

The South Etobicoke News

Web: www.torontonewswire.com Email: thesouthetobicokenews@gmail.com Number 29

Buy local. Live local.

Ontario lockdown to start again for a month

South Etobicoke residents and merchants are not pleased that a new a COVID-19 lockdown will start this weekend and run through April. The latest lockdown will see non-essential retail stores open with occupancy at 25 per cent of maximum, while essential outlets as grocery stores would be limited to 50 per cent occupancy. Gyms and some other venues will remain shut.

Area businesses said they barely caught up with a few weeks of lockdown free shopping. "We were happy to see our old customers," says Shawn, of Vital Planet Health Shop, in Lakeshore Village. Outside, the sidewalks and outdoor patios were starting to get busy again after the last lockdown was lifted as residents supported their local businesses. "We have been waiting a long time for this," one woman said from a street patio outside Delicia Bakery. "We are here to celebrate another spring. It was a long winter."



GEORGE KOZARIS (left) of Lakeshore Super Submarine, Monja Chiara, of CakeStar, and Shawn, of Vital Planet Health Shop, are not to pleased that another lockdown is underway.

Patricia, of Clock Factory, is busy with customers, many who want the batteries changed in their watches. "It seems people are just happy to be outside," Patricia says. "We are disappointed that there is another lockdown." Lidia, at Benjamin Moore Paint and Wallpaper, can't wait until the salons and hairdressers reopen. "They have had it real hard because they have been closed for a

long time," she says. "I can't wait until they open so I can get a haircut."

Mike, of Triple D Pizza, calculated that it has been more than 400 days since customers have dined inside his deep-dish pizza restaurant.

"Everything I make goes to pay my mortgage and other bills," Mike says. "I have been working for next to nothing to keep the place open."

He is not sure how much longer the shop can stay alive with another shutdown underway.

Hair stylist Patricia is working hard to get her salon NV Curls, on The Queensway, open for April 12, when salons, hairdressers are related to reopen.

Many of the salons and stylists were back cleaning up their facilities expecting residents seeking haircuts.

Chris Korwin-Kuczynski, Chair of the Lakeshore Village BIA, is disappointed by the lockdown. "Many of our small businesses have been suffering a long time," he says. "We support them and want them to do well."

More Budget funds for Health Care & beds

Some local hospitals like Trillium's Queensway Health Centre and others are benefitting from a recent Ontario Budget at Queen's Park that is putting more funds into health care and hospital beds. The Budget includes funding for area hospitals, including a new acute care tower at the Mississauga Hospital and new acute complex at the Queensway Health Centre, on The Queensway, across from Sherway Gardens.

Work is underway at Queensway as a multi-level parking deck and other buildings are constructed. The \$30 billion, 10-year expansion announced by Finance Minister Peter Bethlenfalvy on March 24 will fund a wing being built at the Peel Memorial Centre's Integrated Health and Wellness. "You can't have a healthy economy without healthy people," said Bethlenfalvy. "For the past year, we have been focused



THE ONTARIO BUDGET promises \$5.1-billion to create 3,100 new hospital beds, starting right here with a post-acute complex at the Queensway Health Centre, (officials above) in partnership with Trillium Health Partners. (above) . Courtesy photos.

on protecting people from COVID-19. Many challenges lie ahead." He pledged an additional \$5.1 billion to create 3,100 new hospital beds. The government said the proposed projects will free up capacity at the Credit Valley Hospital site. There will also be an addition of inpatient beds and ambulatory care at London Health Sciences Centre and new hospitals are planned for Wind-

sor-Essex, Moosonee and an ambulatory care centre on Moose Factory Island. Some funding is expected to go to St. Joseph's Health Centre, where many area residents go for help. The minister said construction is underway at new long-term-care homes in Mississauga, Ajax and Toronto under the Long-Term Care Build Pilot Program. Completion dates are slated for early

2022. He said Trillium will continue to address capacity challenges as a result of growing demand for health care services and aging infrastructure.

The Budget heralded a second round of Ontario Small Business Support Grant payments to eligible recipients. Approximately 120,000 small businesses will receive an additional \$1.7 billion through this round of support in the form of grants of a minimum of \$10,000 and up to \$20,000, bringing the estimated total support provided through this grant to \$3.4 billion.

They grant will spend \$614 million to provide workers with employment and training support, with \$117 million targeted towards groups in need. It includes \$1.8 billion to continue providing care for COVID-19 patients, address surgical backlogs and keep pace with patient needs, according to the government.

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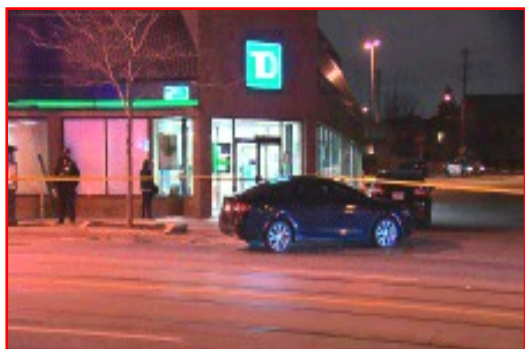
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Two teens charged with four major bank robberies, one in which officers stabbed

Two 18-year-olds from Toronto have been charged by police in connection with a series of bank robberies, including one in Mimico in which two officers were hospitalized.

The 22 Division officers were treated for



TD BANK (above) where the two 22 Division officers were stabbed. An officer (bottom) blocking off part of the street due to the investigation.

cuts and stab wounds in hospital and released. One was in serious condition. Police allege the men are responsible for four bank robberies which were committed in the South Etobicoke area in a violent crime spree that terrorized tellers from January 25 to March 24.

Hold Up Squad officers said during the robberies a man would enter the bank with a balaclava mask to conceal his identity. He would approach the teller and hand over a note that said he had a gun and demanded cash. Police said during the March 26 robbery, in which the officers were injured, the men were armed with knives. "The man then went behind the teller counter

while holding the knife and yelling at the teller," officers said in a release.

Plainclothes officers were nearby and arrived at the scene with the men still inside the bank.

"One man ran out of the rear exit with an officer pursuing him," police said.

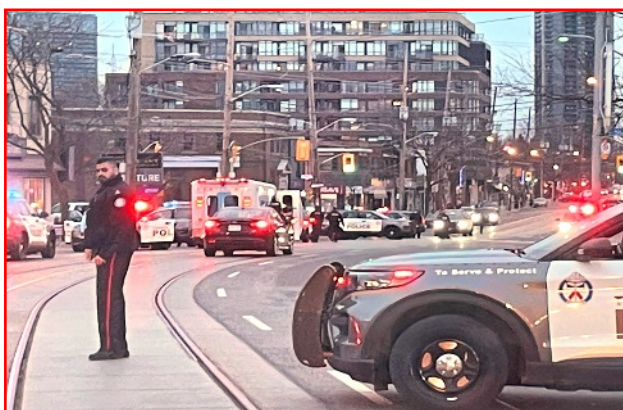
"The officer caught up with the man and was able to place him in custody after a violent struggle."

Another dangerous struggle broke out between the officer and suspect inside the bank.

"The man stabbed the officer in the abdomen during the struggle causing serious injuries," according to police.

Hold Up Squad officers conducted a search warrant and located clothing and other evidence linking one man to several robberies.

Neelkanth Shah was arrested on March 26 and charged with: attempt murder, aggravated assault, robbery with an offensive weapon, four counts of robbery and five counts of disguise with intent. Nathaniel Mohabir was arrested the same day and charged with: robbery with an offensive weapon and disguise with intent. They will appear in court May 3.



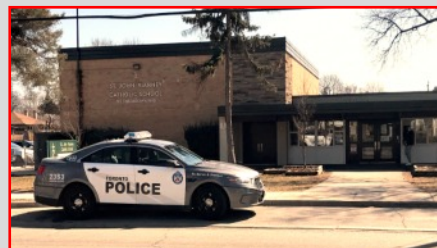
Man who tried to abduct girl was dressed all in black

Toronto Police say the attempted abduction of an eight-year-old Etobicoke girl was much more serious than many first believed.

