

Web: www.torontonewswire.com *Email:* thesouthetobicokenews@gmail.com

Number 18

Buy local. Live local.

Good deeds by residents as we take cover

By TOM GODFREY

This food pantry may be a sign of the

The good deeds of members of our community are shining proudly as those in self-isolation try to help their neighbours in these challenging times as we fight COVID-19.

posting online countless ways to help

others whether it is making masks, PPEs, collecting and distributing food or helping out as a volunteer. "It is amazing to see our communities come together so much," says Sabrina Viva, of New Toronto. Her family added a small pantry outside their home to help feed neighbours or those in the community who are hungry. "Please help yourself if you need anything immediately and if you have more than enough at home feel free to add some items to the pantry," Viva writes.









COPING IN COVID-19 TIMES as Toronto Police thank healthcare workers as two colleagues hold each other in despair. Some considerate residents left a filled pantry for others in Residents are stepping up to the plate by need as some take to the streets with flags thank frontline staff.

The Sixth Street pantry is well-used with area residents taking food and refilling at the same time Long-time resident Daniel Lauzon, of Food for Now, is driving around the city distributing food and water to

Daniel is seeking prepared and individually-wrapped food, like sandwiches, fruit cups, apple sauce, bottled water, granola or protein bars. Call him if you have any

Jean Augustine Centre for Girls shut by virus

items of food to donate at 416-333-6763 and he will do a porch pick-up. And the folks at Oxygen Bike Company

have offered to refurbish up to five kids' bikes and pass them along to local families in the area.

Oxygen will tune the bikes up, replace tires, seats and brakes if needed up to a value of \$100 per bike, which are for 6 to 10-year-olds.

Oxygen will work with local organiza-

tions such as schools, churches and food banks to find suitable children for the bicycles.

There are many other kind citizens who are taking orders from the elderly or neighbours as they make a run to area grocery, beer or liquor stores.

How about a number of volunteer drivers who stepped up to help deliver contact-free food for small restaurants, who are barely hanging on. And, small stores like Black Dog Rescue who are giving away free pet food because "no pets should be going hungry."

Raising funds to help girls' centre hit by COVID-19

Young girls in the community will suffer the most.

A badly-needed program to educate and empower young girls has shut its doors after falling victim to COVID-

A GoFundMe page has been launched to raise funds for the Jean Augustine Centre for Young Women's Empowerment after 95% of its funding was lost due to financial setbacks suffered by a major donor as a result of the pandemic, officials say.

"I am so distressed about our situation at the Centre," Augustine says. "I have had to let all staff go and ceased the online programs. "

Centre Executive Director Emma Asiedu-Akrofi says it is a tough time for the staff and students involved. "The or-



the homeless.





FORMER MP JEAN AUGUSTINE is hoping to raise enough funds on GoFundMe to relaunch a centre named after her that has helped empower hundreds of young women since 2014.

ganization is being faced with the gutwrenching decision to close its doors," Asiedu-Akrofi says. "Help us keep the Centre open to provide the necessary and essential services to girls and young women during COVID-19 and beyond." The Portland St., centre was founded by former MP Augustine in 2014 to help girls between 7-17-years-old with afterschool programs, workshops, life skills,

academics and leadership skills. It also offered public speaking, resume building, tutor training, and courses in the sciences and technology.

"As a result of the impact of COVID-19, we have unfortunately lost our primary source of funding," Asiedu-Akrofi told residents on April 17. "Programs are being suspended immediately as we make necessary adjustments."

The popular Centre has been a pillar of strength in the community in helping to educate and empower more than 200 girls, young women and families in the last six years, she wrote.

Augustine, a former teacher and high school principal, was the first African-Canadian woman elected to the House of Commons. She was elected in the riding of Etobicoke-Lakeshore in 1993 and sat in Parliament until 2006. She served as the Fairness Commissioner for the Government of Ontario advocating for Canadians with foreign credentials.

"My kids loved it there," says a parent. Donations to 'Help Save the Jean Augustine Centre' can be made to

gofundme.com or jeanaugustinecentre.ca More than \$14,000 of its \$100,000 goal has been raised.





2 FISH & CHIPS + 2 BEERS **\$35**







Love our heroes at St. Joseph's







The South Etobicoke News

THEY ARE OUR MODERN DAY HEROES: Dozens of appreciative Toronto police officers left) from across the city showed up in a flashing caravan of vehicles to show their support for frontline healthcare workers at west-end and other city facilities.

The caravan, led by Chief Mark Saunders, ncluding officers of 11 and 22 Divisions, paid a social distancing visit to St. Joseph's Health Centre and some seniors' homes in

Many frail patients looked out from the hos ital at a cavalry of flashing emergency ights from the police vehicles that rolled in rom The Queensway. Many of the officers ourst out into song, applause and cheered the hard-working health workers.

The gesture sparked a warm feeling for the medical workers that their work is appreciated by the community, whose esidents are thankful for their sacrifice. St. loseph's has a long and proud tradition of city's west-end for nearly a century. The nospital was founded in 1921 by the Sisters of St. Joseph to care for those in need. oday it serves nearly 500,000 people. **TPS Twitter photos**

Cheers to Ardie and Les





HAPPY BIRTHDAYS TO CANADIAN ARMED FORCES vets Ardie (right) and Les. Toronto Police from 22 Division, firefighters and Alderwood residents lined up outside the homes of the two veterans ast month to bring them birthday greetings. A spry Ardwell Eyres, of Gair Dr., turned 96 while about a block away his neighbour Les Baldock, of

Friends had posted their birthdays on Facebook and asked residents to stop outside, or drive by, their serving the diverse and growing needs of the homes to wave and wish them long lives with many more years to come. Each smiling vet was serenaded with happy birthday, as a violinist played; then there was a loud hi-hip hooray and they were presented a senior's calendar about fire safety as well as a poppy, thanking them for their service. We wish them both

Search launched for missing **Connur parrot named Cash**



for more than a month.





COVID-19 Hotlines:

Toronto Public Health Hotline Telephone: 416-338-7600 Email: publichealth@toronto.ca

Telehealth Ontario Telephone: 1-866-797-0000 Visit: Ontario.ca

Public Health Agency of Canada 1-833-784-4397 Phac.info.aspc@canada.ca

Area residents are scouring the area." parks and vicinity trying to help a Mimico bird lover find her pet The saddened owner believes parrot which has been missing

The name of the male bird is Cash and he is described as a Connur cinnamon parrot. He was last seen about March 20, according to a post on pawboost.com, a site which helps reunite lost pets with their

"The bird is green, yellow, orange with short hair and no medical issues," according to Cash's owner. "It was last seen in the

Evans Ave. and Royal York Rd.

Cash is out there scared and hid-

"Please do not chase, call or whistle as this may cause them to run in fear and into danger," according to a Lost Bird in Toronto poster.

A number of area residents have been searching for Cash and posting the results of their POLICE ARE SEARCHING for a gunman holes showing. search on a website.

