

# The South Etobicoke News

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## Send our unused vaccines to help the poor

As the province opens up businesses on June 14, some South Etobicoke pharmacists are calling for more than 50,000 unused doses of AstraZeneca stored in refrigerators to be donated to poor countries.

The health workers say people are dying as we prepare to dump the vaccines, which are still good.

The Ontario government is no longer offering AstraZeneca for first doses because of the potential risk of a rare blood-clotting disorder. As a result, thousands of doses are at risk of expiring. These include at least 45,000 vaccines in Ontario and 7,000 in Manitoba.

“These vaccines should be put to good use in other countries,” says pharmacist Sam Patel. “They can save



**PREMIER DOUG FORD (above)** is being asked to send the province's unused AstraZeneca vaccines to help the poor. WHO's Tedros Ghebreyesus, (centre) said rich nations purchased most of the vaccines.

peoples' lives in poor countries.” Health Canada authorized a one-month extension for the 45,000 AstraZeneca doses that were to expire on May 31. They will now expire on July 1. Patel said many poor countries cannot afford the medication. “These are precious and should not be wasted as other people are suffering,” said the

co-owner of pharmacies in South Etobicoke and Mississauga. “The doses can be sent to other places to help save the lives of people.”

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO), has blasted Canada, the U.S., and wealthier nations for “gobbling up” the global vaccine supply by ordering way more than they need for their populations. An international effort, known as the Covax scheme, was set up last year to try to ensure fair access to vaccines

among rich and poor nations, but the global situation remains vastly uneven. More than 49 million vaccine doses have been delivered through Covax. Oxfam officials estimate at least 90% of people in 67 poor countries stand little chance of getting vaccinated because wealthy nations have reserved more than they need.

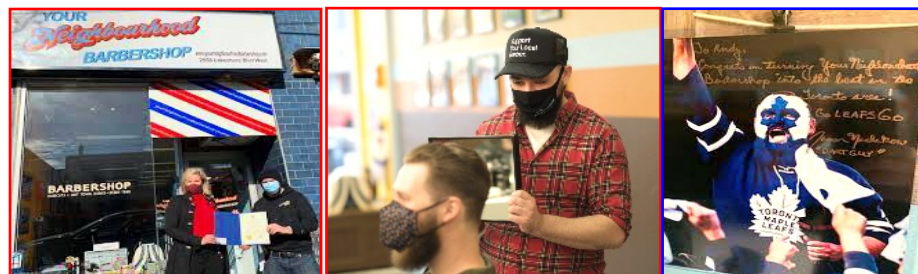
## Barber will help others in Go Fund Me donations

A hard-working and well-liked local barber has raised almost \$10,000 on Go Fund Me so he and another hard-hit New Toronto businesses can stay afloat.

Andy Dinner, of Your Neighbourhood Barbershop, at 2858 Lake Shore Blvd. W., set out on May 20 to raise \$4,000 to try and cover his shop's rent and expenses for two months.

The fundraising campaign in about four hours raised \$7,300 from a stream of donations made by community residents in support of small businesses.

“It (campaign) is gaining some serious traction,” Dinner said on social media. “We do not want an extra dime over that initial \$4,000.” He has raised the goal to \$10,000 and said “every dollar extra over the original \$4,000 will be split to other Lakeshore businesses.” Some other local businesses which are also struggling



**LOCAL BARBER ANDY DINNER** has launched a Go Fund Me campaign which has raised almost \$10,000 to help his shop stay afloat. Dinner said he will use what's left over to help other businesses in the community. *Courtesy photos.*

will receive part of the donations, he said. He is willing to share to help other small businesses succeed.

“We will not bite off more than we can chew. This isn't about that,” Dinner explained. “We are using this momentum and exposure to help our struggling neighbours.” He never expected to be shut so long in lockdowns and emer-

gency orders in the fight against the spread of COVID-19. A few customers still drop by to say hello.

“Working for 88 days and then being forced to close for 180 days and counting, with no end date in sight was simply unimaginable,” he noted. His shop is new and did not qualify for government grants or benefits, he said.

“We did not expect the Ford government to fail so miserably at how they are dealing with the pandemic, We did not expect our industry to be disrespected and neglected in such a blatantly offensive manner.”

He said “we are about to pay our seventh straight month of rent with no income.”

“I spent my entire life savings opening up this shop and then it has been months of paying rent and hydro for this shop that I can't work out of,” Dinner said.

“My savings are tapped, I have nothing left.” Residents love the shop, which has won A LAMP Medal of Merit and Etobicoke GEM award for Best New Business. Thomas Bates said he donated because “Andy is a remarkable young man and needs our support in these trying times. Every little bit helps. Let's help him.”

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## Cameras in Garnett Janes area can be used to track gunmen in our community



**POLICE CLOSE** Lake Shore Blvd. W., as they search for a shooting suspect. CP24 photo.

CCTV cameras installed in the Garnett Janes neighbourhood can help in nabbing other gunmen plaguing the community, police say.

More than 1,100 people have signed an online petition calling for video surveillance cameras to be installed in the neighbourhood to help deter and solve crimes.

The petition for cameras was initiated by Toronto Police in a social media posting.

Police last month were called to investigate a drive-by shooting in the Lake Shore Blvd. W., and Brown's Line area, in which a victim was driving a vehicle when four shots were fired by gunmen in another car, which sped off.

The victim was hospitalized for gunshot wounds as officers escalated a search for two men.

Police said the cameras can help them monitor shooters as they move around the area. There has been at least six shootings in the Garnett Janes area in the last

month. "Unfortunately the neighbourhood has also been affected by gang activity for some time," police wrote in a proposal for cameras. "These gang members hang out in the buildings, on the streets, and in Lakeshore Village Park as well as Eighth Street Skate Park." Police said the Garnett Janes neighbourhood has seen a 'disproportionately amount of violent crimes occurring within its' borders as compared to other neighbourhoods in south Etobicoke.

The cameras are proposed for the corners of Garnett Janes Rd., and Ninth St., Coin St. and Tenth Street, Etta Wylie Rd. and Garnett Janes Rd., and the corner of Ninth St., and Lake Shore Blvd. W.

The neighbourhood is a shining example of why Toronto is one of the most ethnically diverse cities in the world, according to police. The residents are hard-working and family-oriented but are being exploited by gangs.

Police said images captured by CCTV will be automatically over-written within 72 hours, unless required for use as evidence in a case.

Many residents of the community seem to be in favour of the cameras.

"In addition the new cameras I feel it is time to reopen the police division on Lake Shore Blvd. W., which was at one time deemed unnecessary," wrote Lynn.

Del said "I want to see and hear that all our neighbourhoods are safe."

"I live in the neighbourhood and want to keep our community safe," said Valerie.

"Protecting the community is of the utmost importance," wrote Darlene. "We need to get rid of the gangs that are ter-

## One dead, 100 shots fired in Willowridge shootout



**POLICE SEARCHING** for evidence at scene of Willowridge shooting.

One man is dead and three wounded in a gunfight during which about 100 shots were fired in mid Etobicoke in broad daylight. Horrified residents ran for cover as gunshots

broke out on a nice Sunday afternoon as many families were enjoying the sunshine and a taste of the outdoors after a year indoors.

After the gunsmoke had lifted, a 28-year-old man was dead and three others hospitalized after being injured just before 2:30 p.m. at an apartment complex in the area of Willowridge Road and Eglinton Ave. W., just west of Martin Grove Road.

The Willowridge complex is well-known to police and has a long history of incidents in which police had to respond. Toronto Police Insp. Michael Williams said a dark sedan entered the complex on May 16 and approached a Toyota Camry and Mercedes-Benz that were parked in front of 22 Willowridge Road.

The occupant or occupants in the sedan opened fire on those inside the two parked vehicles. The gunshots lasted for some time, according to witnesses.

