

The South Etobicoke News

Web: www.torontonewswire.com Email: thesouthetobicoke@gmail.com Number 30

Buy local. Live local.

Plans to help small businesses bounce back

Plans are being put in place to help businesses in South Etobicoke and across the city recover financially with the re-opening of small stores to help merchants hit hard by COVID-19.

Toronto is installing the infrastructure needed for curbside patios this month to ensure restaurants and bars are ready to hit the ground running when the stay-at-home order and lockdown lifts.

A walk-through some of our commercial areas show that one of every four or five businesses have been affected, either shut down, or scaled back in the last year due to the virus and Ontario government lockdowns or stay-at-home orders.

The most recent provincial stay-at-home order expires this month.

Some owners appear to have just walked away from their businesses, stores and in some cases restaurants, which are struggling to stay alive with takeout meals or curbside pick-ups.



THE CITY AND BIA ARE MAKING plans to help businesses when they reopen. Many small businesses do not know when they can open for customers. Installation is underway this month of the City's CafeTO program.

There are also reports of hairdressers and salon keepers, whose stores are shut, but are conducting business at their home or elsewhere as they await the reopening of businesses. Members of the Lakeshore Village Business Improvement Area (BIA) said they have no choice but to seek a City of Toronto grant to help local businesses. "We will be applying to the City for a grant," said Chris Korwin-Kuczynski, Chair of the BIA. "We will be

working with real estate and other groups to bring businesses into the area."

The City has reopened farmers' markets across the city, launched CurbTO and CafeTO initiatives to help businesses, services and community agencies.

The CafeTO programs aims to provide more outdoor dining areas to help restaurants and bars create physical distancing for patrons on patios during the summer months.

Toronto officials said that 720 curb lane cafes and 71 public parklets are being reviewed for placement as part of the CafeTO program.

Last year, 897 restaurants across Toronto participated in CafeTO and an additional 44 public parklets were activated. Mayor John Tory said the installations began on May 8 and will take about three weeks.

"We know we'll be able to reopen again and want to make sure we are doing everything to help businesses when they can welcome customers again," Tory said.

A Budget to hasten immigration processing

The recent federal Budget 2021 proposes millions of dollars be spent to improve and speed up immigration processing times for people to enter Canada.

A new digital immigration system to process cases more efficiently and quicker to reunite families and bring in skilled workers is being proposed in the Budget. The computerized system, if approved, may help to process the 400,000 immigrants Canada is accepting this year. Canada has not accepted this many newcomers since 1913.

The Immigration Levels Plan will welcome 411,000 immigrants in 2022 and 411,000 in 2023.

Minister of Finance Chrystia Freeland tabled Budget 2021 on April 20, which proposes to invest \$428.9 million over five years to develop and deliver a digital

platform to replace the antique Global Case Management System. "This will enable improved application processing and support for applicants beginning in 2023," Freeland said. "A new system will enable Canada's immigration system to function more efficiently and deliver digital services that meet heightened client expectations." She said the new Dept. of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) system "will support an immi-



THE LIBERALS' BUDGET 2021 PROPOSES that Canada accept some 400,000 immigrants this year and 411,000 immigrants by 2023. IRCC web photos.

gration system that is easier to navigate and more efficient in welcoming the dynamic new Canadians."

The Budget will provide \$15 million over two years to extend the Racialized Newcomer Women Pilot Initiative, to support job-related services for newcomer women in networking, employment counselling and paid work placements. It also proposes to provide \$2 million over five years to increase access to information and sup-

port for new Canadians facing family and gender-based violence, including enhancing the availability of anti-violence resources.

To support the Temporary Foreign Worker Program, the budget is proposing \$49.5 million over three years for migrant worker programs and services; \$54.9 million over three years to increase inspections of employers and ensure temporary foreign workers have proper working conditions and wages. And \$6.3 million will be doled out over three years to improve service delivery of open work permits for vulnerable workers, helping migrant workers in situations of abuse find a new job.

It also proposes to provide \$80.3 million over two years to Global Affairs Canada and IRCC to respond to the Venezuelan migrant and refugee crisis.

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Police propose CCTV cameras to help patrol the Garnett Janes neighbourhood



A PETITION IS online to install CCTV cameras in the Garnett Janes area. File photo.

Close to 1,000 people have signed an online petition launched by Toronto Police to seek public support for a pilot project to install at least five CCTV cameras in the Garnett Janes Rd. neighbourhood of New Toronto. The proposal for the cameras came to the forefront following the April 17 shooting of a 14-year-old in the Garnett Janes neighbourhood.

Police were called to a park near Garnett Janes Road, near Islington Ave. and Lake Shore Boulevard W., just before 6 p.m. following reports of multiple gunshots. When they arrived, they discovered a teenager suffering from a gunshot wound to the leg.

Paramedics transported the boy to a trauma centre with serious but non-life threatening injuries. His condition has been upgraded to stable.

Officers from 22 Division continue to frequently patrol the neighbourhood in cars, on bikes and on foot, police noted in the petition.

“They (police) actively engage with the community on an ongoing basis, however

the violence continues,” according to 22 Division. “The residents are fearful of their safety.” “Unfortunately the neighbourhood has also been affected by gang activity for some time,” police wrote. “These gang members hang out in the buildings, on the streets, and in Lakeshore Village Park as well as Eighth Street Skate Park. “Officers said drug dealing in the area is not uncommon.

“This gang activity leads to violence in the neighbourhood,” the petition states. “Historically the Garnett Janes neighbourhood has seen a disproportionately amount of violent crimes occurring within its “borders as compared to other neighbourhoods in south Etobicoke.” Police said the CCTV camera project “is not intended to be a replacement for police officers, only a tool to aid law enforcement and enhancing public safety.” The cameras are proposed to be located at the corners of Birmingham St. and Ninth Street; Garnett Janes Road and Ninth Street; Coin Street and Tenth Streets; Etta Wylie and Garnett Janes Road and Ninth Street and Lake Shore Blvd. W.

Police said they are seeking the support of the community with the implementation of the pilot project.

“By signing the petition you will be supporting the partnership that the Toronto Police has with the community in improving the safety of the Garnett Janes neighbourhood,” they wrote.

The petition can be found at change.org.

Annual police study shows hate crime on the rise here



POLICE tackle hate crimes.

Toronto Police say there was a 51 per cent increase in the number of reported hate crimes for 2020, with global events as the pandemic having a large effect.

Police in their annual 2020 Annual Hate Crime Statistical Report Findings said there were 139 cases of hate crimes in 2019 and 210 in 2020. The statistics show there were three hate crimes against Asian Chinese in 2019 and that rose to 15 in 2020. There were 13 anti-Black hate crimes in 2019 and that rocketed to 43 in 2020, according to police.

In addition, there were eight hate crimes committed online as compared to 21 in 2020.

The study shows that in 2020, the Jewish community, followed by the Black community, LGBTQ2S+ and the Asian Chinese communities were the most-frequently victimized groups. “Hate crimes not only victimize an individual but also the entire group they identify with,” said Toronto Police Chief James Ramer. “We know this can have a long-lasting impact on the diverse communities we serve, resulting in increased isolation, stress and vulnerability.”

He said the service have taken steps to address this ‘concerning increase’ by expanding the capacity of its dedicated Hate Crime Unit.

“We remain committed to working within our Service and with our community partners, in a transparent and inclusive way, to build trust and encourage the reporting of hate crimes,” Ramer said.

The force acknowledged that these crimes are often unreported and have officers taking part in various training, educational and community outreach initiatives to address this. This includes Town Halls, community consultative committees and the Neighbourhood Community Officer Program. Community members are encouraged to report incidents of hate, prejudice and bias to police and work together with the Toronto Police Service to eliminate these crimes.

