

The South Etobicoke News

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More police officers hitting the streets of New Toronto

South Etobicoke residents can feel a bit safer as more Toronto Police officers are being deployed to our area. More officers are hitting the ground in New Toronto and 12 other areas in the city as the force beefs up its Neighbourhood Community Officers (NCO) program.

Additional officers are also being added to help make residents safer in South Parkdale, in 14 Division, Elms-Old Rexdale, in 23 Division, Rockcliffe-Smythe in 12 Division and York-University Heights in the 31 Division area, according to police.



SAFER COMMUNITIES with Long Branch and other areas receiving additional officers as Toronto Police beef up its Neighbourhood Community Officers (NCO) program, which is being well-received by residents who want less crime in their neighbourhoods. Staff and Toronto Police photos.

The announcement was made by Chief James Ramer and Mayor John Tory at a recent Open House at 31 Division. Ramer said officers will be redeployed to 'help increase the number working in and with communities.'

The item was a priority in the Toronto Police Service's 2022 Budget. He said TPS staff conducted comprehensive analysis, including of crime and demographics, to determine the neighbourhoods for the program's expansion, resulting in 13 added neighbourhoods and 52 new NCOs. The NCOs are visible and accessible to the public, walking through their neighbourhoods, meeting residents and helping with problem solving, he said.

Other communities to receive police officers include: Englemount-Lawrence, Clanton Park, Dorset Park, Eglinton East, Golddale-Cedarbrae-Woburn, Harbourfront-City Place, Taylor-Massey and Danforth. There have been many calls for more cops in the area.

Eatonville residents fights city over development

A mid-Etobicoke residents' group say the dozens of condo towers being built in the community are getting out of hand.

More than 20,000 new units are proposed for the mid and south Etobicoke area and many 40 and 50 storey buildings are being constructed with 'little or no green space or near stores or shopping,' according to the South Eatonville Residents Association (SERA).

Group members admit that Etobicoke is growing at a fast pace and more housing is needed.

"Development is welcomed if it is responsibly carried out and mindful of the existing housing and neighbourhood we live in," SERA said in a statement following its June 23 Annual General



MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH EATONVILLE Residents Association say more than 20,000 new units are proposed in their community and 40 and 50 storey buildings are being constructed with little or no green space, near stores or shopping. Some communities are growing way to fast and have to slow down. There are concerns the development is forcing many residents out due to the high cost of living. Courtesy photos.

Meeting. "New development needs to be part of our neighbourhood fabric." SERA members are not happy with the large number of apartment and condo towers being proposed and many projects being approved by City officials. "Numerous condominium towers of 30, 40 and 50 plus floors are unacceptable," the group wrote. "These projects are too big,

violating all the permissible building levels as per City of Toronto by-laws." "These developments are now being planned without any green space and any consideration for amenities such as schools and shopping," they warned. SERA Board Member Paul MacDonald said the area was identified as an "urban growth centre" back in 2006. Since then changes to provincial policy allowed much

taller buildings with much higher densities.

The Association is bounded by Bloor St. and Dundas Sts. W., Kipling Ave. and Hwy. 427.

SERA said the development overreach to the community brings many problems; including parking and traffic congestion, inadequate school capacity, inadequate park, greenspace capacity, lack of infrastructure capacity, construction congestion and loss of neighbourhood retail shops.

If you have concerns in regards to the congestion e-mail SERA at southeastonvillepa@gmail.com SERA officials said they strongly believe in development being a means to improve our community. Many residents say they have to leave the area, which is becoming to expensive with private homes disappearing to pricey high-rises.



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Well-respected officer in charge of 22 Division



One of Toronto Police Service's most-respected and longest-serving senior officer has been put in charge of 22 and 23 Divisions which patrols all of Etobicoke. Superintendent Ron Taverner has been a

cop's cop in Toronto for more than 50 years and there's no slowing down for him. Taverner has been the unit commander of 23 Division in north Etobicoke for more than 10 years. He was recently promoted to District Commander in charge of South Etobicoke's 22 Division and 23 Divisions, overseeing several hundred officers. "The job brings more responsibilities," Taverner told the South Etobicoke News. "Some of our top priorities include traffic enforcement and dealing with the bad guys."

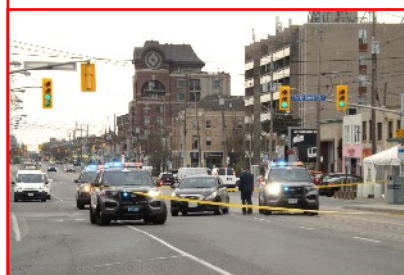
Taverner is well-respected by his officers and in the policing community. He previously served as head of the Fugitive Squad, Homicide Squad and other high-profile police units. "He commands most precincts incorporating the former City of Etobicoke," according to police command. Taverner gained the respect of Premier Doug Ford and late brother Mayor Rob Ford for his work in Etobicoke in fighting drugs, gangs and getting guns of the streets. He has been called a police commander with a lot of energy and is known by his first name to many members in the community. "Most superintendents move every five years or so, but Ron has always stayed in place," former Police Services Board Chair Dr. Alok Mukherjee once said. He was at one point named Commissioner of the Ontario Provincial Police by the Premier but asked that his

name be withdrawn from consideration. Taverner was celebrated for a half-century's worth of "community builder" work by a Toronto charity. With more than 50 years' experience under his belt, the veteran cop has earned the respect and trust of the public and other officials for his decades of fair service to all, according to Jake's House, a group that helps children with autism.



SUPT. RON TAVERNER (left, above) is the District Commander of 22 and 23 Divisions which patrols all Etobicoke.

