

The South Etobicoke News

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Venues filled as people back to normal life

People are ecstatic and returning to their normal lives as the virus seems to be fading away. It has been more than a year that the community has been locked down due to COVID-19, but things are returning to normal these days and businesses are picking up.

The Toronto Blue Jays have returned home, the patio bars are almost filled and patrons are back to enjoying burgers and chicken wings inside their favourite establishments.

Some local merchants and bar owners say they are now focused on repaying bills incurred from the pandemic, when they had to briefly close, lay off staff, reduce hours and resort to deliveries and pick up orders to make ends meet. "It is starting to pick up," says a relieved Darlene Simpson, who with Cindy Sabetti, own Dakota's Sports



BUSINESS IS PICKING UP say New Toronto bar owners Darlene Simpson (above left) and Cindy Sabetti; Chef Ray, (centre) of The Kabob House, and Robert Rubino (right) and his staff of Cellar Door Restaurant. **Staff photos.**

Bar and Grill, in New Toronto. "Our customers are starting to return and things are looking up." The bar has returned to live music, with a duo who perform at the front of the club so patrons in the patio can hear them play through a sliding glass window. Simpson

wants residents to know that they live-stream the local Mimico Mountaineers lacrosse games.

It is a nice day today and servers whiz by with plates of wings and beer to sun-tanned customers on a roadside patio. Ray, owner of The Kabob House, said he's seeing more customers now that we are in Stage 3 of the virus.

"It is nice to see my customers coming back. It has been tough but we survived," he smiles.

Robert Rubino, owner of Cellar Door Restaurant, is busy with customers enjoying his patio or dining in. "It's great to see people enjoying our food again. At one time we had curbside pickup and delivery."

A needed long-term care home being built

South Etobicoke residents are applauding a new long-term care home that is now being built in the City's west end that will have 200 beds.

The Ontario government last month began construction of The Runnymede Long-Term Care Home, located at the Runnymede Health Care Centre parking lot at Dundas St. W. and Runnymede Road.

Officials said \$4.9 billion will be spent over four years as there are plans to hire more than 27,000 staff across the province, including registered nurses, personal support workers and support staff. The home will provide 'the highest quality of care for our most vulnerable people, where and when they need it,' said Premier Doug Ford.

"Our government is sparing no expense to ensure our seniors have a modern and safe place to call home," Ford said. "We



THE PREMIER and entourage (left, centre) are breaking ground for a new Runnymede Long-Term Care Home (right) that will have 200 beds when completed in 2023. The province plans to create a 21st century long-term health care sector. **Courtesy photos.**

will continue to deliver on our promise to provide our loved ones with the world class care they so rightly deserve." Rod Phillips, the Minister of Long-Term Care, said his government is rebuilding the long-term care sector 'after decades of neglect.' "When the new Runnymede Long-Term Care Home is completed, it will have 200 modern

spaces for seniors in the community to call home, near their family and friends," Phillips said. The Runnymede facility is expected to open in the summer of 2023 and will add to the much-needed long-term bed space in Toronto. The development is another example of the Ontario government's \$2.68 billion ten-year plan for the delivery of 30,000

safe, modern, comfortable spaces for our seniors to call home, officials said.

As of February 2021, more than 40,000 people were on a wait list to access a long-term care bed in Ontario. The average wait time is 147 days for residents living in community settings. Ontario now has 20,161 new and 15,918 redevelopment spaces in the pipeline.

In addition to the long-term beds, the facility can provide 'a full range of care to support seniors in a timely fashion and reduce the incredible wait times to which they have been subjected.'

Etobicoke is home of a large amount of seniors, many who are concerned about long term care in light of the many deaths as a result of COVID-19.

Runnymede has a rich 75-year history in the High Park community and strong ties to Toronto's Little Malta neighbourhood, where it is located.

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Two violent and possibly armed thieves sought for beating and robbing cabbie



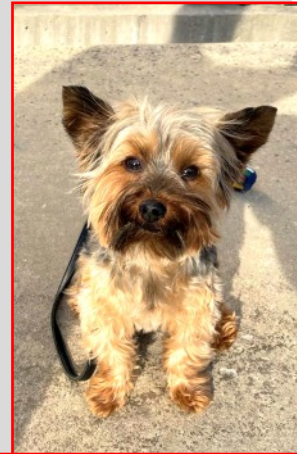
PHOTOS of two men sought by police for assaulting and robbing a cabbie.

Two violent thieves are on the run from police for allegedly assaulting and robbing a cabbie in New Toronto. Toronto Police said the brutal incident occurred on July 17 about 6:30 a.m., near Lake Shore Boulevard West and Third Street. Detectives have released the images of two men sought for the robbery. Police allege the men ordered a taxi and once at their destination they reportedly assaulted and robbed the driver of his property before fleeing in a southbound direction. Residents who know the cabbie are hoping that he is well and recuperating.

The first suspect is described as having a heavy build. He was last seen wearing a black Nike top and a white baseball cap. The second has a thin build. He was last seen wearing a black sweat top with a multi-coloured Adidas logo on the front. During the robbery, one suspect reportedly indicated he had a gun, police said. Officers believe the suspects could be "armed, violent and dangerous," and ask anyone who locate them to call 911. Anyone with information can contact police at 416-808-2200, or Crime Stoppers anonymously at 416-222-TIPS.

This lucky dog will have a better life due to kind cops

This lucky dog will have a happier life thanks to some pup-loving downtown cops. Cuddly pup Riggins, aka Big-Rigg, will have better days ahead thanks to some pet-loving cops who went beyond the call of duty to save his life. Officers in the downtown 52 Division area recently responded to a heart-breaking call in which a suspect "intentionally caused harm" to this cute little dog. The incident touched the officers, who promptly arrested and charged a suspect for injuring the cuddly canine. They not only saved the animal, but the kind officers dug deep and managed to raise \$750 from colleagues to cover part of the owner's veterinary costs. Riggins and its owners from now on will have a tender spot for cops. The officers are part of a group with a hashtag #CopsWhoCare.



OFFICERS Downtown fell in love with a pup called Riggins, or Big Rigg, (top) after saving his life. TPS photos.



Police search for gunmen who shot man on road



POLICE probe shooting

A man is in hospital after being shot in the Royal York Road and Lake Shore Blvd. W. Area, police say. A man found lying on the ground with gunshot wounds is recovering in hospital after being discovered in the Mimico area. Police said the victim was found on July 19 around 4:27 p.m. and was rushed to nearby hospital. His injuries are considered serious but not life threatening. No description of the suspect has been released. You are asked to call police if you witnessed the incident. This is the sixth shooting in the area in the last two months. If you have any information in regards to the incident, you are asked to call Toronto Police at 416-808-2200.