Officers and residents estimate about 100 shots were fired at the vehicles as residents in the area ran for cover forgetting about plans for getting some rays in the park.

"From the sounds of things, it was very confusing even for anybody that would have seen what took place as vehicles and people running in all directions, quite chaotic," Williams said. When officers arrived, they located one of the victims in a roundabout near the Mercedes. Two other young men were found collapsed on a nearby street.

Police last summer found 86 shell casings after a shooting in New Toronto, which at the time was a record for casings found at a scene. Anyone with information can contact police at 416-808-7400 or Crime Stoppers at 416-222-TIPS.

## Police busy with large gatherings and fireworks



Councillor Mark Grimes says some residents were aiming fireworks at Toronto Police officers and other people last Victoria Day weekend at waterfront parks.

"People were cutting branches off of live trees for bonfires, shooting fireworks at animals and enforcement officers, and treating our parks like garbage dumps," Grimes wrote in his weekly report. He had worked with City and enforcement staff for several weeks to develop a plan to deal with the fireworks, bonfires, illegal parking and litter.

"People were shooting fireworks into crowds of people, at animals and even the police," he said. He has asked city staff to determine what went wrong. "Discussions are underway to have more paid duty officers assigned to Ward 3's waterfront parks." Police have laid about 1,500 fines for taking part in gatherings.

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# Reeve Shaver best known for bringing first automobile here

Former Reeve Franklin E. Shaver loved cars and is fondly remembered for owning the first vehicle in Etobicoke some 112 years ago. Shaver, who came from a prominent Etobicoke family, served as the 12<sup>th</sup> Reeve of the Borough of Etobicoke, which was created in 1850. He served from 1906 to 1908, when he was defeated by prominent cattle breeder John Gardhouse, a farmer who co-founded the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair and Canadian Agricultural Hall of Fame inductee. Back then the Borough of Etobicoke was growing and businesses were booming. Many residents had never been close to a car before that day in 1909 when Shaver pulled up in a shiny new Studebaker-Flanders automobile. The auto was the first in Etobicoke and sported a 20 horsepower water-cooled engine, a 100-inch wheel base, 32-inch wheels and all-metal body.



REEVE Shaver

It also had a selective sliding gear two speed transmission and a reverse shaft drive. "The greatest automotive value the world has ever seen," screamed the advertising for the vehicle. It sold for \$750, a princely sum in those days.

The high-flying Studebaker Flanders company boasted of having 75,000 of the vehicles on the road and "every owner is an enthusiastic booster."

"The Studebaker cars are built for honest everyday service, and will give you service – not excuses," boasts its promotional materials. "From the moment your Studebaker Flanders is delivered, you have a car that is ready to go." Back then, there was little bus service and personal transportation was still primarily by horse-drawn carriage, according to the Etobicoke Historical Society (EHS).



SHAVER OWNED one of the first 1909 Studebaker-Flanders (above, center) in Etobicoke. Courtesy photos.

"Cars did not predominate in the rural areas until after the depression." Dundas Street and Lakeshore Road were both paved in 1917 and other roads were gravel or even mud, the EHS noted. There was good access to other towns, including downtown Toronto, by train. By 1917, the Toronto Suburban Electric Railway had opened passenger service from Keele Street to Guelph, passing through central Etobicoke. Shaver's family had done well. Patriarch Peter Shaver had ar-

rived from Ancaster in 1830 and acquired 200 acres on the west side of Hwy. 427, between Bloor Street and Rathburn Road, the EHS said. He hired prominent architect, William Tyrrell, to design and build his home, which was completed in 1852. The Georgian style home was built of red and yellow brick and a picturesque verandah across the front. Many people know the historic "Applewood" house as the place where they or friends were married. It has hosted more than 12,000 weddings. The Studebaker-Flanders was named after Walter E. Flanders, who had been Henry Ford's production manager in the 1900s. A U.S. family owned company, Studebaker entered the automotive business in 1902 with electric vehicles and in 1904 with gasoline vehicles. For 50 years, the company established a reputation for quality, durability and reliability. After a failed 1954 merger, with the Packard car firm, the company was forced to shut. At one time more than 15,000 employees worked for Studebaker.

# Riders love new \$73 million transit hub at Kipling GO



THE KIPLING TRANSIT HUB can take South Etobicoke residents to most places in the GTA. Courtesy photos.

Response has been positive to the newly opened Kipling Transit Hub that can take riders across the GTA quicker and in more comfort. Riders seem to love the new \$73 million transit hub at Kipling GO Station that has been under construction since 2018. South Etobicoke riders can now connect to GO Transit, MiWay bus for Mississauga and Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) services at the hub. It is a massive facility that features 3,000 square feet of indoor waiting area space along with 1,400 parking spaces and 90 bicycle parking spots.

There is also an underground tunnel that will allow commuters arriving at the station access to the nearby Kipling subway station and an elevated pedestrian bridge that will provide access to the GO train platform.

"Transit will be critical for this region over the next decade and that's why our government is proactively putting the building blocks in place to address those needs," Associate



PART OF THE sprawling facility.

Minister of Transportation Kinga Surma said in a statement. Toronto Mayor John Tory said that the transit hub may not be a large project in terms of "the dollar amount," but is a "significant" example of governments "working together across regional and municipal boundaries" to get transit built.

The bus terminal has accessible elevators, digital displays with schedule information, wayfinding signage, enhanced lighting,

PRESTO and pay machines, as well as electric phone charging stations. Outside, the hub features a snow melting system on the bus platform, upgrades to the GO train platform, plus updated pick-up and drop-off building.

MetroLinx President Phil Verster said it was created a seamless transit journey by bringing together all of the transit services customers depend on.

"With connections to the Milton line, more than 10 bus routes, GO, MiWay and TTC transit providers and express access to the airport, the Kipling Transit Hub will be a new home base as customers travel across the region," said Verster.

"The transit connections offered at the new Kipling Transit Hub will provide residents with better access to job and housing opportunities, both locally and across the Greater Golden Horseshoe," said Ontario Minister of Transportation Caroline Mulroney.

MetroLinx says Kipling Transit Hub was designed for a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEEDS) Gold certification.

Islington is part of the Toronto subway system which was opened in March 1954.



TTC SUBWAY

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# Wayne & Shuster's Mimico Mice hockey team

By TOM GODFREY



This flashback is for the Toronto Maple Leafs run for the Stanley Cup 2021. Toronto comedy legends Johnny Wayne and Frank Shuster loved hockey and their highly-rated show dominated Canadian radio

and then TV for nearly four decades.

The duo were members of Harbord Collegiate's Oola Boola Drama Club, who wrote and produced their shows before signing a one-year contract with CBC radio in 1941.

They placed their promising careers on hold by signing up for the Canadian Army as infantry officers during WWII. Before long their comedic skills had them writing and producing The Army Show to entertain the troops.

The pair wrote hundreds of hugely funny skits, but one of their most memorable made Mimico residents proud of their imaginary hockey team called "The Mimico Mice."



Wayne and Shuster would perform a 1946 mock match between the Mimico Mice, a two-player team, who would face-off against Toronto Maple Leafs, complete with authentic



WAYNE AND SHUSTER dominated the comedic airwaves for four decades. As Mounties (right) and Mimico Mice at the bottom.

Shuster once said fans always remember and wanted to talk about the Mimico Mice. Here is a sample of their great comedic writing skills and love of Canada's national sport.



"He'd go, 'Wayne passes to Shuster, and Shuster goes down the ice.' We'd lose about 110-0. Sometimes we got one goal for neatness," Shuster said. "I still bump into people who say, 'How are the Mimico Mice doing?'" "We loved hockey anyway," Shuster says. "I played pickup games and sold Eskimo Pies at Maple Leaf Gardens when I was in

sound efforts from Maple Leaf Gardens and the late and legendary Foster Hewitt calling the play-by-play, using the names of actual Maple Leaf players of the era.

