

# The South Etobicoke News

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Number 32

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## Open bars, businesses before they close up

Many residents and businesses in the community say enough is enough and are calling for the opening of indoor dining in restaurants now that fully-vaccinated travellers to Canada are not being quarantined. Federal officials said starting July 5 Canadians who have received both shots are able to travel outside of the country without having to self-isolate for 14 days or having to pay up to \$3,000 to stay in a quarantine hotel upon return to Canada.

Health Minister Patty Hajdu said the move follows calls for an end of mandatory hotel quarantines and permit fully-vaccinated Canadians to move around more freely. "We want to be absolutely sure that we are ready to commence this next stage, the virus behaves in ways that we wouldn't have been able to predict a year and a half ago," she said. Federal officials are working on a vaccine passport to allow those fully-vaccinated to re-



**PATIOS & RESTAURANTS** are seeking unlimited indoor dining as they try to recoup some of their COVID losses after a year of closures and take outs. The eateries like Leziz Kitchen and barbers (above) are busy.

enter the country without full quarantines. Those who have not been fully vaccinated can face quarantine. Members of the Lake Shore Village Business Improvement Association have been calling for months to reopen inside dining for local restaurants, which are struggling. Business only began picking up for the outdoor patios, salons, gyms, massage parlours and some

other businesses since they were allowed to open with limits on June 30. Most patios have been busy with a limited number of customers. Ontario's slow pace of reopening is driving the province further behind the rest of the country, according to the Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB).

Owners and staff of "Ontario businesses are incredibly frustrated as they have had little or no opportunity to make sales," said CFIB president Dan Kelly. "Businesses are watching their life's work crumble due to the province's inaction." The Ontario government needs to let more businesses reopen more quickly, so they can catch up to their counterparts in the rest of the country," Kelly said. Most restaurateurs say they have been hit hard in the pocketbook and should be fully opened for inside dining.

## Business owner fights city over 13 tree removals

A New Toronto property owner is trying to stop the city from chopping down about 13 healthy trees as part of City infrastructure work on Birmingham Street, Dwight Avenue, Murrie and Heman Streets.

Christina Sobolak is the owner of a historic Bell Telephone Building, at 80 Birmingham Street, which is now converted into the Birmingham Business Centre. She was stunned to see in a city plan that one of five huge Linden trees that are planted around her iconic building will be cut down. The tree is estimated at about 60-years-old. The City of Toronto is upgrading the existing bicycle lanes on Birmingham Street between Kipling Avenue and Dwight Avenue to protect riders, in lanes called cycle tracks. "I cannot believe this. I haven't been able to sleep at night,"



**NEW TORONTO BUSINESS OWNER** Christina Sobolak is trying to protect 13 trees slated for removal as the city is upgrading existing bicycle lanes on Birmingham Street between Kipling Avenue and Dwight Avenue to protect cyclists. **Courtesy photos.**

Sobolak said, "I love this tree." The city in a letter said 13 trees will be removed. City officials in a construction notice said one tree will be removed on Birmingham Street, nine street trees on Dwight Ave. and three from Murrie Street on the boulevard, adding compensation has been provided to the City Parks, Forestry & Registration, to plant other trees, whips

and shrubs where they decide in the future. Still, Sobolak said the trees slated "to be massacred" are healthy and good for the environment. "There is no need to cut this tree if you are making my lawn longer towards the east and my driveway narrower," she wrote to officials. The city said concrete curb, painted buffer and bollards would

be added to separate cycle tracks from the motor vehicle lanes. The existing west-bound bicycle lane between Islington Avenue and Dwight Avenue would be relocated against the north curb, between the parking lane and sidewalk.

The road resurfacing between Islington Avenue and Dwight Avenue will include sidewalk upgrades that reduce crossing distances and encourage slower turning speeds. Five parking spots will be lost. City services such as fire, emergency medical services, and solid waste pick-up would be maintained, according to the city.

Suresh Pillai, a field ambassador for the project, wrote Sobolak to say her tree will not be cut down.

"We have reviewed the situations regarding your concerns," he wrote. "We wish to inform you that the tree will not be removed at this location."

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## TPS officers mourn the loss of veteran cop, husband and father of three kids



RIP TPS CONSTABLE Jeffrey Northrup.

The late Toronto Police Const. Jeffrey Northrup was escorted by his 52 Division colleagues to a Thornhill funeral home after serving dutifully for 31 years. Northrup is remembered fondly by west-end residents where he spent his first years in a patrol car at 11 Division. Flags were flown at half-mast at City of Toronto offices to honour Northrup's memory and services in Toronto and across the country. The Toronto Police Service's Motor Squad and members of 52 Division escorted the slain officer to Kane-Jarrett Funeral Home near Yonge Street and Thornhill Avenue. The officer and father of three was killed June 30 after being struck by a vehicle in what investigators are calling an "intentional and deliberate act" in the parking garage at City Hall early Friday morning, Toronto police said. "This event will have a profound impact on our service, on our city and all the members of the policing community," Interim Chief James Ramer said. Northrup and his partner were responding to a 911 call for a robbery in progress when they were struck, Ramer said, not-

ing they were both dressed in plain-clothes but could be identified by nametags around their necks. The veteran officer was transported without vital signs to St. Michael's Hospital, where he died. His female partner was transported to the same hospital, where she was treated for non-life-threatening injuries. Ramer said he and members of the Toronto Police Association visited Northrup's family to deliver the "devastating news." Ramer said Northrup started his 31-year career force in the Court Services Unit and was then assigned to 11 Division when he became a police officer in 1999. The border of 11 and 22 Division in South Etobicoke meets. He had been a member of 52 Division since 2008 and was also a member of the Chief's Ceremonial Unit. Northrup had been training new officers until April, when Ramer said he requested to return to the major crimes unit. Toronto Mayor John Tory expressed his condolences to the victim's family and friends. "On behalf of the three million people who our police officers serve [and] the men and the women of the police service, I begin by extending to the family of officer Northrup our deepest condolences." One man has been arrested and the force's homicide squad are investigating. Grief stricken residents have been laying flowers outside police headquarters and elsewhere in tribute of the slain officer. Toronto Police have been receiving tributes for Northrup and his family from the police community worldwide. Residents have also gone online on social media to voice their loss.

## Del's family bakery up in flames after 60 years here



BENNO MATTES, (below) co-founder of Del's Pastry which was burned down.

Some 100 employees are out of work after a family-owned bakery burned down in a stubborn fire that raged for hours in the Kipling Ave. and Bloor St. W. area. Del's Pastry Ltd., at 334 Bering Ave., was founded by Benno Mattes, and his wife Edith, in the top floor of their Toronto home back in 1963. Toronto firefighters rushed to the 60,000 square foot bakery on June 15 to fight a stubborn fire, which is believed to have started in one of their ovens around 9:47 p.m. Fire crews said the five alarm blaze took about three hours to bring under control. Firefighters had to retreat away from the walls of the building for fears they might collapse. Thick flames and heavy smoke could be seen pouring from a ceiling of the unit. Crews spent hours dousing the flames from aerial ladders to try to get the blaze under control, but the flames were being fanned by strong winds, Toronto Fire said. Power has been cut to the building and the city was asked to boost the water supply as crews fought to contain the fire. Traffic was halted on some streets and a nearby train track. Crews were able to knock down the flames by about 12:25 a.m. An investigator was at the scene trying to determine what sparked the blaze. The company's website said Del's Pastry has been in business for almost 60 years, with a staff of about 150. The bakery generates more than \$50 million in sales yearly. "Our business has grown from a small bakery operated out of the ground floor of a two-story house to an increasingly modern and automated 60,000 square foot facility," according to the site.



