

The South Etobicoke News

Web: www.torontonewswire.com Email: thesouthetobicokenews@gmail.com Number 24

Buy local. Live local.

Shop locally and support your neighbours

More and more area residents are patronizing local stores and restaurants to help keep them open as they fight for survival due to COVID-19. Many restaurants and bars are financially hurting with a ban on dining inside and upcoming cold weather, which will deter many from going out to eat in heated patios.

The City of Toronto has approved the use of the patios until next Spring.

Many restaurants and bars that offer indoor dining, or drinks, will not be allowed to reopen until at least November 8 after being ordered shut for 28-days on October 10. They remain open due to the sale of takeout orders.

Indoor dining at bars and restaurants was banned province-wide when the pandemic hit in the spring, and prohibited once more in the virus hotspots of Toronto, Peel Region, York Region and Ottawa.



WE WILL NEVER FORGET ALL THE MEN AND WOMEN who sacrificed their lives for us on Remembrance Day November 11. We all have to do what we can to support the small businesses in our community. **File photos.**

The owners of bars in Long Branch, New Toronto and Mimico say business is slow and many are not sure how long they can remain open. There are campaigns by members of the various Business Improvement Areas (BIA) for residents to shop locally now than ever before

as the holiday season begins, which is when most small businesses make their money. Many mom and pop restaurants and bars in the community are offering take-out specials (See Page 8) to attract more customers. Now if they could only get a lower rate from food delivery companies, they may make ends meet.

Some restaurants have installed tents, or shelter, on their patios to shield people from the inclement weather and recoup some of their costs. Chris Korwin-Kuczynski, chair of the board of the Lake Shore Village Business

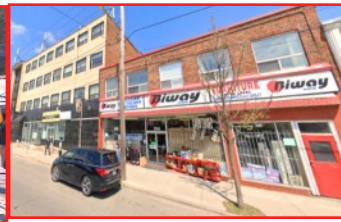
Improvement Association (BIA), is urging residents to support businesses in the community. "We all have to support each other," Korwin-Kuczynski says. "We have to work hard to keep all our businesses open. The money spent remains in the community."

Proposed New Toronto shelter before City

The City of Toronto is looking at locating permanent affordable housing tenants in a shelter being proposed for New Toronto.

At a meeting on October 27, members of the General Government and Licensing Committee heard a motion carried by Councillor Mark Grimes in which 'City council reiterated its support for locating permanent affordable housing at 2950-2970 Lake Shore Blvd. W.'

Council requested the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration (SSHA) and Executive Director, Housing Secretariat to complete the assessment of the feasibility of locating permanent affordable housing at the site and report to the Planning and Housing Committee at the appropriate time with further details.



RESIDENTS OF THE NEW TORONTO AREA ARE SPLIT on a proposed shelter (right) being introduced into the community. A committee of City Council is looking into the matter to determine if it will be used as an affordable supportive housing facility. Protestors from earlier this year are in the middle shot. **South Etobicoke News photos.**

A City report highlights the range of community services near the properties and outlines how SSHA will work with local service providers. More than 100 area residents logged into a virtual meeting with City staff on October 20 to ask questions and learn more about the proposal. Many callers asked

about security concerns if the site was made into a shelter. City staff said they could not comment on the price of the transaction since negotiations are still ongoing. Many residents said they were pleased to obtain an early hearing into the matter. "Affordable housing is the way to go," some agreed.

But, members of the New Toronto Ratepayers Association, in a written submission to the City, stated they are opposed to a shelter 'in the heart of New Toronto's small commercial strip.'

They said more than 2,000 people had signed an online petition opposing the proposed shelter at that location.

"Paying a premium to locate a shelter in New Toronto's only main commercial intersection is fiscally irresponsible," the association wrote, adding it will 'cripple local businesses already struggling pre COVID-19 and remove space from New Toronto's small business area.'

The group supports affordable housing that is long term, durable, sustainable and cost effective.

"There is a need for shelters, but not in a prime business area," they wrote.

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Serial alarm puller sought .. Page 2



Late Mayor Flynn was in D-Day .. Page 3

Suspect sought in Humber Bay Shores for initiating serial fire alarms in towers



MAN SOUGHT FOR INITIATING fake fire alarms. Photo courtesy Toronto Police.

A man who is suspected of triggering bogus fire alarms in at least 15 high-rise condos in the Humber Bay Shores area is on the run from irate tenants, police and fire officials.

A security photograph of the suspect has been released as officials say he is believed to be carrying inflammable liquids and may strike again.

"This person has hit 15 buildings in the area," according to security officials at Eau Du Soleil, at 20-30 Shore Breeze Dr. "We have attached a photo of the person who is responsible for the alarms."

Property management of the building said the suspect struck around 2:40 a.m. on October 19, waking up irate tenants of the twin high-rise when he pulled the alarm and fled.

"The individual threw a rock at the glass and proceeded to pull the fire station," according to a post on social media by building officials. "He felt he distracted the concierge enough to do so."

They said the culprit struck again on October 22, when a security official saw a man who fitted the suspect's description wandering around the building.

"Our security guard walked towards the offender to have him removed from the property," the building's security officials wrote. "The offender then lunged at the security guard."

They said their security officers are not allowed to put themselves in danger, and the suspect managed to pass by him and once again pulled the fire alarm, which is loud and awakened most of the tenants. Toronto Police and Fire Services attended the scene and deemed the incident a false alarm.