The sketch was a blast and guarantee to fetch a gut-busting laugh from fans.



high school. Johnny was a regular at the games. He considered himself the number one Maple Leaf fan." Johnny and Wayne performed the hockey sketch for a U.S. audience on The Ed Sullivan Show (above) in 1958. The bit involved brawling, yet highbrow, hockey players, and it ended with four players pulling out musical instruments to form a quartet in the penalty box. Through the late 1940s and early '50s, Wayne and Shuster appeared on many Canadian and U.S. television programs but their breakthrough in the States came from The Ed Sullivan Show. Sullivan was so impressed by the Canadians that he invited them back 66 more times, a show record.

Wayne and Shuster, along with other artists, made it easier for other Canadian artists to penetrate the U.S. Market. The success of SCTV and their retirement in the 1980s opened English television to new voices of humour. Codco, Kids In The Hall, This Hour Has 22 Minutes, Red Green and The Royal Canadian Air Farce were some of the successful shows launched in the 1980s and '90s. Here's hoping The Mimico Mice bring home the Stanley Cup.

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# Famous knighted conductor was from Mimico



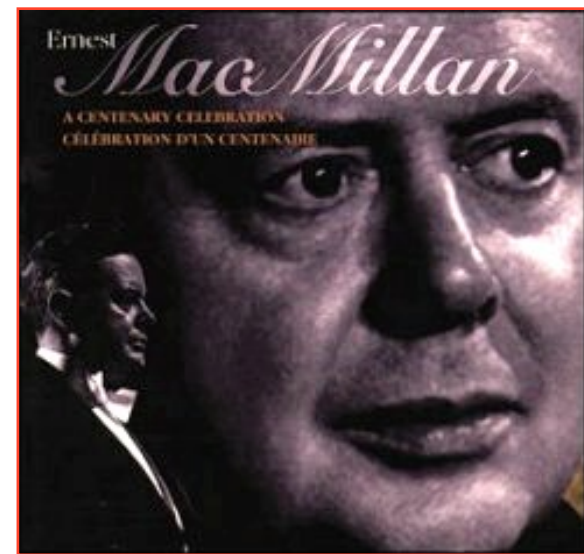
MIMICO'S SIR Ernest Alexander MacMillan was at one time the best orchestra conductor in the world. File photos.

One of Canada's cherished musical treasures who was knighted by King George V and showered with accolades, was born right here in Mimico. Sir Ernest Alexander MacMillan, who was dubbed a "Musical Knight," is not a name many residents may know.

He was the son of two-time Mimico Rev. Alexander MacMillan. The boy would gain fame worldwide as a composer, conductor, administrator, lecturer, adjudicator, writer, humourist and statesman.

The lad was born in 1893 and baptized at the Mimico Presbyterian Church, at 119 Mimico Ave., near Royal York Road, where he learned common-sense values that carried him through life.

Ernest attended school in Mimico until his father was assigned to a Toronto church and he transferred to Rosedale public school and then Jarvis Collegiate.



MacMillan, who played the organ, once said he was "brought up on a diet of hymns" from his hymn expert father. He could read music before he could read words and by the time he received formal music lesson at the age of 8, he was already playing the organ with a trio earning pocket change.

A child prodigy, he gave his first organ recital at Massey Hall at the age of 10, which attracted some 4,000 classical music lovers.

MacMillan went to Edinburgh at 13 to enroll in the Edinburgh Col-

lege of Music. He was too young to enrol but attended lectures, passed the examinations and became the youngest person to join the Royal College of Organists. For his "services to music in Canada," MacMillan was knighted in 1935 by King George V on the recommendation of the Prime Minister of Canada, R. B. Bennett.

Sir Ernest received eight doctorates, was an honorary member of the Royal Academy of Music and a recipient of the University of Alberta National Award in Music. MacMillan also received two Canada Council Medals for "outstanding achievements in the arts, humanities or social sciences."

A new University of Toronto's Faculty of Music theatre in 1964 was named "The MacMillan Theatre." It holds up to 815 people, and the orchestra pit is large enough to fit 60 musicians.

When World War I broke out, MacMillan was in Germany and was detained by the German regime. In prison he formed and conducted an orchestra of 40 fellow prisoners, while studying for a Doctor of Music Degree from Oxford. One show was attended by the U.S. Ambassador.

He was recognized by the German government in 1957 and awarded a coveted Richard Strauss medal.

MacMillan was released from the internment camp at the end of the war and returned to Canada where he became organist and choirmaster of Timothy Eaton Church. In 1920, he joined the staff of the University of Toronto as lecturer in music; in 1926 becoming princi-



MacMILLAN WITH some of his musicians. File photos.

pal of the Toronto Conservatory of Music and a year later dean of the faculty of music at the U of T. By 1935, Sir Ernest was a celebrity conducting orchestras all over the world.

He resigned as principal of the Conservatory in 1942 to devote more time to concert work as conductor of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra (TSO). He retired from the TSO in 1956 and was given a golden baton by members of the orchestra.

MacMillan became well-known in Toronto in starting his career by giving performances in his hometown. He is remembered for giving five organ recitals commissioned by the Canadian Academy of Music in 1919 and 1920, in addition to recitals at the Timothy Eaton Memorial Church after each Sunday service.

MacMillan gave 100 concerts and recitals between the 1920s and 1950s. He eventually stopped performing due to his other responsibilities as a conductor, composer and an educator.

During the Second World War he gained fame as a guest conductor in the U.S. for conducting many Hollywood Bowl concerts, including the NBC Symphony Orchestra.

By the end of the 1940s, he had conducted at the Vancouver Symphony on 45 occasions and graced the Montreal concert stage 25 times. MacMillan even toured Australia, performing 30 concerts. His sons, Keith and Ross, have established the Sir Ernest MacMillan Memorial Foundation to help young and upcoming musicians. The brilliant conductor, who loved Mimico, died in Toronto in 1973.



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# Stream of music lovers pay respect to DMX art



RAPPER DMX

A beautiful portrait of U.S. rapper DMX painted on the wall of a New Toronto building is getting a lot of attention these days.

New Toronto business owner and mural artist Angel "Cruz" Carrillo and his crew last month painted a brilliant mural of the late DMX, born Earn Simmons, facing a laneway on Sixth Street, just north of Lake Shore Blvd. W.

The full-size work took the crew a full day to complete and almost \$1,000 worth of paints and materials. And residents are taking notice. "People seem to like the mural," says Cruz. "It takes a great deal of planning and getting the materials to do the work."

Cruz runs a nearby tattoo shop, which has been shut for months due to COVID-19. He is highly-respected in the street mural trade for his outstanding work.

"We painted all the murals in the laneway," he points to the art-filled walls. "Nobody is paying us. We are doing this to enhance the community. People like the artwork and come from all over to see it."

Cruz has since painted another mural on a delivery truck of a local merchant and has other plans.

Businessman Rattan Gandhi says a steady stream of people, including many motorcycle riders, have been showing up to take selfies in front of the mural.

"There has been a steady stream of people showing up," says Gandhi, whose Quick Refund Tax is next door. "I

didn't know who this guy (DMX) was until they started showing up."

The mural has the popular DMX looking out over a laneway just north of Sixth Street. Fans love the work.

"It is beautiful," says a man of the artwork. "A lot of people love this guy."

The rapper died April 9 at White Plains Hospital in New York, a week after a heart attack. He was 50.

The three-time Grammy Award winner got his start in music back in the 1980s, performing with Ready Ron while serving time behind bars until he finally dedicated himself to music full-time in the 1990s.

