

The South Etobicoke News

thesouthetobicokenews@gmail.com

No. 06

Buy local. Live local.

Alderwood residents are outraged by speeding motorists



Irate Alderwood residents say they've had enough of motorists speeding through their many side streets to avoid traffic and are asking Toronto Police and City officials to step on the brakes to curb the flow.

Residents are saddened that a 12-year-old girl was struck by a motorist while on her way to school in March. The "well-liked" teen suffered minor injuries and community members now want some-

thing done to stop the motorists racing through their quiet streets. More than 100 families packed the St. Ambrose Catholic School, on Coules Ct., last month to demand answers from Councillor Mark Grimes, Mark Hargot, a supervisor of Traffic Operations and Toronto Police Const. James Karpik, of 22 Division Traffic office.

Grimes spoke about a Vision Zero Road Safety Plan, a study running from 2017 to 2021 focused on reducing traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries on Toronto's streets. It proposes more than 50 safety measures to protect pedestrians, school kids, older adults and cyclists.



KRISTEN VECCHIO AND HER young family watch in horror as a vehicle races by registering 74 on a mobile speed measuring device on Gair Dr. Photo by Tom Godfrey.

Proposals include more signage,

pole-mounted speed warning signs, speed humps, school and community safety zones, cycling corridor enhancements, curb radii reductions, more sidewalk inspections and hundreds of additional red light cameras. "This is a bold pledge to improve safety across our city using a data-driven and targeted approach, focusing on the locations where improvements are most needed," Grimes said. Some residents told officials that they or their children have almost been hit or had to run for cover to escape motorists.

One Rimilton Ave. man complained that his street "be-

comes a dangerous area from motorists where kids cannot play or walk" during rush hours. Kristen Vecchio, who lives on Gair Dr., said she has started a petition with the names of more than 50-residents who want the speeders rerouted. "My kids knew the young girl who was hit by a car," she stresses. "I don't want this to happen to my children or any other children in the community." Jessica Isaac said the injury to the teen "was the last straw for her." "I don't want to see this happen again in our community," Isaac vows. "Something has to be done before something even worse happens next time."

Some 39 pedestrians are killed by motorists in Toronto yearly.

'Boutique' Beer Store to return late next year to The Queensway

Some angry residents are saddened by the loss of their favourite Beer Store, at 784 The Queensway, which has been flattened to make way for a new eight-storey condo development called Queensway Village.

Area residents say they have to travel further to pick up their favourite brew or return empties. The Queensway Beer Store has been in the same location for more than 30-years.

Area politicians warn that there were public meetings held to notify residents of the massive project and impending multi-year construction. The developers Urban Capital Property Group and Rosewater Capital Group have promised a 'boutique' Beer Store will return. A new Beer Store may not be ready to serve the community until the end of 2020.

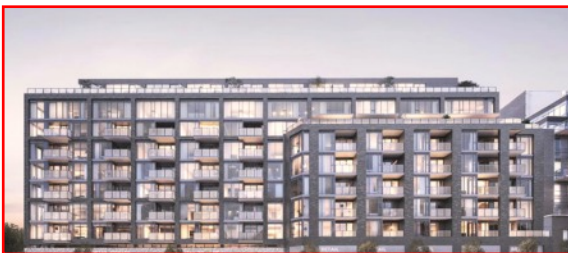
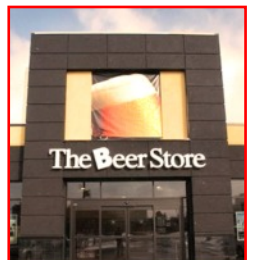
The development will be "anchored by a boutique Beer Store at the east end, conveniently complementing the LCBO a short walk to the west," according to plans.

Beer Store spokesman Bill Walker said his officials are aware of customer concerns. "The Beer Store is aware of some recent customer concerns about the convenience of locations to return empties, as well as questions about the status of certain stores," Walker said in an email.


The Beer Store is in the process of selling property, updating or renovating a number of its outlets.

