The South Etobicoke News



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Number 15

Buy local. Live local.

personal information on the

He says many residents do not re-

to police because 'it is embarrass-

ing for them.' Chan is warning se-

use and be wary of opening emails

niors or women to turn off their phone location devices when not in

port the scams or money defrauded

Police tips to avoid being scammed online

By TOM GODFREY

Toronto Police are warning seniors and other community residents to be wary of fraudsters who try to scam them out of their money through fake calls on the phone, by email or suspicious websites.

Members of a Cyber Crime Unit gave some useful tips to prevent fraud to more than 200 residents

on January 23 at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic School, on Montgomery Rd.

Seniors and the elderly, are often preyed upon by hustlers and the meeting was organized by the 22 Division Community Police Liaison Committee (CPLC), volunteers who work with officers on local policing issues. "If a deal sounds too good to be true, it probably is," warns Det. Alpha Chan. "People should know that the



TORONTO POLICE DET. ALPHA CHAN (left) with Supt. Neil Corrigan addressing more than 200 area residents with tips to avert online scams presented by the Cyber Crime Unit at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic School. **South Etobicoke News photos.**

Canadian Border Services, Revenue Canada or the RCMP will never contact you by telephone."

He says telephone conmen try to express urgency in their calls and often demand money or private information.

"These people use high-pressure tactics when they call and people should hang up the phone if in doubt," Chan says. "Never give out your card, PIN numbers or

or websites which appear suspicious.
"People should always use a well-

phone."

known respected company to make online purchases,' he says. "Some unknown websites or emails can contain viruses that will affect your computer when opened."

Councillor Stephen Holyday says many residents now have cameras and online home security devices that should have proper Internet connections and 'strong' passwords to prevent thieves from accessing their homes. Call police at 416-808-2200 if in doubt.

Zellers had 350 stores in Canada in heyday!

A rise and fall of Canadiana with Zellers now gone

A large amount of history and Canadiana has been lost with the closure last month of the last two Zellers stores in Canada; including one right here at the Kipling Queensway Mall.

The Etobicoke Zellers was shut last January 26 which led to dozens of employees losing their jobs.

Customers at the Zellers at the Kipling Queensway Mall were stunned to find the 90,000 square-foot store totally empty with no goods or shelves.

"We will miss this store," one saddened woman said. "My entire family shopped here for generations." Over the years, Zellers found a place in the hearts of many Canadians. A teddy bear named







COMMUNITY MEMBERS MAKE THEIR FINAL purchases and say goodbye to Zellers, and staff, at the Queensway Kipling Mall, one of the last of some 350 Zellers stores that once thrived in Canada. **South Etobicoke News photos**.

'Zeddy' was used as a mascot to advertise the toy selection and most featured a children's Ferris wheel-type ride that played carnival music.

The store had catchy sales slogans, including "Where the lowest price is the law!" from the late 1980s and 90s, before "Truly Canadian" followed with

"Better and Better" and "Everything from A to Z."

The chain also featured in its advertising animated commercials starring Batman and Robin, The Joker, Penguin, Catwoman and The Riddler.

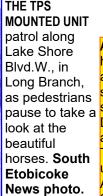
Zellers had been the mall's anchor store, along with Sobey's, for decades. A num-

ber of high-rise condos are slated to occupy some of the huge parking area along with a major highway off-ramp. The Zellers chain was owned by the Hudson's Bay Company, who in 2011 sold the leases of 189 Zellers to Target and closed the rest except for those in Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal. Zellers was founded by Walter P. Zeller in London, Ontario, in 1931. By 1976, Zellers thrived with sales in excess of \$400 million annually and had even acquired a discount chain store. The company was acquired by HBC in 1978. At its peak in 1999, Zellers had 350 stores across Canada. By 2006 the Zellers chain had dropped to 291 stores and suffered losses of \$107 million.





OFFICERS OF THE TPS MOUNTED UNIT patrol along Lake Shore Blvd.W., in Long Branch, as pedestrians look at the beautiful horses. South **Etobicoke** News photo.



Man sought for prowling area

AN ALLEGED PROWLER is still at large after targeting the same home three times in the Bloor St. W., and Prince Edward Drive area, police say. Officers from 22 Division were called on three separate occasions after area residents identified a man who is sought in a prowl by night investigation.

Detectives said the suspect (right) was seen between January 2 and 5 lurking behind homes in the area.

The suspect is described as between 20 to 30-years-old and unshaven. He was wearing a black jacket with a blue hood. Anyone with information is asked to contact police at 416-808-2200 or Crime Stoppers anonymously at 416-222-TIPS (8477).





THE OWNER OF A NEW TORONTO PIZZERIA is displaying security camera photos (above) of a suspect whom he alleges stole a tip jar twice from his front counter.

Black and white photos show various shots of a man with a jar which is taped to the large front window of Calabrese Pizza, at 3019 Lake Shore Blvd.

Owner Joe Birek claims that the suspect twice in the last year stole his tip jar, which he estimates contained more than \$100. The most recent theft was in December.

He says the jar, which at one time was tied to his counter, has been stolen four times by thieves in the last couple years. In most cases the crooks break the glass on the door or window to gain entry.

"This is the second time for this guy," Birek says, pointing to the W., to take part in a city-wide traffic initiative poster. "I hope someone can recognize him."