Man arrested for a hate crime in New Toronto



ARREST for hate crime.

A Toronto man has been arrested by police for a hate-motivated assault in New Toronto.

Police from 22 Division said the incident occurred on March 30 around 1:20 p.m. in the Lake Shore Blvd. W. and Superior Ave. area.

It is alleged a 50-year-old woman was walking in the area when “she was approached by an unknown who made anti-Asian comments,” according to police.

“After consultation with the Service’s specialized Hate Crime Unit, the assault is being treated as a hate crime,” police said. Jeffrey Spanton, 49, was arrested on April 22 and charged with assault.

He appeared in a Toronto West Court the same day. Anyone with information is asked to contact police at 416-808-1100, Crime Stoppers anonymously at 416-222-TIPS (8477).

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One of Etobicoke's longest serving politician honoured

Well-liked William Jackson was one of Etobicoke's longest-serving politicians. He died in office shortly after being acclaimed for his ninth successive year as Mayor of New Toronto.



TWO PRIVATE streets in this Menkes Lake & Town complex named after heroes.

The popular Jackson had a long history of involvement in the community. He was a humble man who was a farmer and land speculator before earning enough money to get into the political game. He was first elected as Reeve of Etobicoke from 1919 to 1920 and then Mayor of New Toronto for a whopping 22 years, from 1929 to 1951. The mayor never forgot his roots and donated land for a much-

needed Public Library Building in the community.

Jackson is still fondly remembered 70 years later. A proposal was approved on April 19 by Etobicoke York Community Council to name a private street the William Jackson Way at a 225 Birmingham Street town home development, which is being constructed, near Kipling Ave. William Jackson Way honours "a past New Toronto Mayor who was in office from 1929 to 1951," states the proposal. Councillors were told that Jackson died of a heart attack in November 1951, "shortly after returning home from a nomination meeting in which he was acclaimed mayor for the ninth year."

The City has said the applicant will be asked to pay about \$1,000 for the fabrication and installation of the street



TORONTO CITY HALL a bustling place in the 1950s.

name signage; and requests that the owner and successors of the lands maintain the street name and signage.

Two private streets are planned in a new Lake & Town townhouse project by Menkes Developments Ltd. Lake & Town Etobicoke, a community of 200 stacked town homes which will be a mix of two-bedroom and three-bedroom units. Another private street, the "Lloyd Janes Lane," is also planned to help traffic in the development.

District Chief Lloyd Janes, Captain Donald Kerr and Firefighter John Clark (Etobicoke) were killed in the Line of Duty on December 1978 at Kimberly Clark Paper Co., in Rexdale, when huge rolls of paper soaked with sprinkler water crushed them during a structural collapse. It was the second time Toronto Fire Service suffered such a major loss of officers in one incident. See photo below. In 1953 the



POLITICIAN believed to be William Jackson.



THE ROADS will run through rows of town homes. Courtesy photos.

Town of Mimico, Town of New Toronto, Village of Long Branch, Etobicoke Township, Village of Swansea, Village of Forest Hill, Town of Weston, Town of Leaside, East York Township, North York Township, York Township, Scarborough Township and City of Toronto joined together to create what was called Metropolitan Toronto, or Metro.

Each retained its own town council and government, but several infrastructure departments were transferred to Metro.

Name of heroic firefighter to mark a New Toronto road



IN MEMORY OF District Chief Lloyd Janes (left) Firefighter John Clark and Cpt. Donald Kerr (right) RIP to these brave men.

sponded to a call at a Kimberly-Clark paper warehouse at 10 Disco Road, which was the scene of two earlier fires.

It turned out to be a tragic incident that resulted in the second largest loss of Etobicoke fire fighters. The worst incident, Hurricane Hazel, in 1954, took the

lives of five Swansea firefighters who died in the raging Humber Rivers when their truck was washed away. The loss will never be forgotten by Etobicoke and Toronto Firefighters and the men are still remembered today.

Former Etobicoke Firefighter E. J. Moynahan wrote in a blog that the Kimberly-Clark paper warehouse had been the scene of two recent, suspicious fires.

"In this instance a fire had started among the 600-pound, 15-foot-high rolls of paper," the late firefighter wrote. "The sprinkler system had essentially extinguished the blaze by the time the crews from Stations 7 and 2 arrived."

The name of a late Mimico Fire Department District Chief Lloyd Janes will be gracing a private road in an upcoming New Toronto development.

Janes' name, and that of William Jackson, a late Reeve of New Toronto, were approved by Etobicoke York Community Council for two private streets in a Menkes development at 225 Birmingham Street, near Kipling Ave.

Also being remembered are two firefighter colleagues of Janes' who were killed with him on December 4, 1978 in what was one of Etobicoke's worst fires. Janes, along with Captain Donald Kerr and Firefighter John Clark were on duty when they re-



Captain Kerr was a 23-year member of the service, having joined in 1955. Clark was newly-married and had worked at the Department for 14-years. "The tragedy remains the second largest one-time loss of Etobicoke firefighters: surpassed only by the deaths of five volunteer firefighters during Hurricane Hazel in 1954," according to Moynahan.

Since 1980 in Ontario, 33 firefighters have died in emergencies, of which 20 were volunteers. A combination Mimico fire hall and police station was built in 1929.

He said the rolls of paper were soaked with water, and were "profoundly unstable." "Fire crews followed orders and placed a ground ladder against one of the stacks with the intent of getting above them," a factory supervisor would testify. "One of the swaying stacks collapsed on top of the firefighters, crushing three men." Janes had been a war veteran who had risen through the ranks of the New Toronto Fire Department to become a Deputy Chief.

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Businessman W. Galen Weston had ties to area

By TOM GODFREY



THE LATE W. Galen Weston and plaque (right) from Ontario govt.

Canadian retail kingpin and billionaire philanthropist W. Galen Weston has died at the age of 80. The company his family founded had strong ties to New Toronto.

Weston died peacefully at his home on

April 17 after "a long illness faced with courage and dignity," the Toronto based company said.

The businessman held executive and senior roles at food, retail and real estate giants his family founded or led including Loblaw Companies Ltd., Choice Properties, Selfridges Group and Weston Foods. He retired as chairman of George Weston Ltd. in 2016 to make room for his son Galen G. Weston, a tradition set by his father, W. Garfield Weston, who also stepped down at 75.

W. Galen was the third generation of his family to run George Weston Limited, which his family started and tweaked in the early 1900s. By 1919 there was a busy store in New Toronto, and the family at one time lived in a lavish lakefront mansion in Mimico.

The family went on to become one of Canada's wealthiest, with W. Galen amassing net worth of \$10.7 billion, according to reports.

Loblaw Groceteria in New Toronto was located on the south side of Lakeshore Road, between Fifth and Sixth

Streets, according to local historian Denise Harris.

The company was established in 1919 with a new concept: the introduction of self-shopping, so customers would no longer have to wait while a clerk fetched goods from behind the counter. Many residents at the time didn't think self-shopping would work. But by 1928 when this photo (right) was taken, there were 70 stores in Ontario. Today, that Loblaw is long gone and the store is vacant.

According to Harris, the history of the Loblaw family in Toronto begins with Theodore Pringle (T.P.) Loblaw who

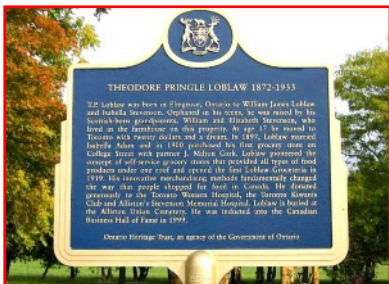
moved here from Elmgrove, with \$20 and a dream in 1890. At 17, he found a job as a grocery store clerk and used the experience to open his own store, which grew to become today's chain of Loblaw grocery stores. Before long, T.P. Loblaw and his wife Isabella Adam built a large estate home in Mimico and named it Bonnyview. After the

untimely deaths of Isabella in 1930 and T.P. in 1934, the house was sold to James Franceschini, the Italian-born founder of Dufferin Construction. The five-acre estate with stables stretched from Lake Shore Blvd. W. to Lake Ontario.