Officers are asking the parents and teachers of young children to remain vigilant.

Police from 23 Division said the incident occurred on March 19 around 12:27 p.m. when officers responded to a call for unknown trouble at St. John Vianney Catholic School, in the Albion Rd. and Islington Ave. area.

Duty Insp. Michael Williams said children were playing outside at lunch time at the south end of the school, when a man approached the girl and attempted to put her over his shoulder and flee.



POLICE guarding grounds of school . .

Williams said other children in the playground noticed what was going on and approached the man, which seemingly scared him off. Police say he left the girl and appeared to flee toward the Humber River ravine.

Police said the child didn't sustain any injuries and it is unclear if she was targeted.

The man is described as white, six feet tall, with a heavy build. Officers are concerned that the suspect was dressed all in black.

He was wearing a black ski mask, black baseball hat, black sweater, black gloves, black pants, black shoes and carrying a black backpack, police said in a release.

The principal put the school in lockdown immediately, and students were brought inside, police said. The Toronto Catholic District School Board said in a statement that it is "deeply troubled" by the incident and urged anyone with information to contact police.

Several other schools in the area were put on hold and secured. Police continue to look into the reports and urge anyone who was in the area, who may have dashcam or security camera video, to contact police at 416-808-7474 or www.222tips.com

Local man busted for robbing two retail stores



Hold Up Squad officers have arrested a man following two robberies that occurred in the Kipling Ave. and Lake Shore Blvd. W. area.

Police said the suspect entered a store on March 15 with a mask on, and his hood over his head, in an attempt to conceal his identity.

"The man approached the checkout counter and made a demand for cash while pretending to purchase some merchandise," police said. "After a short interaction with employees, the man fled the scene empty-handed."

Police said the man returned on March 17 and took items from the shelves and was approached and asked to pay for the items.

Police alleged the suspect "pulled out a knife and threatened the employee." Patrick Evangeliste-Tavernier, 33, is charged with seven criminal offences and is before the courts.

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MPP Godfrey sought inoculation of all Ontario citizens

Dr. Forbes Godfrey was a Chief Medical Health Officer for the Town of Mimico and one of the first medical doctors to successfully run for, and win, a seat in the Ontario Legislature.

Godfrey, who passed away in 1932 at the age of 65, for years practiced from his 26 Albert St. home in Mimico, before he ran for politics. Ironically, the son of a Methodist minister was a champion of inoculation for the prevention of infectious diseases, at a time when the practice was



MPP & MD GODFREY

scorned or unheard of.

He and a few other Canadian doctors at the time demanded and obtained a program for the inoculation of Canadian soldiers during World War 1.

A Conservative, Dr. Godfrey was elected in a 1907 by-election to fill a York West seat left vacant by the death of an incumbent.

When G. Howard Ferguson was elected Conservative Premier in 1923, he invited the outspoken Mimico physician to become Ontario's first Minister of Health, a position he held for 20 years.

The doctor made his presence known in the Legislature by demanding his government take the lead in combating tuberculosis, which then caused the deaths of many citizens; but not as many as COVID-19 today. His investigations and presentation of the facts to the Legislature led to a commission to look into and combat tuberculosis. It led to government-supported tuberculosis hospitals being created. He became



DR. FORBES GODFREY (top, left) was the Chief Medical Health Officer for the Town of Mimico.

known as a champion of inoculation for prevention of infectious diseases.

Dr. Godfrey was by all accounts a kind and compassionate politician, who remained the Health Minister from 1911 to 1931. He was a Cabinet minister for seven years at a time where there was great growth in the community. The MD is credited for organizing the Health Dept. from the ground up and obtained laws that forced mine owners to provide protection for employees against silicosis.

He also sponsored industrial health programs, agitated for control of the newly discovered insulin as a public trust, organized health clinics for remote areas of Ontario and free inoculation and vaccination programs for school children. The doctor's Mimico home was a busy place. His daughter, Constance, married Dr. Warren Snyder, another popular physician, and the two doctors had their own practice.

Dr. Godfrey remained an MPP until his death. He had been in poor health with



ONTARIO Premier Mitchell Hepburn with the Dionne babies.

pernicious anaemia, a disease for which no cure was known at that time. It was a large procession. Mimico schools closed the day of his funeral and citizens crowded area streets to pay tribute to their hometown doctor who never hesitated to fight for his community. He died two years before the May 28, 1934 births of the famous Dionne quintuplets, who were born outside Callander, Ontario. The identical girls, who were on display for a large part of their lives, were helped by the inoculations. It is believed that two of the sisters are alive today.

Rags to riches life of Mimico roadbuilder Franceschini



FRANCESCHINI

Mimico road builder James Franceschini went from rags to riches, which included prized horses and a Mimico lakefront mansion.

Franceschini arrived in Canada at the age of 15 in 1906 with

no money, could not speak English and had no place to stay.

He was helped by a Toronto cop who found the teen a place to sleep that first night in this city. The young man found a job the very next day.

Franceschini, who would work hard and overcome many struggles, became a self-made millionaire in less than 10-years in Canada.

The entrepreneur in 1912 founded and built Dufferin Construction, Canada's largest road construction company, which celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2012.

As soon as he made his first millions, he lost the fortune due to a bad contract and a decline in construction due to World War 1. He had his steam shovel, horses and equipment repossessed.

Not one to be kept down. He embarked on a series of small contracts with the City of Toronto, which included clearing snow and repairing roads. He also worked excavating



FRANCESCHINI's well-manicured gardens extended to Lake Ontario. His grand manor house Myrtle Villa (right).

the foundation for General Motors Canada assembly plant in Oshawa.

By 1917, Dufferin Construction won the first provincial highway construction tender to grade the Rouge Hill portion of Kingston Road, known as Highway 2. Franceschini, and his wife, Annie, had a daughter Myrtle in 1921, and a few years later went shopping for a mansion to join their friends on the Mimico lakefront.

They purchased a grand manor home named 'Ormscliffe,' described as a California-style bungalow and renamed the estate "Myrtle Villa" (right) after their daughter. He made headlines in the 1930's when a gang of extortioners threatened to kidnap his daughter and fired a shot through the window of his home.

Their Lake Shore Blvd. and Royal York Rd. area mansion stood on five-acres of lakefront and was remodelled Italian style. A house was built for his brother Leonard and row housing for staff. Franceschini purchased land and constructed an equestrian centre for his prized Hackney horses. The couple were devoted to charitable work, and in 1930 they hosted the Shiners' North American Convention in Toronto, with a reception at Myrtle Villa.

In the 1930s, Dufferin was flying high. The company was building major highways for all levels of the Ontario government. Then suddenly the boss was thrown in jail. In the 1940s, Franceschini's company was building minesweepers for the Canadian Navy, when he was arrested on suspicion of engaging in "Fascist activities." He was detained for a year in an internment camp and released for medical treatment.



Now in ill health and semi-retired, he moved into a new home in Mount Tremblant, where he lived until his death in 1960. Myrtle Villa was sold in 1959 to Amedeo and Lawrence Longo, brothers who built Amedeo Garden Court Apartments on the property.

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Cavell Ave. named after nurse shot by Germans

By TOM GODFREY

One of Mimico's well used roadways was named after English nurse Edith Louisa Cavell, who was killed by a firing squad for saving the lives of Allied soldiers by smuggling them out of German-held Belgium.



CAVELL saving lives.

Cavell was shot one early morning. Her execution received global condemnation and extensive press coverage worldwide.

The night before her execution, she said, "Patriotism is not enough. I must have no hatred or bitterness towards anyone." These words were later inscribed on a memorial to her near Trafalgar Square, in London, England.

Cavell was already notable as a pioneer of modern nursing when killed.

Her bravery was admired by people worldwide and there are dozens of buildings, parks, statues and roads, like Cavell Avenue in Mimico, named after the valiant

nurse. There are pages of events and things named after Cavell worldwide. She became a nurse while taking care of her father at the age of 30. Cavell worked as a travelling nurse and worked her way through a number of hospitals.

