The Niagara-on-the-Lake



Mistletoe Bride reading at Silversmith page 11

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'Tis the season for **Candlelight Stroll**

Kim Wade **Special to The Local**

"This is the season and YOU are the reason why we gather to celebrate the bounty of this year in our community, said Town Crier Tom Pekar, as he welcomed the hundreds of people who gathered at the Court House, wrapped in scarves, topped with hats and holding candles to this year's Candlelight

"By the powers invested in me, I declare the opening of the 2019 Candlelight stroll. Huzzah! Huzzah! HUZZAH!"

MacIntyre, the chair of the board of directors for the Niagara-on-the-Lake Chamber of Commerce.

crowd for participating in Olympic torch relay as it the 30th anniversary of the stroll, and visitors for attending, but had a special mes-

sage for locals.

"To the residents of Niagara-on-the-Lake, thank you for supporting this special evening. It is events such as tonight that remind us how fortunate we are to live in such a generous and warm community. Attendance records continue to be broken every year and I can't imagine a place on earth at this moment where the human spirit is stronger. My heart is full, being up here," he said, addressing the crowd from the small balcony over the Court House steps.

Thirty years ago, the Candlelight Stroll was started by Pekar introduced Paul local residents Arthur Nieuwdorp and his wife Irene. Nieuwdorp developed the idea in 1988 during the leadup to the Calgary Winter MacIntyre thanked the Olympics. He watched the travelled across the country

Continued on page 4

200-year-old stones need protection to survive

Penny Coles The Local

There are 11 ordinance stones in the Old Town that are 200 years old, and they deserve to be celebrated and Monday.

Monday to ask the Town to find 11 remaining. document, repair and pro-

Graves Simcoe in 1796.

one of the stones on the cor- course; the Garrison Rener of Prideaux and Simcoe serve, which includes Fort Streets, and his curiosity George and the Commons, protected, council heard about its history and his and four other lots that in- the bench at the entrance ensuing research led to the clude Simcoe Park. Ted Rumble, a mem- discovery that there were ber of the Niagara Histor- originally 36 such stones. stone, he said, is at the cor- have some of the others, he recognize the historic sig- work together, along with ical Society, was at council He has only been able to ner of Simcoe and Queen said — a stone by Queen's nificance of the stones, and the Friends of Fort George,

They are solid limestone, tect the stones, which were engraved and numbered, each stone stands for the couple of years. placed as property markers and shown on a map of Board of Ordinance, found-

Rumble first discovered serve, now the NOTL Golf a board arrow, used to des-

Street, by the Charles Inn.

former Mississagua Re- on them is a symbol called British government.

to Simcoe Park, which has to enlist its heritage and ada property, he said, sug-The best preserved sunk into the ground, as operations departments to Royal Park has sunk so low celebrate them, "as a direct and the Niagara Historical The BO engraved on it could disappear within a link between us and the Society.

The marker at the cor-

serves, as ordered by John in areas that include the explained, and the arrow Streets has been damaged by construction equipment, he said, showing councillors ignate the property of the a stone with a large chunk chipped out of it. "It's 200 There is another beside years old," he emphasized.

> Rumble asked the Town very founding of our town."

He hopes to see them

around four military re- 1853, he told councillors, ed in the 1600s, Rumble ner of Johnson and Nassau documented, repaired where they are damaged, repositioned to their original height "so they can be properly appreciated," and protected by barriers erected around

> Two are on Parks Cangesting they would need to

> > Continued on page 3



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Chamber defines dual roles for councillors

Penny Coles The Local

The Niagara-on-the-Lake Chamber of Commerce now promotes local businesses, but is unusual in that it has a separate entity, Tourism Niagara-on-the-Lake, set up as a subsidiary of the chamber to manage tourism.

But that might not always be the case, chamber president Eduardo Lafforgue told council Monday.

Lafforgue was at a council workshop to talk about role of Tourism Niagathe role and the structure of the two distinct services, which are run by one board of directors and funded by one budget, but have recently been separated, at least symbolically, by the creation of two logos.

Board chair Paul Mac-Intyre, of Vintage Hotels, explained the structure of the nity. chamber and its staff, with attending the workshop. He also commended the "massive volunteer support we get on so many levels, that truly makes this town tick."

MacIntyre spoke of the importance of the brand of NOTL created by Tourism Niagara-on-the-Lake, "one of the most successful brands in Canada," but warned, "it could go sideways very quickly, especially chamber for visitors and makes business sense, and

if it's not managed correctly." locals, including the Royal community sense, of course." tourists, he said.

Lafforgue of the chamber: to act as a visitors. spokesman of the business community; to offer specific products and services that by the chamber, and a new, benefit members; to support monthly business report to an environment in which foster and facilitate networkbusinesses can flourish; to ing between businesses, and work for business development; and to provide educational opportunities and assist businesses with the latest the budget of the chamber, added. marketing techniques.

Understanding ra-on-the-Lake is extremely important, he said. He explained its purpose as a destination management organization with a goal of formulating sustainable strategies for marketing NOTL, and enhancing NOTL's tourcontribution to the commudecades.

and events provided by new website, launched last month; the tourism office on Queen Street open seven bus parking lot with its visitor information centre; and hosting national and international delegations.

He also listed the many events produced by the

explained Winter Fair, new this year,

Lafforgue spoke of the weekly newsletter issued other initiatives to promote the town.

which will ask for \$118,000 the from the Town for 2020, the same as 2019, although the budget has not yet been finalized, he said.

The chamber has served its business members for the last 40 years — it didn't pop up from nowhere, he said it has been leading, influencing, servicing and supportism economic impact and its ing local businesses for four

He is working on a new Board vice-chair Andrew strategy, "who we are, and many of the board members Niven spoke of the services what we want to become," which will be presented to the chamber, including its the chamber board in January, he said.

He too talked about the successful brand of NOTL, days a week; the Fort George leveraging the brand equity for the future, and the importance of working with partnerships, including the municipality, on economic development.

"Working together

In response to questhe five primary functions which reached out to 18,000 tions about "co-mingling" between the chamber and Tourism NOTL, he remindlegal structure, he said. Havthe same ideals has saved a lot of money and allowed a He briefly touched on lot to be accomplished, he to talk about tourism as a

> next steps. We need to grow." residents as well.

The chamber needs to experiences. continue to promote local NOTL as a destination for of tourism, and how some ferently, today we are one."

In response to a question alleviated. about the increase in the bus parking fees, Lafforgue said the complaints have been ed councillors there are two numerous, and some of distinct logos. The "dancing them loud and "harsh." The together" is a result of the number of buses coming to town has increased, but the ing the two entities sharing number of people on the Town might one day take buses is down.

whole, and said while it's But they are "getting to down by about six per cent ero suggested she would on Queen Street, it's diffi-The pressure, he said, is not cult to say what is occurring only from visitors but from across the town — different hotels are having different

businesses, and Tourism asked Lafforgue, "what you Lafforgue said. NOTL has to move beyond can offer residents" who that, in its role of promoting complain about the impact as the board doesn't vote dif-

of their concerns could be

He can offer increased communication, he said, to know what they are saying, but knowing, "we can't satisfy everybody."

He also addressed her question about whether the over the job of managing MacIntyre jumped in tourism, saying that would be up to the chamber board.

Lord Mayor Betty Disbe more comfortable if the chamber and tourism management were two separate entities.

"I'm glad many members Coun. Clare Cameron of the board are here today,"

"We are now one. As long

Vet celebrates Virgil opening



Lord Mayor Betty Disero and Dr. Ron Mergl, surrounded by staff, friends and family, cut the ribbon for the recent opening of the Virgil Animal Hospital on Niagara Stone Road, offering family-oriented pet care in a family-oriented community. (Photo sup-



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Spirit of Christmas lights up Virgil Town Hall

An enthusiastic crowd celebrated the holiday season in Virgil last Thursday, with the lighting of the large pine tree beside the Town Hall. The tree-lighting began as a Virgil Business Association event last year, and has been taken over as a new, annual tradition by the Town. The Ukesters were on hand to entertain, and promised to return next year. Cookies and hot apple cider were provided courtesy of Dan Williams. Coun. Erwin Wiens led the event (below). Lord Mayor Betty Disero was unable to attend, due to the Regional council meeting with an important vote scheduled. Klara Wiens Knelson, Erwin's mother, was there with family, including her great-granddaughter, Sophie Wiens (centre). Once the tree was lit, kids enjoyed a visit with Santa (right). Nikki McKnight was there with four-legged family members, Riesling, Riley and Barley, Bex McKnight, and Wayne McKnight with Bailey. Coun. Clare Cameron (below, left) attended with Adelaide, Harold, her husband Mackenzie and their new au pair from Germany, Sarah Doerner. Photos by Penny Coles







Stones should be celebrated

Continued from page 1

Several councillors indicated support for Rumble's requests, but offered differing alternatives on how to deal with them. One option was to hand the matter over to a committee that was charged with looking into the preservation of Butler's Burial Ground, also on Parks Canada property.

Others suggested the Municipal Heritage Committee and town staff should be involved.

Lord Mayor Betty Disero said she would discuss with staff how best to handle the request for protection of the ordinance stones, and asmoving forward.



Ted Rumble discovered this ordinance stone across from his home, and then went on a hunt for information about its hissured Rumble it would be tory. This one is cracked from being hit by a sidewalk snow plow, he says. (Penny Coles)







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December 12, 2019



Izabelle, Erica, and Norah DeGooyer enjoy the stroll with their wagon and lights. (Photos by Fred Mercnik)



It was one of the best crowds ever for the 30th annual Candlelight Stroll.

Snow falls on record crowd for 30th annual stroll

Continued from page 1

and was inspired to create a community event that would reflect the spirit of giving and the beauty of a NOTL Christmas.

The funds raised from the sale of the candles that first year were donated to a little girl with cystic fibrosis. This fundraising tradition continued into the subsequent Candlelight Strolls.