## Friends of killed motorcyclist in search of answers



TYRONE Roopchand

A candle light vigil was held in Long Branch to remember a promising Mimico man who died after his motorcycle collided with a car. The victim was identified on social media as Tyrone Roopchand, 35, who is described as an avid bike lover. The deadly crash occurred on June 17 around 10:19 p.m. in the Lake Shore Blvd. W. and Forty Second Street area. Police said there was a collision between a Kawasaki motorcycle that was turning left from Forty Second Street to Lake Shore Blvd. W. Witnesses said the bike collided with a BMW travelling east on Lake Shore Blvd. W. Since then more than 1,000 friends and supporters have signed an online petition calling the city to install traffic lights in that area to make the area safer. Critics argue there are already traffic lights at Forty One Street. Work is being done to make the area safer for traffic.

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# Mimico Mayor 'Metro' Gus Edwards was ahead of his time



**FORMER MIMICO MAYOR W.A. 'Metro' Gus Edwards (right) with TTC Chair Allan Lamport (left) at a subway hearing.**

ronto and its 12 suburbs to provide services common to all.' W.A. Gus Edwards began his political life in 1927 as a Mimico councillor. He worked his way up and was elected twice as Mayor of Mimico. Edwards was very concerned 'by a wave of growth in the city which followed the war.'

"He argued the need for a metropolitan area," according to city records. "He argued it so strongly, in fact, that his nickname "Metropolitan Gus" became a mark of distinction and a tribute to his foresight and courage."

Toronto then had other concerns and wasn't interested in changes that would result in the 'suburbs sharing its tax resources and opposed moves towards amalgamation or unification.'

Edwards fought hard for Mimico residents and the unification or amalgamation, as it was later called. The city would be amalgamated many decades later, which helped to fund the suburbs. But back then it was an uphill fight that Edwards took on. Then City of Toronto officials fought the plan since they did not want to share their generous tax revenues with anyone else. It took until 1947 before Mimico town council decided that the time for delay was over and that the longer a common solution was delayed, the worse the individual and collective problems of both the city and suburbs would become, records show. "Councillors took the bull by the horns and made a move that led to the formation of the Metropolitan Toronto government." A year before the Ontario government had passed legislation which provided that special areas, made up of any number of municipalities, could be formed for the joint administration of education, fire and police protection, planning, highways, sewers, sewage disposal, garbage disposal, public health, including hospitals, welfare, parks or any public utilities.

Many may remember January 1, 1998, when Toronto was greatly enlarged by amalgamation of the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto and its six municipalities; East York, Etobicoke, North York, Scarborough, York, and the original city itself. Edwards, who was born in Bridgeburg, Ont., would have been proud. The former CNR locomotive engineer who moved to Mimico in 1915 would occupy a prominent position in town affairs for years. "He refused to swerve from his belief that continued growth of the Toronto suburbs would force some form of united city and suburban administration," records show. "So insistent was Edwards on this point over a period of more than 30 years that he earned the nickname "Metropolitan Gus". Eventually the tag came to be something of a title of honour for the years proved "Metropolitan Gus" Edwards to be correct.



Early Mimico Mayor Gus Edwards was dubbed 'Metropolitan Gus' in his heyday in the 1920 and 1930s for calling for a unified city of Toronto to fund the many and escalating services of the suburbs. Mimico residents, under Metropolitan Gus were the first to see 'the need for some form of unified organization of To-

## St. Margaret is 115, busy from Spanish Flu to COVID

The iconic St. Margaret New Toronto Church on Sixth Street is one of the oldest places to worship in our community and has launched a fundraiser to celebrate its 115 years of service.



Rev. Daley

Church officials say the beautiful South Etobicoke house of prayer served the community faithfully during the Spanish Flu of 1918, Great Depression, two World Wars, Hurri-

cane Hazel and now during the COVID-19 pandemic. Reverend Jacqueline Daley said the funds raised will help the church serve the New Toronto community for another 115 years and beyond. "The church started serving in 1906 as a humble mission of Christ Church Mimico," Daley recalls. "The building received a present for its 100th birthday in a massive renovation that enabled her to serve the community better." She said St. Margaret is an accessible community hub for social justice, hospitality, care and compassion. "We do not know

what the future holds, but we know we will be there serving our community as we are called to do," Daley says. "During the pandemic, we take-out Christmas and Easter dinners."

The church provides food and care five times a week, in addition to serving 300 meals weekly, washes 40 loads of laundry and providing showers for church-goers. This is possible through their partnership with LAMP Community Health Center and Lakeshore Out of the Cold.

It has baptized generations into the faith, buried loved ones, comforted the grieving and helped the vulnerable in need, she says. "After 115 years, St. Margaret continues to be a vibrant Christian community providing spiritual care, faith formation and hospitality to all," Daley says.

Rebecca Wang, at 87, has been the organist at the church for more than 50 years. "I love this church," Wang says. "This is our home and it is a big family."

Linda Elkerton said she was confirmed at St. Margaret, got married there and some of her children and grandchildren were baptized at the historic church.

You can join them weekly on Zoom and can connect by phone at 647-558-0588.



ST. MARGARET of New Toronto congregation after a recent meeting.

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# Mimico's WWI Flying Ace Gauld was real hero

By TOM GODFREY



LT. GAULD became a Flying Ace with five aerial kills. He could fly a number of WWI warplanes like above and was an accomplished pilot.

## FLYING ACE Lt. Gauld

The Gaulds are a prominent family in Mimico with one member having a school named after him and the other a hero and Canadian World War I flying ace. Lieutenant George William Gladstone Gauld, lived on Lake Shore Blvd. W., for many years and was a legendary aviator in WWI, who was credited with five aerial victories.

Gauld's prowess with aircraft occurred while flying a Royal Aircraft Factory SE.5a for 74<sup>th</sup> 'Tiger' Squadron in 1918. He, and fellow aces Ira Jones and Harold Shoemaker that year 'flamed' or shot down a Rumpler reconnaissance plane.

And on August 2, he and Frederick Gordon cooperated to capture an LVG German recon plane. In 26 October, Gauld drove down a German-made Fokker D.VII out of

control. On 1 November 1918, he captured a Fokker D.VII and drove another one down out of control. The Germans had produced more than 3,300 of the formidable Fokkers fighters by late 1918.

After the war, according to *The Mimico Story* by Harvey Currell, Gauld studied law at Osgoode Hall and in addition to his practice, went on to serve as Mimico's town solicitor for 40 years.

Gauld was married to Irene Davidson, daughter of Douglas Davidson, the local Justice of the Peace. Her brother Bryce Davidson was shot down over Germany on July 1918 and killed.