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Mimico Mayor Louis West was rich; lived in lakefront home

Mimico mayor Louis J. West was rich and lived in stately lakefront mansion West was a well-to-do stockbroker turned politician who during his two years in office help to found the Toronto Stock Exchange dating back almost 100 years ago.



MIMICO MAYOR Louis West

He was born in London, England in 1872 and emigrated to Canada with his parents as a child.

He liked commerce and business and worked as a butcher before establishing the brokerage firm of Louis J. West and Company in 1919.

West married Ethel May Shafer and moved to Mimico in 1905 and was very active in civic affairs. He was involved in a push to incorporate Mimico as a police village, which gave it some independence. In 1919 he was elected Mayor of Mimico, a post that he held for about two years.

West did his best to improve the lives of Mimico residents at the time. He did not leave any longstanding legacies, other than his wealth. He was a founder and former president of the Toronto Stock Exchange. He retired from his brokerage firm in 1931. The stockbroker left a

whopping estate valued more than \$395,000 when he died in 1936 at his Mimico home. The West family continued to live at a lakefront Jermyn Estate until it was sold to the Peckover family in 1945. The estate was one of the largest and grandest along the Mimico lakefront at the time. It was built by Thomas John Jermyn, a vice-president of Brock and Company, a dry goods wholesaler.



Jermyn was born in Ireland in 1846 and emigrated to Canada in 1864. In 1870 he began as a cashier with the wholesaler Brock and Company and rose to be Vice-President of the company, with headquarters at Bay and Wellington Streets in downtown Toronto. The large waterfront home was then sold to John Hamm and his wife Evelyn Pearl Bedford in 1947. Hamm started off as a journalist with the *Mail and Empire* but later went into building homes.

He sold the estate for apartment development in 1959. Today the twin Shoreline Towers apartment blocks (above) are built on the site of former West estate. Jermyn died on April 12, 1904, days before the company's

head office and warehouse burned to the ground in the Great Toronto Fire of April 19-20, 1904, which destroyed the city's business centre.

A huge change came to Mimico in 1906, with the Grand Trunk Railway opened its Mimico Yards. The creation of the railway opened the area up to new residents, who realized they no longer needed to live close to their work and there was an influx of workers moving into homes near the railway. Around then Mimico began attracting wealthy families to its lakefront. Soon luxurious lakeshore estates, like Jermyn, began popping up; each more grand than the next. In 1917, Mimico became an independent municipality and remained that way until it became a part of the borough of Etobicoke in 1967, and was then amalgamated into the city of Toronto in 1998.



MAYOR WEST's boyhood home in Mimico (above) and Shoreline Towers, centre, which sits on the largest and grandest, Jermyn Estate, onced owned by West.

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Where is Nicole

It has been 36 years since the disappearance of then eight-year-old Nicole Morin from her Etobicoke home and the Toronto Police Service is continuing to appeal for information from the public. On July 30, 1985, Nicole left her apartment on the top floor of 627 The West Mall, and was never seen again. She would be 44 today. Anyone with information please contact police at 416-808-2205 or the Missing Person's Unit at 416-808-7411.

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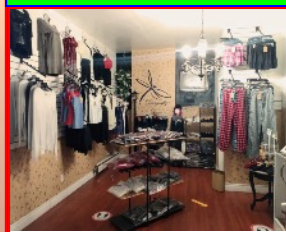
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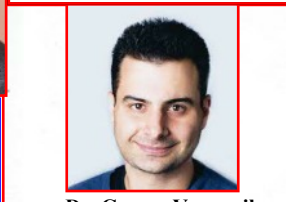
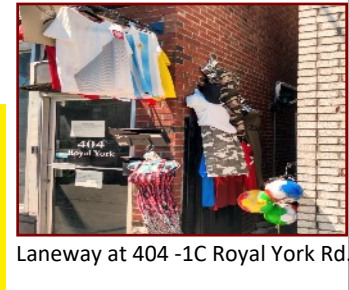
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Two Canadian flying Aces had ties to Etobicoke

By TOM GODFREY



CANADIAN Flying Ace Raymond 'Collie' Collishaw in the cockpit of his plane 1918. Royal Air Force photo



ONE OF Collishaw's Sopwith Triplane, 'Black Maria', around 1917.

Two of Canada's top flying aces in the First World War had strong ties to South Etobicoke and the Curtiss Flying School near Marie Curtis Park more than 100 years ago.

Top shooters and fighter pilots Alfred Clayburn Atkey and Raymond 'Collie' Collishaw many believe honed their aerial fighting skills at the Long Branch Aerodrome, which was part of the Curtiss Flying School, that operated from 1915 to 1919.

Collishaw had 60 aerial victories. He was a distinguished Canadian fighter pilot, squadron leader, and commanding officer who served in the Royal Naval Air Service (RNAS) and later the Royal Air Force.

He was the highest scoring RNAS flying ace and the second highest scoring Canadian pilot during WWI. Collishaw in retirement researched First World War aerial history and corresponded widely with former pilots,

historians and enthusiasts His memoir *Air Command, A Fighter Pilot's Story* was published in 1973.

Collishaw died in September 1976 in West Vancouver at the age of 82.

He was widely respected as a competent and charismatic leader, in all his various capacities. He emphasized camaraderie amongst his men, socializing and a good sense of humour.

The Royal Canadian Air Cadets 205 Collishaw squadron, was named after him in his hometown of Nanaimo, and the 204 Black Maria Squadron, was named after his aircraft.

He became a commissioned officer in the Royal Air Force (RAF), seeing action against the Bolsheviks in 1919-20, and subsequently commanding various Air Service detachments. During WWII he commanded No. 204 Group, which later became the Desert Air Force in North Africa, achieving great success against the technologically superior Italian Air Force. He retired in

1943. A terminal at Nanaimo Airport was named the Nanaimo-Collishaw Air Terminal in his honour in October 1999.

Atkey, 77, of Toronto, was a Canadian First World War flying ace, who was credited with 38 aerial victories, making him the fifth highest scoring ace.

"All those above him

ew in single-seat fight-

ers," whereas Atkey gained his victors in heavier two-seat aircraft, becoming the highest scoring two-seater pilot of the war," according to military records. The pilot at one time was a reporter for the *Toronto Evening Telegram* newspaper. Atkey died in Toronto in 1971 and is buried in Springcreek Cemetery in Mississauga.

He enlisted in the British Army and commissioned as a Second Lieutenant on the Royal Flying Corps. He took part in many aerial fights and with gunny-observer Lt. Charles George Gass, who fought in a historic dogfight known as the "Two Against Twenty," when they battled 20 German enemy scout aircraft.

Garfield Ingram, of The Great War Flying Museum, said both pilots are believed to have links to South Etobicoke and were among the best in the country. Some replica WWI aircraft can be seen on the museum's website at www.greatwarflyingmuseum.org

The museum is a not-for-profit volunteer member organization based at the Brampton Caledon Airport. They can be reached at 905-838-1400.