Over the years, money raised from candle sales has been donated directly to families and children in need or donated to specific causes. About 10 years ago, proceeds from the Candlelight Stroll were donated to the pediatric wing of the Walker Cancer Centre.

As MacIntyre explained, "He [Arthur Nieuwdorp] wanted to brighten a family's life at Christmas time, and that is what we are here to do tonight. Working with the Chamber of Commerce and Trisha Romance, the Nieuwdorps led an initiative that has stayed strong over the years, captivating the interest of all who attend and leading us into the holiday season, with fellowship and hope." Since Nieuwdorp's passing, the tradition has continued on in his spirit.

MacIntyre thanked the ue his recuperation. organizers of this year's stroll,

collected food donations for Newark Neighbours. These food donations help the food bank fill its shelves so they can fulfill their vision: That no resident in Niagara-on-the-Lake need be hun-

Next, the president of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Chamber of Commerce and NOTL Tourism, Eduardo Lafforgue, came to the microphone. He greeted the crowd and thanked them for attending this "most cherished tradition," explaining the recipient of the proceeds from the candle sales this year would be Delroy Castella, who for the past 35 years, has left his home country of Jamaica to spend eight months of the year working in NOTL as a farm worker. This past Sept 4, Castella suffered a stroke while picking peaches in a local orchard. A dedicated employee, Castella finished his work, and then rode his bike to the nearest clinic. He was rushed to the hospital and has been recuperating and receiving therapy over the past two months. The stroke has left him with difficulties speaking, and the money will help him return home to Jamaica and contin-

The board of directors of the volunteers that sold can- the Chamber of Commerce dles at the stalls in front of was moved by his story and ers, before climbing into the

proceeds. Lafforgue wished Castella, "a very, very happy return to your family and a prompt recuperation."

He also said that \$1,000 from the stroll proceeds will go to the Christmas gift program for the farmworkers, "to help buy welcome kits and reflective vests to make their stay in our community

The final speaker to address the crowd was Lord Mayor Betty Disero.

"I can't think of a better way to share our common love for Niagara-on-the-Lake than to be here, listening to beautiful carols and raising funds for a worthy cause. Niagara-on-the-Lake is a diverse community that has a strong core. We open our arms to visitors and to many events presented by the Niagara-on-the-Lake Chamber of Commerce, we continue to build on our strong reputation as a beautiful place to celebrate the season."

She introduced Debbie Whitehouse to start everyone off singing O Come All Ye Faithful, accompanied by the Salvation Army band. As the leaders of this year's event, Delroy Castella and Lord Mayor Betty Disero, emerged from the Court House to pass on the flame from their lit candles to oth-

of Vineridge Academy who ity of this year's candle sale the beginning of the stroll as the Salvation Army band launched into an up-tempo as she conducted the Niaga-Good King Wenceslas.

Disero and Castella led the way through the route, many people continued to share the flame to light their candles, before joining the procession through the town. Children in new snowsuits sembly Choir singing Allelustrollers carrying their bundled-up younger siblings. strolled along beside couples draws home-schooled chilwalking arm and arm, all enjoying the lights and atmosphere of our Old Town.

Some of the parka-clad the lights and the warmth of the stores that remained open, while most others followed the crowd behind the carriages down Queen

Strollers were entertained first by the Fort George Fife and Drum Corps that played on Queen Street, before turning on Victoria Street enticed by the sound of the Grace United Church carollers singing *Joy to the World*.

As a light snowfall began, the strollers travelled down Johnson Street, where they were entertained by a children's choir singing Santa Claus is Coming to Town, and further along a seven-mem-

Queen Street, walkers gathered to watch Tracey Frena ra Bethany Hand Bell Choir As the carriages carrying in a chorus of bells that rang with a beautiful sound into the chilly evening.

Walking past Queen Street toward Prideaux Street, the crowd could hear the Niagara Christian Aswalked stiffly alongside ia, and further on the Jubal Cottage School had their own choir. This artistic co-Friends with hot beverages op, based in Niagara Falls, dren together from all over Niagara to foster creative exploration.

According to drama participants were drawn to teacher Sarah Hobbs, some years ago the group came to participate in the stroll and the kids started singing on the route. People commented on how much they enjoyed their singing, so they decided to participate by officially singing as a choir.

As the strollers meanthey congregated in front of the King St. Gallery to witness the rich tones of A Cappella Niagara, an all-male group comprising 20-plus members.

Further down King Street, strollers were surprised by a flash mob of ladies wearing furry red Stetsons, dancing to Mariah Carey's All I ber brass band at the corner Want for Christmas is You, at 310 John St. East in Niaga-

also thanked the students as the recipient of the major- the town crier signalling Making their way back to Brown. Brown teaches Zumba Gold to mainly women aged 40 to 85. Her zumba students are from all over the Niagara region. Brown said that she and 10 women first attended the Candlelight Stroll about six years ago. Each year, more and more came to join in the fun. This year, 56 women came to join the stroll and dance in the street. One of Brown's Zumba Gold students, Toby Mc-Creadie, is 83 years old but says she feels more like the store "Forever 21." She says Brown's Zumba Gold classes "keeps you young." She keeps coming back each year to participate in the stroll, she said, because "everything is so beautiful, the people, the lights, the houses."

> After shuffling past the flash mob, many strollers wandered in and out of some of the open stores. Many more walked back to their cars to return home after a pleasant evening.

To finish off this reportdered toward King Street, er's evening, a side trip into the Taste of Britain ended with a purchase of a Brown Betty teapot and some McVities Club Orange Cream to enjoy the perfect hot cup of tea and biscuits while warming up by the fire humming Christmas carols.

> Additional food donations can be dropped off at Newark Neighbours location

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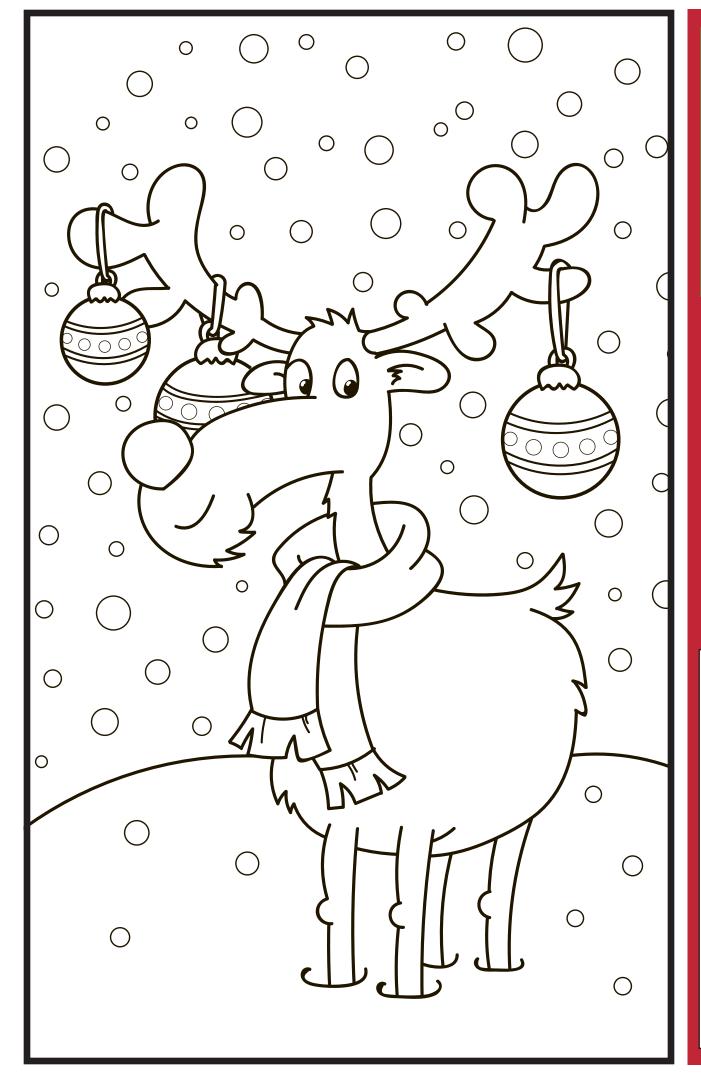
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EDITORIAL

Think grace at Christmas, even when on social media

There was a time in its earother social media were all about connecting with friends and family.

We would share fun photographs, comment on triumphs, and shower with love and support those who appeared to be reaching out for help during periods of despair.

It made us feel as if people who were either far away geographically, or maybe physically closer to home but on the periphery of our busy lives, were in our lives. We were grateful that it widened our circle of friends, perhaps broadened our perspectives, and for the most part, created a positive, happy connectivity.

It has changed drastically, of course. It has become in many cases a way to show mean-spiritness, anger and resentment, judgement of others. It can be used, purposely, to cause harm, to bully, to hurt others, all from a distance. Some people are open in their meanness, others hide behind a mask, casting harm nity, with so many, many peoand feeling safe from retribu-

Social media has become political, judgemental, divisive and negative and defamatory.

ly days when Facebook and yet it has become so much a part of our lives we are addicted to it, the good and the back the clock on social mebad, the real and the fake, the truths and the untruths.

We might swear off it, try to avoid it, perhaps successfully; more often only temporarily, driven back by a need to know what we're missing.

In Niagara-on-the-Lake, there are many Facebook sites intended to spread commumunity news. They have different names, although some too similar; different people behind them, different viewpoints. Some are intended to be helpful and positive, others seem to be created to do just the opposite, to continue to further divide a town that has its struggles. Some are copycats of the great sites with their loyal readership, some hide the identity of cowardly administrators, some seem to take pleasure in trying to damage legitimate pages.

Why? For whose benefit? This is a beautiful commuple finding ways to do good, to give back, to be charitable, to make a great community even better. People whose message is about grace, grati-

For many, the fun is gone, tude, caring, respect and support for each other.