The aviator son of Janet and George Gauld was a practicing barrister by 1930.

By then Gauld was well-placed and belonged to the Connought and Lakeshore Lodges. He was also a member of the Ontario Club, the Royal Canadian Yacht Club

and the Rotary Club.

During the war, about some 207 pilots had died in combat and 79 pilots died from non-combat related causes while flying the British bi-plane fighter aircraft, called the S.E.5 and S.E.5a, during World War I.



Lt. GAULD will always be loved and considered a son of Mimico.

Fellow Ace James

Ira Thomas Jones scored 37 victories flying the S.E.5a. He volunteered to fight the Bolsheviks and was posted to the Archangel front, but saw no further air combat. He retired from the Royal Air Force in 1936.

Ace Harold Goodman Shoemaker, of New Jersey, answered a call for volunteers in 1917 and was sent to Toronto for training with the successor Royal Flying Corps. To gain combat experience, he was attached to the Royal Air Force, joining 74 Squadron in July 1918. After scoring five victories as an S.E.5a pilot, he was reassigned. Shoemaker and another U.S. pilot went down over German lines when their Sopwith Camels collided. Reported missing on Oct. 5, 1918, the International Red Cross later reported that Shoemaker died in a prisoner of war camp in Germany. He was buried in the cemetery at Bony.

A school was also named after the Gault family. The George R. Gauld Junior School, at 200 Melrose St., was opened in 1923 and has been named after the Superintendent of Education for almost 100 years.

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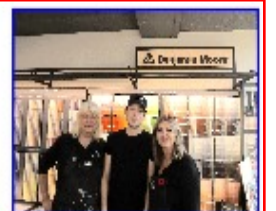
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Lidia (right) with son, Giovanni, and Jane.

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

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

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

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# Black-owned Smith Ice keeping our lives cool

Ira and May Smith have a love for ice and sell their frosty cubes to stores across the city so people can keep their drinks and food cool this summer.

The couple owns Smith Ice, which has been supplying GTA residents with tonnes of cubed ice, block ice, shaved ice or large-bagged ice for 20 years.



**IRA (right) AND MAY** Smith have been operating Smith Ice in the GTA for more than 20 years. Photos by Tom Godfrey.

They have a large factory in Scarborough, from which they make ice to refill the shelves of hundreds of supermarkets, variety stores, pubs and taverns in Etobicoke and elsewhere.

It is believed that they are the first black family to own an ice factory in Toronto.

Ira grew up in Jamaica, where he helped his grandfather sell ice in the streets to people.

"I used to help him fetch the big blocks of ice from the truck," he recalls of the days he was learning the trade. "My grandfather instilled the love of ice to me as a kid," Smith says proudly. "After I came to Canada at



120 Barbados Blvd., in Scarborough.

"We were founded in the basement of our old house," Ira explains. "Smith Ice grew out of the basement into the back yard and eventually into a warehouse manufacturing facility."

He freezes tonnes of ice at the factory, which is sold mostly in cubes in varying size bags to a network of gas station ice boxes, supermarkets, variety stores and bars. On the day we met, the couple are refilling a store on Horner Ave. with their ice.

"We carry a wide spectrum of ice products to meet your chilling needs," Ira says. "We have been in business for two decades and provide a host of ice products to many companies throughout Toronto and GTA."

Smith Ice has grown from humble beginnings in a small garage to a full service ice facility which produces 20 tonnes of ice daily and more.

"Every year we strive to increase this number and offer our clients and customers better quality ice and faster service," May says. They provide innovative solutions for their businesses, such as larger ice storage freezers when demand is high and rush service for when they need ice quickly.

the age of 13, I was making ice from trays that I bought at Canadian Tire."

He graduated from trays and moved to a larger ice-maker. It then went from being a hobby in the basement to now owning the factory at



**A STORE ON** Horner Ave. being stocked up with more Smith Ice, a popular product this summer.

"Smith Ice stands by our customers and views each one of our vendors as not only family, but an extension of our own brand," she says.

Ira adds our team is comprised of people who take pride in what they do and aspire to do the best job possible to make certain that orders get loaded and delivered in a timely, efficient manner with a smile on our face.

"As we continue to grow in the future, we will not lose sight of where we came from and what got us there: equal portions of hard work, positivity, a commitment to excellence and a can-do attitude."

Smith Ice can be reached at 416-750-0655.

## Community raising funds to help family of teacher who died of COVID



**COMMUNITY RAISING** funds to help the family of teacher Edira Skenduli, (right) who died of COVID.

Many Etobicoke parents and students are mourning the loss of a well-respected teacher who died of COVID-19, leaving two young kids and her hard-hit husband behind.

Area residents have contributed almost \$70,000 in a Go Fund Me campaign to help raise the two children of

supply school teacher Edira Skenduli, who passed away recently from the virus.

Working with the Toronto and Peel District School Boards, Edira was a substitute teacher with partial benefits and no life insurance, her family members said. They said Edira was 40 years old when she died of COVID-19 leaving behind children aged 8 and 11. She also left behind her grieving husband Elton, who is bedridden fighting the virus and 'trying to stay strong for his children.'

"She was a loving mother, wife, teacher and friend with a big heart and a big believer in God," according to information on Go Fund Me. "She will be missed early by her kids, family, friends and students."

Organizer Adna Skenduli said they are concerned for the children. "We are hoping that with this fundraiser her wishes to build a brighter future for her children will become true," Adna wrote. So far about \$70,000 has been raised and organizers are hoping to raise \$300,000.

Parents and students mourned online that Edira was a great teacher who died too young. "We will miss you Ms. Skenduli," wrote student Preeti Chouksey. "You were a great teacher and an amazing human being." "Ms. Skenduli was our daughter's virtual school teacher," wrote Warren Brown. "Although we never met her in person she reached into our home and hearts." He mourned: "Our daughter loved her as a teacher and friend. She was a kind and loving person. We will always remember."

"Ms. Skenduli was my son's teacher," noted Venus Bhatia, who made a substantial donation. "She was one of the kindest, sweetest and considerate people I know." Students of Ms. Skenduli said online she was a great teacher who will be sorely missed.

Members of the Albanian Canadian Community Association have been helping the family. It is believed the Skenduli family moved from Albania to Canada a number of years ago to start a new life.

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**Empathy Sincerity Skill**

# Hair stylist Maya makes a name with her teas



**STYLIST** Judith Maya is booked for weeks by her regular customers.

Hair stylist Judith Maya loves the community and the many residents who have been supporting her Long Branch salon for 24 years through

good times and bad.

Maya, the owner of MJ Hair Design, at 3335 Lake Shore Blvd., W., is happy to reopen for her customers. She was closed for about six months to public health shutdowns and COVID-19 restrictions.

"I am happy and ready to go," Maya admits. "I would have had to shut down a long time ago if it wasn't for my regular customers who kept me afloat during the hard times."

She, and other area businesses, are happy to welcome back their customers, many who are friends. She is booked for weeks by her regular customers.

During the closure, the businesswoman had to pivot to her first-love, tea-making, to keep the lights on at her store.

She also sells beautiful arts, crafts, cosmetic, gift baskets and other goods on consignment for four talented local women, who work from their homes.

