



**Shark World  
Championship  
returns to NOTL**  
**page 17**

notllocal.com AUGUST 16, 2023 Volume 5 • Issue 33



## Queen Street pretty in pink

The NOTL Chamber of Commerce held its annual dinner on Queen Street Sunday, after the completion of the weekend of peach festivities. This year the dinner had a different twist — instead of the traditional shades of summer, with a theme of white, it was a Shades of Rose Dinner, celebrating the wine industry, and particularly local rose. (Mike Balsom)

## Peaches Cafe for community

**Sharon Burns  
The Local**

After a 15 year hiatus, Cornerstone Church will once again host the Peaches Cafe, said Jeff Martens, Cornerstone's outreach pastor and operations director.

"It hasn't happened probably since 2009, but we're resurrecting the event and it's an open invite to the community," Martens said.

"We're intentionally inviting farmworkers to make it a community-inclusive event," said Martens.

Farmworker Hub director Julia Buxton-Cox is reaching out to farmworkers via WhatsApp,

a messaging app. She has two large groups of farmworker phone numbers, one Spanish-speaking and the other for English-speaking farmworkers, totalling 600 people.

The event will run Aug. 26 from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Community members will be able to buy peach pies while playing yard games and listening to live bands in the church parking lot at 1570 Niagara Stone Road.

Of course peaches and ice cream will be served and will be free for farmworkers.

Martens is anticipating 200 people, "but we'd love more. Everyone's welcome. It's a community event."



## Still a risk of unexploded ordnance on Lakeshore property

Parks Canada, region say it needs to be cleaned up

**Kris Dube  
The Local  
Local Journalism  
Initiative Reporter**

The region wants to get rid of any unexploded military devices on Lakeshore Road and is asking the federal government for help.

At a recent regional public works meeting, the

committee discussed remediating a site in Niagara-on-the-Lake that may contain "unexploded explosive ordnance" from the property's military past that did not detonate or function as intended.

An existing wastewater treatment plant with lagoons on Lakeshore Road that reached the end of its

service life has been replaced by a new treatment plant located about 800 metres west of that property. In early 2020, the new treatment plant opened, with all treated sewage directed to Lake Ontario.

Since then, the closed plant and lagoons have been scheduled for decommissioning and site restoration.

The area of the aeration ponds was once part of a rifle range that was used before construction of the new ponds in the 1990s, says the

report.

An area of about 23.1 hectares was transferred from Parks Canada and the Department of National Defence to build the two existing lagoons in 1965. This piece of land is currently in the hands of the region, says the report approved Tuesday morning by the public works committee.

An additional 3.7 hectares of land west of that property was leased from Parks Canada to facilitate construction of the existing

mechanical and chemical facilities, including aeration lagoons, also in the mid-1990s.

Together, two parcels — the old treatment plant and the DND property, formerly a rifle range, on its eastern border, represent the area to be decommissioned. West of the new treatment plant is Niagara Shores Park, officially off-limits to the public, but used regularly.

At the regional meeting, Lord Mayor Gary Zalepa, asked if public access would

be permitted on the property once the remediation work is complete.

His question was fielded by Frank Tassone, who was serving as acting commissioner of public works during the meeting.

"Our anticipation is that when it does get cleaned up, the lagoons themselves will likely not be touched, so there would also be some risk involved with the lagoon areas," Tassone said.

**Continued on page 2**



**DO YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT  
YOUR HOME IS WORTH?**

CALL GREG TODAY FOR A FREE HOME EVALUATION

**905.329.3484**

**GREG SYKES**



**WHEN YOU CALL GREG, YOU GET GREG!**



# Region asking for feds to fund clean-up of ordnance

Continued from page 1

Niagara-on-the-Lake Regional Coun. Andrea Kaiser told The Local that the Niagara Shores Park used to be accessible years ago by the public as an open space.

“We’d all love to see this portion of the property reopened,” said Kaiser, “sooner rather than later,” adding she took part in a site visit recently with representatives from the town and Parks Canada.

“The conversation has started, which is really great,” she said, but it is unknown whether public access will ever be allowed again at the site.

She’s not sure why it’s become an issue, she added, and she is hoping to have those involved, including the town, see what they can do to have it reopened. But that is a totally separate issue, not part of the remediation efforts, although a group called Harmony Residents has been trying to have the park, as well as the old treatment facility property and the rifle range, open to the public.

She said the region’s plans to remediate the former sewage treatment plan



The old treatment plant lagoons and ponds on the Lakeshore Road property have to be cleaned up, and the region will pay for the removal of the sewage treatment facility, but says it doesn’t have the money or expertise to remove unexploded military devices. (Photos supplied)



property, on top of what needs to be done to clear it of unexploded military devices, are the current priorities.

“It’s not going to happen overnight,” she explained. “There’s a lot of potential and I’d say it’s kind of far down the line.”

Kaiser said she has been communicating with Harmony Residents, a local

group also hoping to see some of the property return to a park form.

Finn Madsen, long-time member of the Harmony group, explains their project is intended to be long-term, with the goal of opening three of the four parcels of land to the public — beginning with Niagara Shores Park, then the closed sewage plant, and finally, at some

point in the future, the former rifle range, which has the most historical significance in relation to the War of 1812.

Madsen told The Local there was a clean-up of unexploded ordnance years ago, and he isn’t sure what could still be there to be removed.

“I’m sure that property was given a clean bill,” he said. And any remediation required with the old facility and lagoons, he believes, is the responsibility of the region to complete, and not Parks Canada.

David Hennessey, another member of the Harmony group, also claims there was a “major clean-up” at the site about 10 years

ago, around the time of the new treatment plant being constructed.

He said all the different pieces of property in the area add up to more than 80 hectares of land, and that the Harmony group wants to see it return to a naturalized state, a place the public can use.

He also claims even though there is fencing and signage currently telling people to keep out in the park, it isn’t working.

“The general public is all over that place,” he said.

Before the construction of the sewage lagoons in the 1960s, the land was used by Canada’s Department of National Defence for training, beginning in 1908.

Niagara Region has several land transfer agreements, lease agreements and memorandums of understanding with the federal government for the lands, dating back to the 1980s.

According to the public works report, federal officials have assessed the risk level of the military explosives as “medium,” meaning there is a “remote possibility” of unexploded devices being present, which if not handled correctly, have “the potential to cause a catastrophic event, possibly leading to loss of life.”

The committee approved a staff recommendation to request the federal government either assume funding obligations and provide expertise to deal with the issue, and thereby allow the region to proceed with removal of infrastructure and creation of a wetland area, or alternatively, determine whether return of the lands in an “as is” state is a preferable solution, recognizing the

Continued on page 3

OCTOBER 1  
11:00 AM



\$149 PER  
PERSON






JOIN US FOR ANOTHER IRISH HARP GOLF TOURNAMENT  
AT THE HISTORIC NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE GOLF CLUB


ENJOY A PICTURESQUE ROUND OF CARTED GOLF, COMPETE FOR  
PRIZES, AND THE WINNING TEAMS NAME PROUDLY DISPLAYED  
ON THE TROPHY. AFTER GOLF, JOIN US AT THE PUB FOR AN  
INCLUDED DINNER, DRINK OF CHOICE, AND LIVE ENTERTAINMENT.

NOW ACCEPTING SIGN-UPS • LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT OUR WEBSITE:  
**THEIRISHHARPPUB.COM**  
(905) 468-4443 • RESERVATIONS REQUIRED




Do you have a lazy eye? Did you know that vision therapy can help? Also known as amblyopia, lazy eye is a condition where the brain favors one eye over the other, leading to reduced vision in the weaker eye. Vision therapy involves exercises and activities designed to improve eye coordination and strengthen the weaker eye. This can improve overall visual function and reduce the impact of lazy eye. If you or a loved one has lazy eye, give us a call to see if vision therapy may be a good option.




DR HOPKINS & ASSOCIATES  
OPTOMETRY  
— Sight for Life —

Care for all ages, infants to adults

358 Mary St., Unit 7, NOTL | 905.468.8002  
8 Secord Dr., St. Catharines | 905.682.9119  
[www.theeyedoc.ca](http://www.theeyedoc.ca)





Dr. Kevin Clark and  
Dr. Rebecca Zabek-Clark  
Dentists  
and their registered  
Dental Hygiene Team

369 MARY STREET  
NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE  
[www.niagaradental.ca](http://www.niagaradental.ca)

NEW PATIENTS WELCOME  
EVENING HOURS AVAILABLE  
**905-468-3009**



# Budget covers remediation, not explosives removal

Continued from page 2

difficulties associated with remediation and removal of infrastructure, the report says.

The region does not have the expertise to develop the scope of work or assess qualifications to retain an expert or contractor to do the work, the committee was told last week.

The report continues to say that full-scale clearance, if undertaken, will be “extremely expensive, challenging, and unpleasant,” but it did not include a dollar figure related to what estimated remediation costs may be.

Kaiser explained there are two issues with the old sewage treatment property. When the region took it over, it agreed to return it to Parks Canada in the condition it was in when the treatment plant was built.

There was absolutely no talk of unexploded ordnance at that point, and if it's there, the region was not told about it, she said.

“It was never suggested. There was no discussion around unexploded ordnance, all this time,” she said. “It came as a surprise.”

“This work is not in our wheelhouse,” Kaiser told The Local.

The decommissioning objective has been to take the area out of service and

restore it to a naturalized state. Upon completion and acceptance by Parks Canada, the land will revert back to federal ownership, says the report.

The original plan included two phases for design and construction, the first the decommissioning and removal of the wastewater treatment plant buildings and clarifiers, while the second phase involves decommissioning the lagoons and full site restoration. Through a competitive bid process, the region retained a company to begin the Phase 1 design.

The remaining design work is on hold based on the risk assessment, says the public works report.

A revised scope of work is currently being developed to remove all equipment, fixtures and other items from buildings, and process tanks onsite.

“The buildings will be emptied, sealed and abandoned in satisfaction of all applicable laws and regulations,” the report says.

The design and construction for this revised scope is scheduled for 2023 to 2024.

The region wants to get it done, said Kaiser, but can't do anything as long as Parks Canada says there is some risk.

In a statement to The Local, Lindsey Jones, manager of capital projects for the



There is hope that one day this property can be open to the public as greenspace, but regional representatives don't sound optimistic. (Supplied)

region's water-wastewater engineering division, said in current agreements, it is agreed that the land would be returned to Parks Canada following decommissioning of the site.

In consideration of the fact that the land will be reverted back to ownership of the federal government, should they prefer the land be remediated, “it would be necessary for the region to receive the necessary funding from them to undertake the work.”

Without funding, the region would “remediate to the site within ability and then transfer the lands ‘as is,’” which Jones said is also an option in the agreement.

There is currently \$2 million available in the budget for this project, said Jones.

“It is anticipated that it would be highly unlikely that public access to the lands would be permitted in the future given the documented conditions of the lands, regardless of remediation efforts,” said Jones.

Even if a full-scale ordinance clearance were to be conducted to allow for remediation, only “areas of the site currently impacted by wastewater infrastructure” would receive clearance, still leaving portions of the site with a risk, said Jones.

