

# The South Etobicoke News



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## Party for end of COVID and business open

Ottawa is planning a post-pandemic party.

The City of Toronto has received more than \$1.4 million to celebrate the near-end of COVID-19 and the reopening of struggling businesses.

City staff said they qualified for federal funding on June 20 from the Department of Canadian Heritage as part of a nationwide Celebration and Commemoration Program – Reopening Fund.

Staff applied for the financing to help support celebratory activities as Toronto recovers from the pandemic, according to a report from the City Clerk and General Manager, of Development and Culture, presented to City executive members. The program will “provide an opportunity for Toronto residents to participate in various commemora-



TENS OF THOUSANDS OF REVELLERS partied July 30 at the 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Carnival Grande Parade which was a success. Also Blue Jays fans (right). The federal government is planning a bash to mark the near-end of COVID and re-opening of businesses.

and celebratory activities as Toronto recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic,” members were told.

The post virus festivities will take place across the country from November to March 2023.

“The program's key focus areas will be recovery, recognition and reflection as the City celebrates the hope and

resilience resiliency of its residents with a particular focus on those disproportionately affected during the pandemic,” the motion said. “Indigenous and Black perspectives will be amplified as will acknowledgement that commemoration and celebration events are taking place on the traditional territory of Indigenous people,” staffers said.

The program will provide “meaningful ways for Toronto residents to: collectively celebrate the city's achievements throughout the pandemic; collectively recognize communities that have contributed to the health and solidarity of Toronto residents.”

Some highlights will include a Cavalcade of Lights, Destination site and a Celebration Ceremony.

Many residents say it is to early to celebrate with cases of COVID and monkey pox virus on the rise.

## Time to extend Bloor Street subway to Sherway

Many community residents say the promises are piling up with a municipal election on October 24.

Online chatter is busy with postings about the upcoming city elections with news that long-time Councillor Mark Grimes is pushing an extension of the Bloor Street Subway line to Sherway Gardens Mall in an effort to gain votes.

A motion by Grimes was adopted by Toronto City Council to obtain a report on extending the Bloor Subway to Sherway, which has been talked about for many decades.

City Council requested City Planning officials and the TTC to issue a report to the Executive Committee by April next year. The report will look at “addressing transit requirements in south Etobicoke, including recommendations related to timing and



ETOBICOKE WILL BE UNRECOGNIZABLE in 20 years due to the development taking place in the area, according to City planners, who say it may be time for an extension of the Bloor Street subway line to Sherway Gardens Mall. It was last debated about 20 years ago. Courtesy photos.

approach to the Bloor Danforth (Line 2) Westerly Extension to Sherway, as part of the planned broader transit network update report.”

“This will be no small task, but it's imperative that our transit system reflects the unprecedented growth happening in our community,” according to a report. “We need to get this critical transit project back on the books.”

The motion said the population of Etobicoke-Lakeshore will grow about 10% in the next five years and that was “the second largest growth rate in Toronto.”

“Managing this growth effectively requires a significant investment,” Council was told the Humber Bay Shores neighbourhood is a ‘living example where rapid growth outpaced investment in transit infrastructure.’ The area was transformed

from a derelict motel strip into a densely populated waterfront community.

“South Etobicoke will be virtually unrecognizable in the next ten to twenty years,” according to politicians. “The development is already planned, so now is the time to plan the transit that will serve it.”

The construction of a subway to Sherway is necessary and will take many years and cost billions of dollars.

Ward 3 facing even more intense development pressure. The Six Points cluster of Dundas, Bloor, and Kipling has been redesigned with the intention of urbanizing to include some 2,500 new residential units. There are over 12 applications proposing more than 3,500 new residential units along The Queensway.

The historic Cloverdale Mall will soon be demolished to make way for a multi-tower mixed-use community for about 4,000 new residents. A Secondary Plan approved in 2019 envisions about 13,000 new residents living around Sherway Mall.



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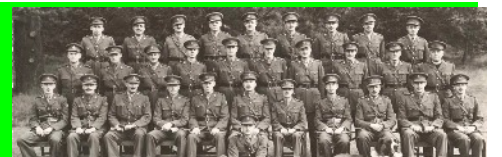
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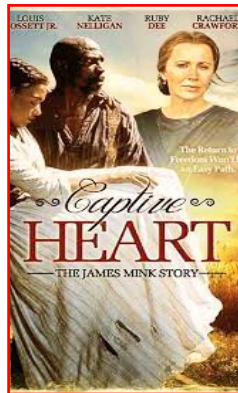
# U.S. millionaire slave being honoured by City



JAMES MINK

Toronto's first Black millionaire slave James Mink is finally being recognized by City Council more than 150 years after his death. Mink, a businessman, was born in the early 1790s. He was said to be one of the wealthiest people in Toronto during the 1830s until his death.