> We may not be able to turn dia, but we can pledge to eliminate the negative from our lives. We don't need it. It does no good. And we spend far too much time stressing about it when we can be focusing on things that are so much more relevant.

> Holidays can be a challenge for some people, for so many reasons. Social media, which doesn't take a break, and cyberspace bullies can add to the sadness some experience at this time of year. However, this holiday, we would love to see a shift online toward the grace and charity with which this town is so blessed.

> We wish you all the best for the holiday season, thank all of you who do positive work for this community, and to all, we wish peace on earth and good will toward men.

> Especially in our little corner of this world, broadened by the power of social media — we wish for peace and good will there too.

Penny Coles The Local

LOCAL FINDS



Monument to victims of tragedy **by Donald Combe Special to The Local**

In affectionate remembrance of Robert C. Henderson James H. Murray Charles E. Anderson Weir Anderson Philip Brandon Charles V.W. Vernon Vincent H. Taylor who were lost off the mouth of the River Niagara on the night of the 11th July 1874 by the foundering of the Yacht "Foam"

This fenced enclosure, property of Toronto's Royal Canadian Yacht Club, is the burial site for seven of their young yachtsmen who intended to party at the Queen's Royal Hotel on Niagara-on-theLake; however, their vessel, Foam, foundered near the entrance of the Niagara River, and all were lost. This sad event has been described as one of the greatest tragedies which has ever befallen the sport of yachting on Lake Ontario.

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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

The trusted voice of our community

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All decked out for the holiday



There are many beautifully decorated homes in town to admire. One of these (top) is on Prideaux Street, the other (below) on the Niagara River Parkway. (Photos by



COMMENT

Love of outdoors leads to job teaching students



Owen Bjorgan Special to The Local

As a new employee at the District School Board of Niagara (DSBN), I find my "offices" at Woodend Conservation Area and Short Hills Provincial Park, guiding students of all ages across Niagara out into our precious and exciting for-

During a taste of the job a year ago, I saw that the school board was emphasizing a more loosely-structured style of learning outdoors. It was less about facts, checklists, and curriculum. The emphasis is now about the bigger picture: nature appreciation, teamwork, and outdoor skills learned with peers. Thrilled to see experiential learning within the school board, I was equally thrilled to be hired last week as a full-time employee.

This type of learning counts for the youth. It's amazing to see students from the

city who have never touched question "is this your job? Can drastic escarpment features Firefly Books in a book called a muddy log. Next thing you anyone work here?" know, they are picking up a couple of logs at a time and The long yellow bus chugs curling them up against their along that long and infamous body, carrying the wood over to their friends where they are constructing a storm shelter from natural debris.

I am excited not only the education system. I have youth across Niagara with opportunities to visit these properties. These open-ended experiences in the forest, where the chemistry of the environment, the students, and the programs collide, is invaluable when paired with the rigours of regular school work, and life in general.

values of teamwork, patience, cooperation, and self-respect. They may also ignite an unknown fire within, perhaps for exploring outdoors with friends, or searching for animals. Older students get more inquisitive with the experience. Within the first week, a

The flashbacks are vivid. dirt road, each window containing a kid's face and a toque. That was me, over the course of my elementary school days. I remember the sense of wonabout the style of learning, but der beginning to stir as the bus also the big picture in terms of hit the gravel and bounced its way through a forest. Little did to give a big thumbs up to the I know, those "scary teenagschool board, for providing ers" would be me one day, and I would have my first co-op position in high school there. I was pumped.

Once a week, from Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School, a taxi would scoop me up and take me along that same never-ending road for my afternoon shift at Woodend. I'd help lead hikes and They teach students the build storm shelters for plenty of curious eyes.

The funny part is that I was barely older than some of the visiting students at the time. My dad would then conveniently get off work, and I would always excitedly repeat my day to him.

I got hooked on the prop-

ily accessed by the Bruce Trail, Canada's oldest and longest coming back for photography, mountain-biking, and general exploring. One day I snapped an innocent photo at Woodend, of the dark green trees doing what they do best: being super still and silent. That photo and a write-up of the property later got published by

and old-growth forests are eas- 110 Nature Hot Spots in Ontario, to my surprise.

Funny enough, the very marked hiking trail. It kept me piece of Bruce Trail I stood on to take that photo is the same stretch of trail I hiked for 37 days and 890 kilometres. I always picture a strange (and sometimes smelly) ghost of myself marching through those woods in 2014.

> You can imagine my surprise when a a week ago, I

new employee for the DSBN. A phone call had turned into an interview, and an interview had turned into a job as an outdoor guide. In disbelief, and very grateful, I soaked up my first week on the job, silently saying thank you to the forest and my previous men-

I continue to recycle myself through the forest, the same way it does its own elements.



Woodend Conservation Area is an amazing "outdoor classroom" location for the school board and the public alike. Last week, the students were welcomed by a view of the ancient few students blurted out the erty once I got to know it. The cliffs being covered in fresh snow. (Owen Bjorgan)



Auchterlonie on Astrology

Bill Auchterlonie Special to The Local

This week, I'll look at the Full Moon in the sign of Gemini on Thursday, Dec. 12, as well as the third quarter Moon in Virgo on Wednesday, Dec. 18. And everything in between. On my podcast, I've got some more news on the Astrology of Christmas and the real birthday of

Now, the week ahead.

Thursday, Dec. 12: It's the day of the Full Moon in Gemini. OOwwww! It's a day of tension, where an all-knowwise to pay them some mind. If they are fickle feelings from bygone hurts, best to not take them too seriously. Later tonight, Chiron, the largest as-

teroid, turns from retrograde to direct motion. Chiron is the 'wounded healer,' and this suggests the start of a time when old wounds are able to heal more easily. Today is the birthday of radio. It was Dec. 12, 1901, that Marconi sent a radio signal from Cornwall in England to Newfoundland. The Scream painter, Edvard Munch, was born this day in 1863. Jennifer Connelly is 49.

Friday, Dec. 13: Is not a scary day. It's a sexy day. Mars in sexy Scorpio makes a powerful connection with Neptune in his home sign of Pisces, adding imagination and ing Sagittarius Sun (self) is magic to all physical efforts. famous astrologer was a Sagpitted against changeable And Venus in the Constella- ittarian. The symbol for Sagfeelings. If these feelings are tion Capricorn connects preprompted by new facts, it is cisely with Pluto at the same half horse, half man creature comes courtesy Mars in longest ever TV series, with a place in the sky, giving all creative and loving efforts a deep and powerful motivation and willpower.

All this while the Moon

continues in her home sign a day of surprises and good of Cancer, keeping emotions keyed up and sharp. Dancing comedian, Dick van Dyke, turns 94. Taylor Swift celebrates the big 3-0 today.

Saturday, Dec. 14: With the Moon in Cancer most of this Saturday, it seems like one stressful situation after another. At times it may be tense. Be honest with yourself and don't let fear take over. The worst is rarely as bad as it appears to be.

Nostradamus was born on this date in 1503. His first name was Michel. How perfect that the world's most ittarius is the Centaur, the stressful. The bigger news who is holding a bow and ar- Scorpio connecting to Jupirow which he shoots over the ter in Capricorn, which adds horizon, hitting the target he has never seen.

Sunday, Dec. 15: This is

news as Jupiter in Capricorn connects powerfully and positively with Uranus in Taurus. It's especially good for all Earth signs, including Taurus, Virgo and Capricorn. But it makes for good times for everyone, depending on where these connections appear in your personal birth chart. Mercury in Sagittarius is busy today as well, so ideas about what to do with this good fortune may prove somewhat challenging. Don Johnson of Miami Vice turns 70 today.

Monday, Dec. 16: The Moon in loving Leo makes seven connections today.

a boost of positive energy to activities requiring physical effort, or simply a boost to

plain old courage. On this day in 1972, the Miami Dolphins became the first NFL team to play a perfect, undefeated season. One year later, O.J. Simpson became the first player to rush for 2,000 yards.

Tuesday, Dec. 17: The Moon moves into discriminating Virgo on her way to tomorrow's Third Quarter Moon, and even though Wednesday is challenging, today is easy and positive, especially for anything requiring attention to detail. It was on Dec. 17, 1903, the Wright Brothers made history with the first powered, heavier-Simpsons began their run as show called Simpsons Roasting by an Open Fire. That was 30 years ago today.

Third Quarter Moon is exact

at 11:56 p.m. So most of the day has a bit of an edge to it. But there are good things happening between the Moon and Pluto, the Moon and Mars and the Moon and Saturn. So there's energy, seriousness, and willpower to get things done. It's a huge day in history for entertainment icons. Keith Richards turns 76. Stephen Spielberg is 73. And Brad Pitt is 56.

Next week, the winter solstice on Saturday, Dec. 21. Wednesday Dec. 25, is Christmas, with a solar eclipse on Boxing Day.

Check out my podcast on than-air flight at Kitty Hawk, my website at https://www. Some are sweet. Some North Carolina. And the lookingupwithbill.com/podasts.html.

> It has the astrology of Christmas and the real birthday of Jesus - and more.

As Joni Mitchell said: "We Wednesday, Dec. 18: The are stardust. We are golden."

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Ethical, responsible regional government refreshing



Ted Mouradian **Special to The Local**

Niagara Regional council held a special meeting last Thursday to discuss what the next steps are going to be in response to the Ombudsman Report that investigated the hiring process of Carmen D'Angelo as regional CAO.

was an inside job, and because of possible future litigation, council went in camera to discuss the report.

An hour and a half later, to be voted on and debatthe report over to the NRP to investigate if there was any criminal action; two, to investigate if there is a case for civil action; and three, to adopt all of the Ombudsman's recommendations.

attendance expected a polarized, robust discussion and debate on the pros and cons of these motions. But to everyone's surprise, this The Ombudsman said it new council seemed to be on the same page. There responsible was no grandstanding, no name-calling and no divi-

meeting with three motions motion to send the report to the police. "I ran for the ed. They were, one, to turn Region to bring honesty, integrity and good behaviour to local government, and restore people's faith in their government," he said.

happened. All three motions passed unanimously, with Of course, many of us in not one councillor speaking against them.

