

The Niagara-on-the-Lake LOCAL



Girl Guides learn about World Wars, importance of remembering
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Remembrance Day 2020

With Remembrance Day a private service at the Royal Canadian Legion memorial on King Street Wednesday, Legion president Paul Ermanian and past-president Al Howse, with other Legion members, held a quiet and simple ceremony to lay wreaths at the Cenotaph Tuesday evening at dusk. Both changes from tradition were made to avoid crowds gathering and keep residents safe during the pandemic. (Mike Balsom)

Young NOTL girl advocates for type 1 diabetes support

Penny Coles
The Local

Maya Webster likes to explain to people what a day in the life of a kid with type 1 diabetes looks like — a disease, she stresses, for which there is no cure.

The spunky, animated and articulate nine-year-old, diagnosed with diabetes when she was just two, has become an advocate for support from the federal and provincial levels of government, and to do that, she openly talks about the struggles of living with the disease.

She displays the pod she wears, with its tiny needle that delivers a steady dose of insulin; and she explains the expensive Dexcom continuous monitoring system that tracks her glucose level without requiring regular finger-pricks, sending readings to her cell phone so she knows when her blood sugars are out of whack and need adjusting. The alerts

also go to her mom Christi's phone, so she can be sure Maya follows through if she is trending too high or low. After all, says Christi, "although we've made sure from an early age she understands, and we've taught her to be somewhat responsible for herself, she's still just a kid."

The glucose pod has to be changed every three days, and although Maya has particular locations on her body for them that she prefers — her stomach is her favourite spot for it, she says — she has to move them around, to prevent scar tissue from forming.

Maya also describes what a good day or a bad day with diabetes feels like. The bad days are fewer now with the continuous monitoring system, but they still occur, although they're difficult to predict or avoid.

Sometimes, they're caused by lack of sleep, she says, or

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Region, Town ask residents to continue COVID precautions

Penny Coles
The Local

As the number of COVID-19 cases in Niagara rose this week, Lord Mayor Betty Disero is adding her voice to the Region's top public health officials, asking residents to take measures to reduce the spread of the virus and avoid further restrictions.

Last week, the Province turned to the colour system

to place each of Ontario's public health units into one of five different colour-coded categories, based on the level of virus spread and hospital capacity in each area. The categories determine the restrictions placed on each area.

Niagara was placed in the yellow zone, with more relaxed restrictions than orange, but was on the cusp of the orange designation, Dr. Mustafa Hirji, Niagara's

acting medical officer of health, said Friday.

With a jump of 63 cases Tuesday, at press time, the Region was still categorized as yellow, but could change at any time.

Code yellow, which the Province calls the "prevent" stage, hadn't meant any major changes for the Region early this week, but a move to orange would increase restrictions, Hirji warned, calling for residents to

change their behaviours to prevent that from happening.

During Monday's Niagara-on-the-Lake planning committee meeting of councillors, Disero passed on suggestions from Public Health to keep Niagara from seeing further increases, which included asking people "with the mildest symptoms" to self-isolate and get tested.

She asked workplaces

to do "active screening" of symptoms, and for people to avoid crowds, and "stay two metres away from anyone you don't live with."

NOTL residents were also asked not to visit high-count areas such as Toronto.

Last week, five new cases in NOTL were attributed to people who work at the outlet mall in Glendale, and one more NOTL case was recorded Tuesday, bringing

the total number to 59.

Disero also passed on her own suggestions, which include wearing a mask outside, "just for now, when numbers are increasing."

She asked residents to wipe down their home counters and other areas frequently, use hand sanitizers and perhaps wear a mask inside, if anyone

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Hirji calls on young people to reduce social interactions

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in the household exhibits symptoms.

Also discussed at Monday's meeting was the large number of visitors who took advantage of the good weather and came to NOTL last weekend. Ve-

hicle counters recorded about 14,000 vehicles, almost double the weekend before, which was about 7,500.

Ambassador volunteers are wearing masks and shields themselves, and as they welcome visitors to town, are asking them to wear masks, Disero said.

Coun. Gary Burroughs asked what could be done about the number of visitors from high-count areas such as Peel Region and Quebec, but was told that without provincial orders for people not to travel, there is no way to stop them from coming to NOTL.

The goal, said Disero, is

for residents of NOTL to "stay as safe as they can by protecting themselves and each other. We can't stop others from coming here."

Niagara Public Health reported 34 new cases on Saturday, 21 on Sunday, and a jump to 63 on Tuesday, of which 45 were attributed to a farming operation in the Town of Lincoln.

But apart from that workplace outbreak, Hirji has been focusing on cases in the community among young people, and how to curtail them.

He says coming down hard on businesses is not the answer, and bylaw enforcement of current regulations is difficult, already putting a strain on municipal budgets. With the need to balance the economic recovery of local businesses while reducing the spread of the virus, Hirji is hoping Niagara residents will change their behaviour by voluntarily reducing their social interactions. He called on those in the 20 to 40-year-old age group to stay away from bars and stop holding large house parties.

A lockdown early in the pandemic resulted in reducing the number of cases in the Province and allowing for staged reopenings, Hirji said, but "what we're doing now in Niagara isn't enough quite yet."

While the rising numbers last week put the region near the orange zone, the good news, in terms

of the colour-coding metrics, is that "hospital capacity doesn't seem to be stretched," he said.

However, contact tracing staff are being stretched, he said.

Referencing recent outbreaks that resulted in about 40 cases involving a group of people with an average age of 24, Hirji said COVID spread across eight Niagara municipalities and more than 100 locations, including bars, restaurants, stores, sports teams, families, and two long-term

care homes. It caused the need for contact tracing of about 230 people.

It's not a matter of businesses doing anything wrong, he said, and rather than tightening restrictions, which would seem a punishment to business owners, he is relying on people to control their social behaviour.

If nothing changes, and cases continue to rise, there are restrictions the Region can implement in addition to what the Province has instituted, Hirji said.

Happy belated birthday!



Pauline Petek, Brigitte Sarich and Brian Reesor (back) with Dorothy and Erwin Wiens on the right, wish Julia Buxton-Cox happy birthday at a drive-by organized by her husband David Cox. (Mike Balsom)



Dr. Mustafa Hirji (Photo supplied)

Lord Mayor asks for provincial protection of Sentineal horses

Penny Coles
The Local

Lord Mayor Betty Disero has written to Ernie Hardeman, the Ontario Minister of Agriculture, to ask for protection of the local horse and carriage business.

The Province has been asking for input to Bill 156, the Security from Trespass and Protecting Food Safety Act, an Ontario bill intended to protect farm animals, the food supply, farmers, and others from risks that are created when trespassers enter places where farm animals are kept; or when people engage in unsafe, unauthorized interactions with farm animals and transport vehicles.

In her letter, Disero says she supports the bill and the protection it gives farmers and their businesses, adding that she would like to draw the attention of the ministry "to

some operations that this bill overlooks."

"In Niagara-on-the-Lake, Sentineal Carriages, a long-time family horse-drawn carriage business, has been targeted by animal activists for the past three years. While I respect everybody's right to protest peacefully, however, my fear is that quite often these protests end up in megaphone use and loud yelling and aggressive behaviour from both sides," she says in her letter.

"It would be dangerous if the horses get spooked and end up in the middle of traffic unintentionally," she says. "The carriage drivers are stressed, which the horses can feel."

Disero describes protestors yelling at people to boycott the carriage company, and Niagara-on-the-Lake as a whole. "As you know, much of the Niagara-on-the-Lake business community relies on tourism," she

reminds Hardeman.

"I ask that you consider including horses in the definition of farm animals and expand the animal protection zones to also protect animals when they are away from the farm, and out in the public. Please consider Sentineal Carriages and the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake when finalizing Bill 156."

Couns. Norm Arsenault and Gary Burroughs both lauded Disero's letter and support for the horse-drawn carriage business in town.

Laura Sentineal of Sentineal Carriage is also hoping the provincial bill could help protect her horses, and horse-drawn carriages, and has asked for support from the public.

Sentineal says she's been told the legislation could be applicable to her business, which is registered as a farm, she says. The bill, she added, could protect all horses in public.

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Maya pledges action until type 1 diabetes cure is found

Continued from page 1

by too much sleep. They can occur because she's eaten too much, or because of what she has eaten; they can be brought on by dehydration, hormones, stress, and peer pressure. On bad days she may feel dizzy, tired, or shaky, and her hands don't always work the way they should.

"But what's really confusing about all of this is I can eat small meals, cut back on activities, get enough sleep and drink enough water, and still not feel well."

"She can be stressed about school, about a test or something else coming up, or she can be getting sick with a cold or something we don't know about," says Christi. "There are so many factors she has no control over."

It's important to Christi to clarify that type 1 diabetes is an autoimmune disease. "It's nothing we did, or Maya has done. She just happened to draw the short straw."

When people think of diabetes, Maya says, they most often picture older people with type 2, whose lifestyle can somewhat control their illness, not of kids such as

herself, with type 1, and what their lives are like. She goes to Beacon Christian School in St. Catharines, where Christi says staff have been great about accommodating Maya's needs and doing their part to keep her safe. She has an educational assistant to help monitor the information from her Dexcom system, and follow up when adjustments are necessary, often turning to something sweet to eat to increase her sugar level.

Maya says eating candy "makes me happy. But kids just think I'm lucky because if my sugar is low I get to eat candy. They don't see the times when I don't get to do things other kids do, when I can't take gym or play at recess."

The good days she strives for are when she has her usual high energy level, and can just be a kid, taking part in all the activities that other nine-year-olds enjoy. For Maya, that means participating in sports. Her favourite is football, but she also likes basketball, gymnastics and swimming, although most of that has been put on hold during the pandemic.

She has two good friends she calls "diabuddies," girls

her age who also have type 1 diabetes.

"They are going through the same struggles in life as I am, because it is a struggle," she says.

Christi explains there are events arranged for children with diabetes and their families, which are helpful, "when the world's not broken." They've been cancelled during COVID, but families remain in contact with each other, providing support, advice, and bouncing ideas off each other, she says. "We look to each other for support, and we work better together as a team."

Maya's school friends also support her and love her, says Christi, and do a very good job of including her and being protective of her.

"But they don't necessarily get it," says Maya.