He and carpenter John Tinsley, who arrived here from the U.S. and became a successful business owner, and a woman named Peggy, are being recognized with honorary plaques for their good deeds generations ago. Mink was the son of Tobe and Eve Mink, who served as slaves to Johan Herkimer, before moving from the U.S. to Kingston after the Civil War.



THE LIFE OF James Mink was made into a Hollywood movie starring Louis Gossett Jr.

He was born between 1792 and 1795 in Upper Canada. Mink had a strong business acumen and moved to Toronto in the 1840s, with his brother George remaining in Kingston.

The brothers received government contracts for their horse carriage business to deliver mail, passengers, and even prisoners, between Toronto and Kingston. They soon got into other businesses.

"Through all his business endeavours, James Mink became extremely wealthy and he was an active member of the Black community in 19th-century Toronto," according to one report. "His inn

was used as a polling station in elections."

He and his wife, Elizabeth, had a daughter, Mary Mink. Unfortunately the Minks' good name was tarnished by people who were not happy with his success and sought to bring him down. It was incorrectly reported that Mink had published an advertisement in a newspaper seeking a white husband to marry Mary. "The myth follows that a man replied, married Mary, and sold her into slavery in the U.S., requiring James to pay a large ransom to secure her freedom," according to lore. In reality, Mary had married a Toronto man in 1852 and continued to live in the city.



LOUIS GOSSETT Jr. In a scene from *Captive Heart*, the James Mink story. Courtesy photos.

# Speed limits decrease on our roads to help save lives

Area motorists are being urged to slow down on our local roads. Plans are underway to reduce speed from 40 to 30 kilometres an hour on local roads and public lanes in Etobicoke to help save lives, according to a City of Toronto Report For Action.

Work is being conducted in Etobicoke Lakeshore (Ward 3) and Etobicoke North (Ward 1) to reduce the speed limits to 30 kilometres an hour on dozens of roadways in the ward.

"The intention is that every local roadway and laneway in the City will ultimately be included in one such zone in order to have the speed limit set at 30 km/h," according to city officials.

The move is part of a City Vision Zero Road Safety Plan that was approved by Etobicoke Community Council in May. It was created by the City's Project Design and Management arm of Transportation Services.

The plan sets speed limit reductions on local roads and lanes to prevent serious injuries and fatalities.

"Setting lower speed limits is a key tool for reducing operating speeds on Toronto's roadways," according to a report by city staff. "The Vision Zero Speed Management Strategy includes a program for reducing speed limits on local roads."



The report said it would cost about \$300,000 to install hundreds of speed limit signs and funding is available in Transportation Services' 2022 Capital Budget.

The speed limit reductions are expected to be completed by the end of 2023, subject to available staffing resources within the Transportation Services Signs and Pavement Markings Unit, according to council.

Council designated most local roads in Ward 1 and Ward 3 as having a speed limit of 30 km/h, with the exception of specified areas near bridges or highways.

The report said there will be a 'significant amount of new signage' to be installed across the city with two or three wards being completed yearly.

"The reductions will be rolled out on a systematic, ward-by-ward basis using a data driven approach with priority going to wards with a higher rate of vulnerable road user injury collisions on local roads," according to officials.

"The goal of the Speed Management Strategy is to mitigate the risk of injuries and fatalities on Toronto's roads by reducing the speed of vehicles," according to City staff.

"There is evidence that the reductions have had a positive impact on reductions in operating speeds of vehicles."

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# Area residents playing Carnival in 55<sup>th</sup> parade



**A HAPPY Pan Man Pat** at his 55<sup>th</sup> Toronto Carnival parade. Constable Pan Man Pat (below).

Historian and performer Pan Man Pat teaches the steel pan to students and has proudly taken part in all 55 Carnival parades in Toronto. Mimico musician Pan Man Pat is legally blind but that did not keep him from playing his steelpan at the 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Toronto Caribbean Carnival celebrations that ran from July 28 to August 1. The festival, better known as Caribana, featured an array of Caribbean-style food and entertainment with a famed Grand Parade hitting the



**FEELING HOT HOT HOT! DANCERS** along the parade route at Ontario Place take a break from the heat.

Revellers of all ages and races returned in force for the massive street party, which was postponed for two years due to the virus. The Caribana festival was gifted to Canada by the Caribbean Community as part of Canada's centennial celebrations in 1967. This Caribbean tradition of parading through the streets was taken from the Trinidad and Tobago carnival in celebration of freedom and emancipation from slavery in the West Indies. A native of Trinidad,

late civil rights lawyer Charles Roach. "I was also a member of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters in the 1960s," he boasts. "I went from sleeping cars to being a teacher and playing the steel pan."