"We have 12 stores in Toronto that are closed, or about to close, right now for site redevelopments in which the Beer Store location will be incorporated back into the new site," Walker says adding the closures will result in more modernized stores for customers.

The new condos, which will sell for up to \$1 million, will have private garden plots and is next door to Queensway Park, a public 7.6-acre green space.




A NEW BEER STORE IS slated to return to Queensway Village, at 784 The Queensway, when completed. Courtesy photo.



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Quick-thinking King cops award for saving man's life

Quick-thinking Zario King says he was just doing his job when he saved the life of a man who had collapsed and lost consciousness due to an early-morning drug overdose.

King, 27, on April 12 was awarded a Community Members Award at a ceremony at Toronto Police Headquarters. He was among 38 Toronto citizens recognized for their "admirable contributions" to the community.

The event was attended by Chief Mark Saunders and Ken Jeffers, of the Toronto Police Services Board. "I didn't expect all this attention," King says. "I was just doing what anyone else would have done that day."

He was on his way to work at LAMP, at 185 Fifth St., last February, when police in a submission said, "he noticed a man who appeared unconscious laying face-up with a needle laying on the ground beside him."

"Zario approached the male to make sure he was okay and attempted to wake him," according to police. "He could not wake him."

King ran inside LAMP and retrieved a Narcan kit and called 911, police said, adding that he dashed



A PROUD CHIEF Mark Saunders with community life-saver Zario King. Courtesy photo.

back outside to the man and administered the Narcan nasal spray.

"The male began breathing however he remained unconscious," officers said. "Emergency services attended and the unconscious male was transported to hospital, where he was treated and he regained consciousness."

"If it was not for his attentiveness and quick actions the male would not have survived the drug overdose," fellow awardees were told.

King plans to work with those suffering from drugs and other addiction issues.

"I am very happy to be honoured," he says. "I am pleased that I was able to do something to help that man recover."

Also being honoured were five security officers who work at Yorkdale Shopping Centre, who were credited for acting quickly in the face of danger during a shooting at the mall last year. Security guards Nigel Penny, Shane Palmer, Luca Aiello and Jordell Wolseley were recognized for their bravery. Officer Marco Rotondo was recognized for his initiative while operating the mall's video surveillance system.

The incident occurred last August when a police officer on paid duty at the mall noticed shoppers panicking, running out of the large building and shouting about gunfire inside the sprawling mall.

Additional Toronto police officers arrived and the four guards helped the officers to search and clear stores to make sure employees and shoppers were safe.

Fun and medals had by all as Special Olympics end



MONIQUE SHAH of SPECIAL OLYMPICS Ontario was inducted into the Toronto Sport Hall of Honour. She represented Canada at the 2011 World Games.

More than 2,500 student athletes from around the world had fun in Toronto where they were hosted by the Toronto Police Service while competing in the 2019 Special Olympics Ontario Invitational Youth Games.

Most of the students had a great time sightseeing, meeting new friends and competing in their sports.

This year marked the 50th anniversary of the Special Olympics movement that also brought together 500 coaches, and hundreds of family members, from around the globe.

The successful May 14 to May 17 Games for the first time saw high school-aged athletes with an intellectual disability being given a chance to compete in an international sports competition.

This year athletes aged 13 to 21 both with and without an intellectual disability competed against each other in athletics, basketball, bocce, floor hockey and soccer.

Special Olympics Ontario's Monique Shah was inducted into the Toronto Sport Hall of Honour. She represented Team Canada at the 2011 World Summer Games in Athens, Greece, where she

won gold in both the 100-metre and 200-metre sprints.

Shah is hoping to qualify for the Special Olympics Canada Winter Games in Thunder Bay 2020.

The sports were broken down into multiple ability to those of similar ability levels.

Some 1,000 volunteers, including police, gave their time to help out.

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Police Open House and BBQ this month

Here is an opportunity to meet the officers who make our community a safer place to live. Members of 22 Division and the Community Police Liaison Committee (CPLC) invite you to the annual 22 Division Open House & Free BBQ on May 25.

