

The Niagara-on-the-Lake LOCAL



Delroy
Castella
to lead
Candlelight
Stroll

page 3

The trusted voice of our community.

notllocal.com

NOVEMBER 28, 2019

Volume 1 · Issue 46



Friends and some teammates lined up to watch a memorial game between two NOTL Minor Hockey midget teams, in tribute to Michael Labonte, who would have been on the green team had he lived to play hockey this season. (Fred Mercnik)

Moving tribute to Michael Labonte held at arena

Penny Coles
The Local

Harv Falk was overwhelmed by the number of kids who filled the arena last Wednesday for a memorial hockey game in memory of his son, Michael Labonte.

Known by all as Mikey, the 16-year-old Grade 11 Eden High School student who loved hockey was diagnosed with brain cancer in the spring, and after a brief battle fought with courage and humour, says Falk, died Oct. 23.

"Look around at all these young people who have come

here tonight. We thought we might get a few people out to watch the game, but we never expected this," says Falk, the halls and seats of the Meridian Credit Union Arena filled with family, friends and the many kids who knew Mikey through Crossroads Public School, Eden, hockey, and soccer. "We just found out about this game about a week ago. Look in the stands, filled with all those young people. This is just incredible."

The family has felt supported by their friends and church community from the time of Mikey's diagnosis of

glioblastoma multiforme, an aggressive form of cancer, Falk says. He had been suffering some headaches, from being hit with a ball, they thought, but after testing and a diagnosis, "the prognosis was not good. We knew that."

It was a difficult time, says Falk, with friends, family, and their strong faith to help them through it.

Mikey went through radiation and chemotherapy, and "handled it well. We had a good summer together, with a lot of emphasis on family, and a lot of laughter. Shortly before he passed, a friend offered us the

use of their cottage up north, and it was a real highlight for all of us, a fantastic week with his whole family, eleven of us, surrounding him."

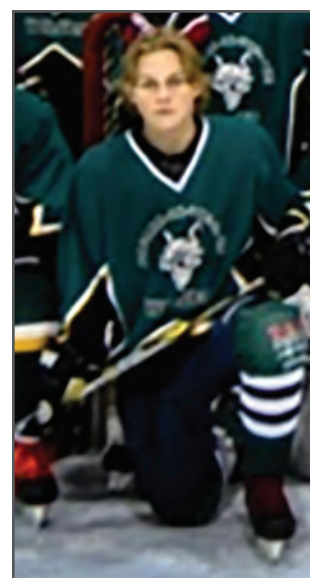
Mikey had become an uncle for the first time, with the birth of his niece, Liliana Nelson, "and he was so excited, just thrilled to have her there. She was born in September, and that was very special for Mikey."

Anna and Harv had him with them for nine years, this sometimes mischievous little boy with the knack for puns, the child who always loved a party, who loved to be in the

middle of everything, "even when sometimes he shouldn't have been," says Harv. "He was very social, very outgoing. Whenever there was a gathering of friends or family, we had to drag him away when it was time to go home."

His sense of humour and quick wit that allowed him to come up with spontaneous puns was with him to the end, says his grandfather Ben Falk.

"He said to me, with a twinkle in his eye, 'one thing for sure, I'm going to be in heaven before you are.'"



Michael Labonte (Photo supplied)

Continued on page 9



is proud to reveal our
Christmas Wonderland!
Bring the family to experience the Magic!

18 CARLTON ST. EAST, NIAGARA-ON-THE LAKE • 905-641-0983
Open: Mon-Fri: 8 am - 6 pm • Sat: 8 am - 5 pm • Closed Sunday "Our Family Day" • www.sunshine-express.ca



Budget increase capped at three per cent

Penny Coles
The Local

A new process to help keep taxes down and make decisions easier for council is working well, says Coun. Allan Bisback.

After the difficulties faced by a new council deciding its first budget for

2019, in a shortened time-frame, something needed to be done to streamline the process, Bisback said.

The solution was to rely on the audit committee, replacing the long workshop sessions held for the 2019 budget, involving all of council, with shorter, more frequent meetings,

he says, only involving the councillors who chose to be on the committee.

Early in the 2020 discussions, Bisback moved a motion at the audit committee that the budget increase be limited to three per cent, he explained. That was included in the committee minutes as a

recommendation to council, and approved by council without discussion.

Audit committee meetings, which include Coun. Stuart McCormack, the chair; and Couns. Gary Burroughs, John Wiens, Norm Arsenault and Bisback, are open to the public.

“I’m hoping council as a whole selected us as individuals to sit on the audit committee, given we have the experience and the time to do the job. We ask a lot of questions, and I feel we’re asking the right questions.”

It’s an “extremely important” process, he says, because it sets up spending for next year.

There are some residents attending, but the meetings are also live-streamed, Bisback said, for greater public participation.

The use of Join the Conversation on the Town’s website is another way for residents to make their opinions about the budget known, and to provide an outlet for asking questions and receiving answers, says Bisback.

The process began with a request to staff for a line-by-line budget which includes the non-negotiable salary increases for this year, and also for detailed business cases for every new item requested by staff, says Bisback.

The business cases have been presented, discussed,

and either approved or turned down, and those decisions will go to council as recommendations.

All of that information is public — there are reports for each business

budget, up from about \$210,000 for 2019, bringing it more in line with what other municipalities spend on their museums.

The Niagara District Airport presentation,

“We ask a lot of questions, and I feel we’re asking the right questions.”

Allan Bisback

Town water quality tests bring good results

Penny Coles
The Local

Following recent news about high levels of lead in drinking water in Quebec and Saskatchewan and questions from the public about Niagara-on-the-Lake’s drinking water, a report has been prepared “to increase awareness of the Town’s drinking water quality, relating to lead in municipal drinking water systems.

The report is available online in the Town’s information package prepared for Nov. 21.

When current provincial standards came into effect, all Ontario munic-

ipalities were required to take a number of samples based on population size, and to submit the laboratory results, the report explains.

In 2009, the Town took about 200 samples at two set time intervals and submitted the results to the Ministry of the Environment. “As a result of the very low detection limits, the Town was granted regulatory relief of the number of samples required,” the report stated.

Since that time, the Town has been required to take a minimum of five samples for lead every three years. During the other two years, the Town

is required to take five samples to test for pH and alkalinity, which have a potential to affect lead concentrations. All samples are tested, and the results sent to the MOE.

Although NOTL’s lead-testing requirements are only 10 samples every third year, 15 samples were taken in 2012, 16 samples in 2015, and 12 samples in 2018,”with no samples exceeding the regulatory limit,” the report says. “Water staff continue to sample and test our water throughout the Town at a level of services higher than the required minimums to ensure the safety of our customers.”

SEAWAY

FARMS

Gift Certificates Available

OPEN UNTIL CHRISTMAS!



www.seawayfarms.ca

175 Lakeshore Road
(corner of Lakeshore & Stewart Rds.)
Niagara on the Lake • 905.934.5066
Open: Mon-Sun 9-5

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM

Join us for our annual
Holiday Open House

11 am to 4 pm November 29th, 30th and December 1st
Exclusive Discounts on Wines and Giftware. Purchase a \$100 gift card for \$80

There is no cost to attend this event, but we will be collecting monetary and non-perishable food donations for Community Care.

CAROLINE CELLARS WINERY

Tasting Bar & Wine Boutique
Open 10 am to 6 pm Daily

The Farmhouse Café
Open for Lunch Daily
11:30 to 4 Monday to Friday
11:30 to 5 Saturday & Sunday

Bring this ad in for a
10% Lunch Discount
Valid Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday in December

1010 Line 2, NOTL 905.468.8814 www.CarolineCellars.com

Candlelight Stroll to benefit stroke victim

Penny Coles
The Local

Delroy Castella has a hard time telling his story, but fortunately he has his wife, Joan, and friend Jane Andres by his side to help him when he struggles for the words that refuse to come.

Delroy has been travelling to Niagara to work on local farms for decades. On Sept. 4, he was in an orchard picking peaches, a task with which he is very familiar. Normally an outgoing, talkative man accustomed to taking charge when needed, he found he was having difficulty forming words. It had worsened during his lunch break, but he returned to work for the afternoon.

Sitting at Andres' dining room table Friday, Delroy tried to explain the sequence of events that day, with Joan and Andres stepping in to help when his frustration became evident.

Together, they explained, Delroy nodding in agreement — although some of the details Joan was hearing for the first time — that after he was done work for the day, he rode his bike to the medical clinic in Virgil, but could barely get out any words to explain why he was there. An ambulance was called, and took him to the hospital in Niagara Falls, where he was diagnosed as having had a stroke.

He was transferred from there to the Hotel Dieu Shaver Health and Rehabilitation Centre in St. Catharines, where he remained, receiving therapy as an inpatient, until Oct. 27.

At that point the Caribbean liaison people prepared to send him home to Jamaica, with the expectation of his therapy continuing there.

But, as Andres explained, Ken Eden, the former fire chief of NOTL, stepped in. Since retirement Eden has become involved with the migrant farmworkers community through his volunteering with Bikes for Farmworkers. He and other members of the Gateway Church in Virgil decided they weren't going to let Delroy be sent home, until he has finishes his full regiment of therapy, says Andres. He has since been

granted permission to stay for a few more weeks, to continue his therapy twice a week.

In the meantime, his wife Joan has arrived in Niagara-on-the-Lake and they are staying at Andres' home.

Sitting at her table Friday, Delroy was receiving help with reading and writing skills from local Georgina Keller, whose background is in education.

Since he can't communicate verbally, improving his ability to read and write is essential to communication, and even if and when his speech returns to what it was, literacy skills will still be a benefit to him, Keller says.

Joan sits with a small knitting loom on her lap, making toques, as taught to her by Tony Carrier, who knits the warm, wooly hats for farmworkers when they arrive in early spring.

Joan talks about how terrified she was when she heard the news about Delroy. "I was at home, crazy with worry. I could talk to him, but he couldn't respond, so it was very hard to know how he was doing. I began singing to him, 'God will take care of you, through every day, all the way,'" she sings, Andres joining in, finishing with "God will take care of you." And I know he will," Joan says. "He knows that too," she adds, reaching out to her husband.

Did it help Delroy to hear Joan singing to him, from so far away?

"Ya mon," he says with strength and emotion, the first words to come to him easily, making the others laugh.

Andres recounts when he first arrived at Applewood, several of the men still working in greenhouses came to visit. Asked if he wanted a game of dominoes, he said, "Ya mon," the first words he had managed to get out.

That game of dominoes meant a lot to him, but not as much as having Joan arrive to be by his side.

She admits to still feeling terrified at times, not knowing what the future holds for him.

"I love him," she says softly.

She is also loving her very first visit to NOTL, this town where her husband has been

spending eight months of the year for the last 30 years.

"It's great to see where he has been coming for so many years, but it's hard to think about going home without him," she says.

Home includes their granddaughter, Unique, and Joan is anxious to return, but hesitant to leave Delroy.

She has a flight booked for early next week, although there are some efforts underway to change her departure date. Delroy has been chosen to lead this year's Candlelight Stroll, and Andres and others would like to see Joan by his side.

Leading the stroll means being the recipient of the money raised from the annual event.

It will give them some cash with which to return home, where Delroy has a lot of work waiting for him on his farm of crops, such as yams and bananas, and cows to tend.

At this point, they don't know what the future will bring, or whether Delroy will want or be able to return to Niagara next season. They are taking it one day at a time.

Joan's not sure if she will be able to stay for the stroll, to be held Friday, Dec. 6, but she's grateful she was able to visit for a short time, and to be reassured her husband is going to be okay — that even without speech, her usually talkative, social husband is still her Delroy. She needed to see that for herself.

"I'm so grateful to this community, and to all these people, each and every one of them," says Joan. "Everybody is doing so much to help and support us in every way. He always talked about Jane and all the people here, always said good things about this community. This is proof that they are looking after him."

The Candlelight Stroll, presented by the NOTL Chamber of Commerce, is Friday Dec. 6, with carols at the Court House steps beginning at 6:30 p.m.

At 7 p.m., Lord Mayor Betty Disero will introduce Castella and other members of the migrant worker community, who will light candles for those in attendance before boarding a Sentineal horse-drawn carriage to



Sitting around Jane Andres' dining room table, Delroy Castella is having a literacy lesson while his wife Joan knits toques on a loom. (Penny Coles)

lead the stroll through the beautifully decorated Heritage District.

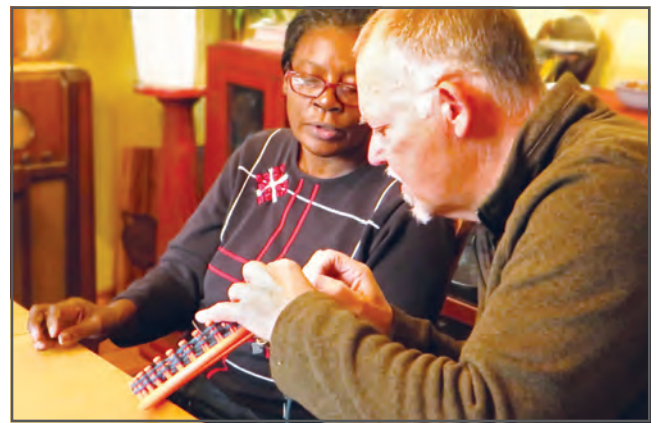
In addition to helping out Castella, the chamber will be giving a portion of the proceeds from the stroll to a Christmas Gift program that is asking for donations to purchase items for welcome kits when workers arrive in the spring.

The stroll route will be alive with entertainment from a wide selection of community choirs and musical entertainers, with Debbie Whitehouse and the Salvation Army singing carols from the steps of the Court House.

Donation boxes will be located at each candle stall on Queen Street for donations of

non-perishable food for New-ark Neighbours. Students from the VineRidge Academy will be

on hand to assist with the food donations and share in the spirit of generous giving.



