NOTL girl ambassador for walk to cure juvenile diabetes

Sharon Burns  The Local

This September, Grade 6 Crossroads student Greta Sobol will be the ambassador for The Sun Life Walk to Cure Diabetes.

Eleven-year-old Greta was diagnosed with type 1 juvenile diabetes when she was just nine years old, and she has been learning to manage it ever since.

“There is no known cause and there’s no known cure,” said Greta’s mother, Ann Deuerlein. While the cause of type 1 diabetes is not yet entirely understood, scientists believe both genetic factors and environmental triggers are involved.

“Onset has nothing to do with diet or lifestyle. There is nothing you can do to avoid T1D, and — at present — nothing you can do to cure it,” said Deuerlein.

“Basically you don’t have a working pancreas, so the body doesn’t produce any insulin. Before Banting discovered insulin, it was called the wasting disease,” she said.

“You can’t process any caloric intake. You can’t process any of your food into energy, and type 1 diabetics are insulin dependent. Anytime they eat, they need to take insulin,” Deuerlein.

A year and a half ago, Greta’s mother and father, Jonathan Sobol, noticed Greta’s blood sugar readings were so very high and off the charts,” said Deuerlein.

Deuerlein and Sobol have been researching diabetes since they learned of Greta’s diagnosis, and they have found solace in the company of other families experiencing the same chronic disease. It was through a T1D Facebook group that Deuerlein heard about Camp Huronda, in Huntsville.

“it’s in the millions per week. It’s run through Diabetics Canada, and this camp is a game changer,” said Deuerlein. The entire staff at Camp Huronda has been researching diabetes since they learned of Greta’s diagnosis, and they have found solace in the company of other families experiencing the same chronic disease.

Greta has been managing and dealing with everything that accompanies type one diabetes. “Her life has changed dramatically. She has to constantly manage and count numbers and consider consumption. It’s not carefree anymore.”

Deuerlein and Sobol have been researching diabetes since they learned of Greta’s diagnosis, and they have found solace in the company of other families experiencing the same chronic disease.

Greta has the additional challenge that many diabetic children also have, celiac disease.

“It really, really sucks,” said Deuerlein. However, Greta has been managing and dealing with everything that accompanies type one diabetes. “Her life has changed dramatically. She has to constantly manage and count numbers and consider consumption. It’s not carefree anymore.”

Deuerlein and Sobol have been researching diabetes since they learned of Greta’s diagnosis, and they have found solace in the company of other families experiencing the same chronic disease.

Continued on page 13

Amazing Race showcases NOTL locations, businesses

Mike Balsom  The Local

It’s been just about a week since he said it on national television, but Joe Pillitteri is already getting used to people shouting “these bins look good” just about everywhere he goes.

“I rushed home from New York State to watch the show with my sisters and my mom and dad,” Pillitteri tells The Local. “At one point they got me saying that phrase, and I’ve been hearing it a lot. I’m thinking of getting T-shirts made.”

The local comedian and business owner appeared on The Amazing Race Canada last Tuesday, an episode which saw the teams of competitors participating in challenges in St. Catharines, Welland, Pelham and Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Pillitteri’s Lakeview Vineyard Equipment grape harvester took the spotlight when competitors were given a short driving lesson on the big rigs. They were then tasked by host Jon Montgomery to fill one of the harvesters with water, then carefully maneuver their payload across Chateau des Charmes Winery to fill two troughs to the top.

Pillitteri himself appeared beside Montgomery, ready to hand the next clue to the successful competitors.

“I was really nervous leading up to seeing that episode,” Pillitteri says. “The viewership for that show is huge, I think it’s in the millions per week. I felt this nervousness that I don’t usually feel when I think of being in front of a crowd.”

The opportunity to showcase Lakeview Vineyard Equipment, and to outfit the contestants with T-shirts with the business logo, came about by chance. Location scout

Continued on page 13
Butlers visiting town prepared for deteriorating burial ground

Kris Dube, The Local

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Butler is a common last name across the world, and one with a strong historic connection to Niagara-on-the-Lake.

The town hosts the final resting place of Lt. Colonel John Butler, an international-acclaimed war hero, and founder of Butlersburg, which is now known as Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Later this week, Butlers from all parts of the globe will descend on the town for a special Butler Society Gathering, an event usually held every three years in Ireland.

The last gathering was held in London, England, in 2018. One

planned for 2020 in Niagara-on-the-Lake was cancelled by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Guests will visit several sites from Aug. 25 to 27, such as the Butler Homestead, Butler’s Burial Ground, Butler’s Barracks and Fort George.

One of those sites, Butler’s Burial Ground, has been a location of discussion in recent years as residents Shirley Stark and Bill Hamilton have been trying to bring attention to deterioration at the site since 2017.

In a recent email, Stark said their efforts appear to have been done “in vain,” as they remain unsatisfactory in 2023 with the condition of the cemetery at the end of Butler Street.

Ruaraidh Butler, president of the newly formed Canadian branch of the Butler Society said he is aware of the efforts being made by local residents urging for improvements to be made at the burial site.

He said it’s possible that 50 to 60 members of the Butler family from all over the world coming to town could reinvigorate the discussion.

“Our hope is that in some ways this historic visit by the Butler Society to Niagara-on-the-Lake will bring some focus to this and we can open up conversations,” said Butler, who is a Niagara resident.

“What is the vision? What can be done?” are two questions Butler said need to be addressed, also understanding there is “a lot of demands on different agencies” involved.

The property the burial ground sits on is owned and managed by Parks Canada.

In 2019, Hamilton and Stark spoke to Niagara-on-the-Lake town council to ask for assistance in preserving the land, a cemetery that holds about 30 people.

They asked if the local government can help them with the site restored, although the site is Parks Canada property.

They told council almost three years ago that some of the gravestones are already illegible, some are getting more difficult to decipher, and some are disappearing into the ground.

Staff at Parks Canada said, at that time, they were unable to include the burial site as one of their restoration projects, because it’s not a designated national historic site.

In a statement provided Tuesday, Parks Canada spokesperson Julia Grcevic said the burial ground is part of the federal agency’s maintenance schedule in Niagara-on-the-Lake and has regular grounds maintenance, including grass cutting.

Parks Canada conducts routine inspections of the site and undertakes additional maintenance work when required.

“For example, in 2019, a landscaping company was hired to remove overgrown vegetation and poison ivy to improve the safety of the site,” said Grcevic.

In 2002, the vault was covered with shale and gravel to protect it from further deterioration and vandalism, which was occurring at the site. This preservation technique helps prevent vandalism and allows free drainage of water, while providing structural support.

The original gravestones on site have deteriorated due to time and weather, she added.

Many years ago, the decision was made to transcribe the information onto modern stones to ensure visitors can read the inscriptions. The information is also documented in the agency’s internal files, “safeguarding this knowledge for future generations,” Grcevic said.

Parks Canada “does not currently have plans to restore the original gravestones,” she said.