The George Weston Ltd. bakery business was looking for a greater distribution network, so the company started buying Loblaw's shares in 1935, eventually accumulating a controlling interest by the late 1940s.



LOBLAW GROCETERIAS in New Toronto in 1919. The stores were very popular with customers looking for deals. The Weston family would purchase an estate renamed Bonnyview from road-paving king James Franceschini, (below) in the Lake Shore Blvd. W., and Royal York Rd. area, which sat on prime lakefront property.



Archive photos

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

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Woodbine racetrack has long ties to the Royals



By DAVE KOSONIC

The iconic Woodbine Racetrack in Rexdale is more than 65 years old and this is the first time in its illustrious history that it has been closed to the public for onsite wagering.



THE QUEEN AND PRINCE PHILIP at Woodbine Racetrack in 2013 in what was his last official visit to Canada. The Prince was carried on an open carriage with members of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (right, center). The Royals loved Woodbine. **Archive photos.**

In November 2020, the Woodbine Entertainment announced the track was shut down for the first time since 1956 due to COVID-19 lockdowns and stay-at-home orders. It is unknown when racing enthusiasts will again be able to watch or hear the thundering horses circle the oval fast track again. There is still online wagering available. The racetrack was a favourite of Queen Elizabeth and her husband, the late Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, who had visited the facility about half a dozen times before his passing on April 9.

The Royal Couple loved visiting the 780-acre racetrack as far back as 1959 to watch the running of their favourite horses and take part in the Queen's Plate.

They returned in 1973 to watch Secretariat, a horse many called "the greatest of all time," race for the final time at Woodbine in the Canadian International Championship before being retired to a stud farm.

Back then the track included a one-mile oval dirt and 7/8 mile turf courses, adorned with beautiful infield ponds and scenic waterfalls. The track itself was a crowning jewel of the world's top racing facilities.

In 1986, Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon - Queen Elizabeth's mother, known as The Queen Mum - became a Royal Patron of the Plate and held the title until her death in 2002.

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, The Queen, graciously accepts the Ontario Jockey Club's invitation to be the Royal Patron of The Queen's Plate Stakes, an announcement at the time said.

"A loyal supporter and friend of Woodbine, The Queen Mum awarded the Fifty Guineas to the owner of The Queen's Plate Stakes winner a total of eight times," according to the track's website.

By March 2002, Woodbine had become a racing, gaming and entertainment facility complete with a 57,000 square foot slot machine floor, bars, restaurants and a renovated grandstand. The slot area holds 1,700 machines, which are operated by the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corp. (OLGC).

In 2010, the Queen and late Duke returned to Rexdale for the last time and appeared in Woodbine's first high-definition (HD) broadcast on CBC.

That same year Woodbine was ranked the second safest racetrack in North America, based on incidents per race over a three-year period.

"This is very difficult news to share with our horse people, horse players and horse fans throughout North America and the world", said Jim Lawson, the CEO for Woodbine Entertainment. "This situation has the potential to have a devastating and long-lasting impact on the thoroughbred industry." The back track at Woodbine remains in operation despite public health measures since it is an essential service for the stabling, training and care of horses.



Ontario's horse-racing industry employs 60,000 people or 45,433 full-time equivalent jobs, or more than half of employment related to the agricultural sector. Some \$2.3 billion of Ontario's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is generated annually by the horse-racing industry, according to officials. Jockeys from around the world come here to ride.



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Pizza maker makes a man's day by returning his wallet



A Long Branch pizza maker is making another area resident feel a whole lot better today with a kind deed. Adrian Stolaj, of Adriano's Pizza, at Lake Shore Blvd. W., and Twenty Seventh Street, was walking to work earlier this month when he found a thick wallet lying on the roadway near his restaurant.

He looked at the driver's license and was able to find the owner of the prized wallet, who lived several kilos away on Brown's Line, in Alderwood. The wallet was returned to the owner later that day by Stolaj's wife, Viola. "The guy (owner) was very happy," he says. "He said 'that I saved his life' since all his documents were in his wallet." The wallet seems had fallen out of his pocket while he was cycling in the area earlier. The owner, an artist, decided that he would do something special for the honest Stolaj, who went out of his way to reunite him with his wallet. "He came here for two days and made sketches of me busy at work," Stolaj says. "Then he came back and brought me this beautiful portrait." "I love it. The guy is a good painter," he says with pride. "I have the portrait in a special place in the restaurant."



HUMBLE PIZZA MAKER Adrian Stolaj had his portrait painted by a customer who lost his wallet, which Adrian found and returned.

He picked up the wallet and took it with him to the pizza shop. "It was a thick wallet with many things packed in it," Stolaj recalls. "There was a lot of paper and it was bulging."

helping out by donating food for community groups, various charities and the homeless. There are a number of homeless men that he regularly feeds when they stop by. He can be reached at adrianos-pizza.com or dial 416-792-4074.

West-end man stalking women using the bathroom



Women are being warned of a west-end pervert who stalks and photographs women in bathroom stalls. Toronto Police are hot on the trail of an alleged offender. Officers from 11 Division are warning area residents of a man who was caught taking cell phone photos of a woman under a bath

The Crossroads Plaza, in the Bloor St. and Dundas St. W. "She went into the women's washroom and entered a stall," police said in a safety alert. "There was another person next to her in another stall and unbeknownst to her the other occupant was a man." Police said "a cell phone was held under that stall walls to record her." Security images of the suspect has been released. Anyone with information is asked to contact police at 416-808-1100, Crime Stoppers anonymously at 416-222-TIPS (8477), online at www.222tips.com, text TOR and your message to CRIMES (274637), or Leave A Tip on Facebook.



CALL POLICE if you see him

Detectives said the incident occurred on March 22 around 5:35 p.m., when an 18-year-old woman was at

THE OFFENDER (in photo left) was last seen taking photos of a woman under a bathroom stall at The Crossroads. Police believe the suspect, who is in hiding, lives in the area. Call Police at 11 Division if you have any information. Call 416-808-1100.

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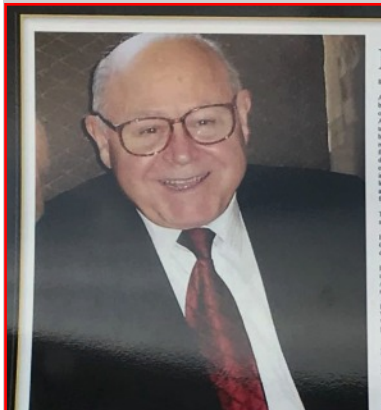
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Iconic Tina's Department Store shuts its doors after 62 years of service

One of Mimico's oldest clothing department stores is shutting its doors after more than 62 years in business at 364 Royal York Road.



ITALO Vigilanti

A hand-made sign has been placed in the window of iconic Tina's Department Store, to notify residents that the store is

closing for business and mourn the passing earlier this year of co-founder and family patriarch Italo Vigilanti, at the age of 87.

Vigilanti met his sweetheart, Giustina Viola, in April 1955, a month after arriving in Canada by ship from his hometown of Terracina, Italy. The couple married and settled in Mimico to raise a family. Italo worked for Tip Top Tailor and Chubb Canada, before they opened their business in December 1958.

The store, which was named after Tina, has been a mainstay on the Royal York strip, from Judson to Evans Ave., for decades.

San Remo Bakery and Kassel Pharmacy were among the thriving businesses prospering at that time beside Tina's shop.