She met her friend Ava, who also has type 1 diabetes, at an event arranged by the local juvenile diabetes chapter, when they were both just four years old.

"We've been friends ever since," says Maya. "We were both diagnosed at the same age. We both have the same story. It felt very, very good to meet her and talk to her."

She says they can be in the middle of a conversation about something that has nothing to do with their shared disease, "and then diabetes pops up. Or we can be in the middle of a conversation about diabetes, and it flows to something else totally unrelated."

When they are having low days, "only diabuddies understand how that feels," she adds.

In recent weeks, Maya has been busy with virtual meetings that include Niagara MPs, Canadian senators, and others she believes can help her in her drive for awareness of the disease, and a cure.

Last year, she was actively involved, went to Ottawa to talk about diabetes, and met with MP Tony Baldinelli.

She has also been advocating, with the help of MPP Wayne Gates, for the Province to fund continuous glucose monitoring technology. It has greatly improved Maya's health, reducing the frequency of hospital stays, and improved the quality of life for her and her family, granting her more independence and offering a feeling of security for her parents. "It helps keep her safe," says Christi.

But not everyone has private insurance to cover the cost, or can afford it themselves.

In the summer of 2019, Gates took on her cause, going door to door with Maya to get signatures on a petition to present to the legislature, asking for funding for the continuous glucose monitoring system through a provincial program that covers assistive medical devices. She knows how important it is to her, and although her family has health benefits that cover the cost, she believes it should be available to all who need it.

Gates also hosted Maya at Queen's Park the day he presented the petition to the legislature.

There has been no decision on the funding, says, Christi but she has to believe



Maya Webster met MP Tony Baldinelli this time last year to discuss diabetes support, and this year, virtually, to continue her advocacy as a delegate of Kids for a Cure. (Photo submitted)

it will happen. "Government works slowly, and we don't know what effect COVID has on what it's doing, but hopefully we'll hear some good news soon."

November is National Diabetes Awareness Month, and Maya has been chosen one of about 35 JDRF delegates aged five to 18 from across the country for Kids for a Cure, taking part in virtual meetings last week with other kids, Niagara MPs, and senators.

During those meetings, she explains why finding a cure is so important, using an online scrapbook she and her mom have put together to tell her story.

When talking to Baldinelli, she asked, in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the discovery of insulin next year, "that the government donate \$15 million for research, and renew its partnership with the Canadian Institute of Health and Research."

Maya also asks that a national diabetes strategy be

created, and for more people to have access to the disability tax credit.

To help reach those goals, she suggests writing to the federal Minister of Finance to support pre-budget recommendations, and joining the All-Party Juvenile Diabetes Caucus, which meets twice a year.

All Maya's efforts are aimed at finding the cure "beyond insulin," which, she stresses, keeps her alive, but is not a cure. She points to the progress that has been made since insulin was discovered, and the advances in technology that have improved life for her and others like her. She looks forward to a time when she can stop worrying about counting carbs, stop watching what she eats, "and be happy be happy be happy," she repeatedly exclaims. "That would really make me so happy."

When that cure is found, she says, "I can live free of diabetes, and I can be a kid."



Maya Webster, with help from her mother Christi, has taken part in virtual meetings this month with MPs and senators, asking for initiatives to support funding and research for type 1 diabetes. (Penny Coles)



When attending virtual meetings, Maya Webster has an online scrapbook to share, explaining what life is like for a young girl with type 1 diabetes. (Screenshot)

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Local artist wins second Muskoka Novel Marathon

Penny Coles
The Local

For the second year in a row, local author Sharon Frayne has won the annual Muskoka Novel Marathon in Huntsville, in what was held this year as an international virtual writers' competition.

The 19th annual writing marathon, which gives participants 72 hours to produce a 40,000-word novel, raises awareness for adult literacy in the area and funds Muskoka YMCA literary programs. It also attracts writers by submitting the winning novel to a Canadian publishing house, shortcutting the challenging process of having a book accepted for publication, says Frayne.

"Getting that foot in the door is so difficult. Once you get it in, I think it's a different ballgame — without it, the doors are pretty tightly closed."

The winning novel she wrote this year, *The Sound of a Rainbow*, is for young adults, an audience Frayne, as a retired educator, knows well.

Last year's novel was also aimed at young adults, and received very positive feedback from Guernica Publishers, which was chosen for the 2019 competition. It doesn't print the young adult genre, says Frayne, but the publisher's comments will help move the novel forward with another publisher.

In addition to winning best novel this year, Frayne also won the award for the longest — hers was submitted at 44,000 words — and the peer-voted 'bum in seat' award for the hours logged writing the story.

Once the marathon was finished, she began polishing her entry and has now submitted it, at almost 60,000 words, to this year's contest publisher, Latitude 46, for consideration.

She's hoping to hear some positive news by Christmas, and says the same publishing house has also offered to review her winning novel from last year's competition, *A Chain of Broken Hearts*.

This year's event came close to being cancelled, but a decision was made to hold it as a virtual Zoom competition. That allowed for it to

be opened to writers from across North America, and to more people, rather than limiting the numbers who could participate due to the physical logistics. Having 76 international participants, says Frayne, instead of the 40 writers who took part last year, "added an extra element to the competition."

The 2019 Muskoka competition, Frayne's first entry in it, took a physical toll, she says, with 72 hours spent at a computer in a large room of people, taking short breaks for food, and catnaps on a cot she had set up in the hallway of the Huntsville conference centre where it was held.

This year's event was different, with the ability to sleep in her own bed at home. Her husband, Bill French, looked after most meals so she could eat while she worked. The final day, he was away and Frayne was on her own, feverishly concentrating on writing. She realized, as the contest closed, she hadn't taken a break to eat, and was dehydrated.

There were Zoom conversations with other authors during the time of the competition that she could have joined, but chose instead to stay on her keyboard, logging on to submit every 100 pages, as the rules dictated.

Every single one of the 44,000 words Frayne's submitted had to be written "on the spot," during the competition, but she was well-prepared, having developed much of what she planned to write ahead of time.

"I had the plot and conflict worked out. I had planned the characters, what they would look like, and what they'd say or do."

The characters, she explains, are young people with special needs, attending an inclusive, diverse summer camp in northern Ontario that's accessible for kids with intellectual and physical disabilities.

Frayne, a retired high school teacher and a principal with a specialist in special education, was the head of a school with five classrooms for special needs kids. She also has family members with significant special needs, she says.

When the novel coronavirus shut down schools, and camps were cancelled, she

understood the devastation that would cause for special needs kids, for whom school is a "lifeline" that was suddenly withdrawn, and who were struggling, unable to go to school, to be with professionals who know how to work with them and bring out the best in them, even have equipment to work with them that parents don't have at home. "That's what moved me to want to write about kids going to a camp where they would have an opportunity to grow and succeed, and really reach their potential," says Frayne.

Her lead protagonist in *The Sound of a Rainbow* is a troubled 16-year-old girl, a failed child singing star, who has "imploded" on TV, and is attacked on social media.

Her parents are divorcing, and have sent her to camp, where, having led a privileged life, she has a hard time adjusting to being around special needs kids, including a paraplegic in a wheelchair, another with autism, and a girl with anorexia.

"I tried to be really sensitive and caring in the way I dealt with them. They're all struggling when they come to camp, but it ends up making a difference for all of them," she says.

Camp Rainbow is set on an island, and half of the island is an abandoned wildlife sanctuary, she adds, "which provides a little mystery, with what's going on in the life of someone who lives in this sanctuary, right next to the camp."

In October, when she found out she'd won this year's competition, she also had a short story accepted by *Agnes and True*, a Canadian literary journal that provides an outlet for emerging and established Canadian writers. Her story, published online, is called *Moonlight with Tom Thomson*, and has her leading character sitting on a dock in Muskoka, sharing conversation and a bottle of wine with the famous Group of Seven artist.

She is no stranger to writing competitions, enjoys entering them and has won some significant contests, in addition to the Muskoka Novel Marathon. Her Tom Thomson story won the South Simcoe Arts Festival contest in 2019.

And with the second



Sharon Frayne (Photo supplied)

Muskoka win behind her, she has other work to get to, with four novels on the go, including the winner from the 2019 Muskoka competition which she is preparing to send to Latitude 46.

A Chain of Broken Hearts, historical fiction for young adults, is about a present-day school field trip for a group of Huntsville Grade 8 students, who travel to NOTL. But because of a situation that befalls one of the girls, she ends up living in the past, in the group home that was established for orphans by Maria Rye in 1869. Life for the main character becomes very different from anything she has experienced up to that point, until she is able to return to Huntsville in the present, says Frayne.

Just as *The Sound of a Rainbow* teaches kids about diversity and inclusivity, last year's novel was an opportunity to show young adults that life for immigrants to Canada is nothing new, "that immigrants have

been coming to Canada for a long time, and conditions have been hard for them for a long time. People have come here from different situations, but everyone has come from somewhere."

Frayne is also working on an adult fantasy for the annual NaNoWriMo contest (National Novel Writing Month). Set in a town very much like Niagara-on-the-Lake, she says, she hopes to have it finished by the end of November, expecting it to come in around 100,000 words.

A young adult collection of short stories, based on local history, which she self-published about two years ago, will be sent out to Canadian publishers of children's books, says Frayne, hoping to get it into schools.

All of the novels she's written have been planned to leave open the possibility of sequels, she says, which is important in the young adult genre. "When young kids find a book they enjoy, they often want a series, with characters who grow a little older as the readers grow. The characters start to explore situations and experiences that kids who are just a little bit younger really identify with. It's like having a big brother or sister, which is helpful for them, especially if the lead characters are good role models."

Kids today also appreciate diverse characters, she says. "I'm writing to make

sure there's LGBTQ characters, multiracial kids, kids with disabilities, kids who seem to be coping all right, but who may be struggling in one way or another. These are the situations the kids today can identify with."

Frayne says she has known she wanted to be a writer from the time she was "a little kid," but after marrying young and having children, "I had to put bread and butter on the table, and teaching offered some security."

Frayne, a member and now co-chair of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Writing Circle, has been spending more time writing since retirement, honing her craft, and last year began to feel more confident about her writing ability. It didn't come easily at first, but as she approached the 2019 festival, she says, "I felt I had hit my stride."