He called police to notify them of the theft but says he was told by an officer to file a report online.

Birek posted the photos because he is frustrated and in need of Neil Corrigan and Insp. Tim Crone, will help to keep his family and business safe.

Police say online reporting can be made for some crimes. Any- forcement from each primary response plaone with information is asked to call police at 416-808-2200.

22 Division officers take part in city-wide traffic initiative to target bad driving and distractions



CITY TRAFFIC INITIATIVE - Officers of 22 Division Sgt. Lhawang Jongdong (rear) and that runs from February to May 2020. The initiative that was brought forward by Supt. have one officer dedicated to traffic enPolice say the deployment will use data to identify problem areas and units will be hitting the streets at specific times. The initiative will target aggressive driving and speeding and is part of the Mayor's "Vision Zero" program, to eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries. Officers will also take time to educate drivers on the rules of the road in addition to enforcement. Photo by Tom Godfrey.



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Former MP Red Kelly represented the area from 1962-1965

Maple Leafs icon Red Kelly was our area MP for two terms

By TOM GODFREY



FORMER MP AND
HOCKEY ICON Red Kelly
(above) and with two of
his eight prized Stanley
Cups (centre). Public
Archives photos.

It will be almost 60-years since beloved Toronto Maple Leafs player-turned-coach Leonard Patrick "Red" Kelly represented our area as a Member of Parliament while at the same time playing centre for the Stanley Cup winning Leafs.

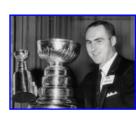
Kelly, who is named 'One of the Greatest 100 NHL players,' was a player for 20-years in the National Hockey League (NHL) and coached for 10-years after. He won eight Stanley Cups; including four with the Maple Leafs; the last one being in

Many residents remember him

as a smooth skater, who scored 281 goals and 542 assists in regular season play. He won the Lady Byng Trophy

four times, is a member of the Hockey Hall of Fame, Ontario Sports Hall of Fame and was bestowed an Order of Canada medal.

The hard-working Kelly was also a Liberal MP for the riding of York West from 1962 to 1965, which at the time included Mimico, New Toronto and Long Branch.



"He was a politician that you could always talk to," recalls Ruthmary James, of Alderwood, who met and obtained an autograph photo of Kelly as a girl. "His door was always open and you could talk to him." Kelly was elected to the House

of Commons in the 1962 federal election in which the Liberals was led by Lester B. Pearson. He was re-elected to York West in the following election by beating Progressive Conservative rival, future NHL agent, Alan Eagleson.

The hockey hero did not seek re-election in 1965, but left politics having grown tired of commuting back and forth to Ottawa while playing hockey at night.

"That was a tremendous experience," he said of being an MP for the area. "I enjoyed those years. But it was tough doing both things. I thought I had one foot in the grave."

He returned to coach the Maple Leafs in 1973 and stayed for four seasons but the team never made it to the finals and he was fired in 1976 after 30years in the NHL.



ALDERWOOD RESIDENT Ruthmary James with a signed photo of MP Red Kelly she obtained as a child. South Etobicoke News

At the height of his popularity with the Maple Leafs, Kelly says he signed 400 autographs a week from fans.

He passed away in May 2019 at the age of 91 and is better known for his exploits on the ice than in politics.

Fire Station 435 on Eighth St. turns 91

Local firefighters and residents are proud of the distinguished history of Fire Station 435 at 130 Eighth Street which was built in 1929 and will be turning 91-years-old this year. Dubbed 'R435: The Lone Wolf,' the station was part of the New Toronto Fire Dept., (NTFD) which served Mimico and



TWO FIRE TRUCKS FROM EARLIER
TIMES that were used by firefighters
from Station 435 in its 91-years on
Eighth Street. City Archives



Long Branch, before it was absorbed by the Etobicoke Fire Dept. (EFD) in 1967 and later Toronto Fire Services under amalgamation in 1998. The first volunteer fire brigade was organized in the area around 1914, according to records, which described the equipment as "rudimentary' and consisted of 'two lengthy pieces of hose, a wheelbarrow and axes

lengthy pieces of hose, a wheelbarrow and axes placed at Fourth and Twenty Second Streets.' A hand-drawn hose cart was later obtained to make life a little easier for the volunteer firemen.

It wasn't until 1918 that

The Lone Wolf obtained its first motorized apparatus; a pumper built on a McLaughlin-Buick

Built in 1929, the two-bay fire hall and living quarters is pretty much the same today. The facility was manned by two paid fire

fighters of a then 24-man strong EFD. It originally housed both the New Toronto municipal offices and volunteer fire department.

With the area undergoing rapid industrial growth during WW11, the NTFD became the first in Etobicoke to purchase an aerial truck, an American LaFrance 85' mid-mount with a steel ladder that



FIRE STATION 435 was built in 1929 to service the growing area.

was delivered in 1954. Proud firefighters bragged about their state-of-the-art truck that could pump 850 gallons per minute at a raging blaze. The station would handle about 200 calls yearly. By the 1950s the department had expanded to 26 paid men and by 1965 the use of volunteers was discontinued. New Toronto amalgamated with neighbouring municipalities in 1967 to form the Borough of Etobicoke. The NTFD was no more and redesignated Etobicoke Fire Department Station 9. Perhaps their busiest night on record was in 1954 when Hurricane Hazel struck killing dozens of people, including five volunteer fire fighters from the Kingsway-Lambton station. Dozens of residents were rescued along the Lakeshore that night, including several that had been swept into the Etobicoke Creek. The station was re-numbered Station 435 in 1998 with amalgamation. Fire fighter Jon Lasiuk recalled their new patch says, the "Lone Wolf" remains "On Shore Patrol, protecting the south-west corner of Toronto."