"Management has received multiple impolite e-mails regarding the alarm that goes off in-suite," according to the building's management. "The decibel level of the fire alarm is required under the fire code."

They warn if any tenants disconnect the fire alarm on their in-suite speaker, fire officials will fine the building and a contractor will be required to reconnect the system at a cost of \$600 to the owner of the unit.

"We have no control and cannot control the volume," building officials warn. "If you see this individual anywhere on the premises, we urge you to call 911."

Senior assaulted at home



OFFICERS helping senior

A Long Branch senior was allegedly roughed up and suffered severe facial injuries in a brutal home invasion robbery. Members of the Toronto Police Hold Up Squad have arrested a 27-year-old man in connection with the alleged assault that took place on October 11 in the Lake Shore Blvd.

W., and Twenty Sixth Street area. Police allege the suspect entered an apartment and demanded money from a 68-year-old man inside. The suspect "repeatedly assaulted him (senior) causing severe facial injuries," police allege. Police say the suspect attempted to tie up the victim, then took some valuables and fled the area on foot. Andre Gomez-Bonner, of Toronto, was charged on October 14 with six criminal offences. He is before the courts.

Gun-toting carjacker jailed

An armed suspect was arrested after he fled from officers in a stolen car, crashed into a parked vehicle, and shot at the windows and door of a locked office building to try to get inside. Officers were called to the area of Kipling Avenue and Bloor St. W. last month for reports of a person with a gun. When officers arrived on scene, the armed suspect carjacked a vehicle and fled the area. While operating the stolen car, police say, the suspect crashed into a parked vehicle near

a construction site at Subway Crescent and Dundas St. W. Police allege the suspect, who was still in possession of a firearm, fled the scene on foot. He tried to enter a building at 5343 Dundas Street W. but could not enter as it was locked, police say. The man fired shots at the windows of the building when he couldn't open the door. Police said they could hear the gunshots. The suspect was arrested on the spot and faced a number of gun-related offences.

When and where to get your Poppy



The Royal Canadian Legion's 2020 Poppy Campaign started on October 30 and will run until November 11.

People can buy their poppy as usual at the No-Frills store at Lake Shore and Browns Line from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. daily. Volunteer Gord Noseworthy has been selling Poppies at the store for years and is there for the entire campaign.

The other tagging location is at Sherway Gardens in the atrium by the escalator. At the Sherway location there will be Poppy related items for sale such as masks, lapel pins, earrings and brooches.

The Sherway booth will be open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Mon. to Sat and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sundays. Poppy donation boxes will be available in locations throughout the area.

Visit Branch 101's table, 3850 Lake Shore Blvd. W., Long Branch, until Nov. 10, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. for masks and other items.

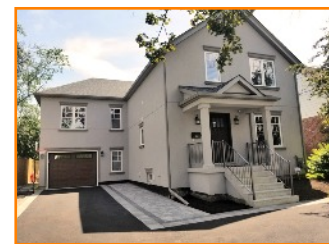
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Former Etobicoke Mayor and Toronto Councillor Flynn fought for the people

Late Etobicoke Mayor Flynn took part in D-Day landings



A JUBILANT Dennis Flynn after being elected Mayor of Etobicoke. **File photo.**

They just don't have die-hard politicians like former Etobicoke Mayor Dennis Flynn any more. The 11-year Etobicoke mayor, Metro Chairman and Toronto City Councillor was a force to reckon with in his political heyday. Flynn, who died in August 2003 at the age of 79, was one of a few politicians

who lived to see action during the D-Day landings, Codenamed Operation Overlord, in June 1944 when some 156,000 American, British and Canadian forces landed on five beaches along a 50-mile stretch of heavily-fortified coast of Frances' Normandy region. He was wounded twice and walked with a limp due to these injuries. He had come a long way since he enlisted in the Toronto Scottish Regiment in 1938. Returning home, Flynn attended the University of Toronto in 1947 and joined the City of Toronto's clerk's department and rose to the position of protocol officer. He was unsuccessful in his first attempt to be elected mayor of Etobicoke in 1969, succeeded in 1972, but was disqualified following a complaint by former Etobicoke reeve Ozzie Waffle, that he had been an employee of the City on nomination and election day.



FLYNN BEING PRESENTED WITH THE Mayor's Chain by then Metro Chairman Paul Godfrey. **File photo.**

Undeterred, he ran and once again won the Mayor's position in a 1973 by-election. The father of seven was mayor of Etobicoke until 1984 when he succeeded Paul Godfrey as Metro Chairman, a position he held until 1988, when he was defeated by rising star Alan Tonks.

Flynn that same year ran successfully for Metro Council in the Kingsway-Humber ward, which he represented until 1997. That year he ran for a seat on the newly amalgamated Toronto City Council, but finished third behind Gloria Lindsay Luby and Mario Giansante. Politics ran in the family which immigrated to Canada from Rathcormac, County Cork, Ireland, by ship in 1925. Friend and former politician Doug Holyday says he learned from Flynn. "He was Mayor at a time when Etobicoke was growing rapidly and transitioning into the urban city we have today," Holyday recalls. "He had served in World War 2 and his distinguished record along with his easy going personality made him lots of friends and supporters." Flynn died of a heart attack while visiting his beloved regiment at CFB Petawawa.