Hunt for paintball shooter



CALL POLICE if you know who is shooting paintballs at residents. Police have stepped up a manhunt for several suspects who are shooting paintballs from a vehicle at innocent residents in New Toronto. Detectives from 22 Division said between June 3 and June 6 there were several reported incidents of suspects shooting paintballs from a vehicle at citizens in the Lake Shore Blvd. W., and Eighth Street area. Officers said the suspect vehicles' were identified as white and black SUVs. The vehicles and the occupants fled the area in an unknown direction. It is unknown how many people were shot by the hooligans. The paintballs explode on impact and can cause injury. Investigators are appealing for any witnesses, motorists with dash cam footage to come forward and contact police at 416-808-2200, Crime Stoppers anonymously at 416-222-TIPS. (8477), or at www.222tips.com.

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Woman burned on bus healing


A brave young woman set on fire on an Etobicoke bus is fighting for her life in hospital after a bizarre attack at the Kipling subway station. Some quick-thinking TTC users nearby saw the strange June 17 incident and rushed to help the woman, who is described as being in her 20s', who suffered from life-threatening or life-altering injuries. Toronto police say they were called to Kipling Avenue and Dundas Street West area around 12:30 p.m. that Friday for reports of a victim being assaulted. Police said a man poured a liquid substance on the woman and ignited it, leaving her with terrible injuries. The victim is being treated at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre. TTC boss Rick Leary says the agency is "shocked" by the attack at Kipling Station. "We move hundreds of millions of customers every year without incident, but we cannot and do not take that for granted." He said the TTC has several safety measures including special constables who patrol the system, cameras and emergency alarms in all stations and vehicles as well as a SafeTTC app. Tenzin Norbu, 33, of Toronto, is facing four charges and is before the courts. Little is known of the suspect, who recently arrived in Canada from Tibet.



MANY TTC workers and passengers worked to keep the burning woman alive

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HUNDREDS OF NEW TORONTO area residents packed Colonel Samuel Smith Park to celebrate the Canada Day long weekend with a brand new Lakeshore RibFest, that featured good music, including lots of reggae tunes and other activities. The good weather attracted many people to the June 30 to July 3 event, which attracted long lineups of fans who dodged thick smoke while waiting for barbecue ribs, which fans say was tasty and great. There were a number of "ribber" crews with names like Camp 31, Silver Bullet, Texas Style and Come Bite The Bullet. A good time was had by all. Photo by Tom Godfrey

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Cheese Challenge still a hit in the community



NICE TO be enjoying live music again on the Lakeshore. Photos by Tom Godfrey.

The Annual Grill Cheese Challenge has been bringing pleasure to the community for generations. Lakeshore Village came alive for the first time in two years as residents greeted each other with smiles, cheers, high-fives and to the sound of music.

Thousands of residents, described by some as a record crowd, walked, cycled or roller boarded to Lakeshore Village on June 11 as the community celebrated its annual and popular grill cheese challenge. Many families and area residents packed the Village, which includes Lake Shore Blvd., from Second Street



HAPPY GRILL Cheese fan

to Islington Avenue, which was shut to traffic as vendors, cooks, pets, bands and others took over the street.

The Challenge was organized by the Lakeshore Village Business Improvement Area (BIA), whose members did a great job in organizing the massive street event, which was sponsored by Furlani, in support of Women's Habitat. Organizers said the challenge was a success and helped many small area businesses which have been suffering. "This is great for the community after two years of stuck indoors," says Patricia Delfin of The Clock Factory. "It is fantastic to catch up with people who we haven't seen for a long time."

A table outside her store was busy with onlookers as some supporters headed for deals inside the long-time family-owned store.

Merchants were all smiles, mostly from bustling sales at the many booths in front of their stores. The folks from Delicia Bakery were busy inside an elaborate tent as they sold their cakes and other products. Aside from the lengthy lineups waiting for grilled cheese sandwiches, there was a shortcoming of foods available to those of diverse cultures, of which grill cheese is not their first choice of food. Keith Pope, of Vinyl Music Emporium and Cafe, like most others, enjoyed the seven bands who performed on a massive stage in the Lake Shore and Islington Avenue intersection. The sound was clean and clear. The area was packed with music lovers loving the live tunes.

"People liked the music and they had a great time," Pope says. "There were a number of bands from the area that performed to an appreciative crowd. It was great." He said residents welcomed the chance to sit in the sunshine and listen to tunes after two years of being at home due to the virus.



GRILL CHEESERS get their barbeques ready to cook some of the best sandwiches and have fun.

The bands included: George Westerholm and the Wild Wildcats, The James Clark Institute, The Stephen Stanley Band, The Sandra Bouza Band, Reggadiction, Luke and the Apostles and Jersey Nights.

Fans liked the island beats of Reggadiction, which had the crowd thrilled.



VOLUNTEER JULIE chat with the girls from Delicia Bakery and Pastry.

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Long Branch Family lost dad, two sons in battle

Husband, Sons Killed Overseas 'Couldn't Take More From Me'



D. D. STEWART AND SONS, DAVID AND GEORGE

Long Branch, Aug. 16—"I certainly high school. The father was an employee at the city hall when en-
knew there's a war on—it couldn't take any more from me," said M. s., listing at the outbreak of war.

my Medical Corps. He died on October, 18, 1942 at the age of 45.

David Dudley Sr., was single and a clerk at Eaton's Department Store, when he enlisted in the First World War at age 20 in the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF). After arriving in England in April 1917, his chronic bronchitis led to lung tuberculosis. He returned to Canada for medical treatment.

Stewart then enlisted in 1939 during the Second World War. He served in the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps that was responsible for all medical and dental services in the Army. The Corps delivered the wounded to battlefield medical stations (Casualty Clearing Stations), or to hospitals for more intensive medical care.

David Sr. would years later be joined in the battlefield by his sons, who left behind in Long Branch their mom and sisters.

The boys' mom Mary Lillian almost fainted and said she "lost everything she had to live for," after being told of the death of her husband and sons by a *Toronto Star* reporter.



ONE OF their brave sons

First son David Henry enlisted in March 1942 at age 26 in the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry as a Lance Corporal. His brother George Edwin would enlist in September 1942, at age 20, as a Gunner in the Royal Canadian Artillery.