COVID, and the cancellation of so many events, has given her even more time to write, "and to think about what I wanted to write. I know some people have found it hard to work, because we're so distracted by the news. I try to keep it turned off except for a couple of times a day to find out what's happening. I've deliberately tried to limit the amount of news I take in, and I've done more writing than ever before. That was my way of dealing with stress."

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REAL ESTATE WILLS BUSINESS

Historian reminds us of significance of Remembrance Day



Mike Balsom
Special to The Local

According to Canadian War Museum historian and author Tim Cook, though the current climate honouring soldiers who fought in the Second World War is quite positive, it hasn't always been that way.

His latest, *The Fight for History: 75 Years of Forgetting, Remembering and Remaking Canada's Second World War*, looks at the struggle of veterans, often through organizations such as the Royal Canadian Legion and the War Amps, to be recognized and honoured for fighting for their country. Through a number of government administrations, it continued for years to be a difficult fight.

Throughout the exhaustively researched book, Cook points out the differences between the country's post-war reaction to the two World Wars. Though the importance of Vimy Ridge rose and fell in the public eye following the First World War, Cook posits that for the most part, the Great War, as it is often called, has usually been seen as a watershed moment in Canadian history.

The formation of the Canadian Legion (the 'Royal' was added in 1962) was in an effort to provide a voice for First World War veterans. As well, the National War Memorial in Ottawa, dedicated by King George VI in 1939, still stands today mainly as a monument to those that fought and lost their lives in the Great War.

Conversely, Cook says for years there was a push to erect a similar poignant tribute to the many lost in the Second World War, which he terms the Necessary War. A plot of land in the nation's capital was chosen, and sketches for a National Shrine to honour these veterans were released, but the Diefenbaker government did not follow through on promises to prioritize the construction.

Later, under Lester B. Pearson, the Prime Minister's focus on a new flag pushed the National Shrine discussion to the back pages. Through the many administrations that followed, veterans would often hear some renewed talk of a memorial to the Second World War, but nothing ever came of it.

Cook adds that influence from our neighbours to the south may have at times devalued Canada's contributions to the Allied win over Germany and Japan. A powerful, deep-pocketed Hollywood film industry, through Oscar-nominated movies such as *The Great Escape* and *The Longest Day*, left many with the impression that the Americans won the war completely

on their own. There was little to no mention of Canadian troops of any kind in these blockbusters.

At the same time, he points out, Canada's film industry, including the CBC and the National Film Board, did very little to herald the Second World War efforts of the country's armed forces. In fact, when the CBC finally financed the three-part series *The Valour and the Horror*, it was justifiably panned, as Cook says, for painting the Canadian effort in a less-than-flattering light.

Events such as the Cuban Missile Crisis and the Vietnam War, amidst the anti-war activism of the '60s generation, created a generation gap. Younger people during that time were reluctant to honour the fighting of their forebears. Later, in the '70s and '80s, Japanese Canadians who were interned during the war continued to push for redress. In 1988, that finally resulted in the Mulroney government's payment of \$21,000 to

each survivor, and more than \$12 million invested in a community fund and human rights projects. During that same time, Cook speculates that the importance of Japan's standing on the world's economy made successive Canadian administrations reluctant to push that country for an official apology for the mistreatment of Canadian POWs at the hands of Japanese soldiers.

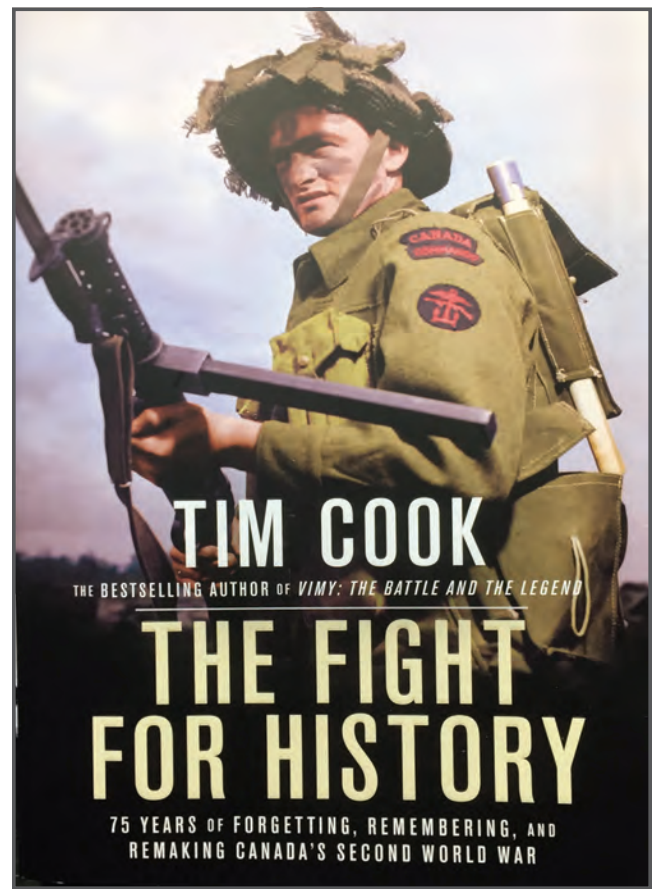
On the positive side, the 40th and 50th anniversaries of D-Day were high points in bringing the accomplishments of Canadians into light. As well, the inauguration in June, 2003, of the Juno Beach Centre in Normandy, France, finally shed light on the Canadian Second World War effort on the world stage. It stands today, along with the Canadian National Vimy Memorial, as reminders of Canada's important roles in the two World Wars. Cook, though, points out how the museum began as a grassroots effort by Canadi-

an Second World War veteran Garth Webb, and that the Mulroney government was almost reluctant in getting involved in the project.

Cook's 11 books on Canada's military history have earned him numerous awards, as well as a membership in both the Royal Society of Canada and the Order of Canada. His dedication to research and his work at the Canadian War Museum make him the country's most important military historian since J.L. Granatstein.

Through the entire timeline of this important work, Cook weaves in stories of heroic efforts by soldiers and veterans both during and after the Second World War. Its 436 pages are highly readable and engaging. The 56 pages of endnotes give proof to the fact that Cook has done his homework in creating this definitive history of how Canada has treated the survivors and those not so lucky to have survived the Necessary War.

On this Remembrance Day, which marks the 75th anniversary of the end of that conflict, it's a work that will remind all Canadians how important it is to remember.



Notice of Study Commencement/Public Information Centre

Design Build for QEW/Glendale Avenue Interchange Reconstruction
Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Regional Municipality of Niagara DB 2019-2119

THE PROJECT

Brennan Paving and Construction and their design consultant Morrison Hershfield have been selected by the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) to undertake the detail design and construction of the Queen Elizabeth Way (QEW) and Glendale Avenue Interchange improvements (see Key Plan, beside). The recommended plan for the improvements was determined during a Preliminary Design and Environmental Assessment Study completed and documented in a Transportation Environmental Study Report in August 2018.

The project includes the replacement of the Glendale Avenue bridge over the QEW and reconstruction of the QEW/Glendale Avenue interchange to a Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI). Additionally, the project will reconstruct the Glendale Avenue/York Road Intersection to a single-lane roundabout, and construct a new Airport Road ramp and connection road from Glendale Avenue to York Road/Airport Road intersection on behalf of Niagara Region. A new commuter carpool lot will also be constructed at the northwest quadrant of the new interchange.

The Diverging Diamond Interchange will allow for traffic performance improvement by reducing the number of vehicle conflict points and allowing unrestricted access to the QEW.

PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE

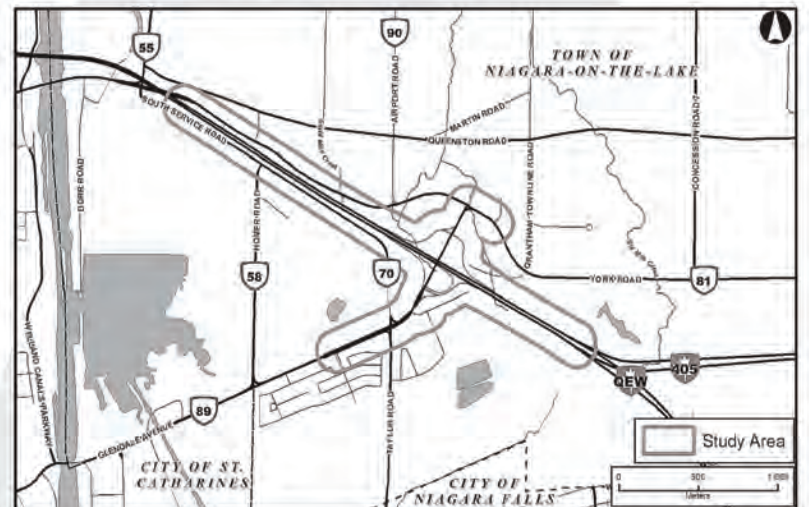
A virtual PIC will be held for this project on November 26, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. The PIC will be held via Zoom and will feature a presentation starting at 6:00 p.m. To register for the PIC, please provide your name and email address to GlendaleDBTeam@morrisonhershfield.com. The link to join the meeting will be sent to you in advance of the meeting. If you are unable to attend, the presentation and all information from the PIC will be posted to our website at <http://qew-glendale-interchange.ca>.

THE PROCESS

The MTO project will follow the approved planning process for a Group 'B' project in accordance with the *Class Environmental Assessment for Provincial Transportation Facilities* (2000) with an opportunity for public engagement. The projects within Niagara Region (roundabout at Glendale Avenue/York Road intersection and a new Airport Road connection from Glendale Avenue) were assessed in accordance with the approved planning process for Schedule 'C' projects under the *Municipal Class Environmental Assessment* (amended in 2015). This project will fulfill the final phases of the Environmental Assessment process including Detail Design and construction.

The construction phase is anticipated to start spring 2021 and is anticipated to be completed in the summer 2023.

A Design and Construction Report (DCR) will be prepared and made available for a 45-day public review period upon the completion of the detail design phase in early 2021. Advance notice of the DCR review period will be placed in the local newspapers, Niagara This



Week, the St. Catharines Standard, The Niagara-on-the-Lake Local and mailed to individuals and organizations on the project's stakeholder mailing list, once details become available Study information will also be posted on the project website.