After years of questionable behaviour from certain members of the previous council, it was refreshing to see what good, ethical and government looks like. There is an old saying: we get the government we deserve. First we

Coun. Gary Zalepa was elect them, and then we alof the last municipal elecwatching, and they voiced their disapproval of the last the disruptive elements out.

Don't get me wrong: it honesty. And that is exactly what is permissible to have heated debates on policy, but saying, "The fish rots from it is never permissible to the head." If you look at the personally attack a person's character in order to make your point. That seemed to be much of what was happening with the previous council.

he visceral divisiveness around the table. was something that has never been seen in Niagara, and that we in Niagara must many didn't know how to thank Ed Smith, from For handle it.

I don't want to go into reporter Grant LaFleche and they came back to the public the first to speak to the first low them to stay. The results how many backroom deals were done, and how many tion proved that people were laws may have been broken, but what I will say, is that it is really refreshing to see regional council by voting a regional council that has integrity, transparency and

There is an old Armenian difference between how former chair Alan Caslin ran like everyone is there for the meetings and how Chair Bradley runs the meetings, you will see calmness and mutual respect resonating

It goes without saying a Better Niagara, along with ter.

the St. Catharines Standard, for their dogged pursuit of the truth. All elected members in the Niagara Region should take notice that when pushed far enough, the people will stand up and speak, and they will speak loudly, with conviction.

Will this council make some mistakes?

Probably, but it looks the right reasons. Therefore, even if they stray off the path from time to time, with transparency, honesty and mutual respect, they should be able to return to the right path, that will serve the citizens of Niagara for the bet-

A Christmas reading for council, delivered with affection

11 This Christmas reading was written with good intentions, genuine affection and festive wishes to everyone who makes Niagara-on-the-Lake such a fantastic place to live. All the best for a very merry holiday season!"

> Clare Cameron, Councillor and Deputy Lord Mayor

'Twas the last Council before Christmas, when all through Town Hall

No scandal was stirring, no drama at all.

The agenda was prepared by the Clerk with great care,

In hopes that the Ombudsman would not be there.

The papers insisted, "Journalism isn't dead!"

While visions of Grant LaFleche danced in their

And some people in PJs, d some in their toques,

Had just settled on a name for their new Face- fleeing a TTC train, book group.

there arose such a clatter,

cabbage roll platter.

Then away to the Avondale I flew like a flash,

Tore open some corn chips and got out some cash.

The moon on the breast of the new traffic light

Made Virgil look urban in the middle of the night.

When, what to my wondering eyes should appear,

But a white BMW with a hatch in the rear!

With a little lady driver, with freshly done hair,

I knew in a moment it must be the Lord Mayor.

More rapid than mice

She whistled, and shout-When out on Stone Road ed, and called us by name:

"Now, BURROUGHS! I ran out to Silks for a Now CHEROPITA! Now

MCCORMACK WIENS!

On, ARSENAULT! On, BISBACK! On, CAMERON $and...that\ other\ WIENS!$

To the top of the clock tower! To the swish Outlet Mall!

Now dash away Costco and suburban sprawl!

As people that disappear in Penner's for hours

Fall under a spell from that store's superpowers

So up to the Region like councillors they flew,

With a sleigh full of Official Plan Amendments, and Gary Zalepa too.

And then in the clinking of empty wine glasses

Came a fresh crop of people from sommelier classes.

As they drew out a corkscrew and asked for more

Down to the cellar Donald Ziraldo came with a

He was dressed to the nines in a powder blue suit,

And his clothes were all tarnished with grape skins and juice.

A bundle of bottles was flung on the bar,

And he laughed like a Kinsman in a really old car.

His eyes - how they twinkled! His dimples, how

His jokes were so funny, was this Joe Pillitteri?

Feature your business in our

He carried a magnum in each of his arms,

And on land use he said, "we need acreage for farms!" Meanwhile in St. Davids Eduardo Lafforgue. under bright orange light

A new crop of something overtourism at bay, was growing all night.

As neighbours experi- in a shiny red sleigh. enced an odour indelible,

Snoop Dogg toured the site with a bowlful of edi-

He wasn't chubby or bored,

So got visitor tips from is the people's will;

With a promise to keep er, with a nod to the feisty

I spoke not a word, but and it was no mistake,

went straight to my work,

emails; it's a political perk.

And as Lord Mayor Displump, and at risk of being ero saw this year's legal bill, And giving a nod, said it

She sprang to her Beam-

And away they all flew

And a stack of brochures like the seeds of phragmites. But I heard her exclaim,

HAPPY CHRISTMAS And read a few hundred TO ALL, IN NIAGA-RA-ON-THE-LAKE!

Santa loves pets too



The St. Davids Veterinary Clinic held a day with Santa Saturday, with Santa posing for photos with pets. In this photo, he's giving some love to Maggie Mae. (Fred Mercnik)

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Social media maven heading in a new direction

Penny Coles The Local

Disheartened by recent events on Facebook, Julia Buxton Cox, creator of NOTL Today, has found anand talents.

The Facebook page for which she is so well-known and respected was intended, "as a forum for residents of NOTL to come together to Groups. promote events, share photos, look for recommendations lieves in, she says, and everyand discuss issues facing our town." And as a very involved and meticulous administrator, she has been careful to ensure posts are respectful.

But over the past weekend, the name of one of her sister pages, NOTL Bulletin Board, administered by her friend Gail Kendall, turned up on another page.

It's not the first time she's seen that happen — she pointed out about 10 pages that were copycats of others, demonstrating, "mean, playground antics."

By Wednesday, the cre-

the reaction on Facebook cup of sugar." continued, and to Buxton Cox, the damage had been ent for making great spaghet-

She decided it was time to ing, she says. other direction for her time rise above that, to do something positive for the community, and she discovered an alternative that has her really excited — a Facebook

It represents all she bething she stands for. It's not a business, it's not about trade, Buxton Cox will begin a barter or swapping. It's about random acts of kindness, people helping each other, giving and receiving, posting if they have something they don't need and want to give and what I want to do for the away or asking for items they might need, with no money changing hands.

"It's about me making a pot of spaghetti, and having so much I can share. It's people giving of their time and talents, as well as people asking for things. If I find I need

While she may have a talti, she's not so good at garden-

"This summer, I may decide I need help in the garden, and I may ask for it. It's a gift of self, a gift of time."

There are 3,000 groups page called Buy Nothing world-wide, she says, with people giving freely to help others.

> There are some rules to qualify to host such a page. seven-day training program Sunday that will allow her to start a Niagara-on-the-Lake chapter.

"It's where I've landed community. I have the time, and I want to volunteer. I'm in this for the long term."

The concept embraces all she holds dear — it's green, it recycles, it's about getting to know your neighbours, it's about helping others.

"What I love best about a cup of sugar, I can post, this group is the gratitude, caring."

ator of the copycat page had 'have you got a cup of sugar,' and kindness it displays. I feel changed the name of it, but and someone will offer me a this town is ready for it. There are so many people with pure, good hearts," says Buxton Cox.

"Gratitude is such a big piece of my life. I'm so blessed with all the people I've met in town, and all they give of their time and talents."

She says she has been asking herself, as an engaged member of the community, how she could use her time, talent and skills for the betterment of the community.

"If we all ask ourselves that question, we're going in the right direction."

She says she's considering shutting down her NOTL Today page, because of what has happened with the proliferation of what she considers "fake pages."

"It's not what NOTL Today or Facebook is all about," she says.

"I think it's time to shift the focus away from the negative of Facebook, and let gratitude and kindness rise to the top. I'm ready to embrace



Julia Buxton Cox will be launching another Facebook page shortly. This one is about giving and receiving, sharing with neighbours in kindness and caring. (Photo supplied)

Deason's Meetings

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December 12, 2019 THE NOTL LOCAL notllocal.com

Celebrating the season in NOTL



Judy Insley, Lisa Erikson, and Linda Erikson check out the Christmas displays for gifts for their families at the Queenston community sale. (Photos by Fred Mercnik)



At the St. Davids Firefighters Association Turkey Roll, Glenn Steip from St. Davids won on the first draw.



Jane Calver shows off a Christmas planter for sale at the Queenston annual Bake and Decor Sale, held at the Queenston library.





Marico Dacunha, Eric Peters, and Wayne Renaud share a laugh at Fort George last weekend. This weekend, Dec. 14 and 15, experience Christmas traditions from the early 19th century, including crafts, activities and games for the whole family. Fort George will be decorated in traditional holiday greenery, hot beverages and historic treats will be served.



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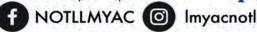
Cookie Decorating

Kids Holiday Craft

Build A Gingerbread House

Talent Showcase 3pm

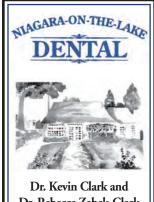
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Mistletoe Bride at Silversmith for two readings

Penny Coles The Local

Imagine the intimate setting of a candle-lit, century-old church oozing ambience, with exceptionally talented actor Tara Rosling, of the best in Canada, telling a haunting, dramatic tale about a wedding night.

If you've been to Silversmith Brewing Company for a reading of *The Mistle*toe Bride, you know it's be-Niagara-on-the-Lake.

want to miss it this year but call early for a reservation.

There are just two performances this year, and brewery, they go quickly, with many returning year after year.

more of a one-woman performance, from an adaptation of the British folk tale written by Jeanette Winterson, adapted by director and writer Peter Hinton.

Several years ago, Rosling explains, she and Hinton wanted a project they could work on together, and Mistletoe Bride came about from that desire. "We never expected it to take off the right ambience. There are Brzozowski. way it did."