**IT TAKES WEEKS** to make these delicate costumes for hundreds of dancers, like the girls above and below, to keep their culture alive.

streets on August 1 with dozens of bands and thousands of costumed-dancers shaking their booty down Lakeshore Boulevard near the Royal Canadian Legion Hall, at Ontario Place.

Thousands of revellers descended on Toronto and area for the musical lakefront party, to meet their friends and family arriving from the U.S. Nearly all hotel rooms in the area are booked.



Pan Man Pat, whose name is Pat McNeilly, is a legendary steel pan player and Etobicoke high school teacher who has been involved in the city's steelpan and carnival culture from the beginning.

He walked a lot as he and other musicians and bands playing calypso, reggae, some merengue and other hits entertained fans along the parade route.

"I have never missed performing in a Caribana in Toronto," Pan Man Pat says. "This is my 55<sup>th</sup> year of playing the steel pans here and it is still a great festival."

Pan Man Pat arrived in Canada in 1966 and has always been involved in playing the steel pan and teaching students to play the instrument at a number of high schools in Etobicoke.

"There are now 50 sites where the steel band is now taught," he says proudly. "The steel pan is also a degree course offered at York University."

Pan Man Pat has had a long and varied career, which included four-years protecting the public as a Constable with the Toronto Police Service (TPS). He was also a private eye for a law firm founded by the



**PAN MAN PAT** and others at launch of this year's Carnival festival at City Hall.

He hosted a successful online steel pan and calypso music program during the COVID lockdown that had gained a huge following. This is his busy season and Pat is playing gigs a couple times a week. Other calypso events that took place during the Toronto Carnival weekend included: a carnival king and queen costume



extravaganza on July 28 at Lamport Stadium., at 1151 King Street W. There was also a Pan Alive sounds of steel pan Showcase on July 29. The Carnival was hailed as a success by attendees, who said they had fun and the food was great. There were no major incidents reported to police and fans were happy to be outside, dancing

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# Racism made Pilot Officer Brooks a better man



**THE LATE WILSON** Oliver Brooks was a former RCAF veteran (right) and first Black Toronto school teacher and principal, with some of his students (above). *Toronto Star* photo by Boris Spremo.

The late Wilson Oliver Brooks was a former Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) veteran who went on to become the first Black male Toronto school teacher and principal after he left the armed service.

Brooks was born in Windsor in 1925 to a railway porter dad, Oliver, and mom, Edith May Wilson, a fourth generation and proud Black Canadian.

He grew up in the busy Dundas and Spadina Aves. area of Toronto, where racism was free and thick at the time. The young Brooks was refused a job at a market because a manager believed customers would be offended by his presence (meaning skin colour); and at the age of 16 was denied entry into a Count Basie concert because of the dark colour of his skin, according to reports.

Brooks enlisted in the RCAF in April 1943. His education and aptitude tests indicated that he would make a good member of an aircrew. As a result, he trained to be an air bomber, to guide the aircraft in dropping bombs on a target. He had good scores then was made a Pilot Officer (or today a 2nd Lieutenant) and sent to England for updated training in June 1944. Brooks became part of a crew that would fly missions together. During this time he was promoted to Flying Officer.

The flyer had joined the war too late and never saw any combat service overseas. He was released from the Air Force and went on to a distinguished career after the Second World War.

Using the money from his Veterans' allowance, he attended the University of Toronto and graduated with a Bachelor Arts degree. Here he met his wife, Phyllis, with whom he had three daughters and a son. Being interested in equality he wanted to teach.

In September 1952 Brooks became the first male Black school teacher in Toronto Board of Education system. He taught Grade 5. He would go on to teach at Williamson Road Public School in 1958. In 1961 he became vice principal in at Gledhill Avenue School. He would



later serve on the same position at Queen Alexandra Middle School. Brooks was always active in the community. He was a member of the Toronto Negro Business and Professional Men's Association, and its president in the mid-1960s. He and Dr. Dan Hill founded the Ontario Black History Society (OBHS). The OBHS petitioned the City of Toronto to declare February as Black History Month, which it did. He helped found the Toronto Choiristers and was on the selection committee of the Harry Gairey Scholarship, to help young Black-Canadians attend university.

He even helped a 12-year-old girl return to the ice when she was banned from playing on a boys hockey team. Brooks in 1970 was appointed Principal of Shaw Public School. He was the first Black principal in the Toronto School Board. He later worked in the personnel department of the Board, accepting resumes of prospective elementary and special education teachers.