CANADIAN Flying Ace Alfred Clayburn Atkey.

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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.

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Calls for Square to be renamed after Peterson

Music fans are calling for Yonge-Dundas Square to be renamed the Oscar Peterson Square in honour of the famous Canadian jazz musician.



FANS WANT the Yonge-Dundas Square to be renamed after music icon Oscar Peterson (top, below.)

Peterson, a former Mimico resident and global music icon,

is being touted by his fans to rename the popular downtown Square after the name is changed. City council decided that Dundas Street and other references to Dundas will be removed due to his connections to the slave trade. Plans are underway by City staff to rename all the references to Dundas, who had no connections to Canada. Toronto city council voted in favour of renaming Dundas Street in a bid to promote inclusion of marginalized communities. After a lengthy debate on July 14, council voted 17-7 in favour of a motion to change the name of

the street, a major artery running east-west through the city. It is estimated to cost several million dollars. Council voted in favour of removing Henry Dundas' name from the street as well as other civic assets such as Yonge-Dundas Square and Dundas subway station.

Councillor Michael Thompson said he will be the first to suggest that the Square be named after the world-famous jazz musician, who made Mississauga his home.

Thompson, in an interview, said the Square should be named after the Montreal-born musician.

The award-winning pianist lived in Amadeo Gardens in Mimico briefly

in the 1980s and loved the area parks.

He was honoured by the community in a portrait that hangs in a Lake Shore Village Wall of Legends, with others who helped to transform the area.

Peterson, who died in 2007 at the age of 82, was a

Canadian jazz pianist, virtuoso and composer. Called the 'King

of inside swing,' he released over 200 recordings, won seven Grammy Awards, as well as a lifetime achieve-

ment award from the Recording Academy, and received numerous other awards and honours.

Born in the Caribbean, he is considered one of history's great jazz pianists, who played thousands of concerts worldwide in a career lasting more than 60 years.

In 1997 he received the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award and an International Jazz Hall of Fame Award. His friend, politician and amateur pianist Bob Rae, said "a one-handed Oscar was better than just about anyone with two hands."

Yonge-Dundas Square is a one-acre outdoor public and event space at the intersection of Yonge and Dundas Streets. The Square draws visitors from across the city and around the world, bringing a vibrant energy to the neighbourhood. The space has been host to thousands of events ranging from community festivals to product launches and international celebrations.

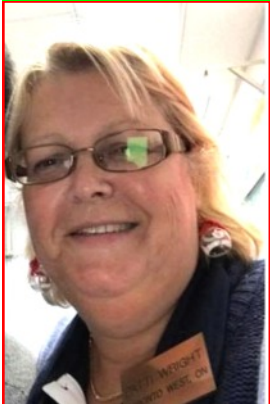


THE BUSY Yonge-Dundas Square is being renamed. Some want it named after musician Oscar Peterson.



ment award from the Recording Academy, and received numerous other awards and honours.

OBIT: Patti was a volunteer and hero in our community



RIP PATTI Wright and with friend Jay (right)

By **JAY LLAVE**

This gift of "life" continues to remind us that we will lose everything in our lives at one time or another.

We lost one of the Toronto's unspoken heroes this month. Patti Wright helped everyone whether it was personal, professional, or philanthropic in nature. I was lucky enough to be affected by her energy in all three.

Since 2016, Patti arranged for up to 100 volunteers annually to answer between 160 – 720 handwritten letters to Santa Claus from an elementary school in Mindanao, Philippines. This involved pre-

paring four letter templates, a suitable location, supplies, and managing several organizations to volunteer.

Patti recruited the Etobicoke Collegiate Interact Club and the school, Richview Collegiate Interact Club and school, the Rotary Club of Toronto West, the Rotary Club of Etobicoke, and the Rotary Club of Willowdale to help Lakeshore Charitable Foundation in this project. Since 2017, Patti organized and fundraised for "Days for Girls Kits" to be distributed to girls in the same school. "The Days for Girls (DfG) Pad is a washable, reusable, beautiful menstrual health product that's built to last. Our patented design, which includes a protective shield and absorbent liner, is backed by the latest menstrual health research and a decade of feedback from women around the world."

Since the late 1990s, she worked with Lakeshore Accounting Inc., for client cases and plans that are still alive today. She also recommended and gave me a good refer-

ral to a lawyer to handle the buyout of Lakeshore Accounting after our friends Phillip's passing.

We met in 2014 during our Rotary President's class trip to Illinois, USA. We all drank, sang, shared, and learned for 48 hours there and back to Toronto. We all **JAY**

still meet annually seven years later. She continued to have District roles and had a passion for youth services and led a committee of 55 clubs. We thought we knew it all when we were in our 20s. Now it seems like every year that passes we learn that we know even less than the previous year or decade. In the short time that I knew her, she has taught me patience, compassion, drive, and responsibility without saying a word. I am grateful to have met her and will try to continue her lessons in this gift called "life." RIP Patti.



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Realtor Jaggi loves area Well-known Mimico florist Ashley offers the best service and choices



LONG BRANCH realtor Sahil Jaggi (top, right) outside his busy office on Lake Shore Blvd. W. **Photo by Tom Godfrey.**

Long Branch realtor and investor Sahil Jaggi says the area is booming and is the best place to live.

Jaggi admits that he has done well in real estate and is now giving back to the people and community he loves.

“This area has a large potential and is very desirable for real estate,” Jaggi says. He estimates to having sold about \$200 million in real estate in the last six years and more than half of that is in South Etobicoke. Jaggi, 35, owns 11 properties in the community, worth about \$18 million, which he rents. He also has a dream home which backs on to Lake Ontario.



Real estate has been good to him and he spends a lot of time selling the area to potential customers and bringing families here. “I live here and my business is in South Etobicoke,” he explains. “People love it down here because of the lake and there is a strong sense of community.”

Jaggi left his native India at 17 and arrived in Toronto in 2003. After graduating from Wilfrid Laurier University he worked briefly as an investment banker in New York City and returned to Toronto with \$80,000 in savings that he used to fund his first home. He has been featured in *Toronto Life*, which said he made his first million after selling that North York home he co-owned with a relative while still in his 20s. The former Financial Analyst at CIBC World Markets Equity Capital Markets wrote that he started in real estate in 2010 with \$80,000, and in 10 years built a portfolio worth more than \$20 million.

His success has been recognized by RE/MAX Ontario for excellence with awards such as the Chairman Award (2020), Hall of Fame (2018), Platinum Award (2015-2020) and 30 Under 30 (2015).