Grandpa fought in the deadly battlefields of Europe



THE WAR MEDALS, AND SHRAPNEL, of Dave Kosonic's grandfather, Robert McConkey, who fought in Battle of the Somme, photo right. **Above photo from McConkey family.**

He was wounded during the Battle of the Somme when he lost almost the entire use of his right arm and shoulder after being hit by German shrapnel. He endured 16 surgeries during the following years at Christie Street Hospital in Toronto. His wife, Anna, stayed at his bedside each time as he recovered. Medical imaging was very basic in those days, so the doctors conducted exploratory surgery while attempting to detect and remove more shrapnel. I have the final shrapnel fragment that was removed from my grandfather and I look at it as a symbol of the

horrors of war and the pain and suffering that so many Canadian soldiers endured. Jack that he overheard an Army nurse discuss where they planned to bury him the next day because they thought he was near death. Apparently that conversation motivated grandfather to keep fighting for his life.

I read a letter sent to my grandfather by one of his fellow soldiers a few years after WW1 ended. This man had seen grandfather after he was wounded and he was certain that he was going to lose his arm or die. This former soldier found out that Robbie had returned home to Canada alive and with his arm intact and he congratulated him for being alive.

I was my grandfather's first grandchild and was in his presence a few times when I was about two years old. For some reason I behaved strangely to him, and decided that I didn't like him which apparently upset him greatly. I have always felt bad about that. Grandfather McConkey operated the post office in Priceville after he returned home and also had a small general store in the same facility. He died of a heart attack at age 63 and the doctors suspected that his heart had likely been damaged by many infections caused by the shrapnel. He, like many of his colleagues who never made it home, are heroes in my eyes and that of our family. RIP Grandpa.



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By DAVE KOSONIC

My grandfather Robert McConkey went from the peaceful village of Priceville, Ontario, to the deadly battlefields of Europe in 1915 as a member of the Canadian Army during WW1 when he was 27-years-old. Fortunately he returned to Canada alive at the war's end and his story has been passed down through the decades by our family. My grandfather was known as Robbie by his fellow soldiers.

My uncle Jack McConkey, who recently passed away, at the age of 93, had recorded his father's WW1 experiences and often shared them with me. Apparently after grandfather was shot, he laid on the muddy battlefield for about 24-hours before some of his fellow soldiers could recover him due to enemy fire and the immense number of casualties. Despite his wounds, my grandfather remained conscious and told



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Lidia (right) with son, Giovanni, and Jane.
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Royals cut ribbon to open QEW 81 years ago



LION MONUMENT STOOD at the foot of Queen Elizabeth Way for more than three decades.

It has been almost 50-years since the Queen Elizabeth Way Monument, which included a snarling lion, was removed from guarding the western edge of the highway.

Many residents still talk fondly of the Lion Monument, which was popularly known as the 'Lucky Lion,' that stood at the edge of the highway from 1939 to 1974.

There was much pomp and fanfare as Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, with husband the stuttering King George VI, cut a ribbon to officially open the highway that runs from the Humber Bay to Niagara Falls. It was the first time a reigning monarch had visited Canada, and many believe it was to rally the Empire as the war with Nazi Germany loomed.

The stone monument had a column with a crown on the top of the base. On the face of the base section is a profile of the Queen, with the snapping lion on the front.

It cost \$23 million and the monument was designed by architect William Lyon Somerville and sculptor Frances Loring who was hired to create the lion. Loring started the lion after the entry of Britain and Canada into World War II and it inspired her design of "a snarling, defiant British Lion, eight feet high," which was carved with limestone trucked from Queenston.

People loved the monument, except for many motorists who claimed it slowed down traffic around the Humber bend area where it was located.

It was one of the best-known Canadian monuments at the time, and became a landmark for residents.

"It was one of Toronto's most famous early monuments," wrote Etobicoke historian Denise Harris.

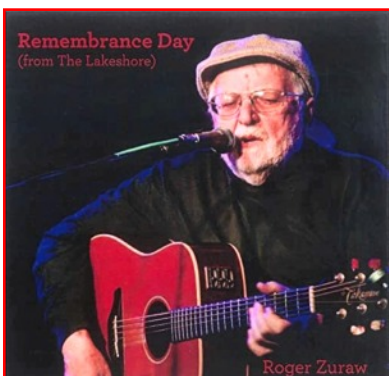
For decades, the Lucky Lion stood on the QEW median, until an expansion of the highway to 12 lanes.



KING GEORGE VI AND THE QUEEN MOTHER officially opened the QEW stretch of the highway in 1939. **File photos.**

The Lion was removed as demolition was possible. A show of public support led to it being moved in 1974 to the east side of the Humber River at Sir Casimir Gzowski Park.

Musician Zuraw remembers our Veterans



ROGER Zuraw

As we remember our Veterans, local musician Roger Zuraw is reminding the community about an award-winning song he wrote

called "Remembrance Day (From the Lakeshore)."

Zuraw says he wrote the tune in a contest featuring Lakeshore artists some years ago.

"About 20,000 contestants from all over the world submitted their songs to this competition and my tune came out with an Honourable Mention credit," he says.

He was inspired by a photograph of Vimy Ridge Parkette, at 2456 Lake Shore Blvd. W., and visited the park to obtain a 'personal contact and feel of this spot.' Zuraw

says his song is about a "World War II Veteran from this area who contributed in the freeing of Holland from the Nazis, coming back to Canada with his English warbride, raising a family and eventually becoming a president of Legion 101."