"We are strong women and we support each other," Maya says. "I help them and they help me and we all succeed."

She was thrilled that people loves her line of organic, loose leaf Purple Connection Teas that sells very well



**HAIR STYLIST** Judith Maya, of MJ Hair Design, is happy to be back at work and to be selling her popular natural teas.

for \$10 a bag online on her website, where they can be ordered.

She has always loved tea and enjoys working with the different leaves and flavours.

"This is top-of-the-line Grade A organic tea that people love," Maya explains. "People can buy two bags and we ship for free. It is a good product that is very popular."

She makes 30 types of teas; including 16 flavoured teas and 14 wellness teas.

Customers seems to like her flavourful Nutty Apple Maple, which is described as 'Canadiana in a cup,' Earl Grey, caffeine free, vanilla and even, Slumberjack, a tea brewed for men.

There are others to help you stay calm, help your skin and inner beauty and women's wellness.

Maya says her business was booming before COVID-19, during which she had to lay off two people when she shut her doors. She knows most residents and their families after



serving the community for 24 years.

Born in Mexico, the stylist and translator who speaks four languages, arrived in Canada more than 20 years ago and managed to work her way up to own the salon.

"I am worried now about all the businesses that were closed due to COVID," Maya says, "It is never good for a community when you lose any business."

MJ Hair Design can be reached at 416-259-7992 or orders placed on [purpleconnectionteas.ca](http://purpleconnectionteas.ca) or email [info@purpleconnectionteas.ca](mailto:info@purpleconnectionteas.ca)

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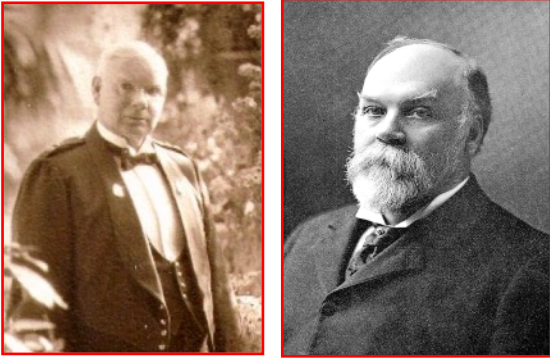
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# Mimico Colonel McGee was v-p of T. Eaton Co.



COL. HARRY McGEE, of Mimico, the v-p of T.Eaton Company (left), with founder Timothy Eaton.

An apartment co-op in Mimico with the Kilcooley name is all that is left to remind us of a former outstanding military man who for years was a vice-president and a powerhouse of the T. Eaton Company. Colonel Harry McGee for almost four decades was employed by the department store and rose to the rank of senior vice-president of the company. McGee was hired on the spot by Timothy Eaton, who was opening a new store at 190 Yonge St., and ‘was impressed by the young man’s assurance that he would do anything from selling goods to cleaning chimneys.’ He insisted that ‘Eaton didn’t need to pay him until he proved he was worth it.’ Eaton hired him on the spot. McGee had just left another job because he felt the company was not going anywhere. The businessman was born in 1861 in Kilcooley, County Tipperary, Ireland, and served an apprenticeship in a general store. In 1882, at the age of 21, he came to Canada, worked for seven months in a store at Midland, Ont., until rheumatism forced him to quit and receive treatment. McGee played an important part in the company’s growth and development until his retirement in 1937. He had earned the affection of Eaton employees, during



T.EATON COMPANY famed Santa Claus parade (above) and store (postcard, centre) in its heyday. The Kilcooley Co-Op (bottom) is what’s left of McGee’s lakefront estate. File photos.

the days before e-mail, the Internet, Amazon and online shopping. Within a few months he became a department head and then the supervisor of several departments. He was made a director in 1906, Second Vice President in 1907, and later First Vice President. With his flair for growing the business, he was placed in charge of planning and building stores across Canada. In 1928, he was presented with a Rolls Royce automobile in honour of serving 45 years at the store. Five years later, 15,000 Eaton employees filled Maple Leaf Gardens to mark his 50 years of service. McGee had a large waterfront estate in Mimico, where his family spent their summers. The home, it is said, occupied nearly a block of lakefront land near the east end of Mimico, near Superior Ave. McGee died in 1939 at the age of 78. His family retained the mansion, named Kilcooley, for a few years. During the 1940’s it was sold and the main house became a restaurant known as Kilcooley Gardens. Many

couples held their wedding receptions there and were photographed in the spacious grounds. About 1926, McGee also bought a 100 acre Etobicoke farm called ‘Harnelbel,’ where he grew prize-winning cattle. He was president of the Royal Winter Fair for four years. Declared an Honorary Colonel of the Irish Regiment of Canada in 1930, McGee helped finance it during WW1. On his death nine years later, he left a \$1.2 million estate.



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# Leziz Kitchen & Cafe Tutti for real Italian



SELDA (left) and Cenk Oncel run Leziz Kitchen, which has good food and receives great reviews.

open a restaurant. "People like us because we make everything by hand," she says. "We have many regular customers who always come back." They were happy to find a location for their business in Etobicoke. "We love it here in South Etobicoke," Selda says. "We love the people here who have really supported us right from the start." She is very social and makes her costumers feel comfortable and educates them about their food.



SELDA and CENK shows some more hot and tasty dishes. Photos by Tom Godfrey.

Leziz Kitchen Restaurant in Alderwood is scoring top ratings these days for its delicious Mediterranean food.

Selda and Cenk Oncel love feeding people and have been gaining customers and fans daily at their Leziz Kitchen Restaurant in Alderwood.

The couple will celebrate their first anniversary in August at their 418 Horner Ave. eatery, which serves tasty Mediterranean kebabs, falafels, takeout and delivery meals.

They are glad to have dine-in service and have racked up almost 300 online reviews for the family-owned restaurant, which is rated 4.5 to 5 out of a five-star rating.

"Leziz means delicious in the Turkish language," says Selda. "We only use the fresh products and everything we make is made fresh daily."

The couple moved to Canada from Turkey about three years ago for a better life. Selda attended George Brown College, taking food studies to prepare for her dream, to one day

"This is a dream job for me. I love hospitality and helping people." Selda says. Leziz Kitchen serves up Turkish cuisine at affordable prices. Their main dishes are kebab, shawarma and baklava. "The portions are excellent and the food is delicious," one customer said. "We will definitely go more often." The restaurant donates leftover foods to Food For Now volunteer charity that helps to feed the homeless. Operated by Daniel Lauzon, the group collects good leftover food items from area restaurants to feed the needy. Call Leziz Kitchen at 416-259-9838 or order online at lezizkitchen.com



Cafe Tutti, at 438 Horner Ave., has a strong lunch and dinner following with its authentic Italian dishes. To order call 416-259-7111.

## Kerr's Candy gone after 50 years



KERR CO-FOUNDERS Edward and Albert Kerr.

Residents and local merchants say they will miss a well-known candy-maker and dozens of staff who are moving after 50 years in the community for a larger brand new facility in Oakville. Kerr's Candy Ltd. says their factory at 956 Islington Ave., just north of The Queensway, is old and now too small as the confectioner expands.