The Open House takes place at 22 Division, at 3699 Bloor St. W., just west of Islington Ave., from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Featured this year will be crime prevention exhibits, bicycle registration, kids fingerprint station, police station tours, live entertainment and lots more. The event takes place rain or shine and all is welcome. Organizers are asking those attending to leave their pets at home. Police said some free parking is available off-site and would like to thank The Rotary Club of Etobicoke for their support. The Service also hosted a recruitment drive on May 4 at the North York Civic Centre, for those seeking jobs.

 **Dr. George Vouronikos**



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Giving back to those in need

Famed pizza-maker Dino feeds the community

Renowned pizza-maker Dino Ari has built a successful pizzeria on The Queensway but is spending more time in the community these days making sure the homeless and less-fortunate are well fed.

The owner of Dino's Wood Burning Pizza, at 820 The Queensway, spent parts of his Easter weekend giving away more than 250-slices of his pies to residents using the nearby Haven on The Queensway, which helps feed and clothe those in need.

"These are good people," Ari says of

the pie lovers. "I will never forget that this community supported me when I started and my business was not doing too well."

That same Easter weekend Ari and some helpers travelled to downtown Toronto to feed at-risk men at the Salvation Army before making the rounds to womens' shelters. He shows photos of him, with MPP Christine Hogarth, and staff taking pizzas to feed Haven users.

Ari, in a video posted to his website, is seen carrying pizzas on a cold day when he and his workers are surrounded by homeless men and women who were treated to free slices of pepperoni and other flavours of pizza.

"It was a very touching sight," one man recalls. "These people would have remained hungry if Dino and his workers didn't show up with pizzas."

Ari, family members and employees, last year delivered pizzas every Sat-

urday to the needy and homeless attending Haven.

"It's such a lovely gesture for Dino to make for the homeless and those in need in our community," says Heather Fullerton, Haven's Director of Development. "It takes a big heart to care for strangers and a simple gift of pizza can lift spirits and fill tummies at the same time."

He also volunteered to cook meals for Children's Breakfast Club, a non-profit that provides nutritious meals to 4,000 kids each week across the GTA. Ari does not forget his humble roots. He is of Kurdish descent and arrived in Canada from Turkey as an immigrant in 2000 seeking a better life. Like many others, he became a citizen and worked for many years to grow his business.

Among his highlights were returning to his hometown in Turkey, on two



GOOD-HEARTED PIZZA MAKER DINO ARI is constantly giving back to the community by helping to feed the homeless and hungry with his pies. Courtesy photos.



RAHUL SINGH of **GLOBAL MEDICS** with Ari at a recent event in which free pizzas were donated to help feed volunteers.

separate occasions to make pizza for hundreds of orphaned children, many who had never had the food before. They loved it.

Ari has given a lot of time, pizza and effort to charity and in doing so has developed a fiercely loyal customer base in south Etobicoke.

Customers who love his pies, toppings and crusts, have stood by him since he started more than 15-years ago.

Grier earned respect by working for residents

Retired politician Ruth Grier is still well-loved and respected by residents of our community.

The long-time area resident and volunteer is pleased with the many improvements she's made so south Etobicoke can remain a great place for generations to come.

Grier, who is 83, loves the community, its people and Long Branch where she resettled after moving from Dublin, Ireland, in 1956.

She and husband, Terry, a former MP and President of Ryerson University, still live in the same family home where they raised their three children.

"This area has changed a lot over the years," Grier says. "There is a lot more new people moving in but the sense of community is still there and it exists."

Grier is best remembered for her work as an alderman from 1969 to 1985 and then as the Minister of Environment and Minister of Health from 1985 to 1995, when she was a high-profile MPP serving under former NDP Premier Bob Rae.

Grier managed to defeat the late lawyer Gordon Rush in 1969 by 31 votes to capture an alderman's seat in Mimico. She worked on many issues in the community and held the position for 16-years.

She recalls at one time Mimico council held a meeting in the men's washroom to exclude her from voting on a bill.

She was the only female on council.