Tony Carrier shows Joan Castella how to knit a toque. She plans to take the loom home to Jamaica and make some for the farmworkers returning next spring, as Carrier does. (Photo supplied)

November 23rd-December 24th 2018

Give \$100
GET \$25

Receive \$25 in gift certificates for every \$100
in gift certificates purchased



RZO
Taste Our Passion

10 Queen Street | Niagara-on-the-lake | www.orzoniagara.com | 289.868.8623

NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE DENTAL

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

369 MARY STREET
NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE
www.niagaradental.ca

NEW PATIENTS WELCOME
EVENING HOURS AVAILABLE
905-468-3009

A

Linda Attoe, RP
905-468-0046 | www.lindaattoe.com

Walk, cycle, drive to Psychotherapy
in the Old Town. Free Parking.

Serving the Niagara Region since 2005

RJW ANDREWS LAW PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
Barristers & Solicitors

905.468.0081
info@rjwandrews.ca

REAL ESTATE WILLS BUSINESS



Violinist Cynthia Konopka (left) accompanies the St. Michael choir as they sing Christmas songs from the Court House steps. (Photos by Penny Coles)

Tree-lighting event brings community together

Penny Coles
The Local

The huge grins and wide, sparkling eyes of 42 Mexican men and women on Queen Street Sunday evening were as heart-warming as the community tree-lighting celebration itself, which is expected to become an annual event.

Along with a good crowd of residents, the group of farmworkers enjoyed the St. Michael Catholic School choir singing Christmas songs on the Court House steps, the hot apple cider and cookies, the lighting of the tree beside the Cenotaph, and the welcoming, friendly spirit of the community gathering.

For some of the farmworkers, it was their first trip to the Old Town, and unlike anything they have experienced, although they are part of the NOTL community for up to eight months of the year.

Their presence at the event was arranged by Julia Buxton Cox, who befriended

a group of Mexican women following the death of their co-worker, Zenaida, who was hit by a truck while walking on Concession 7 this summer.

Buxton Cox had attended the vigil held for Zenaida, and drew on her limited Spanish to tell the devastated women who had worked side by side packing peaches with her how sad and sorry she was for them in their loss, “and how grateful we are for the work they do. It was so moving and emotional. We all started to cry.”

The vigil and the conversation afterwards, she says, “really struck a chord with me. I realized how little we know about their community.”

She was inspired by Jane Andres, who has put a lot of effort into educating residents about the farmworkers who spend so much time in our town, to learn more, she says.

Since then, she has reached out to the women with offers of help, and in do-

ing so, has come to consider them friends.

Some of them were working at Tregunno’s Farms with Zenaida when she was killed, but they have now moved on to St. Davids Hydroponics to finish out their season.

Her friendships with them have developed over trips to the bank, to transfer money home, and to go shopping. There is a bus that will take them to St. Catharines, but with Buxton Cox offering to drive them, they can go where they like to shop. “They know their way around,” she says.

Although they enjoy shopping, they are very frugal, always sending some money home for their children first, before they shop. “They all have kids at home. They send money for school, heat, water and food.”

At Thanksgiving, Buxton Cox asked 24 women working at St. Davids Hydroponics if they were going to cook a traditional dinner, and they said no, it was too expensive. So she took them

dinner, cooking two turkeys and all the fixings for them. “They were so amazed, and so grateful.”

The women were also treated to a picnic by the gazebo this summer, with fine china and white linen, and

the opportunity to see the Old Town for the first time, and realize how beautiful it is, she says.

Although Buxton Cox helped to arrange the picnic, she was unwell and couldn’t go along. Her friends Betty

Knight and Fran Boot looked after the women, who were amazed to see how close NOTL is to the U.S. They were also thrilled to be taken in the side door for a quick

Continued on page 5



Eduardo Lafforgue, president of the NOTL Chamber of Commerce, and Lord Mayor Betty Disero give Ella DeSouza, a choir member of St. Michael Catholic School, an opportunity to introduce the Christmas songs the students sang on Queen Street Sunday evening.

Peninsula Flooring Ltd.

13 Henegan Road
Virgil Business Park

(905)-468-2135
www.peninsulaflooring.ca

bradley thachuk
music director

narrated by **James Mainprize**
featuring the **Chorus Niagara Children's Choir**

TICKETS STARTING AT \$36!

POPS! 2: a symphonic bon-bon:
the nutcracker in concert
Sat. Dec. 7 at 7:30 PM & Sun. Dec. 8 at 2:30 PM
FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre

for tickets: **905.688.0722**
niagarasymphony.com

Disero thanks volunteers for making street beautiful

Continued from page 4

visit to the Prince of Wales Hotel. "They were in awe — they couldn't believe how beautiful it was. It was a very special day for them," says Buxton Cox.

She decided recently she wanted to offer them something that felt like a Christmas gift, before they return home, and the tree-lighting event proved to be serendipitous — the timing allowed them to take part in a community event.

Her neighbour, Barry Wilding, a school bus driver, offered his services for free, as did DanNel Transportation with the bus. Father Antonio Illas, with the local Anglican

Diocese, helped out as a translator.

Before heading to the Cenotaph, Buxton Cox, this time with a group of men and women, took them to the gazebo, again giving them the opportunity to see the U.S. and understand how close it is.

"We waved and said 'hola Estados Unidos,' and looked at the Toronto skyline," she says, before making a quick stop at the Prince of Wales to see the Christmas tree.

"It was so beautiful. Everywhere we take them, they are so grateful for the experience."

Once on Queen Street, their presence was recognized by Lord Mayor Betty

Disero in her address to the crowd. "We're hearing a lot of Spanish on the street," she said, thanking the workers for all they do for the community.

Disero also thanked all the volunteers who had made many of the decorations, and who had helped to make Queen Street beautiful for the holidays.

Buxton Cox, referring to the relationship she has developed with the Mexican women, and the assistance she is offering, says, "this is not charity in any way. They are part of this community. One woman has been coming here for 20 years. They are our neighbours, and I am grateful for their friendship."



The group of 42 Mexican farmworkers pose by the Queen Street Christmas tree with Julia Buxton Cox and Lord Mayor Betty Disero.

Welcome kits will greet workers returning in spring

Penny Coles
The Local

With more than 2,000 seasonal farmworkers arriving in Niagara-on-the-Lake, a Christmas Gift program will help to make them feel welcome and safe on local roads.

You can give a meaningful gift of a welcome kit, a program that has existed for several years, or a lifesaving

reflective safety vest, which were given out for the first time this season, following the death of a Mexican woman who was hit by a truck while walking on a dark rural road.

The program, which was started by Jane Andres and Julia Buxton Cox, offers several options.

A welcome kit of work gloves, socks, snacks, hygiene items, a cloth and towel costs

\$25; a \$35 option includes the welcome kit and a reflective safety vest; \$50 provides two welcome kits; \$70, two welcome kits and two reflective safety vests; and for \$100, three welcome kits and three reflective safety vests can be purchased for farmworkers.

Email money transfers to niagaraworkerswelcome@gmail.com.

Please use the password WELCOME.



Music teacher Michelle Cumiskey waits on the Court House steps for more choir members to arrive with St. Michael students Sienna (in the Santa hat) DeSouza, her sister Ella and brother Micah.



Julia Buxton Cox hands out hot apple cider to farmworkers who attended the event.

CHRISTMAS IS A MONTH AWAY!

Get Your

Premium Fresh Cut Christmas Trees

at

MoriGardens
Design & Garden Centre

1709 Niagara Stone Rd. | NOTL | 905.468.7863

Irving Berlin's Holiday Inn

A cherished holiday musical featuring "White Christmas."

Nov 16 - Dec 22

Kick start your holiday season with this fun-loving, tap-dancing, rib-tickling, romantic comedy.

Production Sponsor
Mary E. Hill

Official Holiday Season Hotel Partner
Village Hotels

905-468-2172
SHAWFEST.COM

SHAW FESTIVAL 19

EDITORIAL

Glendale finally gets attention

When the development of Niagara-on-the-Green was first discussed at council, maybe 20 years ago or more, it was exciting news. Finally there were going to be new homes. A commercial area, parks, a community gathering place, and even a school was planned, all without the inevitable controversy and debate that accompanied development anywhere else in town.

It was a good news story. There was talk, I recall, about density, but mostly the reaction was excitement for this ground-up community in our backyard.

Finally, the neighbourhood began to emerge, homes were built, people moved in — and problems began. The only attention paid to what seemed

like the poor cousins of NOTL was when there were complaints, and issues, such as parking and partying, which are only now, slowly, being resolved.

But there is finally good news, exciting news, buzz, even, about progress being made, and changes to come. Slowly, again, of course, but at least they are in the works. People are talking about Glendale, thinking about the possibility of more new homes, a growing population that will bring offices, restaurants, a community gathering place, and even a school.

It's great that residents have been involved in discussions, and made to feel some ownership of what is unfolding.

These neighbours of ours

deserve a real, complete community, one they don't have to forge for themselves, ignored by the rest of the town.

They need to feel connected to the rest of the municipality, they need more social interaction with the rest of the town, a sense of belonging, and the amenities which were part of the original package. A community unto itself, but also part of the whole, as the other villages are.

They've waited a long time, these taxpayers, lovely people who have chosen where they want to live and are making the best of a less-than-perfect situation. It will take decades, but it's good news. Change is on the horizon.

Penny Coles
The Local



Letter Policy

In response to recent letters The Local has received and not published, we would like to share our letter policy. We encourage residents to submit letters that are respectful and deal with the issue at hand. We will not publish letters that attack individuals. We hope to hear from you soon! Email penny@notllocal.com.

NEED HELP? MAKE THE CALL

DISTRESS CENTRE

For depression, distress and crisis.
24 hour help line:
905-688-3711

MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS ACCESS

(Toll Free)
1-866-550-5205

GAMBLER'S ANONYMOUS

905-351-1616

KIDS HELP PHONE

Service for youth
416-586-5437
1-800-668-6868
(Crisis Line)
kidshelpphone.ca

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Meetings every Wednesday evening 8 p.m. to 9 p.m.
St. Mark's Parish Hall
41 Byron St., NOTL
or find a meeting
905-682-2140

ASSAULTED WOMEN'S HELPLINE

Mobile calls to:
#SAFE (#7233)
1-866-863-0511
(Toll Free)

CRIME STOPPERS

1-800-222-8477 (TIPS)
niagaratips.com
Text 274637 (CRIMES), keyword: Niagara, then your tip

The NOTL Local acknowledges the land on which we gather is the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples, many of whom continue to live and work here today. This territory is covered by the Upper Canada Treaties and is within the land protected by the Dish With One Spoon Wampum agreement. Today this gathering place is home to many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples and acknowledging reminds us that our great standard of living is directly related to the resources and friendship of Indigenous peoples.

The Niagara-on-the-Lake

LOCAL

The trusted voice of our community

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

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

Publisher:
The Niagara-on-the-Lake Local

Graphic Designer:
Rosie Gowse
composing@notllocal.com

Advertising Sales:
Karen Skeoch
karen@notllocal.com • 905-641-5335

Julia Coles
julia@notllocal.com • 905-934-1040

Helen Arsenault
Local Business Directory,
Local Happenings, Classified Sales
classified@notllocal.com

notllocal.com [facebook.com/notllocal](https://www.facebook.com/notllocal) [instagram.com/thenotllocal](https://www.instagram.com/thenotllocal) [@thenotllocal](https://twitter.com/thenotllocal)

LOCAL FINDS



Combe's ancestry

Donald Combe
Special to The Local

This monument is in the cemetery at St. Andrew's. John and Sarah are my great-great-grandparents. They were married at Cockburnspath, Berwickshire, Scotland in 1820, and came to Canada in 1855 with their eldest son Andrew, and youngest daughter Agnes (my great-grandmother). Other siblings followed later. Life in Canada was difficult. This imposing monument was erected by their son David.

*It may be written in stone; however Barwickshire is a spelling error.



A Man Goes to the Movies

Donald Combe
Special to The Local

I rejoice that I was able to experience Jojo Rabbit and want to recommend it to everyone, but I am cautious. It is a multi-layered, complex story, and in spite of the

horrors of war, the Gestapo, antisemitism, stupidity and evil, the hero, a cherubic 10-year-old boy, initially mesmerized by Hitler, in the end finds the way to be victorious is through decency, respect and love.

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



Cast of Jojo Rabbit



Auchterlonie on Astrology

Bill Auchterlonie Special to The Local

This week I look at the last week of November 2019, and the start of December, as well as the week of the First Quarter Moon in Pisces on Wednesday, Dec. 4.

Thursday, Nov. 28: Mercury connecting with Neptune and the Moon in the same place as Jupiter, both just before sunrise, indicate sweet dreams that for Sagittarians and Pisceans may be dreams that come true. A positive meeting of Venus and Uranus spells financial surprises for Scorpio. Paul Shaffer, band-leader for David Letterman, turns 70 today. On this day in 1979, New York Islanders' goalie, Billie Smith became

the first goalie to be credited with scoring a goal in the NHL.

Friday, Nov. 29: The Moon is in the constellation Capricorn. So is Saturn, and also Pluto. Today they all connect, bringing a serious need for self-confidence and a shot of solid willpower, especially to all Earth Signs – Taurus, Virgo and Capricorn. Canadian funnyman Howie Mandel turns 64 today. Football great Joe Montana threw a record 22 consecutive successful pass completions for the San Francisco 49ers on this date in 1987.

Saturday, Nov. 30: If you stay up late on this last day of the month, be mindful of an idea in the hour just past midnight, an idea promising

a hand with a better job or increased security. A playful mood ensues this afternoon and evening. It was on Nov. 30, 2004 that longtime Jeopardy champion Ken Jennings finally lost. He finished with the largest game show winnings of all time, with \$2,520,700. And Mark Twain (his real name was Samuel Clemens) was born on this day in 1835, as Halley's Comet zoomed overhead. He died on April 10, 1910, as Halley's Comet made its next pass by Earth.

Sunday, Dec. 1: The Moon continues through the Sign of Aquarius and makes a friendly connection to the Sun and Jupiter, both in Sagittarius. This brings a steady self-confidence to activities and a

helping hand that may seem a challenge later in the day. On Dec. 1, 1913, the Ford Motor Company fired up its first moving assembly line. Years later, Lucille Ball would make classic comedy of the idea. And The Divine Miss M, Bette Midler, turns 74 today.