For more info email Cash's owner at

Mshelena123@gmail.com.

Seniors warned of a cash & dash roofing scheme

long lives. Photos from social media.





Delma Dr., turned 97.



SUSPECTS sought by police for a roofing scam. Toronto Police photos.

Seniors and other homeowners are being warned of roofing scams as the warm weather approaches. Toronto Police fraud investigators are hot on the trail of a group of people who they claim are defrauding residents in a cash-and-dash roofing scheme.

Police allege that between January and February residences were approached by a group of five men and a woman who claimed to be roofers and City inspectors. They advised residents their roof needed to be repaired or the City of Toronto will condemn their property, according to detectives.

Police say group members were given a deposit and began work. They claimed the roof required additional work and they needed more funds to finish the job. Officers of 12 Division in a release allege the crooks obtain as much money as they can from homeowners and usually take off leaving the roof exposed or with

The company names used were PROfix Roofing and T-CITY Property Maintenance, according to police, adding they were driving a red Ford F150 pickup truck, with Ontario license plate of BB10569.

You can contact police at 416-808-1200.



who opened fire on three parked cars on Mitcham Dr. in Alderwood, leaving a trail of damage. Call 416-808-2200 if you have info. Facebook photo.





Conveniently located across from Sherway Gardens Mall at the Walmart Shopping Centre

416.620.0808 info@nqdental.com 165 North Queen St Etobicoke, ON www.nqdental.com

Happily taking Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) patients



RIDLEY FUNERAL HOME, 3080 Lake Shore Blvd. W.

Call 416-259-3705 or visit us at www.ridleyfuneralhome.com

Mimico's last Mayor Hugh Griggs served from 1960-1967

Mimico's last Mayor Hugh Griggs was ahead of his time

By TOM GODFREY



HUGH Griggs

Mimico's last Mayor Hugh Griggs was probably the most colourful of those who served the Town of Mimico before it was absorbed with New Toronto and Long Branch to form the Borough of Etobicoke in 1967.

Griggs was way ahead of his time when he served the community from 1960 to 1967, during which he promised "to give the town a sane, dignified administration."

Under his tenure, a number of high-rise apartments were constructed along the waterfront and the population of Mimico ballooned to 17,700 souls, who were "crowded into an area one-square-mile in size."

The former school teacher and editor of the *Canadian School Journal* made headlines by pushing for Metro Toronto to obtain from the U.K., a newly-invented hovercraft to transport Mimico and other west-end residents



The South Etobicoke News

downtown in a 15minute trip on Lake Ontario several times daily.

The tireless politician made a presentation to Metro Roads and Traf-

fic Committee in 1961 urging for a committee to be formed to study the form of transportation, which saw use in Britain in 1962.

Some councillors laughed at the "flying saucer" proposal calling it nonsense.

"It is easy to operate, runs forward, backwards, sideways, turns on a dime," Griggs argued. "It can hover like a helicopter, move forward at near-aircraft speeds. And if its motors fail, it will float like a boat."

A hovercraft was brought to Montreal in 1963 for two weeks of demonstrations to determine if it can be safely used in Canada. Griggs and other city councillors were among the 600 supporters who witnessed the tests on St. Lawrence River.

Then TTC head H.E. Pettett also took the test ride and wondered if the \$1.35 million vehicle was worth it even

though it could carry 150 passengers at a speed of 130-kilometres an hour. No orders were placed. Griggs touted the use of hovercraft for many years. He argued against the construction of a subway in 1963 claiming the City



GRIGGS FOUGHT LONG and hard to convince City Council to purchase a hovercraft, similar to one in the middle, to ferry Mimico residents downtown. **File photos**.

could purchase 15 hovercraft for every 1.6-kms of subway built. Eventually hovercraft passenger service arrived on Lake Ontario in 1974 with the *Toryoung II* and *Toryoung II*, which ferried 14,000 passengers between Toronto and Youngstown, New York. It was halted when the *Toryoung II* hit a buoy and nearly sank. Smaller versions of the vessel are used by Canadian police, fire and coast guard for rescue work.

-With files by Kevin Plummer

Socialite Pearl Horner came from prominent family and was well known as an opera singer who loved the community



SOCIALITE Pearl Horner

Alderwood songstress Pearl Horner in her heyday was a popular opera singer and socialite who came from a prominent farming family.

Pearl was the daughter of Daniel Fisher Horner, a farmer whom Horner Ave. was named after, and whose grandfather settled a 350-acre farm bounded to the north by Evans Ave., Brown's Line to the west, south to Horner Ave. and east by Kipling Ave.

Daniel in 1856 invented and patented the first "butter print," a device to mould butter, featur-

ing a raised Horner emblem on the top. The patent was passed on to granddaughter Pearl.

The Horners' had one son, Franklin, and six daughters who included Ethel, who was a graduate of the Toronto Bible College and an ordained Anglican deaconess.

Franklin was active in local politics, community and church affairs, according to *The Aldernews*, which was published by the Etobicoke Historical Society. The Franklin Horner Community Centre is named after him.

He had two children, Goldwyn, who died at an early age, and daughter Pearl, who lived at the family's 183 Beta St. homestead called "Ashfield," until it was sold in 1960.

Pearl loved "Ashfield," which is described as a 'copy of an old English manor.'



PEARL'S BELOVED Ashfield home

She was a well-known personality in 1921 having gained fame as a "renowned singer and socialite," who was a mezzo-soprano with the prominent Toronto Mendelsohn Choir.

The choir is one of Canada's

oldest, largest and best-known choral ensembles. It was founded in 1894 by Augustus Vogt and presented its first concert at Massey Hall in 1895.

"She (Pearl) graciously entertained her fellow parishioners of the Church

of the Atonement at Ashfield," wrote historian Katherine Williams. She threw large parties for her

friends and



PEARL AT BACKYARD PARTY with church friends. Etobicoke Historical Society photos

neighbours. Pearl, like her dad, was interested in the church and community activities. She loved the arts and was called 'a respected art patron.' Franklin was a member of the original Mimico Lacrosse Team, who worked the farm from 1920 until his death. The property was sold in 1942 and subdivided. The Horner family has long been affiliated with the Church of the Atonement, on Sheldon Ave., and Pearl took part in a sod-turning ceremony of an addition of the church in 1953.



SIGN OF THE TIMES as workers with a sense of pride placed a custom-sized mask on this bull standing outside Royal York Meat Market at 392 Royal York Rd. The mask has become a symbol in support and in solidarity of our hardworking frontline health care workers and emergency personnel battling COVID-19. Photo by Ian Robertson.

