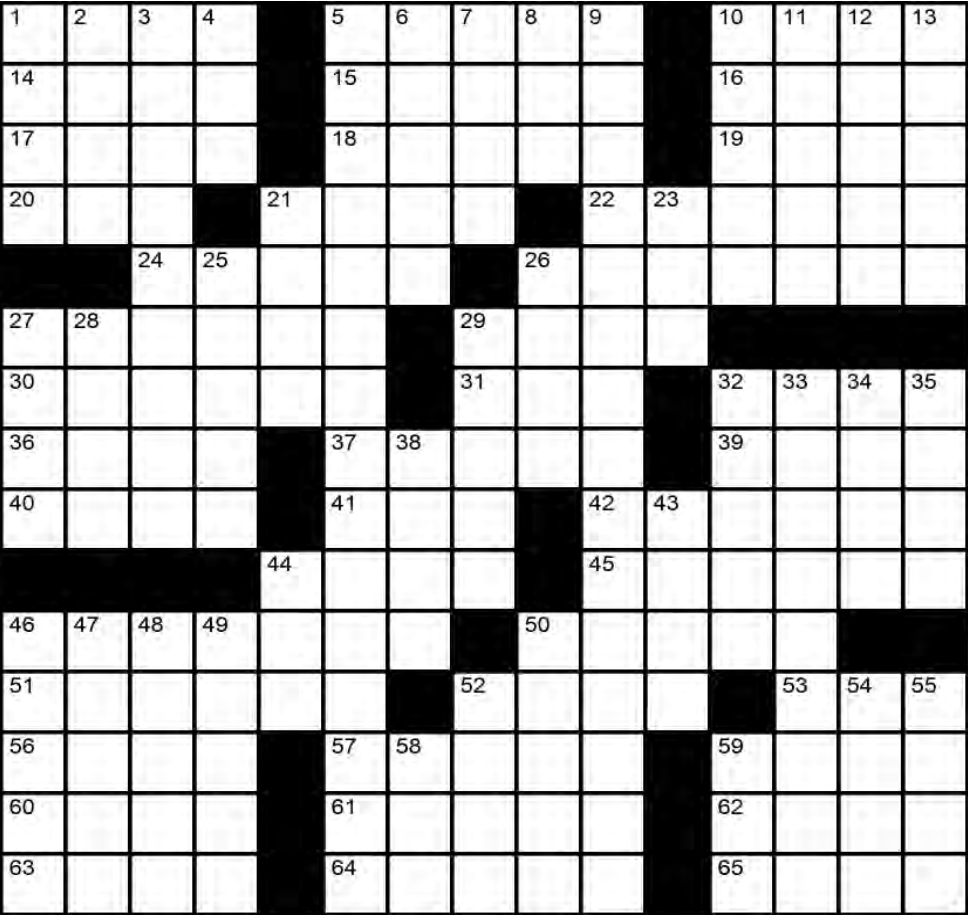
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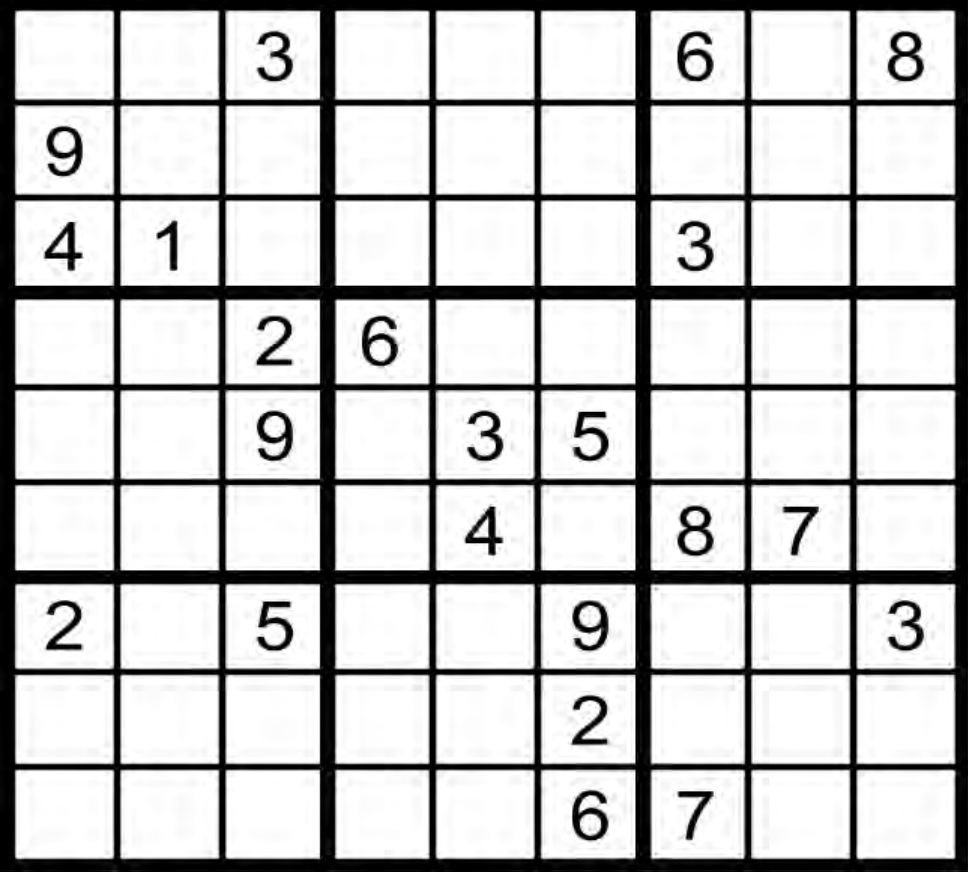
CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU



- Across:**

 - 1 Scorch
 - 5 Constructor
 - 10 Antarctic sea
 - 14 Trusted assistant
 - 15 Handy
 - 16 Very dark
 - 17 Please answer
 - 18 Civil wrongs
 - 19 On-screen Bean
 - 20 Tire inflation measure
 - 21 Close
 - 22 Ready to entertain
 - 24 Brace
 - 26 Circumspect
 - 27 Closer
 - 29 Prickly seed vessel
 - 30 Musical collections
 - 31 Type of lamp
 - 32 Campus house, maybe
 - 36 Troubles
 - 37 Inordinate
 - 39 Make over
 - 40 Sediment
 - 41 Short dog with a flat muzzle
 - 42 Taken in
 - 44 Surrender
 - 45 Not alec
- Down:**

 - 1 Complain
 - 2 Convicted spy Alger ---
 - 3 Recommended
 - 4 Agent
 - 5 Convent heads
 - 6 Entangled
 - 7 "Slaughterhouse Five" author --- Vonnegut
 - 8 Time in Boston
 - 9 Ability
 - 10 Vertical pipe
- 46 Close to the coast
 - 50 Held fast
 - 51 People found in the Horn of Africa
 - 52 Puts on
 - 53 Global currency body
 - 56 Fine
 - 57 Yellow-green color
 - 59 Hard up
 - 60 Sack
 - 61 Enthuses wildly
 - 62 Toothpaste container
 - 63 Minnesota ---, pool player
 - 64 Moves back and forth
 - 65 Aide (Abbr.)
- 11 Upright
 - 12 Edible ray
 - 13 Ecclesiastical council
 - 21 Appear
 - 23 Average golf score
 - 25 Tie up
 - 26 Recognized leader
 - 27 Pin down
 - 28 Fashion magazine
 - 29 Emblem
 - 32 Scowl
 - 33 Spiritual
 - 34 Yemeni port
 - 35 Sweeney ---
 - 38 Uncovered
 - 43 Literary work
 - 44 Mountain pass
 - 46 Has gone
 - 47 Cell maker
 - 48 Well turned out
 - 49 Ira ---, Iwo Jima flagraiser
 - 50 Small flock
 - 52 Prima donna
 - 54 Rabbls
 - 55 Abrade
 - 58 Statute
 - 59 Harper Valley org.



OBITUARY

AURANDT DAVID—It is with great sadness that the family of David Aurandt announces his passing on June 4, 2020 at the age of 77. He was the beloved husband of Anne for 38 years. David graduated from Fairfield Connecticut University, received an MA from the University of Toronto and MFA from Bard College in New York. He taught Art History, studio courses and visual arts management at University of P.E.I., Algoma University College, Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, Brock University and the University of Toronto in Scarborough.