The site currently hosts a plaque commemorating the Action at Butler’s Farm National Historic Event and a provincial plaque, by the Ontario Heritage Foundation, commemorating John Butler.

The cemetery itself does not have national designation, she concurred.

In town, there are also two other national plaques that commemorate the history of the Butler’s Rangers national historic event. This designation commemorates the creation and deployment of the Rangers by Butler, and Butler’s Barracks national historic site commemorates the historic military complex named after John Butler and is a Parks Canada administered site.

Discussions have started to address the possibility of a designated signage at the site to highlight the vault.

“As these discussions proceed, we will be working with Parks Canada historians, local Parks Canada staff, and a representative of the Claxton family, whose family members are buried within the vault.”

In the Niagara Historic Sites of Canada Management Plan tabled in December 2018, Parks Canada has identified it would welcome support to ensure the maintenance of that property.

“Should members of the public be interested, we would be pleased to discuss opportunities further,” she said.

The Butler Society Dinner is being held at the Prince of Wales Hotel on Aug. 26. Richard Butler, the Lord Dunboyne, son of Society co-founder the late John Butler, 29th Lord Dunboyne, will be attending from the United Kingdom together with Society executive from Ireland, Australia, the United States and Canada.

Names on the stones have been recorded for history.

Monuments are in ill-repair but are not likely to be restored. (Photos by Kris Dube)
Continued from page 1

in managing their condition, to help them feel empowered to continue the healthy practices they learn at camp, and to know that they are not alone in living with type 1 diabetes.

Greta was not available for an interview with The Local because she is currently halfway through her two-week camp stay. “She won’t have any free time to write letters. She’s having too much fun. That’s what she told me before she headed off,” to camp, said Deuerlein.

Greta wears a continuous glucose monitor, a device that is only just recently covered by the Ontario government, thanks to the activism of another Niagara youth with T1D, Maya Webster. Maya was diagnosed at the age of two.

Greta was brought into the group of friends who call themselves ‘dia-buddies.’ At a local Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) event recently, Greta “just started talking,” said Deuerlein. “Since day one, she’s put herself out there. She gave talks to classmates and she did a little road show for her school. She came into my classroom and gave it to my group of students too.”

“She’s her own ambassador, and when she shared that with the representatives from JDRF, they asked her if she’d be interested in being this year’s walk ambassador,” Deuerlein said.

“She’s thrilled.” Deuerlein and Sobol are co-chairing the Sun Life Walk to Cure Diabetes for JDRF on Sept. 10, at the Centennial Sports Park in Virgil.

The nation-wide walk, in its 30th year, will raise funds to accelerate the pace of T1D research.

“Come out and donate to help us find a cure,” said Deuerlein, who is looking for both sponsors and volunteers. She is thankful for the generosity of local prize donors, such as Shaw Festival and Stratus Winery, but is hopeful that more businesses can support the event.

“A cash voucher, offer of services, or an item that can be raffled off at the event,” would be appreciated, she said. “By supporting this fundraiser, you will help fund groundbreaking research that is getting us closer to cures, as well as provide the necessary support to those living with T1D to ensure they live healthier, safer and easier lives.”

Supporters can email Deuerlein at annJDRF-walk@gmail.com.

In the latest JDRF newsletter, Greta was quoted as saying “I was really happy by the sense of community I saw at my first JDRF Walk last year. As a type 1 diabetic, knowing that there are so many people going through what you are and so seeing many people trying to help, meant the world to me. This year, I’m eager and excited to do my best to help find a cure!”

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.
Region reminds committee members not to speak to press

That’s just one rule in new code of conduct

Kris Dube
The Local
Journalism Initiative Reporter

A code of conduct for members of the public who sit on regional advisory committees was implemented late last year, but some individuals it applies to are seeing it for the first time.

Put in place last November at the start of the current term of council, the code of conduct for citizens was presented to the region’s accessibility advisory committee for the first time last week, as it was the current term’s first meeting since the 2018 election.

The code is provided as a general standard for all members of the public serving on advisory committees to ensure they are “acting in a manner that is appropriate and establishes a common basis for acceptable conduct,” said regional spokesperson Janine Tessmer.

It was formed as a result of council providing direction to staff to consider the implementation of some type of code to ensure that any advisory committee members were aware of the expectations “regarding conduct and the implementation of similar codes at other municipalities,” she said.

Advisory committees are just beginning to meet and are getting formal glimpses of the code of conduct, a separate document from the code that applies to elected regional council members.

In Niagara-on-the-Lake, the code of conduct covers both elected politicians, as well as citizen members of committees, agencies, boards and commissions, explained town spokesperson Marah Minor.

Members shall conduct themselves “with integrity, courtesy and respectability” at all meetings of the council or any committee, and in accordance with the towns procedural bylaw or other applicable procedural rules and policies, reads the code.

One of the obligations in the region’s code of conduct for citizen members is that they cannot give interviews to the press.

“Members shall not represent themselves publicly or in any form of media as agents of the region,” it says.

“If a member is contacted by the media regarding a matter involving their Niagara region advisory committee, the member shall refer the media to regional staff,” it continues.

Members can’t receive gifts or other personal benefits related to their service on committees, or use regional resources for their own personal purposes.

There are rules related to elections as well.

A member may not identify as a member of a regional advisory committee while working on, fundraising, endorsing or otherwise contributing to the election campaign of another person or third party, reads the code.

Norio said no complaints have been received about alleged violations of the code of conduct.

In a statement provided to The Local, Niagara Region Chair Jim Bradley said councilors value the time, effort and input from all members of public advisory committees as they play an important role in the decision-making process, and that having a code of conduct for them is not unique across the province.

Residents who voluntarily serve on these committees, while not elected, are seen by many as representatives of the region, and as such, it is important that they understand and agree to follow a code that outlines what conduct is acceptable as representatives of the region and potential steps that can be taken for ignoring the code, said Bradley.

The path that council took to develop the code for advisory committees was complex and influenced by a “number of different factors and situations,” he said, adding its important there are “guidelines for those who sit on our advisory committees to help ensure all parties involved can avoid unnecessary conflict and criticism.”

Police still looking for driver of Ricardo Street hit and run

Penny Coles
The Local

Residents of Ricardo Street were drawn from their homes Saturday night to the sound of sirens racing to the scene of a collision and a fire just outside their doors.

Both the Niagara Regional Police and the NOTL fire department responded to a collision on Ricardo Street near Wellington Street, and when they arrived discovered a 2021 white Dodge Ram had struck two parked vehicles, a white 2016 Ford Edge and a silver 2007 Toyota Cruiser.

The Dodge Ram continued west after the collision, and struck a hydro box before coming to a stop.

The driver of the truck fled the scene, the police say, and from the accounts of neighbours, was picked up by someone else following in another truck.

Neighbours also reported that the hydro box burst into flames after the driver had left the scene.

Police say the driver was not located by responding officers, and that it is considered a hit and run collision, with police appealing for witnesses to come forward and for area residents to check any surveillance footage that might have relevant information. Anyone with information is asked to call 905-688-4111, option 3, extension 1009034.