LONG BRANCH's Mary Lillian lost her husband, and both sons, on that fatal July 1944. *Toronto Star* photos.



A month after George Edwin enlisted, his father David Sr., died in England in October 1942. He is buried in the 37-acre Brookwood Military Cemetery, in Surrey, about 30 miles from London, and the largest Commonwealth war cemetery in the U.K.

Both Stewart brothers perished five days apart in the Normandy campaign: George Edwin died at age 22 on July 21, 1944, followed by his brother David Henry who died at age 27 on July 25, 1944. David Henry Sr. is buried in Bretteville-Sur-Laize Canadian War Cemetery in Calvados, France

among the almost 3,000 casualties. His brother, George, is memorialized at the Bayeux Memorial also in Calvados, erected in honour of more than 1,800 who died with no known graves.

Mary Lillian lost both her husband and her sons, and four girls lost their father and brothers. The sacrifice of this family can never be forgotten.

July is always an emotional month for the Stewart family of Long Branch.

It was in July 1944 the family lost two sons in the Second World War. Their dad was also killed in battle just weeks before.

Long Branch residents David Dudley and Mary Lillian Stewart had four daughters: Lillian, Mabel, Gertrude and Helen, and two sons, David Henry and George Edwin. The community stood firm and grieved with the Stewart family when Dudley and sons, David and George, were killed abroad five days after their father died in WWII. Lance Sergeant David Dudley Arthur Stewart Sr., served with 15 Canadian General Hospital, Royal Canadian Ar-

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



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Seniors loved trip to view new movie



More than 75 seniors and volunteers took part in an enjoyable outing on June 14 to view the latest *Downton Abbey 2* film.

The movie lovers are part of a Storefront Humber Adult Day program and LAMP Community Health Centre program.

Some in the group were dressed in hats and gowns as they arrived at the Cineplex Cinemas Queensway.

“They are all excited and are having a great time,” said Bruce Buchanan, of Storefront Humber. “It has been a long time indoors and they look forward to this event.” Organizers also thanked Wheel Trans for making the viewing possible.

A screening of Andrew Rieu’s *Happy Days Are Here Again* is planned for August.

Public meeting for Sherway

Many residents already complain they can’t find a parking spot at Sherway Gardens Shopping Mall at Christmas and other holidays.

A public meeting is being held on July 5 to seek feedback for a massive redevelopment that will include ‘eight buildings, including 15 tower elements ranging in height from 17 to 45 storeys’ planned for the parking lot of the 30-acre mall.

The mixed use buildings will be built on the surface parking lots around the mall, which will remain untouched.



VIEW OF WHAT SHERWAY Gardens Shopping Mall may look like if all the proposals for new buildings are approved. The Mall will remain the same. Courtesy photos.



Four new public parks, a daycare and above and below ground parking structures are also planned. The City, in a notice to residents of a virtual community consultation meeting, said it has received an application to amend the Official Plan and Area Specific Policies to increase the amount of residential development at Sherway, which is owned by Cadillac Fairview Corporation Limited, a Canadian company. Developers are also seeking to amend the requirement for public roads to a mix of private and public roads and reduce the amount of public parkland required on the site.

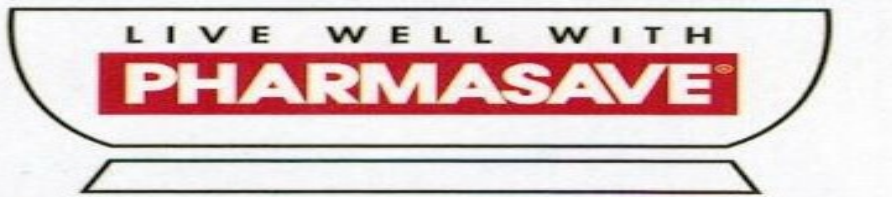
The first of the three phase development is on the north side of the shopping centre, fronting The Queensway. The phase will include 1.28 million square feet of development, consisting of four new buildings, two condos and two rental residential buildings, with retail and amenities.

A pedestrian urban plaza is planned, which will include a large landscaped zone along The Queensway, including a multi-use path and plantings.

In total, this master-planned community will have 2,382 residential suites with 6,788 parking spaces for residents, visitors, office use and retail.

“The Sherway Gardens redevelopment will have plenty of office and retail space within the towers and podiums,” according to Sherway promotional materials. “These mixed-use buildings will provide residents with many local amenities so they can eat, shop, work, play and live in one location.” Sherway Gardens is the largest retail shopping centre in Toronto. The mall has expanded five times and now has 215 stores.

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Canadians and Americans would be surprised to learn that men and women from both countries have crossed the border in times of war and voluntarily served in the other's Armed Forces.

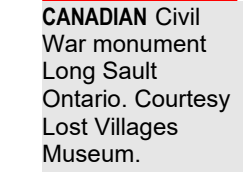


CAPTAIN Hutcheson

Over 40,000 British subjects living in the colonies of British North America enlisted on both sides, Union, and Confederate during the American Civil War, (1861-1865). The vast majority wore blue uniforms of the Northern army, including Canadian doctor Anderson Ruffin Abbot, (1837-1913), a University of Toronto graduate and the first Canadian-born Black Physician.