"After a few years, the hard work was paying off and they purchased the store next door when it went up for sale," according to the

family. "They worked diligently without a cause and love of the interaction with people."

The couple are parents of two grown children, and lots of great children, nephews and nieces. They "had a beautiful life of entertaining their friends and family and spoiling their nieces and nephews," family members said.

"They travelled back to their roots in Italy," they recalled. "Italo spent time hunting with his best friend, his dog Brandy, and spent many good times fishing and hunting with friends and son Cesare."

They raised their children over the store, until moving to Mississauga in the 1970s, into a home that had a large backyard for Italo's beloved garden, where he grew figs, pears, vegetables and apples.

The store had many loyal and supportive customers over the years.

"I will never forget that they gave us credit when I had to buy clothes for my children joining me in Canada," said long-time customer and friend, Elsie. "They helped many families back then."

She will never forget the kind family who took her and her family in after resettling in Canada. Italo spent much of the year trying to recover from a broken hip. He passed away last January with his family at his side.

He leaves behind Tina, his wife of 65 years, their children and many loving and caring family members.

A ZOOM funeral service was held to celebrate his life last January.

The family would like to thank their customers and residents of Mimico and Mississauga for their kindness and support.

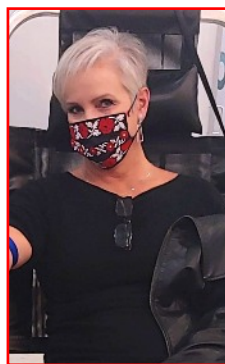
Members of Ukrainian church sell nice face-masks for charity

Buy a beautifully embroidered face mask and support the homeless and needy in Ukraine.

Members of the Ukrainian Catholic Women's League of Christ the Good Shepherd Parish have been raising funds by selling beautiful, uniquely embroidered face masks that were made in the Ukraine. "Back in the spring of 2020 a few of us were looking for an exciting, different looking mask to spice up our wardrobes and to celebrate our Ukrainian heritage," recalls campaign organizer Sonia Handziuk.



She says "through a family friend in Ukraine we found these beautiful masks and had a few sent over for our personal use."



"Within the first few days friends in Canada had depleted us of our newly ordered supply of masks," Handziuk says.

"We have since ordered more masks and have been selling them through our Women's League."

The masks are well-made, comfortable and well-fitting, according to residents who have purchased them.

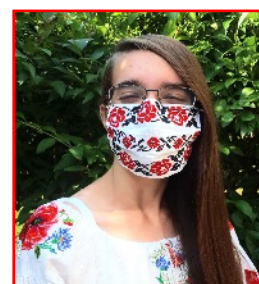
The funds raised support a number of outreach projects in Canada as a seniors homes, and support for the homeless as well as orphanages in Ukraine.

Many items are purchased in Canada and sent to help the orphans we sponsor, Handziuk said.

A variety of styles and colours of masks are available.

They are being sold for \$15 each; \$25 for two or \$50 for five.

To order your mask please email sonia.handziuk.03@gmail.com



MASKS ARE being displayed for sale to raise funds by the Ukrainian Catholic Women's League of Christ the Good Shepherd Parish. Courtesy photos.



2021 Ontario Budget

PROTECTING PEOPLE'S HEALTH

HIGHLIGHTS OF ONTARIO'S PLAN TO DEFEAT COVID-19:

- Ontario has made more than \$1 billion available for the province's vaccination rollout plan. The province is also making it safer to re-engage with workplaces, businesses and communities with \$2.3 billion for testing and contact tracing.
- To ensure every person who requires care in a hospital can access a bed, Ontario is investing an additional \$5.1 billion to support hospitals since the pandemic began, creating more than 3,100 additional hospital beds.
- Local budget measures include funding for an in patient care tower at the Queensway Health Centre, which will add new beds and expand clinical programs and services for Etobicoke – Lakeshore.

HIGHLIGHTS OF ONTARIO'S PLAN TO FIX LONG-TERM CARE:

- Ontario is investing an additional \$933 million over four years, for a total of \$2.6 billion, to support building 30,000 new long-term care beds.
- Local budget measures include allocation of 200 new spaces and 56 upgraded spaces for Chartwell White Eagle, Toronto for the construction of a new 256 bed long-term care home in Etobicoke – Lakeshore.
- To ensure loved ones receive the best quality care in Canada, Ontario is investing \$4.9 billion over four years to increase the average direct daily care to four hours a day in long-term care and hiring more than 27,000 new positions, including personal support workers (PSWs) and nurses.

HIGHLIGHTS OF ONTARIO'S PLAN TO SUPPORT MENTAL HEALTH:

- To help the thousands of people struggling with mental health and addictions issues, Ontario is providing additional funding of \$175 million in 2021-22 as part of a historic investment of \$3.8 billion over 10 years, to provide more and better care for everyone who needs it.

PROTECTING OUR ECONOMY

HIGHLIGHTS OF ONTARIO'S PLAN TO SUPPORT WORKERS AND FAMILIES:

- To help workers, the province is proposing a new Ontario Jobs Training Tax Credit for 2021. It would provide up to \$2,000 per recipient for 50 percent of eligible training expenses, for a total of an estimated \$260 million in support to about 230,000 people in 2021.
- To help parents, the province is providing a third round of payments to support parents through the Ontario COVID-19 Child Benefit, totalling \$1.8 billion since last March. The payment will be doubled to \$400 per child and \$500 for each child with special needs. The province is also supporting parents with a proposed 20 percent enhancement of the CARE tax credit for 2021.
- To help seniors, Ontario is introducing the Seniors' Home Safety Tax Credit for 2021. This new credit will provide an estimated \$30 million in support for about 27,000 seniors and people who live with senior relatives.

HIGHLIGHTS OF ONTARIO'S PLAN TO SUPPORT JOBS:

- To help small businesses most affected by the challenges of COVID-19, the province is providing a second round of Ontario Small Business Support Grant payments. Approximately 120,000 small businesses will automatically benefit from an additional \$1.7 billion in relief through this second round of support through grants between \$10,000 and \$20,000 – bringing the estimated total support through this grant to \$3.4 billion.
- To support Ontario's tourism, hospitality and culture industries, the province is investing an additional \$400 million over the next three years in new initiatives to support these sectors. This builds on previously announced investments of \$225 million, bringing the total to more than \$625 million since the pandemic began.
- To connect homes, businesses and communities to essential broadband, Ontario is investing \$2.8 billion, bringing the province's total investment to nearly \$4 billion over six years beginning 2019-20.



You can reach my office at **416-259-2249** or christine.hogarth@pc.ola.org
Sign up for my e-newsletter: christinehogarthmpp.ca/getupdates



Fit Organix healthy & jerk chicken and veal

For Ryan Chelak and his wife, Jules Loeff, it has been a six-year challenge operating their popular Alderwood gluten-free restaurant Fit Organix Inc. People in search of healthy food have found the small 732 Brown's Line eatery, now take out, which is very busy with delivery and curbside pick-ups these days. "Fit Organix is an organic meal delivery service with daily delivery all over the GTA," says Loeff, a former health care worker. "Pre-COVID we were open to the public for freshly prepared hot and cold food, frozen meals, smoothies, smoothie bowls, plus



RYAN AND JULES outside their organic meal delivery and takeout Fit Organix, at 732 Brown's Line. Photos by Tom Godfrey.

OUR FOOD REVIEWER Susanna couldn't wait to dig into her tasty California Sandwich, at 1603 The Queensway. She gave it a rating of five out of five. "It was very delicious. The veal was very tender and not dry. The sauce and the cheese tasted well together and the bun was nice and soft. It melted in my mouth." The chain was founded in 1967 and now has 13 locations in the Toronto area.



snacks and desserts." She said their menu is free of gluten, dairy, corn, soy and peanuts and is designed to lower inflammation in the body. "We have an on-site kombucha brewery, Vibe Kombucha, and together with them, we hosted a number of classes on gut health and fermented foods," Loeff explains. Chelak says they deliver Monday to Friday from 4 a.m. to 7 a.m. to your home, condo or office.