This will be the sixth year ence is quiet. It's perfect." of the performance, with Hinton busy doing other shows, but Rosling says she has staged it with him often couldn't agree more. enough that she can "show up with a few bits, and do fectly fits the whole experi- and key." the reading," although she ence. It really has become a will take a quick look at it tradition for us." beforehand to ensure it is still committed to memory.

co-owner Chris Pontsioen about staging the reading in the beer hall, which they felt offered the perfect ambience for the dramatic reading, he was onside immediately, Rosling says.

Much to their surprise, considered by her peers one they had to turn people away, and decided on the spot to do a second reading that night, she recalls.

It grew to two readings on each of two nights the second year, she says, to three readings over three come a holiday tradition in evenings, says Rosling. She has also performed it at oth-If you haven't, you don't er venues, but discovered nowhere is as well-suited for the tale she tells as the warm, cozy pub on a cold winter's night.

And with a busy schedwith only 50 seats in the ule, two performances will be perfect, she says.

Most come to enjoy a meal and a pint before the The theatrical reading is show, and then, once a final round of drinks is served before the reading, the room becomes still and perfectly quiet. All electricity is turned off so not even the also be there to hear it. hum of fans or refrigerators spoil the mood. "All the elements are perfectly suited to this brewery-slash-church," she says.

> "It's incredible what Silno disturbances, the audi-

Kate vice-president and director the label is a teaser, and a bit of operations at Silversmith, of a warning: enjoy a game

for several of the readings, tent, she says, with about and is hoping for a third, since. When she and Hin- and wouldn't miss it. Staff 1,000 bottles, 500 for this has wrapped up shooting



Tara Rosling will repeat her one-woman show, which has become a tradition in NOTL and at Silversmith, says Kate Brzozowski. (Penny Coles)

delighted to host the event, the brewery has a new, limited release this year, called Legend of the Mistletoe Bough, from which the Misversmith does to create the *tletoe Bride* tale derives, says

label was drawn by Brzo-Brzozowski, zowski, and on the back of "This building just per- clear of chests under lock night.

She has been at the pub an 11 per cent alcohol con-

work that night so they can be kept for next Christmas.

"It ages well," Brzozows-In fact, Silversmith is so ki says, "just like the tale of ed women, and has been in says. The Mistletoe Bride. We're episodes of Murdoch Myscompare the flavours."

Although Winterson's The mistletoe on the the original legend goes back to the early 1800s, is unfortunately this story en and children who have about a young bride who is still very relevant, and plays a dangerous game timely. It's never-ending. of hide-and-seek with her It's so rife, so prevalent," she of hide-and-seek, "but steer husband on their wedding says. Without going into bumps, and being trans-

It's considered a barley now focusing on TV — she Ghomeshi trial of about five story told by Rosling at Silwine, made from hops, with has been in two seasons of years ago, and the conver-Impulse, on YouTube Red, sation that has continued 6 p.m. for a bite to eat, with

Bride at Silversmith.

However, she adds, "the story was written in 2002, one thing that never fails to but a box will be passed sadden me and amaze me for donations to aid womdetails that would give it ported back in time, with Although Rosling is away, she mentions the Jian this dark, eerie Christmas

ton initially approached ask to be scheduled for holiday season, and 500 to on Happy Place, a feature lying darkness and mystery reservations.

*Sales Representative **Broker ***Broker - Royal LePage NRC Realty KRDS

directed by Helen Shaver, of the mistletoe tale, "it's a with an ensemble of talent- beautiful, poetic story," she

It's also a fundraiser for encouraging people to buy teries and Star Trek. She is Gillian's Place, "another one bottle to drink and one looking forward to her two beautiful story" of women to keep for next year, to performances of Mistletoe finding their safe place, she

There is no admission, escaped from abusive relationships.

Be prepared for goose versmith Dec. 16 and 17 the reading starting at 7 But despite the under- p.m. Call 905-468-8447 for





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THE NOTL LOCAL

Garden club members give back to community

Penny Coles The Local

Garden Club of Niagara members are busy yearround sharing their design skills and love of gardening never more so than during the holiday season.

Last summer, when a group of volunteers were puttering under the hot sun in the heritage garden of the McFarland House, members were also meeting to brainstorm and begin their decorating design Christmas.

The awe-inspiring results of their efforts were appreciated by the streams of people who visited Mc-Farland House last weekend on the Rotary Holiday House Tour. This weekend, members of the public will also be able to see the garden club members' creation of Christmas as a home would have been decorated in the 1800s.

Garden club members Kathy Humphries and Gail Santsche were charged this year with planning a theme for the decorations, and came up with Christmas carols from the 1800s each of 10 areas decorated at McFarland House was assigned a Christmas carol, and the group of volunteers responsible for that area were given the task of representing the carol in their design.

The club has 67 members, says Humphries, and 27 of them were involved in the decorating of the historic Niagara River Parkway house, which was restored by the Niagara Parks Com-

not their mandate.

pods, pine cones, eucalyp-Anne's lace, ivy, cedar, and McFarland House. sedum are just a few of the staples they rely upon in Christmas, some members their designs — some are plan their home gardens to harder than others, says Humphries, but they enjoy rial that can be used in the the challenge.

"We have fun with it," House. for the historic building at says Santsche, "that's what it's all about. And it shows overflowing with materi-

no bright colours, store- of Christmas. Turning a through the house to deterbought Christmas balls, quilt into 12 squares, they mine what they'd need, and glitz or glitter amongst represented each of the 12 their decorations — that's days of the song with dec-Dried hydrangeas and last six weeks to make their with the community, but roses, painted milkweed creations at home, so they'd be ready for the three days tus, silver dollars, Queen they have to decorate the home lends itself to their

> To be prepared for ensure they will have matedecorations for McFarland

"A lot of us have garages



An angel, made mostly of dried hydrangeas, was created by Garden Club members for the drawing room of McFarland



Dried, painted milkweed pods, with a pine cone in the middle, were made into tree decorations by garden club members. The silver candle holders are family heirlooms.

mission in 1959.

Almost all of the decorations are made from natural materials from scavenges from the gardens of club members, friends and the look of the 1800s, says Humphries, and some visitors over the Christmas season, both during the Rotary House Tour and this weekend, come every year to gather fresh ideas for their own decorating.

decorating, keeping things year," says Humphries. more natural. That seems to be a popular trend these isn't the club's only Christdays."

neighbours, to replicate ters" at the house — garden a private home featured on club members — to answer the Rotary Holiday House questions and describe the Tour. materials used, and also to talk about the garden club, of a group of eight garden she says — they can always club volunteers given the use new members.

the public another way of als we save for this time of

The McFarland House mas project. Several years There are "room-sit- ago, they began decorating

Barb Bedell was one heritage home of Tom and The area they decorat- Kim Elltoft to decorate for ed was a bedroom sym- last weekend's tour. Volun-

You will see no plastic, bolizing the Twelve Days teers were given time to go also a chance to speak to the homeowners to ensure orations, meeting over the they were onside about the look of the home.

Because of the natural decorations, a heritage style of decorating, and it's what they prefer, says Bedell, although they have decorated modern homes that looked amazing. "It's not over-the-top decorating. This is very different," she says.

Bedell says she joined the garden club because of a photo she had seen of a home decorated for the Rotary tour, and wanted to be a part of it.

Again, as with McFarland House, some members plant, grow and dry plantings so they will be ready with decorating materials.

She enjoys the educational aspect of the club, with members always teaching and learning from 1995. each other.

house for the holidays.

one next year," she says.

And it won't be long beto discuss the plantings for at McFarland House. the heritage garden, and creating a roster of volun- an important role with its teers to plant and maintain activities not just at McFar-

mitments, the garden club tion," says Pascoe. is fulfilling a long-standing partnership with the Niagara Parks Commission that has worked well for more School of Horticulture stuthan 20 years.

for Christmas relies on material available in the 1800s, the club looks for herbs and with their time, and their vegetables that would have work is very much apprecibeen found in a typical English garden of the Victorian era, which can be used are found on the Conserva- years. tory tearoom menu.

tor of McFarland House, garden club members give



Kathy Humphries and Gail Santsche of the Garden Club of Niagara, by the dining room table at McFarland House, were in charge of the committee that decorated the historic house for Christmas. (Photos by Penny Coles)

And she enjoys the op- dum of understanding was 1998, which allows the club "We'll be doing another to use the School of Horticulture for its monthly meetings, in return for the

"The garden club plays land House, but with Niaga-With both seasonal com- ra Parks as a larger organiza-

The garden club also funds scholarships each year for Niagara Parks' dents — three students re-And, just as decorating ceived bursaries in November.

Members are generous ated, Pascoe says, but more than that, she is grateful for the friendships that have

Rebecca Pascoe, cura- nership with Niagara Parks, now until January. far as the garden club itself, ect is working with cancer Turner at 289-362-1827.

which was established in patients and their families at the St. Catharines site of A formalized memoran- the Niagara Health system.

Typically marking holportunity to decorate a forged between the two in idays such as Christmas, Valentine's Day, Mother's Day and Thanksgiving, club volunteers design a project, provide the materials and fore members are meeting work done by the volunteers hold a workshop for cancer patients, most of them in treatment as out-patients. They can bring a friend or family member, and the outing gives them a positive and enjoyable reason to visit the hospital and socialize with others who are going through a similar experi-

> Again, they used natural materials to make beautiful arrangements those in attendance can take home with them, after an enjoyable and meaningful afternoon out.

The garden club is already planning events for its 25th anniversary in 2021. It in the kitchen for items that also been forged over the meets the fourth Monday afternoon of the month, al-In addition to the part- though there is no meeting

For information email nisays the partnership with back to the communities in agara@gardenclubsofontario. the volunteers goes back as other ways. One such proj- ca, or call president Diane



The home of Tom and Kim Elltoft, on Prideaux Street, was also decorated by members of the Garden Club of Niagara for the Rotary Holiday House Tour.

notllocal.com — THE NOTL LOCAL December 12, 2019

Sympli

Chill...