Cavell was sent to assist with the typhoid outbreak in Maidstone during 1897. Along with other staff she was awarded a Maidstone Medal. She took a temporary post as matron in 1906 of the Manchester and Salford Sick and Poor and Private Nursing Institution and worked there for about nine months.

She then launched the nursing journal, *L'infirmière* and within a year, she was training nurses for three hospitals, twenty-four schools, and thirteen kindergartens in Belgium.

By November 1914, after the German occupation of Brussels, Cavell began sheltering British soldiers and funneling them out of occupied Belgium to the neutral Netherlands.

Wounded British and French soldiers as well as Belgian and French civilians of military age were hidden from the Germans. The escapers were provided



NURSE EDITH LOUISA CAVELL (above) before she was killed by a German firing squad in 1915. Archiive photos.

with false papers and led by guides to hosts who would furnish them with money to reach the Dutch frontier.

The German officials began to suspect her movements and activity.

Cavell was arrested in August 1915 and charged with harbouring Allied soldiers. She admitted that she was instrumental in 'conveying about 60 British and 15 French soldiers, as well as about 100

French and Belgian civilians to the frontier."

Sixteen men, forming two firing squads, carried out the sentence on her and a Belgian architect at the Tirmational shooting range in Schaerbeek, at 7 a.m. on October 12. Two women and another man received reprieves.

Eyewitness accounts of the shooting said Cavell was shot by eight soldiers.

The nurse was at one time the best-known woman in the world. Her death by firing squad turned her into a propaganda icon, with her name gracing schools, bridges, parks and roads right here in Mimico.



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Lidia (right) with son, Giovanni, and Jane.

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

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

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Rotary Community Heroes Awards for volunteers

Toronto Police Constables Julie Rowe and Leanna Gill help mentor and keep in school some 60 high-risk elementary school students as part of 43 Division's school liaison team.

The officers, in addition to Rotarian and social entrepreneur David Lockett and Toronto Sick Kids Director of Neuro-oncology Dr. Eric Bouffet, are being honoured on April 23 for their volunteerism with Community Heroes Awards presented by The Rotary Club of Toronto West. "The Rotary Community Heroes Awards is a



CHAIR Stephen Thiele

continuation of the Rotary Club's Rotary Youth Impact Awards event that was held for 20 years," said Community Heroes Award chair Stephen Thiele. "We are very proud to be able to honour the four recipients for their fantastic contributions to our community, especially youth and families that face incredible challenges." This year's virtual event will be hosted by CTV's Queen's Park Reporter Colin D'Mello. Dubbed the 'dynamic duo,' Officers Rowe and Gill for the past six years have delivered many presentations to students from Grades 1 and 8 on topics which include



COMMUNITY HEROES AWARD TO DR. ERIC BOUFFE, Chair of Canadian Brain Tumour Consortium.

community helper, safety, bullying, peer pressure, youth and the law and Internet safety.

"They have delivered their presentations to parents plus teachers and have become pillars within the school system," according to the Rotary Club. "Through their mentoring, many youth have realized their potential and have been able to make positive decisions which ultimately changed the course of their path to a brighter future."

The pair have conducted follow-up school checks and have made home visits, where necessary, to connect families with numerous agencies for assistance and referrals to the 43 Division FOCUS table.

FOCUS is a community safety and well-being initiative co-led by Toronto Police, United Way and City of Toronto that aims to reduce risk, harm, and victimization, and improve well-being with support from community resources and agencies.

Lockett, who is described as a visionary, leader and true social entrepreneur, has spent his life volunteering to identify, design, develop and fund innovative programs to address issues that lead to family and domestic violence, poverty and youth crime.

He co-founded The Redwood Shelter 30 years ago and was the driving force in the building of its crisis care centre. The Redwood offers safety, healing and opportunities for growth for women and their children escaping abusive and violent environments.



TORONTO POLICE 43 Division Officers Julie Rowe and Leanna Gill for the past six years have helped, mentored and gained the trust of many residents in their Division. They have become 'pillars of the school system' for many area students.

Lockett is a co-founder and President of PACT (Urban Peace Program) and its parent organization, the Canadian Foundation for the Prevention of Family Violence. His dedication and perseverance has made it possible for the charity to help thousands of underserved and at-risk youth, as well as low income and vulnerable families and seniors each year.

Under PACT, Lockett has helped at-risk youth referred from the courts, schools and other partner agencies across Toronto to remain crime free, to reach their potential and engage productively with their communities.

In response to the COVID pandemic, he pivoted PACT's Grow to Learn urban farming schoolyard program to continue to feed over 350 low income individuals, families and seniors-in-need in the Lawrence Heights community and deliver 3,400 bags of produce and meals weekly from May to October.

Dr. Bouffet came to Toronto's Sick Kids as Director of Neuro-oncology to develop and lead a multi-disciplinary neuro-oncology program. He is the Garron Family Chair in Childhood Cancer Research, a professor of Paediatrics at the University of Toronto and Chair of the Canadian Brain Tumour Consortium.



ROTARIAN AND SOCIAL entrepreneur David Lockett, (above) and Dr. Eric Bouffet, (center), a Toronto Hospital for Sick Children Director of Neuro-oncology, are being honoured by the Rotary Club of Toronto West with Community Heroes Awards for their great work.

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Some residents against giant 7-Eleven selling booze

Area residents have mixed feelings after reading posters in the community and social media reports that a number of 7-Eleven stores in South Etobicoke and elsewhere have applied to sell alcohol at some locations. A Liquor Licence Application has been filed, and being proudly displayed, by 7-Eleven for its store at 3260 Lake Shore Blvd. W., at Twenty Sixth Street, for an indoor area.



SOME 7-ELEVEN staff will find out soon if they can sell alcohol. Liquor licence application on right.

The deadline for submissions was March 11. "All objections will be shared with the applicant," the poster states. "Anonymous objections are not accepted."

The massive company, with 70,200 stores worldwide, has confirmed it has applied to sell booze at 61 stores in

Ontario. Seven of them are in Toronto and about a handful in South Etobicoke. "We are excited to announce that we have applied for a liquor licence for this store," the company said. "We want to continue to be the neighbourhood store that our customers rely on for all their needs."

It pledged safety and responsibility writing "Smart-Serve training combined with our rigorous age-verification program will keep our stores and customers safe." The company plans to have a small selection of Ontario-made beer and wine for sale. The applications, according to 7-Eleven, were filed after the Ontario government decided to extend beer and wine retailing to convenience stores.

A 7-Eleven statement said the beer and wine would be offered during limited hours in designated consumption areas of some Ontario stores.

It said the alcoholic beverages would complement its push into fresh and hot food, and would build on the chain's long history of controlling access to age-restricted products. An Ontario government official said under the current regulations, a dedicated space must be

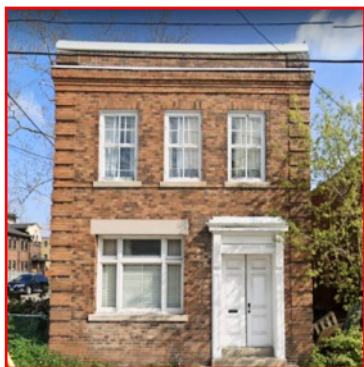
created inside the store "for the sale, service and consumption of alcohol with food inside the store."

The coming of booze to 7-Eleven has received mixed comments online as readers discussed the benefits.

"They're applying to open a bar inside the store," Tamara wrote on social media. "I don't see many people stopping in at 7/11 for a glass of wine." "This place is already trouble as it is," Denis stated. "No need for booze-hounds on top of this." "No one would care really if they were selling it, the issue here is they want to serve it, as in be a bar," Lynn noted. A final decision will be made by the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO). No date has been set for an decision.



History of Mimico bank heists date back 100-years



THIS DWELLING on Mimico Ave. was a thriving bank that was robbed in 1933 of \$2,325.