"Things have improved a lot for women since," Grier reflects. "Back then they (men) held their vote in the men's washroom at City Hall."

She ran a successful campaign for provincial politics by blasting the ruling Liberal government for being lax on the environment and closing the Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital in 1979.

Grier was re-elected in 1987 and in 1989 sponsored a private member's bill that proposed to ban the sale of irradiated foods in Ontario. She was returned to victory after the NDP won a majority government in 1990. She was appointed the Minister of Environment that year and promptly cancelled plans to ship Toronto's garbage to a site in Durham. She also introduced an Environmental Bill of



FORMER MP RUTH GRIER faced tough questions as Minister of Environment and then Minister of Health under Bob Rae's NDP government.

Rights that allowed residents to sue polluters.

She was made the Minister of Health in 1993, and supported the listing of generic drugs, introduced midwifery as a profession, targeted resources to community health centres and created a Cancer Prevention Task Force. The NDP were defeated in 1995.



GRIER AS THE FORMER Minister of Environment in the early 1990s.

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Marley relives the happy days of New Toronto



DOROTHY MARLEY WAS BORN RIGHT HERE 98-years-ago and remembers when coal was placed in a stove by conductors to keep passengers warm on the streetcar. **Photo by Tom Godfrey.**

An energetic Dorothy Marley was born in New Toronto 98-years-ago and has lived in the same well-kept and comfortable home for almost eight decades. Marley is sharp, very active, looks after her own home and is involved in volunteer work.

She loves talking about her younger days growing up in New Toronto, when it cost 10-cents to purchase a ticket for the cinema, which gave out free dishes to female customers.

“The streetcars in those days had a stove that the conductor would throw in bits of coals to try and keep the passengers warm in the winter,” Marley recalls. Those were happy days since most residents were employed by U.S. giants as Anaconda American Brass, Continental Can, Goodyear Rubber and Tire Company, Gilbey’s Distillery, Campbell’s Soup and others. Marley followed her dad, Jack Lerette, a well-known trade unionist, to Anaconda, where she worked for 13-years as a stenographer.

“That was a great company to work for,” she beams. “The company was good to its workers and there were hundreds of us working there.”

At the time Anaconda made U.S. military supplies and employed more than 1,400 workers.

“Most of the people in the community were working for these companies,” Marley says. “There was a bowling alley at Goodyear for the employees and the company held regular dances with live bands.”

She recalls most of the young people in the area would attend the Goodyear dances.

“Those were high-paying jobs at the time,” the mom of two adult children insists. “Things got very bad in the 1930s though when the Great Depression hit.”

During the heady days there were many businesses lining the Lake Shore strip, where everything from new cars, insurance, fur coats, jewellery, liquor and beer could be purchased.

“Back then the merchants gladly gave the residents credit because people were working,” says Marley.

Her dad Jack worked at Goodyear for 27-years and was active in the United Rubber Workers, where he was an international field representative and Canadian Director of Research and Education.

He was later elected President of the United Senior Citizens of Ontario (USCO) in 1963 and helped to improve the quality of life for seniors by promoting better housing, health, safety, increased pensions and lower taxes.

Lerette had two buildings named in his honour. One is a seniors residence at 250 Twelfth St., and the Jack Lerette Building, at 3303 Lake Shore Blvd. W., home of USCO.



DAD Lerette

South Etobicoke News is a free hometown monthly newspaper that serves Humber Bay Shores, Mimico, Lake Shore Village, Long Branch and Alderwood.

Please feel free to drop us a line if you would like to advertise your business or report any comments, tips or events taking place so we can tell the community.

Also, send us your email so we can send the next issue of the *South Etobicoke News* right to your mailbox.

Email us at: thesouthetobicokenews@gmail.com
Or call us at 647-739-2235. **Publisher Tom Godfrey.**

Special thanks goes out this issue to the many caring area residents; including Bob Summers, Wayne Gibson and Carl Godfrey for their help.