This song is from his CD "Remembering The Lakeshore," which you can listen to and download for a small fee from Amazon Music and Apple Music.

The musicians are: Dougal Bichan on bagpipes, Alex Radeff on electric guitar and keyboards and Zuraw on acoustic guitar and vocals.

Fundraiser for Women's Habitat

The South Etobicoke Community Group on Facebook will be hosting their Second holiday fundraiser. The event started last year at Office 146, on Thirtieth Street, where many local businesses sponsored prizes and attendees were encouraged to bring items for the Women's Habitat Holiday Hamper program. The group raised \$4,240 in cash, gift cards or in-kind gifts.

This year the fundraising is moving online. There are three initiatives to raise money for local charities: *Etobicoke Humane Society, Haven on The Queensway, LAMP, Lakeshore Arts, Jean Augustine Center & Women's Habitat.*

An online auction will run daily from November 15 to December 15. Prizes from local businesses will be auctioned and the winner can "pay" for their prize with a donation to one of the local charities. The group will collect items for the Women's Habitat Holiday Hamper program. There are a variety of sponsorship options to help get exposure for local businesses in exchange for their charitable donation. Visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/etobicoke> or email group founder Graham Rowlands, a Realtor with RE/MAX Professionals, at graham@homing.ca.

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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 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.

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This month marks 60 years since Toronto Police hired their first Black female cop



GLORIA BARTLEY WAS Toronto Police Service's first Black female officer. Photo courtesy Toronto Police Service.

This month marks the 60th year that Gloria Isadora Bartley broke barriers and tradition by becoming the first Black woman to be sworn in and serve with the then Metropolitan Toronto Police Force.. Bartley was quiet and reserved and served the City of Toronto from November 1960 to 1967, when she was mandated to retire after giving birth. Prior to 1972, female Toronto officers had to resign after giving birth. Bartley arrived in Toronto from Trinidad and Tobago in 1958 and worked hard and long hours to realize her dream.

"There was a buzz in the Service when Bartley broke the female colour line," Larry McLarty, the force's first Black male cop said at the time. Insp. Sonia Thomas, who is now retired, said Bartley 'was an inspiration to those, including many women, who would follow.' "I can only imagine how difficult it was for her joining at that time in a predominantly white male organization," said Thomas. Bartley died in April 2018 at the age of 84. A funeral service was held without much fanfare. Her funeral was attended by several retired and active officers, including Thomas, who was at one time the highest ranking Black female Toronto officer.

The mother of one was remembered as a humble trailblazer whose legacy lives on today. "She broke barriers so future generations don't have to worry about those things," son Alonzo recalled after his mom's death. She was "very quiet and reserved, even though she was a trailblazer," Alonzo said. "She didn't go out of her way to tell people. That wasn't her style. She was very humble."



He noted his mom lived a full life and was always willing to give sound advice. Her death is not forgotten by Toronto and other police and her anniversary on the force was Tweeted out by Ontario Women in Law Enforcement (OWLE). "Being the first is often the toughest and most challenging. This lady paved the way," wrote OWLE Canada officials. "Her light has shone brightly. Well done Madam."

Area resident Jean Augustine is being recognized for being a national trailblazer. Augustine, the former four-term MP for Etobicoke-Lakeshore, was presented on October 25 in an online event at 2 p.m. with a Key to the City of Vaughan as well as having a building and park named the Jean Augustine Complex and the Jean Augustine District Park. "Ms. Augustine is a passionate educator, lifelong public servant and a national trailblazer," says Vaughan Mayor Maurizio Bevilacqua. "She is Canada's first female African Canadian Member of Parliament and Cabinet Minister." Bevilacqua announced in a Council meeting last June that Augustine would be receiving the Key to the City and the complex and park will be named in her honour. The former politician and school principal immigrated to Canada in 1960 from her native Grenada. She earned a Bachelor's and a Master's Degree in Education from the University of Toronto. "Her story is of courage, hope and perseverance, and I am blessed to bear witness to her achievements," Bevilacqua said. Augustine was elected Member of Parliament in 1993 for the constituency of Etobicoke



JEAN Augustine

Lakeshore, serving four terms until 2006. In 2002, she was appointed Secretary of State and in 2003, she became Minister of State, later serving as assistant deputy speaker of Parliament until her retirement in 2006. Augustine was nominated by the Government of Ontario in 2007 to become the first Fairness Commissioner, a position to advocate for Canadians with foreign professional credentials. She retired from that position in March 2015. Augustine also served as the President of the Congress of Black Women of Canada and the Jean Augustine Centre for Young Women's Empowerment, and has a fundraising beer named after her by Great Lakes Brewery, with funds going to help the girls.



Lest we forget...

To Our Glorious Dead:
Remember them on November 11



Lakeshore Village BIA



**Christmas Tree
Decorating Contest**

Deadline Friday Dec. 4

**For local Lake Shore Village
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phac.covid19.aspc@canada.ca

Petitions call for the enforcement of fireworks bylaws for our health, also for pets and wildlife



PETS SUFFER from fireworks

More than 1,000 Mimico area residents have signed an online petition calling on City Council to crack down on the use of fireworks which they say affects their quality of life, causes injury, stress, pollution, pet and wildlife safety. A group called the Etobicoke Fireworks Remediation Committee (EFRC) started the petition last Sep-

tember, which was sent to Mayor John Tory, Councillor Mark Grimes, whom they met with, and others. There are two online petitions calling for the enforcement of fireworks by laws.