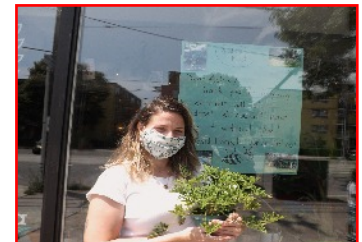
Jaggi is involved in a mentoring program for students who want to enter sales and entrepreneurship. Every year he mentors a group of 20 young business students and teaches them the kinds of entrepreneurial skills that they aren't learning in school. He can be reached at Mink Real Estate, REMAX Realtron Realty at 416-716-4433 or visit his office 3308 Lakeshore Blvd. W.



FLOWER AND plant shop owner Ashley Pyatt loves greenery so much she bought the company. **Photos by Tom Godfrey.**

“The thought of my local plant stop closing was not acceptable to me, and before my brain and mouth could consult one another, I offered to take over the business,” she recalls.

Her love, passion and knowledge of plants clearly shows and is overwhelming. She has since had to learn the basics of owning and running a business, marketing and keeping the doors open.



Popular Mimico plant and flower shop owner Ashley Pyatt bought her business from its retiring owner due to her love of greenery and not wishing to see the company shut down.

Pyatt is now living her dream in addition to being one of a few female business owners in the community. Her store, Plants & Planet, at 2372 Lake Shore Blvd. W., just east of Superior Ave., has become a community favourite to obtain a quick and stress-free assortment of plants, flowers, cut-est pots, soil and much more.

The former long-time children's autism worker moved from the downtown area to Mimico about five years ago and it wasn't long before an opportunity came knocking. She purchased the shop from its owner in June last year in the middle of COVID-19.

“We have been getting a lot of support from the community,” Pyatt says. “The people have been very supportive.” The store carries goods and vases from area artist Shape Labs. Her locally made greeting cards are also top sellers.

“I always loved plants and flowers,” she admits. “I wanted to do something for which I had a passion.” Area resident David says he frequents Plants & Planet because of Pyatt's knowledge and love of flowers and plants.

You can reach Pyatt at Plants & Planet, at 416-252-8002 by phone or you can visit her website to place an order at www.plantsandplanet.ca or @plantsandplanet on Instagram.



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On Brown's Line for 50 years Storefront Humber's phone tree helps to keep seniors safe and healthy from virus

One of the longest-serving merchants in Alderwood has seen a lot of changes in the community over the last 50 years.

Giulia Del Vicario, 78, the owner of Giulia's Clothing and Gifts, moved into her store at 320 Brown's Line in 1973 when it was a two-lane road with trees on the east side of the roadway.

"There was a forest across from my store," Del Vicario recalls. "There was a supermarket, butcher shop, hairdressers and the place was busy." She remembers her biggest payday



GIULIA Del VICARIO has owned Giulia's Clothing and Gifts on Brown's Line for almost 50 years. Sales of her quality children's suits and dresses (below) have fallen to online shopping in recent times. **Photos by Tom Godfrey.**



was earning \$800 on her first day of business. "That was a lot of money then," the clothier says. "Back then people did not mind paying for good quality clothing that was well-made and lasted a long time." Del Vicario's daughter Michelle explained her parents were among a first wave of Italian immigrants who came to Canada and settled in the area.

"My mom's store was like a social club sometimes," she says. "Everyone knew each other back then and they all supported each other."

"Things have changed a lot over the years," Giulia laments. "The people today buy their clothes online without ever touching the material or trying it on. There is little quality and style anymore."

Her well-made and fashionable children's clothing is made by trained seamstresses often abroad, and lasts for many years.

"The business is still good," she says. "Some people still want to feel the material and get quality clothing for their children's christening or baptism."

Del Vicario is well-known in the Italian Canadian community, having sold clothing to generations of families.

These days she spends a lot of time caring for her husband, Frank, who is suffering from West Nile disease after being bitten by a mosquito while sitting on their porch at home. He now requires 24-hour medical care.

Del Vicario immigrated to Canada in 1961 and settled in the Queensway area. People knew she was a seamstress and there was always a demand for her to sew things for fellow new immigrants. Soon after she required more space and located the store to be close to the community. Giulia can be reached at 416-253-3336.



STOREFRONT HUMBER volunteer Brenda Irwin (top, right) phones about 12 senior daily to ensure they are safe from the virus. With her is Storefront's manager Bruce Buchanan. **Photos by Tom Godfrey.**

Mimico volunteer Brenda Irwin is being recognized for her role in operating a so-called 'phone tree,' or call list of seniors, to ensure they are healthy and not in need during the height of COVID-19.

Irwin, a former nurse and Bingo caller, volunteers at Storefront Humber, in Mimico, to ensure their housebound seniors are healthy, have food and other necessities.

"I love the job," she says. "We have about 60 seniors whom we are in constant contact with. They all have different needs."

She phones a list of 12 people daily and is a lifeline for many, who are aged right up to 101. The seniors are warned not to go outside much due to fears of contracting the virus and variants. Many have not left their homes for about a year or longer. They at-

tend programs at Storefront, which has been suspended due to the virus. "They trust me and call me the Bingo Lady," Irwin admits. "I make sure that they are fine and have enough food, medication and all that they need."

She says a call can last from a few minutes to an hour depending on the person. "Some people like to talk a lot and always expect my calls," Irwin says. "They ask me about the weather and always about when they can return to Storefront Humber to see their friends."

The former Lindsay long-term care nurse, who suffers from multiple sclerosis, moved to Toronto about six years ago and has been volunteering at Storefront.



Storefront staff help the seniors with their medical appointments and provide free rides to their doctors.

"I enjoy talking to these people because they are very interesting," says Irwin. "A majority of them live by themselves and we will do anything to try and help them."

The Storefront office takes many precautions to prevent an outbreak. Visitors have to sanitize and have their names recorded before being allowed inside.

"We still have to be very careful," says Storefront manager Bruce Buchanan. "Right now we are concerned about the variants." He admits the phone calls allow them to keep track of the seniors and "this way we know that they are healthy and staying safe." Storefront may reopen in September.

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Cellar Door & The Kabob House, Old Mill Pastry



CELLAR DOOR owner Robert Rubino (left) with his staff.

hiring his staff from the community and outsourcing local food items. After graduating from Wilfrid Laurier University, he went to the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, New York before heading to Italy where he learned to make fresh pasta at the Il San Domenico restaurant. He also has experienced cooking in Buenos Aires and in France under Michelin-starred chefs Edouard Loubet and Joel Robuchon. His staff of about six have been cleaning and shining the patio and inside the Lake Shore Blvd. W.

Pizza store owner Robert Rubino is welcoming back his many customers to his Cellar Door restaurant in New Toronto. Rubino's popular wood-burning pizzeria at 3003 Lake Shore Blvd. W. can now welcome 60 customers indoors and on his lovely patio now that Stage 3 of the virus is underway. "We are thankful to be getting back to our normal capacity," he says. "We are lucky in that we have had great support from the community. They have been great to us."