The more some things change in Mimico, the more they remain the same; as in bank robberies. It will be 88 years in June when the Royal Bank of Canada, at 86 Mimico Ave., near Station Rd., was heisted by two gunmen in a 1933 noon-time caper. It reminds us of two offi-

cers who were injured in a Lake Shore Blvd. W. and Allen Ave. TD Bank robbery on March 26. The Toronto officers are recovering from stab wounds. Back then, police and newspaper reports said the crooks shoved a sawed-off shotgun in the face of teller L.D. Taylor and forced staff into a vault. Another gunman was waving a revolver, threatening staff. The thieves fled in a getaway car with \$2,325, according to *The Toronto Daily Star*. The newspaper reported that on June 16, 1933 one of the thieves aimed a shotgun at employees in a vault, while another with a handgun went to the manager's office. "It all took place so quickly that we didn't know what was taking place," one customer said. Another man told *The Star* "a gun was struck in my face and I was told to get into the

vault fast." It is not known if police made any arrests in the case. They were searching for three men. And there was much excitement on that June day when the headline in *The Star* heralded "Two Armed Thugs Rob Mimico of \$2,325." "When word was received at Toronto Police headquarters all cruiser cars were notified and sent to the suburban district to block all main highways entering the city," according to a police dispatch. The Union Bank of Canada was established in Mimico in 1910 on Cavell Ave. In 1923 the bank moved to Mimico Ave. and built its first branch. The Union Bank around 1936 merged with the Royal Bank of Canada. The property is now owned by the nearby G.H. Hogle Funeral Home.

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Journalist Harvey Currell made his name covering Etobicoke & area

By DAVE KOSONIC

Harvey Currell had a thirst for gathering news and information and a knack for keeping South Etobicoke residents in the know about important local topics and issues.

Currell was well-known in the Mimico community where he lived most of his life with wife, Josephine. He was actively involved in the area and his many contributions included serving as a long-time member of the Mimico Public Library Board.



He was a reporter for *The Toronto Telegram* and made a name covering the Etobicoke and Lakeshore areas.

Currell was promoted to a Suburban Editor at *The Tely* and continued to promote coverage of South Etobicoke.

It was quite an accomplishment considering that he was first hired as a young copy boy by the paper that shut down in October 30, 1971, resulting in the loss of jobs of scores of newsmen and women that resulted in the birth of *The Toronto Sun*.

Currell authored six books including, *Where The Alders Grow*, for the Mimico Conservation Authority. It was based on the Lakeshore watershed and used as a text book in Etobicoke elementary schools.

He also released in 1967 *The Mimico Story*, which is filled with information about Mimico dating back to the early days of the community. Historical topics include how Mimico got its name, the First Methodist Church and early families such as the Murrays and the Van Eversys.

Currell wrote DEDICATION, which at the beginning of this book stated: 'To the men and women of Mimico who served King and Coun-

try in



HARVEY CURRELL in these photos showed how much he loved Etobicoke and educated many about the area.

two World Wars and Korea - in many instances giving their lives so that the democratic way of life might survive.' He also worked as an information officer for the former Etobicoke Board of Education prior to the amalgamation of Toronto. I was a part-time reporter for *The Toronto Star* at the time assigned to cover Board meetings. Whenever I required additional information to dig deeper into a story and beat the deadline for next day's paper, Currell went out of his way to provide me with additional support because he understood 'newspaper pressure'. He cherished the outdoors and was one of the founders of Ontario's renowned Bruce Trail. To promote our province's beauty he wrote a weekly newspaper column for 50 years titled *Town And Country Trips*. Currell passed away in August 2020 at age 98 in Sault Ste. Marie. Josephine pre-deceased him and he is survived by his children Linda, and Robert, in addition to his five grand children and as many great grandchildren. He was well-respected by the many people from all walks of life who knew him. When Bootsie Sammut recalled Currell, she wrote: 'Harvey was a very warm kind cottage neighbour. I loved his stories and could listen to him for hours.'

BIA sponsors successful Easter food drive to feed those in need



THE EASTER BUNNY was the kids' favourite during the first annual Lakeshore Village BIA Cruising Easter Bunny event in which residents donated more than two vanloads of non-perishable foods to help St. Margaret's Church. Volunteers above includes Church official Julie McMillan, (left), the Bunny, Jamie and Chris Korwiin-Kuczynski, of the BIA. (right) Thanks also goes out to New Toronto Ratepayers Association. Photos by Tom Godfrey.



The Lakeshore Village Business Improvement Area (BIA) has sponsored a successful Easter food drive to help feed the needy in our community. Those food-challenged are the winners as more than two vanloads of non-perishable items were collected in a first annual BIA Cruising Easter Bunny event.



A team of volunteers on March 27 circled the area collecting bags of food that were left by residents on their porches to help St. Margaret's Church, on Sixth Street. All the children had an opportunity to have their photos taken with the Easter Bunny, who said it was the most photos he ever had taken of him.

St. Margaret's official Julie McMillan said their cupboards were "overflowing" with the much-needed donations to help feed the community. "We have finished sorting out the food and for the first time in a long time our cupboards are overflowing," McMillan told volunteers. The food will be made available through programs offered by the church. Kris Korwin-Kuczynski, Chair of the Lakeshore Village BIA, said it was a very successful food drive and thanked the many residents for pitching in. "This community has been good to us," he said. "Now it is our turn to give back to the community."

He thanked St. Margaret's and the New Toronto Ratepayers Association for their support.

John, a volunteer, said he was thrilled by the large amount of food left on the porches to pick up. "It was a fair bit of work," John said. "But we totally loved it and enjoyed watching the children with the Easter Bunny made our day."

The Easter Bunny was surrounded by children as he hopped along Lake Shore Blvd., near Sixth Street, handing out candies to residents. The drivers of vehicles passing by did a double take and many pulled over so their children could get candies and have photos taken with the Easter Bunny. Others were blowing their horns. One young child, in a stroller, recognized the bunny and demanded to have a photo taken with the long-eared rabbit.

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The Tale says a lot & patios on The Shore

The Tale Indian Cuisine stands out for tasty vegan curries and combos. New to Long Branch, The Tale Indian Cuisine and Bar sure has a story to tell.

Owners Mohnish Bhagat and his wife, Gurleen Kaur, opened their dream vegetarian eatery in January and their nice-tasting curries have been catching on.

The pair are from Brampton, but decided to open their business at 3747 Lake Shore Blvd. W. because they obtained a 'good deal and all the good names for Indian restaurants in Brampton were taken.'

"People love our vegetarian food, all of which are gluten free," Gurleen says. "We have been getting a lot of good re-



MOHNISH AND WIFE, GURLEEN, (left, center), with chef Vishal Bhagat have a story to tell in The Tale.



KITCHEN ON SIXTH RESTAURANT (above) wants you to know they carry a full-line of British-made foods and goods in their expanding in-store market, at 2976 Lake Shore Blvd. W.



AREA RESIDENTS catch some rays before a COVID-19 lockdown at their favourite patios including: Lucky Dice Restaurant, (top) Delicia Bakery and Dakota's Sports Bar.

"We like this area and the people here," Gurleen says. "The people have been good to us."

The pair, who grew up in the Punjab area of India, came to Canada about 10 years ago and settled in Brampton.

They did not know each other until a chance meeting on Facebook. "We then learned that we had attended the same school in India for 12 years," Kaur explains. "We were even together in a school picture and we did not know each other."

It did not take long before Mohnish packed in his truck driving job and joined Gurleen in the kitchen.

"That is where the name 'The Tale' comes from," she says. "Everyone has a tale and they are encouraged to talk about their tale here."

They plan to install a board on which customers can pin a story of their tale for others to see.

The Tale can be reached at 416-546-4131 or at thetale31@gmail.com



views from people who love our food." Customers love their range of curries and combos, which are all under \$12. The butter soya, which taste like butter chicken, is popular; along with the Matar Panner, an exotic paneer curry cooked in tomato and onion based sauce. Their food is quite tasty. The naan was crisp and warm and went well with the butter soya.