A motion by Grimes directs the Municipal Licensing and Standards and the Fire Chief and General Manager, Toronto Fire Services, in consultation with relevant City divisions, to report to the General Government and Licensing Committee on the outcome of a review of Chapter 466, which governs the use of fireworks.

The City will be looking at increased education, enhanced environmental protections and other regulations on the sales and discharge of fireworks. Also sought are restrictions on fireworks sales both in Toronto and the

Greater Toronto Area, in advance of the 2021 warm weather seasons. Fireworks vendors are required to obtain a fireworks vendor's permit, issued by Municipal Licensing and Standards, according to the City. The EFRC petition states that Toronto public spaces have become 'a free-for-all for year-round fireworks.'

They note parks like Humber Bay Shores and Ashbridges Bay have suffered from individuals who shoot fireworks off nightly as late as 4 a.m. with total disregard for the needs of our wildlife or neighbourhood. "The disruption to a peaceful environment, loss of sleep and overall harm to quality of life for residents speaks for itself," the group wrote.



ROBYN (right) AND BROTHER LEONARD HOLD their award-winning art and cash prizes after winning first and third prizes in a Childrens Art Contest sponsored by the Lake Shore Village BIA, with Treasurer Rattan Gandhi making the presentations. Their mom, Tania, says the kids love drawing and couldn't believe that they had won a contest. They plan on using their \$100 and \$25 winnings to purchase games from Children's Urban Enrichment Studio and Funny Bones. Photo by Tom Godfrey.

School being named after gunshot victim



ADAN Dubet

Family and friends of a South Etobicoke man who was shot and killed last June are raising funds to finish off a children's school in his memory in Africa.

Abdulaziz Adan Dubet, 21, who lived in the East Mall, also known as 'Baby Aziz' and 'Sache,' is described as a social activist, who in the midst of COVID-19 donat-

ed \$2,000 of his savings to build a roof over a school in Somalia. His friends have launched a Go Fund Me Page to continue with Adan's dream to finish off the school. So far they have reached \$111,971 of a goal of \$130,000.

Adan was well-loved and respected and had a full-time job at Pearson Airport. He was planning to get married last summer.

"He had the biggest heart and would offer his help to anyone without being asked," his family wrote on the Go Fund Me page. They described "Baby

Aziz" 'as goal-oriented, mature and more capable than people twice his age.' He had been attending Ryerson University and planned on becoming a lawyer.

His family have been mourning his death since last June 12 when he was shot and killed in broad daylight. They believe he "was in the wrong place at the wrong time."

"He was taken from us so cowardly and cruelly," the family explained. His friends vow the school will be built in Halimale, Somalia, where his mom was born.

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At the intersection of Brown's Line & Evans Ave. - Beside Petro Canada Station

Ex-undercover cop pens book **Irate Mimico residents to wait longer for plant to leave area**

Former Toronto Police undercover cop Hal Cunningham has investigated Mafia hitmen, outlaw motorcycle gangs and a lengthy list of law-breakers and is still alive to write about it. The former 30-year undercover cop has just released *Just a Cop*, which is available on Amazon and reached Number 1 in 'hot new crime releases.'

Cunningham's crime bio sheds a light on what he and other law enforcement officers deal with on a daily basis and provides the reader with a first-person opportunity to walk in his shoes.



"It's like a ride-along. They're able to see (what) it's really like and this is what the officers' experience and handle all situations," Cunningham says of the book.

"It's an education for all to learn what we see and experience what we experience."

He began his career in 1973 as a cadet and worked his way through the ranks from a constable on patrol, to an undercover street intelligence officer, and eventually to the rank of Staff Sergeant and Platoon Commander, before retiring in 2003.

Over the years he took part in hundreds of surveillance projects going after homicide, armed robbery, terrorism and organized crime, members of motorcycle gangs and drug traffickers among others.

Cunningham has been declared an Expert Witness in High Court in Surveillance and Counter Surveillance Techniques. He also worked with the RCMP in providing witness protection for a



EX-POLICE 30-YEAR OFFICER HAL Cunningham has written a book about his job called *Just a Cop*, right. Hal Cunningham photo.

Mafia hit man and former motorcycle gang members.

He instructed more than 100 Toronto Police officers, based at a busy downtown division, with a three-day surveillance training course.

"I have been teaching my techniques for over 20 years to a total of over 1,000 Police, Corporate and Private Investigators from the Greater Toronto Area, Province of Ontario, across Canada and the U.S."

After high school at East Northumberland Secondary School, Cunningham went to Loyalist College in Belleville, where he studied law. He was hired as a summer student with Trenton Police, and became an inside station operator, before graduating and moving on to the big city. "I want the public to understand that this is what these dedicated people are doing for you out there every day, every night. It's not just sitting with a coffee and a donut in a car," he says.

It is more disappointment for residents of the Judson Street area in Mimico.

Residents were waiting for news that their neighbour ML Ready-

Mix Concrete would be moving to a new home across town.

Mark Grimes, in letters to residents, wrote the move by

ML to a new home at 545 Commissioners St., by the end of the year had been cancelled by a few months.