What's Inside

Sunnyside Amusement Park .. Page 4

Celebrating our volunteers ... Page 5

Big changes for Mimico ... Page

- Great area take-out food ... Page 8

- Things to do & keep busy ... Page 10

RIP Mimicombo Joe ... Page 11



Serving Our Community Since 1980

COVID-19 NOTICE:

JobStart is taking precautions to ensure the safety, health and well-being of our community. We continue to offer services virtually while our offices are temporarily closed

Visit our website to check out our new Virtual Workshop Calendar www.jobstart.org

Please contact us at 416-231-2295 or at info@jobstart.org

Delivering Dynamic Career and Settlement Programs & Services

41 Chauncey Ave. (416) 231-2295 TTY: 711 2930 Lake Shore Blvd. W. (Lake Shore & Islington)







219 Dufferin Street, 1C www.jobstart.org info@jobstart.org

E.J. Guiste Professional Corporation

Trial & Appeal Lawyer

Affordable and Effective Legal Representation in Employment, Wills, Human Rights, Professional Discipline and Criminal Law

***Free Consultation and Affordable Fees ***

2 County Court Blvd., Suite 494, Brampton, Ontario, L6W 3W8



Phone 416-364-8908 or ejguiste@yahoo.com

Golden Era of Sunnyside Amusement park



THE DIVING HORSE was a top attraction.

The boardwalk at Sunnyside Amusement Park was packed at its opening in 1922, as Toronto residents swam in Lake Ontario, and dove into a new swimming pool, called the tank.

Called 'the poor man's Riviera,' Sunnyside was this City's most popular bathing and amusement spot from 1922 until 1955, when it was shut down due to the motor car.

The park was a carnival from the May 24 weekend until Labour Day, with crowds of people strolling the boardwalk or enjoying the many amusement rides while chowing down on oily fast foods; similar to what the CNE is today.

Sunnyside was approved by City Council in 1912 and built at a cost of \$19-million. Construction work stopped briefly in 1914 due to World War 1. The iconic Bathing Pavilion was designed to hold 7,700 bathers and had a roof garden where 400 guests could sip drinks. Popular features were the amusement park, concession stands, dance pavilion, and an open-air theatre the Band Stand. The annual Easter Parade took place on the boardwalk, along with The Miss Toronto beauty contests and women's softball games. Fans also packed the Palais Royale dance hall which attracted famous big bands as Duke Ellington, Count

Basie, Paul Whiteman and the Dorsey Brothers. Thousands of people descended on the park to visit the beach or concession stands; which rented beach chairs, boats, or sold root beer, popcorn and hot dogs. There was also a drug store, guessyour-weight scales, high-powered telescopes, souvenir stands, a delicatessen, sight-seeing services and a shoe-shine shop.

People loved rides such as the Whip, Aero Swing, Dodgem, the Frolic and a merry-go-round. The games of chance included: Monkey Racer, Coney Racer, Kentucky Derby, Torpedo Race, Balloon Race and Figure 8. Families would leave home early to catch the dog races, diving horses, fireworks displays and burning of old sailing vessels to attract crowds.



SUNNYSIDE WITH ITS GRAND BOARDWALK was the City's most popular destination for decades. City of Toronto Archives.

But in the late-1940s and early-1950s, automobiles became more affordable and families began travelling up north to escape the summer heat.

The City ordered Sunnyside demolished and by late 1956, the park that generations had loved, became a fond memory. -With files by Mike Filey

Daily Bread Food Bank busy and in need of donations for recently laid off workers



STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS (right) of the Daily Bread Food Bank are busier than ever due to COVID-19. Daily Bread Food Bank photos.

Food Bank workers are busy these days helping those who were recently laid off.

Daily Bread Food Bank volunteers say their users have spiked due to thousands of Toronto residents recently laid off, or who've lost their jobs, due to COVID-19.

Daily Bread officials say there has been a sharp rise in the use of food banks and a diminished capacity to deliver food since one in three food banks have shut down because they are operated from community spaces that were mandated to close, or run by seniors who are deemed high risk.

That leaves people on social assistance fewer options to access food, forcing them to travel further and ultimately put themselves, and those around them, at a higher risk of

"Food banks are being stretched to a breaking point," says a Daily Bread release. "We are seeing growth in a new

group of food bank clients and that is the thousands of recently unemployed." Daily Bread and more than 130 organizations have sent an open letter calli ng for the Ontario government to support low-income

individuals during COVID-19 by increasing social assistance rates and stopping the claw-back of federal benefits. Daily Bread's Talia Bronstein says food bank use is a barometer of poverty, and food bank use has risen sharply as a result of COVID-19.

The agency says there has been a 53% jump in visits in the past few weeks to the Daily Bread's on-site food bank on New Toronto St.

"We are trying to meet the everyday food needs of lowincome Ontarians, rather than act as what we were set up to auditorium. do, provide short-term food relief to tide people over when Today, Loblaw Companies Limited, a subsidiary of they faced an unexpected economic shock," food bank offi- George Weston Limited, is the largest Canadian food cials say.

Daily Bread provides food support to about 66 food banks and 135 member agencies. They also provide homemade meals to agencies that operate shelters or drop-in programs, The grocery chain was founded by Theodore, who which feeds up to 5,000 people weekly across the city. Residents are being urged to order goods online for drop off at the Daily Bread Food Bank, or make donations online at dailybread.ca

PHARMASAVE



MIMICO NATIVE THEODORE LOBLAW started Canada's largest food chain almost 100-years ago.

It is 92-years ago that Loblaw Groceteria opened its New Toronto store on Lake Shore Blvd. W., between Fifth and Sixth Streets.

The firm was established in 1919 and quickly became a hit due to the unheard of concept of self-shopping, self-serve and cash and carry. The New Toronto store was opened in 1928, at a time when there were already 70 stores in Ontario.

The company had its head office and warehouse at Bathurst and Fleet Sts., which at the time had electric trams, giant ovens and employee bowling lanes and

retailer in 22 markets with some 2,000 stores and 135,000 employees. The company owns No Frills with 200 stores and the Shoppers Drug Mart chain with 1,300 stores nationwide.

moved to Toronto in 1890 and settled in Mimico. He and wife Isabella Adam, built a large estate home on the Lakeshore in Mimico and named it Bonnyview. She died in 1930 and the house was sold

LIVE WELL WITH **PHARMASAV**



For friendly and courteous service. NO appointments

Lakeside Pharmasave Pharmacy

2438 Lake Shore Blvd. W. (at Primrose Ave.)

Phone 416-252-2999

Email: lakesidepharmacy 1@yahoo.ca - Soroush Nejati -Pharmacist/Pharmacy Manager

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

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 ives we enjoy today.

Please feel free to drop us a line if you would like to advertise your business or eave any comments, tips or news of upcoming events and we will tell the community. Send us your E-mail address to receive your copy every month.

Publisher: Tom Godfrey

Community Journalists: Wayne Gibson, Bob Summers

Sports: Rejean Cantlon Circulation: Stuart King

REACH US AT 647-739-2235 Email: thesouthetobicokenews@gmail.com

Web: www.torontonewswire.com

We print 15,000 copies monthly and send out 900 plus by email to readers. Copies of the South Etobicoke News available at: Tim Hortons, Beer Stores, Starbucks. Walmart, Canadian Tire, Sherway Mall, Ducky's Roti, 3296 Lake Shore Blvd. W., Browns Line Donuts, 744 Browns Line, Lakeside Pharmasave, 2438 Lake Shore Blvd. W., Our Walk In Closet, 625 The Queensway, Royal Bank, 3609 Lake Shore Blvd. W., Sobeys, No Frills and others.