NOTL Fire Chief Jay Plato told The Local his department responded to a call about a fire to the truck and the hydro box, but by the time they got there, the fire was out.
Lord Mayor Gary Zalepa accepts funds already raised by the legion for the cenotaph restoration, with Al Howse (president), committee member Coun. Gary Burroughs, Jackie Dickieson, the legion’s 2nd vice-president, and committee member Stan Harrington. (Supplied)
Welcome to our new reporter, thanks to funding program

Kris Dube would be seen downtown, scooping out stories that impact locals. (Supplied)
As residents of Niagara-on-the-Lake for 50-plus years, we have seen incredible development changes in our once-perfect community. When we chose to move here, real estate prices were among the most affordable for young couples wanting to raise their families. We had school choices, a hospital, local services on Queen Street — including a pharmacy, a dry cleaner, fire department and garage. We easily parked, for free, on the streets and life was fun! We eventually established a local business, focusing on the restoration of the town’s unique architecture and became very involved with opportunities to help preserve and promote the town history and downtown in the scope of Canada’s history. But in these recent years, as developers grasped the potential of profiting from those who chose to preserve and maintain this community, the quaintness and charmed ambition is shattering. Overwhelming development proposals seem to fill the local papers and wind their way to the committee of adjustment. Each COA application requested “minor” variances to accommodate the building of a single-family residence, but, lo and behold when all the variances had been granted there now seemed to be a space to consider a multi-unit residence, and all that is now needed is a zoning change and possibly some more minor accommodation to squeeze it in.

Currently the proposal shows: a long narrow accessible driveway between existing homes, maybe too narrow for emergency vehicle access — a building which will cast long day-long shadows on existing homes on King Street, Niagara Street, Simcoe Street, and Merrit Lane — no space for a playground, no one parking space per unit — additional deficiencies which will be addressed at the public hearing.

We have welcomed a plethora of new neighbours. We engaged in correspondence Act, Section 44(5)).

As for the proposal, visit the Town of NOTL site: www.bit.ly/2J727KING. email admin@notl.com for more information. Register with the clerk’s office at clerks@notl.com to attend the public meeting on Sept 12 and be allowed to speak.

Speak up now. Jim and Erika Alexander, King Street, NOTL

The presence of rate or top predator species indicates eco-system health at a larger scale. Animals like golden eagles are known to regulate and balance species beneath them. Therefore, biodiversity and species abundance are likely to be higher in the same area, meaning more encounters abound for the keen adventurer. We kept with this train of thought, and paddled across the massive Allegany Reservoir to look for more wildlife.

Once pulled up to shore, I flipped over a piece of washed-up wood and found the glorious red, which is more orange than red. You might be wondering, “what the ‘eft’ is that?” The eft is a sub-adult phase of the eastern newt, which has a brief terrestrial phase before returning to the water to metamorphose into a dark green swimming adult. Hard to believe when looking at the picture, right? A moment later, we found the more common eastern red-backed salamander. Nonetheless, including back in Niagara, this species is an indicator of a healthy ecosystem in terms of soil and water quality as they breathe and drink through their skin.

On our second paddling session, we approached an osprey nest. Her squawks echoed across Pennsylvania forested bay as we canoed beneath her perch. We then observed a myriad of bird species in combination I have never seen in Niagara. Half a dozen green herons stabbed at small fish in the water while blue herons and wood ducks waddled and chattered, respectively.

Then, Maria spotted a bald eagle. Moments after, I identified another golden eagle in a tree 100 metres away, nearly directly above our campsite shore where we were destined to pull up. At this point, Maria said “imagine if he interacts with the golden eagle and flies onto his perch.”

As if on cue for the world’s greatest unscripted performance from Mother Nature, the bald eagle jumped off its perch and began to fly directly toward the golden eagle. There was no chance they would interact, fight or share a thought. The heavy rain started on cue. The bald eagle bombarded its way onto the golden eagle branch. Without question or hesitation, but perhaps a per- sonified “fine, screw you!” the golden eagle conceded and flew off explosively. The bald eagle was in charge, a beautiful yet uncanny representation of America’s prized national bird. We remarked at the statistical and spiritual significance of this. What are the odds that these two unex- pected species, each one of which operates independently from Council. Authority is del- egated to the Committee by the elected officials, and only two of them have to be in agreement.

In conclusion, we strongly urge all the residents of Niagara-on-the-Lake to look to your neighbourhood, backyards and empty lots. A proposal for an apartment could be coming to you.

For detailed information about the proposal, visit the Town of NOTL site: www.bit.ly/2J727KING. email admin@notl.com for more information. Register with the clerk’s office at clerks@notl.com to attend the public meeting on Sept 12 and be allowed to speak.

Speak up now. Jim and Erika Alexander, King Street, NOTL

As per the quorum regulations, these decisions can po- tentially be made by three un- elected officials, and only two of them have to be in agreement.

A golden eagle, which later had a brief but contentious moment with a bald eagle. (Owen Bjorgan)
This fall, a Niagara-on-the-Lake resident has brought RoboThink Niagara, a leading robotics and STEM education provider for children and youth ages five to 14 years old, to town. STEM is an acronym for science, technology, engineering and math—four fields that share an emphasis on innovation, problem-solving and critical thinking.

Tai had been fruitless looking for local STEM opportunities for her eight-year-old son, and finally said, “OK, I’ll just make this happen!” She started RoboThink Niagara at the Community Centre this past March, and quickly expanded throughout the Niagara region, holding after-school, weekend and summer programs and workshops for youth in Niagara Falls, Fort Erie and St. Catharines.

In a RoboThink classroom, young people build, code and play with robots. For example, a tail-wagging dog and a self-moving unicorn. Others built swings, bumper cars, roller coasters and ferris wheels.

Some even designed their own zoo and built dancing spiders, turtles and baby elephants.

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Bake-offs, book clubs and more at the library this fall

Kasia Dupuis Special to The Local

Engage, explore and enrich: The Niagara-on-the-Lake Public Library has an exciting range of programs this fall, catering to diverse interests and ages. From literary discussions to culinary exploration, and from genealogy workshops to artistic endeavours, there’s something for everyone to enjoy.

Book clubs: Book enthusiasts will be delighted with three distinct book clubs offered by the library. Beer and Books returns this fall, hosted at The Old Winery Restaurant, where monthly meetings combine great reads with convivial conversations. For daytime discussions, the Thursday Afternoon Book Club offers a warm and inviting atmosphere once a month at the library. This fall’s lineup features captivating titles including The Sleeping Car Porter, by lavender; Moon of the Crusted Snow, by Waubgeshig Rice; and Sleeping Car Porter, by Vincent Lam.

Read it and Eat: A culinary and literary adventure — engaging programs. Themes for each month include cookies (September), apples (October), tarts (November), and Christmas favours (December). Share your creations over coffee and tea at the library.