Copies of the South Etobicoke News can be obtained (if any left) at some of these locations:

*Jeff, Rose and Herb's No Frills, 3730 Lake Shore Blvd. W.
Mario & Selina No Frills, 220 Royal York Rd.
Metro Supermarket, 2208 Lake Shore Blvd. W.
Ducky's Roti, 3296 Lake Shore Blvd. W.
Browns Line Donuts, 744 Browns Line
Lake Shore Valu-Mart, 2399 Lake Shore Blvd. W.
The Beer Store, 2458 Lake Shore Blvd. W.
The Beer Store, 3580 Lake Shore Blvd. W.*



Christine Hogarth MPP Etobicoke-Lakeshore and **Kinga Surma** MPP Etobicoke-Centre

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Storm Chaser Sills speaks at Haven about experiences

Storm chaser Dave Sills has photographed tornadoes in three countries and has survived to be talking and now singing about his worldly experiences.

Sills' works during the day as a Severe Weather Scientist and has photographed at least nine twisters since 1997.

His photos of various violent and inclement weather situations in Canada, the U.S. and Australia are amazing

and can be accessed on his website, davesills.ca.

Sills will be giving a free talk at Haven on The Queensway, at 1533 The Queen-

sway, as part of a Lecture Series on May 23 that is open to the public. He will also be playing a few tunes from his debut album "Fifty," which he describes as 'Rock 'n' roots, or folksy Great Lakes country-rock.'

Sills describes the album as "The Beatles jamming with Johnny Cash and Stan Rogers."

"The album covers a lot of ground stylistically," he notes. "But that's what happens with an album Fifty years in the making."

The nine-track album was recorded and mixed by producer Allister Bradley at his studio in Wellesley, Ont., and mastered by legendary Toronto engineer, Joao Carvalho.

Sills will share some of the highlights of his 20-plus-year career of storm chasing in Canada, the U.S. and Australia and show some of his amazing photos.

He jokes that he was destined to become a storm chaser because of his love of inclement weather, coupled with an ability to drive for long hours and tolerate a lot of fast food.

Highly-respected in meteorological circles, Sills is also a member of both the Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society and the American Meteorological Society.

He has conducted 'countless storm damage surveys' following bad weather situations and was involved in the development of, and continues to maintain, Canada's national tornado database, according to his website.

Sills recalls his most memorable chase was in May 2004 in Attica, Kansas, in



EYE-CATCHING INCLEMENT weather shot by Sills

the days before live data was inaccessible in vehicles, as he and others sped after numerous cells, saw multiple tornadoes and made challenging forecasts. "Witnessing a tornado is without a doubt the holy grail of storm chasing, but so much can be learned and enjoyed even on those frustrating bust days," he insists. Call Haven at 647-463-8652 for info.



STORM CHASER Dave Sills



CONDUCTOR JOHN EDWARD LIDDLE with members at the Etobicoke Community Concert Band's March show "Dance Like No One's Watching." Liddle received The Rotary Club's Paul Harris Award for his talent with a trumpet and his passion and influence as a conductor. The band's next show is May 24 at Etobicoke Collegiate. Photo by Bruce Barton.

Don't forget.

Give your mom a call or better still visit her. May 12 is Mother's Day.



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BELL BELONGED TO LAST STEAM TRAIN SERVING AREA

The history of a large steam bell that has been sitting proudly in front of the New Toronto Public library for 25-years has returned to life thanks to library officials.

The well-travelled and beautifully-crafted bell belongs to the last steam locomotive that travelled into the New Toronto Railway station many decades ago, historians say.

“When the station closed, the bell was presented to the citizens of New Toronto and housed at the, then, Town Hall,” according to a Community History summary prepared by the Toronto Public Library.

It said when ‘New Toronto became part of the City of Etobicoke (in 1967), the bell was given to the library and rested awhile in the children’s department.’

“It found a permanent home atop a sculpture at the front of the rebuilt New Toronto Branch, at 110 Eleventh St., which opened in 1994,” according to library records.



IMAGE OF STEAM TRAIN from mural on Fifth St.

The records reveal that the bell’s structure contains items inside a time capsule.

“The curious should note that the sculpture, the winner of a Public Art Competition, also houses a time capsule,

the contents of which remain a secret,” the records state.