Celebrating our vo



VOLUNTEER RITA NG RAISED 500-pounds of food and \$500 for the Daily Bread Food Bank. Courtesy photo.

Let's hear it for the hard-working volunteers. National Volunteer Week ran from April 19 to 25 and the community applauds the efforts of Rita Ng, who took it upon herself and the challenges of COVID-19 to raise funds and food for the Daily Bread Food Bank, an agency near to her heart.

"My mom relied on food banks to feed my brother and me," recalls Rita. "I am grateful to be in a position where I can give back to vulnerable families in my community."

In short time, she set up an online fundraiser through the Daily Bread's website and reached out to her family and friends for dona-

Rita worked hard and managed to raise \$5,000 and 500-pounds of food during her first week of helping the food bank.

"It is incredible what you can achieve when you unite together to accomplish a goal," she says. "I also learned that it is okay to be vulnerable." Rita says she once relied on food banks herself and was fortunate now to have a home and food on the table. She thought about those who would be hit hardest by COVID-19 and knew she had to do something. teer Week rec-

The South Etobicoke News

ognizes the work of Rita and thousands of volun-

teers from coast to coast

who contribute long

hours to help others in these trying times. "Volunteers from all over the city have stepped up to

support our work and ensure that those in need can continue to ac-

cess food during this critical time," the Daily Bread says, adding their officials have made changes to their foodsorting and packing pro-



National Volun- making lunches for others. Photos by Jasmin Dooh.

cesses due to social distancing guidelines and have reduced the number ea condo towers. of volunteers who can be



ROTARY CLUB of Etobicoke dropping off lunches for a LAMP adult drop in program.

in the warehouse. "One thing has remained the same: the love and care our volunteers bring every single time, and for that, we are so grateful," they wrote.

Community making noise to honor frontline workers



Making noise in support of our healthcare workers.

South Etobicoke residents are joining others in banging pots and making noise in a show of support for our stressed-out frontline healthcare and emergency workers battling

COVID-19.

Humber Bay Shores resident Shawn Griffiths is reminding everyone of a 'Shake the Shores' event that takes place every Sat-

urday from the balconies of Lake Shore Blvd. W. and Parklawn Rd. ar-

Griffiths say the next 'Lets turn it up noisemaker is on Saturday May 9, from 7:30 p.m. to 7:45 p.m., for those in quarantine of self-isolation to ring bells, sing and make noise from their balconies to support our nurses, doctors and other emergency workers. "We are trying to help flatten the curve," he says. "This Saturday will be amazing if we get the same level of make noise. File photo. participation."



NEVER TOO YOUNG to

We saw a lot of people on their balconies cheering, dancing and singing along despite technical difficulties, Griffiths says. VOLUNTEERS LYNDA RYDER AND PAUL OF THE Other balcony events are planned for May 16, 23 and every Saturday during the quarantine. For more see shaketheshores.com. Similar noise-making events are also taking place nightly in Long Branch at 7:30 p.m., in which residents are asked to step out to their porches to 'bang a pot, cheer or sing a song' to thank our front-line workers battling COVID-19.

> Contact Bill Zufelt, of the Long Branch Neighbourhood Association, for further information at longbranchnato@gmail.com There are reports of residents belting out the Canadian anthem at 12 noon and every morning in the Long Branch area. If you want your noise-making event promoted send us a line to thesouthetobicokenews@gmail.com

Lakeshore Village BIA

We regret to inform you that our Annual Grilled Cheese Challenge which takes place in June has been postponed due to COVID-19 concerns

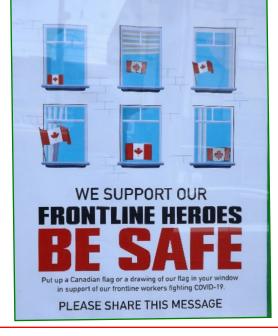


Proudly waving our flags in salute of our frontline healthcare heroes! Please be safe.





The Board of the Lakeshore Village BIA is working hard on your behalf in these trying times. We urge residents to check up on their neighbours, stay inside, wash their hands, keep their distance and follow other safety precautions due to COVID-19.



COVID-19 contacts:

Toronto Public Health Hotline

Telephone: 416-338-7600 E-mail: publichealth@toronto.ca

Telehealth Ontario

Telephone: 1-866-797-0000

Visit: Ontario.ca

Public Health Agency of Canada Telephone: 1-833-784-4397 phac.covid19.aspc@canada.ca

Community proudly flying our flags to show our loyal support for front-line health care workers



LAKESHORE VILLAGE BIA CHAIR Chris Korwin-Kuczynski and member Mike Lotakow are encouraging residents to proudly fly their Canadian flags in honour of hard-working frontline healthcare and emergency workers battling COVID-19. Many residents have taken to making noise or singing the national anthem to recognize the workers. Photo by Tom Godfrey.

Local singer Dante Matas making music his passion



DANTE Matas

Etobicoke's upand-coming artist Dante Matas loves music and began writing tunes on the piano at the age of eight. After forming his

first band at the Etobicoke School of the Arts as lead singer and guitarist, Dante realized music was his passion and a means to his creative expression. A multi-instrumentalist and producer, he has obtained a Master of Arts in Phi-

losophy and a penchant for poetry. Dante has combined his interests to create his own unique brand of indie-pop, folk, and experimental music. He is influenced by the likes of Radiohead, Tame Impala, Sufjan Stevens, Fleetwood Mac, The Beatles, and Leon-

ard Cohen among others.

Having released both "A Colourful Headache" LP in 2018 and "Midnight Sun" EP in 2017 and promoting them both with an east coast tour, Dante has been steadily putting out new singles to add to his musical repertoire.

His music has been used in commercials, public service announcements, popular YouTube channels and gets airplay on both Canadian and U.S. college radio.

Dante writes and records music, plays frequent shows with his band, and is constantly perfecting his craft. Dante's overall drive is to communi-

cate human emotion through music and lyrics in a way that resonates with a diverse audience.

He can be reached at dantematas.com

ucky readers ...



CONGRATULATIONS TO JANE DALMAS, who is the winner of the South Etobicoke News **drop-us-a-line** contest to score a wine making kit donated by Carson Majors, owner of Wine Kitz, at Six Points Plaza. "I am delighted," Jane says. "I have never won anything before." The long-time area resident loves the community and has many good friends who live here. A wine-lover she could not wait to dig into the lovely white wine' Pinot Grigio kit that can make four tasty litres of quality wine in just three weeks. It is valued at about \$30. Wine Kitz is located at 5230 Dundas St. W., and can be reached by phone at 416-233-8226 or winekitz.sixpoints@gmail.com We would like to thank the hundreds of readers who took part in our drop-us-aline contest to win a prize. We hope to continue with the feature when the situation improves. Thank you.



YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD PHARMACY

COVOD-19 SUPPLIES

Pickup & Delivery













FAMILY DOCTORS, WALK-IN & SPECIALISTS

DR.M. ALAM, DR. H.GOLDMAN, DR.J. SAKSON, DR. S. DYMENT DR. E.SHOWEHOIFER

NOW ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS

CLINIC & PHARMACY

880 Brown's Line Etobicoke Ontario M8W 3W2 At the intersection of Brown's Line & Evans Ave. - Beside Petro Canada Station

Parama Credit Union has a message for our Community.

This is a challenging time, but it's business as usual except for a few additional health and safety precautions:

- No more than 3 people in our branch at any time
- Mandatory Social Distancing
- Hand disinfection
- · Stay behind the plexiglass barriers
- Use a Ding-Free® ATM
- Use your bank card instead of cash when transacting purchases out in the community
- Reduced hours. Check www.parama.ca

There's so much banking you can do by phone, online or on your mobile device. We may ask you to return home if your banking can be

done by telephone.

Know this: your money is safe.

Your deposits are protected by the Financial Services Regulatory Authority of Ontario. Canada has one of the safest, best banking systems in the world.

Parama Credit Union and other members of the Canadian credit union system are weathering this from a position of strength.

We are actively helping our Members weather this too, because together we're stronger.



416.207.9239 (Kingsway Branch)

416.532.1149 (Roncesvalles Branch)

Heslop homes for working folks



DEVELOPER HESLOP was one of first to have a mobile phone,

work in construction.

Former gold prospector Rex Wesley Heslop didn't strike his fortune until he began building affordable housing developments in Alderwoood, Rexdale and Georgetown. Heslop, who died in 1973 at the age of 68,

was a top Etobicoke real estate developer, who was one of a few per-

sons to have a phone in his Cadillac back in the day before they gained widespread use.

The father of two worked within the family construction business before moving to Detroit, where for a time he drove a cab and worked as a car salesman.

He left 'Motor City' for Northern pector in the mines. He was injured in a rock slide and moved back to Toronto to

Toronto at the time was facing a major housing shortage with many veterans returning home after WW11.

Local historian Denise Harris wrote that around 1947-48, Heslop acquired land on the southeast corner of Foch St. and Horner Ave., across from Sir Adam Beck Public School, where he built three houses using a precast and concrete wall system which sold immediately.

A year later he purchased more land on the north side of Horner that was subdivided in large lots and L-shaped streets. The so-called 'army homes' were mostly identical to each other and were on streets with names of English locations like Chelsea Dr., Fulham Dr., Norfolk Dr., and a Heslop Dr., named after

The Alderwood development with 400 homes was a success and Heslop purchased more farm land in the area and repeated his home-building



HESLOP BECAME RICH BUILDING homes in Alderwood, Rexdale and Georgetown. People flocked to his affordable Ontario, where he worked as a pros- homes. Photos by Etobicoke Historical Society.

sales. Heslop by 1955 had purchased farmland in Thistletown, on which he built hundreds of homes. Soon, there were soon 330 families living in a development called 'Rexdale,' where Heslop opened the Rexdale Shopping Centre, now Rexdale Mall.

His homes were popular with working folks since they were well-built and affordable selling for up to \$10,000 then. They made Heslop a very rich man.

Heslop after building the Delrex subdivision in Georgetown, sold his interest in the firm and retired at the age of 61.

The changing face of Mimico as new high-rise condo projects take shape



ARTIST DRAWINGS OF WHAT the proposed On The Go Mimico condo may look like (top and right.) The application has to undergo reviews by the City.

The landscape is changing for the Mimico area with some huge condo developments on the horizon.

Work will once again continue at a construction pit which was to have been the highprofile On The GO Mimico condo that has been sitting idle for about three years.

The site has languishing since 2017 when the

327 Royal York Rd. proj-

ect was placed in court receivership after a developer ran out of money.

A rezoning application was submitted for the property and that of the GO Station at 315 Royal York Rd., last October by Vandyk Group of Companies which is hoping to build a 29 and 44-storey residential towers and commercial space with a reconstructed Mimico GO Station integrated into the podium.

Vandyk purchased the property in 2017 and is the largest landowner in the area with proposed high-density developments at 23 Buckingham Street and 39 Newcastle.

Metrolinx said in a 2018 deal that Vandyk would pay for the construction costs of a revamped Mimico GO Station in exchange for the air rights above the transit hub.

Mimico Station was built in 1967, the same year GO Transit began operation. It serves about 1,200 riders daily and ridership at the station is expected to triple by 2031.

Vandyk says the condo will feature 499 one-bedroom units, 121 two-bedroom units and 67 three-bedroom units for a total of 687 residences. There would be total 514 parking spaces for residential, visitor, office and retail users, with 103 of these spaces reserved for commuters.

Metrolinx has said a temporary station will be in place by 2023 while the new building is constructed. The rezoning application is currently being reviewed by the City.

Plans for another GO Station have also been given a green light for the former Christie Cookie site, which is in the planning stages. A similar upgrade is planned for the Long Branch GO station.





Home Renovations & **New Homes**



Home Additions



Full Service Design & **Interior Layouts**

Call for a free consultation today! Phone 416-524-7055

Visit us at www.amprobuilders.ca



DAILY DELIVERY CURBSIDE PICKUP CONTACT FREE GLUTEN FREE DAIRY FREE

732 BROWN'S LINE

ORDER @ FITORGANIX.COM





3296 Lakeshore Blvd. (West of Kipling Ave)

416-253-5858

More great take-out spots in our community



Reviews by Wayne Gibson

It has been a difficult for the small independent businesses, with many of them having had to shutter. Our many restaurants can only open for takeout or delivery. With this is mind, let's look at some local favourites who need your support so they can continue to open their doors.

Here are some of the top Take Out restaurants thriving in our community: Fish and Chips is very popular and is a reasonably priced takeout item: here are two

local favourites to consider.

VIKING FISH & CHIPS; 2416 Lakeshore Blvd. W., which, with friendly owners, recently moved to Mimico from their Queensway location, where they have been in business since 1952. They are best known for their wholesome halibut or haddock fish along with fresh cut

fries. A number of other options are now available. You can reach them at

416-259-2051 or www.vikingfishandchips.net

KITCHEN OFF SIXTH; 2976 Lakeshore Blvd. W.: is always a popular spot with an impressive and interesting menu; they are offering a Fish and Chip special with 2 beers for \$35. It looks sumptuous. In addition to the good food you can also order booze, since any venue that was licensed for table service is now able to sell

beer or wine for takeout and delivery. You can reach them at 647-349-4412 or www.kitchenonsixth.com Pizza is always a takeout and delivery favourite and thank goodness this area is blessed with many local independently owned pizza establishments that are all

quite good. Here are three to consider.