Wine and Words: An evening of adventure — as The Tumbler Pine. Join him on Thursday, Oct. 26, at Caron Cellars for an intimate evening featuring captivating tales, a glass of wine and delightful treats.

Mark your calendars — all tickets and registrations open on Friday, Sept. 1 at 9 a.m. on the library website, notlibrary.org. Stay tuned for updates and additions to our programming lineup by following us on social media @notlibrary.

Library offering enriching kids’ programs this fall

Kasia Dupuis Special to The Local

A season of enrichment in children’s programs will be presented at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Public Library this fall. From babies and toddlers to school-age kids, there’s something for every child to enjoy and learn.

Bond and connect at Tumble Tots, a drop-in interactive program every Monday morning that presents the perfect opportunity for caregivers to bond, grow and connect with their children and fellow caregivers in the community. Little ones aged two to four, accompanied by their caregivers, can enjoy this session filled with songs, stories and play.

For caregivers and parents with babies aged two and younger, the Giggle and Grow sessions at 11:15 a.m. offers a quality one-on-one bonding experience. Featuring songs, rhymes, lap bounces, finger plays and short-and-sweet story times, it’s an ideal way to engage with your little one in a nurturing environment.

Mindfulness, creativity and imagination come alive for kids aged four to six in Mindfulness U every Thursday at 4 p.m. The library mindful moments sessions integrate movement, stories, and interactive activities, fostering a loving, emotional development in a fun and nurturing space. Little artists aged four to six can unleash their creativity in Creation Station, a captivating arts and crafts program held every Thursday at 4 p.m. Children can express themselves artistically with a variety of arts and crafts projects designed for little hands.

In the LEGO TECHNIC program on bi-weekly Thursdays at 6 p.m. to explore the worlds of technology and Lego, and engage in hands-on activities and problem-solving adventures.

PADP Days at the library, Oct. 6 and Nov. 24, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., the library will be abuzz with drop-in activities including Lego, arts and crafts, scavenger hunts, tech toys and more. When school’s out, the library is the place to be for fun and learning.

For more information and to check the full program schedule visit notlibrary.org. Registration for all programs opens on Friday, Sept. 1 at 9 a.m. on the library website.

Stay tuned for updates and additions to our programming lineup by following us on notlibrary on social media.

Bake-off, book clubs and more at the library this fall

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Mike Balsom

The Local

Getting Niagara's wine industry to the next level begins with a simple question: how can we garden and history thrown in. It starts at the historic Stew- and Del Rollo, organizers of this year's Jane's Walk, have taken the walk out of the Chau- tanaque area and are "showcasing the variety of things that are down by the Two-Mile Creek," said Fraser. "It's really a lovely area with a lot of diversity," said Sullivan. Starting at Stewar House, Elizabeth Pinzcak will unearth forgotten stories and connect with the home's fun and historic past with NOTL first settlers. "There's also ghost sto- ry or two," said Fraser. Next, Mary-Lyn Hopper, a master gardener, will take the spotlight to outline the value of native gardening and dispel some common misconceptions. Moving closer to Two-Mile Creek, walkers will hear from Jean Hampson, secretary for Niagara's Tourism Industry stakeholders gathered at an event at Ravine Vineyards' conference centre last week.

The Niagara-on-the-Lake Chamber of Commerce hosted the event, a chance to take a closer look at the data from the recently released Niagara Uncorked study conducted by Deloitte Canada. theories working together towards the data goal.

"Based on Deloitte's analy- sis," said Peller, "the wine sector has the opportunity to drive economic growth in the region today and tomorrow. Grape growing and winemaking are not only significant contributor to the regional, provincial and national economies today. Their future ongoing success is essential to the region reaching its full potential."

Both speakers frequently used the term "benchmark" in comparing Niagara to re- gions such as California Napa Valley, the Bordeaux region of France and Tuscany, Italy. "Napa, Bordeaux and Tuscany are three regions that are so successful," Peller explained, "because they are incredible purveyors of not only wine, but also cultural and hospitality ex- periences that, combined, peo- ple will travel around the world to spend their money on". "Niagara Falls is a growing hospitality and food services industry in the region, and both Brock University and Niagara College here, the De- lotte study suggests Niagara is poised to join those regions in worldwide success if it all comes together.

"As we delve into the in- sights of the study," Cham- ber and Tourism Niagara on-the-Lake president and CEO Minerva Ward told the crowd, "let's not forget that our wine industry is but one facet of a rich diversity of experiences.

"The wine industry continues to outperform the broader economy," Peller stated, "but despite our ability to generate sales growth year after year, we face punitive tax policies that are not experienced anywhere else in the world."

The problem, according to both Peller and Rollo, is the current 6.1 per cent tax which is charged by the province on wines sold at the wineries them- selves, making it difficult for smaller producers to stay afloat. "We subsidize the govern- ment's taxation tax," Rollo add- ed. "We pay over $880 million in taxes to the government per year. We would just like to have a little bit of that back. And with that we will be able to turn around and bring it back to them in spades to the tune of 88 billion."

Later in his presentation, Rollo urged everyone involved in the Niagara economy to "stop navigating and do something big and bold". "We have to give the con- sumer everything that they want," he urged. "It's all here. We have the casino, the win- eries, restaurants, Shaw, the airport. We can only to this to- gether. But this 6.1 per cent tax has to go."

When the floor opened up to questions and comments from those in the audience, Niagara Falls MPP Wayne Gates lamented the treatment Ontario's VQA wines receive at LCBO stores. "Our wineries shouldn't have to fight for shelf space in our own stores," Gates said. "On Canada Day, their web- site was promoting wines from France. On Canada Day! And so many small wineries are in trouble because of that 6.1 per cent tax, too."

Lord Mayor Gary Zaepfel promised that the coun-

Del Rollo and Grody Peller talk about how to fulfill the potential of the Niagara wine industry. (Mike Balsom)

Thursday’s Jane’s Walk offers great local stories

Sharon Burns

The Local

The third annual Jane’s Walk is planned for this Thurs- day, with speakers sharing every- thing from birding to ghost stories, with a little bit of gar- dening and history thrown in. It starts at the historic Stew- ard House and will go from 6:30 p.m., and commences down Butler Street to Butler's Burial Ground. Kate Sullivan and Jo-Ann Fraser, organizers of this year’s Jane’s Walk, have taken the walk out of the Chau- tanaque area and are "showcasing the variety of things that are down by the Two-Mile Creek," said Fraser. "It’s really a lovely area with a lot of diversity," said Sullivan. Starting at Stewar House, Elizabeth Pinzcak will unearth forgotten stories and connect with the home’s fun and historic past with NOTL first settlers. “There’s also ghost story or two,” said Fraser.

Next, Mary-Lyn Hopper, a master gardener, will take the spotlight to outline the value of native gardening and dispel some common misconceptions. Moving closer to Two-Mile Creek, walkers will hear from Jean Hampson, secretary for Peninsula Field Naturalists, a community of people conducting bird counts and working on projects and campaigns to pro- tect bird species, populations and

“Birds can be found on every continent and almost every hab- itat on the planet,” says Hamp- son. “Because many species migrate, birds help connect our world and can be an indicator of the health of our ecosystems.” Participants will learn how both migrating and local bird populations need interconnected green areas to thrive and survival will take away

some useful resources and ideas on how they can assist our Niagara birds.