IN THE KNOW IN MIMICO



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Help boys who lost their parents

A Go Fund Me campaign has been launched to help two young Mimico boys whose parents have died. Junior, 12, and Justin, 10, received the devastating news that their dad, Jason Reed, 40, had passed away on March 11 ‘very



FRIENDS AND FAMILY are trying to help Justin (left) and Junior, who lost their parents. Go Fund Me photo.

suddenly and tragically,” according to campaign organizer Sonya Zaccaria. Zaccaria wrote that their dad Jason’s death occurred 14 months after they lost their mom, Jen, 38, ‘suddenly and tragically as well.’ “These boys are the centre of their parents’ world,” she said. “Thankfully, they have family members and friends who will love and care for them.” Zaccaria said “most of us will never experience the pain of losing both parents at such a young age.” “These boys will now have to navigate the world without their mother and father by their sides,” she wrote in an emotional message on a Go Fund Me page. “As a mother myself, it is my worst nightmare leaving my children behind with so many uncertainties that lie ahead.” Zaccaria, who is related to the boys, said all funds raised will be used to pay for their college or university needs when the time comes. “This fundraising is not for funeral expenses,” she pledged. “Any money raised will go directly to an education fund in both boys’ names.” More than \$10,000 out of a \$50,000 goal was raised by March 19. A funeral service was held earlier this month at Hogle Funeral Home for the boys’ dad. “Those who knew him will deeply miss his beautiful, infectious smile, laugh and his warm and giving heart,” according to his obituary. “He will be so deeply missed by his children Junior and Justin.” Area resident Bill Bates urged followers on social media to help the lads. “These two sweet boys have lost both their parents in 14 months,” wrote Bates. “Let’s help them any way that we can.” Dana Mainprize said “My heart hurts for the boys. A big loss for so many! Donations to help with the education of Junior and Justin can be made to GoFundMe.com.

Go Fund Me campaign launched to fund appeal to city in fight against Campbell’s Soup development plans

Now that the Campbell’s Soup Company lands in Mimico has been flattened and its smokestack demolished, residents are preparing for a fight with City Hall.

A Go Fund Me campaign has been launched to raise funds to pay for an appeal that has been submitted to the City of Toronto Committee of Adjustment, said organizer Zsuzsanna Lichner.



AREA RESIDENT Zsuzsanna Lichner has filed an appeal to a City of Toronto Committee of Adjustment ruling into changes in the now-flattened Campbell’s Soup factory site. The end of the Campbell’s smokestack (left) and plant.

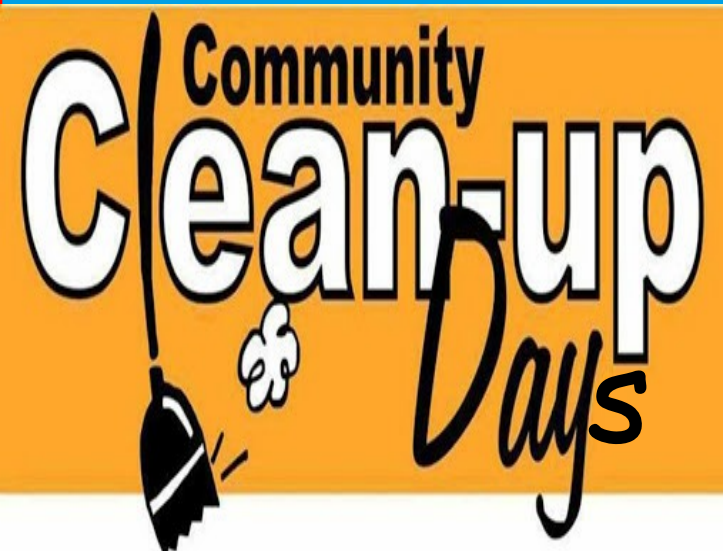


“The Campbell Soup Company in Mimico has been closed down,” Lichner wrote on the Go Fund Me Page. “It is turning into a last-mile distribution center that would operate 24/7 at 86 loading bays for heavy-load trucks.” She said “residents were not given a chance to express their views about the development that is only a few feet away from their house and school.” The area resident said the committee has approved 242 extra parking spots and a parking entrance that abuts a residential street. “We believe that will lead to a major disruption of the local traffic and negatively

impact road safety,” Lichner wrote. “We are raising funds to pay for the appeal that has been submitted.” The factory, which opened in 1931, has been demolished to make way for what will be a “last mile” distribution centre.” Campbell’s 1931 and 1941 facades will be retained. The company operated from 1913 to 2014 and at one time employed generations of local residents and purchased crops from area farms. Proposed by QuadReal Property Group, with Weston Consulting as planners and designed by Ware Malcomb Architecture, the project consists of three one-storey industrial warehouse buildings that will replace eight smaller industrial buildings that collectively served as the former Campbell Soup Company. No date has been set for a hearing. More than \$200 has been raised in the campaign, which has a goal of \$300.

Lakeshore Village BIA

Annual Community Clean Up



We would like to thank the many residents who took part in the Lakeshore Village BIA’s Easter Food-Donation Drive to benefit our Community. [See Pg. 7](#)

Community Clean Up Days April 19 to 25, 2021

We encourage all residents to clean up around their homes or businesses.

Let’s all participate to keep our community clean!

Please wear hand protection, socially distance and take necessary health precautions.



George is known as 'Sub King of New Toronto'



GEORGE KOZARIS is dubbed the 'Sub King of New Toronto'

George Kozaris has been dubbed the 'Sub King of New Toronto' for serving generations of families going back almost 50 years at his popular Lakeshore Super Submarine shop.

Back in the day it took three people, George

and his three brothers, to serve the many customers lined up outside their door at the iconic Lake Shore Blvd. W. and Islington Ave. restaurant.

The brothers purchased the shop in 1974 after arriving in Toronto from their native Greece. At first, George worked at Cara Operations as a dishwasher and cook. He purchased the thriving business from his brothers over the years and is the sole owner.

"Nobody gave us anything when we came here," Kozaris recalls. "We worked hard for everything that we have." Kozaris knows residents by their first name and they religiously return for his tasty, home-made subs.

One day he made an assorted sandwich for a young man, who says he was short on cash this week, but promised to repay him on pay day.

"I love it here," he says. "I love the people."

Kozaris chose the area, which was booming in the 1970s, with many large companies as Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co., Campbell's Soup, Anaconda American Brass, Reg. N. Boxer Co., Ritchie & Ramsey Ltd., and W. & A. Gilbey's Distillery, among others.

"This was the place to be," he recalls. "We had two movie theatres and there were lineups around the block to see movies like The Exorcist."

Kozaris points to an area where Lastman's Bad Boy Furniture store, Woolworths Supermarkets, two rival movie theatres and a well-known bowling alley used to stand.

"Those were the golden years and the community was booming," he smiles. "Things were good back then. There is not much here to attract people now."

The business and residents have also been good to Kozaris, 67, who with wife, Helen, are the parents of two grown daughters and a son.

He is a devoted Toronto Maple Leafs fan and has never missed a day's work, or been on a holiday. A big hockey fan, he has autographed photos of Sidney Crosby, Brad Marchand and Mike Keenan.

"The furthest I have been to is Niagara Falls since I arrived in Canada," the sub-maker says proudly. "I would rather be here than at home."





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Your Health & Wellness

By **MONIKA MEULMAN**

April is here for Easter Eggs, Spring Bulbs and Outdoor Activities. Have you ever combined them into a month-long Discovery Treasure Hunt?

Now is your chance.

Of course you can hunt for the typical Easter egg chocolate. Sweet Olenka's anyone? (They do have the best selection of truffles don't they?)

I am not going to take chocolate away from you because chocolate is delicious and it's actually very good for you. Did you know that the theobromine in pure cacao is exceptionally healthy for your cardiovascular health and supports your energy levels throughout the day? Yes, that means that you do need to eat more dark chocolate and less of the milky chocolate because milk chocolate really is just milk and sugar with some cacao thrown in.

Here's how you can add good eats, celebrating Easter weekend, some extra walking and exercise and sharing with friends into this wonderful spring month. Now is the time to get healthier and support local join me in exploring what our beautiful South Etobicoke has to offer. I call it the treasure hunt for health.

With our expansive multicultural eateries and businesses there is a multitude of places we can explore and learn about.