COMMENTS

We are interested in hearing any comments or concerns that you may have with the detail design and construction phase.

For further information or to be added to the project mailing list please visit the website or contact:

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Information will be collected in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

If you have any accessibility requirements in order to participate in this project please contact one of the Project Team members listed above.

EDITORIAL

It's a good news, bad news kind of week

This has been a roller-coaster of a week for news junkies.

And as I write this, it's only Tuesday.

This time last Tuesday many of us were glued to CNN to see what would happen south of the border. And we still are, as we wait to see the train wreck that is occurring before us, with a president who won't accept reality, and a president-elect who can't get on with preparing for the job he has been mandated to do.

Closer to home, we have our own problems.

On Monday, the number of new COVID cases in Ontario was not good news, and in Niagara, also not good, but also not in the category of really awful.

We know both the Province and Region are watching closely to see where colour designations are going to take us, and we've been watching closely to see how those decisions may impact us.

Tuesday, our press day, Ontario had the highest number of new cases yet, as did Niagara.

In June, 40 new cases in Niagara looked bad, in July, 20 new cases was another big jump, and we have seen numbers in the 20s and 30s since then.

The news we were hearing then was no new restrictions, at least not yet.

Tuesday, Nov. 10, there were 63 new cases posted in Niagara, and following closely on the heels of that revelation, the information that 45 of those cases are associated with an outbreak at an agricultural operation in the Town of Lincoln.

COVID cases are never good news. It's extremely disturbing that people have become sick from their workplace, and many others are probably sick with worry about the risk to their health.

But if there is a positive way to look at this, it's that it will be easier to manage and contain an outbreak that

hasn't, hopefully, spread to the community.

Dr. Mustafa Hirji, Niagara's acting medical officer of health, has been warning us we may be moved from yellow to orange by the Province. That hadn't happened by Tuesday, at press time, but still may this week, although again, if the current numbers have been traced to an agricultural operation, it shouldn't necessarily mean imposing further restrictions on other businesses. It's a wait and see, and hope, situation.

If there are further restrictions, they will be region-wide, which is frustrating when NOTL residents and businesses have done such a great job of protecting themselves and each other.

NOTL has recorded a total of 59 cases, one of those new on Tuesday, and touch wood, no major outbreaks.

In her COVID update Monday, Lord Mayor Betty Disero asked residents to focus on what they can do

— wear masks, use sanitizer, physical distance and avoid crowds. Added to that was a request to stay away from high-count areas. It's mostly what we've been doing for months now, and so far, it's been working, despite living and working in a town we know sees thousands of visitors from areas that haven't

fared as well.

Nothing is good when it comes to COVID, says Disero, not even one case. But she adds that she is extremely proud of NOTL for meeting this challenge head-on, doing what has to be done during the pandemic, and for all that has been achieved. "People stepped up," she said.

Let's hope the reward is to be able to stay open for business. In the meantime, we can all shop local and do what we can to help our businesses get through what is bound to be a very difficult winter.

Penny Coles
The Local

Province recognizing importance of tourism industry

Eduardo Lafforgue
Special to The Local

During last week's Ontario budget presentation I was thrilled to hear the tourism industry mentioned so many times.

Never before in all my long tourism career have I heard a finance minister give attention to the tourism industry so frequently in a budget discussion. This is a recognition of how deeply important the industry is for the recovery of the economy.

Tourism NOTL and the Niagara-on-the-Lake Chamber of Commerce strongly welcome the series of measures designed to support the tourism and hospitality industry announced in last week's provincial budget. Supporting local tourism is the key of economic recovery in the months ahead.

We are delighted to see the government announce their intention to implement a travel tax credit for Ontarians to re-explore the "world in one province" that is Ontario. This was a key pillar of the recommendations to the government that we have supported, and been advocating through TIAO, the Tourism Industry Association of Ontario, as part of the budget consultation process.

At a time when small

and mid-size enterprises need our support, we welcome the government's decision to make permanent COVID-era exemptions from the employer health tax on the first \$1 million of a payroll. This and other measures will help to keep businesses open and save jobs. This is substantial support for the tourism industry that will safeguard the livelihoods of many NOTL businesses.

Tourism is an integral part of Niagara-on-the-Lake's economic recovery. We are thrilled by

the government's decision to adopt TIAO's recommendations, and look forward to continued dialogue to safeguard this vital industry for our community.

We are working hard and implementing all World Travel and Tourism Council protocols to welcome all visitors in the best conditions.

Find your moment in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Shop local, shop safe.

Eduardo Lafforgue is the president and CEO of the NOTL Chamber of Commerce.



Eduardo Lafforgue (File photo)

Remembrance Day Wreaths



Paul Eramian, Royal Canadian Legion Branch 124 president, and past president Al Howse, stand at attention after laying wreaths at the Queen Street Cenotaph at dusk, Tuesday, Nov. 10. The Legion chose to hold that portion of the Remembrance Day service the evening before to avoid having a large crowd gathered. (Mike Balsom)

The Niagara-on-the-Lake

LOCAL

The trusted voice of our community

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

COMMENT

Plan an emergency escape with your family



Brad Disher
Special to The Local

We should all know by now that smoke and carbon monoxide alarms are legally required in our homes. Most of us are aware we should be testing the alarms monthly, changing the batteries at least once per year, and checking that the alarms are not expired.

With working alarms, you ensure your family is properly protected from the dangers of a fire or carbon monoxide emergency, however, you shouldn't stop there. Having a home escape plan is a vital component of keeping your family safe. You may have talked about what to do if your alarms are sounding, but how many of you have planned and practised a home escape plan? It seems like a simple concept that most people don't think about, because how hard can it really be?

You may remember as children the days of Sparky's Pals coming into your school gym and teaching you about fire safety, and how to escape your homes in a fire. How many of you, though, have done this with your family or children? Planning and practising this basic task can help to ensure

your family survives a fire or carbon monoxide emergency.

Your family members should know two ways out of every room (if possible), and what your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms sound like. Children should be shown how to check for a fire on the other side of a door before they open it, and what to do if they encounter smoke. Parents should have a plan for who is responsible for getting their children, and who is going to call 911. Choose a meeting place so everyone knows where to go in case you are separated. These are all the basics of a well-planned and practised home escape plan.

Just like in school, you might remember hearing the sound of the fire alarm, being told by your teacher to line up single file, and follow them outside. We did it so often that it almost became automatic, and we didn't need to be told what to do, after all, practise makes perfect, right?

In a real emergency situation, it may not be as simple. If there is an actual fire in your home you have a very short time to escape safely. There could be smoke in the hallway or even flames visible. If you have practised your home escape plans with your family on a regular basis, you should be able to get all your family members outside safely to your meeting place, and call 911 from outside your

home. A well-planned, and practised home escape plan will help you remain calm in an emergency situation and do exactly what you have practised. Remember, in an emergency, every second counts!

Home escape planning should always be done as a family. Timing how long it takes you to get to your meeting place can be a fun game to play as a family, and with young children, it helps to get them used to the plan.

Remember smoke and carbon monoxide alarms are not intended to scare you, their sole purpose is to warn you of a fire or carbon monoxide emergency. They are an early warning device that gives you and your family sufficient time to escape. Testing your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms monthly as a family will not only help ensure you are safe, but will help young children get used to the sound and understand what each alarm sounds like.

If you have any questions or would like a home escape plan sheet for your family, reach out to us at 905-468-3266 or email firedeptment@notl.com.

Brad Disher
Fire Prevention & Public Education Officer,
NOTL Fire & Emergency Services

The NOTLFES is writing a regular column with The

Local related to all things fire. Expect to see articles related to fire safety, training, fire department initiatives or developments within the

department. The NOTLFES understands our community, and recognizes one of the best ways to ensure we reach every member of the com-

munity is through using all media platforms available. Thank you for reading, and looking forward to the articles that we produce.

LETTERS

Province could consider increasing borrowing limit

It is budget time again in Ontario, and our 400 municipalities. This item, though impacting budgets of municipalities, is a financial matter resolved by provincial order-in-council as initiated by our Premier and Minister of Finance.

Municipalities in Ontario are limited to borrowing no more than 25 per cent of municipal own-source revenues, such as taxation and user fees. Why not lobby the Premier to increase this limit to 35 per cent for a five-year period, in order to finance infrastructure projects, in light of the extraor-

dinary budgetary demands imposed by COVID related costs? The Province may even want to re-impose a limit to its historical 20 per cent after that period is over, in order to ensure a restoration of fiscal responsibility in our communities.

This will eliminate the need to increase our municipal taxes, but increase borrowing expenses in the long term. This long-term expense will be eliminated as mandated by the Province as the local economies improve.

Long-term infrastructure projects should not be de-

layed by budgetary demands as choices are made that are a result of COVID related costs. Municipalities are not allowed to acquire debt to fund operating costs, yet studies suggest that infrastructure spending could be higher as there is room for expansion in Ontario.

This will ensure that spending in our economy is maintained, which seems to be the priority of our provincial and federal governments – spending our way out of a plausible recession.

Derek Insley
Virgil

Resident questions CRA procedures

In a recent email to all members of the Chautauqua Residents Association concerning the election of directors at the recent Annual General Meeting, it was acknowledged that they "... did not conduct the election properly and so, there were no changes." This interpretation of the bylaws caused the three new proposed directors to stand down and two existing di-

rectors to resign in protest.