At 14, Simmons began living on the streets of Yonkers to escape his mother's abuse, sleeping in Salvation Army clothing bins and befriending stray dogs.

He eventually got signed to Columbia Records' Ruffhouse imprint, and appeared on records with Jay-Z, LL Cool J, Mase and even the rock band Sum 41.

It wasn't until '98 that he broke out with the release of his Ruff Ryders debut studio album "It's Dark and Hell is Hot" to critical and mainstream acclaim.

The father of 15 children followed up that success quickly with a second album later the same year called "Flesh of My Flesh, Blood of My Blood" that ended up hitting Number 1. At the time, he was the second rapper to release back-to-back albums in the same year, the first being Tupac.

His sound is described as abrasive, rough around the edges, but also catchy and great for parties. His third album hit that last point home with his single "Party Up



CRUZ PAINTED this truck of a local merchant.



LOCAL MURAL ARTIST Angel 'Cruz' Carrillo in front of a portrait of rapper DMX painted on a Twelfth Street building. The artwork attracts many visitors for selfies. Photos by Tom Godfrey.

(Up in Here)," which was another one of X's notorious songs that helped him get major play on radio, in clubs and in movies.

He went on to star in a number of movies including Exit Wounds, Cradle 2 the Grave, Never Die Alone and Last Hour.

Over the years, he was jailed 30 times and faced charges for weapons, drugs, DUI and tax evasion. He served time for some of those cases, but always continued his music career.

As he struggled with the law, X continued to crank out hits including the memorable "X Gon' Give It to Ya," "Where the Hood At?" and "Lord Give Me a Sign" as well as "We in Here."

He really seemed to turn his life around in 2019 after ending a 12-month sentence for tax evasion. DMX had long battled substance abuse. RIP DMX.

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# Improved dental care; affordable prescriptions coming to our seniors



**THE ONTARIO** government is promising to help seniors with dental costs and affordable prescriptions. File photos.

More help is coming to ailing seniors already struggling to pay their dental costs and prescription medications. The Ontario government said they are updating the income eligibility for the Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program and the Seniors Co-Payment Program to allow more of our most vulnerable seniors to have access to dental care and affordable prescription medications. "Our government continues to support Ontario's seniors by ensuring they have access to the quality dental care and the prescription medications they need," said Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. "Expanding access to these programs to even more low-income seniors builds on our government's ongoing efforts to protect hospital capacity and will help improve the quality of life and well-being of low-income seniors." In 2019, the Ontario government launched the Ontario Seniors Dental Care program to provide free routine dental care for eligible low-income seniors across the province. The Seniors Co-Payment Program enables low-income seniors to access the medication

they need with no annual deductible and a reduced co-payment for each prescription. Starting in August 2021, eligibility thresholds for both programs will be updated to reflect cost of living increases in Ontario and align with income support programs for seniors. Income thresholds will be updated for single Ontarians aged 65 and over, from \$19,300 to \$22,200, and for couples with a combined annual income, from \$32,300 to \$37,100. This will allow approximately 7,000 more seniors to access the Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program and 17,000 more seniors to access the Seniors Co-Payment Program in 2021-2022. By ensuring seniors can access effective dental care and continue to afford the medications they need, the Ontario Seniors Dental Care and Seniors Co-Payment programs help to reduce unnecessary trips to the hospital and improve seniors' quality of life. This further supports hospital capacity as Ontario continues to fight the third wave of COVID-19 and is a key component of the government's plan to end hallway health care. For the Seniors Co-Payment Program, seniors who are eligible under the new income thresholds are encouraged to apply now in advance of the start of the upcoming benefit year on August 1st, 2021. Applying early will help ensure eligible seniors receive the reduction in their drug deductible and co-payment on time to minimize the chance of out of pocket expenses. Once an application has been submitted, eligibility will be assessed to confirm enrolment for the year.



# Ontario adding 2,000 nurses to bring health care up to standard

Anyone who has been to one of our hospitals lately can see how short-staffed frontline workers are. It is about time more badly-needed nurses are being added to the Ontario health care system. The Ontario government is spending \$35 million to add 2,000 nurses into the hospital system. The province is increasing enrolment in nursing education programs in publicly-assisted colleges and universities across the province. The new spaces will be available for Fall 2021 and Winter 2022 and will introduce approximately 1,130 new practical nurses and 870 registered nurses into the health care system.



**MORE NURSES** are being added to help with our healthcare in Ontario. File photo.

COVID-19 has exacerbated the gap between the current supply of nurses compared to Ontario's current and future needs across the health care system. An announcement last month was a significant step to keeping pace with the rising demand for frontline health care workers during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond, especially in sectors where health care workers care for Ontario's most vulnerable patients such as long-term care, home and community care and acute care. "Our Government committed to ensuring residents in long-term care receive, on average, four hours of direct care per day," said Dr. Merrilee Fullerton, Minister of Long-Term Care. "To make this a reality, tens of thousands of new staff need to be hired to provide this care, including registered nurses and practical nurses." She said "today's investment supports our plan to shore up staffing in long-term care and address the need for nurses across the health care system." "This investment will also support the expansion of clinical education placements for nursing students and personal support worker students in the long-term care sector," Fullerton said in a statement. She said the investment will help long-term care homes ensure quality clinical placements in long-term care at a time when homes are facing severe staffing challenges. It will also provide registered nurses already in the long-term-care sector an opportunity to grow their careers by working as clinical experts and supervising new students.

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# OBQ juicy burgers & Dino's delicious pizza

One of Alderwood's longest serving burger joints is still packing them in after more than 50 years of grilling thousands of orders of hamburgers, cheeseburgers and fries.

OBQ, or Obsessed by Quality, has been serving the community since 2011, in a strip plaza at 602 Brown's Line, south of Evans Ave.

"It is one of the longest serving hamburger places in the community," says George Tsiambouris, the owner of OBQ. "This has always been a burger place as far back as I know."

The property was previously owned by a family who operated Big Burg



**PLEASANT SERVERS** Julia and Kristen show some of their famous, charbroiled OBQ burgers. Photos by Tom Godfrey.



**TASTY OBQ** burgers, so good!

er for 40 years, says Tsiambouris. "People still come in and tell us they had a hamburger here on such a date," he says. "There is a long history here." Tsiambouris says OBQ burgers are freshly ground and spiced from a secret recipe before it goes on the grill. "We sear the burger on

the flat grill so all the delicious juices stay in," he explains. "We then transfer them to the charbroiler to get that exquisite charred flavour."

The burgers, and we have been coming here for years, are always great.

"We cook and top your burger to your liking with your favourite original toppings," he insists. They use 100% Canadian Angus beef and gluten and egg free products.

The prime location came up when he was searching for a spot to open and the rest is history.

"We love the area because it is very family oriented and we get a lot of families as customers," Tsiambouris says. The love of burgers run down to the staff, with customer servers Julia and Kristen both agreeing they love the job and people.

"We love working here," Kristen says. "The people are open to new ideas."

You can place an order at OBQ by calling 416-253-0835, 602 Brown's Line. It is affordable and the burgers are delicious.



**DINO** (in white) with staff taking pizza to the needy. Photos by Tom Godfrey.



Good Samaritan Dino Aria has been feeding the less fortunate in our community with his delicious wood-burned pizza for years.

Aria, the owner of Dino's Wood Burning

Pizza, and some of his team continued with their good deeds on May 8 by feeding members of a shelter with 100 slices of his homemade pies.

"We are taking these to help feed people in a shelter in the downtown area," he says from his 820 The Queensway location. "All the slices are individually wrapped for public health reasons."

He also has another restaurant at 871 Kipling Ave.

Liberal MP James Maloney stopped by that day to pick up a pizza and show his support for Aria and his drive to help those in need in the community.