"While we had hoped to see ML Ready Mix to their new home in the Port Lands by the end of the year, I'm told by City staff that this move is going to be delayed by a few months," Grimes wrote.

He said planning for the move began back in November 2019, however this 'unprecedented situation' has had an impact on all facets of this project.

"ML will be leaving the community, however at this time, I don't have a confirmed date when this move will happen," he said. "We anticipate the move will occur in the Spring of 2021."



Mimico residents have been fighting a vocal battle with the city for years for ML to move out of their neighbourhood to head for the Port Lands.

Grimes said COVID-19 brought the city to a 'screaming halt' as officials shifted their focus on the pandemic and keeping 'our communities safe.'

Members of the Judson Street Residents Association complain the company has dozens of trucks going back and forth from the Horner Ave., and Royal York Rd. concrete yard, which creates stress, noise, dust and pollution in the air.

Dan Irwin, who lives across from the plant, said the community has been waiting for more than two years for the plant to leave the area.

"We shouldn't have to live like this," he warned. "They are taking away our quality of life."



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OSMOW'S MODERN MEDITERRANEAN CUISINE's Supervisor Harkiran and Assistant Manager Anamika proudly display some of their fresh take-out dishes from their newly-opened restaurant at 3210 Lake Shore Blvd. W., at Kipling Ave., walking distance from Humber College. Call at 416-201-8889 or email at osmows.lakeshore@gmail.com. Try their delicious beef shawarma wrap, Philly cheese steak wrap, falafel wrap or Student Specials.



RAY QALAWI IS THE PROUD OWNER OF THE KABOB HOUSE at 2997 Lake Shore Blvd. W. He is well-liked in the community and so is his food. His list of take-out specials include two chicken shawarmas and two soft drinks for \$15. He loves the community and his popular business has been feeding the area for almost 20-years. He says there is always a deal available at *The Kabob House*. They can be reached at 437-779-8383.

Canadian restaurants deserve better

Restaurants Canada, on behalf of our 40,000+ members, is calling on all levels of government to stop system-wide restaurant closures. As we undergo a second wave, our industry is being singled out and we deserve to understand why. Accurate transmission data that clearly points to restaurants being the source has not been provided. Restaurants have invested over \$750 million in training, sanitizer stations, PPE, air purification systems, and other protective equipment, all designed to provide the highest levels of safety for our customers. And national research indicates that 87 per cent of Canadians

agree that restaurants are doing a good job of keeping consumers safe. Despite these investments, we are still being shut down. Our industry wants to be a part of the solution. We want to welcome customers back to our dining rooms, but without the transmission data and additional government support, half of all local restaurants are at risk of closing within a year. We have already seen 188,000 jobs lost, and recent closures could see that number rise by another 100,000 jobs. We all deserve to know why and what we can do to stop these closures. **By Todd Barclay, Restaurants Canada, CEO.**

MONIKA's Health Tips

Feeling lethargic and tired? Grab a lemon and lime. Wash the fruit. Grate the zest into a bowl. The essential oils from the citrus fruits instantly improve our mood, lift our spirit, and provide a burst of energy to get any task done. Then, add the zest to a cup of tea, water bottle or topping on a batch of muffins!

Need to get boost of physical energy? Grab a carrot, beet and apple and a teaspoon of spirulina for an instant healthy boost for your body and mind! **Visit Monika at The Healing Muse Apothecary, 2859 Lake Shore Blvd. W., 416-347-5449 or healingmuse.com**



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Health and Wellness

By ADRIANNE SZABO-PAYNE

In light of the provincial government's announcement for all gyms, fitness clubs and studios to close on October 10, we once again find ourselves in a state of closure and are left wondering where do we go from here.

As a small business owner in an industry that has been truly devastated by this pandemic, it is often difficult to put on a brave and smiling face to the world when we really don't know what tomorrow will bring.

When we were first shut-down in March, I thought, I got this and we are going to be ok.

Those feelings of hope started to waiver as the closure dragged on and on. Four months later we were allowed to reopen our doors and welcome our members back in the gym, although with severe restrictions.

In August I thought surely it would be unlikely that we would get shut-down again. My thinking was "winter is coming" and exercising outside is less attractive when it's cold and wet, and for many people also less safe. Plus, exercise is vital for positive physical and mental well-being and boosts the immune system in the process.

No way they can force us to shutter again! So, we worked tirelessly to try and rebuild the business and entice people back through our doors.

Today, we continue to offer virtual fitness to keep people moving from the comfort and safety of their homes. We weren't going to give up on a place that means so much to so many.

I try to live by the rules of silver linings and truly feel that one exists in every situation. When I think about the silver linings discovered through this pandemic, what can I say?

Truthfully, there have been no shortage of challenges, but this season of strange things that has also exposed us to unique and wonderful experiences.

I can honestly say my creative brain has reawakened with attempts to find new and innovative ways to re-engage my members and try to attract new people to my business.

It has also deepened the relationships I have created with the people who interact with us.

The members and guests of Monkey Tree Fitness & Wellness are more than just clients, they are the people who keep me going and give me purpose.

I do not know what the future holds for Monkey Tree Fitness & Wellness but I do know that we will keep trying to survive.