FBI PIZZA; 2336 Lakeshore

Blvd. W., features lots of exciting choices, but even their basic Margherita is a pizza 'work of art'. The food is good. Both beer and wine are available for either takeout or delivery. They can be reached at 416-251-0101 or www.fbipizza.com

CALABRESE PIZZA, 3019 Lake Shore Blvd. W., for one of the best 'thin crust' pizza in the area. All natural products, no corners cut. You will like it. Call for pick-up or delivery at 416-503-0999 or calabresepizza.ca



www.dinos-pizza.ca Burgers and fries are an all-time fave and it is back to the basics here with some classics.

APACHE BURGER, 5236 Dundas St.W., is a trip back down memory lane to the sixties with their classic fast-food

burgers and fries. An iconic burger-joint that opened in '69 and still going strong. Still a

favourite with the regulars. Definitely worth the trip. Phone them for pick-up at 416-233-3046.

WOODY'S, 3795 Lakeshore Blvd. W. is always a must have for many loyal fans. A Long Branch institution for fresh burgers

and great fries, no holds barred. A must try!

them at 416-546-2093 or www.woodysburgers.ca. **OBQ BURGERS**, at 602 Brown's Line, for their "mouthwatering burgers bursting with flavour." Try their Greek or Texas burgers, which are a must. Visit OBQ for a 'clean, honest' burger. Call for pickup or delivery at 416-253-0835 or obqburgers.com.



Girl Guides fundraising cookie sales on hold due to the COVID-19 virus



GIRL GUIDE LEADER LIZ CANRINUS with some of the dozens of boxes of popular cookies (right) they cannot sell due to COVID-19. Photo by Sonja Markez.

Alderwood student Maria Tobin has given away to neighbours some of her tasty Guild Guides of Canada cookies as girls in the 110-year-old organization have been stopped from selling them due to COVID-19

Maria left the boxes with a nice note in the mailboxes of appreciative residents in the Brown's Line and Horner Ave.

"I hope you are well and staying safe and healthy in this time," she wrote. "Please accept this complimentary box of Girl Guide cookies in the spirit of neighbourly solidarity."

Maria's says "my family is fortunate to be healthy, safe and together and for this we are grateful."

Her Girl Guide leader Liz Canrinus has more than 60 boxes of the popular cookies stored in her garage as she awaits for the situation to improve.

"We don't know what this means for our future funding as the cookie sales are the major source of fundraising for the group," wonders Maria's mom, Sonja. Jill Zelmanovits, Girl Guides of Canada Chief Executive Officer, says the safety of the girls and adult members are a number one priority

We do not expect to generate the same revenue from membership fees or cookies in the near term," Zelmanovits wrote on their website. "This has very serious implications which have forced us to make critical decisions to reduce ex-

penses to ensure our longterm sustainability."



She says 3.7 million boxes of 'classic' cookies were shipped out just before the deadly COVID-19 and physical distancing measures largely brought the country to a

Selling cookies is one of the largest yearly fundraiser for Girl Guides and once bakers are reimbursed for their product, profits are then kept by local units to plan events and help keep registration costs down.

The Girl Guides of Canada was formed in 1910, with the cookies being sold since 1927. The funds are used for activities like hiking and camping. Orders can be placed be emailing liz.canrinus@sympatico.ca



Is your financial plan, tax and risk efficient? If you are not sure, please language you prefer.

Soares Kourtis Investment Group **BMO Nesbitt Burns** 3022 Bloor St. West



Larry J. Kourtis, CPA, CMA



John Soares, CFP*, CIM® Investment Advisor 416-652-6281

BMO (A)



Private Wealth

BMO Private Wealth is a braind name for a business group consisting of Bank of Montreal and certain of its affiliates in providing Private wealth management products and services, and services are offered by all legal entities within BMO Private Wealth. Banking services are offered through Bank of Montreal, investment management, wealth planning, tax planning private planning services are offered through BANO Nestite busins from an BMO Private Investment Coursel fine. Estate, toust, and costodial services are offered through BANO Private Investment Coursel fine. Estate, toust, and costodial services are offered through BANO Trust Coursel, including an application of the services and products are offered through BANO Investment investor Protection fund and the Investment Industry Regulatory Organization of Canada. BANO Trust Company and BANO Bank of Montreal, used under license.

Members of CDIC. 30 Registered trademark of Bank of Montreal, used under license.

Health and Wellness

By ADRIANNE SZABO-PAYNE

Springtime, particularly May is one of my favourites times of the year, because it brings a promise of colourful flowers, fresh cut grass and the warm days of summer ahead.

This year, in this strange season we are living, being shuttered in our homes, hiding from this invisible menace, getting excited for spring may be tough for many who have to stay home while we wait this out. I struggle daily with keeping routine and finding ways to boost my spirits, because I easily get sucked into the what-ifs, and the feeling of when will this be over? But, as is for all seasons, there is an end

and this too shall pass. So this month, instead of giving into our

anger, sadness and anxiety, let's challenge ourselves to find the silver lining of each

Some helpful tips I recently picked up from a coaching program I follow suggests to: Keep a gratitude journal. Log the little things that make your day brighter, whether it's calling a friend to wish them a beautiful day; getting excited about the new bud you found growing on your orchid plant; or simply being able to share precious time with your loved ones, without the rush of daily life. There are a million things that bring us joy, so long as we look for it. Start your day with purpose and set a routine. Tonight, think about what your day will look like tomorrow. Set an alarm for 20-30 minutes earlier than you woke up

today and when it goes off, get up, wash your face, drink a big glass of water and take that extra 20-30 minutes to do some exercise to get your heart pumping. Take a shower and get dressed. Make a list of todos and make sure it's achievable. Check off your completed tasks. You'll finish your day feeling productive and satisfied. Set an intention for the day. This can be as simple as choosing to respond with kindness to something that irritates you; or making a point to stay away from your couch and keep the TV off until after din-

I know these tips are not new or revolutionary, but sometimes the reminder of them is helpful. And so, as we work through this month, look for the silver lining in every situation because of the gift it will yield in

Adrianne Szabo-Payne can be found at **Monkey Tree Fitness & Wellness located** at 800 Islington Ave. As a certified holistic nutrition and wellness practitioner, her passion for helping others find their path to wellness drives her to bring unique tools and methods for healing to her community. Connect with us @monkeytreefitness on Facebook or #monkeytreefitnesswellness on Instagram, or on our website at www.monkeytreewellness.com



Money Matters

By RATTAN GANDHI

www.torontonewswire.com

I normally discuss topics and strategies related to money matters and personal finances, but given the current pandemic emergency, this article will offer some points to consider during this unique climate. The effects of the pandemic are causing financial issues which most people are going to have to adjust too. Once again debt management will become even more imperative for both the long and short term. Many of us are receiving the Canada **Emergency Response Benefit** (CERB) or EI payments and know what cash flows to expect for the next few months. Make a soft budget and live within these means. Consolidate your debt! Interest rates are low and I believe that financial institutions have a duty and are trying to help during this crisis, take advantage. Saving and budgeting is the priority! Cook your meals and save money on food costs. Negotiate with your landlord and the mortgage company where possible, remember your landlord also has bills to pay so be reasonable.