The slices were taken in a convoy of vehicles to the shelter, where they were distributed to those who were hungry and in need.

The colourful pizza maker has previously donated free pies to frontline emergency workers involved in the fight against COVID-19.

Aria is proud of the charity work he and his employees have conducted before and during the pandemic, such as donating hundreds of slices to frontline workers, those experiencing homelessness, poverty or in dire need.

His wood-burning pizza has been a staple in the city for more than 20 years.

"We have to live with our community and support our community and we expect that our community will help us," Aria says. "Everything is mutual." You can contact Dino's Wood Burning Pizza for a bite at 416-259-0050.

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# CNE may end after 142-years with this second COVID cancellation

Many South Etobicoke residents grew up a streetcar ride away from the Canadian National Exhibition (CNE) which was always a highlight of our summer in Toronto.

Now after 142 years of memories, the CNE is at risk of closing its gates and food venues. The late August fair, along with other major city attractions, will be cancelled for a second year to curb the spread of COVID-19, according to city leaders.

More than 70,000 people have signed an online petition calling on the provincial and federal governments to contribute \$5.5 million each to save the iconic fair.



Without financial support, the CNE will not survive to 2022, according to the petition. It is estimated that the CNE will lose up to \$70 million in revenue due to the 2021 closure and will have to reassess the "financial viability" of surviving a second consecutive year of money lost. Other petitions have since popped up.

According to the CNE Association, the not-for-profit agricultural organization which oversees the event, the CNE saw a \$6 million loss in 2020 after a decision to cancel its 18-day in-person event.

"Without government support, the 142-year-old fair could close its gates forever," said Councillor Mike Layton in a Tweet. He is also the host of the petition.

The CNE is also an important employer, particularly of youth, keeping nearly 5,000 people a season working and supporting 700 independent vendors, the petition states. As an attraction, the CNE also supports more than 1,000 entertainers during the fair. The CNE operates as a non-profit event, paying rent to the City of Toronto to operate. The city provided financial support to the CNE in 2020 and will do so again in 2021, as well as committing to be a partner to support of continued operations. But organizers say there is still a desperate need for financial support from other levels of government to secure the future of the CNE, and the economic activity it generates. The pandemic has meant this one-of-a-kind family tradition has been cancelled for two years in a row and is facing huge financial pressure.



**THOUSANDS HAVE** signed a petition to save the iconic CNE which they say may not recover after a second cancellation.

# City looking at fining noisy motorists



**TORONTO MAY JOIN** Edmonton in enforcing streets with noise meters (right) to detect super-loud vehicles.

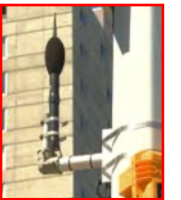
Toronto City Councillors have had it with noisy muscle cars and are exploring state-of-the-art 'noise-capturing technology' to target and ticket those vehicles creating loud noise on our streets. There have been many complaints from Humber Bay Shores, and other neighbourhoods, about loud vehicles racing around the area late at night waking up residents. City councillors are looking towards technology being used in Edmonton to crack-down on the din.

Toronto City Council has asked General Manager Chris Murray to contact the City of Edmonton about their Vehicle Noise Enforcement Program, to see if it will work here.

Murray will report back to the Infrastructure and Environment Committee this year on acquiring the noise-fighting technology for a similar pilot project in Toronto. The General Manager is to work with Transportation Services, 311 Toronto, Licensing and Standards and Toronto Police to 'identify areas across the city where chronic complaints of excessive vehicle noise have been reported.' Edmonton City Council in 2017 began work on identifying

excessive noise locations in about 40 areas of the city. The noise monitoring equipment was installed in nine locations, based on infrastructure required for installation and high complaint volumes. 'Noise-capturing technology' is being used in different parts of the city that triggers when noise levels exceeded 95 decibels," according to an Edmonton report. "The technology takes a picture of the vehicle in question for the purposes of mailing a warning or issuing a ticket to repeat noise offenders."

The ticket is automatically mailed to the offender, much like a traffic camera ticket for speeding. The equipment records noise 24 hours a day. Events exceeding the threshold were recorded and data was sent to officers for review.



"The equipment is capable of detecting and recording audio levels and video images when specific noise levels were exceeded," according to the report.

Edmonton officials said the technology led to officers issuing 138 violation tickets in 2020, 131 warnings for noise-related matters and an additional 109 notices to repair vehicle defects.

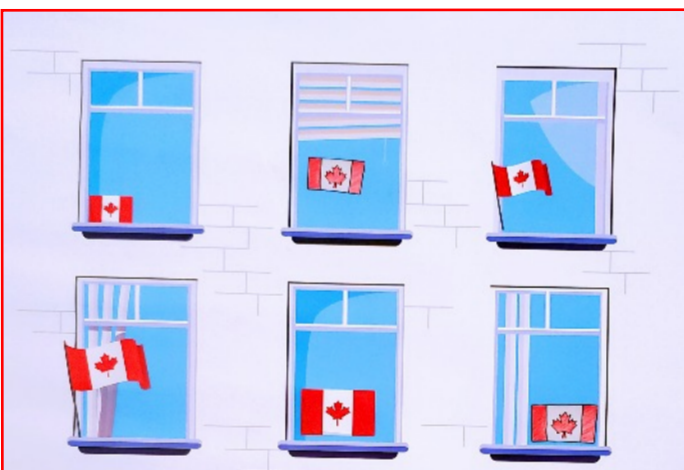
Through the duration of the pilot program, officers monitored more than 40 locations for excessive vehicle noise based on complaints. In total, three static and one mobile system were used for the program and were rotated through the locations.

Police were deployed to those sites to verify the information obtained from the equipment, identify offending vehicles in real-time, disrupt driver behaviour and take any necessary enforcement action.

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**SHOP LOCAL**

# Fate of 160-year-old Maple tree hanging in limbo



**LONG BRANCH RESIDENTS** are hoping an Appeal Board will save their iconic 160-year-old Maple tree.

The fate of a 160-year-old Black Barn Maple tree in Long Branch is being decided by an appeal board whose members are expected to make a ruling this month. "The hearing to save this tree ...

is winding up with a decision by a Toronto Local Appeal Board (TLAB)," (expected soon) according to a release from the Save the Black Barn Maple Committee, which said the City's General Manager of Parks, Forestry and

Recreation has the power to refuse to issue a permit for the injury or destruction of trees. "This does not only restrict protection to only official Heritage Trees but whether or not a tree is a heritage or should be protected as a potential heritage tree," according to the committee. "Trees are healthy. Significant vistas will not be adequately protected and preserved," the group wrote, adding they have provided the city with documentation from an arborist and Forest Ontario Heritage program advisor. Councillor Mark Grimes in a letter said 'rumours' that City Council can act to save the tree are both 'false and misleading, there is no vote on this matter.' "There is no settlement," he wrote. "The city is taking no position on the file since the city has no legal case to call. Urban forestry is no longer opposed." Grimes said in the filing of a document to TLAB that the tree has been designated Heritage is not accurate and that has been confirmed by Forestry Ontario.

A community drive to save the iconic tree has caught on with residents, with many taking to social media to express their views. "This tree should not be cut down, it is part of our heritage and it puts smiles on people's faces and a playground and sanctuary to our wildlife," warns Diana. "This is indeed a magnificent and rare tree," writes Rasa. "It would be a crime to remove it." "I am backing my neighbours and residents in protesting the allowance of a heritage tree to be destroyed," warns Chris Caldwell. An application has been made by a builder to remove the tree to build a home on the lot. The Black Barn Maple at the rear of 95 James Street has witnessed the many trials and tribulations that only a local old growth tree could. When it was a natural sapling in the 1860s, 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, according to committee members.