The steam train was among the last in use in New Toronto, which is historically a railway community, where much of the housing development was designed for railway employees.

The last steam train owned by the City of Toronto, known fondly as “Canadian National No. 6213,” was retired from active duty in 1959. The engine, which was built in 1942, now rests at Exhibition Park, in Toronto.

The locomotive, which was built by Montreal Locomotive Works, pulled both passenger and freight for more than a million miles during its 17-year career in which it travelled from coast to coast.

It was purchased from an order of 35 identical locomotives built for the Canadian National Railways during WW11.

The restored locomotive is described as “as a U-2 class Northern-type steam locomotive with a 4-8-4 wheel arrangement used to haul both passenger and freight.”



STEAM BELL FROM LAST TRAIN has been sitting outside the New Toronto Library for decades.

SONIA AIMY A NIGERIAN-ITALIAN-CANADIAN SINGER and songwriter known as the ‘velvety voice of Africa’ sang at a fundraiser on April 26 to help St. Margarets’ New Toronto Church, at 156 Sixth St. The church feeds hundreds of residents in its dinner programs. Promotional photo.



Helpers honoured at Lakeshore Lodge ceremony to mark National Volunteer Week

Politicians and other dignitaries were invited to a Lakeshore Lodge Appreciation Dinner on April 11 to celebrate National Volunteer Week. More than 55 volunteers were honoured at the Lake Shore Blvd. W. and Kipling Ave., lodge in a ceremony that was attended by MP James Maloney and an official from MPP Christine Hogarth’s office.

Certificates were presented to the volunteers for all their hard work and time.

National Volunteer Week is celebrated from April 7 to 13 annually

and is a time to honour and thank Canada’s 12.7 million volunteers.

Kimberly Penton, Coordinator of Volunteer Services for the Lodge, said last year some 213 volunteers contributed 10,000 hours of service to the home to ‘enhance the lives of our residents.’

Penton said ‘lifting communities is the Volunteer Canada theme’ and “our volunteers lift our spirits all year long,” is their home’s theme. “Volunteers help with fundraising, meal assistance, arts and crafts and more,” she says.



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THERRIEN

BBQ season has arrived so it is important to remember the risks of E.coli contamination in ground beef and other products to keep your friends and family safe this summer. Outbreaks of E.coli have been associated with eating undercooked hamburgers, raw sprouts or basically anything grown in contaminated water or soils.

In January 1993 there was an uncommonly high incidence of food poisoning among Seattle-area children. The source traced back to E.coli O157: H7 bacteria that had contaminated hamburger patties sold at a Jack in the Box restaurants.

In the following weeks Idaho, California and Nevada reported numerous cases of E.coli infection among residents that had eaten at the restaurants. The scope of the outbreak widened to 73 different restaurant locations and sickened more than 700 people in four U.S. states. It led to 171 hospitalizations and four deaths.

An investigation revealed that the parent company had been warned by local health departments and its own employees that its hamburgers were being undercooked but the company had decided that cooking the burgers to the required 71°C degrees made them too tough. It is never safe to eat hamburger meat when it is pink and checking to see if the juices run clear may not be safe enough either.

Cook hamburgers made from ground beef fully to a minimum internal temperature of 71°C. Poultry left overs and mixed products should reach 74°C.

Reduce the risk of E.coli infections wash hands frequently especially after using the restroom or changing diapers smoking or handling money touching your face or hair before and after preparing or eating food after contact with animals or their food.

De-frost foods safely in the fridge between 0-4°C never defrost at room temperature or in hot or warm water use a microwave if you need to defrost quickly or cook from frozen.

Cook foods thoroughly use a food thermometer to check temperatures.

Don't cross-contaminate food preparation areas and wash hands, counters,

cutting boards, and utensils after they touch raw meat. Wash fruits and vegetables before eating even pre-washed and do not drink raw milk, which is illegal in Canada.

Avoid unpasteurized dairy products and do not prepare food or drink for others when you are sick.