The statement from Jones did not specifically address an emailed question about claims that the site has already been cleaned of unexploded ordnance, which both Kaiser and Harmony

residents say has occurred, although Kaiser said she was not certain what part of the Lakeshore property — she recalls there was a cleanup of the rifle range.

Jones reiterated information contained in the report brought to public works, saying that an assessment of the area has been conducted, and that there is a “medium” risk of unexploded military devices, which could create a catastrophic event, and possibly lead to loss of life.



**Niagara  
on-the-Lake  
Realty**  
1994 Limited Real Estate Brokerage

*The Highest Total Volume of  
Local Sales for the Past Decade*

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



**36 THE PROMENADE**  
**\$2,289,000**

MLS 40424167 - Patricia Atherton and Caroline Polgrabia



**4 LUTHER AVENUE**  
**\$729,000**

MLS 40375616 - Patricia Atherton and Caroline Polgrabia



**450 JOHNSON STREET**  
**\$2,850,000**

MLS 40454536 - Christopher Bowron and Nicole Vanderperk



**20 CONFEDERATION DRIVE**  
**\$1,399,000**

MLS 40449281 - Christopher Bowron and Nicole Vanderperk



**45 STONERIDGE CRESCENT**  
**\$1,699,000**

MLS 40397020 - Randall Armstrong



**14529 NIAGARA RIVER PARKWAY**  
**\$2,898,000**

MLS 40427830 - Thomas Elltoft and Weston Miller



**33 COTTAGE STREET**  
**\$2,799,999**

MLS 40409933 - Thomas Elltoft and Ricky Watson



**28 ABERDEEN LANE S**  
**\$1,398,000**

MLS 40448042 - Thomas Elltoft and Jane Elltoft

Christopher Bowron\*\*\* ..... 905-327-6704  
Kim Elltoft\*\* ..... 905-380-8011  
Randall Armstrong\*\* ..... 905-651-2977  
Victoria Bolduc\* ..... 905-941-3726  
Philip Bowron\* ..... 905-348-7626  
Nicole Vanderperk\* ..... 905-941-4585

Viviane Elltoft\* ..... 905-988-7494  
Thomas Elltoft\* ..... 905-380-8012  
Jane Elltoft\*\* ..... 905-988-8776  
Cheryl Carmichael\* ..... 905-941-0276  
Linda Williams\* ..... 905-401-4240  
Caroline Polgrabia\* ..... 289-257-6063

Patricia Atherton\* ..... 905-933-4983  
Weston Miller\* ..... 289-213-8681  
Ricky Watson\* ..... 905-246-3387

\*\*\*Broker of Record \*\* Broker \*Sales Representative

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



# New hospital won't solve healthcare problems

**Kris Dube**  
**The Local**  
**Local Journalism Initiative**

A new \$3.6-billion hospital planned to be built in south Niagara Falls within the next four years won't be a local solution to backlogs and hospitals being overwhelmed with patients — a problem being felt across the province.

That's according to Michael Hurley, president of the Canadian Union of Public Employees' Ontario Council of Hospital Unions, and the union's senior research officer Doug Allan, who were in Niagara Falls Thursday to reveal a 21-page report called *The Hospital Crisis: No Capacity, No Plan, No End*, citing data from Statistics Canada and the Canadian Institute for Health Information.

Hurley said Niagara has been "hammered" in recent years due to the province reducing services at local healthcare sites, such as Fort Erie and Port Colborne's urgent care centres, which have recently seen a significant reduction in hours of operation, as well as after-hours emergency services shut down at Welland Hospital.

Niagara-on-the-Lake's hospital site closed its doors in 2015.

People from smaller towns and cities in the region deserve access to healthcare in

their own backyards — not just those in Niagara Falls and St. Catharines — where a new hospital opened about 10 years ago, the report says.

"There's a fondness for these mega hospitals, but there's a vibrant role played by community hospitals," said Hurley to members of the local media Thursday.

Allan said Niagara needs more than 1,700 staff dedicated to inpatient services than what is what currently offered, and another 223 beds over the next four years to address a "very serious problem" in the region and the rest of the province. Hurley said although a new state-of-the-art facility is expected, the real problem is inadequate staffing.

"If it's not staffed, it's of no use," he said.

"People are retiring, and people are walking away from the profession," he said, referring to the importance of job retention in healthcare and creating additional positions.

He said local sites "save a lot of lives" in smaller, rural communities, citing industry, highways where many accidents occur and farming as reasons why local facilities need to be protected.

Turning them into outpatient clinics and offices for family physicians is "completely impractical and dangerous," said Hurley.

According to the report, Ontario has 33,775 fewer positions in its hospitals per capita compared to other provinces, which equates to about 18 per cent fewer workers.

"Something different is happening in Ontario," said Allan.

The largest part of the staff deficit for Ontario is in nursing and inpatient services, says the report that was released Thursday.

Ontario has 0.285 full-time equivalent workers per 100 population in inpatient services compared to 0.395 in other provinces across Canada.

"If Ontario had the same ratio of inpatient health care workers, there would be another 16,201 full-time inpatient jobs in our hospitals. That would allow a lot more hospital beds and inpatients and would help solve the capacity crisis we are currently experiencing," reads the report.

To address the needs in Ontario, brought on mostly by growth and an aging population, 8,000 new beds are required over the next four years, not 1,000, which the province is suggesting, according to Hurley and Allan.

"Workloads are just not doable" at Ontario hospitals, as doctors, nurses and other providers are feeling a sense of "despair, defeat, and exhaustion" by having to go above and

beyond — they work overtime, don't take breaks and work extra weekends.

"Even if you do all that, the quality of care never comes close to what you believe these patients are entitled to," said Hurley. "That's why you're seeing people walk away."

Nursing agencies are being brought in and individuals employed with them have the convenience of working the same hours Monday to Friday and are paid "two or three times as much," according to Hurley.

"Why would you want to stay?" Hurley asked, referring to those who are burned out and leaving for another career.

Privatization is not the direction to take, he said, as it would be 30 per cent more expensive for the province, and that especially for nursing, it would be "two or three times" more costly.

Ontario's healthcare budget is more than \$25 billion, and addressing the concerns laid out in the report would be a "tiny fraction" of the overall budget, said Allan.

In hospitals, employment has increased by 3,210 since the onset of COVID-19 three years ago in the first quarter of 2020, an increase of 1.2 per cent, or 0.4 per cent per year.

"This is a shockingly small increase considering the burden COVID and long-COVID have placed on healthcare.



Canadian Union of Public Employees senior hospital researcher Doug Allan and Michael Hurley, president of the union's Ontario Council of Hospital Unions, share details of a report about problems in Ontario's hospitals during a press conference in Niagara Falls last week. (Kris Dube)

COVID aside, the need for hospital care due to population growth and aging has expanded at a much faster rate, as we shall see," the report says.

The long-term decline in spending on hospital staff is also a major area of concern in the report.

Spending by hospitals on employee compensation has declined as a percentage of total spending, falling from 64 per cent in 2005-06 to 59 per cent in 2020-21 in Ontario, it says.

The Progressive Conservatives ran on a promise in 2018 of ending hospital hallway healthcare, the report adds, but "In fact, the problem has gotten worse."

The number of inpatients

being cared for in hallways has hit 1,289 per day, an all-time high, 22 per cent higher than when the government was elected in June 2018. After the hospital crisis and the cancellation of tens of thousands of surgeries with COVID, hospital bed occupancy has already returned to 93 per cent, "a dangerously high level, even as the number of surgeries has not returned to pre-COVID levels."

Demand for staffed beds will increase further when hospitals are able to bring surgeries back to the number performed in 2019, says the report.

Both Allan and Hurley said they hope the recent report will catch the attention of the provincial government.

The **SIGN** you've been looking for!

A bunch of green grapes sits on a rustic wooden surface. Behind the grapes is a white sign with the Royal LePage logo, which consists of a red bar, a series of vertical lines, and the text "ROYAL LEPAGE". Below the logo, the text "NRC Realty, Brokerage. Independently Owned & Operated" is written.

Adobe Stock | #371047588



# Game of Love and Chance reveals ensemble's mastery of improv

**Sharon Burns**  
The Local

At the beginning of this year's Shaw Festival playbills, artistic director Tim Carroll is having a conversation with an anonymous Shaw Friend. Carroll asks, if you could only pick one play to see this season, what would it be?

Shaw Friend: Ah — then it has to be the play and the author that no one has ever heard of.

Tim Carroll: A bit counter intuitive . . .

SF: Not at all. I think to myself, 'Hang on, if TC has programmed this play, knowing full well that it will only get an audience if it is amazing — well, then it probably is.'

TC: May I quote you on that?

It is no surprise then that Carroll directed an amazing play "that no one has ever heard of."

*The Game of Love and*

*Chance*, now in the Spiegel Tent, is a romantic comedy written by Pierre de Marivaux and first performed in 1730. It is different every time it is performed because each performance is improvised by the Shaw Festival ensemble.

At the beginning, audience members assign roles for the cast with a roll of the dice. Actors start with a premise in which two nobles, Silvia and Dorante, are to marry. But they, unbeknownst to each other, decide to don the apparel and character of Arlequin, Dorante's valet, and Lisette, Silvia's maid.

Dorante and Silvia (as valet and maid) fall in love, as do Lisette and Arlequin (as the nobles), but, before all is revealed, questions arise regarding marriage and social class.

Audience member Terry Babij, from St. Catharines, has seen this play five times. "There's a beginning and an end, and the journey from

point A to point B is different every single time," he said. His wife, Barb, has seen this play six times (so far). She keeps coming back "because there's so much fun" in it, she said.

It is very different every time, explained the pair of season pass holders and docents who offer backstage tours in the fall. "They make it up as they go along, and if they get too comfortable, they're told to stay away from certain things or do things a little differently," said Barb.

The Babij's saw Lisette performed by Jenny L. Wright twice. In one, Wright added characteristics of a dolphin to the character. In another, she acted like a bat, comically contorting herself upside down to please Arlequin's interest in bats.

Rounding out the cast are Kristopher Bowman, Sochi Fried, Martin Happer, Deborah Hay, Rebecca Northan, Travis Seeto and Graeme Somerville.



Ensemble in *The Game of Love and Chance*. (Photo by Emily Cooper)

The Shaw ensemble is no stranger to improvisation. *Androcles and the Lion* played at the festival's first year under Carroll's artistic leadership. Audience members were asked to throw a ball onto the stage to direct the next move of the play. For example, a character may be asked what she was thinking at that precise moment.

Carroll likens improvisa-

tional theatre to sport. "All we know is what the characters want, not what words they will use to get it. It could all go wrong. But then, why do we watch sport? Because, until the game starts, every result is possible."

"How they interact with each other is just good fun," said Barb. "This is the place to come if you want to laugh."

The Babij's have been in-

volved with the Shaw Guild since 2008, and see many of the Shaw productions. "There are some amazing plays here this year, really and truly," said Terry.

*The Game of Love and Chance* is on at the Spiegel Tent until Oct. 8 and runs between one hour, 50 minutes to two hours, 15 minutes, including two intermissions.

For information or tickets visit [shawfest.com](http://shawfest.com).