Monday, Dec. 2: A kind of lazy start to the week. But Jupiter moves from its home sign of Sagittarius into the Constellation of Capricorn at 1:20 p.m. This brings steady good fortune to Capricorn, for a little over a year ahead, as Jupiter remains in Capricorn until Dec. 20, 2020. Jupiter is the 'god' planet, the bearer of good fortune and gifts. The age of atomic energy began on Dec. 2, 1942 as Enrico Fermi and a group of scientists

were able to create the very first self-sustaining nuclear reaction.

Tuesday, Dec 3: A super busy Tuesday sees the Moon move from Aquarius into Pisces in the early hours of the day. And Venus and Mars make a friendly connection in the morning, meaning male and female energies are balanced, so that moving projects forward is easier. And even enjoyable. And sexy! The day ends on a warm feeling of accomplishment. Galileo built his first telescope on this day in 1609. Ozzy Osbourne turns 71 today.

Wednesday, Dec. 4: This is the day of the First Quarter Moon in Pisces for 2019. This means the Sun in the constellation Sagittarius is exactly 90

degrees from the Moon in Pisces. And that makes for challenges where an all-knowing and totally self-confident fiery self is challenged by a super-sensitive and all-feeling emotional need. It ain't easy. Find a way to make both happy is good advice. Today, "The Dude," Jeff Bridges turns 70. Marissa Tomei celebrates birthday 55.

Next week I look at the days before the Full Moon in Gemini on Dec. 12.

Also please visit my website, www.LookingUpWithBill.com.

It's an all new podcast featuring the astrology of Christmas and the real birthday of Jesus.

As Joni said: We are stardust. We are golden. So shine on!

Celebrating Dan Patterson



Betty Disero gives retiring Niagara College president Dan Patterson a certificate proclaiming Nov. 22, the day of the gala held in his honour, Dan Patterson Day in Niagara-on-the-Lake. (Photo supplied)

Fire Department, Enbridge partner for safety



Enbridge Gas and the NOTL Fire Department are working to improve home safety through Project Zero, and are placing 126 combination smoke and carbon monoxide alarms provided by Enbridge in local homes as an early warning to ensure a safe escape from a house fire or exposure to carbon monoxide, considered "the silent killer." When conducting routine smoke alarm campaigns, firefighters find only about 60 per cent of homes comply with the laws requiring them to have smoke and carbon monoxide alarms. Smoke alarms are required in every home, on all floor levels and outside of all sleeping areas. If a home contains a fuel-burning appliance or an attached garage, then carbon monoxide alarms are also required outside of all sleeping areas. In the photo are Brad Disher, fire prevention officer; Fire Chief Nick Ruller; Deputy Chief Jay Plato; Lord Mayor Betty Disero; and Henry Timmers from Enbridge Gas (Photo supplied)

233 King Street
(905) 468-8600
bosleyrealestate.com
notl@bosleyrealestate.com

Leading

REAL ESTATE
COMPANIES
OF THE WORLD™

BOSLEY
REAL ESTATE

90
years+

BOSLEY REAL ESTATE LTD., BROKERAGE

Celebrate the Season

in Niagara-on-the-Lake



New Year's Day Levee



Fabulicious February



Candlelight Stroll



Santa Claus Parade



Ice Wine Festival

THE SHAW FESTIVAL

November 13 - December 22

Featuring the Shaw Festival's Winter productions: **A Christmas Carol** at the Royal George Theatre and **Holiday Inn** at the Festival Theatre.

www.shawfest.com

CANDLELIGHT STROLL

Friday, December 6

The ceremony begins outside the Old Courthouse building at 6:30 p.m. Includes singing carols and speeches, introducing the recipients of proceeds from candle sales.

The stroll, led by two horsedrawn carriages, begins at 7 p.m. People will follow behind the carriages and can stop along the route to listen to 15 different choirs and bands.

PARKING & COMPLIMENTARY SHUTTLE

Parking is available at Fort George, which is easily accessible from the **Niagara Parkway at 51 Queens Parade**.

There will be a **complimentary shuttle** running from **4:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.** to the Courthouse. Or, it's just a six-minute walk to the Courthouse from there to the start of the stroll.

You can also purchase your candles at The Visitors Centre, found in the centre of the parking lot. Food donations for Newark Neighbours can also be taken there.

DONATIONS

Please bring a non-perishable food item in support of Newark Neighbours. Newark Neighbours provides Christmas hampers for over 50 families in the area.

They are in need of some items for the hampers including:

- canned gravy • stuffing
- canned vegetables
- canned fruit • tins of cookies
- toiletries for both men and women
- new toys for children of various ages

21ST ANNUAL ROTARY HOUSE TOUR

Friday, December 6 & Saturday, December 7

The Rotary Club of Niagara-on-the-Lake Annual Holiday House Tour features six beautiful homes, decorated by professional designers, four local landmarks, the 225th anniversary celebrations of St. Andrew's Church, three wineries offering complimentary tastings, and special luncheon offerings! It's the most attended house tour in the region!

www.niagaraonthelakerotary.ca

SANTA CLAUS PARADE

Saturday, December 14

The Town of NOTL presents one of Ontario's best Santa Claus Parades, starting at 11 a.m.

905-468-4261

SANTA AND S'MORES

December 14, 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Fort George National Historic Site

Share s'mores with Santa at the skating rink! Santa will be dropping by to say hello, take a selfie, and listen to your special last-minute requests. Show Santa how you can skate and wear your best ugly Christmas sweater for a special treat. Find the big man rink-side from **5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., December 14 and December 21 only.**

FORT GEORGE GARRISON CHRISTMAS

December 14 & 15 Noon - 4 p.m.

Join us for a holiday event that will include activities, crafts and games for all to enjoy! Hot beverages and treats, as well as scheduled musket demonstrations will be provided.

For more information call Fort George at **905-468-6614**

VINTAGE - PARKS CANADA SKATING RINK

December 15 - March 22

Fort George National Historic Site

Free skating at the coolest place in town! The Vintage - Parks Canada skating rink is free for all to enjoy, located beside Fort George.

NEW YEAR'S DAY LEVEE

January 1, 3 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Fort George National Historic Site
Start the new year off with a bang! Join the Friends of Fort George and Parks Canada for our annual levee celebrations, with cannon firing, toasts, and music by the 41st Regiment Fife and Drum Corps. Call **905-468-6621** or email

admin@friendsoffortgeorge.ca

7TH ANNUAL ICEBREAKERS COMEDY FESTIVAL

January 17-18 & 23-25, 2020

The annual Icebreakers Comedy Festival in Niagara-on-the-Lake is Niagara's best live comedy festival in the region! Book your tickets at www.icebreakerscomedy.com

SPARKLE AND ICE GALA

January 17, 8 p.m. - 11 p.m.

For more information call: **905-468-1950**

THE ICEWINE FESTIVAL

January 18 - 19 & January 24 - 26

The charming town of Niagara-on-the-Lake transforms itself into an icewine village. Our icewine makers and Signature Kitchen chefs come together to play their part in wine country's annual icewine celebrations. For more information call: **905-468-1950**

FLASH AND PANACHE ICEWINE COCKTAIL COMPETITION

January 18, 2020 9 p.m. - 11 p.m.

ICEWINE PROGRESSIVE DINNER

January 24, 2020 7 p.m. - 11 p.m.

FABULICIOUS

February 26-29

Various restaurants.



The Niagara-on-the-Lake Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Niagara-on-the-Lake would like to invite visitors and residents alike to come and



Celebrate the Season

Players to carry #2 jersey with them to remember Mikey

Continued from page 1

As Ben sat at Mikey's bedside, when his grandson was nearing the end, eyes closed, Ben told him he better have a big chair beside him in heaven for his grandfather when he joins him. "He was really out of it by then, but he looked at me with tears in his eyes. He heard what I said."

Mikey would have been entering his second year of midget hockey with the NOTL Minor Hockey League, on the green team. Falk says because of the three-year age spread in the midgets, Mikey had played his last season with his older brother, Robbie Falk, and his cousin, Matt Regehr, and had loved them all being together on the same team. "They really bonded, and

Mikey had a fantastic year." A tribute the hockey association sent out to members, said "Mikey was known for his larger-than-life personality, his smile, and his ability to make others laugh and smile. He loved all who met him and he did his best to make all feel welcome. He was always quick to have a good laugh with teammates, and chirp his coaches." Mikey joined NOTL mi-

nor hockey in the atom division, and was a natural leader, the hockey tribute said. Although he wasn't always the biggest player, "many thought he played a big man's game." "As time progressed and his skating improved, he became a spitfire on the ice, a coach's dream. His relentless pursuit of the puck was legendary. You could often hear the call, "go get 'em Mikey," from the stands and the bench."

In his final year of hockey, he was given the award for Most Improved Player, "mainly because he never quit." Before the game Wednesday, Mikey's #2 jersey was brought out for a brief ceremony at centre ice, and many of his teammates from last season, who would have also been his teammates this year, on the Midget LL #1 team will be honouring Mikey for the rest of the season by wearing his #2 on their helmets, carrying his jersey with them as they "play on for Mikey," the tribute said. The hockey tribute said, "Mikey will be missed by

his loving family, Harv and Anna Falk, Ashley (Jacob) Nelson with Lilianna, Michele (Jeff) Martens, Brook, Robbie, and Nick Falk, Oma

Regehr, Gramma and Gram-pa, many aunts, uncles, and cousins, Katarina Regehr, Mike Labonte, and all who met him."



A short ceremony. was held before the face-off at centre ice, with his cousin Matt Regehr, his brother Robbie Falk and his sister Brook, behind them. (Fred Mercnik)



Cousin Matt Regehr, brother and sister Robbie and Brook Falk, with father and grandfather Harv and Ben Falk were at the arena to chat with friends and family and watch a hockey game held in tribute to Mikey Labonte. Anna was in the stands. (Penny Coles)

stdavidsvetclinic.com

Heading south?
Make sure your pet is ready to travel!

House-calls available

905.262.8777

1994 Limited Real Estate Brokerage

EXCLUSIVE AFFILIATE OF

CHRISTIE'S

INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

<p>NEW LISTING</p> <p>479 BUTLER STREET \$319,000 MLS 30778887 • Sarah Gleddie and Victoria Bolduc</p>	<p>NEW PRICE</p> <p>31 BAY BERRY LANE \$855,000 MLS 30775945 • Marilyn Francis</p>	<p>FOR LEASE</p> <p>35 DELATER STREET \$3,000/MONTH MLS 30754037 • Christopher Bowron, Audrey Wright and Nicole Vanderperk</p>	<p>1890 LAKESHORE ROAD \$869,000 MLS 30770725 • Victoria Bolduc and Sarah Gleddie</p>
<p>368 NIAGARA BOULEVARD \$2,295,000 MLS 30772127 • Marilyn Francis</p>	<p>89 WILLIAM STREET \$1,089,000 MLS 30774057 • Thomas Elltoft and Viviane Elltoft</p>	<p>165 PRIDEAUX STREET \$2,995,000 MLS 30718753 • Christopher Bowron, Audrey Wright and Nicole Vanderperk</p>	<p>16 NORTON STREET \$1,169,000 MLS 30763415 • Thomas Elltoft and Kim Elltoft</p>
<p>15 VINCENT AVENUE \$799,900 MLS 30758299 • Patricia Atherton and Victoria Bolduc</p>	<p>204 LINE 7 ROAD \$1,875,000 MLS 30738960 • Christopher Bowron, Audrey Wright and Nicole Vanderperk</p>	<p>56 KENMIR AVENUE \$359,000 MLS 30776597 • Thomas Elltoft and Kim Elltoft</p>	<p>1060 CONCESSION 2 ROAD \$1,068,000 MLS 30758541 • Randy Armstrong</p>

Christopher Bowron*** 905-468-2269

Victoria Bolduc* 905-941-3726

Philip Bowron* 905-348-7626

Bonnie Grimm* 905-468-1256

Kim Elltoft** 905-380-8011

Randall Armstrong** 905-651-2977

Audrey Wright* 289-241-0212

Nicole Vanderperk* 905-941-4585

Viviane Elltoft* 905-468-2142

Thomas Elltoft* 905-380-8012

Cheryl Carmichael* 905-941-0276

Sarah Gleddie* 905-685-2458

Christine Bruce* 905-328-9703

Marilyn Francis** 905-932-1266

Linda Williams* 905-401-4240

Caroline Polgrabia* 905-933-4983

Patricia Atherton* 905-933-4983

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

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

OPEN HOUSES
SUNDAY
2-4 PM
31 BAY BERRY LANE

Glendale plan moves closer to completion

Penny Coles

The Local

Density continues to be a concern, as does transit, for Glendale residents learning details of the Region's future plans for their neighbourhood.

The good news for residents is that the planning project underway will lead to the long-awaited amenities that will improve their quality of life, a message planners

have been hearing throughout the process.

Phase 1, which was presented to the Town at a council meeting in 2018, was the visioning stage that has led to the fleshing-out of details during the second stage, including land uses, says Glendale resident Steve Hardaker. He is one of four residents in a focus group involved in this second stage, which got closer to completion with the public open

house held last Wednesday at the Holiday Inn Express, attended by about 60 residents and stakeholders, and regional staff to answer their questions and concerns.

Kirsten McCauley, a senior planner with the Region, said the plan “speaks to a complete community,” and takes into account the feedback they received. That included the importance of a main street, with ground-level commercial amenities, and residential units above. She also presented some details of the aspects determined to be important, one of which is to protect and enhance landscape and natural features, including an eco park, and to protect the views of the Niagara Escarpment.

Also on the list of priorities are trails and active transportation facilities, including bike lanes, and the “walkability” of neighbourhoods; an accessible and connected transit system, linking Glendale with the rest of Niagara-on-the-Lake and the region; creating a main street from the urban neighbourhood to the Outlet Collection, with offices, restaurants and other commercial uses at street level and residential units above; providing a diverse range of housing, with choices and affordability; creating a public civic square; design elements that create sustainability, including great streetscapes with parking areas; and co-ordinating the infrastructure upgrades needed to accomplish the

plans going forward.