The land that the current location is on is owned by the Toronto Catholic District School Board, and with nearby Holy Angels Catholic School deciding to expand, Kerr's has been forced to move.



The company has been making Canadian treats for more than 125 years and has been in South Etobicoke since the early 1980s.

The candy-maker moved to Toronto in the early 1900s and has made a name for its brands at the Canadian National Exhibition (CNE) and retailers, including Walmart, Shoppers Drug, big box grocery stores and local shops.

Kerr's was founded in 1895 by brothers Edward and Albert Kerr (above). After emigrating from Scotland, they opened a candy shop in St. Thomas, Ontario. The company is known for its high quality and rich heritage, so much so, that Kerr's is an industry leader in Canadian confectionery.

Their candies include lollypops, caramels, butterscotch, scotch mints, striped mints, toffee, fruit drops and red strawberry hearts.

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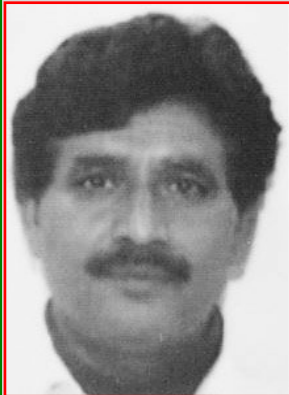
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## Unsolved murder took place at Horner station two decades ago



KHALIL AHMAD's killer is still on the loose.

The long-awaited renovation now taking place to upgrade a service station at 325 Horner Avenue will never allow some residents to forget a notorious unsolved murder that took place on the sprawling property.

The former Horner Gas Bar has been operating at the corner of Horner Ave. and Belvia Rd. for more than four decades, serving the community under many different company names and owners.

The station's .22-hectare property is today sealed off with large concrete blocks as the removal of gas piping and wires are underway.

The Etobicoke York Community Council in 2016 approved a proposal to upgrade and

modernize the once-notorious gas station.

It was almost 23 years ago, on September 12, 1998, about 9:40 p.m., when police were summoned to then Roman's Gas Station.

Officers were stunned to find the body of Khalil Ahmad, 40, suffering from gunshot wounds.

Despite life-saving efforts by paramedics, Ahmad was pronounced dead at the scene.

The father of six was shot to death execution-style in what was an apparent robbery, according to news reports then.

Ahmad's murder remains unsolved today by Toronto Police. The case is still open.

He and his family had moved to Canada from Pakistan years before and Ahmad felt lucky to be working in his new country. His children are in their 30s or older today.

The property is zoned for a mechanic shop, restaurant and office building,

The station owner has proposed, according to City documents, to demolish the existing gasoline station with service bays and propane facilities and construct a new station facility that will contain a coffee shop, convenience store selling fresh foods with a pay counter.

The sale of perishable food items would occur in the new building. The existing gas pumps would be removed and replaced with three new islands having six fuel pumps and an overhead canopy. The plan calls for nine trees to be planted within the Horner and Belvia frontages and new shrubbery would be planted surrounding the property.



GAS BAR was murder scene for father of six.

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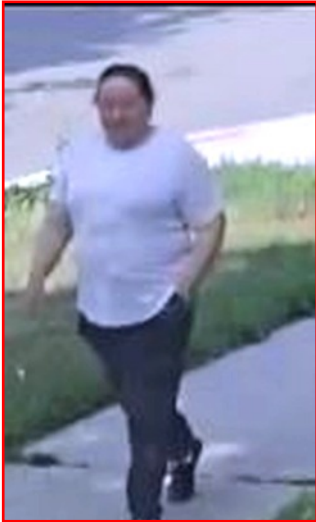
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Submissions due Wednesday, July 31 2021 11:59pm (EST)

The deadline has been extended for the mural artist submissions to July 31. Submission details can be found on [enjoytheshore.ca](http://enjoytheshore.ca) The Lakeshore Village BIA (Dwight Ave. to Twelfth St) is looking for a Treasurer to join the Board of Directors. This volunteer role is open to a property owner, business owner or representative from the BIA, who has accounting knowledge and a desire to see the area succeed. For further details, please email [lakeshorebia@gmail.com](mailto:lakeshorebia@gmail.com)

SHOP LOCAL

# Suspect sought after senior robbed of life savings



POLICE are searching for this woman. Police photos

Police say stealing from seniors is the lowest form of criminal activity. Officers are warning of thieves who are making the rounds preying on fragile seniors. Toronto Police are warning seniors to lock the doors to their homes while gardening in the nice weather or working outside to avoid being the victim of thefts. The thieves usually sneak into the home while the owner is busy in the garden. Police said on July 1, on Canada Day,

a break and enter was reported to officers in the Wareside Road and Cambrian Roads area, near The East Mall and Rathburn Road. "An 80-year-old woman was gardening in her front yard and a woman entered her residence," according to officers of 22 Division. "The woman stole various items from the residence and fled." The items stolen included \$300 in Canadian cash, \$500 in costume jewelry and up to \$20,000 in diamond necklaces and earrings. Investigators are appealing to anyone with information on the stolen items and suspect information to contact police immediately. Police said the suspect was driving a silver Honda Odyssey van. She managed to slip into the home without being noticed. Police have released security images of the suspect and vehicle. 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](http://www.222tips.com), online on our Facebook Leave a Tip page, or text TOR and your message to CRIMES (274637). Call police if you see the suspect or vehicle.



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**Your Health & Wellness**

By **MONIKA MEULMAN**

Summer heat is upon us. The rising temperatures, cool refreshing lakes, barbecues and ice cold drinks brewing are all around us. I ask you to pause now and stop to see the beauty all around you. We tend to think that beauty is the grand mountain side or the glass lake reflecting a majestic forest. We clammer to get to some secluded hideaway that no one knows about to find a prized piece of land, our wonderful earth has created.

But beauty is just about everywhere. It is right here. Look around. I am willing to bet, that as you take a moment you notice new 'old' things and places around you that you have forgotten in one way or another.

"Life is a blank canvas, and you need to throw all the paint on it you can."  
— Danny Kaye

Whether you delight in seeing your children's smiling faces or your favorite, glorious bright red, potted geraniums blooming at their fullest in this summer heat, look around and take a deep breath AND allow yourself to feel visually nourished and comforted by the beauty that surrounds you. The smiles, the colour, the blooms, the flight of the birds, the wind in the trees, the rising smoke of the BBQ are pleasing to the senses. They enhance our life. They strengthen our hearts and the love we feel, daily.

In the summertime, we usually think of getaways and holidays and a lot and lots of travel. I'm sure many of us are going on a camping trip or a hiking trip, or two. And, as there are more places accessible to us to travel, we get away to beautiful grottoes, waterfalls, sea sides and mountainsides. This month, I want you to also seek out the beauty that surrounds you every day. Look at your wonderful partner or your family or a smiling friendly

face from your next-door neighbor. Really look, taking a breath, taking a moment to visually digest the connection that grows between, each time. Maybe, you recognize your greatest joy and beauty when you see your loving pet that is always happy to see you.