More than 7,000 of those Canadian volunteers were killed. A monument (right) stands today in Long Sault, Ontario commemorating this chapter of our history. As a side note: sixty-one Canadians have been awarded the US Congressional Medal of Honor for their extraordinary bravery and more than half of that number were awarded during the American Civil War. During the Great War, (1914-1919), close to 40,000 Americans came north to volunteer in the Canadian Army prior to the US declaring war in April 1917, and one, Captain Bellenden S. Hutcheson MD from Illinois was attached to Toronto's 75th Battalion. His roots were British, he was sympathetic to the Allied cause, and he wanted "surgical experience and adventure," which he felt this war would afford. His actions on two occasions in 1918 led to recommendations and the subsequent awarding of the Military Cross and the Victoria Cross. He was one of four American recipients of the Victoria Cross in the Great War, a fifth was bestowed by King George V in 1921 to the American Unknown Soldier. Approximately, 3,500 were killed serving in the Canadian Corps. In September 1939, with the world once again at war, about 9,000 Americans came north to volunteer in the

Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) and about 10,000 in the Canadian Army . Estimates are that 1,000 Americans were killed serving in Canadian uniforms. As to Canadians fighting with American Forces in World War II, the number is difficult to calculate as many were dual citizens. Likewise, many Canadians served with American formations in World War II including a large number in the joint US/Canadian formation, The First Special Service Force. A former Mayor of Etobicoke and Chair of Metro Toronto, the late Dennis Flynn had volunteered for the Force, but a training accident forced him home to Montana. He went on to later serve with the 1st Canadian Parachute Battalion on active service. And Canadians were awarded American medals or decorations including Charles MacGillivray from Charlottetown. He received the US Congressional Medal of Honor for his valour in France in 1945.



CANADIAN Civil War monument Long Sault Ontario. Courtesy Lost Villages Museum.

During the Vietnam War (1959-1975), an estimated 30,000 plus Canadians served in all branches of the American Forces and one soldier, Peter Lemon from Toronto was awarded the U.S. Congressional Medal of Honour for his valour in 1970. While the exact number of Canadian fatalities is not known, some estimates put the number up to 1,000. On the memorial to Canadian Vietnam veterans in Windsor, Ontario, 134 are listed. These names would also appear on the Vietnam memorial in Washington D.C. One of the Canadians killed in Vietnam was Lance Corporal Richard P. Dextraze, USMC, a last name that may be familiar to some. His father was General Jacques Dextraze, a decorated World War II veteran who oversaw the UN Forces in the Congo in the early 1960s and who was

appointed Chief of the Canadian Defence Staff in 1972. Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia is the largest military cemetery in the U.S. and the final resting place of over 400,000 men and women who have died on active duty, veterans, and family members. Nine of that number buried there are Canadians, all recipients of the US Congressional Medal of Honor.



CANADIAN DOCTOR Anderson Ruffin Abbot.

Not far away from the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington is a Cross of Sacrifice, common in British Commonwealth War Cemeteries around the world. One might think it is strange to see such a cross in an American cemetery until one reads the inscription – three in fact. "Erected by the government of Canada in honour of the citizens of the United States who served in the Canadian Army and gave their lives in the Great War, 1914-1918." Following World War II and the Korean War, similar inscriptions on other faces of the monument were added. This Canadian Cross of Sacrifice was given to the people of the United States by its northern neighbour and dedicated on Armistice Day (now Remembrance Day), 1927 in recognition of the thousands of American volunteers who ventured north to serve a foreign flag through both world wars and Korea.

Former Canadian Ambassador to the U.S. Frank McKenna, on visiting Arlington Cemetery on Canada Day, 2005 remarked, "Bravery knows no nationalities."

Timothy J., Stewart is a Historian of the Toronto Scottish Regiment, Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother's Own and author, Toronto's Fighting 75th in the Great War, 1915-1919 at Wilfrid Laurier University Press.

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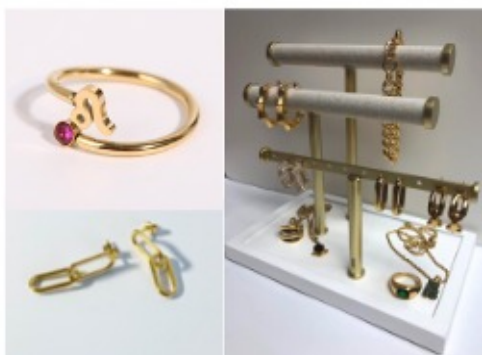
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Masala Blvd. marks Indian street meat



CO-OWNER RAGAT AGARWAL in front of the busy Masala Blvd., that specializes in Indian Street Food. Photos by Tom Godfrey.

One student enjoying a meal said she's hooked on the food and has been returning every day. "I can't get enough of this," she said. "I try something different all the time and it is all good." Mohit and Mohamed said they drove to Long Branch from Mississauga to try out Masala Blvd. since they had been reading great reviews and following online. "The food is great and well worth the drive from Mississauga and considering the price of gas," said Mohit after devouring a snack box. "We will be coming back for more." Mohamed believes Masala has better food than many of the eateries in Mississauga. "These people (Masala) concentrate on the flavour of Indian street food," he said.

The street food includes piping hot items as sama-sa chana, Papari Chaat, Mumbai Bhel; made from puffed rice and masala peanuts; Bombay Club Sandwich, Paneer Szechuan Sandwich; stuffed with cheese: butter chicken momos; in a creamy butter chicken sauce and many other filling dishes. Masala Blvd. can be reached at 647-550-4440 or by email at masalablvd.to@gmail.com or you can visit <https://linktr.ee/masalablvd>



THE INDIAN STREET food from Masala Blvd. Is catching on and food lovers want more.

The co-founders of Long Branch's newest restaurant, Masala Blvd., are former Humber College business students who met in classes. "We were always looking for good Indian food," recalled Yashan Jandal, one of three partners who own the spicy eatery. "We used to drive by here on our way to Mississauga and Brampton to get good Indian food." Yashan, with partners Ragat Agarwal and Sahil Aggarwal, agreed to fulfill a need by bringing good Indian street food to their bright restaurant at 3260 Lake Shore Blvd. W., a former fish and chips store. "All the dishes are homemade and everything is under \$10," Agarwal said. "Students can have quick healthy food at affordable prices." Masala Blvd. has been open for several months and the word is spreading fast. There were many Humber students eating in, or ordering little brown boxes of tasty Indian street snacks. There are two small tables outside that are busy from students having a bite in between classes, as Humber College is across the street. "A lot of the Humber College students like our food and come here for lunch," he said.