The goal is to complete the current work on the project by early next year, and amend the Region's Official Plan and the Town's Secondary Plan for Glendale to allow development of the 400-hectare area community to proceed over the decades to come — as one planner said, likely a period of 40, 50 or even 60 years.

The plan involves several residential areas of development, all medium to high density, a community and transit hub at the corner of Glendale Avenue and Taylor Road, the main street, and a cluster of employment lands on the north side of the highway.

It allows, if current plans are approved, for an expansion of White Oaks Resort and Spa, and includes working with Niagara College on one side of the QEW and its hope for an innovation centre, and with the Niagara Native Centre on the other side of the highway, which also has plans for growth.

One resident attending the meeting was Caroline McCormick, president of the Friends of Laura Secord. Secord's trek in 1812 took her through much of the area now under discussion, says McCormick, who is hoping for recognition of the historic significance of the neighbourhood.

"The Laura Second Legacy trail passes right through the area," says McCormick. "It emerges from escarpment woodlands at Niagara College,

continues along Taylor Road past the Outlet Collection at Niagara, to Homer Bridge.”

She plans to submit a proposal to recognize the hero who walked across the site, “and changed the course of Canadian history,” she says. “For starters, we thought perhaps a more historically appropriate name for the “Glendale Crossing” should be the “Laura Secord Crossing.”

And how about “a Laura Secord statue in the centre of the roundabout,” on the main street, she adds. “We could reroute the trail so walkers can pass it.”

She realizes it may take some convincing, but believes recognition of Secord should be part of any future plans for the area.

Former town planner Stephen Bedford was also at the meeting.

Representing White Oaks, he is watching the Glendale plan emerge. The hotel owners are hoping for a seven-storey addition to the existing building, and one or two more buildings, with at least one up to 20 storeys, “with the same kind of quality that’s already there,” Bedford says. So far it seems the Town and Region are onside, he says, and he is watching and hoping that support continues.

Larry Stewart, president of Avondale Stores, lives on the north side of the Glendale development area. He is also watching with an interest in the employment areas, he says. He likes what he sees — the emphasis is on “prestige industrial” growth, he says, and

he hopes it stays that way.

"I'm good with more commercial development. I'm just hoping it's not for growing marijuana. I hope that never happens."

Donald Ziraldo, who has been involved in economic development within the town in the past, was there to ask what kinds of jobs might be coming to the area, and whether there is a plan to seek out certain types of industry.

At this point, he was told, the project is focusing on protecting lands for employment growth, but not yet looking for certain kinds of employment.

Hardaker, representing residents, says while he can't speak for all of them, he feels most are supportive.

There is a closed Facebook page with about 250 members, on which he has been posting articles about the planning project, and most of the comments have been positive, he says.

His concern is the density, with any residential developments slated for medium or high density, and the details of what that could look like yet to be determined.

However, he and others are watching the plans for the main street, which, along with the increased population from residential development, should bring the amenities locals are hoping for, such as medical offices and restaurants. "That's what most of us are anxious and excited about," he says.

"It can't come soon enough."



Gracia Janes named 'living landmark' by Niagara Foundation

Penny Coles
The Local

In true Gracia Janes fashion, when asked about her decades of work with the Niagara-on-the-Lake Conservancy, and the Living Landmark award she received from the Niagara Foundation for those efforts, she quickly diverted the discussion to the accomplishments of the Foundation.

Instead of talking about herself, she wanted to talk about The Wilderness, an

important piece of property that stretches from Regent Street to King Street, that the Foundation is trying to save. It is part way there, she said, commending the work of the Foundation.

She also reminisced about her early meeting with the past owners, when she and her husband Bob moved to King Street in 1985.

She was hoping that the "really really old trees" on the property could be preserved, an example of her continuing belief that it's as

important to "save the space as the place," that natural heritage is as important as built heritage. "History is all around us," she says. "Actions took place on these spaces — that's what makes NOTL unique."

Janice Thomson, the Foundation member asked to introduce Janes at the awards dinner, had no such hesitation speaking of all the Conservancy president has done for the town.

The purpose of the award when it was created 13 years ago, she said, was to "bestow worthy recognition on a growing list of achievers and contributors — Norm Howe and Gerry Wool; Donald Combe; Calvin Rand; John Walker; Joy Ormsby; Christopher Newton; Peter Stokes; Jim Smith; Debi Pratt; Gary Burroughs; Norma Jean Lowrey and Blair Harber; Richard Merritt; and Judy MacLachlan are those that have been recognized to date."

They are the role models, the citizens of NOTL, who "built the beautiful town that we all appreciate today," she said.

"When we add the name Gracia Janes to the list of recipients of the Living Landmark award, the human mosaic expands and deepens even further. Gracia, while a strong advocate for heritage preservation, makes amazing impacts on our world in ways that we do not necessarily see on a daily basis. Working outside Niagara-on-the-Lake, for the benefit of all Canadians, Gracia Janes demonstrates her leadership skills and her love for this town, province and country, in many ways."

Thomson mentioned

some of Janes' accomplishments: she's an Honourary Life Member of the National Council of Women, has served as president of the National Council of Women's Education Fund; vice-president of Environment for the Provincial Council of Women of Ontario; and president of the Niagara District Council of Women.

"We are proud to say that Gracia Janes is a resident of our town and, frankly, amazed that in addition to the important work Gracia is performing at a national, provincial and regional level, she finds time and energy to contribute so much at a local level," said Thomson.

Locally, Janes is president of the NOTL Con-

servancy, of which she has been a member for decades; works with the Social Assistance Reform Network of Niagara; and is a long-standing, active member of the Preservation of Agricultural Lands Society.

Janes said she was honoured to be recognized by the Foundation, "an amazing group of people who understand heritage."

She speaks humbly about the important accomplishments of the Conservancy, its work on past Official Plans to preserve portions of the Commons from being drawn into the urban boundary, and the Ontario Municipal Board hearing it won, which limited the height of the King's Point condominiums, pre-

serving the views across the river.

She remembers, after that success, passing by municipal lawyer Tom Richardson, on the side of the developer, and having him tell her she'd "done good."

Another important win was to have specific densities included in the OP, at a time when council would have been content to have density decided in specific situations. "That was a big thing. We were able to keep track of it," she said. "And it will never be over. We really need to keep going."

Janes has worked with a lot of councils, she adds, "and I believe this is the best council we've ever had, as far as heritage conservation."



Gracia Janes relaxes in her chair on the back porch of her King Street home, where much of her advocacy work gets done. (Penny Coles)

GLISSANDI

The Heart of Christmas Past

Celebrate with Glissandi, and Shaw Festival alumnus Guy Bannerman, at a charming concert of "your" favourite holiday memories, portrayed through stories and song. Our inspiration? — festive reminiscences shared by Gallery Players audience members last season!

THU., DEC. 19, 2019 4PM
Silver Spire United Church
366 St. Paul St., St. Catharines

FRI., DEC. 20, 2019 7:30PM
Grace United Church
222 Victoria St., NOTL

PERFORMERS
Guy Bannerman Narrator | David Braun Violin | Deborah Braun Flute
Douglas Miller Flute | Nick Braun Percussion

2019-20 CONCERT SERIES | TICKETS ON SALE NOW | SAVE \$ BECOME A SUBSCRIBER

TICKETS: www.GalleryPlayers.ca
 Save up to 40%
 Become a Subscriber! **Call: 905 468-1525**

125 QUEEN ST., NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE
DIRECT: 905.468.4214

NIAGARA'S LUXURY LEADER

ROYAL LEPAGE

NRC Realty, Brokerage. Independently Owned & Operated

41 BROCK STREET, NOTL
\$1,175,000

MLS# 30770549
Stefan Regier* & Michelle Reynolds**

34 PEREZ STREET, NOTL
\$948,000

MLS# 30752483
Aaron Cherney* & Helen Mosca*

47-B GARRISON VILLAGE DRIVE, NOTL
\$745,900

MLS# 30777709
Heather Matte*

26 FIRELANE 11A LANE, NOTL
\$1,899,000

MLS# 30753658
Lenore Sooknarine*

7 CHRISTOPHER STREET, NOTL
\$1,729,000

MLS# 30769594
Sally Miller*, Matt Miller*, William Miller**

640 WARNER ROAD, NOTL
\$1,499,000

MLS# 30773303
Sally Miller*, Matt Miller*, William Miller**

267 GAGE STREET, NOTL
\$649,000

MLS# 30764352
James O'Connor* & Margie van Gelder*

◆ Based on residential unit sales \$500,000+ 2018 year to date ORTIS MLS ® in Niagara Region* | Brokerage
*Sales Representative **Broker ***Broker - Royal LePage NRC Realty KRDS



LOCAL MEMBERSHIP CARDS
are now available!
notllocal.com/membership
\$39.95 per year plus HST

3 easy ways to pay

1. Buy online at notllocal.com/membership

2. In Person

Visit or call our office. We're located at
1596 Four Mile Creek Rd., Virgil.
Payment may be made by cash, cheque or credit card. You may also call us at **905-641-5335** to pay by credit card.

3. By Mail

Send a cheque for **\$39.95 + HST (= \$45.14)** made payable to
The Niagara-on-the-Lake Local

Mail the form below to:

NOTL LOCAL, P.O. Box 430, Virgil L0S 1T0

December offers
will be posted on
our website Sunday,
December 1st.

November Membership Specials



15% off Antrim, Stanton, Rosecore and Hibernia factory-finished area rugs.



Spend \$50 before tax on regular-priced merchandise, receive 10% off your purchase



10% off regularly-priced merchandise (except seasonal)



10% off on all regularly-priced items



20% off any regular priced Esthetics service



\$25 off Floatation Therapy



Spend \$50 before tax on regular-priced merchandise, receive 10% off your purchase
Mori Card holders receive additional 10% (does not stack with other local discounts)



Complete auto detailing
\$99 (reg. \$199)



\$15 off Aura line of premium paints



Virgil only — 20% off all vitamins, supplements and natural health products plus 2X Rewards points



25% off a full set of eyelash extensions or an eyelash lift and tint



move360 group classes
25% off memberships
(Membership options — Reg. price \$99/month, unlimited monthly classes, or 10-class pass \$150 plus tax)



Buy one, get one free, tours and seminars. Valid for up to 4 guests.



10% off shareable sandwich



1/2 price appetizer with purchase of entree



50% off a bottle of wine with each Local card, valid Sunday to Thursday



Free dessert with purchase of any entree



10% off food Sunday to Thursday (excluding specials)



20% off all food



No corkage fee with purchase of entree



Buy one Southbrook Organic Vineyards Grand Tasting and get one free



Complimentary Lakefront Series tasting (\$20 value)



10% off all in-store wine purchases, 20% off in-store non-wine purchases, online access to wine club member exclusive wines, free wine-of-the-month tasting when dining in the Ravine Restaurant, free tasting flight for up to six people in the Ravine Boutique Winery



Free reusable 6-bottle bag with the purchase of 6 bottles of wine.



Buy one, get one free, tours and seminars. Valid for up to 4 guests.



Present your card for \$5 pints 3 to 6 p.m. Monday to Friday.



Buy one, get one free, tours and seminars. Valid for up to 4 guests.



Free icewine tasting



10% off Deli party tray orders of \$50 or more



\$10 off per one hour massage. Please notify therapist when booking appointment.

Interested in having your business be a Local Membership partner? Call Karen at 905-641-5335 or email karen@notllocal.com.

All Wrapped Up

Foster Festival – Niagara theatre's rising star

Submitted by The Foster Festival

In only four years, the Foster Festival has gone from an unknown to a driving force in the arts and culture scene in St. Catharines. This vibrant new theatre, the dream child of founding executive director (past), Emily Oriold, now pumps \$2,000,000 into the local economy, and the response from its audience is wildly enthusiastic. Here is one theatre goer's reaction to the Foster Festival's production of *Hilda's Yard*: "What an outstanding

production of such an endearing and hilarious play! Yet another solid hit for the Foster Festival!"

With Artistic Director, Patricia Vanstone, at the helm, the Foster Festival has consistently set the bar high for great production standards with sets and costumes by Shaw and Stratford veteran designer Peter Hartwell. Vanstone has also brought to St. Catharines some of the best actors in Canada with stellar performers such as Shaw veteran Nora McLellan, five-time Gemini winner for comedy Peter Keleghan, and television/

film star Sheila McCarthy.

If the inaugural seasons at the Foster Festival were extremely well received, the playbill for the summer of 2020 looks sensational with one of playwright Norm Foster's all time hits, *The Melville Boys*, and two world premieres – *Doris and Ivy in the Home*, and *Wildly Romantic*.

The Melville Boys – Greatest Hit

June 24 – July 10, 2020

"Hello country life you son of a bitch!" – Owen Melville

Lee Melville and his younger brother Owen have planned a bro fishing weekend at their aunt and uncle's rustic cabin. Their plans go off the rails with the arrival of reserved Mary and her irrepressible sister Loretta. Fuelled by beer and cheesies, the story unfolds with tender humour and an emotional punch to the gut. This classic launched Norm Foster's stellar career and remains one of his all-time best plays.

Doris and Ivy in the Home – World Premiere

July 15- July 31, 2020

Retired prison guard Doris Mooney has just moved into Paradise Village, a retirement home in Canmore, Alberta. She

quickly befriends Ivy Hoffbauer, a former world champion skier who's taken aback by Doris's cheerful brashness. Rounding out the trio is dapper Arthur Beech who has designs on Ivy.

Wildly Romantic – World Premiere

August 5 – 22, 2020

Set in the offices of a radio station, *Wildly Romantic* is a full-out romantic comedy. The Station Manager finds out that her romantic partner who is the "morning man" has been canoodling with the "all night girl". She gives him the heave-ho and hires a new guy on the spot – experience not required! Add in her Executive Assistant and an inept lawyer looking to sue and wait for the sparks to fly! This delightful comedy will leave you dizzy trying to figure out who will end up with whom...or not!