Frankie Sez 79 Queen Street NOTL 905.468.1012



December 12, 2019 THE NOTL LOCAL notllocal.com

l'Urapped Up

Christmas Town

Submitted by Santa of Just Christmas

Another fabulous Christmas season is upon us! We celebrate this time of year and we gather together, some of us with family, some with familiar strangers because of past hurts we have caused one another, and some as new additions to our families in the form of marriages and newborns. Then there are those who have passed on from this existence and we smile as we set a place for them at the dinner table of life. Christmas is a time to reset, respect and receive the love you deserve because you are human.

It's a time of new beginnings and clear visions for the coming New Year. Christmas is a healing time and I ask you to let the healing begin in your own life first, then let that healing energy carry on to the rest of humanity, your community and your family. As I stand on the sidewalk each season greeting you as you walk the town's commercial district, I see the sparkle, and in some cases the tears, in your eyes as you remem-Christmas traditions



Charlotte, Simon and Oliver Regier visit with Santa at Just Christmas.

from a past time perhaps when love was greater and wounds weren't present. Or maybe they were. In any case, this year I want you to clear the canvas of life and focus on one thing... being a bet-

ter lover of this life and the world around you, and that includes everyone in your circle, both near and far. Let this year be truly different.

Love always,

Bring the sparkle home this Christmas

Submitted by VandenDool Jewellers

Maple Leaf Diamonds™ are mined in the pristine culminates in beautiful and 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 mementos that people the world.

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 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 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 cherish. We're proud to pro-Today the Canadian vide 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



Owners Brian and Mark VandenDool





THE NOTL LOCAL **December 12, 2019** notllocal.com

All Wrapped U

Dreaming of a Wine Christmas

Submitted by Konzelmann **Estate Winery**

It's that time of year, when we deck the halls and make merry. The days are filled with festive gatherings and holiday shopping - and we hope a big glass of delicious wine. Time spent with friends and family is at the top of the list for seasonal plans, but finding the perfect gifts is probably a close second.

Whether you are looking to gift your clients, show your employees they are valued, or share and create memories with your loved ones, our wide range of gifting solutions has got you covered. When it comes to gift giving its all about individual character, so we curate each offering to fit your unique style and budget. From baskets for the foodie, entertainer or sweet tooth in your life to custom labels featuring ties are endless.



Visit us at 1096 Lakeshore Road, Niagara-on-the-Lake for a wonderful selection of gift ideas.

perfect way to spend time wines in our estate cellar, to list.

your company's logo or a with your friends or fami- learning how to pair your family photo, the possibili- ly, we also offer memorable favourite junk food with experiences at the winery. wine, we have experiences If you are looking for the From cheese and reserve suited to everyone on your

Sweet gifts for Christmas

Submitted by Greaves Jams

This iconic Canadian landmark store has been making lives a little sweeter for over 90 years. Over 45 varieties of jams, jellies, marmalades and condiments made the old-fashioned way are beautifully packaged and ready to give. To top it off, they have just launched a new line of jellies just in time for the holidays sure to please the most discriminating palate. Three Wine jellies, including: Cabernet, Riesling and Vidal Icewine and two Pepper jellies, including: Hot Red Pepper and Spicy Pepper Chardonnay complete the offerings. Their holiday wine collection gift box is the perfect gift and includes one of each of these delicious jel-



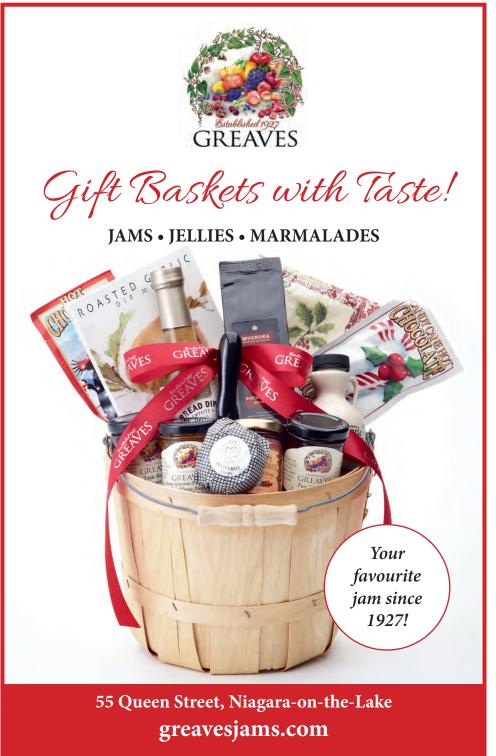


lies. They are also the perfect accompaniment for entertaining on a cheese or charcuterie board.

A visit to Greaves Jams during the holiday season is a delight. Easy shopping with wrapped gift boxes of jam or ready-made baskets make your Christmas list disappear. Gourmet Canadian foods for your own pantry include fresh roasted coffee, garlic seasonings, maple butter, rooibos loose-leaf teas, Victorian cream chocolates, artichoke and asiago bread dippers, home-baked traditional shortbread and so much more. Not to be forgotten of course, are the wide assortment of tea towels and kitchen accessories to compliment your custom-made basket. Best of all, they will wrap your gift boxes at no charge!

Staff at Greaves are a pleasure to work with as they help you with your gift-giving. Just give them your list or order online and they will ship to just about anywhere. Their jam factory ships jams and specialty foods worldwide with a special message gift card inside. Open daily, Greaves Jams at 55 Queen Street is a must visit this holiday shopping season.





ROYAL OAK COMMUNITY SCHOOL SCH(00)

ROCS students interview Madame Salem

Ruby Elltoft, Grade 5 and Olivia Santelli, Grade 6

At the start of the year, a new teacher arrived from Lebanon. She teaches us music, French and drama. She is also producing our Christmas performances, including our Candlelight Stroll performances from been in Canada? Friday night, as well as our Holiday Show to be held at the Court House on Dec.19. to get to Canada? She is very talented and we wanted to get to know a bit Lebanon

more about her. We spent some time asking her some rite childhood candy? questions.

when you started teaching?

A: I was 24 years old when I started teaching

Q: Where are you from? ite Arabic dish? A: Lebanon

A: Six months Q: How long did it take

A: Eighteen hours from musical instrument?

Q: What was your favou-

A: À biscuit on the bot-Q: How old were you tom with whipped cream covered with chocolate {Arabic candy}.

Q: What is your favour-

A: Lamb meat with spe-Q: How long have you cial yoghurt sauce.

> Q: What's your favourite colour?

A: Blue

Q: What's your favourite

A: Piano

Q: Do you have any pets? A: No, but I used to have eight tortoises in Iordan.

Q: What would you most like your students to know about you?

A: I would like them to know my children, so they can come over and play with them.

Q. Why did you come to Canada and do you like being here?

A: I like being here because there are a lot of political problems in Lebanon.



Students Olivia Santelli, Grade 6, and Ruby Elltoft, Grade 5 interview their teacher, Madame Salem (centre). (Photos supplied)

Crenshaw Hits the Shelves

Leila Ridesic, Grade 5 and Diego Rey, Grade 5

Royal Oak School is a book-loving community, and recently in the Grade 4/5 class, Katherine Applegate has been a favourite author for these young learners.

At the beginning of the year, the class began reading a book called Wish Tree. It is about an oak tree named Red. He is the neighbourhood's "wish tree," where people write their wishes on pieces of cloth and tie them to Red's branches, hoping they will come true. Along with Red's best friend, Bongo the crow, many other animals seek refuge in Red's many hollows. Red watches

sure to check this book out we love it!

students began seeking more teacher offered a book, Crenshaw, to one of the students in the Grade 4/5 class, and he discovered that this book was by Applegate too. As soon as down. Other students wanted to know what the deal was, and asked if they could borhit! Here's a description:

Crenshaw is about a boy

over the neighbourhood. A named Jackson who is about new family moves into the 10 years old. He has five peohouse behind Red, and not ple in his family - his mom, everyone is welcoming. Make dad, his little sister Robin, and their dog, Aretha. His family is very poor and may have to live After a few weeks, the in their minivan. Again.

Along comes Crenshaw, a books like the Wish Tree. Our large, outspoken, imaginary cat. Jackson first "met" him in Grade 2. Crenshaw returns to help Jackson through these hard times. He is a funny and sometimes silly imaginary he started to read it, he was friend who makes the reader hooked and couldn't put it laugh. While he might be entertaining, we wonder if he is enough to help Jackson out.

The whole school would row it too. It became a huge recommend this book to anyone from Grades 4 and up.

Now get reading!

Saxon Reese, Grade 4 & Ilias Dritsacos. Grade 4

At Royal Oak School, we have lots of different clubs based on student interests. Students can suggest clubs to teachers, and if we have enough interest, ing in a game. we have a club.

So far this year, we have had a Soccer Club, Knitting Club, Running Club, an Eco Club, and our Newspaper Club.

In Knitting Club, we have learned how to knit with our fingers. With our finger knitting, we learned

dents could be seen fin- Club. In this club we do ger knitting at recess and when we will start it again.

Clubs at Royal Oak

In Soccer Club, we learned how to do certain drills like dribbling, which has helped us when play-In Newspaper Club, we

have been brainstorming, writing, and editing, arput them in this newspa- cious. per. It helps us all become better writers.

We now have two new clubs this month, based on student interest. One of the how to make a snake. Stu- new clubs is Meditation January clubs too.

yoga and meditate to learn lunch. They loved it and to slow our breathing and are excited for January our bodies. We have also done some outdoor meditation and it was beautiful. Then there is Snack Club where we have been learning to make snacks that we can make on our own at home, like fruit kabobs with marshmallows, and yogurt dip to dip the ticles about our school to kabobs in. They were deli-

> Overall, the students are excited for the clubs this year. We enjoyed our fall and winter term clubs, and look forward to our

Olivia Santelli, Grade 6, and Diego Rey and Leila Ridesic, Grade 5, enjoyed reading Crenshaw.