SATURDAY FEBRUARY 15 IS NATIONAL FLAG OF CANADA DAY - Our proud red Maple Leaf was commemorated on February 15, 1965 and flag day is observed annually nationwide, thanks to many area residents, including Chris Korwin-Kuczynski and the Lakeshore Village BIA, who helped to collect thousands of signatures for a petition calling for the approval by Parliament of the historic day. Photo by Tom Godfrey.

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Popular 'bong king' retiring to B.C. sailboat



THE KING OF BONGS, GERALD KEALEY, with his pet dog, is retiring soon to a sailboat in B.C. South Etobicoke News photo.

One of the first marijuana accessory store in the city is shutting its doors in New Toronto after 14-years of business. Gerald Kearey, owner of Petite Amsterdam, at 2781 Lake Shore Blvd. W., is

giving up his title as the 'king of bongs,' and retiring in a couple months to a 31foot sailboat in Nanaimo, B.C.

"This has been a really great area for me," Kearey says. "I like the area but I always wanted to retire and live on a boat."

From Alberta, he discovered the Lake Shore while studying at the University of Toronto, where he earned four degrees, including ones for mastering Chinese and learning to speak Mandarin; Master of Business and Bachelor of Law.

"I worked as a lawyer helping immigrants and refugees for a number of years," Kearey recalls. "I liked the job but it wasn't for me." He withdrew funds from his credit card to buy supplies to start Petite Amsterdam around 2006 and has since obtained a legion of loyal customers. Along the way he was married, got divorced and worked for years helping aboriginal children for Health Canada.

Kearey, 60, has most of his stock on sale and will be gone when the shelves are

"Right now everything has to go," he insists. "I expect to be gone by April since everything is for sale."

Customers are sad to see the 'bong man' leave since he has sold top quality goods to generations of Lake Shore residents. Kearey feels vindicated with the legalization of marijuana, and the emergence of three weed-accessory stores in the community.

"I was one of the first bong and accessory stores in the westend," he boasts. "I was one of the pioneers in the field." Kearey remembers the days when undercover officers frequented his store looking to lay marijuana-related charges, which never occurred.



beloved sailboat tackling Lake Ontario.

"It seems like the penalties are harsher today than they were before," he says. One sad customer says he been shopping at Petite for about six years and the store is one of his popular hangouts.

Beloved Ford family matriarch Diane was active with charities and kept sons in line



FORD FAMILY MATRIARCH Diane was busy with charity work. Courtesy photos.

Hundreds of area residents braved bad weather to pay tribute to Diane Ford, the matriarch of the Ford family political dynasty, who kept the well-known family in line. Diane was wellloved in the community and was always there to volunteer. She has helped doz-

groups over the years with her support and resources.

ens of charitable

She and her family loved Etobicoke and its diverse resi-

Diane, who was described by her Premier son Doug as the family's 'guiding light,' passed away on January 5, at the age of 85. She had been battling cancer.

"I can tell you that she was so happy to help anyone," Doug said. "Thank you for everything you've done for us. Look after dad and Rob."

Doug told mourners at the Toronto Congress Centre that his mom was a matriarch who instilled in family members the principles of giving back to the community.

The family spawned four politicians; who included her husband, Doug Sr., who served as an MPP; the late Mayor Rob Ford, Premier Doug Ford and City Councillor Michael

She was a strong force in 2016 when Rob was diagnosed with a rare and aggressive cancer. Diane was at his side



MOM DIANE IN HAPPIER TIMES with sons Premier Doug Ford and the late Mayor Rob Ford.

day and night until he passed in March that year.

gathering place for family and political events; including a number of Ford Nation and Ford Fest barbeques. Family members boast the backyard has hosted more than 200,000 Ford fans over the last decade.

Among those attending the service were Mayor John Tory, Ontario Lt.-Gov. Elizabeth Dowdeswell, former Premier Mike Harris and other dignitaries.

Win CBD loot box!



One lucky reader stands to win this beautiful box of CBD health items being offered by the by the folks at Cloudheads. It will make a thoughtful gift for someone on Valentine's Day. Be the tenth (10th) reader to drop us an email at thesouthetobicokenews@gmail.com and win this lovely gift box that contains wellness The Ford family home over the years became a well-known items, including organic CBD tea bags for detoxifying, gourmet dog treats, a CBD therapeutic foot soak and vegan soap. It is valued at \$90.

> Cloudheads is at 3341 Lake Shore Blvd. W., and can be reached by phone at 647-245-4438 or at cloudheads2019@gmail.com The winner of last month's GLB prize pack is on Page 6.

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We live in the community and cover local news, amateur sports, business and civic life while honouring those who gave so much of themselves so we can have the lives we enjoy today.

Please feel free to drop us a line if you would like to advertise your business or leave any comments, tips or news of upcoming events and we will tell the community.