Finally, Aug 23 will be set for Rick Melsen, an avid his- tory buff, to transport particip- ants back in time and recount the stories and triumphs of Colonel John Butler, one of Upper Canada’s great leaders. “Butler helped to create Niagara-on-the-Lake,” says Melsen. “He was an exceptional man, who served as the lieutenant governor for the Indian Department, Justice of the Peace and, in addition to forming Butler’s Rangers, also helped establish St. Mary’s An- glican Church and the Masonic Order in Ontario.”

The organizers expect the walk and talk to take about an hour and a half. If walking to the meeting spot is unmanage- able, Fraser noted that there is ample parking around the area. The walk is accessible to all. "The good news for all of us is that we're going to learn some people in our community, learn togeth- er, and share," said Sullivan. “It’s really a dialogue about where we live, and what’s glor- ious about it,” added Fraser. Jane’s Walk is named af- ter activist Jane Jacobs, who started getting involved in ur- ban planning while living in Greenwich. She believed in a community-based approach to city-building even though she had no formal training as a planner.

Her book, The Death and Life of Great American Cities, introduced ground-breaking ideas about how cities function, evolve and fail – ideas that have become conceptual pillars for today’s architects, planners, policymakers, activists and other city builders.

Fraser explained that Jane’s Walks are “a real grassroots volunteer organization. There’s no honorees. And there’s no fundraising or anything. It’s just people contributing their exper- tise or their time because they think it’s a valuable endeavor.”

There are thousands of Jane’s Walks across Canada and on the first weekend of every May, Jane’s Walk festivals take place around the world. This Thurs- day’s walk is a day from a plan to hold it in the spring.

Jo-An Fraser and Kate Sullivan are offering Jane’s Walk, China, for a lot of great stories and interesting in- formation offered along the way. (Sharon Burns)

Vineyard’s conference centre this August. Kate Sullivan and Jo-Ann Fraser, organizers of this year’s Jane’s Walk, have taken the walk out of the Chau- tanaque area and are “showcasing the variety of things that are down by the Two-Mile Creek,” said Fraser. “It’s really a lovely area with a lot of diversity,” said Sullivan. Starting at Stewar House, Elizabeth Pinzcak will unearth forgotten stories and connect with the home’s fun and historic past with NOTL first settlers. “There’s also ghost story or two,” said Fraser.

Next, Mary-Lyn Hopper, a master gardener, will take the spotlight to outline the value of native gardening and dispel some common misconceptions. Moving closer to Two-Mile Creek, walkers will hear from Jean Hampson, secretary for Peninsula Field Naturalists, a community of people conducting bird counts and working on projects and campaigns to pro- tect bird species, populations and

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Jo-An Fraser and Kate Sullivan are offering Jane’s Walk, China, for a lot of great stories and interesting in- formation offered along the way. (Sharon Burns)
Yoga teacher to stars comes to NOTL’s 124 on Queen

Sharon Burns
The Local

Alana Hurov, former celebrity producer and current marketing director at 124 on Queen Hotel & Spa, is bringing yoga guru Danny Paradise to town for an immersive three-day retreat this Labour Day weekend.

Hurov, who was born in Calgary, first met Paradise while he was instructing students in a yoga retreat in Toronto. “He brought Sting with him,” said Hurov. She and Paradise became fast friends.

Hurov credits Paradise with popularizing yoga in North America. “He was the first to introduce Sting and Madonna to yoga, then Paul Simon and Pearl Jam. That’s what created the ‘yaddennum’ around yoga. He’s a big reason why yoga is so popular,” said Hurov.

“We’re thrilled to welcome Danny Paradise back to Canada,” she said. “We can’t imagine a more uplifting way to welcome the start of September than with one or more exclusive sessions with Danny. This really is the opportunity of a lifetime to be in the presence of a visionary teacher.”

For his first visit home to Canada in more than five years, Danny and the team at 124 on Queen have created an itinerary designed to promote well-being of the body, mind, and soul built around wellness, fine food, fun and relaxation.

Suitable for beginning to advanced practitioners, and teachers of all forms of yoga, guests are welcome to book one, two or all three sessions from Sept. 1 to Sept. 3. The classes will be at the Gatehouse (now an event venue) and range from two to three hours. People can take as many breaks as they want. The cost for each session is $135, “which includes the classes, products from our sponsors, refreshments, and an opportunity to have direct contact with this yoga guru who has amazing stories to tell about his experience,” explained Hurov.

The spa has partnered with local businesses, such as Budapest Bakeshop, LaLumero, Neob Lavender and Konzelmann Estate Winery to provide a truly unique experience.

Space is limited to 20 guests per session. Tickets are available from the front desk at office@124queen.com.

“In everything we do, there’s always an opportunity for locals to be involved,” said Hurov. “This is a day retreat, so you don’t actually need to stay in the hotel, you can just come for a class.”

“Some people seem a bit intimidated because it’s Danny,” she added. “and we have seen pictures of Danny doing headstands and these crazy arm stand poses, but Danny’s been teaching for 40 years and is very accessible to everyone.”

Hurov should know. She has studied and trained with the best yoga teachers in the world — in Hawaii, Toronto and California, and she has owned or operated yoga studios throughout Ontario, including the Trish Strauss yoga studio at The Ritz, Toronto. She also taught celebrities and professional athletes (NBA, NFL, WWE, MLB players, pro golfers, and CFL players).

Hurov was a celebrity producer, and helped create talk show George Stroumboulopoulos Tonight. Before starting at 124 on Queen, nine years ago, Hurov was a producer for The Shopping Channel.

She was part of Entertainment Tonight when she met Paradise, who is originally from North York. She has visited him in his open air home in Hawaii and trained with his gurus. “I thought it was such a great opportunity to have someone who is so well-established and so well-known in the yoga community to the Niagara region.”

JUNE 10, 2008
In June, 124 on Queen hosted a McLaren Street Party with about 20 McLa-
rens, each worth roughly two impressive motorcycles.

Hurov can’t yet say what other events 124 on Queen is going to offer, “but it’s going to be really exciting. We’re hoping to give peo-
ple a reason to come see us during the low season, and to boost up tourism in those times.”

Local Staff

Almost exactly a year after the idea was introduced, the funding for the much-anticipated street-facing art in Virgil has been secured.

The planned installation of artwork on the Niaga-
rah and Vineyard buildings is coming to fruition through a fundraising campaign.

For 29 years, the Pump-
house has brought art to the community through exhib-
its, programs and successful projects to promote public art, such as the NOTL hy-
deo box beautification ini-
tiative, now in its fifth year.

Board chair Lise An-
derana initiated the proj-
ent to help promote the talents of local artists and help the town achieve its goals for Virgil beautification.