## Noel Coward's *Blithe Spirit* 'a light comedy about death'

**Sharon Burns**  
The Local

Coloured in hues of pickle, moss and juniper, the wall-to-wall carpeting and two-storey-long draperies of the living room of Charles Condomine's house in Kent evokes a desire to pack up a few belongings, step inside and move right in.

But this is just the set for Noel Coward's *Blithe Spirit* on now at the Shaw Festival Theatre. And, after a seance brings back a dead wife, audience members will be happy they stayed in their seats.

Charles is played by Damien Atkins, who expertly uses voice modulation to portray surprise and outrage. He is a novelist in search of material for his upcoming book about a "homicidal medium." He hosts a dinner party, and invites Madame Arcati, a role designed for the magnificent

Deborah Hay, to conduct a seance. It works too well, and Arcati conjures Charles' first wife, Elvira, played by Julia Course.

Elvira is only too happy to be back among the living, languidly pouring herself, and her flowing dress and lime green tresses, over the long chesterfield as she tries to seduce Charles. Charles' second, and (for now) very alive wife, Ruth (Donna Soares), is suitably freaked out.

*Blithe Spirit* is brimming with comic conveniences: neighbours Dr. and Mrs. Bradman, played by David Adams and Jenny L. Wright, and maid Edith (Katherine Gauthier).

The play, and the gorgeous set, descend into chaos as Coward's characters explore love and marriage.

Madame Arcati is one of the great characters in theatre, and director Mike Payette

made an exceptional choice in choosing Hay to play this robust character who relishes dry martinis and sandwiches, but not red meat before a seance.

"I make it a rule never to eat red meat before I work. It sometimes has an odd effect," says Arcati.

This is a role requiring great physicality of Hay, whose comedy is reminiscent of Carol Burnett or Lucille Ball. The audience is introduced to her character as she shakes her body out after a seven-mile bicycle ride to the Condomine's house. Watching Hay, as Arcati, put herself into a trance pre-seance, is a master class in slapstick.

Set and costume designer James Lavoie must have completed a PhD in colour theory. The colours of the suits and dresses complement the greens of the set. Think spice, pumpkin and honeycomb; amethyst, lavender and orchid.

Coward, who wrote the play in a week, once said that *Blithe Spirit* is a "light comedy about death," and "an improbable farce in three acts." Written during the Second World War, at a time when

people were faced with horrendous deaths, curiosity was piqued about "reaching over to the other side."

Coward's mother was reported to have once visited a famous medium to ask spirits

if putting Noel into acting on the stage at the age of 11 was the right thing to do. The answer was clear, and Violet Coward kept him in theatre.

*Blithe Spirit* is on until Oct. 8 at the Festival Theatre.



Jenny L. Wright as Mrs. Bradman, Damien Atkins as Charles, Donna Soares as Ruth, David Adams as Dr. Bradman and Deborah Hay as Madame Arcati. (David Cooper)

## Local HOME of the WEEK

### 176 WILLIAM STREET

This home is the exquisite result of its international award-winning designer's vision for elegant living. It will appeal to a sophisticated couple who wish to downsize, yet enjoy the luxury of space, privacy and thoughtful planning. The living room incorporates four floor-to-ceiling French doors which open onto an expansive 42 ft., long private, south-facing patio, shading its entire length with remote-controlled awnings. The main floor is comprised of a 24' x 18' living room with double sided gas fireplace, powder room, two cloak closets, a kitchen with built-in fridge/freezer, hidden walk-in pantry, convection stove, built-in microwave and steamer ovens, two separate basins and taps, a filtered hot/cold tap, breakfast counter for four, a separate formal dining room with walkout, a cozy den or office, the primary bedroom with his and hers walk-in wardrobes and en-suite with double sinks and both shower and bath. Situated in Old Town, just a few blocks from the business and restaurant hub, yet just far enough away from tourist parking, this prime location is the ideal setting to enjoy life.

**Thomas Elltoft**  
Sales Representative  
905-380-8012

**Niagara on-the-Lake Realty**

**Weston Miller**  
Sales Representative  
289-213-8681



# EDITORIAL

## Facebook can censor stories, but not passion for local journalism

The blackout has officially begun.

Meta, the internet giant that owns Facebook and Instagram, is doing exactly what it promised: blocking news content from the eyes of all Canadian users. If the Niagara-on-the-Lake Local hasn't disappeared from your social media feeds just yet, it will at any moment.

Instead of our trusted local journalism, users will encounter this brief message if they visit The Local on Facebook or Instagram: "People in Canada can't see this content. In response to Canadian government legislation, news content can't be viewed in Canada."

That legislation, of course, is Bill C-18, a Liberal government law designed to force Big Tech (i.e. Meta and Google) to compensate media outlets for "stealing" our content and selling lucrative ads all around it. To be clear, Village Media (which operates the Local's website), has never supported this deeply flawed bill — nor the prevailing wisdom behind it.

Born digital, our growing roster of local news websites has thrived in the era of Facebook and Google, leveraging the massive reach of these platforms to help deliver the high-quality community journalism you've come to depend on. Does Meta "steal" our content? Absolutely not. The truth is we happily post it there, knowing full well that every click of a Facebook link leads right back to The Local.

Not anymore. Rather than pay up, Meta is wiping away any trace of legitimate news from the feeds of Canadian users. No more links to The Local headlines. No more sharing articles. And nobody — not the Trudeau government, and not the media outlets that lobbied hard for C-18 — can pretend to be surprised. Facebook gave us all plenty of advanced warning.

Truth be told, Village Media has seen this day coming for quite awhile. Although you may not have noticed, the amount of journalism appearing in your Facebook feed has slowly dwindled in recent years, so much so that we've been busy working on our own in-house version of a social media platform. It's exciting stuff, but more on that later.

In the meantime, let me be absolutely clear on one thing: The Niagara-on-the-Lake Local is not going anywhere, not online or in print. Facebook or no Facebook, we are as committed as ever to being your hometown source for up-to-the-minute news and information, free of charge and accessible to all.

What can you do as a loyal reader? Here is what I tell anyone who asks.

- Visit us often. Heck, make us your homepage, at notllocal.com. To borrow a quote from Dave Dawson, one of our veteran Village editors: "I like to think of our site as the virtual water cooler of our time — a place where you come every day, often many times a day, to check the pulse of the community."
- If you haven't already, please subscribe to our free email newsletter at notllocal.com/daily. It arrives in your inbox every afternoon at 3 p.m., full of hyperlocal headlines you won't find anywhere else.

Although I've said it again and again, I will say it one more time: Local journalism has the rare power to strengthen and connect a community like nothing else can. Day after day, story after story, our reporters scour for the truth, hold decision-makers to account, introduce you to fascinating neighbours and challenge your assumptions. Our primary mission is to shine a spotlight on everything the public deserves to know — good, bad and ugly.

Nothing can block that purpose and passion. Not Facebook, and definitely not a disastrous piece of federal legislation. On we go.

**Michael Friscolanti**  
Editor-in-Chief,  
Village Media

## Rockwood Conservation Area has lots to do

**David Gilchrist**  
The Local

As well as national and provincial parks offering many camping and outdoor activities, we are fortunate to have such offerings at conservation areas around the province. One we had an opportunity to visit this year was the Rockwood Conservation Area at Rockwood, Ont.

This falls under the jurisdiction of the Grand River Conservation Authority, which maintains another 11 sites throughout that watershed.

Rockwood has 46 serviced campsites (electricity and water), 16 full service (water, hydro and septic) and 43 unserviced sites. An online camping reservation system can be used to book a site. We

**Continued on page 7**



After arriving at Rockwood Conservation Area with their Backpack trailer, David and Claudia Gilchrist found lots to do and see on their adventure, including hiking trails, caves, eroded shorelines and the ruins of an old mill. (Photos by David Gilchrist)

### Where's Ben?

Eden student Ben Foster continues to discover new locations in NOTL, wondering how familiar others may be with them. If you know where this photo was taken, email penny@notllocal.com. We received answers last week, but not correct ones — Ben was beside the Shaw Festival Theatre building.

### View from the couch

**Donald Combe**  
Special to The Local

In the 12 episodes of *Good Omens* (Prime, 2019 to 2023), an angel and a demon co-operate in an attempt to stop the approaching Armageddon. They have to find the missing Antichrist, an 11-year-old boy. This well-acted tale is both witty and amusing; I love it.

Donald Combe is a retired English teacher who loves to go to the movies. Until he resumes going to theatres, he has graciously agreed to share his opinions, through "short and sweet" exclusives, of Netflix series and movies for The Local.

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

**Editor:**  
Penny Coles  
penny@notllocal.com  
905-246-5878

**Publisher:**  
The Niagara-on-the-Lake Local

**Village Media Regional Publisher (online sales)**  
John Hammill  
John@villagemedia.ca  
905-988-5599 ext 1157

**Advertising Sales:**  
Joy Sanguedolce - NOTL  
joy@notllocal.com  
416-817-0920

**Julia Coles - outside NOTL**  
julia@notllocal.com  
905-934-1040

**Graphic Designer: Rosie Gowsell**  
composing@notllocal.com

**News Tips: news@notllocal.com**

notllocal.com | facebook.com/notllocal | instagram.com/thenotllocal | @thenotllocal

## NEED HELP? MAKE THE CALL

<b>DISTRESS CENTRE</b> For depression, distress and crisis. 24 hour help line: <b>905-688-3711</b>	<b>KIDS HELP PHONE</b> Service for youth <b>416-586-5437</b> <b>1-800-668-6868</b> (Crisis Line) kidshelpphone.ca	<b>ASSAULTED WOMEN'S HELPLINE</b> Mobile calls to: <b>#SAFE (#7233)</b> <b>1-866-863-0511</b> (Toll Free)
<b>MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS ACCESS</b> (Toll Free) <b>1-866-550-5205</b>	<b>ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS</b> Meetings every Wednesday evening 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. St. Mark's Parish Hall 41 Byron St., NOTL or find a meeting <b>905-682-2140</b>	<b>CRIME STOPPERS</b> <b>1-800-222-8477 (TIPS)</b> niagaratips.com Text 274637 (CRIMES), keyword: Niagara, then your tip
<b>GAMBLER'S ANONYMOUS</b> <b>905-351-1616</b>		



# COMMENT

## Local LETTERS

### King George III reservations cancelled last minute

On March 17, 2023 I booked accommodation at the King George III Inn so that my wife and I could come to the Peach Festival and enjoy the theatre.

Imagine our surprise when yesterday evening (Aug. 10), only a few hours

before we were due to book in, we were advised that our booking had been cancelled. Obviously there was no point to try and get accommodation elsewhere in NOTL. So we could not enjoy the Peach Festival and have had to cancel our theatre tickets.

In our view the Township should revoke the operating licence of the property.

Andrew D Silbiger

*Editor's note: This inn was closed, with a site proposal to build condos.*

## Local LETTERS

### Alert of what may and can happen in NOTL

This is my alert to the Niagara-on-the-Lake community.

Have you heard about the three-storey condo building (17 units) coming to our neighbourhood?

This is not Parliament Oak. This is not the Rand Estate.

This is a small lot off King Street South zoned single family, about to entertain a condo tower, should the developer's amendment to

our residential bylaw be approved.