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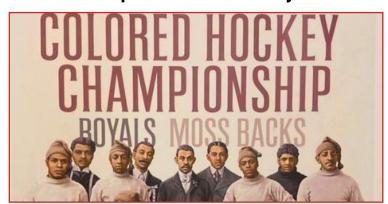


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Black History Month Canada Post stamp & community events



BLACK HOCKEY TEAM on Canada Post Black History Month 2020 stamp. Courtesy photo.

101 Portland St., is also staging

Emma Asiedu-Akrofi, the Cen-

Celebration and Fundraiser will

take place on February 22 at the

Assembly Hall, 1 Colonel Samu-

A Black History Month Cultural

Celebration also takes place on

February 1 - 3 at the Etobicoke

Civic Centre, 399 The West

Mall. Deputy Mayor Stephen

Holyday will speak at the event.

The City of Toronto is staging a

Black History photo display and

events for the public. The City

last month marked Martin Lu-

ther King Jr. Day with events

King Jr., was gunned down in

Memphis on April 4, 1968.

A finale will be held February

29 at Cloverdale Mall.

and speeches.

annual Black History Month

el Smith Park Dr.

tre's Executive Director, says the

a forum to mark the event.

February is Black History Month and there are a number of interesting events taking place in the community to commemorate the annual event.

The St. Margaret Church, New Toronto, is hosting a forum on February 9 to mark the occasion. The forum is called 'From Harriet Tubman to Black Panther; Afro-Futurism and Prophetic Imagination' and takes place from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the 156 Sixth Street church.

The speakers include Carol B. Duncan, of the Dept. of Religion and Culture, of Wilfred Laurier University.

Gideon Strauss, the Academic Dean and Associate Professor of Worldview Studies, at the Institute for Christian Studies, will also be addressing residents. The Jean Augustine Centre for Young Women's Empowerment,

Youth & Climate



AREA YOUTHS fighting to stop climate change.

Climate change is one of the main concerns for the hearts and minds of our youth today.

A Youth Climate Collective is underway to give youth in the community a chance to have their voices heard and their creative ideas realized.

The Collective, which was organized by Lakeshore Arts, meet every Tuesday from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Lakeshore Arts' Community Project Space, 2422 Lake Shore Blvd. W. They work under the guidance of a climate change expert and visual arts facilitator.

"One of the main focuses of this collective will be to cultivate the bright ideas and innovative action plans that the area youth have to offer," organizers say. They say through the planning, creating and executing of these ideas, 'our youth can bring about powerful and engaging climate change awareness movements and initiatives.'

The goal of the collective is to empower and engage youth, foster critical thinking about climate change, gain leadership skills and volunteer hours and learn about careers in green technology.

The ten-week semester began January 14th. For more information contact Matt O'Connor at communityprograms@lakeshorearts.ca

lucky readers ...



CONGRATULATIONS TO JAMES AND KIT ROHR, who were the 10th persons to send us an e-mail in our South Etobicoke News drop-a-line prize contest to cop a beautiful loot box filled with Great Lakes Brewery tasty craft beer and other items; including a hat, T-shirt, mugs and other cool stuff. "We enjoy your paper and this is our favourite beer," says James. The independently-owned and operated brewery, Great Lakes celebrated 30 years in the craft beer business in 2017, making them one of the oldest craft breweries in Ontario. Located at 30 Queen Elizabeth Blvd., GLB invites the community to visit their brewery for a taste of award-winning beers in their bustling taproom and retail store 7 days a week. Or visit them out at www.greatlakesbeer.com



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New homes for Birmingham St.



ARTIST DRAWINGS (TOP & BOTTOM) OF WHAT a new townhome development at 225 Birmingham St., will look like. **Courtesy photos.**

Pre-construction work is underway for the building of more than 200 three-storey townhomes at a former plastic factory site at 225 Birmingham St., in New Toronto.

The Lake & Town development by Menkes will feature 210 stacked townhouses, a two-storey non-residential building, park and roadway, which was approved by Etobicoke Community Council last December for Birmingham St., between Islington and Kipling Aves.

As part of the deal, the City said the owner will provide a \$3 million cash contribution to relocate a historic cenotaph that stands outside the former Eighth Street Legion Hall, to nearby Colonel Samuel Smith Park, at Lake Shore Blvd. W., and Kipling Ave.

The builder will also make improvements to the Franklin Horner Community Centre and other parks in Ward 3.

"The application proposes a 2,700 square metre park along the east property line that would front onto a new Twelfth Street extension," according to a City of Toronto Report for Action^{*} from last November. The park would have frontage on three public streets and create a buffer from the residential units. The report states that Twelfth Street will be extended to Birmingham St. "which would improve connectivity." And a new east-west private road is also planned.

"Two of the 11-stacked townhouse blocks and the proposed non-residential building would front Birmingham St., two blocks would front the new Twelfth Street extension," the report says.



The Landscape Plan proposes 19 new trees within the City's road allowance and 103 trees on private property.

Menkes in its advertising says Lake & Town will provide 'the best of a small lakeside town lifestyle right in the heart of the big city.'

"The charming town-like atmosphere of Lake Shore Blvd., is right at your doorstep," according to an online sales pitch.