Andrèana expressed her enthusiasm, saying “The introduction of this art in-
stallation in downtown Virgil enhances the town’s aesthetic appeal, a reminder to locals and visitors alike of the importance of agricul-
ture and the visual arts in our community.”

Key community mem-
bers have played a vital role in bringing this project to fruition through their fund-
raising efforts. Coun. Erwin Wiens as well as local busi-
nesses Arnie Lepp of Niagara Orchards and Vine-
yard, and Spirit in Niagara Small Batch Distillery, have been instrumental in this endeavor.

Their contributions have included financial support from others such as BASF, Bayer Crop Science, Hum-
med Properties, Lakeview Equipment, Quiet Acres Farms, St. Davids Cold Storage, Syngenta Canada, and Two Sisters Vineyards.

Wiens expressed his support, saying “This art installation representing the town’s agricultural roots will transform Virgil’s streets and foster community pride.”

As a local business own-
er, says Lepp, “I understand the importance of enhancing our surroundings and attracting visitors. The art-
work is going to be very inspiring and eye-catching. We’re hoping to give peo-
ple a reason to come see us during the slow season, and to boost up tourism in those times.”
Peach Iced Tea

Ingredients
• Freshly Brewed Tea
• 1/2 Tbsp to 1 Tbsp OLiV Peach Balsamic
• 1 tsp Honey (optional)

Directions
Let the tea cool first. Then pour cold tea into a tall glass of ice. Add 1/2 Tbsp to 1 Tbsp (to taste) of OLiV Peach Balsamic. Garnish with a lemon slice. Add honey if you prefer sweet iced tea.

1 Serving ENJOY!
NOTL Museum receives major art donation

**Local Staff**

A major art donation of historically significant artwork has been received by the Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum, courtesy of the TAG Art Gallery, St. Catharines.

The artwork consists of 19 unique pieces with a focus on Niagara history, landscapes, and people, from images of Queenston Heights to Brock’s Monument, to Brock himself, and Joseph Brant. The collection is a mix of engravings, aquatints (a variety of etching), pencil drawings and pastels, from artists as familiar as James Shawna Butts with Hornyansky’s Brock Monument, one of the donations to the NOTL Museum’s collection.

**Shawna Butts** with Hornyansky’s Brock Monument, one of the donations to the NOTL Museum’s collection.

**NOTL Local**

**Fall fundraiser for Haiti**

“proceeds supporting adult literacy for 2000 men and women”

Wednesday, September 13, 2023

5:30-9:30 pm

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: live auction, dinner, open bar & wine, wine and beer tasting, musical entertainment, gift basket raffle, and live auction items)

**Reserve your tickets now by calling Betsy Wall at 519-588-7967 or email betsy.wall@fida-pch.org**
The non-profit organization opened their Niagara African Cultural Space on Queen Street in Niagara Falls last June. It includes a visual arts gallery and a mural space showcasing African masks and other art. They are putting their finishing touches on a professional kitchen and bar area which will soon begin offering a mix of African, Caribbean and Italian food on weekends.

"African cultural space is a way to keep the week of the AWA Festival going year-round," as Aimsy explains it’s about emulating the in-house programming and presenting all aspects of African culture in Ontario. "We have a lot of new immigrants who come in seeking help finding job opportunities," Aimsy explains. "but we invite anyone who is curious about Africa to come and learn with us. Some of our instructors for our drum circle are from programs where people who have just dropped in to see what we are all about!"

Aimsy connected with RiverBrink’s executive director, Dr. Mike Balsom and the branch, the branch of Nigerian-born Sonya Arma, a musician, actor, songwriter and filmmaker who moved to Canada from Africa over 15 years ago and felt a strong sense of community in Ontario. "The festival is about bringing together the region’s arts and culture community to celebrate the rich diversity that exists in the region."

After two years in Niagara Falls, the AWA (African Women Acting) Niagara that has been a part of the territory since 2018, is flipping its script, moving to the village of Queenston.

The AWA Festival is a program of the Niagara African Cultural Space and is set to become a year-round event. "The festival is about providing a platform for African artists and organizations to showcase their work and connect with their communities," Aimsy says. "We are excited to bring this festival to Queenston and continue to celebrate African culture in the region."
Two Shred-it trucks were filled, helping to raise more almost $4,500 for palliative care. (Photos by Mike Balsom)

The group of NOTL Community Palliative Care volunteers helped with another successful fundraising event.
The park at the end of the NOTL Golf Club, under the shade of trees and with a cooling breeze off the lake, was the place to be Tuesday afternoon, says photographer David Gilchrist, who joined visitors and residents watching Sharks coming in off the lake to cross the finish line just off-shore. The first one to cross was Amicus Sail 1836, (on the right in the photo). It was closely followed by Devil in a Blue Dress Sail 176. The others in the race, with their brightly coloured spinakers, made for a beautiful scene out on the lake. The Sharks are racing in the World Championship now underway in Niagara-on-the-Lake, returning to the place where the boat was designed and first built by local George Hinterhoeller. The race hasn’t been held in Niagara since 2009. There have been some sunny days and not so sunny since about 40 boats began to race at the event, which began Sunday and finishes Friday. Crews are here from as far away as Germany and Austria, and the Sharks make a colourful display on the water, especially when the sun is out. There are plenty of good spots along the shoreline to view the races, says Gilchrist, who has sent a collection of his photos to The Local.

**OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY 2-4 PM**

$1,579,000 | 57 Stoneridge Cres., NOTL

Welcome to 57 Stoneridge Crescent in the exclusive Tanbark Trails in beautiful St. Davids. This custom built 2 plus 1 bedroom bungalow features custom kitchen with quartz counter tops, separate dining room, spacious living room with gas fireplace.Vaulted ceilings throughout, main floor laundry with access to garage, closets and large pantry, Primary bedroom has 3 pc ensuite and walk-in closet. Beautiful hickory and tile floors throughout the main floor. Dining room leads out to a covered patio overlooking the large premium pie shaped lot. Lower level features a large family/rec room, 3rd bedroom and 3pc bathroom. Large double car attached garage, sprinkler system, covered eavestroughs.

$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

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The lake is full of Sharks!

The park at the end of the NOTL Golf Club, under the shade of trees and with a cooling breeze off the lake, was the place to be Tuesday afternoon, says photographer David Gilchrist, who joined visitors and residents watching Sharks coming in off the lake to cross the finish line just off-shore. The first one to cross was Amicus Sail 1836, (on the right in the photo). It was closely followed by Devil in a Blue Dress Sail 176. The others in the race, with their brightly coloured spinakers, made for a beautiful scene out on the lake. The Sharks are racing in the World Championship now underway in Niagara-on-the-Lake, returning to the place where the boat was designed and first built by local George Hinterhoeller. The race hasn’t been held in Niagara since 2009. There have been some sunny days and not so sunny since about 40 boats began to race at the event, which began Sunday and finishes Friday. Crews are here from as far away as Germany and Austria, and the Sharks make a colourful display on the water, especially when the sun is out. There are plenty of good spots along the shoreline to view the races, says Gilchrist, who has sent a collection of his photos to The Local.