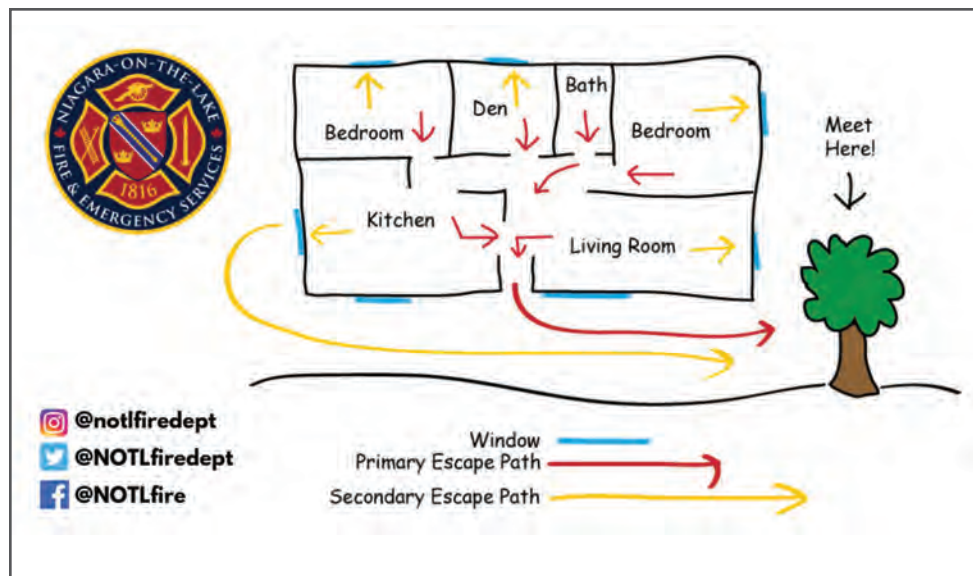
I would like to point out that I believe the returning directors must also be elected annually, so in fact, it is likely that none of the board members, including the president and secretary-treasurer, were properly elected.

I would also point out that there are likely remedies to this problem other than calling for another election at this time.

The focus of the so-called returning directors is doing things right. What happened to doing the right things?

I am writing in this broader public forum because, without access to membership lists or emails, there is no other way of communicating with CRA members.

Paul Weiss
Chautauqua



NOTL Fire and Emergency Services would like residents to make and practise an escape route to be used in the case of emergency. (Drawing supplied)



Donald Combe
Special to The Local

Woody Allen, always a creative magician, is the director of *Magic in the Moonlight*, (2014, on Prime). In this fairy tale, set in the south of France, Colin Firth, Emma Stone and Dame

View from the couch

Ellen Atkins play out a tale that is a sophisticated, neurosis-laden love story. It is weightless, but enchanting, which is the kind of diversion we need in 2020. The scenery, the buildings, the rooms, the cars, the costumes and the people are all beautiful, so I indulged myself and loved

every minute.

Donald Combe is a retired English teacher who loves to go to 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.



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.

NOTL LOCAL Editorial Banner Bookings

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

Don't miss out!

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

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


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Third Age Learning Program under consideration for NOTL



Larry W. Chambers
Cindy Grant
Terry Mactaggart
Special to The Local

Growing evidence suggests that it is possible to increase healthy life expectancy by increasing physical, social and mental activity. Pursuing these activities will delay or prevent dependency on others and the need for care.

Lifelong learning is ongoing, voluntary, and self-motivated seeking of knowledge for either personal or professional reasons. It enhances social inclusion, active citizenship, and personal development, but also self-sustainability, as well as competitiveness and employability. Lifelong learning is a key component in the formula that helps close the fitness gap and add life to years.

The concept of Universities for the Third Age (U3A), first developed in France, is offered in many communities. U3A is an international movement whose aims are the education and stimulation of older adults in the community – those in their third ‘age’ of life. Generally, U3A are groups of older adults that come together to continue their enjoyment of learning subjects of interest to them. An interesting feature of U3A is that there is no distinction between the learners and the teachers – everyone can take a turn at being both if they wish.

Here in Ontario, Third Age Network groups exist in municipalities across the province (<https://thirdagenetwork.ca/>). Membership with the network provides access to a variety of guest speakers, advice and direction, and promotes collaboration among Third Age Learning communities.

An Ontario member of the network, Third Age Learning Niagara (TALN) (<https://thirdagelearningniagara.ca/about-us/>), was founded in November, 2018, with support from Niagara College. It is a not-for-profit organization, with a board of directors from throughout the Region of Niagara who support the initiative. Third Age Niagara aims to offer a unique op-

portunity to older adults throughout the region to continue to learn and engage in their community.

The Town’s Community Wellness Committee provides guidance to council and staff in making the town a healthy community, enabling all residents of all ages to participate as full and meaningful community members. One of the committee’s objectives is “... to ensure that the community engages in action-oriented strategies that are in alignment with the principles of relevant Town and Regional strategies (see Committee’s terms of reference -- <https://notl.civicweb.net/document/15327>).

In January, 2020, the Community Wellness Committee released a report of recommendations, based on demographic and statistical information, information from Niagara Public Health and Niagara Region, reports from Brock University research centres, a community wellness survey for residents, and a public forum of community residents.

An important recommendation in the report called for “the provision of programs supporting lifelong learning for all residents. Consider partnership with Niagara College in this development.”

In support of this recommendation, the Community Wellness Committee is exploring opportunities to expand Third Age Learning Niagara (TALN) to Niagara-on-the-Lake. There will be two key components – curriculum development and communication. Given the current COVID restrictions, the delivery of these programs by virtual means is being explored. The committee will work with groups that mentor older adults to use internet technology to enable them to access the NOTL Third Age Learning Program, for example:

- **Cyber-Seniors** – 1-844-217-3057, email info@cyberseniors.org or visit website
- **NOTL Library Tech Tutoring program**
- **enTECH Computer Club** 1-226-336-9684, www.entech.club

The Cyber-Seniors and enTECH programs match tech-savvy students with older adults looking for help. The students gain practical experience while

earning volunteer hours and developing job skills that enhance opportunities for future employment, and older adults gain valuable skills to help keep them connected to the community and pursue virtual reality websites to enhance their at-home physical and social activity levels.

It will be critical to TALN’s success in NOTL to focus on the following elements:

- Identify and recruit a variety of guest speakers who could speak on a wide range of topics – public health, nursing, pharmacy, social work, music, medicine, management, law, kinesiology and physical education, dentistry, arts and science, architecture, landscaping and design, applied science and engineering, history, political science and many more.
- Optimization of the delivery of events organized by the NOTL Third Age Learning Program will be in response to the suggestions of older adults in NOTL. Effective communication of this program to the entire community will be important to achieve this goal.
- Continuous improvement of the NOTL Third Age Learning Program will be through satisfaction surveys, focus groups, and consultations with individuals and organizations who run successful third age learning programs.

The Committee is excited about the opportunity to bring Third Age Learning Niagara to NOTL. If you have any ideas or topics that would be interesting subjects for the TALN curriculum or if you would be interested in attending a TALN lecture series, please contact Cindy Grant, Chair of the NOTL Community Wellness Committee at cgrant36@cogeco.ca.

Larry W. Chambers is Research Director of the Niagara Regional Campus, School of Medicine, McMaster University and Professor Emeritus, with McMaster’s Department of Research Methods, Evidence and Impact.

Cindy Grant is Chair of the NOTL Community Wellness Committee.

Terry Mactaggart is a member of the NOTL Community Wellness Committee.

Borscht and bread drive-thru sale this Saturday

Penny Coles The Local

Denise Falk can't pin down the exact number of borscht lunches Bethany Mennonite Church has served.

It's a lot, she says, and goes back to the early days of the church, which has celebrated its 50th anniversary.

"It's been going on for as long as I can remember," says Falk, whose mother has been making borscht for the event for decades.

She took over the organization of it this year for the first time — the year everything has had to change.

The famous borscht and brown bread will be sold as a drive-thru and pickup event, which allows the traditional fundraiser to go ahead, and also involves church members who are accustomed to coming together for the event.

"This is one of those things our church community loves to do," says Falk.

Church members will be missing out on the socializing part of the event, sitting at tables and chatting over lunch, as well as working together to

serve the meal.

"We'll miss that, and we can't replace it," she says, adding it's still a great opportunity for the church community to work together, while putting on the event with fewer volunteers required the day of the sale.

The borscht and bread is always made at home, in the kitchens of the people who contribute to the lunch, so that won't change.

For more than a week, the baking and borsht preparations have been underway. The big difference, which will actually make the sale easier, is that the soup will be brought to the church in litre containers, and sold that way, rather than all being poured into big soup pots and served in the church.

Because not all church members use the exact same recipe, there could be slight variations in the borsch flavour, Falk explains, although they will be "essentially the same."

The popularity of the Mennonite version is due to the addition of dill to the traditional ingredients of beef, beef broth, tomato, cabbage, carrots and potatoes, she says.

"The dill gives it the most amazing flavour and smell, and makes it unique and different from the Ukrainian borscht. It is definitely a Mennonite flavour."

The brown bread that is served with borscht is not only a Mennonite recipe, but is unique to Bethany, Falk says.

"People love that bread," she

says. "It's baked in large tomato juice cans, so that it's round. It's completely unique. I don't know who started this, but round, upright loaves bread is our tradition, and it's delicious."

The logistics of the sale are simple, she says. There will be traffic control volunteers, and lanes in the parking lot to place

orders, pay and drive ahead for pickup.

"We're anticipating it will go smoothly. There shouldn't be any problems," she says. "The plan is to keep people going through in a safe and efficient manner."

The funds raised will support various church projects and missions, including

ministries within the church community, and the making of quilts which are distributed around the world, says Falk.

The sale is this Saturday, Nov. 14, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

One litre of borsch is \$10, a loaf of brown bread \$5, and exact cash or a cheque is asked for, says Falk.



The popular round brown bread and borscht, made by Joanne Tiessen and many other Bethany Mennonite Church members, will be on sale Saturday to be picked up at the church. (Photos submitted)



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Girl Guides Remember



Girl Guides learn about peace and remembrance

Girl Guides
Megan Gilchrist
NOTL Community Guider
Special to The Local

Over the past few weeks, Girl Guide units in Niagara-on-the-Lake have been learning about peace and remembrance in our community.

Girl Guides have traditionally had a strong connection to Remembrance ceremonies.

Throughout our history, Girl Guides have contributed to their communities, and to the war effort in the First and Second World Wars.

In the First World War,

Canadian Guiding members knitted and sewed clothing and supplies for troops overseas, worked in munitions factories, collected funds and supplies for war relief and the Red Cross, and learned skills to assist the war effort, such as first aid, signalling and communications.

During the Second World War, Girl Guides in Canada contributed almost 30,000 articles of clothing for children in Europe bombed or displaced by the war, collected newspapers and scrap metal, made dressings and surgical supplies, and worked for the Red Cross. Older members enlisted in

the military and contributed to wartime manufacturing, agriculture, and construction. Canadian Guiding members have served, and continue to serve, in all branches of the military, and contribute to peacekeeping efforts around the world.