Use this time to learn a new skill or enhance your knowledge for this changing world. Many colleges are offering extended online programs. This virus is going to change how we live, interact with family, friends and society. Since you are confined to your home, reach out and help the

needy, maybe your neighbour or even the food bank.

If you are overspending on luxuries which quickly lose value and utility in times of crisis, then you can avoid making similar purchases. The ordinary folks of this country will manage with less but the politicians at all levels, are continuing to draw their big salaries. They need to lead by example by giving back to communities that need assistance. The front-line workers, the truckers and delivery people, the sanitation and janitorial workers and others are putting themselves at risk to maintain our way of life. Let's be grateful and support in whatever way

Did you know that the mechanic who looks after our cars is paid more than the caretaker who looks after our elderly. We need to balance our priorities. Hyper-capitalism and consumerism has shifted our focus from the health and well-being of our citizens, to just the mass accumulation of stuff.

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

Maverick investor Mal Spooner has written two books about making money and loves riding his Harley chopper

By WAYNE GIBSON

SINGING INVESTOR MAL SPOONER is either rocking the investment stage or cruising on his Harley.

The Cambridge Dictionary defines a 'maverick' as "a person who thinks and acts in an independent way." While the investment community is notorious for displaying a lot of 'group-think,' Malvin Spooner, a long-time resident of South Etobicoke, has taken a very

different road indeed. Mal, as he usually goes by, has done it all

> in more than 30years, both as a Portfolio Manager and as the CEO of his own TSE-listed investment firm, Mavrix Fund Management, which had achieved over \$1 billion in assets under management. He had much media coverage along the way. Mal is also the author of two books on investing:

"Resources Rock," which anticipated the last commodities boom years ago, and the recent, more general work outlining his investment philosophy "A Maverick Investor's Guidebook." Being a Harley-Davidson enthusiast with many long rides across North America under his belt, he often

compares the skills needed in investing to those required also when biking. Another sideline: he had helped raise thousands of dollars for various charities, with



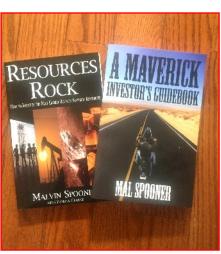
RAISING A LITTLE HELL is what the Financial Post says about Spooner, well known as a maverick investor.

his participation as a guitarist in a rock group known as The Dealers. Along with other bands, they engaged in friendly competition at events such as "Bay Street Rocks:" these were much anticipated and widelyattended events 20 years ago within the Toronto investment community, with all money raised going to various charities.

After the sale of his investment firm 10 years ago, Mal spent some time lecturing on topics such as corporate fi-

nance at the Humber Lakeshore Campus Business School. His most recent venture is the development of a new website: www.maverickinve stors.com Here, he is trying to, in his words, "...share my own decades of experience by providing a perspective not available to

anyone who hasn't been through market ups and downs". Given the current troubles with our economy now in shutdown mode because of COVID-19, Mal offers some solid advice on how to navigate the bumpy road ahead and offers some hope for a better future: "While we naturally want to run and hide when times are scary, scary times can create



SPOONER IS THE AUTHOR OF two books: Resources Rock and A Maverick Investor's Guidebook.

big opportunities." Mal says that his best investments were made by "rationally buying selected stocks during various world economic crises." So, for those wanting to tap into Mal's knowledge and experience gleaned over decades of 'trial by fire,' a look at both his website and his book is highly recommended.

Looking after yourself and others in the community

The South Etobicoke News

MAY 13 SPOTLIGHT ETOBICOKE LAUNCHES A LIVE online talent showcase with 13 performances from local Etobicoke entertainers from their homes. Tune in at 6 p.m. to their Facebook page for the streaming fun. The show is part of Arts Etobicoke's Arts in Isolation initiative. Contact john@artsetobicoke.com or 647-806-8731.

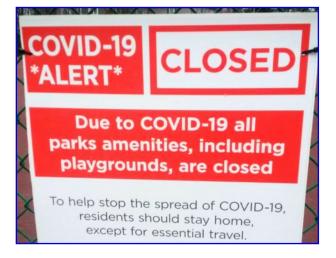
HAVEN ON THE QUEENSWAY HAS SHUT MOST of its programs and services due to COVID 19 but will continue to serve its food bank users by appointment and pick-up at their 1533 The Queensway office. Call 416-640-2005 to make arrangements to access the Haven food bank, First Care or other services still open.

LAMP COMMUNITY HEALTH IS GIVING AWAY

free food boxes and gift certificates for needy residents in the community. They are also giving out free lunch meal takeaway bags to residents five days a week. The LAMP office at 185 Fifth Street has cancelled all routine, non-essential visits due to the virus and changed clinic hours from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday until further notice. Some medications will require a visit and it will be up to a provider whether or not you will need an appointment for renewal. Please note that LAMP does not conduct tests for the coronavirus. There is a COVID-19 Assessment Centre in the Sunnyside Building, of St. Joe's Health Care Centre, at 30 The Queensway. Donations can be made to LAMP's COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund at lampchc.org/get-involved/donate/ or phone 416-252-6471.

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS FOR TAKE OUT food are helping to deliver meals to show their support for small mom-or-pop, or family run restaurants in Long Branch, Lakeshore Village and Mimico hurting due to COVID-19.

An online Volunteer Driver Take-out Delivery trial took place from April 10 to April 25 in which volunteer drivers, for a non-perishable food item donation, delivered meals from a number of eateries to homes utilizing '100% contactless delivery.'



The food is placed in a sealed package in the driver's trunk by a restaurant worker and retrieved by the person who placed the order on arrival. The person can leave a food donation in a bin in the trunk. Payments are processed over the phone by restaurants and the volunteers are not in contact with anyone. The restaurants say major food delivery services have apps that can charge up to 30% on orders which leaves them with a slim margin of profit. The program will look at expanding delivery service to more restaurants following an assessment. The service now includes food ordered from restaurants

rants including; Kitchen Off Sixth, Dakota's Sports Bar and Grill, Pulcinella Ristorante & Wine Bar and Mooring Eats. Website irover.com UNTIL MAY 24 MABELLE ARTS PRESENTS Virtual Iftar Nights an intercultural arts festival unfolding online during Ramadan. You can follow or participate at virtualiftarnights.ca. Features Hussein

Janmohamed, Christen Kong and Banafsheh Erfanian.