This month, let us focus on seeing the beauty that surrounds us as we choose wonderful adventures near and far. No matter where you go, allow the experience of you being able to see even the tiniest treasures to fill your heart and help you feel refreshed, rejuvenated, and in love with life again. It takes so little time and space for you to find beauty in just about anywhere. Maybe there's a duck family with ducklings floating by on the river. Maybe it's your favourite ice cream shop down the street that does the most perfect triple decker ice cream scoop. Maybe, just maybe, as you see your own reflection in the flowing river or a serene, calm lake you may see the beauty that is within you. I wish for you to see the beauty that is you.

Let us venture out this month, explore and open our arms up to seeing the beauty absolutely everywhere we go. Allow the beauty that surrounds you to inspire you and fill your cup to the fullest.

"A journey is best measured in friends, rather than miles."  
— Tim Cahill

Share with us, let us know where you find beauty this month!

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**In The Community**

By **TOM GODFREY**

It must have been the loudest belly laugh that I heard in the last year. The patio was filled and it was nice to see people milling around and smiling again following a Stage 2 opening of businesses on June 30. Patio lovers were munching on pub fare again and chatting with their friends in the warm sunshine of a fine South Etobicoke day. At one table, old friends were discussing the virus, or the Maple Leafs failed run for the Stanley Cup, when someone made a remark and the table burst in laughter; a loud deep belly laugh that erupts between old friends who have not seen each other for some time.

A deep hug, with no mask for a change, the friends hugged as if it was the last time.

The orders for wings and draft beer at our local pubs and clubs were flowing on this sunny day; as residents compared notes on those who survived COVID-19 and the many others who didn't make it.

It seems like every few days we would hear of another friend or neighbour who died in solitude or did not have the support required. Many had a small, if any funeral service, due to virus restrictions.

Our community is tight and news slowly made the rounds of those who, God bless their souls, were taken away from us by the dreaded pandemic. Business or civic leaders, warehouse worker or courier; the virus went after all with vengeance, no holds barred.

Most of us today are thankful that we made it through the global pandemic and can survive to live another day with our friends and loved ones. Thankful we are to be here and appreciate life even more.

Still, it bothers many of us not knowing the full extent of our friends and cherished community members who we have lost and will never see again. We will remember them.

Members of St. Margaret church in New Toronto, and other groups, are going around the community collecting the names and information of those whose lives were taken by the virus.

It is a large undertaking, since many of those who passed were living in long term care homes.

Rev. Jaqueline Daley said a memorial service will be held at her Sixth Street church to pay tribute to the dozens from the area who were taken away by COVID-19.

"There are still many others who we don't know about," she says. "We will give them the blessing that they all deserve."

A tribute will be paid to those who passed. Their names will be listed in a special service to honour each and every one of them.

They all will be honoured as they rightfully should in a showing of love and respect by neighbours, loved ones and community residents in this time of deep loss.

Other events or memorials are also being planned in the community to honour other loved ones who we may have missed. RIP to them all.

**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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# Skies lit up over Long Branch in the great chemical fire of 1976



SOME 45 YEARS have gone by since the Long Branch chemical fire.

It was a nice clear morning on July 15 in 1976 when a truck backfired and the next thing you know the skies over Long Branch lit up with exploding barrels of chemicals in a massive paint factory fire that forever changed the face of our community.

At about 11:40 a.m. a switchboard of the Borough of Etobicoke Fire Dept. lit up for a "fire at the paint factory," at the huge Canadian Pittsburgh Industrial Ltd., factory and storage site of barrels of chemicals, at the northeast corner of Lake Shore Blvd. W. and Brown's Line, now the site of a No Frills and Shoppers Drug Mart complex.

The yard, fire officials said, provided storage for some 5,000 45-gallon drums of various chemicals used in making paint. The jaw-dropping blaze occurred as a waste disposal tanker was siphoning dirty solvents from a holding tank outside a warehouse which contained raw materials, the Etobicoke Fire Dept. (EFD) said.



Deputy Chief Ross Bissell said the fire was at its peak between 1:30 and 2 p.m., when some of the drums of chemicals began "blowing 150-to-250-feet into the air." "Many landed 700 feet away, mostly in a south and westerly direction," Bissell wrote. "As a safety precaution, several blocks of homes were evacuated."

He said two firefighters were taken to a hospital after suffering from heat issues. "As the drums exploded and rocketed upwards, many sprayed chemicals into the thermal column, which then blossomed into huge fire balls over the firefighters' heads." To fight the blaze, Bissell had summoned seven pumpers, three aerials, two SCAT wagons, a district chief, an assistant deputy and a deputy chief.

Fire officials around 2:20 p.m. finally called a "strike-out," which meant the fire had greatly diminished. By then the intense blaze had caused about \$1.25 million in damage and exposed many difficulties that firefighters faced. A ladder of one firetruck buckled from the heat.

Former Etobicoke firefighter Guy Robbins recalled working that eventful day. "During my years of Service I have seen a lot of fires. Nothing would compare to the Pittsburgh Paint Fire of 1976," he recalled in an online post.



## From the Bench

By Retired JUDGE LLOYD BUDZINSKI

This July 1 ought to be a day of remembrance and reflection on the universal right to dignity. I asked my niece, Natalie, for her thoughts regarding the discovery of the Kamloops's and Saskatchewan's lost children.

Natalie is a member of the urban Indigenous Anishinaabe Kwe and member of Shawanaga First Nation. She is a wise, thoughtful and respected in her community. She wrote, "When we lose a child they take with them a part of our bodies, our energy, our spirits. Without them, we would be less of who we are and less of who we could have become. Now imagine this on a grander scale across family members, across communities, across nations, across the country, and across time. Each life isn't just one life taken."

It sweeps like a bush fire that effects everyone who was close to them. That effect ripples outward, and through generations, to relatives who just know them by stories and the trauma that was inherited. Replanting a forest after a bush fire seems like an insurmountable task. That's where we are now - a people in mourning trying to regrow what was taken from us, something that will never be exactly the same, while the perpetrators keep lighting fires and calling it reconciliation.

The bush fire analogy is fitting, if we look beyond the immediate moral impact of these forced removals. Modern science tells us that an entire population for now and future generations can be damaged. Family is essential for the development of healthy humans. It provides the love, training, and support for childhood growth. Breaking the family unit destroys identity. People become commodities.

Inuit were identified by numbers. Modern psychology speaks about separation anxiety and other illnesses. If untreated, they lead to a number of issues such as anxiety, depression and various character disturbances. Without family or therapy a person is left alone, unaware of the cause of their stress. They often seek self-medication like drugs, alcohol or suicide.

Natalie noted that: by banning long hair, they introduced gender roles that weren't part our societies; by banning our clothing, they banned how we chose to present ourselves to the Creator; By banning language, we lost our oral history; By banning our interrelationships, our knowledge of parenting and how we saw ourselves within nature that was fundamental to our survival was lost.

Our traditional rules were based on honour, ancestors, sharing, dignity and grace." They respected their surroundings and the spirits of animals and forests for their gifts of food and shelter. The land within tribal territories was for all; unlike the Europeans whose rights were based on property ownership. Their world was one, in harmony with nature. Only now, we appreciate our duty to protect 'Mother Earth'

We took advantage of their traditions of trust. We saw them as naive. We failed our promise of land, clean water and health care. Without them in the War of 1812, we all would be waking up under the Stars and Stripes. While they trusted us, we were deceitful and treated their families as a commodity without name, courtesy or explanation. In law, a concept of Unjust Enrichment suggests you may be indebted to someone if you were enriched at the expense of the other without any good legal reason permitting you to keep that enrichment for yourself. If you took unfair advantage and continue to profit from the other person, the other party may be entitled to damages - we may still owe the First Peoples.