Thus, a continuation to the saga of poor town planning.

The location is 733 King Street

Please . . . join the fight for our community and its beauty.

Oppose this condo.

Oppose this application to amend our residential bylaw.

Please: Contact aimee.alderman@notl.com to register your opposition to this

poor judgement, and to be included in the in-person/virtual public meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 12 at 6 p.m.

If this official plan amendment is approved, there will be more three-storey condo buildings coming next to you.

The worst thing you can do is nothing.

Barbara Weaver  
King Street

#### 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. And please stick to the issue at hand, rather than attacking those involved. The deadline is Monday at noon.

# Campground sights include glacial potholes

Continued from page 6

accessed the park traveling north on the Guelph Line, and turning east on Hwy 7 toward the town of Rockwood, which is adjacent to the park itself.

The primary reason for staying here was to be able to visit an equestrian show our granddaughter was competing in at the Angelstone Equestrian Centre in nearby Erin, Ont. We did, however, want to do some

hiking at the area. The Eramosa River flows through this conservation area and a reservoir created offers swimming, fishing, canoeing and kayaking activities. In the Rockwood reservoir you can paddle around small islands, past towering cliffs and through narrow channels. It is quite scenic.

The location of the conservation area along the Niagara Escarpment offers some unique sights along

the two hiking trails. Top on my list to see were the large numbers of geological features called glacial potholes. These are rock creations made during periods of glacial melting, when very high water flow caused harder rocks to spin in a confined area and wear down the limestone rock underneath.

I had become aware of potholes elsewhere on the escarpment, but was amazed to discover

the quantity (more than 200) and size of the ones located at Rockwood. A well-maintained trail and boardwalk takes you through this area.

An interesting historical site to see is the remains of the Harris Woollen Mill Ruins. This substantial structure is located at the end of the hiking area. It is currently fenced off for security and safety, but quite visible.

The mill was founded by John Richard Harris

in 1867. The stone building (now the ruins) was built in 1884 to replace the original wooden building which was lost to fire. The Harris family continued its operation until 1925, before they closed it down due to competition from other mills. The conservation authority acquired it in 1958 but another fire in 1967 reduced it to the current state.

Further on, across a bridge, we followed a lane

to the other geological feature that is an attraction in the area — huge caves. The two that we examined were quite deep and interesting to view. Care should be taken and deeper probes of these areas require planning.

This is an interesting area for a few days of camping or for a day visit. The unique sights to explore and other outdoor activities to be enjoyed make it too on our list.



## STAY IN THE LOOP

If you haven't already signed up for our daily newsletter, with all the latest headlines from Niagara-on-the-Lake, you're missing out!

**Our Village Media website offers hyperlocal journalism, and much more than we can include in our weekly printed edition, coming to you daily. Keep up to date on local news, weather, gas prices, community updates, news from the province, across the country and more!**

**If you sign up for our newsletter, it will be delivered to your inbox every afternoon.**

**Visit [www.notllocal.com/daily](http://www.notllocal.com/daily)**





# NOTL ambassadors welcome visitors, answer questions

**Kris Dube**  
The Local  
Local Journalism  
Initiative Reporter

A group of volunteers established during the COVID-19 pandemic in the heritage district of Niagara-on-the-Lake has grown to play an important role in the overall experience of tourists who visit in the summer months.

Known as ambassadors, a few dozen Shaw Guild members, a group of people who help support the Shaw Festival, came together in 2020 to create the Ambassador program. The initial mandate was to assist with making sure protocols and mandates were being abided by, but since then, their purpose has become much more than that — they are a team of people who help visitors find shops and restaurants, hand out maps, and provide as much information to out-of-town guests as they can.

There are about 60 people who are part of the all-volunteer collective, operated under the umbrella of Niagara-on-the-Lake Tourism.

They can be found during the day from May to early September, Friday through Sunday and on holiday weekend Mondays, walking the downtown area or stationed at a kiosk on Queen Street in front of the

chamber of Commerce offices. In 2021, the town was successful in getting a grant for the ambassadors, which helped pay for shirts and other accessories such as literature racks for information that is handed out to passersby.

“Maps are the most popular and best tool we’ve got,” said Laurie Harley, one of the group’s co-leaders and founders who helped get the initiative underway in 2020 when she was president of the Shaw Guild.

In 2022, ambassadors recorded 9,200 engagements, stops from people asking for advice about various things to do.

“This year we’re well on our way to breaking that record,” said Harley, adding that an engagement doesn’t include someone asking about where they can find a public washroom, and that the Old Town appears to be much busier now that bus groups are pouring into the area like they did pre-pandemic.

This year, ambassadors have interacted with visitors from at least 37 countries, said Harley, noting there appears to be a lot of people from Mexico this summer.

At the start of tourist season, the ambassadors take part in training, which also includes site visits to popular destinations such as the Landscape

of Nations, wineries, Niagara Pump House Arts Centre and the NOTL Museum — places they often direct guests to.

They hear inquiries about what restaurants best suit guests’ tastes, and what there is to do for kids.

“We call ourselves storytellers — but we’re not tour guides,” said Harley.

“We literally have something for every visitor depending on what they want to do.”

What are some unusual inquiries they receive, or facts that some people from outside the area were unaware of?

“There’s a lot of people who don’t realize we’re so close to the United States,” she said, referring to Fort Niagara being visible only a stone’s throw away over the lower Niagara River.

Ambassadors assist “not just the visitors, but the stores, too,” said Harley, noting a time one local merchant asked them for advice on how to dispose of a dead skunk in front of their storefront.

People often ask about what the winter is like in Niagara-on-the-Lake — how much snow the town gets and how cold it can be.

“If you think it’s pretty in the summer, you ought to come back at Christmas,” Harley said is a stance often given to those who ask.

The majority of the group




NOTL ambassadors Linda Hicks and Joy Lambert. (Photos by Kris Dube)



Ambassador Joy Lambert is all set to deal with visitors’ enquiries.

consists of people from everything it has to offer. “There are people who want to talk to you, and there are others who just want to do their own thing.”


A key to their approach is being helpful “without being invasive,” said Harley.



## Patio Program Feedback Opportunities

Share your opinion about the Town's Temporary Patio Program to help determine if the Town should implement a permanent Seasonal Patio Program.


Visit [jointheconversationnotl.org/patio-program](http://jointheconversationnotl.org/patio-program) for details.



Take the online survey at [jointheconversationnotl.org/patio-program](http://jointheconversationnotl.org/patio-program) until September 8.



Drop in to an in-person Public Information Centre on August 28 from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Courthouse (26 Queen Street).



Participate in a focus group. At the end of the online survey, respondents can sign up to be randomly selected for this focus group.

1593 Four Mile Creek Road, Virgil ON, L0S 1T0  
905-468-3266 | [www.notl.com](http://www.notl.com)

## 2023 Fall & Winter Community Guide

**CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS**

**CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS**

The Community Guide is the Town's bi-annual publication that houses information on Town services, community programs, activities, events, and organizations while providing businesses with various advertising opportunities!

Join the guide or submit your business advertisement at [www.notl.com/community-guide](http://www.notl.com/community-guide).

Submissions are open now until **Tuesday, August 29, 2023.** Advertising space is limited.





# New wine-lovers' guide a father and son project

**Mike Balsom**  
The Local

Father and son bonding activities can take many traditional forms — the weekend fishing trip, a round of golf followed by some fun on the 19th hole, maybe a trip to a ball game.

For Andrew Perrie of Niagara-on-the-Lake and his father Bill of Orangeville, spending a year working together on a new wine lover's guide proved to be the perfect father-son activity.

The result of their bonding experience is the Perries' new book, *Niagara: A Wine Lover's Guide*. Their year's work covers 75 wineries across the Niagara region, each featured in a two-page spread containing a brief description of the winery itself, a few photos and a description of a "writer's choice" wine selection.

"We partnered up at a pub," says the real estate agent from Revel Realty about the genesis of the idea. "I told him I wanted to do more with him, and I suggested we do a book about wine. We embarked on it last spring. I commissioned him to do all the writing and he took most of the photos, too."

Andrew was about four years old when his parents' marriage ended. Bill later started a family with his second wife, and for a number of years Andrew didn't see much of his father. He began to reconnect with his dad when his first son Hudson was born just over seven years ago.

"This experience just brought us closer together," the 36-year-old tells The Local. "I couldn't get to every single winery with him, but we connected to talk about every one of the wineries, we tasted wines together and collaborated on the design of the book, too. It was great to do this with him. It helped to strengthen the adult relationship we've developed."

"We already have a very strong father-son relationship," says Bill on the phone from Orangeville, "and doing the book just strengthened the bond a little more."

The elder Perrie is originally from Dundee, Scotland, and has maintained his thick Scottish brogue. Known as "Canada's Pub Guy," he has hosted radio shows and podcasts about the topic, and has written guides to the province's pubs and its craft brewing industry. As well, he collaborated with two others on a novel called *The Black Horse Diaries: A Year in the Life of a Small Town Ontario Pub*.

Bill was also one of the owners of Falcon Brewing Company in Ajax, Ont. Additionally, he and Andrew are currently involved together in the ownership group of a traditional pub in Orangeville.

Neither of the Perries would call himself a wine expert. But they enjoyed learning more about Niagara's bounty together during their research.

"He's not a wine connois-

seur, I'm not a wine connoisseur," says Andrew. "We just said what we felt. We just tasted the wines and talked about what we liked about them. We picked up the random tastes and scents. Whatever we sensed, we wrote it down."

That is part of the charm of *Niagara: A Wine Lover's Guide*. A foreword from Stephanie Pietruniak, sommelier and manager of Palatine Hills Estate Winery, delves into the details of Niagara's terroir and the science behind growing grapes in the region.

Once that's out of the way, the rest of the book's 161 pages are written in layperson's terms.

For example, for NOTL's Byland Estate Winery, their writer's choice is the 2018 oaked chardonnay. They get right to the point about what they loved about their selection.

"This wine has a bright yellow hue with an aroma of fresh yellow peach, pineapple, lemon and pear," they write. "Crisp, with perfect acidity."

"It was interesting watching him break down what he was experiencing with the wines," Andrew says about Bill. "In the beer world it's hoppy or it's not hoppy. In the wine world the sense vocabulary is so much wider, so your experiences are so different. Watching him try to break it down was interesting."

"I've actually become more of a wine drinker later in life," says Bill. "I think it's a common thing. You don't get so bloated."

Andrew insists he's always been an advocate for the smaller wineries in the area, the ones that are off the beaten path. Many lesser-known wineries,

such as Wending Home Estate, GreenLane Estate and Locust Lane Estate, get the same treatment in the book as do the larger, busier destinations.

"There are so many smaller wineries with absolutely amazing, powerful wines," Andrew says. "The bigger ones here offer a five-star experience with their culinary and their events. But if you're looking for something with a unique taste, the smaller ones are really worth checking out."

Andrew says as much as his profile as a Revel agent with an office in NOTL may have gotten him a foot in the door locally, it was his father's charisma and that charming accent that eased the pair into meeting many of the owners and winemakers.

The wineries were all very receptive to the Perries' endeavour. And they continue to support the book through events like this past Saturday's book signing at the new AMO Winery in St. Davids.