## Toronto Gets First Negro Teacher

When 34 boys and girls went back to their books at Brock Avenue School in Toronto, Canada, they found they had a new teacher—a Negro—the first of his race to be hired by the city's public schools. Wilson Brooks, a 28-year-old graduate of the University of Toronto, noted: "On the opening day, the first thing my pupils noticed about me was my color. Now they know me as a teacher and a person, and I think the first impression has disappeared. They can see that the color of a person's skin is not important." Brooks is a former Royal Canadian Air Force officer, taught school in Bermuda before returning to his native Toronto.

Toronto Gets First Negro Teacher Wilson Brooks, 28, August 20, 1952

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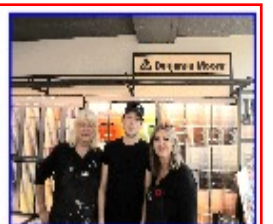
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Lidia (right) with son, Giovanni, and Jane.

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## Iconic Long Branch Maple can live



**LONG BRANCH'S ICONIC** Black Barn Maple has been spared from removal for now. Courtesy photos.

Many Long Branch residents are jumping for joy after learning a 160-year-old Maple tree that a builder sought to have removed was spared from the axe to grow another day.

"This just proves that we need more trees not greed," says Bill Zufelt, Chair of the History and Culture Committee for the Long Branch Neighbourhood Association (LBNA).

Tree lovers are applauding a July 27 decision by



the Toronto Local Appeal Body (TLAB) that rejected an application by a developer to build what is described as an 'oversized home that would have resulted in the destruction of the Black Barn Maple of Long Branch.'

Zufelt said residents were outraged by the threats to the majestic tree and took action.

He said local politicians and Mayor John Tory received 'hundreds of letters' from tree lovers.

"This was a real neighbourhood effort that made a difference," Zufelt noted. "City Council received over 400 e-mails from residents who sent them to our website."

He said the builder may still try to have the maple tree removed. TLAB panel chair John Tassiopoulos said the decision is specifically related "to this particular lot and its situation, and the existence of a significantly sized tree with a large tree canopy located within it." Known as the Black Barn Maple of Eastwood, the tree was a sapling on the Eastwood farm in 1860. It grew near a massive black barn that acted as a landmark for travellers.

## New Helen Keller Centre



**PLANNED CANADIAN** Helen Keller Centre will contain 56 fully-accessible units. Courtesy photos.

The site of a former Canadian Legion Hall in New Toronto is being put to good use to help deserving members of the community.

The Canadian Helen Keller Centre (CHKC) is getting a new building at 150 Eighth Street, a site that kept the community together for decades as the Legion's Branch 3.

The building, when built, will contain 56 fully accessible and affordable units for Canadians who are deafblind, CHKC officials said.

"Together, we are ensuring that Canadians who are deafblind live life as independently as possible," the Centre posted on its Facebook page. "It's a good day!"

Mayor John Tory and Ahmed Hussen, Minister of Housing and Diversity and Inclusion, with other politicians in early July pledged funding for seven new affordable and supportive housing developments, as part of Phase Two of the federal Rapid Housing Initiative (RHI).

"I am committed to getting more housing built," Tory said. "These seven projects demonstrate how our governments and community partners are working together to get more housing built as soon as possible."

He said the projects will create 260 affordable and supportive homes in Toronto and "grow the capacity and expertise of Toronto's non-profit housing development sector."

The other projects include Wigwam Incorporated, 525 Markham Rd., Akwa Honsta Non-Profit Aboriginal Homes, 136 Kingston Rd., St. Clare's Multifaith Housing Society, 1120 Ossington Ave., WoodGreen Community Housing, 60 Bowden St. and 1080 Queen St. E., St. Felix Centre, 25 Augusta Ave., and the CHKC.

The Centre's mission is 'to empower the deafblind community through consumer driven services and opportunities that maximize independence.'

The City has set an ambitious target of approving 18,000 new supportive homes over 10 years in the HousingTO 2020-2030 Action Plan. The funds will support people experiencing or at risk of homelessness to achieve housing stability and begin improving their health and well-being.



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# Gymnastics team cops Commonwealth Games



**DELIGHTED MEMBERS** of the Canadian gymnastics team with their Commonwealth medals. Their families are proud. Courtesy photos.

Alderwood gymnast Kenji Tamane and members of the Canadian gymnastics team won a silver medal on the first day of competition at the 2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games.

Joining Canada on the podium were Team England with a gold on home turf and Cyprus with the bronze.