There's a very good reason why playwright Norm Foster, recipient of the Order of Canada, is recognized as the most successful writer of comedy in Canada. His stories speak to the lives of people, and his plays have audiences laughing from beginning to end.

Join us for a summer of sparkling theatre entertainment at the Foster Festival,

June 24 to August 5. The revitalized downtown core of St. Catharines offers a wonderful variety of fine restaurants all within easy walking distance, and the FirstOntario Perform-

ing Arts Centre is one of the most beautiful theatres in the province. The Foster Festival – humour with heart in the heart of Niagara. An entertainment experience not to be missed!



Screwball Comedy 2017 Cosette Derome and Kevin Hare



Aunt Agnes For Christmas tickets available now for December 2019



Renovations For Six 2016, Nora McLellan, Leah Pinsent, William Vickers

GET YOUR
TICKETS TODAY,
ONLINE, BY
PHONE OR IN
PERSON

THE foster FESTIVAL

HUMOUR WITH HEART

20 20

SEASON

We'll keep
you laughing
ALL summer long!

THE MELVILLE BOYS
JUNE 24 – JULY 10, 2020

**NORM'S
GREATEST
HIT**

**YOU'LL BE LAUGHING, CRYING &
CRAVING BEER & CHEESIES**

DORIS AND IVY IN THE HOME
JULY 15 – 31, 2020

**WORLD
PREMIERE**

**LOVE, GOSSIP, SEX, A RETIRED
PRISON GUARD & MORE**

WILDLY ROMANTIC
AUGUST 5 – 22, 2020

**WORLD
PREMIERE**

**AS THEY SAY,
CANOODLING HAPPENS...**

FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre
250 St. Paul Street East, St. Catharines, ON L2R 3M2

fosterfestival.com | 905.688.0722 | 1.855.515.0722 toll free

FOSTER FESTIVAL Tickets

Buy Online www.fosterfestival.com

Buy tickets online! It's safe and secure, and easy to use. Tickets available for purchase 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

By phone

Prefer to speak to a Box Office representative? Give us a call!

Local 905-688-0722

Toll Free 1-855-515-0722

PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE BOX OFFICE

Monday - Friday: 10am to 6pm

Saturday: 10am to 2pm

Sunday: closed

**PLEASE NOTE: Box Office will be open 1 hour prior to performances or films, outside of posted hours and remain open 30 mins past start times.*

In person

Purchase your tickets in person at the FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre:

250 St Paul Street East

St. Catharines, ON, L2R 3M2

Payment by cash, debit, or credit card is required at the time of your order.

MORE 2020 TICKET INFO

2020 SEASON SUBSCRIPTIONS

PICK 3 FOSTERS \$130 (all in)
Get tickets for **all 3 shows** and save **25%**

HOLIDAY GIFT PASSES \$90 (all in)
2 tickets to any single performance

Offer ends December 31, 2019

Please **call or visit the box office** to select your preferred seating when purchasing a subscription.

2020 INDIVIDUAL SHOWS

REGULAR TICKET \$55
UNDER 30 TICKET \$35

(In person only)

25 AND UNDER FREE

**Same day ticket purchase, at Box Office only - proof of age req'd*

**Ticket pricing includes
all fees & taxes**

2020 GROUPS

**10 OR MORE people
play \$45** (all in)

For information on tickets for group bookings, please contact:

Lou Bradley, Group Sales Manager

Local 289-786-0950 x.3

Toll Free 1-888-496-2329 x.3

Group Dining Packages Available Upon Request

All Wrapped Up

All that glitters is Canadian 3-in-1 therapy, better results

Submitted by
VandenDool Jewellers

Maple Leaf Diamonds™ are mined in the pristine wilds of northern Canada. They were formed deep within the earth, eventually emerging as beautiful, one-of-a-kind treasures. They are some of the most highly prized diamonds in the world.

Today the Canadian North has become symbolic of the purity and beauty of Canadian Diamonds. They are ranked among the world's most exquisite and valued gems. Maple Leaf Diamonds™ are guaranteed natural and untreated and have a distinct maple leaf insignia and tracking number



Owners Brian and Mark VandenDool

laser inscribed on the girdle. This unique inscription allows for each diamond to be tracked throughout the journey from the rough crystal to the finished treasure, guaranteeing its Canadian origin.

Maple Leaf Diamonds™, a Canadian Diamond brand since 2001, combines Canadian diamonds with the art of jewellery design and Canadian Certified Gold. Over 60 years of expertise and superb craftsmanship

culminates in beautiful and timeless jewellery pieces.

VandenDool Jewellers is proud to have been a part of your community for years. In every stage of life, a piece of jewellery or a small gift are the mementos that people cherish. We're proud to provide you with knowledgeable, friendly service and are confident that you will receive the finest quality jewellery at the best possible price.

—Brian and Mark VandenDool

Submitted by
In Touch Day Spa

What makes OxyGeneo™ the new super-facial? Get the exfoliation benefits of microdermabrasion plus deep facial rejuvenation with the infusion of essential revitalizing nutrients and healing skin oxygenation from within. OxyGeneo™ treatments are suitable for all skin types – any ethnicity and pigmentation, sensitive skin, and even for those

who keloid (scar) and couldn't otherwise have abrasion treatments.

Exfoliate. Infuse. Oxygenate.

Breakthrough OxyGeneo™ Technology provides superior anti-aging results by treating the skin at a deeper level. Exfoliate, Infuse, and Oxygenate your way to youthful skin. Learn more about how it works below.

**Better than
Microdermabrasion**

Find out why profes-

sionals are calling the OxyGeneo™ Facial "better than microdermabrasion".

- Skin Plumping and Hydrating
- Restored Skin Volume
- Renewed Youthful Glow
- Increased Collagen
- Reduced hyper-pigmentation
- Improved Skin Cell Production
- Reduce Appearance of Wrinkles
- Safe for ANY skin type!



OxyGeneo is now available at In Touch Day Spa.

BLACK FRIDAY

SALE
NOVEMBER
28 • 29 • 30

**20-60%
OFF ALMOST
EVERYTHING!
EXCLUSIVE
BLACK FRIDAY
SPECIALS**

**VandenDool
JEWELLERS**

GRANTHAM PLAZA
400 Scott Street (at Scott & Vine), St. Catharines
vandendooljewellers.com 905 937 8833

Glowing skin is
Healthy Skin

OXYgeneo™
3-IN-1 SUPER FACIAL™

EXPERIENCE CANADA'S #1 FACIAL
exfoliate + oxygenate + infuse

BALANCE
The Ultimate Skin Cleansing
with Activated Bamboo Charcoal

ILLUMINATE
The Ultimate Skin Brightening
with Vitamin C

REVIVE
The Ultimate Skin Rejuvenation
with Red Algae

In Touch Day Spa
13 Frontier Drive Niagara-on-the-Lake
905-980-1574 | niki.intouchdayspa@gmail.com

All Wrapped Up

Tasteful gifts for the holidays Deck the halls with Just Christmas

Submitted by
OLiV

If you are looking for that unique gift for the foodie in your life, or something for a special hostess over the holidays, look no further than OLiV Tasting Room.

OLiV offers a wide variety of gift ideas for those who enjoy being creative in the kitchen, and like to entertain.

With more than 40 different flavours of Extra Virgin Olive Oils, and over 60 flavours of True Balsamic Vinegars, it won't be hard to find something that tempts the palette.

OLiV also has a large selection of stunning, elegant olive wood and ceramic serving dishes, in varying shapes and sizes, sure to delight any hostess and jazz up a beautiful, festive table at the holidays, or any time of the year.

Thoughtful gift baskets put together with love are always a great option for Christmas giving. We have a large selection of gourmet food items. We carry a large range of stuffed olives, tapenades, spreads, antipasti

items and flavoured sea salts — all you need to make a gift basket look beautiful, with lots of treats to enjoy.

Also popular as a gift, especially at this time of year when the temperature drops and skin care is essential, are locally-made skin care products, made with our Extra Virgin Olive Oil. Choose from soothing hand creams, body butters, lip balms and soaps.

Come in and pick up some delicious, freshly-made

bread, available on week-ends, made in-house by our pastry team.

Be sure to check out our selection of gifting ideas at any of our four locations: OLiV Tasting Room at 122 Queen St., in NOTL; OLiV Tasting Room & Bistro, Outlet Collection, 300 Taylor Rd. in NOTL; OLiV Tasting Room & Restaurant in Strewn Winery, 1339 Lakeshore Rd. in NOTL; and OLiV Artisan Kitchen, 67 St. Paul St. in St. Catharines.



A great selection of gifts at OLiV Tasting Room.

Submitted by
Just Christmas

It's been over 30 years and we are still Canada's oldest year-round Christmas Emporium. You can choose from over 5000 different Christmas items that are ever changing year after year. We strive to make all your holiday dreams come true!

Over the years we have developed the most enormous selection of ornaments, that we will personalize for free while you wait.

This includes sports and leisure activities, licensed characters, baby's 1st Christmas and family ornaments right down to your treasured pet. As always, we feature our



Visit us at 34 Queen Street in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

most popular glass nameballs. Hand painted by one of our talented artists while you wait. Our assortment always represents the best quality at the best prices. We

like to think that your purchases will become family heirlooms for years to come. Remember if Christmas is special to you, then come and visit Just Christmas.



An amazing variety of personalized ornaments.

RETRO NIGHTS

FEATURING LIVE MUSIC FROM JAMES GAY & FRIENDS!

LIVE MUSIC + RETRO DINNER FEATURES

FRIDAY NIGHT 6-9PM

NOV. 15 TO DEC. 20

OLiV Tasting Room & Restaurant located in Strewn Winery
1339 Lakeshore Road, Niagara-on-the-Lake
olivtapasnotl.com | 905-468-1222

Celebrating our

34th Christmas

Over 5,000 items in stock to choose from.

Don't forget... we can personalize any ornament for you

Open Daily
10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
905.468.4500

Come visit Santa!

Every Saturday & Sunday
11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

34 Queen St., NOTL | justchristmas.ca



Local discount cards make a great Christmas gift

When you're doing your Christmas shopping, consider giving the gift of a Local discount card.

It's the perfect gift for anyone who loves to eat, drink, or shop in Niagara-on-the-Lake, and offers a great opportunity for recipients who would love to treat themselves, at a discounted price, to anything from a spa treatment to detailing for their vehicle.

If you have friends and family who are difficult to buy for, let them do their shopping

themselves with a Local card that will offer them specials and discounts at many great businesses in town.

If they live out of town, it will encourage them to visit, and enjoy all our beautiful town has to offer — a meal at a local restaurant, discounted tastings at several local wineries, and shopping at some of NOTL's most popular stores.

It's the gift that keeps on giving, for a full year — the card can be dated Dec. 25, and will not expire until Dec. 25,

2020.

You can even make money with it — The Local is offering two free classified ads, a value of \$40, which could be used to sell something you'd like to get rid of, and bring in some cash.

If you wish to order a Local card online as a gift, go to the section where you can comment, and use that space to tell us whose name you want on the card. We'll then mail it out to you.

You will be able to provide the recipient of the card with a link that will show all the Local business partners, and the monthly discounts they are offering.

You can also stop in Monday or Tuesday at The Local office at 1596 Four Mile Creek Rd., across from the Town Hall, or call 905-641-5335 for an appointment.

To purchase the card online, visit notllocal.com/membership, and we'll mail it to you.

13th Annual Premier Artist and Artisan Show and Sale
In association with the
Rotary Club Holiday House Tour

The best place to find holiday gifts
For those who appreciate unique and beautiful objects crafted by Niagara region artisans.
Free admission to Artful Treasures!

Decorative Glass ★ Handbags ★ Jewellery
Painting ★ Wooden Objects ★ and more!

December 6 & 7
9:30 am - 4:30 pm

247 Ricardo St., Niagara-on-the-Lake
905-668-5455 niagarapumphouse.ca

The gift of saving!

A Local Membership card makes a perfect stocking stuffer!

Just **\$39⁹⁵** plus HST
for a one year membership

Order online at
notllocal.com/membership

When ordering online as a gift, please add the recipient's name in the comments. We will postdate the card for Christmas Day.

Membership cards are also available in our office at 1596 Four Mile Creek Road or call 905-641-5335.



Yellow Door offers two musical productions featuring young actors

Mike Balsom
Special to The Local

Heading into its fifth year of mounting ambitious musical theatre productions featuring youth from across Niagara, the Yellow Door Theatre Company is offering something completely different this December.

Going Under will be performed by the Yellow Door Teen Company Dec. 5 through 7 at the FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre. Formerly known as *The Subway Songs*, the new musical explores connections through a group of high school students stuck on a subway, and cut off from the rest of the world.

Only four days later, Yellow Door's Junior Company performs *Bremen Rock City* at the same venue. It's a modern take on the Brothers Grimm fairy tale *Town Musicians of Bremen*. For the first time, a live rock band, consisting of local musicians, will accompany the young actors on the PAC stage.

Both productions feature music and lyrics by contemporary musical theatre songwriting team Colleen Dauncey and Akiva Romer-Segal, based out of Toronto.

Yellow Door's founding director, Andorlie Hillstrom, says Dauncey and Romer-Segal "are movers and shakers in the musical theatre world right now. They connect strongly with these young people."

Adds Hillstrom, finding these "back-to-back pieces by the same writers has al-

lowed us to do some pieces this year that are child-centred and focused on our Junior Company, the 10 to 13-year-olds, and our Teen Company, our 14 to 18-year-olds."

Dauncey spent her September weekends working directly with the young people at Yellow Door's Line 2 location in Virgil. Hillstrom says it was an amazing experience for both companies to work directly with the composers.

Though there will be professional musicians accompanying the Junior Company for *Bremen Rock City*, these are the first productions for Yellow Door that will not feature professional actors alongside the youth.