"Eat and enjoy your delicious, nutrient dense, organic food made fresh for you daily," he insists. "If you are looking for non-allergenic, healthy meals, this is your best bet." All you have to do is read some of their reviews from people who love healthy eating. "I've been here several times and I've never eaten anything I didn't really enjoy," one woman wrote on social media. Some others include: "Great service, great food and great people /owner." "Everything is gluten free, dairy free, corn and soy free and peanut free!" Fit Organix is an amazing place that offers healthy and unique food choices!" They feature a menu plan that best fits your lifestyle. Customers can order a Fit Organix meal plan, Vegan or other meal plan and have it delivered to their door. Fit Organix meal plans are accessible online at www.fitorganix.com or phone 647-478-7875. Or order on Instagram.com.



CHEF ERIC SHOWS a mouth-watering jerk chicken dinner with rice and peas just off the stove at Golden Cook Caribbean Restaurant and West Indian Store, at 2955 Lake Shore Blvd. W., near Islington Ave. They also carry curry goat, sea food medley, curry shrimp, ackee, a great soup and more. Call 416-259-3003.

IN THE KNOW IN MIMICO



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Dog lovers near Centennial Park warned of bad food found in area

Pet owners are being warned about contaminated hot dogs left in Centennial Park. Etobicoke's Royal York Animal Hospital has received several reports of suspicious foods, including hot dogs stuffed with bright yellow pills, which were found by people walking their dogs in the Eglinton Ave. and Renforth Dr. area.



WORKER AT CENTENNIAL PARK places a sign alerting dog walkers of possibly tainted food (below). Courtesy photos.

The veterinary service this week posted photos of the pill-stuffed hot dogs on their social media site with a warning asking people to use caution while outdoors.



"One of our clients found these hot dogs filled with pills in their own backyard. We have also had reports of suspicious food being found in parks and on walks," according to an Instagram post.

"This was found in the Centennial Park area. If you suspect that your dog has eaten anything on a walk, seeking immediate veterinary attention can help save your pet."

It said: "Luckily this owner saw these and their pet is doing great."

One person responded to the post, "What if a child found these?"

It seems Toronto pet owners get poison alerts like this one on a regular basis. Sometimes the alerts come after a deadly result, like last year's warning in Markham when a dog ate poisoned food and died in May.

Markham had another poisoned food scare just last month in the area of Royal Orchard Park, near John and Yonge Sts.

Downtown pet owners were on high alert in February after a notices were issued about poisoned peanut shells in Canoe Landing Park (Dan Leckie Way and Fort York Blvd.) and in Victoria Memorial Square, in the Portland-Niagara Sts. area.

And animal lovers will remember a rash of poisonings in the east end in 2019. Police say poison may have been left in a small park in the Queen St. E.-Broadview Ave. area. At least one dog died and others were very sick.

Long-time community educator Grogan writes book so others can learn to become influential and top leaders



EDUCATOR Mary Grogan have taught generations of children.

Long Branch educator Mary Grogan has taught generations of children in our community.

A pleasant Grogan is known by many in the area as a teacher, consultant, leadership coach, part time professor at George Brown College and now author.

She has been helping young people the community for 45 years, during which she lived four decades in Mimico, before moving to Long Branch, which she loves.

"I was an itinerant guidance counsellor at schools in South Etobicoke for 20 years," Grogan says. "I now have a private consulting and coaching practice."

She recently released her first book *The 7 C's of Global Leadership, an Inward Journey of Tapping into your Potential to help others Develop the Practice.*

"I wanted to share my wisdom and experience to help others to recognize and celebrate their power to make a difference," Grogan says. "We are all leaders and belong to same global family and the world is calling us to share our light and talents to make it a more loving, equitable and inclusive."

The educator says many people tell her they cannot believe her book was written before the pandemic because the message is perfect for COVID-19. Her message is to stop, reflect and go inward to become aware of our power to be the confident and compassionate leaders that the world needs.

Grogan has a long and distinguished career. She was a Principal from 2007 to 2013 of Russ Medical School, in Dominica, in the West Indies.

"While there I completed a Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Leadership and taught medical students in the behaviour science program," Grogan recalls. "When I returned home I decided to write a book that would help others tap into their potential to develop their leadership capacity." She is active in the community and has served on the Board of Etobicoke Rotary, Jean Augustine's Centre for Young Women Empowerment and The Gatehouse. Not to forget the many community projects over the years.

Grogan most recently did a presentation on Anti-Black Racism for St. Margaret's Church on Sixth Street.

She considers herself a passionate coach with a collaborative, inclusive, innovative leadership style and relationship skills, who brings to the table a commitment to diversity, equity and social change.

"I have spent a lifetime inspiring and supporting diverse students, teachers, families, and a variety of professionals to realize their potential," she admits. "I am committed to diversity, equity and social change." To order a signed copy of the book visit www.marygrogan.com

Lakeshore Village BIA



Be Careful. Wear a mask, wash your hands regularly, don't touch your face. Stay apart and do not assemble in large gatherings.

COVID-19 vaccinations are available at these area pharmacies, providing supplies last:

- Pharmasave, 1255 The Queensway (Kipling & Queensway Pharmacy) 647-508-3550
 - Cloverdale Mall, 250 The East Mall 416-239-3511
 - Rexall 3107 Lake Shore Blvd W., 416-259-3777
 - Guardian - Unicare Pharmacy, 3170 Lake Shore Blvd W. Unit 102, 416-503-0013
 - Drugstore Pharmacy 220 Royal York Rd., in Mario & Selina's No Frills 416-251-9130
 - Shoppers Drug Mart, 3730 Lake Shore Blvd W. 416-255-5243
 - Pharmasave Lakeside Pharmacy 2438 Lakeshore Boulevard W. 416-252-2999
- This service is located outside of South Etobicoke, but provide service to Toronto Public Health - Immunization Information Centre 235 Danforth Ave, 2nd Fl, Toronto, 416-392-1250

Appointment required

STAY SAFE

SHOP LOCAL

Sandwiches made by a church group feeds needy



CHURCH VOLUNTEERS MAKING sandwiches for Haven on The Queensway to help feed the needy in our community.

A group of church volunteers are making much-needed sandwiches to help feed the needy and homeless. Women from a New Toronto church group have banded together to make hundreds of nutritious sandwiches for Haven on The Queensway to help feed the poor and needy in our community.

“We had heard about the Toronto volunteers of Sandwich Sisters, who prepare sandwiches in their own homes and deliver to those in need,” says Michelle Tkach, of the Ukrainian Catholic Womens’ League of Canada (UCWLC), at Christ the Good Shepherd Parish St. Michael’s Ukrainian Catholic Church, on Sixth Street.

The UCWLC has been helping others, funding orphanages, schools and families in need for more than 20 years.

“With the COVID-19 challenge we decided that we would focus on our own community and support those in need locally,” Tkach explains. “We loved this idea and began communication with this Toronto organization now with over 600 sandwich makers.”

She said Etobicoke Centre MPP Kinga Surma suggested the food be donated to Haven on The Queensway, at 1533 The Queensway, which has volunteers serving 150 families with basic necessities.

The staff at Haven had last year suspended its lunch service due to the pandemic and the much-needed sandwiches will help resume the lunch program.

“This is our fourth delivery of sandwiches prepared by our 13 volunteer sandwich makers,” she says. “Many have encouraging messages, cheese with treats included with their sandwich.”

She said the volunteers follow strict COVID-19 guidelines, including the wearing of masks and gloves, with the food delivered in coolers.