A Shark on the lake Monday, a ship in the distance.

Sunday a whole row of Sharks was captured in this photo.
Trifecta lacrosse championship team reunites for 50th

Mike Balsom
The Local

Lawrence “Monty” Slingerland, representing the NOTL resident, shared his story online at notllocal.com.

The 63.5 right winger who played 834 NHL games, scoring 222 goals for the Atlanta and Calgary Flames, Marquette North Stars and Boston Bruins between 1975 and 1988, was among 12 former members of the lacrosse team who gathered at the NOTL Kinsmen Club to celebrate the 50th anniversary of their amazing accomplishment. With coach Monty Slingerland and former professional player Stan Ignatczyk behind the bench, that 1973 Warriors team won medals at both the Ontario and Canada Games, then closed out their Junior B season by winning the Ontario Lacrosse League championship that same year. No other team has matched that feat in the last five decades.

“We were underdogs through it all,” Slingerland said earlier that evening during his NOTL Sports Wall of Fame induction speech, his gold medal from those Ontario Games draped over his neck.

“Those memories from back then are more special to me than my pro years,” he said. “In 1981, that Canada Junior B championship, some of those memories back then are more special to me than my pro years.”

Slingerland inspired his team to win the game for Jojie. They went out and beat Nova Scotia again, 8-6, to win the Founder’s Cup and the gold medal.

A few short weeks later they finished second in league play and faced off against Kitchener in the first playoff round. They dropped them four games to two.

In the second round, they fell behind Ottawa three games to two. Slingerland, in an attempt to motivate his players, dispatched them quickly for four games to one to capture the Junior B title.

Having been through all of that together as young men made for some great memories, and with the help of a display from the Ontario Lacrosse Hall of Fame and a collection of news clippings from the old Niagara Advance newspaper, the reminiscing came easily.

“Winning those championships as a teenager was awesome,” Slingerland said. “I remember coming home these days. “And reminiscing about it tonight is awesome, too. I haven’t seen most of these guys for so many years. I’m catching up with them with great.”

Mike French and Plett spent some time poring over the score sheets from some of those games.

“Plett insisted he had more assists than me,” French said. “I always thought that he didn’t get too many. He was trying to convince me that he did.”

French, whose younger brother Paul was inducted along with Slingerland into the NOTL Hall of Fame Saturday, has kept in touch with Plett, but was seeing a number of his former teammates for the first time in decades.

“Dave Pateson came up to talk to me and didn’t even know who he was,” French laughed. “He didn’t have any hair. I had to say something to him because he hair all over the place back then.”

French was one of two players, the other being the late Gary Hill, whose athletic accomplishments earned them scholarships to Cornell University in 1973. Both had to drive four hours from Boucherville to NOTL and back that fall to help their team win that Junior B title.

When told thatEngstrom was still playing hoodie at 71 years old and known for throwing hip checks in a non-contact league, French wasn’t too surprised.

“Jim is always over there, and he looks like he’s still in good shape,” the member of the National Lacrosse League board of directors. “I know a lot of people who go out there and play lacrosse and end up black and blue with a pulled hamstring.”

Slingerland led a solemn moment, asking for silence in the hall while reading the names of team members and contributors no longer with them. Stan Ignatczyk, Garry Hill, Bobby Taylor, Steve Miller, Bruce Morgan, John Skubel and Russ Hodgkinson were all members of that 1973 Warriors squad who passed away in the ensuing years.

With most members now either in their 70s, there wasn’t much talk about a future repeat of Saturday’s gathering. They were just happy to have had the opportunity to bring a Junior B championship team back together.

One noticeable difference in this year’s Wall of Fame induction ceremony was the presence of retired NOTL facilities superintendent Ken Rive as the master of ceremonies and chair of the committee. Rive took over from Ward Simpson, who hosted many of these events earlier in the years.

Nominations for 2024 can be made by the public and sent to the Niagara-on-the-Lake Parks and Recreation office with supporting evidence by March 31 next year.

To view more photos see this online story at notllocal.com.
NOTL Tennis Club doubles champions crowned

Mike Balsom
The Local

The Niagara-on-the-Lake Tennis Club held its doubles championships this past weekend at the courts at Memorial Park, with spectators gathered on the bleachers to catch some exciting men's and women's matches throughout a beautiful day.

LADIES
In the ladies' championship match, Cathy Reid and Margaret Hobbs Mancuso took the title after the match had to be called due to an injury to Coral MacKenzie. She and partner Nicole Marsh Burke won the first set 6-4, but MacKenzie went down with a knee injury and couldn't continue.

Over on the next court, Fran Doran and Deb Roberts claimed the consolation title, dropping opponents Shannon Brander and Charlene Faras in two sets, 6-3 and 7-5.

MEN'S 'A' DIVISION
It couldn't get much closer than this one. John Pilling and Scott Lewis came out strong, winning the first set 6-3 over Rob Lipovsky and Brad Butler. But Lipovsky and Butler responded in set number two, pulling even with a 6-4 win. The four players battled it out back and forth in set number three, and it went to a super tiebreaker. Pilling and Lewis coming out as champions with a 10-8 win.

Meanwhile, in the Men's A division consolation final, Jim Reid and Manny Uomolini fought off Gerry Mellone and Peter Rider 6-3, 6-4 in a close-fought match.

MEN'S 'B' DIVISION
It was another close, competitive match between the teams of Rob Lamond and Doug Campbell and David Rodgers and Hory Massi. Lamond and Campbell won the first set 7-6, forced to win 8-6 in a tiebreaker. They went on to defeat Rodgers and Massi 6-1 in the second set to claim the title.

In the B division consolation final, Mac MacSween and Terry Ratkovsky emerged victorious, winning 6-1, 6-2 over Ted Scott and Glen Bars. John Rambottom, a member of the club's board of directors, tells The Local that the singles tournament is scheduled for the week of Sept. 11, with the finals set to go Saturday, Sept. 16. He's hoping for weather similar to this past Saturday's.

Club members are encouraged to sign up on the website at niagaratennisclub.com.

NOTL Minor Hockey equipment swap Saturday

Mike Balsom
The Local

The Niagara-on-the-Lake Wolves Minor Hockey Club is holding an equipment swap this Saturday, August 26 from 9:30 a.m. until noon.

Volunteer coordinator Carrie Plakett, who doubles as the president of the NOTL Soccer Club, says the event is timed perfectly with the end-of-season soccer festival, also scheduled at the Virgil Sports Complex the same day.

Glen Davis, the club's equipment manager, says there are reams of hockey socks and retired hockey jerseys that need to be cleared out to make space for the new jerseys and other equipment that has been ordered for this year.

This Thursday, August 24, residents are invited to drop off any gently used hockey items to the Wolves office at the Centennial Arena between either noon and 3 p.m. or 6 and 8 p.m. If it doesn't fit anymore, maybe someone else can use it this hockey season.