"We've been offered to do at least a dozen of those," says Andrew of the signings. "And many of them have ordered copies of the books to stock and sell in their retail stores. We will also have some available here at Revel Realty."

Andrew has promised to have copies of the book available for purchase at Revel's 253 Four Mile Creek Road office. And for every softcover copy sold there at \$20 he promises to match that price as a donation to Joe Pillitteri's Terry Fox Run campaign.

And the book will come in handy with clients. As a real estate agent, Andrew is often



Bill and Andrew Perrie have written a book about wine together. (Supplied)

asked about Niagara's wines from potential clients, especially those from out of town exploring the possibility of owning a home here.

"I've always catered a Niagara experience to people who come in from out of town," he says. "Every buyer who comes here to Niagara-on-the-Lake, I now give them a copy of the book as a gift. You can't sell an experience of living in Niagara-on-the-Lake without including wine."

The younger Perrie says the creation of the guide has opened up the possibilities for future bonding experiences with his father.

"I would like to do something like this again," says Perrie, who has contributed to the *Cottage Life* program on

HGTV and also volunteered as a reporter on local cable station YourTV, "but I would like to film it, and turn it into a show, where we're not only tasting the wine but tasting the culinary

offerings as well."

*Niagara: A Wine Lover's Guide* is available at Revel Realty or as a Kindle e-book or either hard- or softcover editions online through amazon.ca.



Andrew Perrie at his Revel Real Estate office with *Niagara: A Wine Lover's Guide*. (Mike Balsom)

**HONoured  
TO BE YOUR  
VOICE IN  
OTTAWA**

**TONY BALDINELLI, M.P.**  
NIAGARA FALLS  
NIAGARA FALLS/NOTL OFFICE: 905-353-9590  
FORT ERIE OFFICE: 905-871-9991  
TONY.BALDINELLI@PARL.GC.CA • TONYBALDINELLIM.P.CA

**NOTL'S FAVORITE REALTOR® FAMILY TEAM**

**ROYAL LEPAGE**  
NRC Realty. Brokerage. Independently Owned & Operated

**FREE HOME EVALUATION**  
CALL OR TEXT SALLY  
905-988-3019

**CALL SALLY MILLER**  
#1 RLP TEAM NOTL 2022

**ANDREWS LAW  
PROFESSIONAL  
CORPORATION**  
Barristers & Solicitors

905.468.0081  
info@rjwandrews.ca

**REAL ESTATE WILLS BUSINESS**

**Customer Experience Survey**

**YOUR FEEDBACK MATTERS**

Complete our Customer Experience Survey before September 1, 2023.

**SCAN ME**

www.jointheconversationnotl.org/customer-service

1593 Four Mile Creek Road, Virgil ON, L0S 1T0  
905-468-3266 | www.notl.com



# Rainy start turned into a peach of a day

**Sharon Burns**  
**The Local**

Despite a rainy start, Niagara-on-the-Lake's biggest street festival was a huge success.

At least three local farmers were selling baskets of peaches while enjoying music from three different spots of the closed-down street.

The steamed corn engine, as always, was a hit.

Leon Martin, from Aylmer, Ontario, explained the process: "We are steaming corn with a steam engine to heat the water to steam the corn in barrels. The husk is on the cob when it gets cooked, and that adds extra flavour."

His brother, Ronald Martin, was responsible for ensuring the fire was stoked and the steam had just the right amount of pressure, water and heat to cook Niagara corn.

"This is our big festival," said Leon. "This is my fifth year here, but I promised the gentleman I bought this from that I would continue to come here." The 1800s-era steam engine has been a part of the Peach Festival for 14 years.

"Steamed sweet corn is the only way to go," said Leon, whose grandchildren Mia Weber, 9, and Tait Weber, 11, worked husking and buttering the corn.

Vendor Shelby Marshall, from Stoney Creek, who partners her business, Tread Forward fundraising, with eight Canadian Mental Health Associations around Ontario including Niagara, said that the festival is "good, it's crazy busy. The rain has passed, so everyone is in a good mood."

"We do an apparel fundraiser," said Marshall. "Ten per cent of the proceeds stay within the region." The clothing's imaging

"is all positive messaging relating back to mental health," she explained. "The world is a better place with you in it" and "the difference you make, makes all the difference" is on children's and adult shirts and hoodies. (Visit [treadforwardfundraising.com](http://treadforwardfundraising.com) to purchase a shirt, or to discover where the next pop-up shop will be.)

Marshall was also handing out Canadian Mental Health Association Niagara's brochure

detailing crisis services, safe beds and counselling information available in the Niagara region.

The Irish Harp owner Jovie Joki, flanked by co-owner Jeremy Buckland and host/server Caleb Knutson, said that "It's going very well at the peach festival today."

People of all ages and talents danced to the sounds of the '30s, '40s and '50s provided by The Toronto All-Star Big Band.



The Irish Harp owner, Jovie Joki, flanked by co-owner Jeremy Buckland (left) and host/server Caleb Knutson (right). (Photos by Sharon Burns)



Queen Street became a pedestrian strip for the peach harvest celebration Saturday.



Sam's Peach Haven sold freshly-picked peaches on Queen Street.



Dancing to the music of the Toronto All-Star Band.



Isla Skye Marko and her mother, Caitlyn Marko, came from Toronto just for the peach festival.



Leon Martin, Mia Weber, Tait Weber and Ronald Martin look after the steamed corn.



There was lots of entertainment on Queen Street, including The Steel Band.



## SWEET AS A Peach

Made with fresh local peaches, this wine is sure to be your perfect summer sipper. **ONLY \$18.95**

### konzelmann

estate winery





# Peachy-keen day for St. Vincent de Paul Peach Festival

**Mike Balsom**  
**The Local**

Sunday's weather couldn't have been any better for the St. Vincent de Paul Roman Catholic Church's annual Peach Festival in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

"We certainly lucked out," organizer Ted VanderKaay said, "it's a perfect, beautiful day with sunshine and no humidity. I think turnout today exceeds last year."

The church runs their own festival every year a day after

Saturday's larger version on Queen Street, organized by the NOTL Chamber of Commerce. VanderKaay was thankful Sunday didn't see the same interruption by rain that happened the previous day.

VanderKaay, co-chairs Terry and Sharyn Choules and a group of fellow organizers start planning the event every January. Top of the list is always ensuring that the requisite 110 volunteers are in place and that the equipment, tents and barbe-

cues are lined up for the second Sunday in August.

They have it down to a science by now, with very little changing from year to year. For the first time, though, they were set up to accept electronic payments, making things convenient for attendees. There also was one other unavoidable difference for 2023.

"Unfortunately, food prices have increased this year," VanderKaay told The Local. "We were afraid of getting some

pushback because we had to increase our prices to cover the costs. But that's happening everywhere across the board."

Those increased prices didn't seem to stop the 600 take-home peach pies, 100 more than at last year's festival, from selling out. By 1:15 p.m. there were just a couple dozen left for sale, while the line-ups at the barbecue and the dessert tables were steady throughout the lunch period.

And of course, ripe, juicy

red haven peaches were being sold by the basket.

As always, there was plenty for kids to do, with many of the youngest taking the opportunity to fish in the 'pond,' while others opted to get their face painted for the occasion.

For the adults, the ever-popular jewelry table was a hit as was the annual book sale, with a selection that would rival a big box store. Musician John Libera provided a musical background from the steps of the church.

Though the peach festival is a fundraiser that helps the church maintain the cemetery and the parish hall around the corner on nearby Davy Street, VanderKaay insisted it's not about the money.

"It's more about a sense of community coming together," he said. "Whether it's parishioners, community members, tourists, that's the primary focus. If we make money doing it, that's fantastic. But that's not our main focus."



A group of volunteers at the St. Vincent de Paul Peach Festival getting the corn husked. (David Gilchrist)



Volunteer chef Ted Van der Zalm at the barbecue. (Mike Balsom)



Rene and Cez Beronia bought two of the 600 peach pies for sale at the St. Vincent de Paul Peach Festival Sunday. (Mike Balsom)



Amira Alkaisi watches as her sister Alina gets a tattoo at the church Peach Festival. (Mike Balsom)



Church festival volunteer Carmen Giordano looks after the corn on the cob at the peach festival. (Mike Balsom)



Hope and Hal Grant of Halaloo Balloons making some balloon animals. (Mike Balsom)



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

**ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL PEACH FESTIVAL IN THE BOOKS - THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO CAME OUT AND CELEBRATED PEACH HARVEST!**



# Chamber turns Queen Street pink

**Mike Balsom**  
**The Local**

With almost 500 people dressed in pink Sunday night, onlookers on Queen Street would have been excused for expecting an outdoor screening of the new *Barbie* movie, with all its shades of pastel pink.

The gathering was for the annual outdoor event hosted by the Niagara-on-the-Lake Chamber of Commerce and NOTL Tourism, this year dubbed the Shades of Rose Dinner.

“It’s usually called Shades of Summer,” Chamber and Tourism NOTL president and CEO Minerva Ward told *The Local* Sunday night. “As you know, we’re elevating our wine industry. This is an ode to our Niagara-on-the-Lake wine industry, especially the rose wines that are made here.”

As pink as the outfits were, many attendees were pouring pre-ordered beverages of a similar shade as they sat down to enjoy their bring-your-own meals, many prepared with the

same care as a five-star chef. Linda Ridgeway, owner of a new local business called Bubble Taps, was on site with one of her three Italian Ape Piaggio vehicles, all outfitted with beverage taps. She was also pouring drinks while diners lined up to snap photos at a display set up by another local business, Selfie Mode.

For the first time, two tables were awarded prizes. Engel and Volkers real estate broker Nancy Bailey’s table won the Best Dressed Award, while Nancy Hummel and Victoria Gilbert’s table was chosen as Best

Decorated.

As a non-profit organization, the NOTL Chamber uses the money raised from the annual event to fund many of its programs and services. As well, a portion is always donated to a worthy cause.

“A portion is going to the restoration of the cenotaph,” Ward explained. “Obviously, we are here in the shadow of the cenotaph, and the NOTL Legion is raising funds for that. We felt it would be a noble, worthwhile gesture to support that cause.”

The event capped a busy weekend for the Chamber, following as it did the annual Peach Festival, with a section of Queen Street blocked off to traffic all weekend.

“The town is a wonderful partner for all of our events,” Ward said. “They help us make the transition between these two events as seamless as possible.”



Queen Street turned pretty in pink for the NOTL Chamber of Commerce Shades of Rose dinner to celebrate the wine industry, a change from their annual dinner in white. (Photos by Mike Balsom)







# Local Love

**Loyalty Discounts for the Locals we Love**



Serving Niagara Since 1977  
**SIMPSON'S**

Mark Your Calendars!

*Customer Appreciation Day*

Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month, everyone saves...

**20% off most products\***

*Seniors' Day*

Every Last Thursday of the month, over 60s save...

**20% off most products\***

\*Regular-priced products only. Excludes prescriptions, sale items, codeine products, gift cards, phone cards, special orders and pharmacy services.