Hillstrom explains that Yellow Door was unsuccessful in its applications for some grants, putting the company in a position in which they couldn't afford to bring in professional actors. "I do know that everyone in the arts is dealing with cutbacks."

However, she adds, "as a not-for-profit, and a charity, we have to be prepared for that. I actually think this has been good for us, in a way. We've had to perhaps move in a different direction. I am certainly planning on returning to our original formatting next year, a full company show in the fall, but this is where we're at this year."

And where they're at excites Hillstrom and her young charges.

The premise of *Going*

Under is a group of teens on a subway en route to that rite of passage, their school prom. The characters all know each other, but there was an incident that occurred with them when they were younger that made it difficult for them to connect with each other.

"One of the really strong themes in this play is connection. We're all well aware, and particularly youth, that they have a phone in front of them all the time. That's how this show starts out. But when the subway comes to a screeching halt, they are forced to deal with their personal demons."

Friendship, anxiety, loyalty, teen pregnancy, peer pressure and other themes arise in the play as well. It's a script that has forced the young actors to dig deep to bring their own emotions to the surface.

Hannah Jamal, a Grade 10 student at Laura Secord Secondary School, plays Sam, a popular girl in the school. She has struggled in the past with another character, Ben, played by Santiago Rivera. The two characters haven't spoken to each other in years, and are forced to confront each other, and to let out their anger on their way to a reconciliation.

Hillstrom describes Jamal as a hard worker, and a bit of a perfectionist. "She's always willing to do the work, has a great attitude, listens well, and has always been a really strong actress,"

Continued on page 17



Yellow Door Theatre Company's Hannah Jamal, as Sam, and Santiago Rivera, as Ben, in *Going Under*, on stage at the FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre Dec. 5 to 7. (Mike Balsom)

Theatre company committed to developing local youth

Continued from page 16

she says. "I love working with her."

Going Under is the fifth Yellow Door production for Jamal. She says it has been easy to relate to her character. "It's kind of about moving on and accepting that the past is the past, and you shouldn't let it define what you do for the rest of your life."

Rivera, a grade 11 student at Governor Simcoe, is relatively new to the Yellow Door Theatre Company. A school trip to see the company's production of *Robin Hood* peaked his interest in learning more about the program. He became involved last January, and this is his second Yellow Door production.

Hillstrom says Rivera fit in with the company from the beginning. "He's very talented, a really great actor. He's so willing to jump in and take risks, and I absolutely love that."

"I want to pursue a career in musical theatre," asserts Rivera. "Through Yellow Door, I've gotten to meet a lot of professionals and I've become connected to people from Sheridan College, too."

Rivera says one of the challenges to the play is the fact that all the actors are

on stage for the whole performance. "We have to keep acting throughout the whole show, as the play takes place entirely on the subway car."

Bremen Rock City, on the other hand, is described by Hillstrom as "very tongue-in-cheek, a lot of fun, with strong rhythms, and strong rock music. The characters include a donkey, cats, dogs and chickens singing rock songs."

The presence of a live band, led by Anthony Scaringi, has resulted in another first for Yellow Door. "The live band will be amplified, so every actor is going to be mic'd," explains Hillstrom. "I actually prefer kids to work acoustically, but sometimes it's just a better choice, especially if technically you can manage it."

The Junior Company will have its first rehearsal with the band this weekend, and members are very excited for the experience.

Hillstrom estimates that through Yellow Door's recreational and performance programs, she has worked with between 400 to 500 kids over the time the company has been in Virgil.

She says it's rewarding to see some of the first Yellow Door Theatre participants beginning to graduate and go on to colleges and universities to study theatre.

"Having said that," she adds, "it isn't all about performance. This is about creating experiences for life for these kids. Many of my former students (from her previous company in Alberta) have become educators, and they

are motivating other young students to have a passion for the arts, and to promote it. That is actually more important to me than knowing they are becoming a successful actor, dancer or singer."

And that attitude agrees

with the Yellow Door Theatre Company's commitment to growing and developing the children and youth of Niagara.

Opening night for *Going Under* is Thursday, Dec. 5 at the FirstOntario PAC in St.

Catharines. The play runs until Saturday, Dec. 7.

Bremen Rock City opens Wednesday, Dec. 11, and runs at the same venue until Friday, Dec. 13. Visit yellowdoortheatre.com for more information.



Performing in *Bremen Rock City*, Ayla Jamal, Enzo Cocetti, and Hannah Evans will be onstage at the FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre Dec. 11 to 13. (Photo supplied)



SERVING CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Please join us this year in the spirit of giving by supporting Red Roof Retreat's

9th Annual "Gifts from the Heart"

Holiday Campaign to help us reach our goal of raising \$70,000.

Our campaign goal will help us provide another year of respite and recreation programs for children and young adults with special needs in the Niagara Region. With 19 years of history behind us, we know that support from our communities help us to continue to provide our services, that are so valued by those we serve.

To donate go online www.redroofretreat.com/giftsfromtheheart.



www.redroofretreat.com

**Can you make this holiday season
a little more special for a Niagara
Region charity? Yes, you can!**

Charitable Registration #88759 2285 RR0001

**This year give a
gift that feels good
from the heart!**



**For more information,
call or click:**

Three locations to serve you in
Niagara-on-the-Lake and St. Catharines
tel. 289-868-9800
office@redroofretreat.com



SCHOOLS

St. Davids

ST. DAVIDS
PUBLIC SCHOOL

Brock visits St. Davids to talk about history

Sean Hall
Grade 7 Teacher

The Grades 6/7 and 7 classes at St. Davids Public Elementary School received a rare visitor recently, as they welcomed Maj.-Gen. Sir Isaac Brock for a morning presentation and question period.

Scott Finlay from Parks Canada brought the significant historical figure to life for students, as, dressed in 1812 War attire, he spoke in formal speech of the time period, and maintained character throughout. “He was the real one explaining his story, right in front of our faces,” says Tanner Dufresne-Smith.

While Laura Secord School was once closest in proximity to the Battle of Queenston Heights, St. Davids carries the task, and honour, of remembering the significance of the villages of Queenston and St. Davids played in the War of 1812, and more so the famous battle where Brock lost his life.

Finlay shared Brock’s early life, education, love of boxing, and information about his family. He told a story about an early encounter in his military career involving a fellow officer, who was known as a powerful bully, and a “dead-shot” dueler. Brock was challenged to a duel by this bully, but used his cleverness and wits to outsmart the bully and

got him to forfeit the duel and leave — a social lesson for students, but with much more serious consequences.

Brock continued with lessons about leadership at Fort George. He told a story about an attempted mutiny on his commanding officer, Sir Roger Hale Sheaffe, while away in Quebec. The attempted mutiny resulted in seven officers being tried and sentenced to execution. Instead of responding with punishment, Brock offered compassion to the men, allowing them to grow gardens, and to fish and hunt, hoping to make living at Fort George more enjoyable. The men responded to this compassion with a greater body of support for the commanders, including Brock and Sheaffe.

Perhaps Brock’s greatest victory came at Fort Detroit, in which he outsmarted the American commander, William Hull, with trickery. To make Hull believe the Americans were greatly outnumbered, Brock dressed roughly a thousand militiamen in redcoats, making them seem to be part of the British army.

Additionally, he had First Nations warriors show themselves through a clearing in the land, run in view of the Americans and back through the clearing, only to double back and run through again, in an attempt to intimidate and show greater num-

bers than he actually had. They continued this multiple times, making their numbers seem so great that Hull and the Americans were petrified.

Although largely outnumbered, Brock received Hull’s surrender of Fort Detroit, achieving one of his greatest moments in the War of 1812. Again, the lesson of using his shrewdness and intelligence proved greater than the sheer number of men carrying rifles, and the sizeable cannons stationed at Fort Detroit.

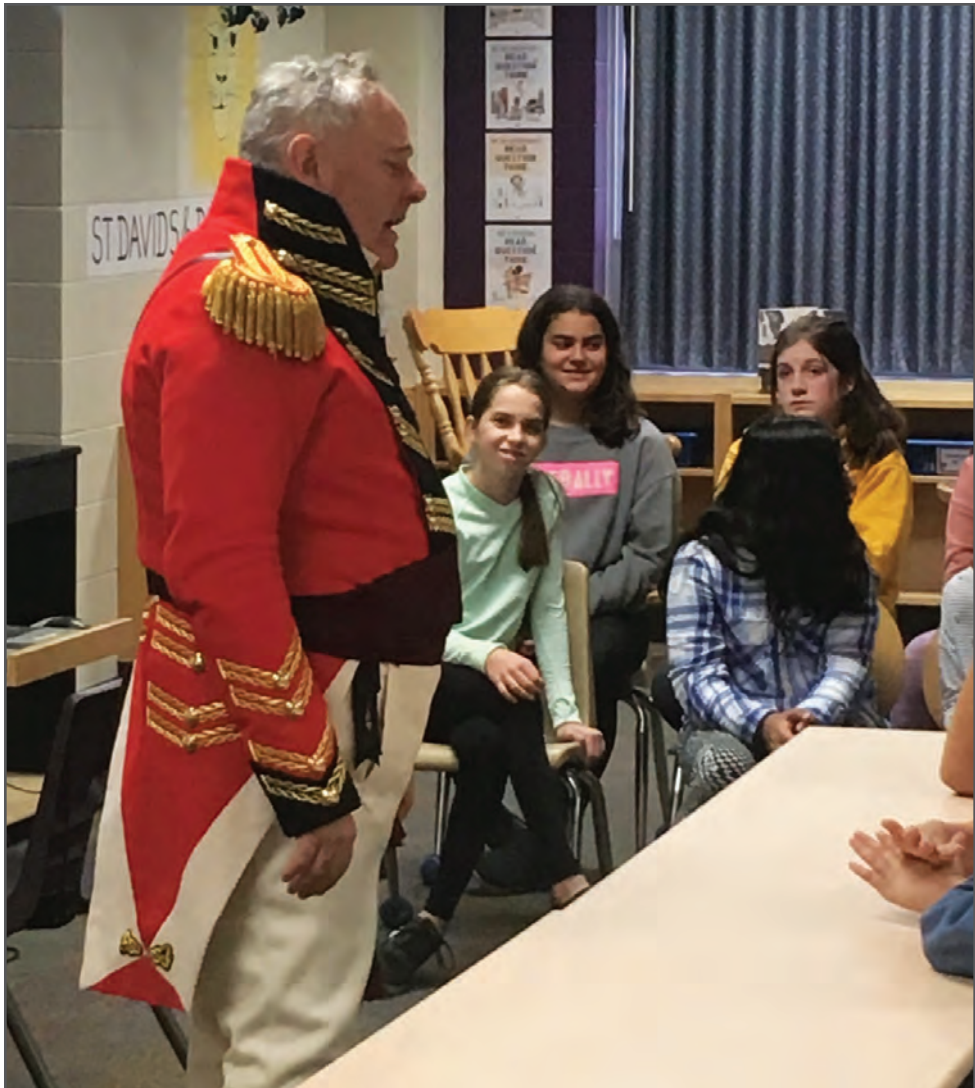
Students were enthralled as they learned about Brock’s achievements outside of the Niagara area, as well as the importance of the Indigenous allies in the War of 1812, and followed up the presentation with an extensive question period.

“I like how it was in first person narrative, instead of just spitting out facts. He was explaining as if he were there,” says Jaeda Dufresne-Smith. Divya Singh added, “a nice and creative way to learn about him. It was fun.”

The Niagara Region is so rich in local history and while we have forts to tour and museums to visit, any opportunity to bring history to life provides students with a vivid glimpse of Niagara’s history and Scott Finlay from Parks Canada did exactly that.



Teacher Sean Hall, along with volunteer Franca Miniaci, welcome Sir Isaac Brock (Scott Finlay) at St. Davids Public School. (Photos supplied)



Scott Finlay of Parks Canada tells St. Davids students about the War of 1812.



Sir Isaac Brock tells students how the Americans were outsmarted.

Santa's sleigh ready for its last parade

Penny Coles
The Local

Christmas Parade volunteers have been dusting off Santa's sleigh and making minor repairs in preparation for this year's Dec. 14 event, the last time Santa will ride through the streets of Niagara-on-the-Lake on the familiar float we've seen for years.

And as it travels through the streets, many will be reminded of the long-time parade committee chair, Bruce Pospiech.

"Santa's float is all set to go for the big day," says Bob Cheriton, long-time parade committee member. "But sadly, this will be the last year for it. Sadly because this particular float was the dream and creation of our former chair, Bruce Pospiech. Working on it was a strong reminder that Bruce will not be with us this year, and of his incredible contri-

bution to over 30 parades.

There was some anticipation there might be a new float in time for this Christmas, but although work has begun on a new one, with a design completed and arrangements made for construction, the timeline is now to have it ready for Santa and the 2020 parade, says Cheriton. Fundraising for the project is expected to start early in the new year.

Gathering to put the finishing touches on the float, says Cheriton, "also reminded us that another long-time parade committee member, John Fryer, will not be with us. For many years, John organized the exceptional team of marshalls that make sure all entries are in their correct position and ready to go for our 11 a.m. start on parade day. They also keep a watchful eye for the safety of participants and attend-

ees. Both Bruce and John were also long-time, close, personal friends and are very much missed."

As float applications come in for this year's parade, both from regulars and new entries, Cheriton can be sure of one constant — the marching bands people love to hear will be back.

Cheriton knows the favourites of the parade — considered by many the best parade in the region, often described as the best anywhere — always include the bands, which are a huge draw. Some of them are a must, and ensuring their return to Niagara-on-the-Lake on the big day is always a priority.

"At this point we have seven bands booked for the parade," says Cheriton, "and 60 entries confirmed overall, which puts us pretty much on track to hit the 100-entry mark once again."

The confirmed bands are all old favourites, including the incredible Burlington Teen Tour Band, he says.

"We will be accepting entries until Nov. 30, and any group interested in participating can find the entry form on the Town's website, NOTL.org."

The parade committee is also accepting donations from local businesses and

the community, he says. "These donations are the primary source of funding for our parade and help pay for our operating costs, which are dominated by the cost of bands."