**MEDALIST** Kenji Tamane

The Canadian men's team included Mathys Jalbert, Félix Dolci, Jayson Rampersad, Kenji Tamane, and Chris Kaji. Etobicoke's Tamane joins his mom, Amanda, a talented athlete, who captured a

bronze at the 1990 Commonwealth Games.

"My mom went to the Commonwealth Games in New Zealand in 1990 and I just feel so happy to be here and make her proud," said the artistic gymnastics athlete. "She passed down the torch to me so I'm really happy to accomplish those goals and make Canada proud." "I am very proud of him and I appreciate the work involved and the sacrifices that have to be made," mom Amanda said. "He has already outshined me, as mine was a bronze."

Tamane, 20, and members of the Canadian gymnastics team left Canada on July 10 to compete in the two international competitions that will help propel him to his goal; to represent Canada in the 2024 or 2028 Olympic Games.

He is in the gym training daily and was a member of the Junior Canadian National Team in 2018 and 2019.

Tamane placed fourth in the rings competition at the 2019 Canadian Championships.

At the 2018 Championships, the athlete placed first on rings, second on pommel horse, third in the all-around, fourth on high bar and fifth on parallel bars.

"I specialize in the rings and competitive gymnastics and hold several medals in Canada for the sport," he said "My goal is to place in the top three in the Pan Am and Commonwealth Games."

The Commonwealth Games is one of the larger matches, in which Team Canada competed against the 72 nations and territories of the Commonwealth



**TAMANE SAYS** he is a specialist in the rings, in which he excels..

across 19 different sports. Our Canadian team won seven gold, 11 silver and 17 bronze at the Birmingham Commonwealth 2022.

The 2024 Summer Olympics Games will take place from July 26 to August 11 in Paris, France.



**ALDETWOOD'S KENJI TAMANE** and Canadian gymnastics team colleagues won medals at the Birmingham Commonwealth 2022 Games.

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# Fish & chips still reeling them in



**MARZANNA (above) IS THE** owner of Viking Fish and Chips which opened in 1952 and is still standing. Photos by Tom Godfrey.

South Etobicoke was once described as the ‘fish and chips capital’ of Toronto. Tastes have changed and today many long-time residents miss the many busy fish and chips eateries that once dominated the South Etobicoke landscape. Many have shut down over the years leaving about six fish and chips outlets struggling to make ends meet in Mimico, New Toronto and Long Branch.

“At one time we had fish and chips places on every block,” says Marzanna Campbell, an owner of Viking Fish and Chips, which is well-known in the community for its tasty fish and chips for seven decades.



**ICONIC NEW TORONTO** Fish & Chips is beloved by many who say it taste ‘like the fish back home.’ Many others like Halibut House (right).

The deluxe fish house opened in 1952 with a busy dining spot on The Queensway. It was purchased by Marzanna and her husband, and the business moved to 2416 Lake Shore Blvd. W., near Superior

Avenue, which is undergoing work to replace streetcar lines. “At one time there were lineups on Fridays by people outside the store and down the street,” she recalls.

“We still have our regulars who come in every day for fish and chips.” She insists that Viking was at one time the ‘the number one fish and chips place in Etobicoke.’

Marzanna believes the fall of the fish may be due to the many new immigrants, who bring to Canada their own taste, foods and restaurants. Fish back then was a preferred dish on meatless Fridays by the many British and other Europeans arriving in Canada. “I love fish and chips and can eat it every day,” she says. “We are proud to be one of the oldest fish and chips restaurants in Etobicoke.”

A favourite for many these days includes New Toronto Fish and Chips, at 146 Fifth Street and Halibut Fish and Chips, 2814 Lake Shore Blvd. W. Retired Judge Lloyd Budzinski, a columnist for the *South Etobicoke News*, at one time worked at his dad’s store The Boulevard Fish and Chips, which operated from 1965 to 1971 near Lake Shore Blvd. W., and Thirty Third Street. “There are less fish and chips stores in the area now compared to back in the day,” Budzinski reflects. “The price of fish has increased so much and it is less a blue-collar dish.”

He says area residents many years ago included many “blue collar working people,” to whom fish was popular and affordable. “He recalls back when fish lovers could purchase a piping hot order of halibut and fries for 45 cents. Today its \$15.



**MARZANNA LOVES FISH** so much she eats it daily.



# Food smash ‘n grabs

Some local thieves are preying on struggling Alderwood-area family-owned restaurants trying hard to survive.