*Visit one of our two convenient locations!*

Medical Centre • 905.468.2121 • 1882 Niagara Stone Rd, Virgil  
Old Town • 905.468.8400 • 233 King Street, Niagara-on-the-Lake

Shop online at [www.simpsonsparmacy.ca](http://www.simpsonsparmacy.ca) | FREE local delivery

*Flavours of the week*



**Peach White Balsamic**

**50% off Aug 11th - Aug 17th**  
(limit 2 per customer)

**Black Currant Dark Balsamic**

**50% off Aug 18th - Aug 24th**  
(limit 2 per customer)



**10% LOCAL DISCOUNT\* FOR NOTL RESIDENTS**

\*excludes 50% off items

**118 Queen St., NOTL | [olivniagara.com](http://olivniagara.com)**

ESTATE WINERY  
**RIVERVIEW**  
*Cellars*



Re-Discover A TRUE FAMILY WINERY in the heart of Niagara-on-the-Lake

Everybody says "Rosé all day"... but, at **RIVERVIEW**, Rosato is our motto!

Our brand new 2022 Rosato is a refreshing blend of 80% Riesling, 15% Cabernet Sauvignon and 5% Merlot.

**10% OFF**  
TO "LOCALS" WHO MENTION THIS AD

This dry rosé, in stainless for 10 months, gives you notes of grapefruit and fresh berries!

15376 Niagara River Pkwy, NOTL | [riverviewcellars.com](http://riverviewcellars.com)

**SPIRIT IN NIAGARA**  
SMALL BATCH DISTILLERS

**FABULOUS FOOD**  
**AWARD WINNING FARM TO GLASS**  
**SPIRITS & COCKTAILS**  
**LIVE MUSIC EVERY WEEK**  
**JAZZ, BLUES & PIANO TUNES**  
**MONDAY & THURSDAY**  
**NO COVER CHARGE**  
**FEATURING:**  
**ED PIZZO**  
**THOMAS NELSON BAND**  
**WILBER JAMES BLUES BAND**



**OPEN 11AM - 8PM DAILY**

[SPIRITINNIAGARA.COM](http://SPIRITINNIAGARA.COM) | 905 934 1300  
458 LAKESHORE ROAD, NIAGARA ON THE LAKE



**THE FARMHOUSE CAFE**

**Open For Lunch Daily**

Reservations Strongly Suggested  
Online Booking Now Available!

Or give us a call to book  
**905-468-8814**

Bring this ad in for 10% off lunch on any Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday in August

**CAROLINE CELLARS WINERY**



**WINE BOUTIQUE & TASTING BAR**

**Open 7 Days a Week**

**Wine Tastings Offered Daily**

Reservations Strongly Recommended for Wine Tasting

1010 Line 2, NOTL 905.468.8814 [www.CarolineCellars.com](http://www.CarolineCellars.com)



**Loyalty Discounts for the Locals we Love**

To advertise your business in this section contact:

**Joy at 416-817-0920**

or email: [joy@notllocal.com](mailto:joy@notllocal.com)

**Love Where You Live: SUPPORT *Local***



# Every car tells a story at Kinsmen Show and Shine

Mike Balsom  
The Local

A record 500-plus classic and collectable cars covered every corner of the Parks Canada lands surrounding the Niagara-on-the-Lake Kinsmen Club Sunday for its 23rd annual Show and Shine.

As impressive as that was, even more so were the stories behind many of the much-loved and obsessively-cared-for vehicles on display. And every vehicle there had a story.

Fonthill resident Tom Spence's red Corvette featured a licence plate reading "58FUELIE".

"It's one of 104 built with this combination," said Spence of his striking 1958 classic with an impressive red lacquer finish, "with this motor, fuel injection and an automatic transmission. Being red in '58, it might have been one of about 25 built. White was the most common colour back then."

Spence has owned the car since 2014, but he had his eye on that exact Corvette 37 years earlier.

"It had just been restored then, with this same paint," he explained. "That lacquer paint is pretty rare. You can't even buy it today. They don't use it in the auto industry anymore. It's used in the aerospace world, but they don't want the auto industry to use it because of its effect on the environment."

Spence kept track of the car for about 10 years. He would call

its owner periodically but he was never ready to sell it. He later came across the 'Vette, then owned by someone else, at a car show in Toronto. He befriended that owner, and began his campaign to convince him to sell it to him.

Spence bought other Corvettes along the way, but kept hoping he could somehow acquire the '58. He finally convinced the owner to part with it nine years ago.

"I had to redo this car because it had sat in underground parking," Spence told The Local. "The fuel system went bad, and the bumpers corroded, but I didn't want to take the body off the frame. It took a couple of years of steady work to restore it."

Spence is proud that all the gauges, the door panels and the steering wheel are original from 1958. He had the bumpers and trim work re-chromed and did some work on the interior, insisting on attempting to bring it back as close to its original condition as possible. And he wanted to make it driveable.

"Back then, people would see this car and think it's a race car," Spence said. "But General Motors was trying to make this car into an economy version, with an automatic transmission and lower horsepower. It's great to drive."

Kinsmen Club member and event organizer Ken Slingerland couldn't believe the turnout of both participants and browsers for the club's big-

gest fundraiser of the year.

"We typically gross \$15,000 to \$20,000 on this," Slingerland said. "It supports a lot of the things we do, including Cystic Fibrosis research and the Girl Guides and Pathfinders, who have their meeting right here in our hall."

NOTL resident Howard Bogusat was there with his green 1934 Chevrolet that looked like a classic Hot Wheels toy this reporter had as a kid. The former owner of MB Foods in Virgil has only had the car for about eight years.

"I bought it as is," said the 77-year-old. "I usually drive sports cars. My daily drive is a Porsche Panamera hybrid. I shocked a lot of people when I first drove up in this thing."

Bogusat was coming home from his cottage one day when he spotted a 1935 Chevy that piqued his interest. He started looking for a similar car online. It took him a while to take the plunge and put in an offer. This year's Show and Shine was only the fourth car show that he's entered. But he loves driving the '34.

"It has power steering, it steers really easily," he says. "When I drive around in it I get a lot of thumbs up. It's kind of a radical-looking car. It gets a lot of looks, and the women smile at me all the time."

Perhaps the story of the day revolved around Ross and Debbie Bell's white 1964 Chevy Impala. Looking like something out of American Graffiti,

the beautiful car was outfitted with a drive-in restaurant tray complete with a fake burger and an A&W mug.

The Wainfleet residents found the car in Abilene, Texas, in 1987.

"We drove down south in our Chevette and went looking all over for a car," said Debbie. "We found this in Abilene. He drove it back and I drove the Chevette back."

They both laugh when it is suggested the Chevette would have made a great "classic" to have in the show.

The '64 is not the first Impala driven by Ross, nor the first one in which he has taken Debbie for a spin.

"I had a '63 when I was 18 years old," he told The Local. "We were dating at the time. I wanted to find another '63, but I settled for the '64."

"I was just in high school," Debbie recalled. "He wanted to pick me up at lunch time but I was too afraid to get in the car with him. I would walk down the sidewalk and he would drive alongside me and we would talk."

Both recall actually sitting at Welland's A&W drive-in in that original '63 Impala 49 years ago, enjoying a burger and fries. And they weren't the only ones nostalgic for that simpler time.

"I bet 50 people have stopped to take a photo of the tray," laughed Ross.

Though no awards were handed out at the show, if there had been one for the best story behind the car, the Bells may have been a lock. Ross said the car, though, did win the Manager's Choice Award at the General Motors Show 'n' Shine earlier this year.

Slingerland told The Local that the early days of the Kinsmen event did feature awards, but the club decided to change it to more of a friendly gathering a few years ago.

"It's a nice summer event for our club," Slingerland said. "Right from the start it's been a good fit for us. We carry it on, and a lot of the collectors look forward to this show. And we're seeing more and more younger people beginning to show their cars. Everybody tells us it's one of the best shows around."



Debbie and Ross Bell of Wainfleet with their '64 Impala. (Mike Balsom)



Car show spectators gather to watch a parade of cars exit the grounds. (Mike Balsom)




An attention-getter at the show. (David Gilchrist)



NOTL resident Howard Bogusat and his '34 Chevy. (Mike Balsom)

PARKS CANADA AND THE FRIENDS OF FORT GEORGE PRESENT



## THE FIFE & DRUM MUSTER AND SOLDIERS' FIELD DAY

### AUGUST 19 -20, 2023

FORT GEORGE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE

Join us for a special weekend of music, musketry, and more!

Enjoy 19th century military music by the best Fife and Drum Corps. Cheer on the soldiers from Ontario's historic forts as they compete during the firepower demonstrations, musket-firing elimination competitions and the perfect volley demonstration!

**Saturday and Sunday activities:**  
10:00 am - 5:00 pm

For more information call: Parks Canada at 905-468-6614 or visit: [www.pc.gc.ca/fortgeorge](http://www.pc.gc.ca/fortgeorge); [www.friendsoffortgeorge.ca](http://www.friendsoffortgeorge.ca)



1  
2  
4  
Q

HOTEL  
& SPA



## YOGA TEACHER TO THE STARS

COMING TO NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE

Danny Paradise is one of the top Ashtanga yoga teachers in the world. For the past 40 years, he taught yoga around the world and gained a strong celebrity following.

Sting, Madonna, Paul Simon, Pearl Jam, John McEnroe and countless others are Danny's loyal students.

Join us for an exclusive retreat:

September 1st to 3rd  
\$135 each day

To reserve your spot, email us today at [office@124queen.com](mailto:office@124queen.com)





# Band to be welcomed back after northern tour

Mike Balsom  
The Local

Laurel Minnes, Taylor Hulley and other members of their ensemble, Minusculé, are getting a crash course on the ins and outs of life as touring musicians.

The pair and seven others packed their gear into a couple of vehicles and headed toward the north part of the province to play a series of shows. Wednesday night, Minusculé headlines a concert at the Imperial Theatre in Thunder Bay, with opening sets by fellow Niagara musicians Rita Visser and the Daydreamers and Electric Wildlife.

Here's the catch — Rita, the Daydreamers and both members of Electric Wildlife are also in Minusculé, a collective that includes as many as 15 female singers, as well as Hulley, Nathaniel Goold and Joe Lapinski as accompanying musicians.

Dubbed their Northshore Tour of Ontario, a bare-bones version of the band will play gigs in five different towns, with opening sets by Visser and Electric Wildlife at some locations. The highlight of the trip is surely the chance Minusculé had to play a set at the Mariposa-like Live From The Rock Folk Festival at Red Rock, Ontario last weekend.

"It was fabulous," Minnes says of the event, "they've got it

down to a science. It is so well-run, with such a huge volunteer base. People have been coming to it for 20 years. It's such a stunning setting, with massive cliff faces on one side of you and the lake on the other side."

Minnes says besides bringing Minusculé's music to new audiences, the opportunity to host a couple of workshops was especially gratifying.

Held in two separate tents away from the stage, the workshops are led by the musicians. They are informal gatherings where they have a chance to talk about their process and their inspirations, and they often lead the attendees through performances of their music.

"We did a harmony one on Saturday after playing the main stage," says Minnes. "We got the crowd to sing parts of our songs. We did another one that was like a crowd sing-along, sort of like church, but not church, on Sunday morning."