With this history, Guiding units have marked Remembrance Day in a variety of ways. In most years, our units participate in ceremonies at school and in the community, but this year, due to COVID-19, we needed to find new ways to recognize the contributions of Canadians here and abroad.

Our youngest branches,

the Sparks and Brownies, have been busy writing postcards to veterans, which will be distributed by the NOTL Legion. The Brownies also painted rocks with poppy images, and took part in a Remembrance walk this week.

Our older youth members participated in a hike dedicated to Peace and Remembrance this Saturday. We started the day by painting Remembrance Rocks, then hiked through the Commons, around Fort George, and to the cemeteries on Byron Street.

Along the way, we learned about the many peo-

ple in our community who have helped to maintain peace in our community, and who have stood up to help others.

We talked about soldiers and civilians in the War of 1812, the Indigenous allies, and women who helped protect their homes and the community. We learned about Niagara Camp and the soldiers who trained in NOTL before going overseas, and about Elizabeth Ascher and the Polish Soldiers who died due to the Influenza Epidemic of 1918-1919 (and how that pandemic impacted our town).

We ended the hike with

each Pathfinder “adopting” a soldier from Niagara who fought in either the First or Second World Wars. Each youth received a card with that soldier’s story, and was invited to remember them during the moment of silence on Remembrance Day. We then laid our Remembrance Rocks at the memorial at the Royal Canadian Legion Hall on King Street.

We are thankful for Al Howse and the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 124, and Shawna Butts of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Museum, who have helped our units learn the stories of our community, Lest We Forget.



Brownies Maansi (top left) and Rachel (middle left) painted rocks for Remembrance Day, as did Pathfinders and Guides. (Below) Guider Amanda, Lexy, Annika, Sam, Rosie, and Julie paint rocks before walking across the Commons to the memorial. At the King Street memorial, Hannah, Victoria, Jessie, Julie, Annika, Sam, Tannin, Lexy and Bella pose after laying their Remembrance Rocks at its base. (Photos submitted)

A cyber celebration of sour beer at The Exchange Brewery

**Kim Wade
Special to The Local**

In contrast to last year's Sourpalooza Festival, this year's third annual event, held Saturday, took an innovative turn.

The Exchange Brewery's 2019 event featured more than 30 sour beers on tap from 12 breweries across Ontario, Quebec and the U.S. Kathryn Dodington, event coordinator for the brewery, says the plan was to invite back 11 of the participating breweries from last year, and add on six more interested breweries. However, in order to ensure participant safety, this year the event was presented online.

As Dodington explained, plans for the event were well underway when COVID-19 and safety restrictions started. "We all thought the lockdown would be temporary," she said, but The Exchange was closed from March until May. During this time, they began curbside pickup and free deliveries within a 25-kilometre radius of the brewery. In addition, they set up deliveries to the rest of the Niagara region, the Golden Horseshoe and shipping within Ontario by Canada Post. For entertainment, they began to hold regular events such as comedy and trivia nights via the Zoom platform. They also coordinated deliveries so people could partake in their favourite brews while enjoying the online event from the comfort and safety of their own homes.

As the brewery adjusted to the pandemic restrictions, the decision was made to switch the Sourpalooza Festival from the in-person event they had been planning, to an online event. By then, the organizers had experience coordinating beer deliveries with online events, and they had learned how to troubleshoot any possible difficulties.

The original date for the

event was Sept. 12, but they "pushed it back further waiting for the weather to turn to give people something to do indoors," says Dodington. The delay also gave them more time to reconfigure and coordinate the event. First, the list of participating breweries was cut from 17 to six. This meant that The Exchange and five other breweries could offer 12 different beers in a sample package. The organizers asked the other breweries what brews they would like to showcase within the set parameters of price, size and style.

The featured sours were delivered to The Exchange, where they were packed up in sample boxes. Each box contained 12 bottles of sour beer (two from each participating brewery), two Sourpalooza sample glasses, pre-packaged snacks and a festival guide complete with tasting notes and suggested food pairings. The sample box cost \$179 and also included The Exchange's seltzer to remind people to drink water while they are sampling. Dodington says the extras were added to remind participants to "stay hydrated and have food in their bellies while they are enjoying the tastings."

Curbside pickup, deliveries and shipping via Canada Post, was coordinated from The Exchange. Local pickup sites were set up at participating breweries in Hamilton, Kitchener and Toronto. Dodington was grateful to the partner breweries in helping to pull off a successful event. "It was an awesome experience working with the other breweries. It was very collaborative."

The tasting sessions, hosted by Andrew Hoto, assistant manager of the The Exchange Brewery's Tap Room, were broadcast on Instagram with a session every hour. Hoto was joined, virtually, by the head brewers of each brewery to discuss the sample, how it was made and

tasting notes. It was interesting and educational to hear these brewers discuss their processes, and the passion they have for their craft.

Sour beers continue to gain in popularity. They have become a growing trend in the industry. More breweries are making sour beers and "more people are coming into their breweries looking specifically for sours," notes Dodington.

Although the introduction of sours on the market seems recent, the process for creating sour beer is ancient. A sour beer is produced by the introduction of yeast and bacteria into the brew. This yeast and bacteria can be added into the brew directly for greater control of results. Although different types of bacteria can be used, one of the most common is lactobacillus, which is commonly used in yogurt. In contrast to the direct addition of a specific yeast or bacteria, some breweries may choose to follow an "old school Belgian way" of producing sour beer. This Lambic type of beer production involves exposing the brew to airborne wild yeasts and bacteria, just as the monks did hundreds of years ago. This tradition does not have the same control over the outcome, but can make for some interesting brews.

Fruit can also be added for flavour, and to create tartness during the fermentation process. Different types of fruit were used, such as cherries, raspberries, blackberries, plums or pineapples. The brew is then aged in wooden barrels. Some of the sour beers this year were aged in tequila, bourbon or wine barrels for added complexity, resulting in a refreshing taste experience.

This year, it seems more of the breweries have been collaborating with wineries to create new blends. A few, including



There were 12 brews available for tasting at this year's Sourpalooza. (Photos supplied)



Audrey Le Goff, marketing and public relations coordinator, works the live feed and Andrew Hoto was the tasting host at this year's Sourpalooza Festival.

Indie Ale House, Merit Brewing and The Exchange, have experimented with adding grapes, grape skins, grape must, lees, pomace and even merlot wine flour to their brews. Other interesting additions were Cacao nibs and vanilla.

The participating breweries this year were Small Pony Barrel Works from Ottawa; Indie Ale House from Toronto; Merit Brewing from Hamilton; Blood

Brothers from Toronto; Short Finger Brewing from Kitchener; and The Exchange Brewery.

The Exchange sold more than 70 Sourpalooza boxes, and 100 to 150 people tuned in for each virtual live tasting session. Dodington and crew recorded each tasting session and all the videos are posted on The Exchange's Instagram TV channel for people to watch again.

The Exchange Brewery is

already looking forward to next year's Sourpalooza and plans are underway for fall of 2021. The goal is for a large in-person outdoor festival. As Dodington says, "our fingers are crossed for next year."

For further information, contact The Exchange's website at exchangebrewery.com or email at info@exchangebrewery.com or 905-468-9888.



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Daily songs on Facebook provide comfort during COVID

Penny Coles
The Local

Roger Beedles is a man for whom music has always been an important part of his life, as a profession in his younger years, and as a pastime now that brings him great pleasure, as it does his listeners.

For more than a decade, he's shared the joy of performing with his fiddler friend Wally Knash, and with other local musicians, at various events around Niagara. They have entertained at long-term care homes, churches, at fundraising benefits, and in the Beedles' enormous York Road backyard, where they love to have their musician friends congregate.

The events, of course, came to a halt in March, and they both missed the opportunity to gather with others and make music.

Beedles and his wife Anne were in Wales, in February, where they had met, married and raised their children, before moving to Niagara-on-the-Lake 23 years ago. Their trip was a visit to children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and they were having "a fabulous time," when they realized it was time to come home, while they could still

travel, says Roger.

Once they were back in Niagara and hunkering down in their home, Roger, cut off from his musical friends and from family members, decided to record some songs on his iPad, and post them on Facebook. He hoped they might bring some comfort and enjoyment to others, and set himself a goal of posting one each day. That's brought the total to more than 200 songs he has performed on his guitar, sang along to, and shared on social media.

Once restrictions opened up a little, he and Anne, married for 55 years, decided their bubble would include their friends Wally and Leona Knash, who married 62 years ago, and the two men, with Wally on his fiddle, Roger on guitar and singing, were back to making music together again.

"We couldn't have done it without our wives," says Roger, and although he's referring to their recent get-togethers, the men go on to talk about the decades of working all day, and being out several times a week to play at various events. Sometimes their wives would accompany them, and they joke about the women being their best critics, but it's obvious the support is important.

During the good weather,



Wally Knash and Roger Beedles perform in Beedles' York Road backyard. (Penny Coles)

the men played outside on the Beedles' back deck, with the beautiful backdrop of the large property stretching out behind them, an iPad set up on a stand in front of them.

Roger posts them on his own Facebook page, where he receives lovely comments from friends and family, and also to a Facebook group called the Ultimate Online Nova Scotia Kitchen Party (COVID-19 edition). The

group attracts musicians who are doing much the same as Wally and Roger. With almost 275,000 members, it draws a lot of views, and the men love tracking the positive reactions their videos receive.

When it was time to move inside, they began meeting at Wally's house, continuing to use the iPad for their Saturday evening videos which they recorded in the Knash dining room, which has a vaulted ceiling and phenomenal acoustics, Roger says.

Fortunately, their wives became friends when Wally and Roger first started playing music together 12 years ago, so they are happy for the opportunity to meet and chat while the men record their songs.

Roger always has a list on the go — they'll never run out of tunes, he says — and when they meet, they record enough songs for the following week's Facebook posts.

They have recently begun adding a hymn to post Saturday night, to be enjoyed Sunday morning, and one sing-along each week, which has become very popular with their listeners.

The two men have very different backgrounds. Roger grew up in a small community in Wales, just down the road from a castle, and started performing at the age of 15 or 16 in "a little band," he says. He began touring as a folk singer, singing old Scottish and Irish folk tunes, and years later transitioned to country music, playing with bands in England and South Wales.

"Roger was one of the most respected vocalists in Wales," says Wally. "Anywhere Tom Jones played, he's played."