The internationally-trained chef has owned the Cellar Door for seven years. The eatery has been receiving good reviews and hundreds of likes on social media. Area residents love the taste of the wood-baked pizzas and pastas.

Pizza doesn't monopolize Rubino's wood-burning oven; he uses it to obtain smoky, meaty flavours in his produce as well. Instead of regular gnocchi, he serves wood-roasted potato gnocchi with mushrooms cooked three ways, peas and truffle pecorino.

Rubino, who is from Etobicoke, studied cooking with master chefs in Italy, France, the U.S. and Canada. He developed his skills from the various countries and believes in

and Sixth Street restaurant to provide a great dining experience for their customers. "People love our wood-baked pizzas and pastas," Rubino says. "They can taste the smoky wood flavour since it burns at a higher temperature and raises the crust." Orders can be placed by visiting their website at www.cellardoorrestaurant.ca. They can also be reached at 416-253-0303.



Ray from The Kabob House, at 2977 Lake Shore Blvd. W., says he is offering the best deal for a tasty chicken shawarma dinner and soft drink for only \$13.50 for the next couple weeks. Call 437-779-8383.

Old Mill Pastry back to its roots

By DAVE KOSONIC

An abandoned sandwich shop has become a new home for the return of the popular Old Mill Pastry & Deli to Etobicoke after an absence of four years.

This family-owned and operated business, which specializes in eastern European food treats including its prized burek and cevap, is welcoming loyal customers and new patrons to 385 The West Mall, near the Etobicoke Civic Centre.

"We want to make this a European atmosphere for our customers," says Skell as he is fondly known by patrons. He manages the business with back-up from numerous family members. Three generations of his family have kept the place running including grandparents, parents, sons and a daughter.

Skell said the business was started by his father Nazim, in a plaza located at Rathburn Road and The East Mall many years ago. His family had to vacate that site soon after it was sold to a developer a few years ago. Skell added that it is like coming back to the where the Old Mill all began.

"Everything is homemade. The burek we make attracts people from everywhere," he boasts. They also sell very hard-to-find European foodstuffs including sweets such as Tollumba and certain non-alcoholic beverages. I really like their fresh salads, cabbage rolls and mouth-watering chocolate eclairs. The Old Mill is open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily but closed on Monday. Phone 416-519-0064.



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Thieves using hi-tech tools to steal top luxury cars as you sleep

Car thieves are using hi-tech tools to steal expensive cars from your driveway in minutes as you sleep.

Halton Regional police say they have had more than 124 high-end vehicles stolen since January by thieves who have mastered keyless entry and push-start technology. The force is warning that it has seen an increase in relay and reprogramming thefts of expensive vehicles using fast-start gimmicks.

In most thefts, the vehicles

are being stolen from the residents' driveways during the overnight hours. The theft takes less than a minute, police said.

Police said 66 of the 124 autos stolen in Oakville have been through the use of relay or reprogramming technology.

"Thieves will use technology called a 'relay device' to find a key fob signal from inside a residence," according to a Halton police release. "The thieves do not need to enter a residence to find the signal."

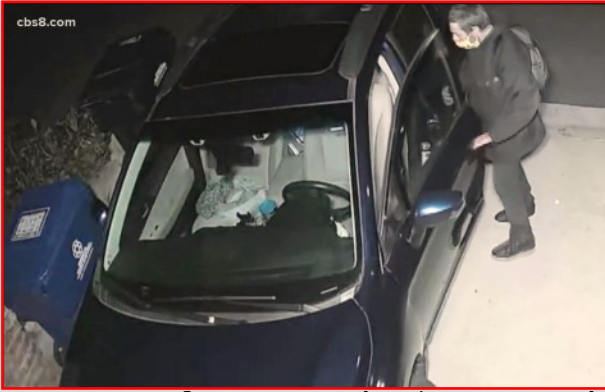
The signal is then amplified, which allows the thieves to unlock, start and steal the vehicle, according to police. The vehicle owners are shocked to discover their vehicle has been stolen and they are still in possession of the key fob.

Halton auto officers warn that thieves also gain entry into the vehicles by mechanical means, like using a tool. They will then access the vehicle's diagnostic port and reprogram a blank key fob, which allows them to start and steal the vehicle.

In most cases, the vehicles are shipped to foreign countries for sale within hours.

Police say the thefts can be avoided if residents park in a locked and secured garage, install an on-board diagnostic blocker, install a steering wheel lock device, obtain a GPS tracking device, place the key fob inside a radio frequency shielding bag when not in use, equip the vehicle with an alarm and security cameras that capture your home.

Call 911 if you witness a crime in progress. Call 416-808-2200 if you see suspicious vehicles or persons in your area. Tips can also be submitted to Crime Stoppers.



THIEVES are being watched as they scope out this vehicle to possibly steal using a keyless fob (bottom). Police photos.



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Four motorcyclists killed in violent crashes

A 29-year-old man is the most recent to die of at least three men killed in collisions between vehicles and motorbikes this summer in South Etobicoke. Police were called to Jutland Road and Kipling Avenue just before 3:30 p.m. on July 29, but it was too late. Paramedics attempted life-saving measures on the young motorcyclist. He was eventually pronounced dead. The driver of the vehicle remained at the scene. It is believed the dead man worked in the area and had just finished work and was going home. Kipling Avenue between Jutland Road and Norseman Street was closed in both directions.

There have been a number of other fatal motorcycle accidents in the area over the past months, police said. A 61-year-old rider was killed on July 10 following reports of a vehicle hitting a pole and a tree near Lloyd Manor Road and Eglinton Avenue West, west of Kipling Avenue, around 9:45 p.m. Paramedics said a man was



MOTORCYCLE CRASHES seems to be common place these days. A young man was killed July 29 at Kipling Ave. and Jutland Rd., after his bike was hit by a SUV. **Courtesy photo.**

ken to a local hospital with life-threatening injuries. Police said the victim died in hospital the next day. The cause of the crash is unknown. Then on June 20, a 35-year-old man was killed following a collision near

ta Lake Shore Boulevard West and Forty Second Street in Long Branch around 10:15 p.m. Police said the man was driving a 2018 Kawasaki motorcycle, which was travelling east on Lake Shore Boulevard West at a high rate of speed. The motorcyclist then collided with the driver of a BMW, who was turning to the westbound lanes of Lake Shore Boulevard from Forty Second Street, police said. The man sustained severe trauma, and despite life-saving efforts, he was pronounced dead at the scene. And in July 2015, another 29-year-old was killed after the motorcycle he was riding collided with a car on Kipling Avenue at Jutland Road, north of the Queensway, just after midnight. Police said it's not clear which directions either vehicle was going but the car turned in front of the bike, causing the motorcyclist to hit the car and burst into flames. Two people in the car were taken to hospital with minor injuries.