Reach Adrienne @monkeytreefitness on Facebook; #monkeytreefitnesswellness on Instagram or www.monkeytreewellness.com



Money Matters

By RATTAN GANDHI

Hello Readers, last week I wrote about budgets and if any you attempted to undertake the exercise one would have realized it was not any easy task. Having said that it was my way of helping you to develop a relationship with money. An alternate to developing a budget and monitoring it is to, not spend more than what you make in a day. This a relatively simple exercise requiring self control and discipline. During these COVID days it is important to maintain a good physical, mental and financial health.

For your fiscal health you may choose to deal with a Financial Planner. To have a good financial health one needs to have a good credit score, a good saving plan, a good retirement plan, living debt free with an affordable roof over the head.

A good credit score is 720 plus. At this level the banks will talk to you about your need for loans or mortgage. Landlords will have no issues in renting to you. Insurance companies will give you a favourable rate on your automobile insurance. A credit score of 620 is on the low end. Look at your credit score and take all the actions to bring it up to a more desirable level. A saving plan is a must, to build up a cushion for unanticipated expenses or situations. Even if start of with a \$1 per day you are on the way. Your savings should cover anywhere 3 to 6 months

of spending. These saving could be any form GICs, Mutual Funds etc. as long as you have access to these funds in a relatively short notice. More importantly it will give confidence as you move forward in your life.

Retirement plan would require a lot more thought, depending upon what stage of life you are at. Look at your current spending at estimate what you will need when you retire, hopefully your house is paid of kids (if any) are settled and you are ready for the next stage of your life. This plan should be looked at periodically with help of a trusted financial adviser.

Debt is a big killer even with the low interest rates, especially if it is credit card debt. Every effort should be made to reduce your debt it zero. Only good debt is a mortgage and if you have the stomach to borrow and invest.

Getting out of the burden of debt will give you confidence to move forward to a more meaning full life. The interest cost of your debt is in after-tax dollars, in other words you have to earn an income, pay taxes and use the money to pay the interest.

Get your financial health in shape, get started today.

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

Dr. Berlin installs HEP filters to keep patients safe



DR. BERLIN OUTSIDE his busy office which is geared to keeping his patients safe. **Photos by TOM GODFREY.**

Well-known community dentist Dr. Robert Berlin has gone out of his way to ensure that no staff or patients can contract COVID-19 at his New Toronto office.

Berlin, who has been in practice for more than 30 years, has installed an array of HEPA filters to sanitize the air in his three treatment rooms.

He believes this is a critical issue since the risk of aerosol transmission of COVID-19 has become more evident. Aerosols are tiny particles that can remain suspended in the air for hours and travel some distance, unlike droplets that fall quickly and only travel about six feet.

The high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters, are designed to filter 99.97% of particles down to a size of 0.3 microns and are typically used to purify the air.

The treatment rooms are sealed and isolated, meaning all air leaving the room is HEPA filtered before returning to the rest of the office. Entry doors to the rooms are hands free.

The rooms sit vacant after each use for 8-10 minutes while three HEPA systems work in concert to sanitize the treatment room air multiple times. Only after that can the next patient enter the room. During treatment, a large extra-oral HEPA vacuum device is placed near the patient's mouth to remove aerosols at the source and further decrease the possibility that any virus could escape into the room.

"We have taken a lot of precautions to ensure that no one gets sick in this office," he says. "We are ensuring that all aerosols are removed and not left floating in the air. All patients are screened for COVID-19 symptoms before treatment with a detailed questionnaire, temperature and O2 level."

Dr. Berlin spent a lot of time researching the virus and aerosols at the outbreak of the pandemic earlier this year. He spent about \$50,000 from his own funds to purchase and install HEPA filters, modify his office design, and upgrade his HVAC system last May, when the province was shut down due to the pandemic.

"We have hospital-grade isolation rooms with negative pressure that are based on a field hospital design," he says. "This is to protect my staff and patients and eliminate the chance of anyone getting sick."

He says patients love the extra precautions being undertaken for 'minimizing their risk' of exposure.

"My patients are thrilled and all my staff have all been comfortable returning to work," Berlin says. "We are protecting them from aerosols by filtering the air in the treatment room and the air leaving that room."

He says most of the precautions he has undertaken are not mandated by Ontario Public Health. But the Royal



BERLIN WITH ASSISTANT KHADEJA in one of their sealed and isolated treatment rooms.

College of Dental Surgeons has just recently recommended them for dental offices located in modified Stage 2 areas.

The ODA said on its website the Ministry of Health lifted restrictions in late May for people to visit their dentists again after a closure for non-essential services due to the virus.

"There's still a pandemic happening which is why dentists are taking extra precautions to make sure everyone in the dental office stays protected," the ODA states on their site.

They wrote that appointments will be spaced out, along with office furniture, and patients will be asked if they have symptoms of COVID-19 and have their temperature taken with a touchless thermometer.

Dr. Berlin is located at 2909 Lake Shore Blvd. W., and his office can be reached at 416-251-3303.

Looking after yourself and others in the community

NOV. 7 WISE IDEA TO GET YOUR FLU SHOT in the parking lot of LAMP, at 185 Fifth Street, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., brought to you by the West Toronto Ontario Health Team. Contact 416-252-9701 ext. 308.

NOV. 9 ETOBICOKE CAMERA CLUB PRESENTS Dave Brosha, one of the most celebrated creative photographers in the world. He brings us insights for creating great portraiture in 12 lessons. It cost \$10 for non-members through eventbrite.ca or the ECC Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/etobcc>. For the fall schedule or to join the club go to <http://etobicokecameracclub.org>.