A COMMUNITY GROUP HAS LAUNCHED AN art initiative to help uplift our frontline heroes and remind us that we can defeat this virus. Check out their uplifting art, submit yours, and learn more at wefighttogether.ca

ACCEPTING DONATIONS TO HELP the homeless, including food, toiletries or camping equipment. In demand are prepared and individually-wrapped food (with no nuts), fruits and soft food as fruit cups, apple sauce, bottled water, granola & protein bars. Call Daniel Lauzon at 416-333-6763 or email incredibledad@hotmail.com

HUMBER BAY SHORES FARMERS' MARKET may be placed on hold since the City has stopped issuing permits due to COVID-19. Organizers are looking at elsewhere to stage the popular market, or a virtual market or to postpone. No decision has been made if the market will begin on May 30 as planned.

BLACK DOG RESCUE IS GIVING AWAY free dog food, treats, toys, crates and other supplies to those hit financially by COVID-19 in the GTA. A person should never have to choose between feeding themselves and their pets. Email info@blackdogrescue.ca to organize secure no contact pick up or drop off.

SOME IMPORTANT COMMUNITY FACEBOOK groups with a lot of good information for residents. They include: Humber Bay Shores Discussion group, I love Mimico, South Etobicoke Community Group, Lakeshore Village BIA, Long Branch Village and Beautiful Alderwood.

LIBERATING LAWNS ETOBICOKE LAKESHORE for residents who have space they aren't using which is offered to a local grower, and they make an agreement how to share the produce. No money every changes hands in the 'yard sharing,' instead the grower gives the landholder a portion of their produce in exchange to be able to grow in the space. The percent of food exchange is determined by the parties involved. The gardens can happen in many sunny spaces, not just in the ground, but on driveways or decks where food can be grown. The program is run by Sundance Harvest, a Toronto food justice program centred year-round on urban farming. Their produce is available weekly at the Dufferin Grove Farmers Market. Visit them at www.sundanceharvestfarm.com



Local Window Cleaning Residential & Commercial

Call Rohan

647-229-5241

rogoshuffle@hotmail.com

- Fully Insured
- Specializing in Condo Residents Personal Outdoor Space

Telephone 416-251-3303

info@drrobertberlin.com www.drrobertberlin.com

Dr. Robert Berlin

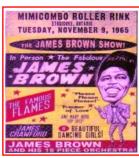
Dental Surgeon

2909 Lakeshore Blvd. West Toronto, Ontario M8V 1J3



Mimicombo Joe had fans

By TOM GODFREY



MANY PEOPLE WERE SAD by Joe's passing. He brought to the Mimicombo so many stars including James Brown (top) Byrds (right).

The popular owner of a Mimico roller skating rink who brought James Brown, The Byrds, Ronnie Hawkins, David Clayton Thomas and dozens of early bands to the community has passed.

Joseph 'Joe' Bobechki, long-time owner of The Mimicombo, died peacefully on April 18, at Rideaucrest Home, in Kingston, according to his obituary. Joe was married to wife, Frances, for 54-years and

father of daughter, Tanya. He was grandfather of Madeleine, Samantha and Emily. He has brothers Don, Walter and William. Family members say A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date, when COVID-19 has passed. Joe and his brother, Wally, are best remembered for taking over The Mimicombo in 1958. It was a popular club and roller skating rink that operated at Lake Shore Blvd., and Mimico Ave., for about 25-years. Young people and adults from Mimico and across the city flocked to the hall to skate, bowl and listen to up-and-coming bands. The brothers are credited for bringing many topnamed artists and bands to The Mimicombo. James Brown performed here in November 1965, so did The Ardels, Bobby Kris & The Imperials, Bill Hailey and the Comets, Frank Motley and the Hitchhikers, The Motley Crew, Richie Knight and the Mid-Knights and many others. It is said that on the evening that James Brown was



The South Etobicoke News

to play at The Mimicombo, there was a blackout in Mimico and the surrounding areas. When Wally went to pay Brown (even though it looked like the concert was cancelled). James Brown said "No and this is not your fault and he handed the money back to Wally. As soon as the money changed hands again...the lights came on! The concert was a go. In 1966 the club was converted to roller skating and attracted young people from far and wide. People didn't know the bowling alley doubled as a homeless shelter at night, with Joe and Wally opening their doors to the unfortunate. Many of the less the family's generosity to

City facilities, amateur sports in our community on stand-still until June

By REJEAN CANTLON

It won't be until about June 28 when City of Toronto officials look at reopening dozens of sports facilities or programs that were shut or cancelled due to COVID-19.

All classes, drop-in programs at city centres, programs as skating or swimming and after-school recreational care will be reassessed by City officials in about two months. They have been shut since March.

concert was cancelled).

James Brown said "No

Wally. You are a good man and this is not your fault and this is not your fault.

All City permits are cancelled until June 30 including, indoor recreation, pools, arenas, outdoor sports fields and seasonal permits, according to the City.

City facilities will remain shut including community recreation and fitness centres, Toronto Pan Am Sports and Toronto Track and Field Centres.

Kids can keep busy in other ways as they await registration for amateur lacrosse, baseball or soccer teams, which are on hold.

Siblings, Brady, 10, and Keaton McCharles, 8, resorted to a classic South Etobicoke, and Canadian, way youngsters have always found to pass the time and stay fit. That would be playing road hockey.

"The main rule we have is to stay two

with Joe and Wally opening their doors to the unfortunate. Many of the less fortunate took advantage of the family's generosity to



BRADY (left) and Keaton. Photo by Rejean Cantlon.

dekes or going top-shelf from the top of crease when we have a goalie." Mimico fitness enthusiast John Dalton says residents can remain active by visiting great parks like Colonel Samuel Smith, Amos Waites, Lakeshore Village or Alderwood Memorial to name a few. "Take your dog for walk. You don't need to feel like you have been trapped inside, just remember to social distance," Dalton says. "One of the great things about living in our area is the variety of resources we have to stay active and healthy." No matter what type of exercise you chose to do, it can help you maintain your fitness level. And it may certainly help alleviate the stress caused by the corona-

FRESH. LOCAL. HAND-CRAFTED.

RIGHT IN YOUR OWN NEIGHBOURHOOD.









Now offering south etobicoke residents

FREE HOME DELIVERY!

Order online at greatlakesbeer.com



COVID-19 ALERT!

service and has a 10-step response policy to keep seniors and our team safe.

SENIORS! CALL 1-833-410-HELP

Who else needs support around the home & yard this spring and summer?



Yard Cleanups & Lawn Maintenance

No Contract - No Obligation

Trained, Insured & Reliable

Friendly & Affordable

Starting at \$79

a week.

Seniors get a low-cost, reliable helper and a plan to manage their home over the long term.

GET \$50 off your annual home management plan





Free lightbulbs & batteries with all seasonal plans.*

*1. You must be 60 yrs or older 2. \$19 a week plans include bi-weekly lawn maintenance for under 2,000 sq/ft lawn and unlimited snow removal for 2-car driveway. 3. 4-LED Bulbs and 4-AA Batteries are supplied as needed through the season.



We are serving hundreds of seniors in your area, call us today or visit us online.

1-833-410-HELP www.custodia.com