Minnes and the others quickly learned about the generosity of those that live in the north. Though at the festival the nine of them stayed in tents, as is the norm, they were offered elevated accommodations upon the conclusion of the weekend.

"Somebody at the festival said that they had a cottage and told us that we should go there," she says. "It was an hour between Red Rock and Thunder Bay. And after that we're going

to another house that we've been offered a chance to stay in. We are very, very thankful."

They're also thankful for the advice they've been receiving from a number of veteran touring musicians, such as Queenston resident Tony Dekker, the leader of the Juno-nominated Great Lake Swimmers, Danno O'Shea from St. Catharines-based My Son the Hurricane, and Nick Lesyk from The Mandevilles.

"They've all done this extensively," Minnes says, "and they've reached out to give us some tips to keep us safe and healthy on the road. We've never done this before. It's so important to learn how to pace yourself when food and sleep and everything is thrown off. And it's important to carve out space for yourself and respect each other's boundaries."

The diminutive Minnes packs a surprisingly powerful punch with her voice, whether as a duo with her life and music partner Hulley, as a solo act, or as the leader of Minusculé, which includes a number of Niagara-on-the-Lake based singers.

When she sings with any combination of her harmony singers on stage, that punch is magnified exponentially. To get a feel for it, check out Minusculé's debut album, 2020's *Great*, streaming on Spotify and other such services.

Songs such as *Lukewarm*



Minusculé, with Laurel Minnes, in a photo from one of her videos.

*Love, Oh Da Dee* and *Sinking Sand* often combine gospel and folk sounds, while *Over You* finds Minnes throwing some hip hop-style cadences into the mix.

Only the plaintive, mourning *Jordan* features Minnes solo singing without the choir. It's a song she never intended to release or play live, one she wrote to help deal with the tragic loss of a close friend.

"I recorded it alone in the house by myself," she recalls. "Jordan's closest friends told me the song helped them and encourage me to let other people in on this feeling, this connection. It's a hard one to sing live, and it's the one that I get the most feedback from complete strangers."

For the Northshore tour, Minnes had to bring a smaller version of Minusculé on the road.

"It was difficult to imagine doing this with less than the whole crew of 'Minusquites', as I call them," she explains. "But it would have been too difficult to do with all of us. We've had to pinch some pennies and make some strategic choices."

Fortunately, Niagara's Minusculé fans will have a chance to experience the full Minusculé punch next Wednesday, Aug. 23, in rural Niagara-on-the-Lake. All three acts will perform a homecoming show at 1672 Concession 6 Road in the backyard of friend Mike Palmieri's home.

"I don't think we've ever done a show where we've all been present," laughs Minnes about the large group of singers, "there's always one or two who can't make it. But it will be a grand showing of the 'squites for sure."

Minnes and company are looking forward to being back home and playing with and for friends, but they're also soaking in the beauty of the north for the time being.

"It's been just gorgeous weather here the last few days," she raves. "This is a dream come true, to be on Lake Superior at Wild Goose Bay. We're loving our surroundings and learning to be present to enjoy it, but at the same time we're shooting some video, rehearsing and taking care of social media."

The homecoming show is scheduled to run from 7 to 10 p.m. Admission is by donation, and food and drink will also be available on a pay-what-you-can basis.



**FIDA**  
Foundation for International Development Assistance  
productive cooperatives Haiti (pchl)



## Fall Fundraiser for Haiti

*"proceeds supporting adult literacy for 2000 men and women"*

**Wednesday, September 13, 2023**  
**5:30-9:30pm**  
at the Trevor Falk Farm 1039 Lakeshore Rd.,  
Niagara-on-the Lake

*with host, the ever popular, Joe Pillitteri, and featuring special guest, Lawrence Hill, author of "The Book of Negroes"*

**TICKETS \$100/person**  
(includes \$50 tax receipt plus book bag with copy of "The Book of Negroes" and hand made Haitian bookmark) PLUS a fabulous raffle table and LIVE Auction items!

**5:30 pm** — Wine/Beer tasting Bar sponsored by Konzelman and Trius Wineries  
**6:00 pm** — Buffet Dinner by MJ Ingridelli Catering and a Waterloo County pie table  
**7:30 pm** — Interview with Lawrence Hill  
**7:45 pm** — LIVE Auction begins!

RESERVE YOUR TICKETS NOW BY CALLING BETSY WALL AT  
**519-588-7967** or email: [betsy.wall@fida-pch.org](mailto:betsy.wall@fida-pch.org)



## SAVE THE DATE

# Shred-it Returns!


Looking for a way to dispose of those confidential documents and personal papers that have been collecting dust in your file cabinet or basement?

**Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup>**  
9 a.m. - 1 p.m. (or until trucks are full)

**At Simpson's Pharmasave**  
1882 Niagara Stone Rd., Virgil

**\$8 per banker's box**  
**Three boxes for \$20**

**All proceeds go to support**  
**Niagara-on-the-Lake Community Palliative Care Services**



Niagara-on-the-Lake  
COMMUNITY  
Palliative Care

Sponsored by





# Some familiar faces are NOTL Golf Club winners

Mike Balsom  
The Local

Some familiar names are among the winners from this weekend's 2023 Niagara-on-the-Lake Golf Club's Championships.

Greg Grigjanis Meusel carded an amazing 143 over Saturday and Sunday, beating runner-up Matt Szczurko by 8 strokes to recapture the Men's title. It was his third time winning after taking home both the 2021 and 2020 championships.

Martha Cruikshank took her ninth Women's title, with a score of 173, five better than co-runners-up Ginny Taylor and Lisa Allen. Cruikshank also had three Senior Women's titles at the NOTL Club to her name. It was a Taylor sweep for

the Senior championships. Ginny Taylor edged Lisa Allen in a playoff for the Women's Senior title, while her husband Jon beat Paul Dickson by two strokes to claim the Men's Senior title, his second in a row. Head pro Keith Vant hand-

ed out the hardware on the course Sunday evening. Full results are as follows:

Mens Champion: James Grigjanis Meusel 143  
Runners up: Matt Szczurko 151, Jon Taylor 154, Ricky Watson 157  
Womens Champion: Martha Cruikshank 173  
Runners up: Ginny Taylor 178, Lisa Allen 178  
Mens Senior Champion: Jon Taylor 154  
Runners up: Paul Dickson 156, Jim McMacken 160, Steven Warboys 160  
Womens Senior Champion: Ginny Taylor 178 (winner in 1 hole playoff)  
Runners up: Lisa Allen 178, Dianna Dimmer 179  
Legends Cup 80+ Champion: Warren Tutton (9 holes) 38  
Mens D Flight Champion: Martin Vagners 185  
Runners up: Bill Baitinger 199, Noel Morris 216  
Womens C Flight Champion: Sandy Boyer 208

Runners Up: Carolyn Porter 210, Caroline Cochrane 211  
Mens C Flight Champion: Johnson Hu 178  
Runners up: Mike Henry 179, Todd Watson 180  
Womens B Flight Champion: Sharron Marlow 199  
Runners up: Marie Ellison 205, Cathy Taylor 217  
Mens B Flight Champion: Rob Chubey 168  
Runners up: Kevin MacLean 171, John Reynolds 175  
Womens A Flight Champion: Maria Townley 177  
Runners up: May Chang 186, Cathy Murray 201  
Mens A Flight Champion: Rob Reimer 162  
Runners up: Dan Regan 167, Drew Porter 171  
Womens Super Senior Champion: Carroll Baker 171  
Runner up: Margot Richardson 185  
Mens Super Senior Champion: Gary Stuggins 157  
Runners up: Ted Carmichael 158, Rick Janes 159



Head pro Keith Vant hands out the hardware to the NOTL Golf Club champs, including Carroll Baker, Women's Super Senior Champion. (Mike Balsom)



Johnson Hu, Men's C-Flight Champion. (Mike Balsom)

## Junior golfers named at NOTL Golf Club

Mike Balsom  
The Local

The Niagara-on-the-Lake Golf Club held its Junior Championships this past weekend. The three winners were familiar names, with two of them having won their divisions twice previously, and the other once.

Sam Walker and Keira Dexter won the Junior Boys and Girls divisions respectively, both winning their third straight championship. And Gavin Tomscuzk won for the second straight year in the Bantam Boys division.



The bantam Boys (U15) champion for the second straight year at the NOTL Golf Club, Gavin Tomscuzk, with Owen Howells, NOTL Golf Club assistant pro. (Photos supplied)



Jon Taylor, Mens Senior Champion. (Mike Balsom)



Maria Townley, Womens A-Flight Champion. (Mike Balsom)



Martin Wagners, Mens D-Flight Champion. (Supplied)



Mens Champion, James Grigjanis Meusel. (Mike Balsom)



Junior Girls (U19) champion for the third straight year, Keira Dexter, with Patricia Garriock, a former Junior Girls champion who donates a gift card and the Garriock Cup, which the girls play for.



The Junior Boys (U19) champion for the third straight year, Sam Walker, with Owen Howells, NOTL Golf Club assistant pro.

AWA

AFRICAN WOMEN ACTING

# AWA NIAGARA FESTIVAL

AUGUST 26TH - 27TH, 2023

FROM 2:00PM TO 10:00PM EACH DAY

---

## RIVERBRINK ART MUSEUM

116 Queenston Street, P.O. Box 266, Queenston, ON Canada

**TICKETS: \$25 ONLINE (\$35 @DOOR)**  
**DRUMMING BY ONLINE REGISTRATION ONLY: \$50**

@AWAFestToronto

@AfricanWomenActing

@AWATweet

@AfricanWomenActing

Community Partner

RIVERBRINK

EXPLORE  
LOOK  
LEARN



# Sharks return to NOTL for World Championship race



Sharks racing on the Niagara River. (Photos supplied)

**Sharon Burns**  
**The Local**

For the first time in almost 15 years, the Sharks are coming home, as the Niagara-on-the-Lake Sailing Club hosts the world championship of the sailboat designed, and at one time built, in town.

The popular sailing yacht was originally designed and built by George Hinterhoeller in 1959, and intended to handle local sailing conditions. His son, Richard Hinterhoeller is the chief race officer for the regatta.

To be held from Aug. 20 to 25, the Shark World Championship is a special event this year, said Orla Morgan, public relations director of the sailing club — the race hasn't been held in Niagara since 2009. The club is expecting more than 40 boats, and while most sailors are Canadian, crews are coming from as far away as Germany and Austria.

"We give them a loan-

er boat," explained Morgan. "They bring their own sails and everything is weighed to conform to a class."

Morgan said the Shark community is like no other. "Every Wednesday night, they're out there racing. They have their own course. We

have past world champions in the fleet and we have people who are brand new to sailing."

"It's one of those things," she explained. "You can buy a Ferrari or you can buy a Corolla. They're the Corolla. If you're new to sailing, you can smash into things and it's

going to take it. It will bounce right off because it is just so well designed."

The sailing club uses Sharks for their adult sailing program on Tuesday and Thursday nights.

The activity at the club on Melville Street will be similar

to last year's Canada Summer Games. Sailors will be camping on the property and boats from other clubs will be docked. The international jury is billeted with club members.

Last year's Shark championship was held in Austria.

Every four years it takes place in Europe "and then it travels around North America," said Morgan.