Spicy hot jerk sauce



WAYNE REID is a third generation Jamaican jerk sauce maker with five flavours available in stores..

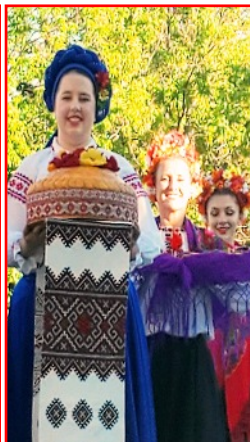
Etobicoke's Wayne Reid is a third generation Jamaican jerk sauce maker who is on a mission to spread his unique flavours to jerk lovers everywhere. 'Flavour guy' Reid, as he is dubbed at cookouts, is the owner and operator of Reggae Kitchen Inc. He will never forget his journey to success began after learning his great granny perfected a nice-tasting jerk sauce two generations ago in Jamaica.

The recipe was shared in the family until his great grandmother found success selling it at the Boston Jerk Centre, a farmer's market in Port Antonio, Jamaica. When Reid learned of his family's history with flavours and spices, he was inspired to start his own line of authentic Jamaican sauces. He spent his young adulthood playing with different formulas and quickly became known as the "Flavour guy."

It took 20 years until Reid bottled his first original flavour. "Never give up. Find your dream and pursue it," Wayne insists. Reggae Kitchen Inc. has five different jerk sauces, including mango, tamarind and masala, available at Ocean Season Food Mart, Maple Lodge Chicken Shop, Nicey's Jayoras Market and Danforth Foods. Call Wayne at 647-205-8537 or reach on Instagram at [Wayne Reid @WayneRe02957302](https://www.instagram.com/WayneReid02957302)



Congratulations to LAMP's 22nd Awards of Merit Community Champions



We would like to thank MC Alicia Markson, our community partners, including Bosnian Islamic Centre, The Rovers, The Gardens, Toronto Police, Toronto Fire and many others who helped with the success of our 22nd Awards of Merit.



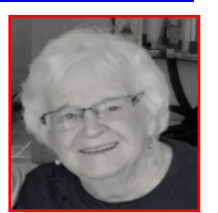
SOME OF OUR 2022 RECIPIENTS



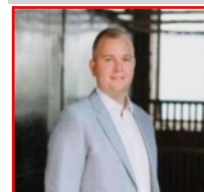
Chef J. Gordon



Artist Philip Cote



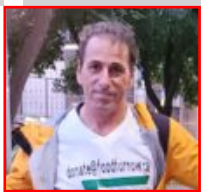
Marg Ciupa



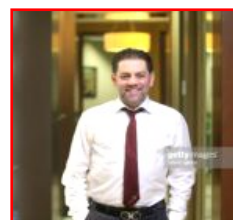
G. Rowlands



Tom Godfrey



Daniel Lauzon



Mohamad. Fakih



Vera Lyn Perdon



Don H. Short

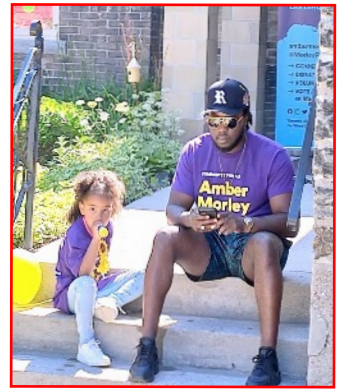
Two in race seeking political changes in Ward 3



ZEYNEL ARI, also known as Dino, of Dino's Pizza, wants to help others and give back to the community as a City Councillor. Photos by Tom Godfrey.



AREA RESIDENT AMBER MORLEY and some of her supporters (below, right) at the launch of her campaign for Councillor of Ward 3 at St. Margaret New Toronto.



committees with groups including the Remix Project and Laidlaw Foundation.

Also seeking your vote is Zeynel Ari, also known as Dino from Dino's Pizza, who has been out in the ward talking to voters and seeking their support. Ari said one of his outlets was recently robbed and he is fighting to reduce crime and violence in our community.

He also wants to be a role model for immigrants or those who are new to Canada.

It is not known if Grimes, who was first elected in 2003, will run again.

The lakefront riding has a population of 129,000 people, with more than 16% being over 65 years of age. The median age is 41.

There are almost 60,000 households, with about 57% of the population who have their own homes, according to City of Toronto statistics from a 2016 survey.

There are more than 48,000 immigrants in the riding, with the Top 10 countries being Poland, Ukraine, Philippines, India, United Kingdom, Italy, South Korea, Portugal, China and Russia.

Almost 30% of the residents, or more than 35,000, are visible minorities, which includes South Asian, Blacks, Chinese, Filipino, Latin America, Korean, Southeast Asian and Arab. More than 33,000 people live or own their own condo units in the ward; and more than 11,000, or almost 20% of residents, earn more than \$150,000

Two strong candidates have registered with the City of Toronto so far to bring political changes to Ward 3 Etobicoke Lakeshore in the upcoming municipal elections on October 24.

A social worker and pizza maker are fighting to throw out long-time incumbent councillor Mark Grimes, who has held the ward for 19 years.

Amber Morley on June 18 threw her hat in the ring in front of supporters to kick off s second attempt to send the incumbent packing.

"I am excited," she said. "The people in this ward want changes and for things to be done."

Morley launched her second bid for council at St. Margaret's Anglican Church, on Sixth Street, with a free barbeque and calypso music.

About 100 area residents were there in support of the long-time community volunteer.



She is described as an "experienced, local champion committed to working with residents to build strong neighbourhoods, affordable housing and community hubs."

A former LAMP CHC employee and constituency assistant, she served on a number of boards and advisory

"Best of luck to the challengers, and thank you to all the organizers"

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Enterprising Alderwood Kids



SIBLINGS SAMMY and sister Charlie conduct their first sale.