Wally grew up on a farm in Saskatchewan, and convinced his parents to order him a violin from the Sears catalogue when he was just

five years old. He taught himself to play it, and most other string instruments, and learned songs easily by ear, primarily by listening to the TV or radio. He was good enough to win a provincial fiddling championship.

He too toured professionally for a time as a young man, but found that didn't suit his lifestyle. He married Leona, settled down, went to work in the insurance business, and about 30 years ago, landed in Niagara.

Both men through most of their lives had day jobs to support their families, but continued to play in bands, at concerts and events, with friends and for friends. Music was always a part of their lives, and once they met in Niagara, at an outdoor party where other local musicians were jamming, playing together became a given.

They are friends first and foremost, "friends who share a love of music," says Wally, "and we enjoy working together. It's important to play with someone who's compatible."

One of the joys of working with Wally, says Roger, is his versatility. "He can play any kind of music, and he plays it all beautifully."

Which is a good thing, since they both like a wide range of musical styles.

"We're not rock and roll stars, but we play a little rock and roll. We're not folk artists, but we do some folk songs," says Roger.

What they really love are timeless classics — they can be big band, ballads, jazz, or any style — and many of them can be found on Facebook.

Some of their songs receive more than 1,000 views and one they both love, *The Waltz of the Angels*, wracked up more than 7,500 views on YouTube.

It's hard to know who is having more fun — the

two friends making music together, or those who are checking in to Facebook, some on a daily basis, to listen.

Although Roger doesn't have a wide group of Facebook friends, it's obvious from the comments that their music is bringing their listeners great pleasure.

"Our goal is to have fun, and put smiles on people's faces," says Wally.

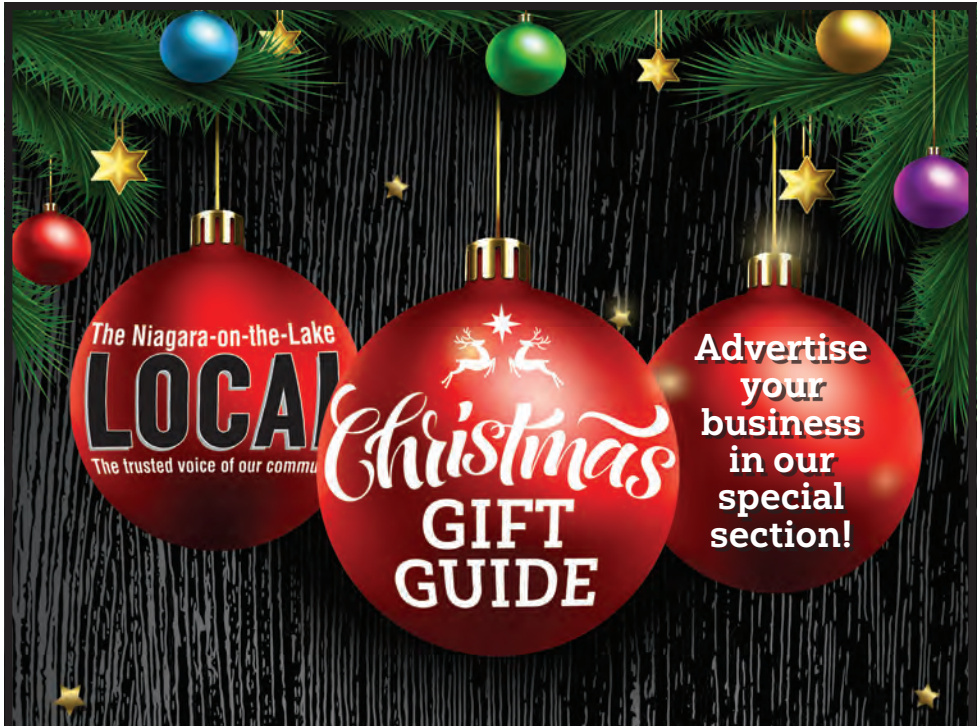
"And from the feedback we're getting, I think that's what's happening," adds Roger. "And we're never going to run out of songs."

Wally had a health scare a few years ago that made him think his time as a fiddler player had run out. He was finally diagnosed with polymyalgia rheumatica, an inflammatory disorder which crippled his hands for about 18 months. He couldn't play at all during that time, and that was tough for him. "I've never had to deal with anything like that in my life, not playing the fiddle for that long," he says. Fortunately he found a doctor who recognized the disorder and prescribed a medication that had him back playing two weeks later, and he doesn't plan to stop any time soon.

"As long as the Lord grants me the ability to play, as long as I'm able to do what I do, I'll keep playing. I feel it's a gift from God, and I won't waste it."

Roger was happy to have him back, and after the forced break they had recently at the beginning of the pandemic, says, "Wally and I are having a lot of fun doing this."

"I've played with dozens of bands in my lifetime," adds Wally. "Some of them were very good, but I didn't enjoy any of them as much as I do this. We put our heart and soul into every piece of music we play, even after all these years."



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Artist Eric Ranveau opens exhibit at Pumphouse

Kim Wade
Special to The Local

"Canada has given me a lot and I want to give back to Canada," says Eric Ranveau.

The artist was at the opening reception for his exhibition in the Joyner Room at the Niagara Pumphouse Arts Centre Sunday afternoon. The exhibition, named Ontario Between an Abstract and Figurative Vision, runs until Nov. 29.

Drawing a crowd of about 20 art lovers, Ranveau said how much he enjoyed visiting Niagara-on-the-Lake, for the beauty of the area, and the vineyards that remind him of his native French countryside. He joked with the crowd about "being born in a vineyard," and in fact, he was born in Chateaufort-sur-Charente and raised in Barbezieux-Saint-Hilaire in the heart of the cognac-producing region of France.

While the scenery in NOTL may be familiar to him, he defined some of the differences he has found between France and Canada since his arrival with his Canadian wife in 2006. After settling in Hamilton, he describes one of his first trips in Canada to the Muskoka area, where he was introduced to the natural beauty of that area.

He was then introduced to Canadian art history. Educated in fine arts in Angoulême, France and at the National Art School of Paris, he reveals that even though he was a student of art history, Canadian masters were not part of the curriculum. "When I came to Canada, I never knew about Canadian masters. I never knew about the Group of Seven or Tom Thomson or Emily Carr. I think that is something that we have missed in France. In France and in Europe, we should know more about Canadian artists."

Ranveau describes how his style has changed since his



Artist Eric Ranveau talks to the audience at his opening reception. (Photos by Kim Wade)

arrival here. "Since I've been in Canada it has changed a lot, because Canada gives me a lot of energy. Everything that I see in Canada gives me energy. When I came to Canada I met some real artists, I mean masters. They taught me how to become a Canadian artist. They were like, okay, Eric, you have a French background, you have a European background, but you are in Canada, so we are Canadian artists." Ranveau's work is now heavily influenced by these 20th century Canadian masters. However, his unique style blends his graphic design background with his fine art education. "I have a graphic design background," he explains, "so you can expect there is a lot of graphic in my painting. I love form and colour. Canada for me is colour."

Even though Ranveau started his career as an artist in France in 1989, he says, "I grew up as an artist in Canada. I love to talk to other

artists about their vision. The art history in France and in Europe is so big, that means as an artist you don't know where you are, where you fit in."

He explains that in Canada, the artistic community is more willing to take risks by accepting, promoting and supporting artists, in contrast to Europe, where artists must already have a name before a gallery or promoter will back them.

Ranveau says he wants to give Canada his individual perspective of our country. "That is what I want to give back to Canada, I want to give back a European vision about your country. You may have been to France, but the sceneries here are so different, and your country so unique." Ranveau's work is also unique, yet familiar. On close inspection, this work seems abstract, linear and almost chaotic, yet when you look from a different perspective, your eyes begin to

recognize a familiar scene. Maybe it's a gravel road you have travelled to a cottage on summer vacation, or a hike you took in a snow-covered forest one winter.

He had some advice for the other artists in the Pumphouse gallery. As an artist, once you have the foundations of your technique

down, then you have to stop thinking and just feel, he says. "You have to disconnect your brain and just go," he illustrates. "You have to sweat. You have to cry. You have to express yourself."

Good advice for all of us during these unique times.

The Pumphouse is open for Ranveau's exhibition on

Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Pumphouse is also presenting works for their Fall Fundraising Online Art Auction running until Nov. 16. In-person viewing is available. Visit niagarapumphouse.ca to bid on these original art works by Ontario artists.

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Georgian Bay in the Summer is one of Ranveau's Muskoka paintings.

Rangers look for way forward to competitive basketball season

Mike Balsom
Special to The Local

It's anything but business as usual for the Niagara-on-the-Lake Rangers basketball program this fall and winter. Bruce Caughill, who, along with his wife Jennifer founded the local program, explains that COVID-19 has put a bit of a damper on the club's normal way of doing things. With the District School Board of Niagara currently limiting entry to all of their buildings to employees and students, renting the Crossroads Public

School gym, which has been the home of the Rangers in the past, is currently off the table. "The cost to rent Crossroads is under \$15 an hour," Caughill says. "We've had to move to a private gym (at Virgil Public School) and the cost is almost four times that much." An Under-16 girls team, coached by Shawn Pylypiw, is practising twice a week at that facility. But as Caughill points out, the added cost, in addition to other factors, has meant the cancellation of the popular development program for younger girls and boys. "In the inter-

est of limiting the pandemic stuff, we're not running the development league Saturday mornings," explains Caughill. "There was really no way to run that and meet any kind of protocols." For Pylypiw's girls team, who competed at the Under-15 level last year, this year's season is a continuation of the frustration they felt when things came crashing to a halt in March. "We were building and growing the team, and our last 11 games we were 9-2. We had more room to grow," Pylypiw says. "Then, the season was cut short because of COVID, and the Ontario Basketball Championship was not held, which was discouraging for our entire team."

The current season has been postponed from its original start date of November 2020 to January 2021, while the Ontario Basketball Association (OBA) has not yet announced when the 2021 provincial championships might take place. Pylypiw is taking it all in stride, focusing on the positives. "I am hopeful this season that we can continue to build off our late season success," he says. "We have most of our team returning from last season, and are looking to have nine to 11 possible players." He adds that without scheduled tournaments to prepare for, the focus for the girls is on practising and improving on their skills.