David directed the Thunder Bay Arts Centre, Rodman Hall Arts Centre, the Robert McLaughlin Art Gallery in Oshawa, and RiverBrink Art Museum in Queenston. He was a practicing artist whose work was distributed in Canada and the U.S., an experienced writer, visual arts commentator, and curator in both historical and contemporary art.

David was a member of St. Mark's Anglican Church in NOTL, the Rotary Club, and the local book club. He had been a Board Member of the Gallery Players of Niagara and the Niagara Historical Museum. Cremation has taken place.

In addition to his wife Anne, David leaves his sons Hans and Eric Aurandt and his step family Jerry, Amy, and David, their spouses and seven grandchildren. A service and Celebration of Life will be held at St. Mark's Anglican Church at a later date.

Memories, photos and condolences may be shared at www.morganfuneral.com



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PUZZLE ANSWERS

Sudoku solution from June 18, 2020

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

Across: 1 Char, 5 Maker, 10 Ross, 14 Aide, 15 Of use, 16 Inky, 17 R S V P, 18 Torts, 19 Sean, 20 P s, 21 Shut, 22 Open to, 24 Steel, 26 Guarded, 27 Neater, 29 Burr, 30 Albums, 31 Arc, 32 Frat, 36 Ills, 37 Undue, 39 Redo, 40 Lees, 41 Pug, 42 Fooled, 44 Cede, 45 Upwind, 46 Inshore, 50 Clung, 51 Somali, 52 Dons, 53 I M F, 56 Okay, 57 Olive, 59 Poor, 60 Fire, 61 Raves, 62 Tube, 63 Fats, 64 Sways, 65 Asst.

Down: 1 Carp, 2 Hiss, 3 Advisable, 4 Rep, 5 Mother superiors, 6 Afoul, 7 Kunt, 8 E S T, 9 Resourcefulness, 10 Riser, 11 On end, 12 Skate, 13 Synod, 21 Seem, 23 Par, 25 Truss, 26 Gnu, 27 Nail, 28 Elie, 29 Badge, 32 Frown, 33 Religious, 34 Aden, 35 Todd, 38 Nide, 43 Opus, 44 Col, 46 is off, 47 Nokia, 48 Smart, 49 Hayes, 50 Covey, 52 Diva, 54 Mobs, 55 Fret, 58 Law, 59 P T A.

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SOLD

#312 - 225 Ricardo Street, Niagara-on-the-Lake This beautiful condominium at Kings Point was listed and sold by Nancy Bailey in less than 2 weeks.. Always happy to work with people through transitions in their lives, Nancy prides herself on getting the most money for a property in the shortest period of time. If you are interested in selling, please call 905-371-4234 and let the journey begin.

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NEW TO MARKET

19 Confederation Drive, Niagara-on-the-Lake There is plenty of room in this outstanding property for living, cooking and dining.The staircase leads to the upper floor which consists of 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and far reaching views. The backyard overlooks the immaculate private gardens and the inground salt water pool. The wine cellar is a true bonus! Call Nancy Bailey for your private viewing. 905-371-4234

\$995,900



NEW TO MARKET

10 Circle Street, Niagara-on-the-Lake This 3 Bedroom Farm-style cottage located in Chautauqua is a short walk to Lake Ontario and sunsets at Ryerson Park .The home's many windows, some floor-length, make the most of the property's abundant natural light, historic oak tree, and park views. The approximate 1900 sq. ft. of living space includes a main floor bedroom, a new country kitchen, a large deck for entertaining in the summer and a stone wood-burning fireplace which creates a cozy feeling in the winter. This may be your dream home. Nancy Bailey 905-371-4234.

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NEW TO MARKET

10 Lucia Court, Niagara-on-the-Lake Imagine living in a newly renovated home entertaining friends in a stunning private garden. This lovely 3+1 bedroom home has been thoroughly upgraded. Beautiful hardwood is integrated on the main and upper floors and closet organizers were installed in the spacious main floor master bedroom. The open concept kitchen boasts brand new quartz counters with under mount sink and a large island. Two decks take advantage of the completely private backyard. Call Nancy Bailey 905-371-4234.

\$959,000

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