If you would like to volunteer or contribute to this food drive you can check out Sandwich Sister Pod or Christ the Good Shepherd Parish St. Michael’s Ukrainian Catholic Church on Facebook. You can also contact Michelle by email at mtkach@rogers.com



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*Sandwich de miga

*Medias Lunas

*Great cakes & Coffee

LAMP's Community Health Champions: Thank You!



LAMP would like to recognize our Volunteers and Community Partners who have helped us to serve the community over the past year of COVID-19. Due to the stay-at-home emergency orders we could not safely have many volunteers working onsite, but we still carried out some great work together to respond to community needs. Our Cards of Hope Project, Mask Making, Food support take-away meals and delivery, our LAMP Board of Directors who work tirelessly to serve our community, our community relations advisory committee who are always trying to come up with new activities to respond to community needs, our EMCHC Advisory Group who staged a new event to spotlight outstanding Black Women in Peel, our volunteers who help unload and load food hampers, our volunteers who help to do income taxes for low income individuals for free, our Neighbourhood Pods callers who are checking in on people who are isolated. So many volunteer helpers we are deeply grateful for. Thank you all we are proud and honoured to work with you to improve the lives of people in our community.

Thank You Volunteers


The Value of One, The Power of Many

a Heartfelt ❤️

THANK YOU

TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

We Couldn't do it Without You.





Your Health & Wellness

By **MONIKA MEULMAN**

May is for all the colours of love. Love knows no boundaries. Love is universal. I'm sure you have heard these sayings before. But I say really think about them. Love is the one constant in this world. Maybe where we find love changes, but believe me, it is what keeps us ticking. It's no wonder the idea of love, giving and receiving love comes straight from the heart. Our heart, our life ticker, is what keeps us going. Love keeps us going. Do you share your love, your love of life, your love of the goodness in your life, with those you love? All it takes is a smile. In these trying times, a smile is the easiest, simplest gift we can give. Celebrate the gift of your heart with a smile.

"Sometimes your joy is the source of your smile, but sometimes your smile can be the source of your joy." — Thich Nhat Hanh

And how about a loud cheer, bless you and thank you to all the Mother's of this world! We have all been born of a mother's love. But, many of us forget how fruitful, how giving, how endless that love is. This month, we invite you to remember at least three moments in your life, when you felt your mother's love, or a mother figure in your life. Remember them supporting you, cheering you on, boosting your confidence and helping you grow. Write the moments down. Reflect on them. How do you see those moments? Do you see their wisdom? Do you see the patience? Do you recognize the energy, time, effort that went into showing you love?

We have all had at least one cheerleader that has paved the way for us to keep strong, to choose the next unknown venture.

I ask you to practice gratitude this month in a very specific way:
take action.

We have all heard the words: take action. Do it. But what do we usually do? Many of

us will pick up flowers, or cake and a card for the mom in our life and offer it as a thank you. Let's take it a step further and make this a month of healing and growth. Let's take the step of action to grow our kindness towards others, in a time of stress. Let's choose. Choose one small action you can take and offer someone this month. Act on it. Do it just because. Because it's good for your heart health. For example, clean out that pantry for mom. Or stock up grandma's book shelf from one of the small 'Free little libraries'. Plus, there is the massive health benefit of helping someone!

Did you know there are actual improvements you feel in your life when you share your time or resources with another person?

For example, volunteering with a social community group, or community centre, delivering food for a friend, offering to do yard work for an elderly neighbour improves YOUR quality of life and decreases depression. Donating some of your time, extra clothing, or even tithing (donating some of your hard earned income) to a community group gives you a brain boost. It directly makes you feel good. The 'commitment to generosity...can make people happier' (Psychology Today May, 2018) In one study assessing the Keys to Happiness, those who prioritized spirituality/religion, and then relationships (with family, friends, neighbours) were happier than those that valued personal life goals first.

So, to grow your heart health...

Take a small step toward opening your heart to a loved one and fill this world with the colours of love, all month long.

"Everybody wants to save the Earth; nobody wants to help Mom do the dishes."
—P.J. O'Rourke

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**

This a belated thank you to long-time Mimico merchants Tina and Italo Vigilante, the owners of Tina's Department Store, at 364 Royal York Road.

Family patriarch Vigilante passed away earlier this year and the store is slated to close. Such sad news for their many customers and friends.

Many residents for decades have shopped in Tina's store. Loyal customers, as my mother, who would later become friends of the couple and saw some of the many newcomer families the haberdashers helped to succeed on their arrival in Canada. One of those immigrant families was ours. It must be more than five decades now, when we resettled in Canada from Trinidad and Tobago.

Italo and Tina never forgot the feeling of being alone and new in a foreign country. And it is with such values that they lived their lives, traits which they passed on to their children.

My mother would recall that back then she was a young bank worker, who had arrived here with husband, Neville. They had left five children in Trinidad, as they worked at one or two jobs to earn enough funds to sponsor us here.

"They are great people," my mother said of the Tina and Italo. "They were nice, genuine people who helped many families when they first arrived in Canada."

It was Tina's Department Store to whom many newcomers, stunned by autumn's falling temperatures, leaves and snow, would visit during their first days in Canada to obtain winter clothing, boots, gloves and toques.

My mother, today in her 80s, will never forget being given clothing for five children on credit, which she dutifully repaid to Tina \$100 each payday on her bank worker's salary until the debt was paid off.

Simple and easy, it was the way business was conducted generations ago in South Etobicoke.

I only recently found out that our first winter gear in Canada was fronted to my mother by Tina, who took a chance on another arriving and thankful family.

"I went looking for her over the years," my mom says. "I could never catch up with them."

Even though the two live in different parts of Mississauga, they were never able to re-connect, only in memory, by phone and good thoughts.

This all came back recently on learning on the death of Italo Vigilante, who could only receive a COVID funeral send off with less than a dozen mourners present.

My mother was shocked to learn of his passing at the age of 87.

"He was a really nice man," according to her. "He and Tina kept that place running for many years."

Their lives was a true love story. Vigilanti met his sweetheart, Giustina Viola, in April 1955, a month after arriving in Canada by ship from his hometown of Terracina, Italy.

The couple married and settled in Mimico to raise a family. Italo worked for Tip Top Tailor's and Chubb Canada, before they opened their business in December 1958. The store, which was named after Tina, has been a mainstay on the Royal York strip, from Judson to Evans Ave., for more than 62 years.

It is another sad loss for the community, already mourning pharmacist Bill Kessel and baker Natale Bozzo, of SaNRemos Bakery and Cafe.

Tom Godfrey is Publisher of The South Etobicoke News, who lives in the community. He was a reporter at the Toronto Sun for many years before deciding to use his skills to aid in community journalism.

Officer face two sex assaults

A Correctional Services Officer is facing serious criminal charges in relation to the sexual assault of two women in his care. Members of the Halton Regional Police Service (HRPS) Child Abuse and Sexual Assault Unit have charged a 42-year-old Brampton man with two counts of sexual assault and two of breach of trust.

Halton police said they were made aware of a March 5 alleged sexual assault, which happened at Milton's Vanier Centre for Women. "During the course of the investigation, a second victim was also identified stemming from a separate incident that also occurred on March 5," the HRPS said in a release.

Dwayne Jason Thomas has been charged. He was released on an undertaking.

There is a ban on publication on details of the case.

The suspect appeared in court on April 13.

Victims of violence and/or sexual assault and witnesses are encouraged to contact the Halton Regional Police Service.

Anyone with information regarding this investigation is asked to contact the Child Abuse and Sexual Assault Unit at 905-825-4777 ext. 8970.

Tips can also be submitted anonymously to Crime Stoppers. "See something? Hear something? Know something? Contact Crime Stoppers" at 1-800-222-8477

(TIPS) or through the web at www.haltoncrimestoppers.ca



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Artist pays homage to area by creating informative map art



LOCAL ARTIST JESSIE SCHUTTE with some of her beautiful map and mug creations. Photos by Tom Godfrey.