**SELDA**, of Leziz Kitchen, says a thief is on the loose. Three places hit. Help needed.

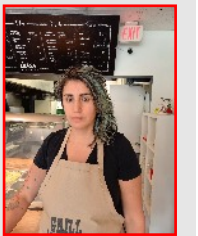
Two restaurants on Horner Avenue were broken into from July 7 to July 13 setting back the owners thousands of dollars from the theft of cash, food and damages. Police were not able to identify a bandit from security video since the man was wearing a hoodie and mask. The person in a video is seen pelting a good-size rock that smashed a pane of glass that fell to the floor. The video shows the burglar entering the restaurant and running to the cash where he grabbed a sum of cash from the register.

“It took less than a minute and he was in and out,” recalls a stunned Selda Oncel, who with husband Cenk, own Leziz Kitchen, at 418 Horner Avenue.

Oncel said the robbery cost her more than \$1,200 out of their own pockets to replace the glass door. They also lost a small amount of cash from the register had to shut for a day as the door was repaired.

“We are a small business and its takes us a long time to earn that money,” she says. The family were able to pay for the repair through a line of credit, as it was the same amount they would have to pay their insurance company. Leziz Kitchen has been open for about two years and has gained quite a following in the community. They can be reached at 416-259-9838.

Another restaurant was robbed on Horner Avenue a week later. “Our beloved family owned small business Jodie’s restaurant was broken into yesterday,” wrote Molly-Sarah Roberts, of Jodie’s Restaurant, at 313 Horner Avenue. “An enormous amount of food, money and alcohol was stolen not to mention the damages to the property.” Jodie’s can be reached at 416-255-5552. A third eatery was broken in soon after on Brown’s Line. There are no arrests.



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# City to oppose new condos on The Queensway



TOWERS 37 and 44 storeys tall are proposed for The Queensway, near Ikea. The City plans to contest parts of the application in a 10-day hearing on April 10.

The towers designed by Graziani + Corazza Architects will be connected by a podium of up to three storeys high at the site, according to a City report. "The 44-storey tower would have a height of 141 metres, excluding the mechanical penthouse," according to the proposal. "The proposed development would have a total gross floor area of 78,860 square metres." The more than two-acre site is now occupied by businesses, including Hakim Optical, Mister Transmission, Queensway Auto Service Experts and Vanquish Car Care. "The site has easy access to downtown Toronto with Mimico GO Station, Islington and Kipling TTC Subway Stations and the Gardiner Expressway," according to the developers. The parcel of property was purchased by Greybrook Realty Partners and Tribute Communities for a sum of more than \$40 million. The site is 'perfectly located between Toronto's western suburbs and downtown hub, the neighbourhood offers residents a vibrant and active lifestyle with a variety of amenities right around the corner, including parks, schools, Cineplex Cinemas, Sobeys, Starbucks and a variety of shops.'

The proposal was filed before the Etobicoke York Community Council and went before a full City Council on July 19. A 10-day hearing is slated to begin on April 10 2023. A City report recommended the



THE TWO ACRE PROPOSED development is now occupied by Hakim Optical, Mister Transmission, Queensway Auto Service and other small businesses.

City Solicitor with the appropriate City staff attend an Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT) hearing to 'oppose the application in its current form and to continue discussions with the applicant to resolve outstanding issues.' City officials said there are a number of issues the developer has to remedy before the proposal can move ahead. The report said the applicant appealed the Zoning By-law Amendment application to the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT) due to Council not making a decision within the prescribed time frames set out in the Planning Act. The development would include four full levels and one partial level of underground parking for a total of 1,045 parking spaces. total of 892 bicycle parking spaces would be provided, 808 of which are long-term spaces and 84 short-term spaces.

City Council will oppose a huge complex proposed for The Queensway with two mega high rise towers. Council is reviewing a massive proposal calling for the construction of a 37-and a 44-storey condominium tower directly beside Ikea Furniture in a prime strip. A plan has been filed to redevelop 1325-1365 The Queensway to construct the twin towers and a third that is 11 storey high. The development will include 1,187 residential units, two day cares and 77,527 square metres for residential uses.





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# Long Branch vow to fight removal of angled parking spots



BIA's CARL PORRITT

Angled parking or parallel parking is the million dollar question being asked around here.

Long Branch business owners vow to challenge a plan to remove their angled parking spots along the south side of Lake Shore Blvd. W., to install

parallel parking and a widened sidewalk and patios. Business owners say the removal of the angled parking means they will lose sales since they will not be able to provide ample parking for their customers.

Carl Porritt, a founder of the Long Branch Business Improvement Association, said there is no lane way parking in the area and delivery trucks will have to park on the road and disrupt traffic.

He said the Long Branch BIA was given assurances in writing by the City decades ago that they will not lose their angled parking.

"We have studies that show angled parking is safer than parallel parking," Porritt said. "This matter of angled parking goes back 40 years to Metro Hall."