The two-hectare site for decades produced Pliofilm, a clear plastic food wrap that was once part of the Goodyear product line. Huntsman Holdings Corporation purchased the line in 1991 and continued making food wrap until 2000, when it was sold to Pliant Corp., which was purchased by Berry Plastics Corp. in 2010, until being shut in 2015.

Local hospitals get cash from Ontario Govt. to help with repair & upgrades

The Queensway Health Centre has received \$400,000 from the Ontario government to invest in critical upgrades and repairs, officials say.

MPP Christine Hogarth, who represents Etobicoke-Lakeshore, made the announcement in late January saying the funds will help ensure a safe and comfortable environment for patients to receive care.

"Our government has a concrete plan to end Hallway Health Care in Ontario," Hogarth says. The funding "will ensure Trillium Health Partners can continue to provide high quality care" to area residents.

Michelle DiEmanuele, the President and CEO of Trillium Health Partners, says the funds will be used to update a nurse call system to improve patient safety, complete roof repairs and modernize some of their elevators. "We are grateful for the government's ongoing partnership and support," DiEmanuele says. "Delivering safe, high quality care to patients is our top priority."

Ontario is investing \$175 million to upgrade and modernize 131 hospitals across the province.

Of that sum, Trillium will receive \$4,672,219, Credit Valley Hospital \$3.3 million and Mississauga Hospital \$975,000.



OFFICIALS OF THE NEW TORONTO BRANCH Of the Toronto Public Library, including Branch Head Anna Carmela Manna (left), with staffer Maureen Johnson (middle), and an area resident, look at some of the items from a time capsule that was opened after 25-years. A new capsule is being put in place under the Steam Whistle Train Bell. **Photo by Tom Godfrey.**





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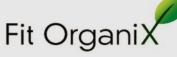


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Reviews by Wayne Gibson

V's Schnitzel House

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MOM V (right) AND DAUGHTER CHRISTINA are the second and third generations of women to run V's Schnitzel House (right). South Etobicoke News

The cold, dark days of winter seem ideal for solid home-style Eastern European fare, and, in this mom and daughter category, V's Schnitzel House in Alderwood totally delivers. As soon as you hear the wooden mallet pounding the schnitzel - to help tenderize the meat - you know you will be having a most gratifying stick-toyour-ribs lunch or dinner.

I prefer the basic pork schnitzel but there are other varieties, some

made with chicken, fish, or beef; available either in a tasty sandwich bun starting at \$9, or as a full meal with potatoes and a



salad starting at \$16.

Other standards include Beef Goulash and Cheese Perogies

along with a couple of daily made-in-house soup offerings: these soups, with some hardy bread, are a satisfying meal in themselves, and all for the amazing low price of \$6. All desserts offered are also made in-house and include crepes, brownies, and apple berry

The room itself is cozy with tables of light wood that are ideal for small groups. Something you don't see much anymore--but do here--are fresh flowers on every table, regardless of the season!

V's is fully licensed with good choices in beer and wine available, again at very reasonable prices. My go-to drink here, as an ideal accompaniment, is a pilsner-styled beer called Golden Pheasant from the Slovak Republic. The restaurant is run by the third generation of women. The business was started by V's grandmother. So, shake off your mid-winter blahs and get down to V's for a hardy meal: you won't be disappointed!

Trius+Aim Bistro 270 Brown's Line, 647-351-2700



CO-OWNER AND EXECUTIVE CHEF DANIEL ANSU OF Trius+Aim Bistro (right) with bartender Emma offer a unique dining experience. South **Etobicoke News photos.**

"Memorable restaurants need memorable names" and Trius+Aim Bistro on Brown's Line in Alderwood 'checks both items' in that statement!

Chef Daniel Ansu, with 15 years of highend restaurant experience, delivers a unique dining experience in this hidden gem in South Etobicoke.

Quality ingredients and unique flavours, some inspired by Daniel's place of birth, Ghana, mean a delightful dining experience, for either lunch, dinner, or weekend brunch.

This bistro's interior is warm and inviting, designed in a 'faux-rustic' comfortable

Prices are very reasonable considering the quality of the meals: for lunch, tacos are sold individually for \$6, which is always

nice to control the number you wish to

On Taco Thursday's, if you buy two, the third is free, my favourite is the jerk chicken taco. Jerk chicken also appears as a Main - Yaa Mon Jerk - which is a chicken kebab dish.

Lots of vegetarian choices too, including the 'Pharaoh Plate' and 'Mia's Pomodoro', are on offer, along with five mouth-watering salads: try the 'Sunshine

Bowl', with kale, quinoa, spiced chickpeas and six other ingredients.



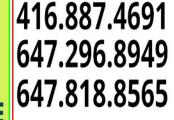
Brunch offers

everything from the traditional "Quiche Lorraine" to a dish named "Super Hero," which includes 'raw West African peanut butter'.

This unique Alderwood bistro offers incredibly interesting and inspired dishes and, importantly, everything works! Fully licenced, including quality draft from South Etobicoke's Great Lakes' brewery. The commercial strip along Brown's Line is now home to some very exciting restaurants and Trius+Aim is amongst the best!