In keeping with the great traditions of the parade, and the spirit of Christmas, NOTL Hydro will once again be collecting non-perishable food donations.

Also, Canada Post will be collecting letters to Santa. Letters should be addressed to Santa at the North Pole with postal code H0H 0H0 and have a return address so that the elves are sure to send his replies to the right place.

The parade will once again start promptly at 11 a.m. and follow the traditional route to the Cenotaph on Queen Street.



Kevin Turcotte, Town parks and recreation manager, with John Strecker and Mark McCauley of the Christmas Parade committee, make sure Santa's sleigh is ready for the Dec. 14 event. (Photo supplied)

Float to collect mitts, hats

Penny Coles
The Local

Mike Novarro knows what it's like to be struggling at Christmas.

Now a successful business owner with two adult daughters, he remembers the days when he was out of work, and looking for help to give his girls a happy Christmas.

"I've been in need myself," he says. "I know what it feels like."

He was a single dad who looked after his girls three days a week, and was unemployed for a time. "There wasn't going to be a Christmas. I was down and out, and the Salvation Army pulled through."

He was given enough food to last his family through the holidays, including a turkey dinner, Christmas cake, and all the trimmings.

"I went to the Salvation Army to pick up the food, and it was a huge shock to see how much stuff they had for us. I had to make two trips. There was so much more than I expected."

On Christmas morning,

his girls "were ecstatic. They were very, very surprised, and I was in tears watching them. It was a really good feeling."

Once his landscaping company got going, he helped out at the Salvation Army, sorting food and toys at Christmas, and loading vehicles with Christmas gifts. It was hard work, but it was an opportunity for him to help others, as a way of giving back for the help he received.

Then, for a time, when he had his landscaping business up and running but before he began offering snow removal service in the winter, he went to work nights for Out of the Cold in St. Catharines, which provides meals and overnight shelter during the cold months, at various churches.

He would help prepare meals, and was a night supervisor, working at six different churches where the program was offered.

"I saw the need first hand, and it wasn't just adults. There were kids there as well, young kids. They don't turn anybody away."

He's never been in a pa-

rade before, but he decided this year would be a first, to collect warm mittens and hats for Out of the Cold.

"I think it's a good way to do something for those in need. I know there are others who collect food, so we decided this was a good alternative. I'm excited to be part of the parade, and I'm looking forward to decorating the truck, with a sound system, a Christmas tree and lights, and some blow-up animation figures. I want to make it look great. And I'm hoping to get the word out for people to bring hats and mittens for Out of the Cold."

His wife Sheena, daughters, extended family and staff will be in the parade with him, and he hopes to have a good load of warm outerwear to drop off at Out of the Cold.

Novarro's experience of being in need, and then helping out at the Salvation Army and Out of the Cold, "made me realize there are many reasons for helping people, and a lot of ways to help. The need will always be there, and it feels good now that it's my time to give back."



Nathan Lortie, Dano DeFields, Mike Novarro, the owner operator, and Eric Henderson will be decorating Novarro's truck for his first time entering the Christmas Parade. With a history of requiring help from social agencies and now being able to help others, he is excited to collect hats and mittens for Out of the Cold. (Photo supplied)

JERRY HENDRIKS
broker of record
905.651.3475

6 FIRELANE 14F
\$898,000

- BY APPOINTMENT ONLY -
Waterfront! Enjoy amazing views overlooking Lake Ontario from this chalet style home set in the countryside of Niagara-on-the-Lake. Open concept main floor with wood flooring and with all principal rooms facing the water. Sit back and relax in the good sized yard complete with three patio and deck areas and even a boat house beneath. Excellent opportunity to own a spacious home on a magnificent waterfront lot!

- BY APPOINTMENT ONLY -
Nestled in Niagara-on-the-Lake's beautiful Chautauqua cottage neighbourhood. Just a very short stroll down to the water's edge where you'll find amazing sunset views and within walking distance or a short bike ride is the historic downtown core of Old Town NOTL where there's plenty of shopping, dining and entertainment options to choose from. A fabulous opportunity in such a desired location! This property offers a number of opportunities as the home sits at the front of a double lot.

5 WILBERFORCE AVENUE
\$649,000

518 GATE STREET
\$935,000

- BY APPOINTMENT ONLY -
Welcome to style and sophistication with modern elegance. This 2,200 square foot bungalow home features engineered hardwood floors and 9 foot ceilings on the main level. Open concept design with kitchen overlooking LR/DR with gas fireplace. Main floor master bedroom retreat with walk-in closet and a spa-like ensuite. The fenced-in backyard is beautiful and has been professionally designed and landscaped. Sit back, relax and enjoy - a perfect new place to call home!

Christmas classic a delight for the family

**Kim Wade
Special to The Local**

A Christmas Carol opened this past Saturday at the Royal George Theatre as part of the Shaw Festival's first Holiday Season.

This production marks the third time Tim Carroll's adaptation of *A Christmas Carol* has been set upon the stage at the Shaw Festival. Carroll originally adapted and directed his version of *A Christmas Carol* in 2017 as the Shaw's first Holiday show.

Molly Atkinson's familiarity with this adaptation began as assistant director to Carroll for the sold-out run in 2017 and continued when she became the director of the sold-out production in 2018. With the success of the two previous shows, *A Christmas Carol* has returned this November as part of the Shaw Festival's first Holiday Season and Atkinson has again taken up the reins to direct this year's performance.

In her director's note, Atkinson reveals how she first came to know the story of Ebenezer Scrooge by playing Tiny Tim in a stage production when she was a child. Her love for the play continued throughout her career as she became involved in other adaptations and incarnations of the story.

Written by Charles Dickens and first published in 1843, *A Christmas Carol* has become a classic, familiar to all of us. Many different adaptations of the story permeate popular culture in all media such as stage plays, musicals, radio plays, movies and even an opera. Some more traditional versions of Scrooge feature actors such as Alistair Sims, Patrick Stewart and George C. Scott. Musical versions have starred Albert Finney, Tony Randall, Roddy McDowall, Tim Curry, and Roger Daltrey. Over the years, there have been animated versions, with Fred Flintstone or Mr. Magoo in the role of Ebenezer. Disney has its own version starring Scrooge McDuck opposite Mickey Mouse as Bob Cratchit, in *Mickey's Christmas Carol*. Barbie's sister Kelly even played a Scrooge-like role in Barbie's version. Other female Scrooges have been played by Susan Lucci as "Ebbie" Scrooge, Vanessa Williams as Ebony Scrooge in *A Diva Christmas*, and Cicely Tyson as Ebenita Scrooge in the 1997 TV movie *Ms. Scrooge*. And the notable actor Michael Caine played the role of Scrooge with a furry supporting cast in the movie *A Muppet Christmas Carol*.

So how does a director make a classic story fresh?

How do the actors reprise roles that have been adapted and interpreted so many times since its beginnings in 1843? Mainly by staying true to the text and the moral of the story.

Tim Carroll's adaptation does just that and more. His version of *A Christmas Carol* is a reminder of what makes going to the theatre so special. As you enter the Royal George Theatre you are instantly transported into another time, place and era. With the plush, velvet seats and ruby-red walls, the 305-seat theatre provides an intimate setting for the play. The audience, positioned toward the copper-coloured gilded frame of the stage, is surprised to see the Victorian-era costumed carollers gliding down the aisles, introducing themselves as they pass. As the carollers reach the stage they invite the audience to participate in a sing-a-long of Hark the Herald Angels and Joy to the World. This introduction to the event begins against the backdrop of a giant advent calendar, and changes the atmosphere immediately from a formal gathering of strangers, to a more intimate familial feel. The carollers ease the audience into the suspension of reality and an atmosphere of merriment.

When one reads the original text, the atmosphere is more sombre and dark, but the theatre is warm and inviting — that is until Michael Therriault, as Ebenezer Scrooge, hits the stage. Therriault's Scrooge sucks the warmth from the room. His Scrooge is resolute and unforgiving. This atmosphere is aided by a minimalist set. Yet, the actors playing next to him are warm and charming, enough of a juxtaposition of Scrooge to keep the audience content. Little jokes and gags run throughout the play. The flinging of snow and jokes about Ebenezer's frugality add enough levity to keep the story moving without making it a farce.

The use of shadow play and puppetry enhance the experience. Alexis Milligan's use of puppetry is delightfully unnerving in the portrayal of Ja-

cob Marley's ghost, and especially the Ghost of Christmas Future. The closer the seats to the stage, the fuller the effect.

The beautiful rendition of *Carol of the Bells* after intermission brings the audience back to the stage. In the second act, Scrooge's transformation is slow enough to make it believable and humble enough to be convincing. *A Christmas Carol* is, after all, is a story with a moral.

We have something to learn from Ebenezer, even after 176 years, when the novella was written. Dickens reminds us we may get caught up in selfish pursuits, but real joy and satisfaction come with investing in our relationships, not our pocketbooks.

The last sing-a-long at the end of the play rounds out the experience, leaving the audience with all those warm and fuzzy feelings you expect from

the season, and which can be lost as we trudge through fluorescent-lit malls promising bargain-basement sales.

Thank you Dickens, Tim Carroll, and Molly Atkinson for the reminder to make the best of all of our Christmases, past, present and future.

This performance is friendly to a younger audience, though members at any age will enjoy Carroll's adaptation of *A Christmas Carol*, as directed by Atkinson. This timeless classic proves to be a delight for the whole family.

Two plays will be on stage to celebrate the season, with *A Christmas Carol* at the Royal George, and Irving Berlin's musical, *Holiday Inn*, playing at the Festival Theatre, until Dec. 22.

Show times and tickets available at the box office, shawfest.com or by calling 905-468-2172.

**Creek Road
Paints**


Benjamin Moore®
Paints

PAINT . PAPER . BLINDS
RECLAIMED HOME DÉCOR

905.468.2412

**We've Moved up the Creek to
1573 Four Mile Creek Rd, Virgil**

Follow Us On   **#upacreek**



Michael Therriault as Scrooge in the Shaw Festival's *A Christmas Carol*, at the Royal George Theatre. (Emily Cooper)



David Elkins will discuss the awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize and a strange twist that followed it. (Penny Coles)

Nobel Peace Prize discussion Tuesday

Penny Coles
The Local

When David and Valmai Elkins moved to Niagara-on-the-Lake from Montreal, they enjoyed much of what the town has to offer, including science seminars, InfoHealth sessions, and last year's series at the NOTL Public Library on Nobel Prize winners, organized by Dr. Bill Brown.

This year, they have become personally involved: David presented the session on the economics prize two weeks ago, and on Tuesday, Dec. 3, will talk about the Peace Prize.

Valmai, author of fiction and non-fiction, including books on her work in the 1970s that changed the way parents and the medical profession approached birthing, will speak of the 2019 Nobel Prize for literature, which followed a year of no prize for literature being awarded after a sex scandal involving the husband of one of the judges, which included the possibility of leaks of potential winners in advance.

David, former publisher of the Doctor's Review, a highly-respected publication he

describes a "travel magazine for doctors," says he found Brown's series on Nobel Prize winners important and interesting, because although "we hear a lot about the winners, we often don't know what they did. And sometimes it's hard to get your mind around what they did, especially for the science awards."

This year's economic prize was different, in that its implications are easy to understand.

It "recognized work which, over the last 20 years, has reduced global poverty; improved the health of millions of children; and found ways to put half the world's kids in school," he said.

The prize went to Massachusetts Institute of Technology economists Abhijit Banerjee, his spouse Esther Duflo and Michael Kremer, says David, for work they did stretching back to the 1990s.

"They were among the first to leave their academic desks and get out into the field, now a common practice. The trio developed randomized controlled trials, similar to those used by drug companies to test new medicines. They used them to find practical solutions to intractable world problems."

These included the best way to raise inoculations rates; to keep both teachers and students in school; and to motivate farmers to use progressive methods to increase yields, he says.

"The approach has been replicated by researchers in thousands of trials all over the planet. Of note, Ms. Duflo, a highly articulate feminist, is only the second woman ever awarded the prize and, at 46, also the youngest."

The Peace Prize, of which David will speak Tuesday, went to the 43-year-old Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed of Ethiopia, for resolving a border conflict between Ethiopia and Eritrea that had festered for more than 30 years.

In April 2018, says David, Ahmed "reached out to Eritrea President Isaias Afwerki and they agreed to accept unconditional arbitration to settle a decades-long boundary dispute. At home he dismissed corrupt officials, freed journalists and political prisoners, and set up a gender-balanced cabinet."

Unfortunately, as David will explain in more detail, "things have since taken a turn for the worse. In October, Jawar

Mohammed, a high-powered media-mogul, who had helped bring Ahmed to power, accused government security forces of attacks against him. In response, he set up a new political party to oppose Ahmed in a national election scheduled for next May."

To add to the prize winner's woes, he says, in October ethnic violence, which David describes as "trench warfare," broke out and added to more than three million internally displaced people, the highest in the world.

This turn of events is entirely separate from the reasons Ahmed won the prize, says David, and doesn't diminish the value of the signing of an important treaty after so many years — Ahmed "deserves credit for what he accomplished, no question."

It does, however, reinforce the notion that "peace prize winners are often controversial," he says.

Learn more about Ahmed and his work at the NOTL Public Library, Tuesday, Dec. 3 at 2 p.m., and about the Nobel Prize for Literature with Valmai Elkins Tuesday, Dec. 10, also at the library at 2 p.m.