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RCU Credit Union and its services



MEMBERS of the RUC Credit Union take a break. Courtesy photo.

RCU Credit Union staffers (left) have been helping members reach their dreams and goals for over 50 years. Located at 3 Resurrection Road, near Kipling Ave. and Bloor St. W., the community-based credit union helps to make your financial goals a reality. At RCU, they believe you are a valued member, not just an account number. "We give back to our membership with lower rates on mortgages, loans and lines of credit and higher rates of return on investments."

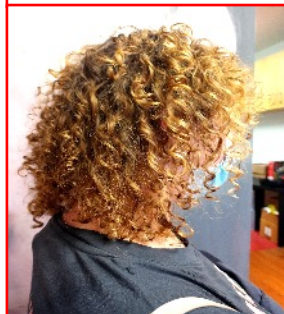
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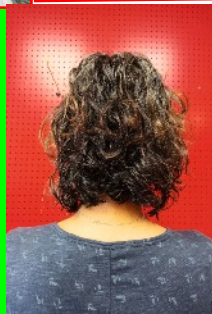
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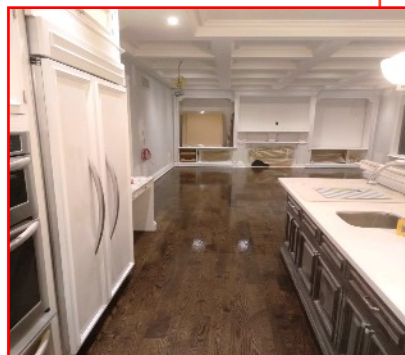
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In The Community

By TOM GODFREY

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 101 was bustling with activity as members greeted each other after more than a year with much-deserved smiles and handshakes.

It has been a long time of shut-downs and quarantines with many members passing away from COVID, which forced the Lake Shore Blvd. W. legion hall to shut. The legion was forced to take a huge financial hit from lost rent as events were cancelled after they were forced to close their revenue-generating banquet halls due to the deadly virus.

After months of sitting inside and having food and other items delivered to their doors, area residents were more than happy to see their friends again and try and pick up where they left off.

There were smiles and cheers since many of the veterans had fought the Germans, survived wars and say it will require more than a virus to take them down.

Legion members, a few in uniform, and their families occupied the tables to chit chat about their families and to remember those who lost their lives, not from a bomb or bullets in a far off country, but from a pandemic right at home.

Many have wracked their heads since wondering where the deadly virus that took millions of lives worldwide originated from and why.

At one table, lending her support to the crowd was MP Christine Hogarth, accompanied by her husband, who was making the rounds and supporting the troops. "It's nice to see many of the veterans here today," Hogarth says. "It has been a long time for us all."

Also in the room, was former Etobicoke Mayor Doug Holyday, who knew many of the folks in attendance and wished them all well.

"It has been a long time since we got together," Holyday says. "Many of these people have been coming here for years."

By now all the tables in the basement hall were filled and the laughter was getting louder. Some others were enjoying the nice weather on a sprawling deck outside. It was a day of celebration, smiles and congratulations for pulling through after 18 months of fighting the horrific pandemic, which killed thousands of Canadians and friends and loved ones worldwide.

Joining them was former politician and area MPP and councillor Morley Kells, who probably knew most in the room due to his many years in local politics and lacrosse, Canada's official sport.

Kells was reminiscing about his days as a young man in 1955 when he played on the Long Branch Monarchs to win the Junior Minto Cup Championship, which was quite a feat in community.

Long Branch then had a population of about 10,000 and they played against some tough teams to win the much-cherished Minto Cup. See more on the Minto Cup on Page 15.

"We were competing against other cities in Canada for the Minto Cup," Kells recalls. "It was indeed a feat for us to win the Cup. It showed that we were the greatest in lacrosse." And there is no doubt that our veterans back in the day, like our lacrosse players, were fearless, valiant and had the greatest ambitions.

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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Health & Wellness

By MONIKA MEULMAN



From the Bench

By Retired JUDGE LLOYD BUDZINSKI

August golden sun rises and sets as our harvests, our farms, our gardens and our hearts bloom, soaked with sunshine. Liquid gold. We watch our kids play over the summer; explore our gardens as they flourish and share drinks and meals al fresco. Naturally, we arrive to a time of harvest at this time of year. August is a time of energetic abundance: nature's wisdom is in full harmony.

We reap the benefits of sowing those early seeds in spring. Whether you grow your own garden or share a neighbour's patch, or support the local farmers market: you are enjoying the fruits of hard labour.

I wonder...

What have you planted this spring? What do you see yourself harvesting now? Have you tended to strong, seeded beginnings this spring and dedicated yourself to diligent maintenance over the summer?...have you grown?

Abundance radiates like the hot sun, smiles of sharing meals and laughter at family gatherings: all signs of our great fortune and blessings in growing our own personal harvest. It is an opportunity to embrace integration. Putting it 'All together'. This is a time to harmonize, share, integrate our experiences and new found wisdom.

We can integrate what we have learned this year from the cold, dark, quiet Covid winter, to the hope of growing fresh roots 'n shoots this spring, to our vibrant, colourful expansive summer. But there's more to expansion and integration than that.

Did you know that we can integrate wisdom, strength and 'thinking' in our body too? Yes, we have more than one brain with which we learn. There are actually 3 brain centres in our body. We have our mind brain (we all know that one, it's loud and very persistent and often gets in the way at the oddest times, you notice that?), we have a heart brain - no joke. Our heart brain can tell us we feel 'heart ache' or suffer from a broken heart. Dr. J. Andrew Armour (1991) has shown in his neural research (neuroscience) that our heart "has a complex intrinsic neural network sufficiently sophisticated to qualify as a 'brain'"1.

Not to be outdone - our stomach wants to be heard too! Yes, that's also true. Michael Gershon (researcher and expert in the field of neurogastroenterology), wrote in his

revolutionary 1998 book 'The Second Brain' that our gut can be seen as a second brain since it contains some 100 million neurons. Our gut 'brain' sends information to our mind brain all the time. We literally feel emotions through our gut. Gives a new, radically more important meaning to 'butterflies in the stomach'.

Did you know that 95 percent of the body's serotonin is found in the bowels? When we feel good or bad it is often due to what's happening in our gut brain! Ready to integrate that into a different kind of harvest? A harvest of life, of love, of rich experiences. This offers our summer harvest, our meals and our gatherings a new perspective.

Whether it is our family or our garden, our business or community: integration is key to great success, health and growth. We have known this for eons, in our native lands, around camp fires... Now, science has come on board and shown us that even in our bodies, integration of knowledge is vital for true health, for illness recovery and for being your best self. That is something we can all celebrate.