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## LAMP Seeks Board Directors



LAMP Community Health Centre is looking for dynamic and committed individuals, who are interested in helping to shape the future of our work by joining our Board of Directors. In a governance capacity, the Board of Directors is accountable for setting the overall direction and vision of the organization while also ensuring operational effectiveness through the Executive Director.

The current Board of Directors would be complemented by persons with skills in legal, accounting, fundraising, marketing and labour relations who, ideally would be residents of the South Etobicoke Catchment area. While we encourage all interested persons to apply, LAMP is deeply committed to diversity and inclusion and in an effort to better reflect our diverse community, we are appealing particularly to residents with diverse backgrounds, life experiences and those who identify as people of colour, Indigenous and LGBTQ.

Board members can be expected to commit an average of 8-10 hours a month (evenings and occasional weekends), including attendance at Board and committee meetings, and providing guidance and support through committee work and other duties, with the expectation of commitment to a two-year term.

If you are interested in applying for a position on LAMP's Board of Directors please send your cover letter and resume to [brendak@lampchc.org](mailto:brendak@lampchc.org).

In your cover letter please detail your interest and the experience you would bring to the position, including insights on what you find most compelling about the work that LAMP does in the community and why.

The deadline for applications is Friday June 11, 2021 at 11:59 pm EST. Please note that interviews for this position will be conducted in an online format. The successful candidate will be expected to attend LAMP's Annual General Meeting (AGM) September 16, 2021.

If you are not selected as a candidate for LAMP's board, we hope that we can find other opportunities for us to work together in support of a healthy community for all.. To learn more about LAMP you can visit our website at [www.lampchc.org](http://www.lampchc.org).

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## Your Health & Wellness

By **MONIKA MEULMAN**

"We all speak the same language" - I'm sure you read it or heard it somewhere before.

And no, I'm not speaking about love languages which may be the latest trend. I'm talking about the language that comes from the deepest part of your heart. I'm talking about what you feel each time you step onto a fresh hiking path, cast your fishing lure into a flowing river, or sip on an iced tea watching the sun set over a lake.

This month, the heat rises, the sun reaches high in the sky and our activity levels naturally increase. You can see most people have a much greater need, an itch to go outdoors and enjoy fresh air, do some camping, enjoy cottage time.

As our weather supports us, the temperature is no longer a factor, we feel more relaxed and free.

We are called by this universal language of the earth. Yes, despite everything that's still going on in the world, our environment in Canada supports us now and we feel more inclined to wander into the great outdoors. As this happens, have you noticed that begin to feel this need to experience nature? It's more relaxing - out there. It is easier - out there. And, we naturally follow this call and venture out. Listen to the hum of summer. How does this connect to us all speaking the same language you ask?

At the root of our being, it shows us we all have the same needs and wants. We all have the same desires. Those desires are to be in connection with nature. This feeling of freedom we experience outdoors is an actual expansion of our mind and heart. In biophilia (the theory of having a genetic predisposition, a need, to being in nature) we learn and discover that our brains function better when we are surrounded by plants and wildlife. Even just having a few plants indoors improves our well-being. Did you know in some hospital studies, when patients looked out the window onto a brick wall versus patients who looked out of the window onto a tree there that was a significant difference in how fast they recovered from surgery?

As you might've guessed, based on what I've just been sharing with you, the patients in a room that looked out onto greenery recovered much faster than patients who did not have access to any sign of greenery.

Related studies in California with young children on various outdoor playgrounds showed that when they played their morning recess on a concrete playground versus children that played in a grassy outdoor field during recess, created a significant learning difference.

Children who played on outdoor grassy fields during recess were able to perform much better on written English and mathematical skill tests than children with recess were able to perform much better on written English and mathematical skill tests, than children that played on school yards. We all speak the same language and that language is 'we need nature'. Whether you realize it or not you're missing being around nature if you're not getting out. You are predisposed to grow in and be in nature.

Our minds thrive and excel when we have regular exposure to running around, walking around on paths, in parklands and enjoy the natural change of growing living plant life around us. The birds and bees have so much to teach us, but so do all the trees, and the wild grasses, and the breathing, living earth beneath our feet.

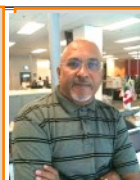
Your mission, should you choose to accept it (this month) is to get out there regularly: that means daily for a 15 to 20 minute walk and enjoying speaking with nature and allow her to support and nourish you.

Allow that time to relax your mind.

Allow that time to feed your creativity.

Nature has her way of helping us in so many ways that we still don't understand. "Nature is not a place to visit, it is home," according to Gary Snyder.

**Monika Meulman, Founder & Owner  
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## In The Community

By **TOM GODFREY**

And just like that. With the stroke of a pen. All concerts, major events like summer blockbuster concerts and stage shows which makes Toronto famous are gone. The high-profile events, like the Toronto International Film Festival, the Molson Indy, the Toronto Caribbean Carnival and others that attract visitors from around the world have been cancelled for a second year as we fight COVID-19.

Our local South Etobicoke stages will remain silent again as we ride out the variants and support our local businesses.

There are also many garden and floral displays, boat, home shows and attractions slated for the Mimico Square stage which can be scaled back, held virtually, or just disappear.

Many more residents have taken to walking or cycling in the parks with their family and loved ones as a means of getting out and enjoying fresh air.

At the same time, police anti COVID-19 teams have arrested more than 1,500 people in banned public gatherings. Officers were kept busy by the fireworks displays and traffic chaos on Victoria Day long weekend at Humber Bay Shores. Videos shows piles of garbage left in the parks and beaches.

I am most disappointed over the loss of my favourite, the Caribbean Carnival, which takes place in late August and usually attracts a million revellers yearly. I miss the colourful costumes, dancers, calypso singers and steel pan players. I can already taste the flavourful street food, as roti or jerk chicken dishes. It was also a time to catch up with old friends whom I hadn't seen for years.

The festival, which has been ongoing for more than 50 years, attracted many people from the Caribbean as well as thousands more from the U.S., who travelled here yearly to enjoy themselves.

Every hotel room in the city is filled at Caribana time, with officials estimating at least \$400 million spent by visitors in the local economy.

All the nightclubs, restaurants and dance halls were jammed with after-hours parties, sucking up the Caribana experience.

Many are also concerned that after two years of cancellations, some of our top events may not return. There is already petitions online with thousands of signatures to save the CNE after 142 years. There are fears the iconic festival may not return due to a lack of funding and loss of sponsors. See Page 9.

In a second year of COVID-19 lockdowns and with businesses to reopen this month, many people cannot wait to visit and gather with their loved ones.

Local bicycle shops, like Oxygen Bike Co., admit there is even a shortage of bicycles due to supply and demand as more people take up the sport. All that are available are the expensive bikes.

"Most of our bikes are sold out," says Oxygen owner Shawn Fitzpatrick. "It's all about supply and demand."

Not to rub it in, but also cancelled due to the virus are the popular: Afrofest, Salsa in Toronto, 49th Annual Festival of India, Bloor West StreetFest, Beaches Jazz Festival, Taste of Danforth, Toronto Chinatown Festival, Labour Day Parade and the many other smaller community festivals in the area.

This summer will not be different than last in that we are told to remain indoors, socially distance and wear masks. Grin and bear it, we are told. There are better days a'coming. I sure hope so.

**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 work in community journalism.**

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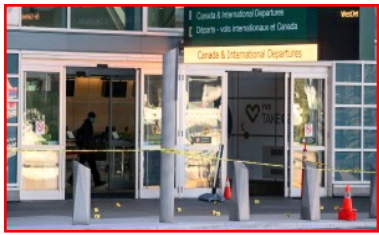


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# Man arrested for stabbing on board an Islington subway train



A suspect has been charged by officers of 22 Division for allegedly stabbing another man on a subway train at the Islington Subway station.