JUICE GIRLS Meghan and Erin (right) sell fresh juice to raise funds for their annual holiday. Dozens of area residents enjoyed a nice day in Alderwood while taking part in a community garage sale, selling goods to earn some bucks, or for charities and other good deeds in the community.

The event was well attended with funds being raised for various programs. Vendors said they had a great day.



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THESE ALDERWOOD GRADE 3 girls Mallory, Sadie, Reagan and Sydney raised more than \$1,000 to help young children suffering in war-torn Ukraine. Photos by Tom Godfrey.

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CITY URBAN FORESTRY MANAGEMENT CREWS planting hundreds of trees in South Etobicoke last month as workers maintain the rich green tree foliage that Toronto is famous for. The Long Branch area has some of the oldest trees in Canada. Staff photo.



In the Community

By TOM GODFREY

Many members of South Etobicoke's Black and Brown communities welcome an apology by Toronto Police Chief James Ramer over the hurt inflicted by the over-policing and targeting of generations of visible minorities in this city.

The June 19 admission left other Blacks stunned and skeptical, with many saying they'll take the Chief's words with a "grain of salt."

Ramer is an honorable man and I accept his apology which he vowed was difficult to make after speaking to his officers. He extends an olive branch and reconciliation between the force and the ill-treated Black and visible minority communities.

We need a police reconciliation process that will come clean, revisit and improve the lives of many Blacks whose loved ones over the years were shot by police, assaulted or subjected to threatening behaviour.

A healing process has to be similar to that extended to the hundreds of Indigenous children who were taken from their families, with bodies of many found in mass graves that we have to come to terms with.

The police report is entitled *Race & Identity Based Data Collection Strategy Understanding: Use of Force & Strip Searches in 2020*, explores 7,114 strip searches and 949 incidents involving use of force.

The report finds that Black, Indigenous and racialized people were over-represented in "enforcement actions" by police. For example, although Black people made up 10 per cent of Toronto's population, they comprised 22.6 per cent of law enforcement actions such as arrests, tickets and cautions.

Chief Ramer said "various minority groups, including Black, Latino, East/Southeast Asian and Middle Eastern people were reportedly over-represented by factors of 1.6 times, 1.5 times, 1.2 times and 1.2 times, respectively."

"Minorities were also more likely to have weapons drawn against them by police," he revealed.

These findings are familiar, yet deeply troubling. There have been years of community consultations, "reforms," cultural sensitivity, anti-bias training and diversity and inclusivity policies and programs. But the problem of police using disproportional force has refused to go away, he revealed.

Young Black males are still 'being beaten, charged and abused at the hands of officers and the TPS from complaints and reports knew all was not right with their treatment of Blacks.

I have been covering the Toronto crime beat going back to when Wade Lawson, 17, was shot by Peel Regional Police which led to daily protests from Blacks and some whites. It also led to the formation of the Special Investigation Unit (SIU) in 1989 to probe police shootings and sexual assault.

The apology came a week before National Indigenous Day and a time to make for authorities to reconcile differences with our Native people.

One Black man, named Wendell, said he has been pulled over, profiled and targeted by police for years without charges. He said many young Blacks had their reputations tarnished from the now ended practice of carding in which notes were taken on officers encounters with Black and Brown people.

Some officers when I was growing were well known for their reputation for stopping Blacks at every opportunity, while driving, at the bus stop or even walking, "to keep them (Black youths) in line."

The force has to come clean. It has a rich history dating back to its first Black officer, the late Det. Sgt. Lawrence McLarty, who was hired in 1960 and proudly served for 32 years. In his more than three decades years on the force, McLarty rose from walking the beat on Bloor and College Streets to being one of the initial members of Toronto's emergency task force. He retired as a detective sergeant in 1992.

Tom Godfrey is Publisher of The South Etobicoke News, who lives in the community. The local newspaper won Awards of Merits from LAMP Community Health Center and Etobicoke Historical Society in 2022.

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Your Health

By MONIKA MEULMAN

Love the excess heat of summer? Or is it too much for you?

With typically only three hot months in our Canadian summer, July is the hottest. We have designed the cycle of the year, the seasons

into four sections each with three months. We do that a lot. Humanity loves the number three.

It is a very powerful number. In many stories of origin, we have heaven, earth and mankind. There is above, below and you. We refer to our heart, body and mind. The number three is pervasive in all storytelling, cultures, ancestral, religious and spiritual beliefs. Let us remember and employ the number three. Did you know that oak, ash, and thorn were called the faery triad of trees, in the Celtic tradition? In design, the tripod is the most stable of all seats. There's even a three legged stool theory. And, of course, for planting, the North American three sisters are: bean, pumpkin and corn. But I digress!

July is usually the hottest month of the year, with the greatest growth and lushness all around us. But the flipside of this great excess is over abundance of energy. It makes me think of what we deal with in every day life: overwhelm and stress. Sometimes, some days, there's just too much heat in the day, right? The power of three, the practicality of three and I would even argue the magic of three is invaluable to us at this time of year. Often in an overwhelming situation, coping with anxiety, high stress or panic we are advised to count to three and breathe. Better yet, another method is to count backwards since that throws off our ingrained brain patterns and invites novel thinking. It's a proven method for calming down. Let's use July and this abundant heat, the lushness of summer, to remember how to modulate our feelings and thoughts. How about even a fun rhyme? The power of three is within me.

When we invoke this simple technique to stay present in the every day heat of our lives, we are tapping into our own



pool of wisdom to dampen the heat (you see what I did there?). You create more room in your heart and mind, when you choose to count to three. That's magic for sure. In case you are still not convinced to give three a chance, I remind

you that all this comes from the great universe, God, Tao or ____ (insert any word that represents all that is to you here). Before one, there was nothing and everything. Then there was one. Then one begat two. But it wasn't until there were three (the baby, the child, the creation) that our life here became truly interesting. Wouldn't you say?