The last school closed 25 years ago. Natalie is entitled to rage, yet, she reflects hope and writes "While our communities are still recovering from the pow wow grounds, social media, and nations. We are community-builders, even in spaces that formerly wouldn't have accepted us." We are reclaiming our spirit teachings and with universal support, not 'colonial direction,' with dignity not patronage, we can grow together. Re-planting a forest after a bush fire seems like an insurmountable task but if you have faith in the forest, you know that Bush Fires release nutrients; provide exposure to more sunlight, and prompt certain trees to bare seeds. It takes time to regrow, and it will never be the same forest, but it will grow. Just stop lighting fires. We owe everyone dignity. We need a forensic investigation into the circumstances of these deaths. There are no time limitations here.

**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 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.**



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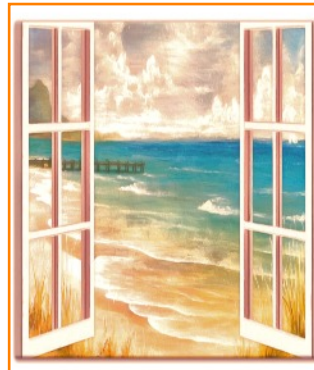
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# At least three more condos coming to The Queensway



PLANS ARE underway to demolish a car wash to build a 14-storey condo.

Plans are underway to demolish a popular, long-time car wash to build a 14-storey condo at 875 The Queensway.

A proposal to convert the former Queensway Car Wash into 183 residential units was adopted by the Etobicoke York Community Council on May 17.

Council at a virtual meeting were also slated to consider two other major building proposals for high-rise condos a block away at 1306 – 1310 and 1045 – 1049 The Queensway, at Kipling Ave.

The rectangular 875 The Queensway car-wash development is on the south side of The Queensway, just east of Islington Avenue.

The developer, Format Group, is now working on a townhouse project, at 3686 St. Clair E., in Scarborough.

The building application seeks to build a 'T-shaped' mid-rise with 149,865 square feet of floor area. There would be a 1,919-square-foot ground floor retail space fronting The Queensway.

Architectural drawings depict a 2,335-square-foot outdoor space on the southeast corner of the property that features an outdoor dining area, barbeques and lounge seating. A large outdoor space is being added on the roof of the 14th floor.

Of the 183 units proposed, there would be 131 one-bedroom, 42 two-bedroom and 10 three-bedroom units. There is no completion date listed.

A plan by Marlin Spring Developments was also considered. It proposed a 14-storey, 325-unit condominium for 1045- 1049 The Queensway, just west of Islington Avenue.

A plan by Marlin Spring Developments was also considered. It proposed a 14-storey, 325-unit condominium for 1045- 1049 The Queensway, just west of Islington Avenue.

That plan allows a minimum of 10 per cent of the units to be three-bedroom units and at least 20 percent of the units are two-bedroom units. Some 330 parking spaces are proposed and spaces would be provided in a three level underground parking garage.

The owner of the site has appealed the Zoning By-law amendment application to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT) citing City Council's failure to make a decision on the application within the time period under the Planning Act. The building would have a U-shape configuration and would have an approximate separation distance between the interior building faces of 27.6 m with balconies facing each other.

A total of 330 parking spaces are proposed, of which 271 spaces are proposed to be designated for resident parking, 48 spaces would be designated for visitor parking, 6 spaces are for commercial uses, and five spaces will be designated for car-share purposes.

Council will also have to consider a proposal at 1306 -1310 The Queensway, near Kipling Ave.

This proposal of 35, 24 and 10-storey mixed-use condominium buildings, designed by Giannone Petricone Associates for KingSett Capital, is set for the northwest corner of The Queensway and Kipling Avenue.

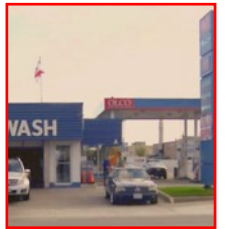
The site has been occupied by Hyundai and an Audi Queensway car dealership for the last 60 years.

The 2.917-acre site at 1306-1310 The Queensway enjoys a 'Mixed-Use Area' designation under Site and Area Specific Policy 455 of the Official Plan, opening up a host of possibilities for the land.

This development consists of two high-rises connected by a shared podium reaching 31 and 24-storeys. There will be 604 residential units giving residents many layouts and suite sizes to choose from.



ANOTHER community in the works along the red hot The Queensway. The old The Queensway Car Wash at the bottom.



A FORMER CAR dealership at The Queensway and Kipling Ave. will be home to 24 and 31 storey condos.

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**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. Contact [jasmnd@lampchc.org](mailto:jasmnd@lampchc.org) or 416 252 6471.

**MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY FREE** emergency food takeaway 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. Improve your reading and writing skills. For more information 416-252-9701 ext. 242 or 243.

**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.

**JULY 20 IS START OF SIX-WEEK** wellness series "Vitality" at 2 p.m. It includes stretches, breath work, Gentle Qi Gong and interesting conversation. Join a group of health minded individuals dedicated to making small improvements to their well-being. To register contact [jasmind@lampchc.org](mailto:jasmind@lampchc.org) or call 416 252 6471 ext. 308 or ext. 257

**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).

**TWO PART VIRTUAL WORKSHOP** series to learn how to make jam and be introduced to some Indigenous teachings and storytelling. Participants must attend both sessions. Spaces are limited. Register at [Gardensstrawberryjammaking@eventbrite.ca](mailto:Gardensstrawberryjammaking@eventbrite.ca) or call Sandra Van at 416 252 6471 for more.

**COOK HEALTHIER MEALS** - Every Monday in July at 2 p.m. Sign up for this new session on cooking with diabetes. Healthier tasty meals with less fat, less sugar and more fiber. Call 416 252-1928 ext. 100 or more information.

**REDUCE FOOD WASTE** with this new project through exploration, discussion and community engagement. Contact [Sandrav@lampchc.org](mailto:Sandrav@lampchc.org) or call 416-252-6471.

**NEIGHBOURHOOD PODS PROJECT.** Neighbours Helping Neighbours. Mutual aid and support phone check-ins, making a difference. Community Leadership. Volunteer run. For more information contact Daniel Plant at 416-553-8263.

**GARDEN WORKSHOPS** at Stonehenge Community Health Centre with garden enthusiast **Carolyn Taron** who will conduct workshops at Bell Manor Park, at 1 Bayside Lane; including cultivating wild edibles on July 7 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., companion planting on July 21, same time. Growing healthy soil on July 28 and garden remedies on August 18. To register call 416-231-7070 ext. 307 or email [health.promotion@stonegatechc.org](mailto:health.promotion@stonegatechc.org)

**JULY 6 to AUGUST 17 LET'S COOK** and Move this Summer, food fit for youth 12 to 17-year-old. Learn simple cooking tips and tricks. Try new delicious and affordable recipes. Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. on Zoom for six weeks. To register email

[nutrition@stonegatechc.org](mailto:nutrition@stonegatechc.org) or 416-231-7070 ext. 307.