LOCAL HAPPENINGS

AA MEETING

every
Wednesday evening,
at 8 p.m. to
9 p.m.
at
St. Mark's Parish Hall
41 Byron St.
Niagara-on-the-Lake

To advertise your event in

LOCAL HAPPENINGS

Contact
classified@notllocal.com

Visit us online at:
www.notllocal.com



NIAGARA ON THE LAKE
SKATING CLUB

**NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE
SKATING CLUB
REGISTRATION -
Semester 2 Winter Sessions**
(Monday, Thursday, Saturday)

Register on-line at notlskatingclub.com
for our Skate Canada **LEARN TO SKATE**
programs - Classes start January 2020

Programs directed by two time National Award Winning Coach
email skatenotl@outlook.com for more information

FIRST ONTARIO PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

November 29

The Barra Macneils
An East Coast Christmas

November 30

Surfin' Safari
The Ultimate Beach Party Tribute

December 1

Toronto Northern Lights Christmas Show

December 4

The Men of the Deeps
Christmas in the Mines

December 5

Elvira Kurt
- an evening of comedy

December 7 & 8

NSO presents
The Nutcracker in concert

December 11-22

Aunt Agnes for Christmas
- The Foster Festival

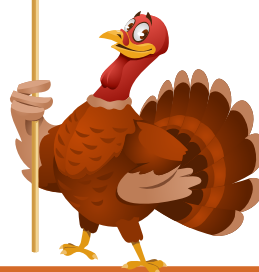
www.FirstOntarioPAC.ca

NIAGARA PLEIN AIR ART SHOW

December 1 - December 31

Niagara Plein Air Artists art show continues at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Public Library for the month of December, during library hours: Monday to Thursday, 9 a.m. – 8 p.m., Friday to Sunday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Join us for our annual
**TURKEY
RAFFLE**



Monday, December 2nd
7 p.m.

St. Davids Firehall,
745 Warner Rd.

**WIN YOUR
CHRISTMAS
TURKEY**

• DRAWS • PRIZES
• REFRESHMENTS
Support the St. Davids
Firefighters Association

Proceeds to Minor Sports & Community Projects

LOCAL WORSHIP



Sunday, December 1st

Message by:
Kevin Bayne - An Upside Down
Resume (Matthew 1:1-17)

Kids Ministry Sign In
(Grade 8 & under)

Sunday Worship
at 10 a.m. at 434 Hunter Rd.

Offices at
1570 Niagara Stone Rd.
www.ccchurch.ca

**ST. DAVIDS-
QUEENSTON
UNITED CHURCH**

1453 York Road, St. Davids
905-262-5242

stdavids-queenstonuc.ca

Minister: Rev. Rick Hawley

Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School



To advertise
your
**WORSHIP
SERVICES**
in this section,
please contact:

karen@notllocal.com

PLACE YOUR COMING EVENT COMMUNITY SOCIAL HERE

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

LOCAL CLASSIFIEDS

classified@notllocal.com

Helping home owners for more than 20 years.
office: 905-468-4214 cell: 905-321-8126
www.cudmorehomes.com

JO-ANN CUDMORE
SALES REPRESENTATIVE

ROYAL LEPAGE
REAL ESTATE COMPANY

CANADA'S
REAL ESTATE COMPANY

CARRIAGE
TRADE

FUNERAL SERVICES

Niagara's Premier Affordable Funeral Alternative

Considerate
CREMATION & BURIAL SERVICES

Holly Prince-Jensen
Licenced Funeral Director

Bruce Keating McClelland
Licenced Funeral Director

Compassionate Service for
Considerably Less

Burial & Cremation Options Offered

Typical Savings of 30-50% vs Traditional Service Providers
Transparent...Practical...No Pressure...Just Your Wishes
Pre-arranging Options Available...You Can Transfer to Us

Serving the entire Niagara Region
1-52 Scott Street West, St. Catharines
(between Ontario Street & South Service Road)
info@CCBSCares.ca • 289-362-1144 • CCBSCares.ca

OBITUARY



GRIMWOOD, Allan David (Butch) 1947-2019—Passed away surrounded by family on November 20th after a short battle with cancer. Loving husband of Claudia (nee Erwin) for 47 years, loving father of Rob and Chris and caring grandfather of Devin, Carly and Lauren. Predeceased by his parents Ted and Betty. Loving brother of Ted (Carol Anne) Grimwood and Marilyn Hackett, brother-in-law of Carolyn Philbrick and predeceased by sister-in-law Rosalyn MacTavish. He will be lovingly remembered by an Aunt, many cousins, nieces, nephews and friends. Butch was a life-long resident of Niagara-on-the-Lake and a long-time volunteer firefighter and ambulance attendant, while working at C&C Yachts and then later being self-employed. Thank you to the staff of NHS St. Catharines site 3A and Doctor Maddison for their exceptional care. In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate donations to the Canadian Cancer Society. Cremation has taken place and a celebration of life is being held on Saturday December 7th from 2:00pm until 4:00pm at the St. Davids Fire Station, 745 Warner Road, St. Davids. Memories, photos and condolences may be shared at www.morganfuneral.com.



CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14				15						16				
17				18						19				
20			21			22				23				
24					25			26						
		27						28				29	30	31
32	33							34				35		
36						37				38				
39					40					41				
42				43						44				
			45					46					47	48
49	50	51						52			53			
54						55				56			57	
58						59						60		
61						62						63		

- Across:**

1 Limerick's second word, usually

4 Delicate

9 Eat greedily

14 Medical insurer

15 Delayed

16 Radio receiver

17 Australian running bird

18 Univision news anchor Jorge ---

19 Make amends

20 Open grassland

22 Preserved

24 Funded

26 Biblical weed

27 Hilltop

28 Not that

29 --- for Charlie

32 Expatriate

34 Rowboat lever

35 The Pope

36 Confined

37 Demand

38 Face protection

39 Affirmative votes

40 Obtain

41 Battle Born State

42 Short numbers

43 Elapse
- 44 High-hat

45 Cheap sensational magazine

46 Perturbed

49 N Y C's --- Park

53 Lexicographer's interest

54 Whiffs

55 Enjoy to the full

57 U S capital once and briefly

58 Pal of Kukla and Fran

59 Dodge

60 Accountant's letters

61 Senses

62 Works

63 Agency which initiated the Waco siege
- Down:**

1 Location question

2 Capital of Jordan

3 Speech snippets

4 Book opener

5 Genetic component of some viruses

6 ointed

7 Religious painting

8 <

9 Brenda and Ringo

10 Adorable child
- 11 Author unknown

12 Mathematician --- Descartes

13 Adele's dancing brother

21 Pigs out

23 Locks or strands

25 Ram's dam

28 Tip sellers

29 Largest Moroccan city

30 Portable player

31 "Two Mules for Sister ---": Eastwood/MacLaine film

32 Pulitzer winner Jennifer ---

33 Salad sauce

35 Fulcrums

37 Loathed

38 Enterprises

40 Young ladies

41 Intelligence agency

43 Prize monies

45 Hazard

46 Nightclub show

47 Pyramid place

48 Kickless coffee

49 Upper limit

50 Indolent

51 Short-tailed rodent

52 Valley

56 Weird

HELP WANTED

Seasonal Farm Workers
needed from approximately March 25, 2020 to the end of September 2020.

No education or experience needed. Working in an agricultural environment in all weather conditions. Must be available 7 days a week. Heavy lifting and ladder climbing will be required. Duties also include pruning, weeding, hoeing, thinning, fruit picking and packing. Must adhere to food safety policies. Pay is minimum wage (\$14.00 per hour) and own transportation is a must.

Email resume to sirlukes@hotmail.com
Only candidates to be interviewed will be contacted.

LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU ANSWERS

Answer from November 21, 2019

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

IN MEMORIAM

IN LOVING
memory

May the peace that comes from the memories of a love shared, comfort you.

Remember them with a Loving Tribute.

Contact: anna@notllocal.com or call 905-932-2518

SUDOKU PUZZLE

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

Earn extra cash by selling your unwanted items in our CLASSIFIEDS.
contact: classifieds@notllocal.com
or call Karen at: 905.641.5335
Deadline: Mondays at 3 p.m.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS

Across: 1 Was, 4 Frail, 9 Scarf, 14 H M O, 15 On ice, 16 Tuner, 17 Erny, 18 Ramos, 19 Astone, 20 Range, 22 Enshined, 24 Endowed, 26 Tare, 27 Brown, 28 This, 29 C is, 32 Emigre, 34 Car, 35 Papa, 36 Gated, 37 Dun, 38 Visor, 39 Ayes, 40 Get, 41 Nevada, 42 Nos, 43 Pass, 44 Snob, 45 Pulp, 46 Rattled, 49 Riverside, 53 Usage, 54 Odors, 55 Savor, 57 N Y C, 58 Ollie, 59 Elude, 60 C P A, 61 Feels, 62 Deeds, 63 A T F, 64 Where, 2 Amman, 3 Sound bites, 4 Foreword, 5 R N A, 6 Aimed, 7 Icon, 8 Less than, 9 Stars, 10 Cutie, 11 Anon, 12 Rene, 13 Fred, 21 Gorges, 23 Hair, 25 Ewe, 28 Touts, 29 Casablanca, 30 iPod, 31 Sara, 32 Egan, 33 Mayo, 35 Pivots, 37 Despised, 38 Ventures, 40 Gals, 41 N S A, 43 Purses, 45 Perl, 46 Revue, 47 Egypt, 48 Decaf, 49 Roof, 50 Idle, 51 Vole, 52 Date, 56 Odd.

Cellist Ofra Harnoy to perform at St. Mark's

Penny Coles
The Local

In the days leading up to her Bravo Niagara! performance Saturday at St. Mark's Church, five-time Juno winner Ofra Harnoy is sitting by a cozy fire, overlooking a private lake from her home, while talking about her rare upcoming appearance in the Niagara Region.

She has settled in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, with her new husband and old friend, award-winning trumpet player Mike Herriott. It's the place they call home, their base in between touring, and with a recording studio in the basement, also allows them to work from home.

"We've been here for about a year, and we absolutely love it," she says.

She agreed to a vacation in St. John's, and came to love everything about the city — the culture, the food, and above all, the wonderful, friendly people. They live about 10 minutes from downtown, and although they are on the road a lot, they cherish the time off in between, and always look forward to going home.

"It's a lifestyle we like," she says. They snowshoe on the lake in the winter, and Harnoy put on skates recently for the very first time ever. In the summer, they canoe and kayak, watching eagles soar above them. "It's absolutely magical," she says.

Herriott, she explains, grew up in Newfoundland, and never thought he'd be back. They had met many years ago in Toronto, but went their separate ways to follow their careers, and ended up reconnecting re-

cently, marrying in their home in June.

Considered one of the great cellists on the world stage, Harnoy is a Member of the Order of Canada, and by joining the international artists roster of RCA Victor Red Seal, is the first Canadian classical instrumental soloist since Glenn Gould to gain an exclusive worldwide contract with a major record label.

She has recorded more than 40 solo albums, and is in the process of producing something new, with Herriott, in their home recording studio.

Harnoy began cello lessons with her father, Jacob Harnoy, when she was six, and made her professional debut as a soloist at age 10.

She had auditioned to play in an orchestra led by Dr. Boyd Neel, then the dean of the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto. Instead, he booked her for two solo performances, she recalls.

It was then, at a very young age, she says, "I realized I enjoyed playing with my eyes closed. It helps me to feel the music in a different way," and has become a trademark that has continued throughout her career.

In 2015, she was forced to take some time off from playing, to have surgery for a shoulder injury.

She was in extreme pain, she says, from years of touring, recording sessions, and a "crazy schedule" that allowed for little time off to rest her body.

"I didn't have a real understanding of how to preserve the muscles. Repetitive strain really took its toll. By the time I got around to having an MRI, I was told every single tendon was

severed."

She had surgery in Texas, with a renowned specialist who looks after the shoulders of all the great ball players, she says, and found recovery a tough struggle, but a worthwhile one. She now has 100 per cent, full range of her shoulder, and has learned her lesson — she continues to do physiotherapy, "and I feel stronger than I ever have. I'm so grateful I get to make music again. Not having that in my life for a time was very difficult."

She has spent a lot of time in Niagara-on-the-Lake over the years, and although she has been to a concert in St. Mark's Church, and is aware of its "exceptional acoustics," she has never performed there.

"I'm really looking forward to it," she says. She has a diverse program lined up, and performing with her will be Herriott, and pianist Susan Telner. They will include pieces from her most recent release, Back to Bach, her comeback album after surgery, recorded with Herriott, some of the pieces for which she is well-known, that people know and love, and also some new and exciting things she's working on now for the next album, "a nice mix of old and new," she says.

"We won't play together for everything, some will be me and Mike, some me and Susan, and some all three of us. It will be a very fun program."

The Bravo Niagara! concert is this Saturday, Nov. 30 at 7:30 p.m. For more information and tickets visit <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/bravo-niagara-presents-ofra-harnoy-tickets-66130230299>.



Brought to NOTL by Bravo Niagara!, world-renowned cellist Ofra Harnoy will perform at St. Mark's Saturday. (Photo supplied)

LOCAL BUSINESS

To advertise your business or service, call Karen at: 905.641.5335 or email karen@notllocal.com

NIAGARA PRIVATE CAR SERVICE

"Eco-Friendly Electric Vehicles"

Up to 3 passengers in our Chevy Volt
Up to 5 passengers in our Fusion Energi



(Based in NOTL)

905-941-3899 | NOTLcarservice@gmail.com

- Local Transportation
- Special Events, Functions etc.
- Local Airports (Buffalo, Hamilton etc.)

FULL SERVICE AUTO REPAIR



- TIRES
- BRAKES
- OIL CHANGES
- EXHAUST
- SUSPENSION



CAUGHILL AUTO
256 EAST WEST LINE, VIRGIL
905-934-1941

TRAVELLING?

Don't let your house be a burden to friends or family?
Contact Nancy at :

ATTENDANTS
HOMEWATCH
905.468.7111



CREEKROAD
PAINTERS

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

Robert Bradley
T: 905.380.0298

Tony McCafferty
T: 905.353.6815

E: paintersnotl@gmail.com

Beloved **K9**
Organic Pet Grooming

741 Line 1, Virgil
905.932.4625

belovedk9.ca
belovedk9@yahoo.com



To advertise your company in
LOCAL BUSINESS

Contact:
classifieds@notllocal.com
or 905.641.5335





Performance Auto Group

NOV 20–DEC 2

DEMO EVENT

NO FREIGHT
CHARGES.
NO PDI FEES!



ACURA



Audi



GENESIS



LEXUS



Mercedes-Benz

performance.ca