I recommend you put together your top five list and exchange it with your family and friends in the area. See how many similarities and differences there are. This will get you outdoors to explore the neighbourhood by walking and supporting local businesses. You'll be encouraged to go outdoors, walk, learn about new park places and try new foods.

Here's what you do:

Make a list of your top five favourite food takeouts. Add your two top favourite parks where you go play, work out, fish, hike or walk. And, list your three favourite sources of exercise. Are they yoga studios or gyms. Even if some of these are not open, most of them have online classes and wonderful blogs and how-to guides available to you

online. Lastly, throw in a couple of bonus places such as your favourite reiki studio or physiotherapy support clinic or flower shop.

Once you have this list, share with your friends and put in your recommendations for each one. For example "this one has the best roti" or "that one has the best Pilates class." Guaranteed, this will help expand and support all of our local businesses and invite some new adventures into your life this month.

Choosing to be healthy is all about variety and getting out there, allowing our minds and our hearts and our bodies to expand, to grow. Take it upon yourself this month to expand your exploration of our wonderful neighbourhood.

Bonus points are awarded: If you make a point of sharing your favourite coffee shop and dessert place with your friends or neighbours. Take Easter weekend as a time to pick up your favourite butter tarts or biscotti or hot cross buns and leave some for your neighbours or friends, 'leave some on the porches of neighbours and friends, for them to discover.' (Ok, ring the doorbell too, so the birds or wildlife don't sneak off with them!) Make it a Treasure Hunt for all. *Super bonus points are awarded if you walked to and from all of these places.*

Tell me how it goes and what you have discovered!

Garden Time Health trivia question:

By the way, Tulip bulbs can be substituted into a cooking recipe for.....what ingredient?

"In the spring, at the end of the day, you should smell like dirt."

-Margaret Atwood

Contact Monika Meulman, of The Healing Muse Apothecary, at 2859 Lake Shore Blvd.W., or 416-347-5449 or @healingmuse or www.healingmuse.com



In The Community

By **TOM GODFREY**

It was sure nice to hear laughter before another month-long lockdown resumes for Easter.

The return of smiles and a bounce in the step of some people in our community, was great following a long state of lockdown. Now it seems like we are back locked in again.

Many stores are again streamlined and hairdressers, salons and most spas are hoping they can reopen April 12.

Most businesses were hoping the last lockdown was it, yes summer, and all the nice things that go with the season. But Premier Doug Ford has said he is listening to his doctors and will order another lockdown if he had to.

The virus has been hard on people in the community and not merry news for many. Even though we are receiving vaccines, many people have suffered life-changing experiences due to COVID-19 deaths of their loved ones or watched helplessly as their businesses lose money and hours get cut.

One local pizza maker tells me that he has not had a dine-in customer in his New Toronto restaurant for more than 400 days. He does not have patio to attract diners and gets by on take out orders or curbside pickups.

"I have had it with this city," the pizza maker says. "Me and my family are moving out of here."

The businessman says he has lost confidence in city leaders 'and the way they can just shut down small businesses.' Maybe he is a point.

The family are joining a legion of big city dwellers who are looking "for a slower pace of life in a small city," not too far from Toronto.

His restaurant has been a fixture in our community for almost five years and is located in a prime, well-travelled area. "Everything I make now goes to pay for rent, hydro and other bills," the university graduate in sociology pleads. "I am working for nothing, or just to get by, on most days." A proud man, who

arrived here ready to work hard and make his dream a success. He did not want me to reveal his name fearing "people will show up to protest him as he is leaving."

Now disappointed, he is almost broken due to a lack of sales, which brings with it hope.

This is a dynamic entrepreneur, who has made it to the top of his trade in New Toronto, of all places and I can see that this man, and his family, will shine in a smaller, friendlier and family-oriented town somewhere.

He has a lot of big-city experience in the food industry and is destined to see better days.

Another long-time resident, Jacqueline, is working her way up again. She opened her NV Curls Salon on The Queensway soon after COVID-19 struck and has been closed since. She refuses to style customer's hair at her home, she is gearing up to return to her passion when barbers and hairdressers return this month.

"I have had a lot of offers but I refuse to bring customers to my home," Jacqueline says. "I have a family and I don't want anything to happen to them"

She has had a reduced income for months and can't wait to work.

There is also a salon I drive by that had a busy and affluent clientele pre-Covid. The prominent salon has been sitting dusty and shut for months. A taped sign on the door promises "we will return." Will they.

Our community is made up of survivors. Most of us have seen harder days and can survive the challenges thrown at us.

Tom Godfrey is an Editor of The South Etobicoke News, who lives in the community. He was a reporter at the Toronto Sun for many years before entering community journalism.

City sets the record straight

Kris Scheuer, a Senior Communications Coordinator, Strategic Communications, of the City of Toronto, sets the record straight in regards on the city not purchasing 2950 and 2970 Lake Shore Blvd. W., for use as a shelter.



"After a comprehensive due diligence process, the City of Toronto will no longer be acquiring this property," Scheuer wrote in an email. "The decision not to proceed with the acquisition is a reflection of information gained during the City's diligence review of the site, including building condition assessments and environmental assessments."

"It was determined that the City would not be able to proceed with the renovation and activation of the site within the Council approved budget and project timeline required for the acquisition."

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Long Branch residents fight to save a 160-year-old maple tree



From the Bench

By Retired JUDGE LLOYD BUDZINSKI



Long Branch residents will learn the fate of an historic 160-year-old Black Barn Maple tree on April 16.

The Save the Black Barn Maple Committee has launched a campaign to save the iconic tree, which many say is older than Canada.

The healthy Black Barn Maple of Eastwood, as it is dubbed, is located at the rear of 95 James Street, in the Brown's Line and Lake Shore Blvd. W. area.

The group has received thousands of online clicks in support and friend requests in their bid to save the landmark tree, which can be seen for miles around.

Residents say the property was purchased several years ago and the developer has since obtained a lawyer and applied to the City of Toronto to try and remove the tree to build a larger home.

A hearing into the fate of the maple is before a Toronto Local Appeal Board (TLAB), which will resume hearings on April 16.

The City originally objected to the tree's removal, then withdrew their objection to have the tree destroyed. The City in a document stated it had reached a settlement with the applicant/owner, which residents say is a numbered company.

"Everyone should have an interest in this significant loss to the tree canopy and understand the value of trees to our environment," said group spokesperson Sheila Carmichael. "This isn't the first tree to be threatened with destruction nor sadly will it be the last. We all need to be involved and become advocates for trees."

The Long Branch Neighbourhood Association's History and Culture Committee has conducted research that shows the tree was a sapling in the 1860s, when James and Martha Eastwood purchased 500 acres of the Samuel Smith Tract running south of Lake Shore King's Highway from Etobicoke Creek to about Thirty-First Street.

"This beauty (tree) is healthy, vibrant and full of wildlife," the committee wrote in its research. "The view of this tree can be enjoyed from James, Forty First, Fortieth and Garden Place."

Members said the tree was spared over the years.

"Our Black Barn Maple was not felled for development, but was allowed to mature to be one of Long Branch's oldest remaining potential Heritage Trees," the committee stated.

That area of Long Branch near Lake Ontario is home to some of the oldest trees in Canada, officials said. Some are older than Confederation in 1867.

Residents are concerned the Black Barn Maple will be removed, like the fate of an historic home at 98 Superior Ave., in Mimico, that was demolished last November even though it had heritage status pending and efforts to save the home.

It seems everyone is apologizing these days, Cuomo, Trudeau, Ford, The Queen, save Trump. Are these true apologies or simply passing responsibility to the victim, saying; "sorry if you took it the wrong way?" What is the significance of 'sorry'?

Generally, we are a forgiving people. The apology indicates remorse. In law, it's key to leniency. Forgiveness and rehabilitation are essential to our culture and 'Canadianism.' It is part of our genetic makeup. As Canadians we tend to focus on it. It requires ownership of one's mistake and its damage.