NOV. 14 NOT JUST A PRETTY FACE with **Dr. Olubamiji**, *Environmental Engineer Anna* and *STEAM Facilitator Dilesha* from 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. in a Zoom conference and participate with panel discussions with experts, enhance your skills and network with leaders in their fields. Put on by the Jean Augustine Centre for Women's Empowerment, STEAM workshop for

women. For more information call 416-253-9797 or email info@jeanaugustinecentre.ca

NOV. 14 FOR ANYONE WHO wants to enjoy life: join **Monika Meulman** of The Healing Muse & **Stephanie Fazio** of Lealoucooks to learn tips and quick, helpful ideas on how to boost your energy, your nutrition and your spirit. Join us live @healingmuse on Instagram. For more information call **Monika** at 416-347-5449 or store@healingmuse.com.

NOV. 13 & 27 LAMP BABY CLUB 0-12 MONTHS VIRTUAL ZOOM programming; November 13 **Christine-Fit Mama Training 'Mom and Baby Fitness Demo'**, from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. On November 27 **Song and Rhymes with Carina**, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. For more info contact **Carina** at 416-252-9701 ext. 244 or email carinap@lampchc.org.

NOV. 21 MASTER CREATORS, Meet empowered women working in the beauty, wellness and art industry, as therapeutic arts coach **Micah**, Muse Hair Studio owner **Aisha** and Lite It

Up owner **Valerie** from 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Participate in panel discussions with experts and field leaders. For more information call 416-253-9797 or email info@jeanaugustinecentre.ca

NOV. 22 IS THE NATIONAL HOUSING DAY CELEBRATION at LAMP leading up to LAHAAG (The Lakeshore Affordable Housing Advocacy and Action Group). Some exciting events are planned. Call **Jasmin** at 416 252 6471. **EVERY TUESDAY UNTIL DECEMBER 15 AT LAMP HANDLE WITH CARE** from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. group Zoom interactive program to help parents and caregivers promote the mental health of the children in their lives. At Eregister email **Madison** at MBanks&the519.org or handlewithcarecanada.org

THE SALVATION ARMY, at Thirtieth Street, is looking for volunteers to help out at this time of the year. More than 800 area families this year will receive Christmas assistance. Please consider donating. Foodbank available. Contact **Jennifer** at 416-251-8372 ext. 101.

WARM CLOTHING DRIVE IN SUPPORT of Haven on The Queensway in need of gently used warm clothing for men, women and children. New socks and underwear for men and women, personal hygiene items and clean, gently used winter footwear. Items can be dropped off at Haven every Monday to Thursday between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. at 1533 The Queensway. If you cannot get there contact Councillor **Mark Grimes** office at 416-397-9273 for pick up. **NOV. 27 LAKESHORE AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVOCACY** and Action Group meeting at LAMP Community Room from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., at 185 Fifth Street. Help advocate for affordable housing for

those on fixed income. Contact **Jasmin** at 416-252-9701, ext. 308. **NOV. 28 FINANCE YOUR BUSINESS** with **Chantelle** and **Sonia** from 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. put on by the Jean Augustine Centre for Women's Empowerment, 101 Portland St., STEAM workshop for women aged from 19 to 24. For more info call 416-253-9797.

DEC. 5 BRAND AND CAREER Development for those aged 19 to 24. It takes place virtual from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. Contact the Jean Augustine Centre for Women's Empowerment. Call 416-253-9797 or email us at info@jeanaugustinecentre.ca



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Eighth St. Cenotaph finally moved



EIGHTH STREET CENOTAPH being moved after close to 40-year for new condo (right). Photo courtesy of Mark Grimes.

Just in time for Remembrance Day. The iconic Eighth Street Cenotaph is finally being moved to its new home in Col. Samuel Smith Park a few blocks away. The Cenotaph was hooked by a crew and moved by truck on October 29 due to the construction of a condo project at the site of a former Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 3. "I am thrilled that the Cenotaph will be placed in time for Remembrance Day," Councillor Mark Grimes said of the long-awaited move.

It is slated to be installed in a high-visibility location in the Lake Shore Blvd. W. and Kipling Ave. park.

"For decades, the Cenotaph has been located in front of the Royal Canadian Legion, which has since merged with Branch 643, on Jutland Rd. Eighth Street has been a place of gathering for those looking to remember the brave men and women who gave the ultimate sacrifice in World War I, World War II

and the Korean War," according to a City Council Motion Without Notice. For three-plus decades, veterans, Legionnaires and members of the public have gathered annually at the large cenotaph to remember Canadians fallen in war on the Sunday before Remembrance Day, and on Nov. 11. "The years go by, and the memories of the devastating consequences of these wars drifts further away from our minds," according to the motion. "The Cenotaph serves as an important reminder of the tragedies of war and provides our community with an important source of reflection."



"There is significant concern over the possibility of the Cenotaph being damaged before it can be relocated," according to the City. "The Cenotaph is of heritage value and needs to be protected." The developer has agreed to move the 7.5-metre solid granite monument before the workers begin building. A mid-rise condominium development (above) is underway. It calls for the construction of about 90 units and a small extension of the adjacent park. The massive monument, donated by the community, has stood in remembrance in front of the former Legion Hall since 1983.

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