As the golden summer sun sets lower on the horizon, kick your feet up on the patio or lounge chair, take a moment to count your blessings, take in the warm summer air, invite the senses to relax, absorb all that is around you, integrate the sounds, the smells, the textures of this summer, this harvest of energy. Soak it all in. Allow it to feed you and strengthen you. That is what summer is for, after all. You have grown wiser.

"Intelligence is present everywhere in our bodies . . . our own inner intelligence is far superior to any we can try to substitute from the outside." Deepak Chopra
Tell us, what have you 'learned' this summer?

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A reader wrote "Did I ever decide a case contrary to the law because I thought the law unfair or wrong".

Like you I have personal opinions. They come from my life experiences. However, those beliefs can generate biases. To deal with possible conflicts, I need to identify any bias, assess them and set them aside where they are inappropriate or irrelevant. For instance, if we had the death penalty for a murder --contrary to my values-- I would either have to accept the law or if morally unable to impose the penalty, I would decline to hear the case. If neither were acceptable, I would resign. Similarly, if a friend, relative or a personal enemy came before me I would recuse myself. I cannot disregard the law or an Appellant Court's judgement where it has interpreted the law, no matter how much I disagree. The Law requires certainty. There are some exceptions. If I believe the law is contrary to the Charter and an Ontario Appellant Court has yet to render an opinion, I can, with reasons, find the law counter to the Charter and void it.

When it comes to sentencing, Judges have a greater range of discretion providing we operate within the lawful principles of both the Criminal Code and Common Law. The law includes: rehabilitation, reparation to the victim, a reflection of the community's standard regarding the gravity of the crime; the protection of the public by reducing this type of crime (deterrent) and maintaining respect for the Administration of Justice in the mind of an informed person.

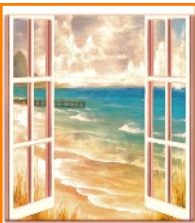
Do increased penalties serve as a deterrent – maybe? In the past, we increased highway surveillance and impaired penalties. We found that the charge rate fell to a point, then flat-lined. The effect on the offence rate stopped. A criminal seldom thinks 'cost-benefit'. Research suggests the risk of arrest is the real deterrent. Timing of the Trial also effects 'public deterrence', 'early trials' (3 to 6 months) enhances the impact of the sentence in the public's mind. The public's reaction to a sentence several years after the fact is diminished. The problem here is that Governments control court resources but are reluctant to fund the justice system. There is little sympathy for someone sitting in jail, unless it is you, guilty or not. It gets no votes compared to Education and Health. Experience shows, increasing sentences increases trials. The accused would prefer to 'roll the dice'.

Supply and demand tells us if you increase the trials while resources remain constant you build delay. Delay means cases lost for a number of reasons, victims waiting and releasing some accused awaiting their trials -- the presumption of innocence. Courts blame the government. The government blames the Courts. Yet it's the government that funds and makes the laws the Courts must follow.

Back to the original question. Have I ever ignored the law? My answer is NO! But, there were a few times, while acting within the law and my lawful discretion. I sentenced a person differently than the norm. It's important to realize that the sentence must generally be consistent for similar offences, circumstances and individuals. A hodge-podge of rulings by one or different Judges would generate confusion and distrust for our Courts. Within those parameters, lawyers learn to 'know your Judge'.

We all have slightly different perspectives on successful sentences based on our experiences. I believe that parental involvement and a commitment to education are critical rehabilitation factors. Rehab generates income taxes and reduces crime. Lawyers who know me, understand that a youth who brings me a specific educational plan supported by a parent (or other involved adult) with careful terms to monitor progress has the best chance to avoid jail. Unfortunately, it often teaches the offender bad habits and makes him a hero to his peers. Going to school and homework separates him from negative influences. My bias is that it's cheaper for an informed parent to monitor the youth, deal with adverse friends and keep them in school versus the cost of incarceration and a jail-based education for crime. Role modeling is a significant teaching tool. This necessitates support programs for both the parent and youth. That is where we fall short.

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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Help to clean the Great Lakes



AN INVESTMENT has been made by the PCs to help protect and improve the health of the Great Lakes.

Courtesy photo.

The Ontario government is investing more than \$157,000 for five projects in Toronto to help protect and improve the health of the Great Lakes.

MPP Christine Hogarth said the money will go to non-profit organizations in the community that work to clean up the shores and protect species in Lake Ontario.

“Etobicoke-Lakeshore is home to some of the most beautiful shores of Lake Ontario,” Hogarth said in a release. “This is a great initiative to support local projects that protect and restore coastal, shoreline and near-shore areas of the Great Lakes.”

The projects are part of 44 community-based programs to receive \$1.9 million in funding through the Great Lakes Local Action Fund. Some of the non-profits given aid are the Ontario Federation of Anglers that received \$27,090 and Love Your Lake: A Greener Future obtained \$30,000 to conduct 100 liter clean-ups along the shores of Lake Ontar-

io between Niagara-on-the-Lake and Kingston. The Federation received funds to build community capacity to remove invasive species causing a danger in the Lake Ontario watershed.

Youth Agency Creating Waves On The Great Lakes: I-Think received \$50,000 for ecological and shoreline remediation along nine creeks and rivers in the Lake Ontario watershed.

“This funding allows local organizations and groups to take environmental actions in their own communities,



LAKES like Lake Ontario has to be protected. Photo by Sheryl Johnson.

building a better future for clean, green growth,” said David Piccini, Ontario’s Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks. Officials said 20 per cent of the world’s fresh water is found in the Great Lakes, making it the largest lake system in the world. Some 95 per cent of the province’s agricultural lands are in the Great Lakes. Ontario made a call for applications for the Lakes Action Fund in 2020.

Members of Tibetan community feed frontline staff fighting virus

Members of the Tibetan community have been in Canada for many years and a majority have resettled in Toronto, with many living in the Mimico area. The community is active and has been very involved in helping to feed busy emergency and front-line workers as they fight the COVID-19 virus.



MEMBERS OF THE Tibetan community deliver food (top, bottom) and mark a year of gratitude to His Holiness the Dalai Lama on his recent birthday. Courtesy photos.

The Tibetan Canadian Cultural Centre (TCCC) has teamed up with Little Tibet and Zomsa Café restaurants in Parkdale to feed frontline staff.

Tibetan Canadians say they are proud to be part of the diverse communities of Ontario and Canada. They said Tibetans were some of the earliest government-sponsored non-European refugees to settle in Canada.

In the last weeks we have delivered 250 meals to workers in Parkdale, said TCCC president Tsering Wangyal.

Wangyal said the community also marked the Year of Gratitude to His Holiness, the Dalai Lama, which started in July last year.