Entrance to Saturday's swap is only $10. Participants in the swap will be able to claim a free pair of practice hockey socks and perhaps a retired jersey for use in practice.

NOTL Wolves equipment manager Glen Davis with an assortment of socks and retired jerseys.
Close matches for Pro’s Cup, men emerge triumphant

Harry Huizer
Special to The Local

It was a cool and windy day at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Golf Club on Friday as 15 men were challenged by 15 ladies for the Pro’s Cup.

This is an annual golf event that began in 2013, with pairs of ladies playing against pairs of men for 18 holes of fun and competitive golf.

The men were the defending champions but the ladies were eagerly anticipating a victory, and after watching them tee off the men knew it would be a challenge. However, the men were ready.

Martha Cruikshank, the ladies captain, had plotted and planned very carefully as she put her pairs together. Early on it looked like her plans were working as the score after four complete matches was 12-12.

Sadly for the ladies, the final three pairings resulted in the men gaining 15 points to the ladies three points. Even the men could feel their disappointment as their hope of victory disappeared.

Most of the matches were close and the scores didn’t really reflect how close the ladies came in these last three matches.

The first match was special as we had three men versus three ladies in a handicap scramble match. Although the men triumphed 5-1, the match was a successful experiment and it was close despite the score.

The other six matches were fourball (better ball) matches and the men found a way to finish strong on their way to victory again.

There was some outstanding golf in the difficult conditions but in the end the cup was again humbly hoisted by this golfer and captain, Harry Huizer, to the joy of the men’s team.

The players had a wonderful social time for lunch in the restaurant and everyone was in good spirits, whether they were on a winning or losing team.

Special thanks to pro Keith Vent and the clubhouse staff for their help in making this day so successful.

I am sure Martha and the ladies will be wondering how they could have lost, but I know they will be back next year with an even better plan to take back the cup.

It was a great day for everyone!

‘Freezie guy’ making lots of friends at Virgil sports park

Mike Balsom
The Local

It started out as these things usually do.

It was a hot summer night at the Virgil sports park, where Niagara-on-the-Lake Softball president Pete Flynn was running the program with his 10-year-old son Nathan playing. They brought some freezies to give everybody to cool off after the game.

“We had so many that I ran over to the soccer field and told some of the coaches there that we had extra,” says Pete, who assigned his son the task of handing out the frozen treats after their game. “So a bunch of soccer players started coming over every night, too.”

Word got out inside the arena, where other kids were playing lacrosse. They started lining up, too. And other children who were enjoying the splash pad and skatepark started gravitating over to Nathan for a free freezie.

“We were at St. Davids Pool the other day,” Pete says, “and this little boy, maybe about five years old, pointed to Nathan and said ‘Oh my God, Mom, look, it’s the freezie guy.’”

As the softball, soccer and lacrosse seasons wind down this weekend, Flynn estimates that Nathan has handed out over 2,000 freezies this summer. And they hope to get right back at it in summer 2024.

Freezie guy Nathan Flynn (in the cap with the ‘P’) and fellow coach Miranda Juras. (Mike Balsom)
Schmitt, Rolf Georg—Passed away unexpectedly after a brief illness on August 17, 2023 surrounded by a host of family and friends. He is survived by his wife Karin Jahnke-Haslam, son Max, stepson Kyle Haslam (Melanie) & grandkids Evie and Stella Grace, stepson Kelsey Haslam (Hannah) & grandkids Harrison and Willow and Godfather to Jillian Kamer-Wojcik. Also survived by his siblings Fritz (Marlene) nephew Andrew, nieces Alana, Monica; Rainer (Susanne) nieces Jenna, Sara; Henry (Chris) nephews Corey, Brandon; Karen Scheinbein (Mark) nephew Luke. Rolf was born in Sandhausen, Germany October 5, 1953, and moved to Canada in 1956. He grew up in Sault Ste Marie and eventually settled in Niagara. He and Karin reside happily in Queenston. He was semi-retired and loved his job at Willowbank Estates. Beloved and embraced by the entire Haslam Jahnke family, as well as his own. Rolf was a powerful, joyful force in our lives. He had a zest for life that included sailing the LunaSea, a passion he shared with Karin. He loved hiking, skiing, wind surfing, biking and of course, trips on his motorcycle to the Soo. A mindful life lived with gratitude and enthusiasm. Rolf was always ready to lend a hand, climb a mast, paint a house, scrub a boat, cuddle a grandchild. He had the ability to make you feel seen, heard and appreciated. He loved and doted on his grandchildren and they in turn adored their Opa. He found his true love, Karin, 22 years ago, and they have had an enduring love affair since. He was a passionate and much-loved husband. We will see you in every sunset over the water, feel you in every soft breeze and in the sound of fluttering sails. Wishing you fair winds and following seas, sweet Rolf. Rolf has taken place. A visitation took place on Sunday August 20, 2023 and a Funeral Service was held Monday August 21, 2023 at the PATTERSON FUNERAL HOME, 6602 Main St. Niagara Falls. In memory of Rolf, memorial contributions may be made to the “Rolf G Schmitt” Bursary fund for students entering one of the Trade/Apprenticeship Programs at Niagara College and can be made directly through the funeral home.

**GENERAL FULL TIME LABOURER WORKERS REQUIRED**

General seasonal full-time labourer 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.

**Puzzle Answers**

### Sudoku Solution from August 16, 2023

- **Solution:**
  - Rows 1-9 filled with numbers 1-9, each number appearing exactly once in each row.
  - Columns 1-9 filled with numbers 1-9, each number appearing exactly once in each column.

**PUZZLE ANSWERS**

- **PUZZLE ANSWERS**
  - Sudoku solution from August 16, 2023

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**NOTICES**

**TO PLACE AN OBITUARY OR IN MEMORIAM IN OUR CLASSIFIEDS, PLEASE CONTACT JULIA AT:**

- **julia@notllocal.com**
- **905.934.1040**

**DEADLINE IS TUESDAYS AT 1 P.M.**

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**NOTICES**

**CELEBRATION OF LIFE**

Celebration of Life for Bradley Klassen

- **Son of Mary and Alvin Klassen**
- **Saturday, September 9th**
- **2 to 5pm**
- **NOTL RC Legion Branch 124 - Clubroom**

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**GENERAL FULL TIME LABOURER WORKERS REQUIRED**

General seasonal full-time labourer 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.

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**PUZZLE ANSWERS**

- **PUZZLE ANSWERS**
  - Sudoku solution from August 16, 2023
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$1,849,000 - Backyard Paradise

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$2,389,000 - Magnificent Views!

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$799,000

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1652 Four Mile Creek Rd #117, Virgil

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609 Victoria Street, Niagara-on-the-Lake

270 FT- Prime Waterfront 5.5 Acres - $3,998,000

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153 Regent St, Niagara-on-the-Lake

$1,549,000

$1,599,000 - Steps to the Lake

41 Ricardo St, Niagara-on-the-Lake

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