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Changes The South Etobicoke News February 2020 9

Health and Wellness

By ADRIANNE SZABO-PAYNE

Looking after your heart this month and always is best for you and your loved ones. February is Heart Month, so beyond the champagne and chocolates, it is the perfect opportunity to think about the different ways you can improve your heart health. Having personally lost friends and family members to cardiac arrest in the last two years, I have seriously started looking at heart disease with greater intensity. My own father suffered a fatal heart attack and was gone in seconds, so it warrants great attention. So what's the best approach to assessing your current condition and then setting yourself up for success? Talk to your doctor, get tests done to establish a base-line of your current health and identify any issues.

Listen to your heart beyond the stethoscope. Ask yourself, do you get winded easily? How's your sleep quality? How's your emotional state? Do you feel lethargic? Are you often feeling angry; or full of anxiety, fear, or sadness?

Keep in mind that your liver and kidneys play a key role in heart health through blood pressure and cholesterol regulation. The emotions you are feeling are telling you about the state of your major organs so learn from them and build awareness for how you currently feel. This will also help you notice changes as you go along your journey to making improvements.

Review your current eating and exercise habits. A diet high in fibre and healthy fats will help to regulate things like blood sugar and cholesterol, and break down arterial plaque. Incorporating an exercise program into your weekly routine can also greatly improve your heart's health.

Many fitness and medical professionals will recommend 30-minutes daily of moderate to intense activity to improve the heart's defences against heart attack and stroke. If you're new to exercise, head to your local gym, meet with a trainer and get some guidance on the types of different exercises you can do to protect and condition your heart.

And finally, find something in your life that brings you joy. Happiness is key to a healthy heart.

Adrianne Szabo-Payne, is owner of Monkey Tree Fitness & Wellness, 800 Islington Ave., Suites 5-6, Phone 416-233-3400. Visit monkeytreewellness.com. Adrianne is a certified Holistic Nutrition and Wellness Practitioner who left the corporate world to pursue her passion for helping others find their path to wellness.



Money Matters

By RATTAN GANDHI

Debt is something which one incurs when your spending is higher than your earnings. Now there is good debt and bad debt. Good debt can be classified as a leverage to earn money in the near to short term future. Examples of good debt include; a mortgage to provide a home for you and your family, or an auto loan to provide transportation which will help provide a livelihood. Bad debt is uncontrolled consumerism or spending, which is disproportionate to ones earnings. We are all experiencing a financial hangover from Christmas gift-giving season and the credit card bills have come in. It can be stressful to a person or family who are barely meeting their monthly obligations. In such circumstances, the need for immediate satisfaction and gratification means an increase in debt, which will be a long-term problem and source of stress. This is the type of debt that you want to avoid.

How does one get out of debt? It requires a personal reflection and understanding of the behaviours that led to the accumulation of debt and find ways to stop or eliminate those habits. Let's look at Christmas spending; is it things that could have been avoided?

Technology has made it easier for sellers and buyers to connect, and used goods markets are something I encourage consumers to take advantage of. To save on your entertainment bill you can consider removing your TV cable packages and replacing them with high speed Internet and streaming services. While the difference in monthly expense maybe nominal, you will reduce your exposure to the inundation of commercials and advertisements. Decreasing spending isn't the only strategy for reducing debt, increasing income or looking for supplementary income is something that needs to be considered. Working overtime, getting a second job, starting a personal side business, or even selling old stuff you have lying around; all are viable options to help relieve debt.

Ask yourself the right questions to see why you are overspending, and formulate strategy to reduce your spending or increase your income. Let's get bad debt free in 2020 and get one step closer to reaching your personal financial goals.

Rattan Gandhi is owner of Quick Refund Tax, 133 Sixth St. His opinions stems from 15-years of experience in the tax field. If you have any questions, he can be reached at 905-616-5253 or rattangandhi@gmail.com

The hard-working Pelech family helped to build the Motel Strip long before dozens of condo high-rises took over

By WAYNE GIBSON

in secret rendezvous.



THE PARENTS OF RETIRED DENTIST Dr. Walter Pelech owned two motels on the former Motel Strip before the onset of high-rise condos. **Photo by Tom Godfrey.**

A drive along Lakeshore Blvd. W., from Parklawn Rd. to the Humber River is now famous for the many high-rise glass condos that line the route. But 60-years-ago a 'shorter-term' style of accommodation occupied this small lakefront strip; the classic drivein motels of the 1950s and '60s. Many had water-related names like The Cruise, The Beach and The Seahorse given that they were located on Lake Ontario. For the most part they appealed to tourists, with a big draw being the CNE. As with motels everywhere, rooms were also sometimes rented hourly to couples interested

For Alex and Annie Pelech, a couple who fled war-ravaged Eastern Europe for Toronto, a vacant lot beside an old house represented an ideal location for them to build a business and raise their sons, Walter and Joe. Walter Pelech, now a retired dentist, who lives at Harbourfront, recalls the determination of his hard-working parents to construct two motels and run them as busi-

His dad named them the Toronto Motel, and the Transcanada Motel: according to Walter, his father wanted to use "recognizable Canadian names" as a tribute to the city and country that took the family in, and which gave him the opportunity to start a business.

nesses.

The Toronto Motel was first, completed in the early-50's: it was up and running as the Transcanada was still being built. Tragically just as the Transcanada was completed in 1955, Alex passed away after suffering a heart attack.