MAKE SURE YOUR BBQ is clean and ready for use before sparking it up. Courtesy photo.

Laura-Lee Therrien is a Food Safety Educator. Her company, Canadian Food Safety Training, has been educating Food Handlers for more 10-years. Find

Things to do and keeping busy in our community



MEMBERS OF THE DIRECTORS GUILD of Canada, join other film unions, and their families, to clean up Marie Curtis, and other Etobicoke parks during Toronto's annual Spring Clean Up last month.

EVERY MONDAY AND TUESDAY free money management workshops starts at 6:30 p.m. by well-known tax preparer **Rattan Gandhi** at Quick Refund Tax, 133 Sixth St. Call 647-340-2627 to reserve a seat.

FOURTH SATURDAY OF THE MONTH free hot dinner served at The Branch Church, at 85 First St., from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. All is welcome.

MAY 1 to JUNE 22 LAKESHORE YOUTH IN FOCUS at Lakeshore Arts' Community Project Space, 2422 Lake Shore Blvd. W. Opening reception May 9 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Features self-portraits and poetry of Grade 8 participants of Lakeshore Arts' in-school educational program, Shazaam! In Focus.

MAY 4 to 17 WILDLIFE OASIS A Photo Exhibit featuring Humber Bay Park by

Friends of Humber Bay Park, open daily from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Studio Connect, 62 Marine Parade Dr., Unit 5.

MAY 16 CHOICES Careers in Legal and Law Enforcement fields for young women 11 to 17-years-old at the Jean Augustine Centre, 101 Portland St., from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Meet police, probation, lawyers and others in the field. Call 416-253-9797 to register.

ADULT DAY PROGRAM at Storefront Humber, 2445 Lake Shore Blvd. W., Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. is a supervised program for those who are frail, cognitively impaired or physically disable. Call 416-259-4207.

MAY 17 COMMUNITY DINNER at St. Margarets' Church, at 156 Sixth St., from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Donations accepted and volunteers always required. Call 416-259-2659 if you are interested in sponsoring a community dinner.

EVERY FRIDAY MORNING the Long Branch Baptist Church, at 3381 Lake Shore Blvd. W., offers a free clothing outlet from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. for those in need of clothing for themselves or their families. You can also donate gently used clothes that others can use. Contact 416-251-1525.

MAY 23 FUNDRAISER BY SOLACE is Comfort introduces a Joseph Ribkoff

fashion show from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. for the breast cancer dragon boat team, Dragons Abreast, which was founded in 1997 and paddles out of Sunnyside Pavillion. Dragons' members to model. Call 416-451-6815.

MAY 25 10th ANNUAL SPRING BIRD FESTIVAL at Col. Samuel Smith Park, at Lake Shore Blvd. W., and Kipling Ave., taking place hourly at 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 12 and 1 p.m. Walks start from the Registration Tent, just south of the parking lot.

MAY 28 THE MIMICO TULIP FESTIVAL presented by the Mimico Village BIA from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Royal York Rd., south of Evans Ave. to Newcastle St. There will be a vendor's market, face painting, Bollywood dancing and a charity BBQ to benefit Cornerstone Christian Fellowship.

JUNE 1 PORCH VIEW DANCES MIMICO from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. at 22 Stanley Ave., is a community dance event with real people dancing in real spaces. Audience members travel from house to house to see local families performing dances on their porches or front yards.

JUNE 8 GRILLED CHEESE FESTIVAL at Islington Ave. and Lake Shore Blvd. W., from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Come eat the best Grilled Cheese in Toronto

and vote for your favourites. Sponsored by Lakeshore Village BIA in support of LAMP.



PHOTOGRAPHER SANDRA HAWKINS took this shot in February of a White-breasted Nuthatch, which is 'commonly found' at Col. Samuel Smith Park "my favourite Lake Shore park due to its diversity of birds and wildlife habitat."

LAMP COMMUNITY HEALTH Centre seeking new members to join its Board of Directors. Members must commit from 8 to 10 hours monthly, including meetings. Send resume to brendak@lampchc.org. Deadline is May 30.