New Toronto artist Jessie Schutte is paying homage to the area by creating antique-looking historical maps that highlights different communities. People seem to be liking the beautiful prints of New Toronto, Mimico and now she is working on a Long Branch map. They each contain local history and well-known businesses now gone. There will only 100 copies of each print made and they look great when framed. "So far we have sold more than 50 of the New Toronto maps," says Schutte, a former school teacher. "People seem to like them." She is also a co-owner of the Big Guy's Little Coffee Shop, at 2861 Lake Shore Blvd. W., where the prints can be obtained. Community barber Andy Dinner purchased one of the New Toronto pieces on the spot.



"I like it. New Toronto is where my business is," Diner says. "I am putting this up in my store." Another woman was also querying about obtaining another piece of the lovely artwork. Dinner promises to return to purchase one of Schutte's coffee mugs. The mugs have photos of the various

maps on their sides. The Lake Shore map features a photo of a black fox, or silver foxes, which residents swear, and have photos to prove, still roams the area. There are also iconic images on the maps, which includes SaNRemo Bakery and Cafe, Toronto South Detention Centre, Mimico Arena and Birds & Beans Coffee shop in Mimico. The maps are \$25 each and the mugs are two for \$20. You can obtain information or place an order by emailing jessie.schutte@me.com



From the Bench

By Retired JUDGE LLOYD BUDZINSKI

Here are some thoughts. Reasonable doubt was originally intended to increase conviction rates. Around the 15th century, according to the historian Whitman, the English took over God's job of 'Judging' crime. Before that it was 'Trial by Ordeal'. If you survived drowning or burning you were innocent because God - the Judge - had saved you.

This new judging job had its headaches -- the fate of those who sat in judgment was at stake. Jurors had to fear vengeance from the convict's relatives. There were also religious reasons. The Bible, in 19 Deuteronomy, the part we think of as 'an eye for an eye', also deals with false witness. It means that if someone falsely alleges that "X" committed a murder, then the liar should face the same penalty as 'X'. Secondly, convicting an innocent defendant was regarded, in the older Christian tradition, as a potential mortal sin. The reasonable doubt rule developed in response to this possibility. It was originally a theological doctrine, intended to reassure jurors that they could convict the defendant without risking their own salvation. Today, judges tell juries that 'reasonable doubt is not a far-fetched or frivolous doubt. It is not a doubt based on sympathy or prejudice. It is based on reason and common sense. The doubt arises from the evidence or the lack of it as it relates to the essential elements of the offence ... It is not enough for you to believe that the accused is probably or likely guilty. In that case, you must find him not guilty. The standard of reasonable doubt falls much closer to absolute certainty, than proof on a 'balance of probabilities' as in civil trials. The Judge determines the law and the jury the facts.

A crime requires two factors: a law-breaking event, the Actus Reus and a criminal intent, a Mens Rea. Murder or manslaughter requires the act of killing, an Actus Reus, a homicide. Homicide simply means that someone killed someone. It is not a crime by itself. Whether a homicide is a murder or manslaughter depends on intent - an intentional, unintentional, negligent killing, a reaction to a provocation, duress and such. If you lack an operating mind you could lack a criminal intent, be acting under a delusion and end with a "Not Guilty Because of Insanity".

Juries like to compromise. Manslaughter is an included and lesser offence of murder. Juries find the facts from the evidence; thus, the verdict. A jury has a choice. They need not explain their decision. They are empathetic and often, faced with a choice between a murder, manslaughter, they often choose manslaughter by deciding the intent of the accused. This inclination for compromise or empathy became apparent when hanging was abolished. The conviction rate for murder increased. Before that, juries opted for manslaughter. The 15-century guys were right, reduce the responsibility and you increase conviction rates. But be careful of going too far. We could reduce the test for guilt to the Civil Law standard - a balance of probabilities. It would reduce the chance of the guilty getting away but would cause more innocent people being convicted....oops! A law is like an aspirin; not perfect; it can cure a headache but may cause internal bleeding.

In Floyd, the jury had several choices, assuming he caused the death. It depended on interpreting Chauvin's intent. Sometimes empathy for the accused encourages a Jury to view the intention as more accidental - a manslaughter. Clearly, Chauvin drew no empathy.

In the Latimer Case, a farmer killed his teenage daughter she had severe cerebral palsy, functioned as a four month old, suffered chronic pain, couldn't walk, talk or feed herself. Latimer said her pain was unbearable. Latimer killed Tracy in 1993 using exhaust fumes from a truck. Recently, he maintained with harm I caused by her death would have been less than the pain inflicted by her life." I believe, had he called evidence indicating he was under unbearable stress he would have been found guilty of the lesser offence of manslaughter. He was wrong in law, 'mercy killing' is not a defense. So, justice wins for Floyd. Destiny was in the hands of 12 jurors. It took a thousand years to evolve the jury system yet it remains the best of all possibilities.

ANSWER TO LAST MONTH'S SENTENCE: I sentenced him to 2 years less a day to be served in his home followed by 3 years' probation.

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.

Chopper touches down in heavy fog

Area residents are still shaking their heads after a private helicopter appeared to have been forced to land near Humber College due to heavy fog.

The noise of the chopper drew the eyes of residents towards the sky as they watched, took photos, tweeted or sent texts as the vehicle laboured into landing near Humber College, just west of Lake Shore Blvd. W., and Kipling Ave.

It appeared that the passengers were safe and there was no damage to the helicopter. "We heard it flying in ... terrifying really," Judy Preston wrote on social media. "We were in the yacht club yard as it came in over us ... total fog over the shoreline with very limited visibility."

Witnesses said the black helicopter made the landing on soft grass after 1 p.m. on April 13 during a period of heavy fog in the area.

Megan Cassidy said the chopper appeared to be lost.

"Saw this flying over Marie Curtis Park and was concerned and confused," Cassidy said. "Thanks for letting us know what happened."



HELICOPTER lands in fog. Photo Bill Zufelt.



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Police probe large crowds, lay charges



HUNDREDS OF CHARGES have been laid as police target large gatherings across the city to control the spread of COVID-19. Driver investigated (right).

Toronto Police officers from across the city have laid hundreds of charges at large gatherings in a bid to stop the spread of COVID-19.

The officers have been busy and in the first five days laying more than 230 Emergency Management and Civil Protection (EMCPA) charges. The teams, from all 16 police divisions, were assembled on April 22 as part of a plan to support the latest provincial stay-at-home orders to slow the spread of the virus.

Toronto Police statistics show that officers attended more than 300 gatherings in response to calls from the public about noisy parties and gatherings, with more than half of the gatherings held indoors.

In addition to the EMCPA charges, officers laid eight criminal charges for offences including obstructing a

police officer and assault.

Police said most calls occurred in the downtown including one at a condo in the King Street West and Portland Street area, where they were met with a large number of people inside the property. Ten of the occupants did not live at the

address. The homeowner and ten guests were all charged under the EMCPA.

“At a time when positive case counts continue to rise and hospital ICU admissions are at their highest, it’s disappointing to see people having parties and gatherings and putting themselves, their families, healthcare and First Responders at increased risk,” said Chief James Ramer.

He said his officers are working with Toronto Public Health and the City’s Bylaw enforcement officers at the Municipal Licensing and Standards Unit. The Ontario government on April 16 announced additional restrictions and a two-week extension of the provincial lockdown and stay-

at-home order to slow the spread of the virus.

The order requires people to remain at home except for specified purposes, such as going to a grocery store or pharmacy, health care services, outdoor exercise, or work that cannot be done remotely.