Psychologically, Carl Smith in 2008 concluded people erroneously believe revenge will make them feel better and help them gain closure, but actuality punishers ruminate on their deed and feel worse than those who cannot avenge the wrong. It costs money to go to jail. It's cheaper to rehabilitate. However, there are cases where absolute isolation is necessary. The principles of sentencing include: 1, gravity of the offence; 2, protection of the community by deterring further crimes by either the offender or others; 3, rehabilitation, making the person better at sentence's end than before; 4, character, the trial has limitations but in sentencing, past actions and records related to rehabilitation; 5, reparation, restoring the victim's losses; 6, proportionality of the penalty to similar cases and finally; 7, public respect for the administration of justice.

An early Plea of Guilt is significant. It doesn't reduce the sentence from the appropriate range for that crime. It allows a court to sentence in the lower part of the range. The benefit saves the victim from testifying. It saves society the cost of trials. About 90% of those charged plead guilty. The public purse couldn't afford trials for everyone.

It's an incentive to plead. Importantly, if sincere, an offer should be made to repair any damage. It begins the accused's rehabilitation, hopefully, returning him to society as a responsible taxpayer and reducing the risk of re-offending; thus, protecting society.

From my experience; a 63-year-old man was charged with incest with his daughter 30 years earlier. His daughter developed serious drug troubles related to this trauma. She had two sons in the care of Children's Aid.

The sentence in these circumstances are two to five years in prison. A two-year term was important to him since he could seek a conditional sentence which uses 'house arrest' rather than jail, meaning confinement to his home except for work. That level of leniency was uncommon for this case. It sounded self-serving.

The lawyer suggested his client would plead guilty; accept full responsibility for his breach of trust and his daughter's problems!

The defendant conceded that he could never make amends, but if allowed 'house arrest' he could continue working and qualify for his pension. With those monies, he would establish a trust fund, managed by his lawyer, paying \$10,000 a year to his daughter for the counselling she required. If she didn't use it, the remaining funds would be given to her children. It was a precise plan that attempted to repair some of the harm he caused.

Here, I had to weigh the seriousness of the crime and the potential to help the victim. What would you do? Find out next month.

So, what are the ingredients of a genuine apology and remorse? It is the mistake and the harm to the victim that is being compensated rather than an attempt to excuse the wrongdoer or make him look better.

It must express an empathy for the nature of the harm to the victim. It must present a convincing plan to prevent repetition; ensure the victim's or community's future safety. Lastly, it needs an appreciation of the social debt to the victim or community and proposes an action to restore the damage done.

Apologies are never straight forward, but by expressing remorse, complete ownership of the mistake, and actively providing a solution, one might deter revenge thinking, encourage forgiveness and minimize any penalty. Sentencing is the most difficult task a Judge has. Next time I will provide several more examples and you can be the Judge!

Judge Lloyd Budzinski retired after 28 years and was a former Crown Attorney, Defence Counsel and Ontario's Assistant Deputy Minister of Criminal Law. He was Chief Prosecutor in the high-profile trial of ex-RCMP officer Patrick Michael Kelly, who was found guilty of murder for throwing his wife from a 17th floor balcony in March 1981.

First cocktail bar was Hotel Sagamore

The Hotel Sagamore in Mimico is still talked about in some circles as an iconic place of many years ago, where friends met to lift a glass or two.

The landmark hotel made history when the owner in 1943, who is identified as a Mrs. Doughty, put in a petition to make the Hotel Sagamore the first cocktail bar in Mimico. She received a license and the Sagamore was operated as a hotel and bar for more than 40 years, from 1943 until its final days about 1984.

For generations it was a popular spot where the community met and drank. Little is documented of the well-known hotel, and fewer people still are with us today who frequented the bar, which closed at least 36 years ago.

It was in the 1940s that the Hotel Sagamore made its name as the first to successfully apply and become a cocktail bar or lounge in Mimico.

Under strict liquor laws brought in by the government in 1945, municipalities under 50,000 people can decide by plebiscite whether they want cocktail bars or lounges in their region. The governing body of Mimico gave the thumbs up for booze at the hotel. The establishment was located at 2472 Lake Shore Blvd. W., for generations. In the early 1980s it was sold to the TD Bank and remains a bank today.



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Sailors admire the fearlessness of warship HMCS Mimico

Many valiant seamen still admire the fearlessness of the warship HMCS Mimico. Area residents are proud of the Royal Canadian Navy ship, which proudly flew our name on D-Day duty, pipeline laying, escort duty and into her final days as a whale catcher.

The ship was commissioned in the latter years of World War II and was one of 16 warships built in the former United Kingdom in exchange for 16 Canadian-made Algerine Minesweepers.

The Flower class corvette was commissioned in Britain in February 1944 and saw service in escort duties in the English Channel and on June 6, D-Day, escorted fuelling craft to the Normandy beaches where Allied armies were pouring ashore to break Hitler's hold on Europe.

HMCS *Mimico* was assigned to Western Approaches Command out of Oban, Scotland. She participated in Operation Neptune, the naval aspect of the invasion of Normandy. The vessel arrived off the beaches one day after the invasion with the convoy she was escorting.

The warship remained as a convoy escort in the English Channel after the invasion, transferring to Portsmouth Command in September 1944 and Nore Command in October.

The *Mimico* continued invasion support duties when assigned to Operation Pluto, in the laying of fuel pipelines beneath the Channel.

By November the vessel was escorting the first convoy of coasters to Antwerp and ships from England to Belgium and Holland in dangerous and treacherous waters.



THE HMCS MIMICO with 90 seamen saw service in the latter years of World War II, including action on D-Day and Operation Neptune. It was a fearless warship as the captain (right) would say.

The ship was later sold for conversion to a whale-catcher. It then reappeared in 1950 as the *Olympic Victor* and in 1956 was resold and renamed *Otori Maru No.12*. She was renamed one more time, *Kyo Maru No.25* in 1962 before being scuttled in Japan in 1976.



Corvettes commissioned by the Royal Canadian Navy during the Second World War were named after communities for the most part, to better represent the people who took part in building them.

"She is named for Mimico, Ontario, a town that was eventually amalgamated into the larger city Toronto, Ontario," according to naval records.

Sponsors were commonly associated with the community for which the ship was named. Royal Navy corvettes were designed as open sea escorts, while Canadian corvettes were developed for coastal auxiliary roles which was exemplified by their minesweeping gear.

The mighty HMCS *Mimico* was 208 feet in length, 33 feet wide, had a draft of 11 feet, and was propelled by a 'single shaft, 2 x oil fired water tube boilers, 1 triple-expansion reciprocating steam engine.'

It had a range of 3,500 nautical miles and a speed of 16 knots. It had a complement of 90 men.

Mimico departed for a two-month refit in February 1945 at Chatham, Kent, England. The ship returned to service with Nore Command and continued as such until May 1945, when she departed for Canada.



"With the end of the war, the HMCS *Mimico* made her first and final trip to Canada," according to the vessel's history. "Her crew members were paid off in May 1945, at Sydney, N.S., and she was turned over to War Assets Corporation for disposal."

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Looking after yourself and others in the community

UNTIL APRIL 9 FREE AFTER SCHOOL online Spring ZOOM Workshops run by the Jean Augustine Centre for Young Women's Empowerment to learn about yoga, your body, health issues, media and other courses. Call 416) 253-9797 or info@jeanagustinecent

FREE MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELLING FOR INFANTS, children, youth and families by phone or video, no fees or appointments. Qualified counsellors available Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Contact 1-866-585-6486.