Royal Oak attends a Performance by the Hamilton Children's Choir

Leila Ridesic, Grade 5 and Diego Rey, Grade 5

Royal Oak School has recently been granted the once-in-a-lifetime experience of seeing children, just like themselves, showcasing their pieces of singing and choreography.

Music Niagara graciously donated tickets to any of the ROCS staff and students and their families who St. Mark's Church.

A group of enthusiastic learners came to the performance and by the end of the show, all were wishing for an encore. Whilst returning to school, the children shared their inspiration with their peers, and knew they wanted more of the arts! The students of Royal Oak would go back to this show, 100 per cent, if granted this lucky chance again. Thanks to Music Niagara wanted to see their show at for this amazing partner-



Students enjoyed their Music Niagara concert at St. Mark's.



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NOTL businesses contact Karen at 905-641-5335 or karen@notllocal.com

Businesses outside NOTL contact Julia at 905-934-1040 or julia@notllocal.com

SCHOOL

Crossroads students choose kindness

Crossroads Public School have looked for ways to

This month, for example, we've begun a series of posters that encourages us all to be considerate toward one another.

In support of this emis helping our students to raise funds for two ongoing projects. We are continuing to support a school in cert on Dec. 17. Karubabi, Burundi, with basketball court.

supporting Kidsport Niagara, a non-profit organiza-

For the past two years, taged children to meet the for the residents. And each the students and staff of cost of playing organized morning in December, the sports.

make kindness a daily habit. two projects in the week before Christmas, Me To We will encourage students to dress according to daily themes and will make available a variety of treats.

phasis, the Me To We Club encouraging donations to its two fundraising projects through Cash Online or donations at our Holiday Con- ing cookies for a neighbour,

Meanwhile, Kindergar- bank. this year's goal to build a ten students are making cards and baking cookies roads Public School wishes Closer to home, we are to deliver to seniors in our its staff, students, parents community. Junior students and neighbours joy in givare preparing to make a vistion that helps disadvan- it to Pleasant Manor to sing gift of kindness.

Grade 4 students have been To raise money for these creating a Kindness Countdown, choosing a specific act of kindness that they would like to practice on the following day.

So far, they have chosen things like holding a door As well, Crossroads is for someone, helping primary students to read their favourite book, starting a positive conversation, bakand donating to a food

> This Christmas, Crossing and receiving the great



Matthew Kroeker, Christian Dodd, Ryker Nikkel, Leo Smith, Evan Baxter, William Penny, Rian Sills, and Brody Short are Crossroads Grade 1 Kindness Kids. (Photos supplied)



Elinor Rifkin and Alexandra Lilly are busy making cards for community members



Students are getting ready for 'Twas the Week Before Christmas fundraiser. Me To We members are Miriam Andres, Jorga Lepp, Olivia Breakspeare, Charlotte Bowslaugh, and Ellery Sawatzky.



Luci Beccario, Grayson Tataryn, Keira Dexter, and Holden Powell are busy adding to Crossroads' Kindness Chain.



Gabriella Froese, Ty Sherlock, Jackson Dodridge, Lily Kanters, and Naomi Coles are excited about the Grade 4 Kindness Advent Calendar.



A Kindergarten class gets ready for their visit to Pleasant Manor.



December 12, 2019 THE NOTL LOCAL

Plein air art on display at library through December

Kim Wade Special to The Local

Plein air artists are showcasing their work at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Public Library through the month of December, with a reception Saturday.

Plein air painting, simply put, is painting outdoors. Artists gain inspiration from nature, through experiencdifferent landscapes changing lighting. Some well-known plein air painters are French Impressionists Claude Monet and Pierre-Auguste Renoir, as well as with Canadian art-Group of Seven.

Sandy St. Laurent, one recruit members. of the group's members, felt with a good crowd. It was her first showing of her work and was thrilled to have sold one of her own paintings out of three paintings sold that afternoon. St. Laurent has been painting for about three years, since her retirement but joined the group two summers ago. She met the group's founder, Cindy Sheridan, through art courses she was taking at the Niagara Pumphouse Arts Centre. She describes the group as being encouraging and supportive toward each oth-

er, and welcoming to artists at all levels.

She enjoys painting outside, she said, with sunshine and nature, and is anxiously waiting for summer to arrive. "Once you are bitten by the plein air bug, that's it."

Sheridan has been painting the landscapes of Maui since November. After taking some fine art courses at Brock University and participating in workshops at the Pumphouse Arts Centre, she was introduced to plein air painting and enjoyed it so much that she started looking around the region to find other artists with a similar ist Tom Thompson and the interest. She decided to start her own group, and began to

She has found a nice the reception was successful, community of people to share her passion with, she says. She sends out a weekly newsletter to about 60 people, with eight to 10 artists coming out regularly each week. Sheridan explains she finds plein air painting both challenging and enjoyable. "It's difficult and intricate, as far as learning the technical abilities to paint well."

She also enjoys the social with a group of artists, to learn from each other and bounce ideas off each other." She says painting a beautiful



Janice Opie displays her work at the NOTL Public Library (Kim Wade)

forest offers a more enriching experience than spending that time alone in a dark studio. "It is a meditative

aspect of it. "It is nice to be lake or spending time in a thing to do, very peaceful, very tranquil."

> Janice Opie met Sheridan at a Niagara Pumphouse Arts Centre workshop, and joined with her to start the Niagara Plein Air Artists. After painting with the other friends and family. group for two years, Opie growing relationship with each other," so she arranged the library.

A self-taught artist, Opie paintings, she says. has taken workshops with local artists as well as explored many different disciplines, such as crafting chain places such as Charles Daley maille jewellery, painting Park and Dufferin Islands, silk and casting cement waterfalls.

media, she contends her first love is fine art, especially watercolours.

The "weekly Friday plein together during the winter air sessions are now a part of my life style," she says, and she has developed a special relationship with the other members to the point that

The attraction for Opie decided, "an art show would is threefold. She likes to be be fun and enriching to our in nature, with other people and doing what she loves, painting. There is a strong the art show and reception at connection to the Niagara Region in all of the group's

"Even if it's a flower, it is still from the Niagara Region." The group paints in so the scenes are recognizable and familiar to the ob-Having explored other server. While most of the Artists' show is on display summer, the group still gets Library until Dec. 31.

months. Opie says she is grateful to venues such as the Niagara Falls Historical Society and Heartland Forest for opening their doors she sees them more than her to the artists until the warm weather returns.

> The Niagara Plein Air Artists' reception on Saturday afternoon was "very successful in terms of inviting and sharing our art with the public, selling our art and most importantly, an experience that the participating artists shared with each other," Opie says. She has formed a "unique relationship [with the group] and the show has taken it to a whole new level."

The Niagara Plein Air paintings on display at the in the Rotary Room at the library were painted in the Niagara-on-the-Lake Public



Christmas Parade Saturday

Local Staff

Parade in the region gathers Highland dancers; and a with postal code H0H 0H0 at the former Parliament Charlie Brown Christmas and have a return address Oak School on King Street Saturday, before heading off on its traditional route, there traditions of the parade, place. will be several new floats.

to all the favourite bands ishable food donations. and familiar floats, watch a garbage container (Miller used, for Out of the Cold —

the royal dogs of Scotland; construction trucks, large be collecting letters to Santa. and small; members of the Letters should be addressed When the best Christmas St. Andrew's Society with to Santa at the North Pole from Zippy Driver.

and the spirit of Christmas, organizers, says in addition again be collecting non-per-

Mike Novarro of Mainfor Fox Den Yoga; (expect tenance by the Yard, with all the cuteness of the pyg- friends and family, is collectmy goats), a magical gin- ing kids' and adults' warm gerbread house made from clothing, new or gently Deerhound Club featuring scarves are welcome.

Also, Canada Post will so that the elves are sure to In keeping with the great send his replies to the right

The parade Bob Cheriton, one of the NOTL Hydro will once promptly at 11 a.m. this Saturday, Dec. 14, heading from King Street to Castlereagh Street, Wellington Street, Byron Street, Prideaux Street, Simcoe Street and Queen Street, ending about 2 p.m.

To see the route map, Waste Systems); a Scottish coats, boots, hats, gloves and visit https://notl.org/content/2019-christmas-parade. THE NOTL LOCAL **December 12, 2019**

St. Saviour's, St. Mark's churches LOCAL HAPPENINGS feature Newark Singers concert



The Newark Singers will be featured at two Christmas music concerts, conducted by Michael Tansley, former music director of St. Mark's Church. (Photo supplied)

Penny Coles The Local

Michael Tansley returns to St. Mark's Church Saturday, to conduct the Newark Singers in a holiday concert.

When he retired as the music director at St. Mark's two years ago, his farewell performance was just before Christmas. Although he was ready for retirement, he knew it wouldn't be his last performance at the church — music will always be a huge part of his life, and St. Mark's is one of his favourite places to make music.

He said at the time he would give the new organist space, that he didn't want to kept that promise.

He has returned as organist to cover holidays in will include an 11-member season. the summer, as he has for chamber group, all memseveral Niagara churches, bers of the Niagara Sym- now to do things for me, are available at St. Mark's and last year he conduct- phony, funded by a gener- which includes music. Mu- Church office, at 905-468-

sing. "I'm available as a fill- has arranged to do a Satur- he says, "and this is my way in organist and pianist," he day evening concert at St. says. "If I'm around, I can Mark's, as a fundraiser for help.

will be back to conduct the Newark Singers, a group he has worked with for many years — some of the younger members are from St. Mark's Choir, some from St. Catharines churches, and some from his days as music director at Ridley College, before he came to St. Mark's.