MERCHANTS SAY THEY were promised they would not lose parking spots.

Business people in the area say they already suffer slow sales due to an ongoing watermain installation project which has disrupted traffic flow.

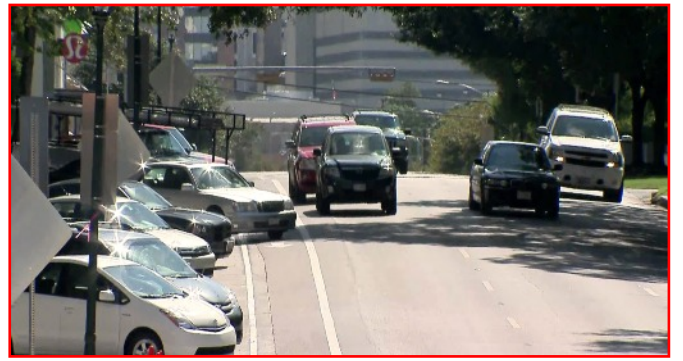
"Angled parking allows more cars to park per

meter of sidewalk than parallel parking, so it's a very efficient way to make parking available on this busy street," according to a Long Branch Neighbourhood website.

Councillor Mark Grimes in a June 9 letter requested the General Manager, of the City's Transportation Services, report back by April next year of a 'conceptual design to replace the angle parking between 3285 and 3809 Lake Shore Blvd. W.'

City staff are to report back with a "more detailed design and funding sources."

Grimes said Lake Shore Boulevard West is classified as a "major arterial," with two lanes in each direction with TTC streetcars sharing the inside with other traffic, and bike lanes designated on both sides of the road.



THE CITY IS moving with plans for parallel parking in Long Branch, which is opposed by merchants.

He said the road "is configured to allow angled parking, which protrudes onto the sidewalk and makes reversing out of parking spots into traffic potentially dangerous due to other parked vehicles restricting visibility of oncoming vehicular and bicycle traffic."

"Given that there is no major capital construction scheduled for this area in the next five years, having a conceptual plan in place would allow for the work to be undertaken through potential future private development," he told City staff.

Etobicoke York Community Council in 2017 approved a Parking and Streetscape Pilot Project on Lake Shore Boulevard West, between Thirty Sixth Street and Thirty Seventh Street, with a conceptual design, cost and parking supply implications. The pilot project was never implemented

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# In the Community

By TOM GODFREY

Loud street noise is everywhere and has become one of the worst health hazards we face these days with many windows left open due to the hot weather.

I was in the verandah the other night when the screaming sounds of motorcycles almost gave me a migraine. The loud dirt bikes, along with souped-up muscle cars, pounding construction outside your door and aircraft traffic due to tarmac repairs at Pearson airport offer many South Etobicoke residents sleepless nights and lack of enjoyment of their private space.

Many of us in the Alderwood area are worried that the noise has become so alarming that many residents would like to see tickets be handed out to the noise makers. Members of City Council are bothered too and are stepping up their efforts to fight the loud street and vehicle noise.

One motion calls for Toronto Police officers to be issued sound level meters and asked to issue tickets to drivers of vehicles deemed too loud or intrusive by area residents.

Some want the sound level meters automatically installed in police cars so officers can issue warnings or

blitzes with bylaw enforcement and explore equipping officers with sound level meters to support the curbing of vehicle noise.

The City will also be asking the Province of Ontario to increase the fines and assign demerit points for modified exhaust and unnecessary vehicle noise offences under the *Highway Traffic Act*.

The City is seeking to develop stricter and more specific regulations related to vehicle modifications, including considering mechanisms for periodic inspections of vehicle exhausts and potential modifications. Mechanics will be asked to turn in loud noise breakers.

There has long been longstanding issue with noise of traffic and vehicles in the community.

A report on combating excessive noise from vehicles and leaf blowers/small engine equipment is before Council. The City of Toronto will be submitting a request for the Government of Ontario to: increase the fines and assign demerit points for modified exhaust and unnecessary vehicle noise offences under the *Highway Traffic Act*.

tickets to loud noise breakers on the spot.

Council has requested the Toronto Police Services Board conduct additional joint vehicle enforcement

They want regulatory changes to enable the City to initiate a noise-activated camera, automated noise enforcement pilot project. A scheme similar to the automated speed ticketing camera used for enforcing traffic.

It has been a noisy summer for the many of us who are staying at home with our families. More needs to be done so we can enjoy the last remaining days of summer.

Enforcement is fairly limited in its capacity. While Toronto Police Service said they can issue tickets up to \$110, which can help dissuade drivers, they can't reduce car noise permanently.