Annie was now left alone to raise her two young sons and run two motels: realizing this difficult task, she sold the Transcanada to the Seahorse next door.

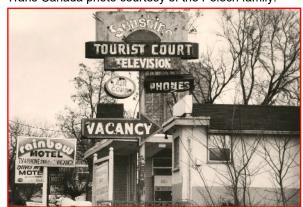
Hard-work and long hours were now the order of the day as Annie and her sons ran the Toronto Motel while living in a house on the property.

Walter recalls his mother's dedication to keeping the business afloat: unable to contract-out any of the cleaning or laundry. Annie did most of the work herself.

Walter and Joe would shovel snow from the large lot and paint both inside and exterior of the motel on a regular basis. The Toronto Motel was sold in 1972 as Annie could not afford a new roof.



THE FAMED TRANS CANADA MOTEL (top) was one of two owned by the Pelech family along the former Motel Strip (bottom) in which the establishments vied for attention. Trans Canada photo courtesy of the Pelech family.



As you pass by those gleaming new condos, give a thought to this once vibrant, colourful motel strip and the many entrepreneurs who built it.

Fun and exciting things to do as we start this year

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. There is also a hot lunch program from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

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.

FEBRUARY 1-3 BLACK HISTORY MONTH cultural celebration with speaker Deputy Mayor Stephen Holyday at the Etobicoke Civic Centre. Grand finale on February 29 from 10 a.m.-4 p..m. at Cloverdale Mall. Call 647-328-7669.

FEBRUARY 2 BLACK HISTORY MONTH ROLL CALL marking the history and contribution of African Canadians, with The Toronto Children's Concert Choir and Performing Arts Company, at St. Margaret's Church, 156 Sixth Street, at 3:30 p.m. Tickets required. For more info call 416-259-2659 or 416-939-1702.

FEBRUARY 5, 12, 19 & 26 FOOD WITH FRIENDS a new social program every Wednesday at noon. There are board games, bingo, Pictionary and family feud, at the Franklin Horner Community Centre, 432 Horner Ave. Call 416-252-6822.

FEBRUARY 7 ZUMBA TIME GET READY to groove at your own pace at the Franklin Horner Community Centre, 432 Horner Ave. Classes cost \$50 for 10 sessions that take place Fridays from 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Call to register at 416-252-6822 or visit www.franklinhorner.org

FEBRUARY 8 HISTORIC TAVERN MEAL from the 1840s featuring peppermint shrub cocktail, freshly baked bread, hardy meat and potatoes prepared from early Victorian recipes at Montgomery's Inn Museum,

4709 Dundas St. W., from 6:30 p.m.- 9:30 p.m. Tickets \$35. Call 416-394-8113.

FEBRUARY 9 BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION at St. Margaret's Church, 156 Sixth Street, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m, from Harriet Tubman to the Black Panthers, Afrofuturism and Prophetic imagination. For more info call 416-259-2659.

FEBRUARY 10 ETOBICOKE CAMERA CLUB presents a mini-educational evening that is useful for all photographers. Themed competition. Free event which takes place at Humber Valley United Church, 76 Anglesey Blvd., from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Contact www.etobicokecameraclub.org

FEBRUARY 13 COMMUNITY KITCHEN join LAMP dietician and students from Humber College Food and Nutrition program to make easy and affordable recipes at Daily Bread, 191 New Toronto St., from 5 p.m.-7 p.m. on Thursdays to April 2. Call 416-252-9701 ext. 239 or email sandrav@lampchc.org

FEBRUARY 14 VALENTINES' FUNDRAISER with Toronto All Star Big Band and Famous People Players with a sumptuous gala dinner and performance. Funds to help Famous People Players. Come for a 'Rockin' Good Time.' Doors open at 6 p.m. For more info call 416-532-1137.

MONDAY NIGHTS - FEB, 3, 10, 17 & 24 LAKESHORE OUT OF THE COLD provides a hot meal and emergency overnight shelter to people who are homeless or hungry, at St. Margaret's Church, 156 Sixth St., 630 p.m. Volunteers prepare dinner plus bag lunch. To volunteer contact Cara at 416-255-5224.

FEBRUARY 15 WOMEN'S SPA DAY Let us pamper you for an afternoon of wine and canape's, nails, hair, facials, massage, reflexology or reiki, at the Franklin Horner Community Centre, 432 Horner Ave. Registration required. Call 416-252-6822 or email franklinhorner.rosa@gmail.com

UNTIL FEBRUARY 18 CHAIR YOGA for those living with chronic pain or high stress. Improve your flexibility, strength and balance every Monday from 2 p.m.-

3:30 p.m., at Barsa Kelly Cari Can Housing Cooperative, Common Room, Floor R, 1 Coin St. To register call 416-252-9701 ext. 239.

february 21 Free Community Monthly Hot Dinner for pay what-you-can home-cooked meal at St. Margaret's Church, New Toronto,156 Sixth St., at 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Volunteers and sponsors needed. For more information call 416-259-2659.

FEBRUARY 22 BLACK HISTORY MONTH forum and fundraiser by the Jean Augustine Centre for Young Women's Empowerment at the Assembly Hall, 1 Colonel Samuel Smith Park Dr. For more information call 416-253-9797 or e-mail info@jeanaugustinecentre.ca.