SENIORS GROUP ON ZOOM Every Thursday from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. until March 25. Join our virtual group to participate in informative motivational chat, mindfulness and relaxation sessions, exercise, games and crafts. To register call 416-231-7070 ext. 307 or email

health.promotion@stonegate.org

APRIL 10 at 7 p.m. HOLI GALA Festival of Colours online to raise funds for William Osler Health System Foundation's three hospitals Etobicoke General, Brampton Civic and Peel Memorial Centre for Integrated Health and Wellness. For more information call 905-494-6556 or visit www.holigala.ca

APRIL 13 THE ASSEMBLY HALL invites you to join author **Dorothy Ellen Palmer** for a look behind the pages of her seriously funny memoir *Falling for Myself* at 7 p.m. For more info or tickets visit assemblyhall.ca

APRIL 18 is 29th ANNUAL COL. SAMUEL SMITH Park clean-up from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Meet on the path east of the Lakeshore Yacht Club. Park at Lake Shore Blvd. W. and Kipling Ave. Bring your own gloves, dress for the weather and social distancing applies. Contact Alan at 416-937-4568 or email alan.ace.roy@gmail.com

FREE EIGHT-WEEK MINDFULNESS WORKSHOP series for one-hour on ZOOM on Wednesdays at 3 p.m. in March and April. The focus will be on relaxation and building coping skills to deal with stress and

anxiety. To register contact Jasmin at 416-252-6471 ext. 308 or email jasmind@lampchc.org

MARCH 26 LAUGH OUT LOUD FOR YOU every Friday from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. by ZOOM. This program will contain mindful meditation, exploring emotions and time to share through games and art. A parent or guardian must register each child. To register call 416-231-7070 ext. 307 or email health.promotion@stonegate.org

ZUMBA! EVERY TUESDAY on ZOOM from 7 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. To register call 416-231-7070 ext. 307 or email health.promotion@stonegate.org

ETOBICOKE SERVICES FOR SENIORS (ESS) grocery delivery program. Step 1 register and place order. Step 2 ESS will pick up grocery and deliver to your door. It will cost the price of your groceries and a \$3.50 delivery fee. Call 416-243-0127 ext. 555.

KIWANIS KINGSWAY HUMBER COVID RELIEF FUND to help charities in Etobicoke and residents who are in urgent need for funding. Our COVID-19 Relief Fund is set up to help those organizations. Visit <https://bit.ly/3du5fSU> or www.kingswaykiwanishumber.com

STUDY BEING CONDUCTED to identify affordable housing issues and solutions in South Etobicoke. Help a 'passionate' Humber College research team find affordable housing answers. For more information email salomeh.ahmadi@humber.ca

APRIL 19 ETOBICOKE CAMERA CLUB presents **James Cowie**, who will discuss successful adventure photo tours, based on 18 years exploring unique destinations with phototourtrekkers.com. Tickets \$10 from the ECC Facebook page at www.facebook.com/etobcc.

FREE FOR ADULTS LEARN BASIC COMPUTER SKILLS: must meet registration criteria including 19 years and over. Wednesdays from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Small online group instruction MS word, Internet, keyboarding, email. Contact 416-252-9701 ext. 242 or 243.

IMPROVE YOUR READING AND WRITING SKILLS. Have fun learning in small groups. Must have a computer and an email address. Criteria includes must be 19 and up, an Ontario resident. Contact 416-252-9701 ext. 242 or 243.

APRIL 23 THE ROTARY CLUB OF TORONTO WEST is honouring the volunteer contributions of four outstanding members with a Community Heroes Award. Being honoured are Police Consts. *Julie Rowe* and *Leanna Gill*, *David Lockett* and *Dr. Eric Bouffet*. A \$50 donation is required to attend the virtual event. There is also a silent auction. For more call Stephen Thiele at 416-559-3424 or visit their site at www.rotarytorontowest.ca.

LAMP EMERGENCY FOOD TAKEOUT MEALS are offered Monday through Thursday from 9:30 am to 11:30 a.m. through LAMP's adult drop-in program. LAMP is located at 185 Fifth Street. Contact 416-252-6471 ext. 264. Group programs are closed.

LAKESHORE OUT OF THE COLD every Monday night at 6 on Thirtieth Street, at this time of the year.

More than 800 area families this year will receive assistance. Foodbank available. Contact **Jennifer** at 416- 251-8372 ext. 101, from November to April for a hot meal and emergency overnight accommodations for those who are homeless or hungry. Volunteers prepare dinner plus a bagged lunch for guests, including breakfast. Visit St. Margaret's Church, 156 Sixth Street.

VOLUNTEERS needed at Salvation Army, Lake Shore Blvd. W., and Thirtieth Street. All are welcome to volunteer and meet others.

FREE TAX CLINIC we are booking appointments now for low income individuals and families to drop off their taxes to our income tax clinic. There are no in-person appointments but we are still here to help. To qualify a single person must not earn more than \$35,000 annually. Couples \$45,000 or less. For more information to book or other criteria to qualify for this free service call 416 252-6471 ext 280 or 281



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Meet your Lakeshore Village BIA team



BIA chair **Chris Korwin-Kuczynski** says there has to be ongoing business initiatives to attract more shoppers, visitors and new businesses to the community. Korwin-Kuczynski has been the Chair of the Lakeshore Village BIA for several years. His

biggest fear is that area businesses that are just getting back on their feet may face another lockdown due to COVID-19.

“There needs to be ongoing new initiatives to bring people to shop and dine in Lakeshore Village,” he said. The former long-term city councillor and Deputy Mayor can be regularly seen in the area helping to promote the community.

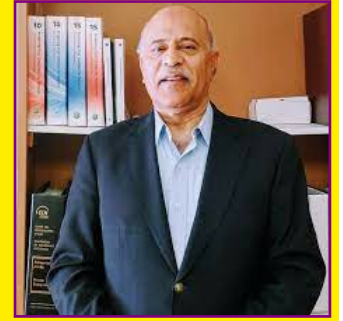


Peter Kearns loves the Lakeshore, hockey and his family. He is shown here with son, Callum. Kearns is the Vice-Chair of the Lake Shore Village BIA, and a liaison with community organizations and residents of the neighbourhood. He is responsible for managing much of the BIA’s social media presence.

The owner of Kearns Financial, at 2731 Lake Shore Blvd. W., chose to live in New Toronto to raise his children. “My wife and I fell in love with the area when we were looking for a place to settle down and start a family,” he said. His goal is to work to ‘create a thriving, competitive and safe business area that attracts shoppers, diners, tourists and new businesses.’

Rattan Gandhi is a volunteer Treasurer of the Lakeshore Village BIA. He joined the board in 2016 and has been the treasurer from the onset.

When asked about his motivation: his reply was a simple giving back to the community. In the role of the treasurer and as support to the fellow board members, Rattan spends an average of 12 hours per month. He operates a tax and accounting service, Quick Refund Tax, at 133 Sixth Street, for local business and families. He has varied business experience, starting out as a junior accountant to operate for a number of Fortune 500 companies. In 1992, Gandhi got out of the corporate world and started his own company. He has a long lineup of loyal customers.



Banker **Laura Baughman** loves the Lakeshore area, its people and spends a lot of time volunteering to give back to the community. The mother and wife is a Personal Banking Officer at Alterna Savings Credit Union, at 3001 Lake Shore Blvd. W. She was one of six board members appointed in May 2019. She moved to the area with her

family more than 10 years ago and is an avid volunteer who is always willing to help others. “Our priorities are to beautify the business area, promote, support BIA members and bring shoppers and visitors to the area.”

Peter Giacomo Donato has been a volunteer member of the Lakeshore Village BIA for more than 40 years and will never forget the day when former Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau visited the area. “It was one of my favourite memories of being part of the BIA,” Peter recalled. “Pierre Trudeau was the Prime Minister when he visited Lakeshore Village.” The dad of current Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, drew large crowds when he toured the area.

The younger now PM Trudeau years later visited the Franklin Horner Community Centre in 2013 as part of a political swing. Peter said the BIA was formed in 1976. He is proud of the Prince of Wales park development and move of the skateboard park to Eighth Street. Peter is a realtor with Realty Life Ltd., At 2807A Lake Shore Blvd. W.



Lakeshore Village BIA board member **Danuta Gumienik** has been a long-time area resident and business woman. Gumienik is a building owner, who has been a director of the Lakeshore Village BIA for several years. She owns Conrad Lounge, at Sixth Street, which is being renovated as a bar restaurant. Over the years, Gumienik has owned two other bar restaurants. She stays busy by volunteering in many BIA activities to help the community.

The Board would like to thank Coordinator Meghan Mesheau for her significant contributions. Board member Eleni Makikostas was not available.



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