Three represents creativity, change, movement, from the masculine and feminine flow of energy. That is yet another fascinating form of 'magic'. All that exists in its natural form is a type of magic. Nature is the master creator. Just watch a seed germinate, open up and sprout. That is a front row seat to watching life transform and grow. Plus remember: in a disagreement, there is your way, my way and the right way! When we choose to live by the power of three: we choose harmony. Choose to be like the three legged stool, we are stable, strong, able to move in any direction and centred.

"Stay in the center, and you will be ready to move in any direction." Alan Watts

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From the Bench

By Retired JUDGE LLOYD BUDZINSKI



Its summertime. Let's think about the outside, something cool and natural. Let's be positive and talk about how we, as individuals, can reduce crime, free up our streets and contribute to the community while helping ourselves. We all want free and safe streets. We can sit and complain about our safety. The authorities respond by sending in more police. Then we complain we feel like an occupied country. The safe street topic seems appropriate for the season. I enjoy gardening. So, what you ask? How does this relate to safe streets? Patience, read on.

In order to protect our democracy, we have a duty to the public as much as our government has to us, to assist in the maintenance of Peace, Order and Good Government. Without public assistance we cannot expect the police to do the job all by themselves. Drug dealers in our streets are usually known in a community before the police hear about them. They thrive because some of us choose to look the other way. The dealer often controls neighbourhoods through forms or terrorism and social assistance. They offer jobs to the unemployable, money to the vulnerable and even to the local Church (Mexico, Italy, etc). We don't need a community of spies but we need people on the streets, good people, who outnumber the bad. We need to take the streets back. Instead of asking the police to do all the work and flood the community with officers making locals feel like an occupied nation, the residents need to fill the streets. Communities need to work together as neighbours to formulate ideas and ask the police to assist. It's up the locals to develop feasible plans. It's like those old black and white movies where the town rises up to expel the gangsters or bikers led by Marlon Brando, who ride into the village to take it over. It's like an intensive "Neighbourhood Watch".

We all have this duty but people who are fortunate enough to own houses have a special opportunity to protect our streets. Studies from New York City showed that clean, fresh and green neighbourhoods have lower crime rates than others. 'When a city's trashy lots are cleaned up, residents' mental health improves, Washington Post, August 17, 2018 reported, neighborhoods where vacant lots were cleaned up experienced a 29 percent reduction in gun violence, 22 percent decrease in burglaries, and 30 percent drop in nuisances like noise complaints and illegal dumping. Residents living near those same spaces also reported feeling much safer post-remediation, with 58 percent having fewer security concerns when leaving their homes and more than three-quarters saying they significantly increased use of their outside spaces penntoday.upenn.edu/news. I am a fan of the late Jane Jacobs, a famous American writer for Urban Development who moved to Toronto and was instrumental in influencing city design during Mayor Crombie's reign. It was the plan of Toronto development that the waterfront was to be left open; rather, than build a wall of Miami styled apartments blocking our view of the water front. Her model was for people to develop their front yards as a sitting space and having small parkettes wherever there is any available public space. Toronto, which like Chicago at the time, had a magnificent waterfront ready for development. We lost the competition years ago. After David Crombie left and the politicians began building taxable facilities, highways; rather than public parks. Sometimes higher taxes for public spaces can be a benefit. Visit Chicago to see what I mean. We need to pressure our politicians like our MPPs to develop small local funds for community enhancement. In Alberta, one of the cities will permit and help fund a community garden on some public areas - "Gorilla Gardening" What Ms. Jacobs advanced was for people to use their front yards as a patio where you could sit and watch passersby and meet neighbours. Let's flood our streets with good guys and gardens. Use your front yard for the community; rather, than grass pastureland. A person sitting outside is as good as a security alarm and cheaper.

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, found guilty of murder for throwing his wife from a 17th floor balcony in March 1981. He can be reached at lbudzinski@talkjustice.info



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Looking after yourself and others in the community



JULY 9 JEAN AUGUSTINE DOCUMENTARY screening takes place as part of The 2022 Lavazza IncluCity Festival taking place in The Distillery District at 9:30 p.m. The festival runs until July 16. The documentary **Steadfast**, the Messenger and Message by **Fahim Hamid Ali** follows the life and career of Augustine, founder of Black History Month in Canada. Box

Office: 416-893-3966, Main 416-929-3475 or email info@icff.ca

JULY 5, 12, 19 & 26 SING with the river MOUTH song circle Tuesdays from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. with **Andrea Kuzmich**. Sing together or share old songs or learn new ones from Ukrainian and Georgian to other traditions. Song circle takes place at Bell Manor Park. To register call 416-231-7070 ext. 307 or email health.promotion@stonegatec.org

JULY 13 FREE ONLINE Affordable Housing (Rent-Geared-to-Income) Information Session 2 p.m. On ZOOM LAMP CHC is hosting another Rent geared to income info session featuring Kay Hodge of Access TO Housing Toronto: Please register online at <https://RGIWORKSHOPJULY.eventbrite.ca> or Email: jasmind@lampchc.org or telephone 416-252-6471 ext. 308. In partnership with The City of Toronto.

SUMMER YOUTH JOB CONNECTION for students aged 15 to 18 to obtain 20-hours of paid pre-employment training, free certification, training and work-related supports. Must be eligible to work in Ontario and be ready and willing to work during COVID-19, March Break and Summer 2022. Contact Sheroni at 416-405-5259 or email schristian@woodgreen.org

COMMUNITY SUPPORT CENTRE operating from St. Margaret's Church on Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Meals, snacks, washrooms, showers, and laundry available for folks who are unhoused.

EVERY THURSDAY The Good Food Market from 12 to 4 p.m. at Stonegate CHC at 10 Neighbourhood Lane for affordable produce, and outdoor market. For more call 416-231-7070 ext 307.