Ramer warned earlier there is no change to police powers and Toronto



Police will not be conducting random stops of people or cars.

Staff Supt. Randy Carter said his teams will focus on large gatherings that fail to comply with the emergency orders, with a particular focus on indoor gatherings such as parties at short-term rentals or at bars and restaurants.

“Everyone must do their part to protect our health and safety, and for police that means continuing to enforce equitably and effectively,” Carter said. All the suspects charged are before the courts.

Adam Beck and Norseman get much-needed help and updates

Alderwood’s Sir Adam Beck ice rink is finally receiving some badly-needed and tender loving care. A new roof and upgrades for Norseman Community



RINKS AND POOL being updated for more years of hard use.

Pool and improvements to Sir Adam Beck and Rosedale artificial ice rinks are in the books thanks to funding by all three levels of government.

The Government of Canada is investing \$3.6 million in the renovations, the Ontario government has pledged some \$3 million and the City of Toronto is spending \$2.4 towards upgrading the pool and rinks.

“Recreation facilities across our city provide kids, youth and families a great way to stay healthy, learn new skills and socialize with others,” said Mayor John Tory. MPP Christine Hogarth said the Norseman Community Pool will have its roof replaced, mechanical and electrical updates to the HVAC system and improvements to the change rooms.

“I am pleased that our government is investing more than \$3 million to rehabilitate the Norseman Community Pool and the Sir Adam Beck and Rosedale rinks,” she said. Hogarth said the project will increase the pool’s ‘longevity and improve accessibility for seniors, families, children and persons with disabilities.’

MP James Maloney said upgrades to Sir Adam Beck and Rosedale ice rinks will include the replacement of refrigeration plants, upgrades to mechanical rooms, construction of new concrete pads and installation of dasher boards.

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MAY 11 DEVELOPMENT without Displacement. A conversation about new development in South Etobicoke at 7 p.m. on Webex. **Community Benefits.** What are community benefits and how can we secure affordable housing in all new major developments. Guest speaker **Kumsa Baker** is Director of Community Benefits Campaigns, Toronto Community Benefits Network. Register

eventbrite.com/e/147848786701 or contact johnathan.palmer@humber.ca

MAY 11 HOMEBUYING WEBINAR hosted by Alterna Savings at 7 p.m. with an "UnScary" mortgage conversation to take the fear out of buying a home. For those purchasing their first home or renewing their mortgage. Presenters include local RE/MAX Professionals realtor **Graham Rowlands**; Alterna Savings Branch Managers **Michael Borrelli** and **Ola Lukaczyn**. Register today <http://bit.ly/2RWmV41>

MAY 12 INTRODUCTION TO HEALTHY EATING: May 19 Eating for a healthy heart, May 26 label reading and June 2 foot care. Contact 416-252-1928.

MAY 14 VIRTUAL GARDENING WORKSHOP from 10:30 a.m. You must have an email address. Contact 416-252-1928 ext. 100. Free gift with attendance.

MAY 18 DIABETES EDUCATION and Therapeutic Yoga six part workshop series on ZOOM from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. There will be a discussion on various diabetes education topics prior to the Yoga. You must have an email and only eight people can be accommodated. Contact 416-252-1928 ext.100.

MAY 18 AT 7 p.m. on ZOOM – A TENANT’S rights workshop on above average guideline rent increases (AGI’s) Guest Speaker is **Starr Smith**, of Mimico Estates Tenant’s Association. contact jasmind@lampchc.org

FROM MAY 12 EVERY WEDNESDAYS from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. for four Virtual Zumba sessions with

diabetes education classes through the West Toronto Diabetes Education Program.

FREE CHIROPODY SERVICES for those who qualify at LAMP. Open for new patients who are prediabetic or diabetic. We treat nail concerns, ulcerations, pain and more. Contact 416-252-6471 ext. 262

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

NEW WELLNESS SERIES: Tuesdays from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Feel better this spring by stretching and relaxation through breathing and mindfulness. To register contact jasmnd@lampchc.org or 416-252-6471.

STARTING JUNE 2 NEW EIGHT WEEK free mindfulness course on ZOOM on Wednesdays from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. with **Corin De Sousa**, a certified mindfulness instructor with the Canadian College of Educators who provides evidence-based mindfulness programs. To register contact jasmind@lampchc.org

MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY FREE emergency food takeout meals continue to be offered from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. through LAMP’s adult drop-in program. Group programs are closed, **FREE ADULT LEARNING PROGRAMS:** Learn basic computer skills. Must meet registration criteria including 19 years and over and out of school, have a SIN number and access to a computer and an email account. Fluent in spoken English and provide proof of permanent residency. Small online group instruction on MS word, Internet, Keyboarding, e-mail and Zoom. For more information 416-252-9701 ext. 242 or 243. **NEIGHBOURHOOD PODS PROJECT:** Neighbours helping neighbours. Mutual aid and support phone check-ins. Community Leadership. Volunteer run. Contact **Daniel Plant** at 416-553-8263,

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Black community movers and shakers honoured

Top Black movers and shakers were honoured at the 39 annual Harry Jerome Awards. Former Toronto Police Services boardmember Ken Jeffers, ex Raptors star Jamaal Magloire, entrepreneur Taylor Lindsay-Noel and nine others were honoured for their leadership roles in the Black community.

The awardees were presented with the 39th Annual Harry Jerome Awards in a virtual celebration on April 17 by the Black Business and Professional Association (BBPA).

Jeffers (left) was recognized with a Lifetime Achievement Award for his four years on the Police Services Board in which the practice of carding was ended and his more than 30 years as an activist in the Black community.

Magloire (top right), who was honoured with an Athletics Award, played 12 seasons with the National Basketball Association (NBA), including two years as a Raptor, for whom he was a community outreach ambassador.

Bishop Ransford C. Jones (bottom right) received a Leadership Award for his role as Chairman of the Cana-

dian Black Clergies and Allies (CBCA) and lead Pastor of Markham's Destiny Gospel Centre. Entrepreneur Lindsay-Noel (bottom right) was an elite gymnast looking to join the Canadian Olympic team in 2008 when she broke her back in practice and that dream went up in smoke. She owns an organic loose leaf tea company that was endorsed by TV star Oprah Winfrey.

"We have adapted to continue this inspiring tradition and historic awards gala," said BBPA president Nadine Spencer. "The Harry Jerome Awards Gala is a fundraising event and we are grateful for the support from donors, corporate sponsors and our many volunteers." Banker Al Ramsay received a Professional Excellence Award for helping the LGBTQ community. He holds the position of national manager of LGBTQ2+ business development at TD Bank. It's the only role of its kind in North America.

Louis-Edgar Jean-Francois copped a Business Award for securing federal government investments to support black communities in Quebec. He helps entrepreneurs deal with the pandemic by working with certain partners to obtain financing for projects.

Velma Morgan (top right) received a Community Service Award for her work as a teacher and advocate for gender and cultural diversity. She is the Chair of Operation Black Vote Canada and was the architect of the first Black community provincial leaders debate. She has worked for four Cabinet ministers. Patricia Bebia Mawa (bottom left) received a Media Award for directing and producing more than 15 TV programs. She has published multiple editions of three magazines and now hosts Planet Africa on OMNI TV. She and her husband launched Afro-global Television, a 24-hour television channel, in 2016.



Dennis Mitchell was awarded a President's Award for his 20 years of experience in the investment industry. He is a co-founder of the Black Opportunity Fund, a partnership between businesses, philanthropists, foundations and the Black community.

Kathy McDonald was recognized with a Diversity Award for her work. Claudette McGowan received a Technology Award and Dr. Joseph Smith a Decade Leader Award.

Named after a famous Canadian sprinter, the annual BBPA Harry Jerome Awards was established in 1983 to celebrate outstanding and inspirational individuals in the Black community.



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