He organized a concert with the singers last Christmas at St. Saviour's Anglican Church in Queenston, "which was absolutely jampacked," and was asked to do it again this holiday sea-"get underfoot," and he has son, with an orchestra as

that church, and a Sunday This holiday season, he afternoon performance at St. Saviour's, with proceeds going to the Queenston church.

> season include carols with which the audience will be familiar, and they will be invited to sing along with ant, and state of mind is some of them.

"They'll leave the church of the concert," says Tans-

spent some time composing, and has written a carol for St. Mark's Choir, and a couple of pieces with the Newark Singers in mind, which will become part of

"I find I have more time ed the Christmas Eve carol ous donor, says Tansley. He sicians never really retire," 3123.

of giving back."

At 76, he's doing his best to keep "healthy and happy," swimming three times a week, making sure he remains active in body and mind, and working with the The arrangements this Newark Singers is a big part of that for Tansley.

> "I've developed a routine — I find that importcritical, I believe."

Being back at St. Mark's, feeling like they were part he says, will feel like being at home.

"It's still my church In his retirement he has home, and I love being there. I love the space. To make music at St. Mark's will always be a pleasure."

The Newark Singers and Orchestra concerts are Saturday, Dec. 14 at 7 p.m. at This year, the concert their repertoire for next St. Mark's, and Sunday, Dec. 15 at 4 p.m. at St. Saviour's.

Tickets are \$20, and

AA MEETING every

Wednesday evening, at 8 p.m. to

9 p.m.

St. Mark's Parish Hall 41 Byron St.

Niagara-on-the-Lake

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LOCAL

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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.

SANTA CLAUS PARADE

December 14 @ 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

The Town of NOTL presents one of Ontario's best Santa Claus Parades. Please call 905-468-4261 for more information.

FORT GEORGE GARRISON CHRISTMAS

December 14 @ 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Join Parks Canada & the Friends of Fort George for the annual Fort George Garrison Christmas event on Saturday, December 14, 2019 from noon – 4:00 pm! Come and experience Christmas traditions from the early 19th century! The buildings inside Fort George will be decorated in traditional holiday greenery with crafts, activities and games for the whole family! Hot beverages and historic treats will be available in the Officers' kitchen, and there will be musket demonstrations throughout the afternoon! Call Parks Canada at 905-468-6614 for more information.

UGLY SWEATER HOLIDAY FOOD TOUR

December 14 @ 1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Don your best ugly holiday sweater and join us on a special walking tour for a little foodie fun! This 2.5 hour tour differs from our usual Niagara-on-the-Lake culinary tour. It will include a mix of food tastings at culinary partners and a chance to pick up a last minute gift for that hard-to-buy-for person on your list. We promise a tasty bit of fun and frivolity and a takeaway gift. So grab a friend and dig out that ugly sweater and get in the holiday spirit! A prize will be awarded to the foodie with the ugliest sweater. It's a great way to spend the afternoon with friends or a nice alternative to the holiday office party. Private booking dates are available. \$60 per person. Meet at 1:00 p.m. at the Irish Harp, 245 King St., NOTL. For more info, contact: support@eztix.com or call 1 (289) 768-8717.

LOCAL WORSHIP



Sunday, December 15th Message by: Kevin Bayne - An Upside Down

God (Matthew 1:18-24) 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



FIRST ONTARIO PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE

Now until December 22 The Foster Festival presents **Aunt Agnes for Christmas**

December 14 **Chorus Niagara presents** Welcome Christmas!

December 19 Maceo Parker

December 21 The Music of a Charlie Brown Christmas

> December 22 John McDermott

December 27 Sing-a-long Sound of Music www.FirstOntarioPAC.ca

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The season can be filled with memories of

family times. This may be your first holiday season without your loved one; perhaps it's been many years since they were here ... it's never easy. We want you to know that we are thinking of you during this time. We wish you health, happiness and fond memories.

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

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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Across:

- 1 Pistols
- Police heavy brigade
- 9 Unexpected turn of events 14 Long song for one in an opera
- 15 Cairo/Pittsburgh river
- 16 Totaled
- 17 Of the present month (Abbr.)
- 18 Traditional knowledge 19 Cosmetics mogul
- Elizabeth ---
- 20 Monk's title
- 21 Job-discrimination watchdog (Abbr.)
- 22 Plumping
- 23 Moonshine maker
- 25 Liable
- 27 Journey's end forecast
- 28 Swedish aircraft maker 30 Astonish
- 32 Take for granted
- 34 Hearth
- 38 Radiation absorber
- 39 "I shall not find myself so --- die" (Antony, in "Julius Caesar")
- 41 One up on a deuce
- 42 Catholic
- 44 Accuse 46 Wide river mouth

- 47 Flying toy
- 48 Batter essential
- 51 Fashion reminiscent of the past
- 53 "What happens in --- stays in ---'
- 56 Short stops
- 58 Decree
- 60 Web site ID
- 61 The first Mrs. Trump 62 Singer --- Simone
- 63 Split
- 64 Well mannered
- 65 International trade org.
- 66 Stripe
- 67 Breaks 68 Raised
- 69 E.g. Levin, Gershwin and others
- Down:
- Short attacks
- 2 Ripley's slogan finishers
- 3 Firing
- 4 Posed
- 5 Only 6 Cry of exultation
- 7 Battle group main feature
- 8 The very end of a golf club
- 9 Swing in a circus
- 10 Skin blemish
- 11 Self-published author

- 12 Surgically implanted tube
- 13 A k a the Friendly Islands
- 21 Gunslinger actor Jack ---
- 22 Duck ---, medieval child's game
- 24 Exalted
- 26 Leave out
- 29 Fab Four
- 31 Personal assets
- 32 Top-fermented beer 33 Moderately dry
- 35 Unorthodox
- 36 Angular meas.
- 37 Peeper
- 40 British Prime Minister when the Constitution was signed
- 43 Food grasses 45 Honey factory
- 48 Sagas
- 49 Singer-songwriter ---DeGraw
- 50 Yellow tropical fruit with pink pulp
- 52 Token amount
- 54 Center of an amphitheater 55 Snow vehicles
- 57 Saucy girl
- 59 "Shane" star Alan ---
- 62 Toff 63 G-men

OBITUARY



PHILLIPS, Cheryl Ann—With family by her side, on December 4, 2019, lost her battle with pancreatic cancer at the age of 65. Beloved wife of the late Jim (2014). Loving mother of Michael (Sarah), Bobby (Erin) and Christopher. Proud Gramma of Adrianna, Madelynne, Eric and Evie. Dear sister of Carol (Bert) and aunt of Brent (Andrea) and the late Adrienne. Caring niece of Irene.

Cheryl happily retired to Niagara-on-the-Lake a year ago and became an active member of the community. She will be missed by many friends.

At her request, cremation has taken place and a celebration of her life will be held in Niagara-on-the-Lake at a later date.

For those who wish, memorial donations may be made to the Canadian Cancer Society. Memories, photos and condolences may be shared at www.morganfuneral.com.



IN MEMORIAM



May the peace that comes from the memories of a love shared, comfort you. Remember them with a Loving Tribute.

Contact: classified@notllocal.com or call 905-641-5335

SUDOKU PUZZLE

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LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU ANSWERS

Answer from December 5, 2019

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

CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS

Arena, 55 Sleds, 57 Snip, 59 Ladd, 62 Nob, 63 F B I. 45 Hive, 48 Epics, 49 Gavin, 50 Guava, 52 Ounce, 54 Sec, 35 Irregular, 36 Deg, 37 Eye, 40 Pitt, 43 Cereals, 24 Lauded, 26 Omit, 29 Beatles, 31 Estate, 32 Ale, 33 11 Indie, 12 Stent, 13 Tonga, 21 Elam, 22 On a rock, Whoop, 7 Aircraft carrier, 8 Toe, 9 Trapeze, 10 Wart, Down: 1 Raids, 2 Or not, 3 Dismissal, 4 Sat, 5 Sole, 6

Band, 67 Snaps, 68 Bred, 69 Iras. L, 61 Ivana, 62 Nina, 63 Flee, 64 Civil, 65 O E C D, 66 Egg, 51 Retro, 53 Vegas, 56 Pauses, 58 Rule, 60 U R 41 Trey, 42 Eclectic, 44 Charge, 46 Delta, 47 Kite, 48 30 Amaze, 32 Assume, 34 Fireside, 38 Lead, 39 Apt to, O C, 22 Opting, 23 Still, 25 Prone, 27 E T A, 28 Saab, 16 Ran to, 17 Inst, 18 Lore, 19 Arden, 20 Dom, 21 E E Across: 1 Rods, 5 S W A T, 9 Twist, 14 Aria, 15 Ohio,

LOCAL SPORTS

Novice Wolves play Fort Erie





The novice Wolves of the NOTL Minor Hockey League played the Fort Erie Meteors Saturday afternoon at the Centennial Arena. No scores are kept in the novice division. (Photos by Fred Mercnik)

NOTL skaters compete in Keswick



At the Keswick Invitational Skate Competition, Jeong Lee was first in STAR 5 (O13) Women and 12th in STAR 7 Women; Kyra Marotta was first in Gold Women; Melena Orsini was third in STAR 5 (O13) Women (Photos supplied)



Ashleen Hale preparing for provincials

Ashleen Hale of the NOTL Skating Club, with her coach Judi Boyle-Krzeczkowski at the 2020 Skate Ontario Sectional Championships held recently in Flamborough, came 41st overall. Hale is vying to qualify for the Skate Ontario Provincial Championships to be held in March.

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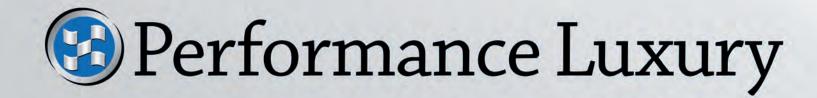
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