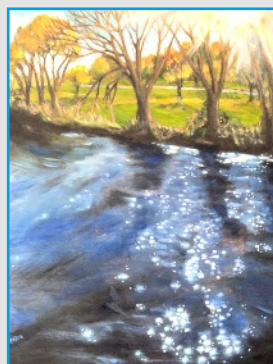
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BASKETBALL FRIDAYS for youth 18 plus from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Ken Cox Community Centre, 28 Colonel Samuel Smith Park Drive. Contact Waye at 416-990-6737 or email youth@lampchc.org

SUMMER CAMPS at the Jean Augustine Centre for Young Women's Empowerment, 101 Portland St., for girls ages 7 to 12. Some programs include Shoot for the Stars, Change Makers and Mission Possible. To find out more call 416-253-9797 or email info@jeanaugustinecentre.ca or visit jeanaugustinecentre.ca

LONG BRANCH ARTIST Pat Rice works of local trees and nature called *This Old Tree* is on display to the public until September 17 on the Third Floor Gallery at the Lakeshore Grounds Interpretive Centre, at 2 Colonel Samuel Smith Park Drive.

MUSIC & WELLNESS is a virtual music therapy group designed to use music to bring people together, improve connections and talk about things that are uplifting. Participants have the opportunity to discover more about themselves within a creative outlet of singing, music listening and encouragement. Wednesdays 11 a.m. to 12 noon on Zoom. To register contact norkyit@lampchc.org or 416 252 6471 ext. 257



ETOBICOKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY Summer History Series July 21 & 28: 7:30 p.m. The Kingsway and August 18 @ 7:30 p.m. Etobicoke's Historic Lakeshore. A free online Zoom Webinar presented by EHS Richard Jordan. For more visit www.etobicokehistorical.com/summer-history.html

SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMMING: RAY Youth Space LAMP Community Health Centre Youth Programs: Ages 10-14. Meet New Friends and Enjoy new Summer Activities! Central Etobicoke Summer Program starts July 4 and ends August 12 at 385 The West Mall from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The South Etobicoke Summer Program starts July 11 and ends August 12 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. And Basketball program starts July 5 until August 12 at Burnhamthorpe Collegiate, 500 The East Mall. To register email Linda Frempong at lindaf@lampchc.org (or call 416-779-5248). **NOTE: For Youth 15-19 Volunteer opportunities are available.**

FREE ONLINE SUMMER PROGRAMS at Jean Augustine Center for Young Women's Empowerment for Ages 7 to 9 from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. JULY 25 to 29 Shoot for the Stars to learn about your passions and skills. AUGUST 15 to 19 is Mission Possible and how to strive to be the best version of yourself. For those aged 10 to 13, For more call 416-253-9797 or visit www.jeanaugustinecentre.ca

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CONGRATULATIONS TO JASMIN DOOH, for more than 20 years of serving the community in her tireless role as LAMP Community Health Promoter Community Relations Specialist. She is well-loved by her many clients, staff and so many others in the community. Thank you.



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Community Champions Awarded for good deeds



FERNANDA Pontes of Haven on The Queensway

Some outstanding members of the community, including groups and agencies were honoured at the 22nd Annual Awards of Merit organized by LAMP Community Health Centre. LAMP officials say they have not been able to host the popular event for two years due to the pandemic.



INDIGENOUS ARTIST Philip Cote.



MARGARET McCarthy

The late Marg Ciupa, a former LAMP employee, was remembered for her active role as a volunteer for a number of South Etobicoke organizations. About 300 area residents joined Toronto Police 22 Division officers, fire fighters of Station 435, on Eighth St., The Rovers, Pipes & Drums of the Toronto Scottish Regiment- Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother's Own, Ukrainian dancers and many others for the May 22 event on the front lawn of LAMP at 185 Fifth Street. There were tents lined with residents seeking food, taking part in a silent auction, health programs and other activities. Master of Ceremonies Alicia Markson and some of the organizers, Jasmin Dooh, who's been active at

LAMP for 20 years, and Zai Batasar are credited for doing an outstanding job.



ARTIST DON Harrison Short with volunteer Zai



DANIEL LAUZON (top) and Catherine Mayled of Food for Now. Publisher **Tom Godfrey** (bottom) with Zai and award.



“The community looks forward to this event every year,” said Keddone Dias, LAMP executive director. “The place is packed and everyone is having a great time.” “It is a great event that brings the community together,” Dooh said. “They (winners) have gone the extra mile to make a difference and contribute to building a healthy community.” The awards winners were selected based on their ‘goodwill and support to their neighbours during these difficult times.’ Awards of Merits were presented to realtor-webmaster Graham Rowlands, Sharon Muszynski, *South Etobicoke News* Publisher Tom Godfrey, Daniel Lauzon and Catherine Mayled of Food for Now. Also accepting awards were law firm owner Margaret Cecilia McCarthy, Sandwich Sisters Pods, Neighbourhood Love, Timothy's Pub, Fernanda Pontes, of Haven on The Queensway, travelling artscape Don Harrison Short and well-known Indigenous artist Philip Cote, who has painted many Native murals in

the community, now has a new mural rolling around the city on a sides of a TTC bus. Other Awards of Merit winners include sales co-ordinator Leanne Gonacio, Lakeshore Affordable Housing, Advocacy & Action Group, The Daily Bread Food Bank, Tibetan Canadian Cultural Centre, The Gardens Lakeshore, Chef Jagger Gorden of Feed it Forward, Vaccine Engagement Team, Spin Me A Yarn, Vera Lyn Perdon of SixSeweesm 850 Degrees Pizzeria and Mohamad Fakih, CEO of Paramount Fine Foods. Performances by The Scottish Regiment Pipers and the Yavir School of Ukrainian Dance were a highlight for many. The event unites the community through celebration of people going beyond the call of duty, said Dooh, of LAMP's organizing team and community relations advisory committee. She thanked the Rovers and that the Bosnian Islamic Centre, which donated 200 hamburgers.



AREA REALTOR GRAHAM Rowlands whose South Etobicoke Community website now has about 17,000 members.



TRULY A PRO! Great job at the mike by journalist and MC Alicia Markson.

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