The Shark World Championship starts on Sunday, Aug. 20, with measurement, weigh-in and launch. It runs until Friday.



A Shark being built in the factory where George Hinterhoeller started production of the popular sailboats.



An aerial photo of Shark Alley at the NOTL Sailing Club.



**\$919,000 | 15 Crimson Drive, NOTL**

Located in the Village of St. Davids. Original owners. Many custom upgrades, 6 appliances, California Shutters, custom blinds included, 2 bedrooms on main level, one presently used as den. Custom kitchen with island and bar stools included, formal dining area with a walk out to private 16 x 12 ft deck with custom retractable awning. Deck area features custom plantings and a water fountain. The extra large green space in the rear increases privacy. Back inside there is a gas fireplace in the great room and ceiling fans in bedrooms and great room. Downstairs in the family room is a fireplace, vinyl plank flooring plus a large bedroom with a 10 x 10 walk-in cedar lined closet. Lower lever windows all have vinyl blinds. There is a large storage area plus rough for a future bath. Other features include a 3 stage water filter, central vac, double attached garage with automatic door opener, interlocking stone driveway and corner unit location provides extra windows for natural light with a bonus window over kitchen sink. MLS #40434955



**CENTURY 21**

**Avmark Realty Limited**

Office: (905) 935.7272 | Direct: (905) 988.8228  
Web: Avmarkrealty.com  
12 Church Street St. Catharines, ON L2R 3B3

Mark Avedesian, Broker of Record  
Century 21 Avmark Realty Limited, Brokerage





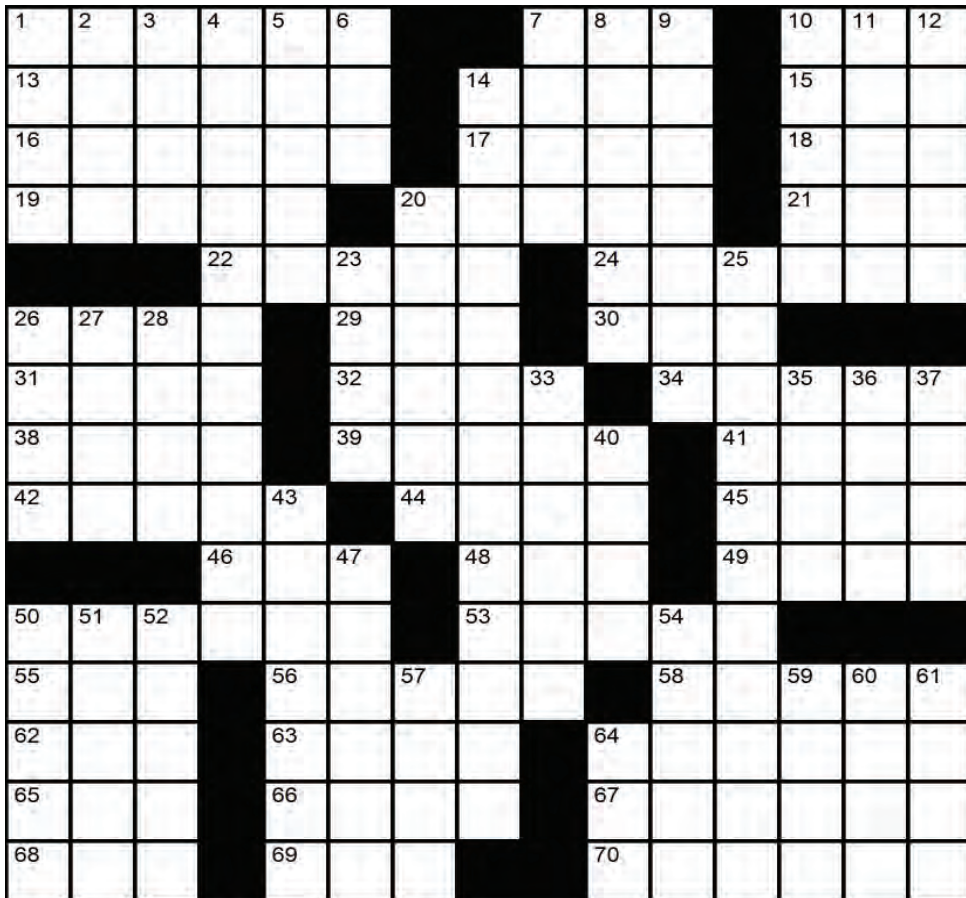


**Local**CLASSIFIEDS  
classified@notlocal.com



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

## CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU



**Across:**

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

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

**Down:**

- 1 Grotto
- 2 Are you out ---? (Poker)
- 3 Nudge
- 4 Cops in general
- 5 Intention of
- 6 Baloney
- 7 Postal delivery
- 8 Anticipate
- 9 Cold comforts?
- 10 Control board
- 11 Aloft

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

## HELP WANTED

## GENERAL FULL TIME LABOURER WORKERS REQUIRED

General seasonal full-time laborer workers required. Duties include pruning, tying, suckering, canopy management and harvesting. Must be willing to work long hours, including weekends from March to November. Must be fit and enjoy working outdoors in all weather conditions. No education required but preference with vineyard experience will be given. Wage \$15.83/hour. Own transportation. Fax resumes 905-468-2365. Only applicants to be interviewed will be contacted.

## NOTICES

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



**Sell your unwanted  
items or advertise your  
garage sale in our  
CLASSIFIEDS**

**To place your classified ad, contact Julia:**  
**julia@notllocal.com**  
**Deadline: Mondays at 3 p.m.**



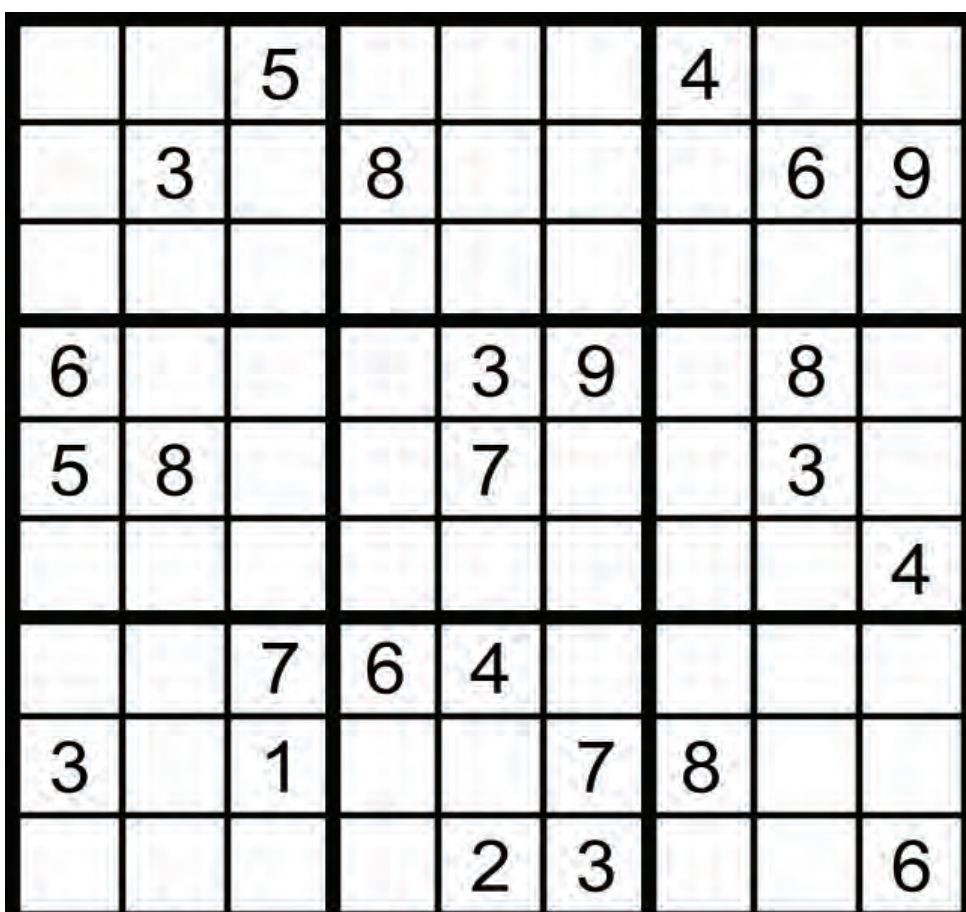
## PUZZLE ANSWERS

**Sudoku solution from  
August 9, 2023**

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

**Across:** 1 Copper, 7 Met, 10 Pal, 13 Arroyo, 14 Taxi, 15 A B A, 16 Violet, 17 Rips, 18 Nod, 19 End it, 20 Gales, 21 Eve, 22 Comic, 24 Cullen, 26 Tote, 29 Ark, 30 Tea, 31 Wait, 32 Slab, 34 Sunup, 38 Otto, 39 Hines, 41 Napa, 42 Short, 44 Edgy, 45 D-Day, 46 Cha, 48 Fen, 49 Rats, 50 Strep, 53 Itchy, 55 Woo, 56 Rises, 58 All in, 62 Arm, 63 Meal, 64 Triage, 65 B S A, 66 Acid, 67 Bestow, 68 Son, 69 Led, 70 Asters.

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



**PLEASE RECYCLE  
THIS NEWSPAPER**

The Niagara-on-the-Lake  
**Local**  
The Trusted Voice of Our Community






Angelika & ASSOCIATES  
LUXURY REAL ESTATE

★ FREE ★  
HOME EVALUATION  
CALL ANGELIKA TODAY!  
905.468.8777

\$1,849,000 - BACKYARD PARADISE



SCAN ME



123 WILLIAM ST, NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE

\$1,549,000

\$1,599,000 - STEPS TO THE LAKE



41 RICARDO ST, NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE

153 REGENT ST, NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE

\$2,389,000 - BACKING ONTO SUNSET BEACH - MAGNIFICENT VIEWS!



123 ARTHUR STREET, ST.CATHARINES

270 FT- PRIME WATERFRONT 5.5 ACRES - \$3,998,000



SCAN ME



515 SANDY BAY RD, HALDIMAND COUNTY

\$1,350,000

\$799,000



SOLD!



645 SIMCOE ST, NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE

1652 FOUR MILE CREEK RD #117, VIRGIL

BEAUTIFULLY RENOVATED SIDESPLIT - \$929,000



599 SCOTT STREET, ST.CATHARINES



W100  
CANADA'S TOP FEMALE ENTREPRENEURS

McGILLIVRAY™  
Trusted

Angelika Zammit is proud to have been recognized as the exclusive McGillivray Trusted Agent in the Niagara-on-the-Lake market.

Angelika & ASSOCIATES  
LUXURY REAL ESTATE

T. 905.468.8777 C. 289.214.4394  
www.angelikazammit.com  
496 Mississauga Street  
Local Office: Niagara-on-the-Lake

RIGHT AT HOME  
REALTY INC. BROKERAGE

#1 BROKERAGE in the GTA.  
The largest independent real estate brokerage in Canada - 6,000 Agents across 10 branches in Ontario.

listglobally

60+ COUNTRIES

150M+ MONTHLY CONSUMERS

UP TO 100 GLOBAL PORTALS



HGTV Celebrity, Scott McGillivray