Police said an accused was arrested on May 8 and has been charged with a slew of offences. The incident occurred on May 4 around 3:50 p.m. on a train at the Islington subway station. The “two men got on a subway train at Islington Subway station and had a verbal altercation,” police said in a press release. “One of the men stabbed another on the subway train.”

Officers said the suspect took off from the train at Royal York subway station and fled. “A man (victim) was located suffering from several stab wounds on a platform at Royal York station,” police said. “The victim was transported to hospital with life-threatening injuries.”



**MAN (ABOVE)** arrested by police for stabbing at Islington subway station. (top) Photos courtesy of Toronto Police.

Kevin Andre Reynolds, 41, of Toronto, has been charged with attempted murder, aggravated assault, assault with a weapon and possession of a weapon dangerous to the public peace. He is before the courts at 2201 Finch Avenue West. Anyone with information is asked to contact police at 416-808-2200, Crime Stoppers anonymously at 416-222-TIPS (8477), online at www.222tips.com, online on our Facebook Leave a Tip page, or text TOR and your message to CRIMES (274637). Download the free Crime Stoppers Mobile App on iTunes or Google Play.

## From the Bench

By Retired JUDGE LLOYD BUDZINSKI



It's time to define what defunding the police means. It's a question of 'framing.' If it means reducing the size of the Service – no! If it means, RE-TASKING or restructuring the Service, we answer yes.

Removing funds achieves nothing; funding new responsibilities and redirecting accountability does. Are police necessary to regulate traffic or act as first responders to non-violent health care calls? Yes, we need skilled officers with better techniques to resolve violent conflict, investigate organized crime and encourage public accountability to our diverse population. It also requires all of us to work together with the police to identify criminal conduct.

Police are insular, slow to modernize, or accept outside advice. I personally tried developing courses with them and was often met with a polite but reluctant thanks. Policing originated in the 1800s in Britain. In Canada, policing is under the Solicitor General and is responsible for laying criminal charges, but the decision to prosecute belongs to the Attorney General. It's a check and balance.

Most laws were written to protect property. In the Southern U.S., it was started to oversee the slave industry. If you have no property you have few rights to enforce; therefore, policing has an historical social-economic focus. An economic theory goes, “the more people who own property, the less crimes of self-help.”

Today, the 'street-cop,' still a quasi-military structure, has more than the original purpose of property protection on their plate. We have added: social, psychological, health (drugs, pandemics), human rights, intellectual property, hate and such - a multitask. Like many large institutions the Services resist change. In the past, hiring required physically large men to reflect power.

Once a very hefty, retired Long Branch officer, confided, “If I met a belligerent drunk at the old Long Branch Hotel - a regular Friday event, he could choose to have it 'out' around back or he could come along peacefully, sleep it off at the jail and go home – his choice, either way, no charges.”

The term 'Service' has replaced 'Force' trying to market a new image for its multi-tasks. The street-cop's role has become too challenging trying to satisfy diverse cultures and modern psychology. What we need is certified uniform training and licenses to work in a variety of specialities

RE-TASKING, requires more than just a corporate declaration of new roles. It needs the officer's personal accountability for the job requirements. Policing is more than a job. It is a profession. Justice Michael Tulloch, in his 'Independent Police Oversight Review,' recognizes this need. He suggests a professional body for policing, like England and Wales.

Policing is a calling in the same way many doctors are called to medicine and teachers are called to teaching. A police officer may be promoted for various reasons. Unlike some other professions, there is no standard educational requirement. The hallmarks of a profession are a well-developed code of ethics. It provides members of the public with a clear idea of the values and responsibilities; they also serve for ensuring professional accountability.

Most professions have licensing requirements. This is the case for doctors, lawyers, electricians, architects, accountants, engineers, real estate brokers, teachers, and many other regulated professionals. It should set the standards for policing including standards on police education and training for both new recruits and seasoned officers.

The net effect would redirect the individual officer's duty to the professional standards and not his colleagues. They would have to meet evidence-based standards of the licensing authority, the 'College', and could not work without a revocable license. “The goal of the Licensing Authority, the College, would be to develop a culture of professionalism in policing.” Criminal Conduct would still be enforceable by the Special Investigations Unit.

Higher qualifications means higher costs. We need to re-task not defund; hoping monies are diverted to another social agency is not a political competence. We closed Psychiatric Residential Facilities, promising to divert the savings to community housing. We start thinking taxes when we speak 'costs. We must recognize that better performance means a price for quality goods. It's your Ontario, you decide.

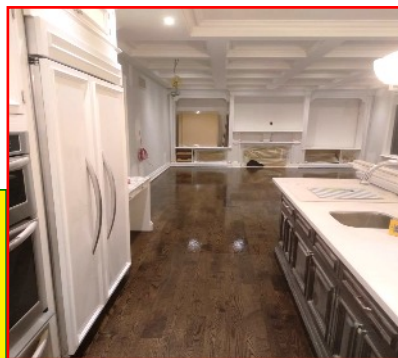
**Judge Lloyd Budzinski retired after 28 years and was a former Crown Attorney, Defence Counsel and Ontario's Assistant Deputy Minister of Criminal Law. He was Chief Prosecutor in the high-profile trial of ex-RCMP officer Patrick Michael Kelly, who was found guilty of murder for throwing his wife from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

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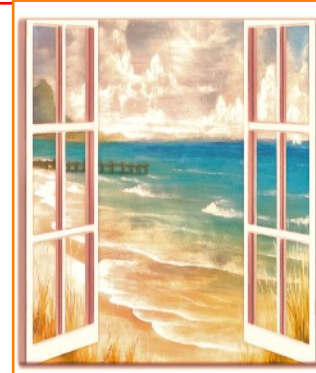
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# Residents mad as fireworks burn nests



**NESTING BIRDS** are horrified by fireworks, which burn their nests, Their wooden nests (right).

dreds of complaints have been filed by residents outraged that pets, wildlife and people are affected.

Fireworks discharged in Colonel Samuel Smith Park sparked fires, leaving five distinct burned areas in grass that is home to nesting swallows, a designated Environmentally Significant bird.

The grass was set alight by those lighting fireworks; falling ashes are believed to have caused the fires in the very dry grass.

“Boxes were found among the debris indicating that some of these fireworks were designed to shoot 40 to 60 metres (130 - 190’) high,” they wrote.

“This was absolute chaos and we are, to be blunt, furious.”

The group, which represents

Friends of Sam Smith Park, Friends of Humber Bay Park, Etobicoke Fireworks Remediation Committee and Citizens Concerned about the Future of Etobicoke Waterfront (CCFEW), have been working to improve area parks for many years.



They are calling for a meeting with Mayor John Tory before Labour Day, the next long weekend for increased fireworks; for more police patrolling parks, to shut parking lots on weekends and ban the sale of fireworks. Bill Zufelt, Chair of the History and Cultural Committee Long

Branch, said he’s ‘angry and beyond words.’ “As an avid naturalist and environmentalist the growing behaviour and disregard for all living things, by the pandemic of human selfishness and stupidity is utterly appalling.”

Sam Smith park is listed as the Number 3 Bird Hotspot in Toronto with some 268 species, according to e-bird, an online bird database. Tommy Thompson Park and the Toronto Islands are Numbers 1 and 2 for birdwatching in Toronto.

“That is a testament to diversity and quality of the habitats found at this city park,” according to CCFEW.



**THE GRASSY NESTS** of nesting birds were torched by fireworks.

# Two residents injured in a crash with police cruiser

Two New Toronto area residents woke up in hospital in serious condition after a motorcycle and a Toronto Police cruiser collided near Sixth and Birmingham Streets.



**THE SIU** was called to investigate since civilians were involved.

The police watchdog, the Special Investigations Unit, is investigating the collision that took place in the area of Sixth and Birmingham Streets, just north of Lake Shore Blvd. W., around 8 p.m. on May 13.