He admits that COVID has made things very challenging from many different aspects. "The OBA has released a set of guidelines for return to play, featuring five phases, culminating in the return to provincial competition." As of press

time," the Rangers and all other teams in Ontario are expected to adhere to the phase three, or return to full team practise guidelines." As Pylypiw explains, that means they are permitted to practise with physical distancing and no direct contact. "The players find it frustrating at times, as they have to participate against air. We are not permitted to practice in a typical offence, defence set up," he says. "As a coach, you need to be a little more creative to keep their interest, so they don't become bored. We have been running a variety of different drills. As well, we just started to get back into team element areas to understand game play such as offence, defence, our full court press and transition." He continues, "the difficult part again is that this is all being done against air, and they need to try to visualize making their decisions with nothing in front

of them. I have stressed to the team that we have been given some time, so we can try to focus on the little things such as foot work, ball placement, and seeing the court." The OBA protocol calls for all players to fill out a COVID questionnaire prior to every practice. They need to wear a mask when walking into the gym but are able to remove them once they are playing. Only players are permitted within the gym and all parents now wait outside in their vehicles for the practice to conclude. The gym at the old Virgil Public School isn't quite as roomy as that at Crossroads, but both Caughill and Pylypiw are grateful for the ability to be able to use the space. "It's comparable in size, and has a decent number of baskets for the team to practise," says Pylypiw. Caughill points out that the club is in a bit of a limbo state when it comes to finances, not

really able to predict what competition costs will be until there is some clarity for a return to competition. He has begun to reach out to the Rangers' long-time sponsors, though. "We realize that times are tough for everyone right now," Caughill says. "We're in the middle of finalizing our sponsorship letter. We're hoping we can keep the connection alive, as it's pretty important. And with this gym at quadruple the cost, we can only sustain that for so long." In the meantime, both he and Pylypiw are hopeful that the Under-16 girls will eventually take to the court in a game situation. Other local clubs, such as the Pelham Panthers and the Niagara Falls Red Raiders, are also preparing for a season, whenever it may occur. As Pylypiw says, though, "right now it's murky at best, as to the outlook on how the season is going to look."

LOCAL HAPPENINGS

FIRST ONTARIO PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

#NiagaraPerforms

Friday, November 13 @ 7 p.m.
Saturday, November 14 @ 2 p.m.
The Chemical Valley Project

Saturday, November 14 @ 10 a.m.
Tuesday, November 17 @ 6 p.m.
Monday, November 23 @ 7 p.m.
Navigating the Waters of Indigenous Art

Saturday, December 5 @ 6:30 p.m.
Ron Sexsmith

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TD NIAGARA JAZZ FESTIVAL

Friday, November 13 @ 7 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Best of the 2020 season
Livestreamed: niagarajazzfestival.com

DRIVE-THRU BORSCHT & BREAD SALE

November 14 @ 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Bethany Mennonite Church, 572 East West Line, NOTL.
Borscht (1 litre) \$10. Brown bread (loaf) \$5. Cash (exact) or cheques made out to Bethany Mennonite Church.

CODING WORKSHOPS FOR ADULTS!

November 16 @ 9 a.m. - 10 a.m.
By popular demand...Coding Workshops for Adults!
Join us to get an introduction to one of the most popular coding languages out there: Python! Details and registration on notlpubliclibrary.org

PRACTICAL GENEALOGY AT NOTL PUBLIC LIBRARY ~14+

November 20 @ 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Join genealogy and local history expert, David Hemmings, in this beginner class guiding you through the first steps in researching your family history. Class size is limited, Registration required: <https://notlpubliclibrary.org> as soon as possible. If you have a laptop, please bring it. Masks are mandatory and physical distancing must be adhered to. This class is for those interested in genealogical research that have never previously attended any of our Practical Genealogy sessions. If you have experience in genealogical research or have specific questions for Mr. Hemmings, please contact him directly.

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Auchterlonie on Astrology

Bill Auchterlonie
Special to The Local

The full week of Auchterlonie on Astrology can be found on the Facebook page for The NOTL Local, and on the website <https://www.auchterlonieonastrology.ca>. In part II of my podcast, thanks to AstroButterfly, we get the entire month of November.

Sunday, Nov. 15: Today is the new Moon in Scorpio, at 23 degrees of Scorpio, and just as the day begins at 12:07

a.m. It's a day that marks the start of a new lunar month, an opportunity to take a fresh attempt at something you really want. Charming and powerful Venus in Libra is square to Jupiter (good), Saturn (argumentative), and Pluto (frustrating). All in all, it's still a good idea to make a list of things you want with notes on how to get them. Today marks the 290th anniversary of the death of Johannes Kepler, the German astronomer and astrologer

who worked in the same area of thought as Copernicus, Tycho Brahe and Isaac Newton. Carl Sagan called Kepler "history's first astrophysicist and the last scientific astrologer." While he was the first, his writings are studied by astrologers to this day (me included).

Wednesday, Nov. 18: The middle of the night may be restless, as Uranus and the Moon connect in a positive, but energetic, way. Later on, try not to let curmudgeons

get in the way of an otherwise good time. Yesterday was Gordon Lightfoot's 82nd birthday. Today it is Margaret Atwood's 81st. While her list of novels and short stories is prolific, *The Handmaid's Tale*, currently in Season 4 on the Hulu on-demand service, is surprisingly, even eerily apropos for the Trump presidency, and fascist, anti-feminine developments all over the world.

Until next week, shine on!

Get your flu shots here!



The Niagara North Family Health Team held a drive-by flu shot clinic Tuesday in the community centre parking lot. There are others Nov. 19 and Nov. 21, at the same location. Call your doctor's office for an appointment. Volunteers for the clinic, as well as equipment, were provided by the Rotary Club of Niagara-on-the-Lake. (Photo submitted)

LOCAL WORSHIP



Sunday, November 15th
10 a.m. Worship Gathering
Speaker: Kevin Bayne
Message: Known By God
Pre-registration is required to attend in-person worship
Please be advised that with the current state of COVID-19, your safety is of utmost importance to us. We will now be live streaming our service at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays.
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1 Name which sounds like a name

7 WWW access enabler

10 Salad variety

14 Agreeable odors

15 Akhenaten's son, briefly

16 Rich Little, for example

17 Render innocuous

18 --- & Evelyn (body-product brand)

20 Fish eggs

21 Have a soak

23 Long

24 Touchdown turf

26 "Cogito, ergo ---"

28 "The buck stops here" monogram

29 Banded chalcedony

30 Funds for the golden years

32 Put down

35 Unattractive quality

39 Former immigration island

41 Convert into leather

42 Unhand me!

43 State with more corporations than people

45 First Bible book after the Gospels

46 Annie Oakley's employer

47 Big rig brand

50 Service score

53 "% Daily Value" forerunner
- 54 Saber cuts

58 Scarcely detectable amount

60 Arrived

62 Sink a sub?

63 Airplane statistic spawning confusion

65 Join battle

67 One more thing ...

68 Beyond tipsy

69 Lunkhead

70 Young lice

71 "Sail --- Ship of State!" (Longfellow)

72 Never left
- for example

19 One way to deliver

22 Country singer Ritter

25 Home to an archer, a lion and a bull

27 Web address

31 Shifty types

32 Low-energy source of illumination

33 Malt beverage

34 Queasy

35 Persian Gulf federation

36 And so on

37 Three-striper

38 Shortest-named ABBA single

40 Knights fought with them

41 Persist

44 Go on to say

47 Colorado winter time

48 Visitors from afar

49 Lacks what it takes

50 Nile dam

51 Official state dish of Texas

52 Surrealist Max ---

55 Intoxicating

56 Well under par

57 Charger

59 Causes of personality clashes

61 Aware of

64 Ramallah-based group

66 Former Portuguese Indian colony

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

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BUT 6 FEET APART!

PUZZLE ANSWERS

Sudoku solution from November 5, 2020

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

Across: 1 Monica, 7 I S P, 10 Cobb, 14 Aromas, 15 Tut, 16 Aperi, 17 Disarm, 18 Crabtree, 20 Roe, 21 Bathe, 23 Yearn, 24 End zone, 26 Sum, 28 H S T, 29 Onyx, 30 I R As, 32 Laid, 35 Ugliness, 39 Ellis, 41 Tan, 42 Let go, 43 Delaware, 45 Acts, 46 Cody, 47 Mack, 50 Ace, 53 R D A, 54 Slashes, 58 Shred, 60 Got in, 62 Eat, 63 Wingspan, 65 Engage, 67 Also, 68 Lit, 69 Noodle, 70 Nits, 71 On, O, 72 Stayed.

Down: 1 Madre, 2 Orion, 3 Noised, 4 I'm a, 5 Carbon, 6 As many, 7 Iich, 8 Sure sign, 9 P-T A, 10 Cate, 11 Oprah, 12 Beers, 13 Brent, 19 By mail, 22 Tex, 25 Zodiac, 27 U R L, 31 Sneaks, 32 L-E-D, 33 Ale, 34 Ill, 35 U A E, 36 Etc, 37 Sgt, 38 S O S, 40 Swords, 41 Try again, 44 Add, 47 M S T, 48 Aliens, 49 Cannot, 50 Aswan, 51 Chili, 52 Ernst, 55 Headly, 56 Eagle, 57 Steed, 59 Egos, 61 Onto, 64 P L O, 66 Goa.

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

The Niagara-on-the-Lake

LOCAL

The trusted voice of our community.

Beautifying NOTL, one box at a time



Matt Scott and Tyler Putt of Auto FX apply vinyl wraps to hydro boxes in NOTL. Lois Stevens' winning submission, *Cannas on Queen* (left), a painting of vibrant canna lilies beautifies the hydro box at the corner of Anderson Lane and Niagara Stone Road by the firehall. *Vineyard with a View* (right), by artist Julia Kane of St. Davids, transforms the box in front of the community centre. The third wrap, not pictured, is *The Glen*, by Shelley Locke, in Garrison Village at the entrance to the plaza. The work was completed Friday, in partnership with NOTL Hydro, the Town's Communities in Bloom Committee and the Niagara Pumphouse Arts Centre, promoting local artists and enhancing the visual aesthetics in high foot-traffic areas. (*Penny Coles*)



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