**JULY 5 to 26 MIMICO CHILDREN'S CHOIR** from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on ZOOM, invites children aged from 7 to 12 to sing their heart out in an online four-week singing and music program directed by **Raneem Barakat**. For more visit [lakeshorearts.ca](http://lakeshorearts.ca)

**JULY 15 to AUGUST 12 WRITE BY THE WATER** 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for five-part writing workshop for Black, Indigenous, People of Colour and others aged 18 to 65-years-old to express themselves through story-telling and the written word under disciplinary artist **Whitney French**. Register at [lakeshorearts.ca](http://lakeshorearts.ca)

**JULY 20 to AUGUST 24** Women's Walking Group join Stonegate CHC staff every Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Dress appropriately with comfortable shoes, hat and sun screen. Registration starts July 6 by calling 416-231-7070 ext. 307.

**JULY 12 to 27 CITIZENS GIRLS YOUTH IN ACTION** from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. online summer international program for young women 15 to 17-years-old. Earn volunteer hours while meeting new friends from across Canada and Lagos, Nigeria. Phone 416-253-9797 or email [citizengirls.youthinaction@gmail.com](mailto:citizengirls.youthinaction@gmail.com)

**GIRLS OR WOMEN IN SOUTH ETOBICOKE** can register for a Food to Table program and receive a free \$50 monthly grocery store gift card. Must be experiencing food insecurity issues. Register first day of the month at [jeanaugustinecentre.ca](http://jeanaugustinecentre.ca) or call 416-253-9797.

**SUMMER CAMPS and PROGRAMS FOR AGES 14-17** for programs starting July 5, July 26 and August 16. For more info and to receive volunteer hours or letter of reference visit [jeanaugustinecentre.ca](http://jeanaugustinecentre.ca) or call 41-253-9797.

**ETOBICOKE LAKESHORE MURALS 2021** - July 5 is the deadline to submit an application to paint a mural on one of eight Bell Canada outdoor utility boxes in Ward 3. For applications email

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"David Young, owner - circa 1973"

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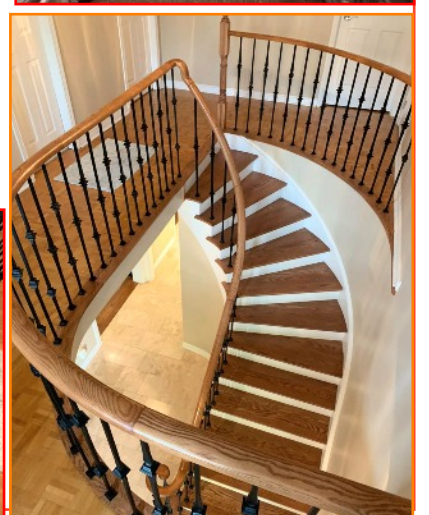
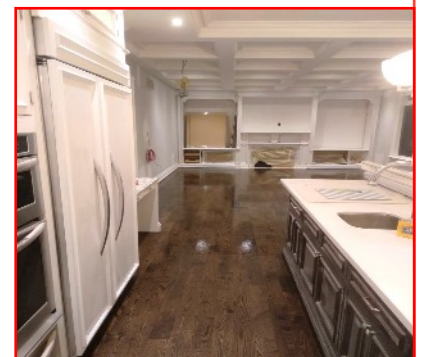
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# Young Etobicoke swimmers bound for Olympics



South Etobicoke has always been known for our top swimmers, from Marilyn Bell who in 1954 swam across Lake Ontario to those making a name for themselves today.



**SUMMER McINTOSH** at 14 is the youngest member of the Canadian Olympic team.

“One of Silverthorn Collegiate Institute’s own Grade 10 student, Summer McIntosh is on her way to the Tokyo 2021 Olympics,” tweeted school principal, Sam Iskandar. “Congrats for swimming and placing first in Olympics qualifiers. Proud moment.”



**SILVERTHORN** swimmer Katrina Bellio is also proud to be representing Canada in the Tokyo Olympics.

**ETOBICOKE’s** Summer McIntosh will be swimming for Canada at the Tokyo 2021 Olympic Games.

It is no surprise that Etobicoke Swim Club’s Summer McIntosh will be among the youngest member of the Canadian Olympic team competing at the Tokyo 2021 Olympic Games this month. McIntosh, 14, a Grade 10 Student at Silverthorn Collegiate, is making a name for herself in elite swimming. She narrowly edged Rio Olympic star Penny Oleksiak in June in the 200-metre freestyle final to help seal a spot on the national swim team.

Oleksiak described McIntosh as “all gas, no brakes.” “I know going into races, she’s going to go, go, go,” says Oleksiak. “I love her work ethic. She’s really strong in and out of the pool mentally.”

Swimming Canada and the Canadian Olympic Committee have said 26 swimmers will represent our country in Tokyo. There will be 16 females and 10 males.

Three Etobicoke Swim Club swimmers including Katrina Bellio, 16, Ruslan Zaziev, 21, and McIntosh will be competing in Japan. Etobicoke has placed 31 swimmers on Canadian Olympic Teams since 1956.

“The genetics are such that McIntosh, based on what she has been able to accomplish so far, certainly has the potential to be even better,” one official said.

McIntosh is described as “an extremely talented swim teenage sensation ... nothing short of unbelievable.” She was named Swim

Etobicoke swim experts say McIntosh appears to be following the success of her mother, the former Jill Horstead, a 1984 Canadian Olympic swimmer, and former All-American swimmer who attended the University of Florida.

“I love her work ethic. She’s really strong in and out of the pool mentally.” Swimming Canada and the Canadian Olympic Committee have said 26 swimmers will represent our country in Tokyo. There will be 16 females and 10 males. Three Etobicoke Swim Club swimmers including Katrina Bellio, 16, Ruslan Zaziev, 21, and McIntosh will be competing in Japan. Etobicoke has placed 31 swimmers on Canadian Olympic Teams since 1956.



**ETOBICOKE’S** Ruslan Zaziev is representing Canada in swimming at the Tokyo Games. Courtesy photos.

Ontario Athlete of the Month after her record breaking performances at the Spring Ontario Swimming Championships.

Bellio and McIntosh had been teammates for several years at Etobicoke Swim Club, one of the top teams in Canada, before McIntosh made the jump to the Toronto High Performance Centre.

Bellio won the 1,500 freestyle at the Canadian Olympic Trials, with a time of more than two seconds required for her to pack her bags for the Tokyo Olympics.

“I don’t think it’s sunk in yet,” Bellio said. “I’m still in shock. It’s incredible to be 16 years old and be nominated for the Olympics.”

Zaziev finished third in the 100-metre freestyle in the 2021 Canadian Olympic swimming trials that qualified him for Tokyo. The Summer Olympics are set for July 23 to August 8 in Tokyo. The Etobicoke Swim Club was founded in 1954. Its goals are to support young people with the drive, determination, talent and desire to realize their maximum potential.

Good luck and we wish you all the best in Tokyo.

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