Toronto paramedics say a woman in her 30s and another person were transported to a trauma centre with serious but non-life-threatening injuries.

No one was injured in the police vehicle.

A video posted on social media shows the police vehicle travelling on Sixth, which is a one-way street. Residents allege the cruiser was travelling the wrong way in a one-way street when the crash occurred. Police officials said they cannot comment on the case due to the SIU investigation underway.

Some streets in the area were closed as police investigated the incident.



**POLICE** investigating as one of their cruisers was involved in a crash on Sixth Street.

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# Looking after yourself and others in the community

## JUNE 1 HUMBER CULTURAL HUB COMMUNITY INFO

**SESSION** 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Staff will provide an update on the project and there will be a Q & A session. Open to the entire community. To take place at Humber College, Lake Shore Blvd. and Kipling Ave. area.

**JUNE 1 BROOM MAKING** with **Amina Haskell** for ages 10 to 14 from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Kits provided. At the Jean Augustine Centre for Young Women's Empowerment, 101 Portland St. For more information contact 416-253-9797 or email [info@jeanaugustinecentre.ca](mailto:info@jeanaugustinecentre.ca).

**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

**JUNE 2 WEST TORONTO DIABETES EDUCATION PROGRAM** free Foot Care from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. For more information call 416-252-1928 ext. 100. You must have an email address.

**JUNE 12 J.A.C.'s MENTAL HEALTH YOUTH CONFERENCE** 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. for fun and informative time with presentations on mental health, journaling workshops, meditation, breathing exercise and a guest speaker at the Jean Augustine Centre, 101 Portland Rd. Contact 416-253-9797 or email [info@jeanaugustinecentre.ca](mailto:info@jeanaugustinecentre.ca).

**TUESDAYS JUNE 8, 15, 22, 29, FROM 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.** New Wellness Series: Feel better this spring by stretching and relaxation through breathing and mindfulness. To register contact [jasmnd@lampchc.org](mailto:jasmnd@lampchc.org) or 416 252 6471.

**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.

**FOOD EXPLORATION WORKSHOPS ZOOM** June 10 Chef's Catering from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and June 17 same time Food Career Exploration Panel: learn from four chefs who have experience in the baking, pastry and restaurant industry. Starting June 10 registrants have 30 days to finish their on-

line free Food Handler's Certificate. Contact 416-253-9797 or email [info@jeanaugustinecentre.ca](mailto:info@jeanaugustinecentre.ca).

**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. Improve your reading and writing skills. For more information 416-252-9701 ext. 242 or 243.

**JUNE 19 ALDERWOOD CARES** from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. In the Alderwood United Church parking lot at 44 Delma Drive. All non-perishable donations go to the Daily Bread Food Bank. Donors receive a nice 'Alderwood Cares' wristband. Contact George McEachern at 416-452-9065 or email [gmceachern@sympatico.ca](mailto:gmceachern@sympatico.ca)

**EVERY THURSDAY FROM 2 P.M. to 6 P.M.** the Cooper Mills-Gooch Community Food Bank provides fresh groceries and essential food items every Thursday in the Jane St. and Dundas St. W. area. Contact 416-358-0031 for more information.

**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](mailto:jasmind@lampchc.org)

**NEW TO CANADA:** Are you a permanent resident, convention refugee or live-in caregiver, LAMP's Settlement Support Services offers information, orientation, referral to community services, employment assistance. English as a second language and all the skills you need to succeed. Call Tali at 416-252-9701 ext. 283 or email [tali@lampchc.org](mailto:tali@lampchc.org).

**BRIGHT HORIZONS ART SHOW** runs until JULY 31. Enjoy works by the Humber Valley Art Club at the Cloverdale Mall Vaccination Clinic, 250 The East

Mall. For more information visit [www.assemblyhall.ca](http://www.assemblyhall.ca).

**UNTIL OCTOBER 29 HUMBER BAY SHORES FARMERS MARKET** runs every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Get fresh products and crafts straight from the farmers. Masks and physically distancing required and you must be COVID free.

**CANADA POST** is planning to relocate its 145 West Mall post office to another location. The new outlet will be within a four kilometer radius of the West Mall station "so we can continue to provide local residents and businesses with accessible postal service." The Corporation said its products, services and latest information can be accessed online at [canadapost.ca](http://canadapost.ca) No date has been given for the closure of 145 West Mall or where it will be relocated.

**DONATIONS ARE SOUGHT** by The Jean Augustine Centre (J.A.C.) to help with programs and support for girls and young women to help empower and amplify their voices, strengthen their skills and be the best version of themselves. Contact 416-253-9797 or email [info@jeanaugustinecentre.ca](mailto:info@jeanaugustinecentre.ca).

**THE IG WEALTH MANAGEMENT's WALK** for Alzheimer is a national virtual event challenging people to walk at their pace 240,000 steps to fundraise with 240,000 people living with Alzheimer. Register today! [www.alz.to/wfa](http://www.alz.to/wfa)

**FUNDRAISER TO HELP INDIA COVID-19** Victims and raise funds to purchase oxygen concentrators to be delivered to Gurdwaras in India. So far more than \$20,000 raised by residents here. Organizers said the need is immediate and urgent. See more and donate on [GoFundMe.org](http://GoFundMe.org)

**JUNE 29 LAKESHORE GROUNDS** Interpretive Center Virtual Presentation and Arts based workshop exploring the Etobicoke-Lakeshore heritage. Create unique postcards inspired by community histories and connect with others. Register online [Lakeshoregrounds.ca](http://Lakeshoregrounds.ca) or phone 416-675-6622 ext. 3801.

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# Storefront Humber plant Remembrance Garden



THE SENIORS of Storefront Humber have planted a Remembrance Garden to remember their many friends and loved ones lost from COVID-19 and other reasons. Photos by Tom Godfrey.

their emotions and isolation over the past year.’ “Not everyone who passed was due to Covid but still the loss was still very much on the minds of our community,” Buchanan noted. He said during a discussion the idea came up for the Remembrance Garden project. “We have six large wooden raised beds at the front of our Storefront Humber building on Lake Shore Blvd. West and Mimico,” he explained. “A project was made to plant flowers as a way to visually and emotionally have a place to do our remembering and celebrating those we lost and are being missed.”



STOREFRONT HUMBER is located at 2445 Lake Shore Blvd. W. Its Remembrance Garden is a popular spot as members meet and reminisce about their friends.

Mourning seniors who belong to Storefront Humber have planted a Remembrance Garden to help them pay tribute to the many friends and acquaintances they have lost due to COVID-19.

“During my conversations with our volunteers and clients it was made clear that many had lost loved ones during the COVID-19 closedown,” said Bruce Buchanan, Manager of Community and Social activities for Storefront Humber Inc.

Buchanan said the many emergency lockdowns and closures have been toughest on seniors.

“Many of our seniors and adults with disabilities have been very isolated and the Garden will let them know that they are always remembered,” he acknowledged. He said ‘many people were not able to mourn as they would have been able to (and that has) had an effect on

Storefront members planted the garden on May 18. The volunteer board has donated geraniums for the planting. Donated wind chimes and Tibetan healing flags were added to help with the grieving. The garden will be for clients and their families “to visit and remember those who we have lost.” Some of the gardeners involved say the garden helps them remember their dear friends.

“It gives us a connection to those who we lost,” said one woman. “It is healing and it helps us to remember the good times that we had.”

Storefront Humber provides extensive programs to help seniors and adults with disabilities remain independent in their own home and in the community.

They can be reached by phone at 416-259-4207.



STOREFRONT HUMBER provides many great programs for men and women in the community. Thank you to the many volunteers and staff who work hard in making life easier for our seniors.

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