FEBRUARY 22 COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR fundraiser and 2, 5 or 10-km winter walk-a-thon held by Haven on the Queensway, 1533 The Queensway, and people in 136 cities in support of the hungry, homeless and hurting. To get involved call 416-640-2005 or email info@havenontheq.com

FEBRUARY 28 OSTEOARTHRITIS OF THE HAND a free workshop for those who suffer from osteoarthritis. You will learn strategies to reduce symptoms and manage pain, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., at LAMP, 185 Fifth Street. Contact 416-979-7228 ext. 3381. FEBRUARY 28 FREE MEMORY SCREENING by the Toronto Memory Program for those who have problems remembering words, names or

Toronto Memory Program for those who have problems remembering words, names or appointments, from 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., at LAMP Community Health Centre, 185 Fifth St.. Call 416-386-9761 ext. 347.

FEBRUARY 25 FUNDRAISING PANCAKE SUPPER for St. Margaret's Church, 156 Sixth St., from 5 p.m.-7 p.m. Small fee.& open to all. Call 416-259-2659.

CHILDREN's BOOK CENTRE FOR FREE new and slightly used kids books available to parents, guardians and children to encourage your child's learning. Books, food bank and other services available at Haven on the Queensway, 1533 The Queensway. Contact

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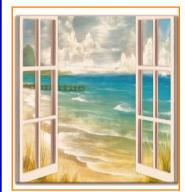
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Sports The South Etobicoke News February 2020 11

Top soccer stars aid kids Some Leafs who were born or lived in the community and not forgotten



A top Chilean soccer star who also played for the Canadian Soccer League is using his skills to help young players in Alderwood CARLOS Rival Jr. succeed in the sport. Carlos Rivas Godoy, or

Carlos Jr., was a midfielder in the Chilean Primera Division, Primer B de Chile, before moving back to Canada.

The player was also a member of the Canada U20 Men's National Soccer Team, who made two appearances in friendly tournaments, one with Jamaica in 2004. He played world-wide in tournaments prior to a professional career.

His father Carlos Rivas, was one of the best midfielders to come out of South America and is still remembered for his outstanding play when Chile qualified for the 1982 World Cup finals.

Today, Carlos Jr. and his dad, operate the highly successful Carlos Rivas Soccer Club. They love teaching skills of the game at their school and have launched the Alderwood Soccer Association, which runs programs for youngsters at the Franklin Horner Community Centre. One of their success story is Atiba Hutchinson who played for the Shooters and went on to represent Canada and was Canada's Player of the Year in 2010 and 2012. The club can be reached at www.crsoccer.ca



By REJEAN CANTLON

South Etobicoke has seen

our share of Maple Leafs



are Brendan

who serves as the president and alternate governor for the Toronto Maple Leafs and David Bolland, an ex-Leaf, who scored the Stanley Cup-winning goal for the Chicago Blackhawks in 2013.

Both Mimico natives, Trail-blazing Borje Salming became the first European player to gain star status in the NHL when he joined the Leafs in 1973 and remained for

16 seasons. Salming called Robert St., now Wheatfield Rd., home before moving to High Park. Robert St., was also home for the Leafs as their



FORMER MAPLE LEAFS Shanahan, Salming (centre) and Duff.

equipment manager (1977-92), Danny "Smokey" Lemelin also lived there. Dave Clarkson, a South Etobicoke native and a more recent Leaf, who was signed by the Leafs as a free agent in 2013, lived in Mimico.

Mike Pelyk, who was drafted by the Leafs in 1964 and played in the NHL until 1978, lived on Algoma St., and goaltender, James Reimer, who was drafted by

the Leafs in 2006 and now playing for the Carolina Hurricanes, is said to have lived near Cool Brewery on Evans Ave. Former Leaf forward, Claude Loiselle played who 13

seasons in the NHL lived at Humber Bay Shores. Scott McKay, of Alderwood, served as the Leafs' equipment manager from 1994 to 2006.

The legendary **Dick Duff**, of Long Branch, winner of 6 Stanley Cups, two with Toronto and four with Montreal, is often spotted at Christ the King Church, at Lake Shore Blvd. W., and Thirty Seventh Street. He scored the winning goal in the 1962 Stanley Cup final with a pass from Tim Horton. Our sources are locals at: Dakota's Sports Bar & Grill, Flower Drum Restaurant, Sloppy Joe's Bar & Grill, Wingporium Sports Bar, Timothy's Pub and O'Shea's Irish Snug.

Baby Peanut Lacrosse

The Mimico Minor Lacrosse Club introduced the Baby Peanut program in 2018 to provide 3 and 4-year-olds with the opportunity to learn lacrosse for free, courtesy of donations from Suboch Law and proceeds from the community's efforts in the recycling and diversion of e-waste. These donations

allowed Mimico Lacrosse to introduce 175 kids to lacrosse in the last two years with absolutely no cost to the parents. Players registered are outfitted head-to-toe in double-blue complete with a Mimico Mountaineers jersey and their iconic striped shorts. "The success of the Baby Peanut program would not have been possible without the club's partnership with Suboch Law," says Colleen Grimes, the club's v-p. The club has introduced a new program Mini Mountaineers which is also free and open to girls under the age of seven. For more information, visit www.mimicolacrosse.com.

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