The Dalai Lama turned 86 on July 6, an occasion that was marked by millions across the world.

Wangyal said July also marked Tibetan Heritage Month in Ontario, which was decreed by the Ontario government.

“We have a large community of Tibetans living in the Mimico area,” he said. Last year the centre distributed more than 10,000 hot meals during the peak of COVID. And to mark the birthday of His Holiness they deliver meals to 250 healthcare workers every Tuesday.

The community has also taken 150 hot meals to the Cloverdale Mall City-run COVID-19 clinic staff, and 80 meals to Lakeshore Lodge, a long-term care centre, at Lake Shore Blvd. W., and Kipling Ave. They have also fed about 20 workers at Loft Community Services, in Parkdale.



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AUGUST 3, 17 GENTLE GIANT BIKE TOURS see the largest trees in Long Branch August 3 and 17, 6 a.m. and 9 p.m. Also Maple Tree Walk, What's making my tree sick and a host of other tree related events and issues. Register and obtain information by visiting www.lbna.ca.

AUGUST 4 CONTAINER GARDENING drop-in workshop and learn about container gardening and plant a herb to take home to grow. At Lakeshore Village Park, next door to the Good Food Market, 46 Garnett Janes Road. To register email jesnag@lampchc.org.

AUGUST 4 COMMUNITY BENEFITS Ad hoc Group Meeting "Next steps to gaining more from new developments in South Etobicoke. Help to decide the local priorities to achieve improved Lakeshore Living through new developments. Guest speaker Kumsa Baker Director of Community Benefits Campaigns, Toronto Community Benefits Network. Wednesday August 4, 7 pm. To register contact johnathan.palmer@humber.ca or Daniel Plant at 416-553-8263

MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY FREE emergency food takeout meals continue to be offered from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. through LAMP's adult drop-in program. Group programs are closed.

FREE ADULT LEARNING PROGRAMS: Learn basic computer skills. Must meet registration criteria in-

cluding 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.

AUGUST 17 VITALITY - Join us for an outdoor wellness VITALITY event on August 17 from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Join us for some inspiration and new healthy living ideas. Improving health self-management skills through knowledge and creativity. COVID protocols in place. For more information contact Jasmin Dooch at jasmind@lampchc.org or 416 252-6471 ext. 308.

REDUCE FOOD WASTE with a new project through exploration, discussion and community engagement. Contact Sandrav@lampchc.org or call 416-252-6471.

ARTS ETOBICOKE PROGRAM every Wednesday from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. at 7 Capri Road. Arts takes place in the first half and a dance segment in the second half. Visit our website for more information at www.artsetobicoke.com

EVERY THURSDAY FROM 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. the Cooper Mills-Gooch Community Food Bank provides fresh groceries and essential food items 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 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 lan-

guage and all the skills you need to succeed. Call Tali at 416-252-9701 ext. 283 or tali@lampchc.org.

GARDEN WORKSHOPS at Stonehenge Community Health Centre with garden enthusiast Carolin Taron who will conduct workshops at Bell Manor Park, at 1 Bayside Lane; including cultivating wild edibles and garden remedies until August 18. To register call 416-231-7070 ext. 307 or email healthpromotion@stonegatechc.org

AUGUST 17 LET'S COOK - food fit for youth 12 to 17-year-old. Learn cooking tips and tricks. Try 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 or 416-231-7070 ext. 307.

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 storytelling and the written word under disciplinary artist Whitney French. Register at lakeshorearts.ca

UNTIL 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.

AUGUST 8 ETOBICOKE GOSPEL Music Discovery Showcase outdoor at St. Margaret church New Toronto, 156 Sixth Street. Contact Micah at epc_cogop@outlook.com.

AUGUST 12 CELEBRATE TEAM CANADA Olympic homecoming at Sherway Gardens from 7 p.m.-10 p.m. In the north-east parking lot at The Queensway and Sherway Gardens Road. All is welcome.

AUGUST 14 LAKE CLEANUP and Picnic -meet at Etobicoke Point at 10 a.m. and join others of the Martin Luther Church as they clean up pounds of plastic waste on the shoreline. Picnic to follow. Email michellescubbs@gmail.com for more.



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Minto Cup championship big talk in Long Branch

The Minto Cup championship still lives on in the hearts of Long Branch lacrosse lovers. It will be 66 years this year since Long Branch won the



cherished Junior Minto Cup Championship. And only a few lacrosse players are alive today who played with the 1955 Long Branch Monarchs when they

brought home the Minto Cup and all the glory it would bring from fans across Canada.

The cup, which was donated by Governor-General Lord Minto in 1901, represents the best Canadian junior lacrosse team. The Mann Cup is for senior teams. Back then there was great rivalry nationwide for the Minto Cup. In Etobicoke, the Mimico Mountaineers were Junior Minto champions in 1938 and 1951.



The Monarchs was coached by Albert Archibald Dixon, who in 1938 was a star de-



FORMER POLITICIAN Morley Kells shows his jacket, crest (left) from the victorious 1955 Minto Cup (bottom left) Championship game in which he played. Members of the Minto Cup winning Long Branch Monarchs team in photo on right. Many are now gone. **Photos by Tom Godfrey.**



fenceman for the Mimico Mounties and helped them to win the Minto Cup. Dixon was able to bring a Junior Championship to Long Branch in 1955. He was inducted into the Canadian Lacrosse Hall of Fame in 1996. Former politician Morley Kells is one of the surviving Monarch players who helped capture the Minto Cup. In 1961 he retired as an active player and began to coach the Long Branch Junior team. "We were the only team to win in Long Branch," Kells said recently. "I remember that I was a rookie that year when we won."

The team was part of the Long Branch Lacrosse Association and they played at the now-gone Long Branch Bowl, a 1,500 seat outdoor arena next to where a No Frills stands at Brown's Line and Lake Shore Blvd. W. "The teams had a good following," Kells recalled. "The sport was big in some of the smaller areas." Kells, who previously worked for Hockey Night in Canada, on this day was joined by fellow politician and former Etobicoke Mayor Doug Holiday. The men have been playing lacrosse together for years. Kells, who has been advocating for lacrosse for 50 years, tried twice to bring a professional lacrosse league to Canada and the U.S. One league was short-lived and the games were shown on TV. Today there is The National Lacrosse League, in which hockey great Wayne Gretzky is a co-owner of a Las Vegas team. NBA coach Steve Nash is also involved in a team. Their season with 18 games starts in December. The league has operated since 1987 and now has 15 teams.

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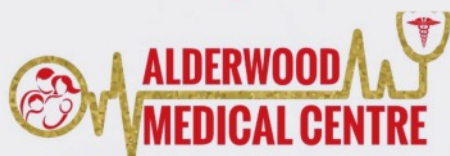
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