BOSTON PIZZA at 1602 THE QUEENSWAY is raising funds through a charity box for "Nalinas Hope," to go to the paediatric brain tumour foundation. Contributing guests will receive a 15% discount, which can be used until the end of June. For more info contact 416-201-9555.

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Players sought for Etobicoke Aussie Kangaroos Football club



ECSTATIC FEMALE MEMBERS of the Etobicoke Kangaroos Australian Football Club. Team photo.

Male and female players are still sought by the hard-hitting and fun-loving Etobicoke Kangaroos Australian Football Club, who play at Col. Samuel Smith Park on Friday and Saturdays.

Training for men and women takes place on Tuesday and Thursday from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. starting on May 14 at Col. Samuel Smith Park, behind Humber College at Lake Shore Blvd. W., and Kipling Ave.

Club Founder Greg Everett says their season starts on May 25 and runs until the Grand Final on September 21. Nine of their 12 games are played at Col. Samuel Smith and takes place on Friday night at 6 p.m. and Saturday at 3 p.m. The games are a lot of fun with excellent spurts of actions. They also have a nice

team song, which contains the line 'Good old Etobicoke, we're champions you'll agree.'

The club was started in 2003 and have been Premiers in the men's division in 2008, 2011, 2012 and 2015. They were runners up in 2003, 2007 and 2009.

The women's team started in 2011 and have been Division Premiers 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018. They were runners up in 2011.

"Many of our players both men and women have gone on to play for Canada internationally and played in the International Cup," Everett says, adding the World Cup is held every three years in Australia.

At the 2017 International cup we had Mike Aspell, Amanda Irwin, Lara Hilmi and Nicola Kirwan represent our club with Nicola and Lara selected to the 2017 International Cup Women's World Team, he says.

Team Canada women were International Cup winners in 2014 and Runners up 2011 and 2017.

He says Kirwan is close to being drafted to the professional women's competition in Australia. She was the only Canadian player selected to go the draft combine last September.

Lund is Etobicoke Hall of Fame Athlete of the Month

By Margot Wheeler

Erica Lund is 17-years-old and was born, raised and still resides in Etobicoke. Erica is a



MULTI-SPORT ATHLETE ERICA LUND with Joanne Noble, of the Etobicoke Sports Hall of Fame, after she was selected Athlete of the Month.

multi-sport athlete competing in basketball and rhythmic gymnastics. She also enjoys other sports recreationally, such as skiing, biking

and swimming. Erica is presently attending Michael Power. She plays on the Etobicoke Stingers Basketball Team and has for several years. You could have seen Erica and the rest of the Stingers organization showcase their talent at their annual tournament held at Michael Power last April 13. Coincidentally, the team is a

volunteer organization driven by Etobicoke Sports Hall of Fame (ESHOF) Special O's ambassador parents, Kathy and Greg Flager. Erica has also for many years participated in rhythmic gymnastics with the Silhouettes Rhythmic Gymnastics Team. She has attended Ontario-wide competitions, specifically in the Level One Ball discipline.

Over the last 10-years, Erica has learned to ski. She has developed into a confident skier who can negotiate blue runs with enthusiasm. This is an incredible accomplishment for Erica given the fact that at six months of age, doctors could not confidently answer the question, "Will she ever walk"?

Erica also loves to swim. She has taken many swimming lessons and will spend hours in the pool or lake, especially with her dad, David. Erica has a three-wheel adult trike which allows her to be the pace-bunny for her mom, Heather while she is out running. Erica also enjoys battling it out with her three brothers; Harry, Mitchell and Charlie, who have introduced her to numerous driveway sports.

"You can certainly see that Erica is a very determined young woman. I admire her tenacity, enthusiasm and love of sport" says Joanne Noble, President of the Etobicoke Sports Hall of Fame.

The Athlete of the Month is sponsored by The Etobicoke Sports Hall of Fame, Humber College, Canadian Tire-The Queensway, and The Etobicoke Guardian. Promoting, Supporting and Developing Sport in Etobicoke.

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