In addition, the City will also educate licensed car repair facilities that muffler cut-outs, straight exhausts, gutted mufflers, Hollywood mufflers, by-passes and similar devices are prohibited under the Highway Traffic Act. A comprehensive review of the Noise Bylaw will be conducted in 2023 and include public consultations.

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

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## Your Health

By MONIKA MEULMAN



## From the Bench

By Retired JUDGE LLOYD BUDZINSKI

Grandness of August for Lakeshore residents.

I'm in awe and I'm enjoying being in awe. I hope that you are too. Why? Because it's August.

There is no greater beauty and lushness to behold than in the grandeur of August, especially in a green thumb's back yard.

From the smallest drop of dew on a grass leaf to the tallest mountain in the world (Everest anyone?), we have thousands of moments of beauty to behold.

By the way, did you know that the Himalayan mountains are still growing? Nature, by its very nature is growing all around us - even in rock form! But back to our natural health news on the beauty of August.

Do you know the saying: he couldn't see the forest for the trees? This is how I feel about August and the energy that is all around us. To truly experience and enjoy this splendour, the artistry, the grandness of mother nature in our own lives we need to focus but then step back. The motto for this month is: focus and pull back. You are the cameraman of your life. You choose what to see. You choose what to include in your perception of this world. I recommend you try focussing on a scene before you. That's the big close up. Then zoom out and pan. This means you see the entire landscape before you and take time to take it all in from one side to the other. It's a healthy way to change perspectives. Often times we are so stuck on one problem or another. Zoomed in! Or we may be so overwhelmed because we haven't had time or we haven't chosen to step back and look at how everything is connected and inter-related. Focus is imperative to get things done. But zooming OUT in life is equally essential and helpful when you're stuck and the answers are not coming. Time for big picture thinking.

As the hot, hazy light of August, casts its golden glow on overgrown blooms, let us step back and take all of life in. It is a wonderful lesson to practice. Everywhere you look there is a majestic site to behold from spilling over color in city planters and our community parks, flocks of birds floating on the lake, to plenty for foods and harvest in summer gardens. The beauty of life truly is in the eye (or more accurately the focus) of the beholder. If you're stuck on looking at a singular fruit on the vine, if you're stuck on that tomato of your



life, you can easily forget to 'see' that the garden (of your life) is already full with many other rich flavours, spices and goodness.

It happens to all of us. The lesson from nature is to remember that everything is a cycle. And, in the stage of full, mature growth, there is always abundance somewhere. There are times when we have planted seeds and we've just begun growing a family or a new business. And then there are other times where we are seeing the fruits of our labour mature. Are you seeing the generosity of the earth this month? Are you feeling the gratefulness of this time? Are you in awe, like me?

Shifting focus, changing your perspective in life is easy when you go outside and just look. Nature helps us this way. All you have to do is reach out take a walk. Kindness, softness, strength, love, generosity, compassion, joy and so much more will bloom in the garden of your life. Your fun assignment for this month:

Each day, make a point of noticing 5 beautiful things or scenes. Take them in with a deep, generous inhalation and know that they are adding their beauty into every cell in your body. How is that for perspective?

"Never solve a problem from its original perspective." – Charles Thompson.

"Winners have the ability to step back from the canvas of their lives like an artist gaining perspective. They make their lives a work of art / an individual masterpiece." – Denis Waitle

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An apology is a sign of remorse, a desire to set right what you did wrong, without excuses. I thought it would be interesting to discuss the elements of an apology and let you judge the Pope's visit. Remember, I am not a theologian. I am just setting out the secular elements. I believe Pope Frances was contrite, sincere and spoke in the language of Christ. His last words in Canada caught my attention for our "Me First" world -- "Freedom is not what you can do, despite others, but it is what you can do for others". Sounds a bit like John Kennedy's, "Ask not what your country can do for you but what you can do for your country." It answers the conflict of, "My Rights are greater than your rights".

As a Judge, I see many people come forward after setting a date for trial based on a claim, "I didn't do it" and later changing their mind, usually on the lawyer's advice, that they have no case. They now seek to plead guilty saying sorry, hoping for leniency. This 'sorry' is a bit suspicious. It's not an upfront admission. It's a, 'you got me' confession. The Church took a considerable time and considerable coaching to get here.

The full admission of facts, a guilty plea, can show remorse if it is made early and without condition. It minimizes suffering. It begins closure and healing for the victim, knowing they have been believed. It avoids secondary victimization and trauma of a trial with witnesses having to relive the event. It saves money. You don't need all those lawyers spending endless days in Court consuming time and funds that could be used for the settlement. An early admission has a greater deterrent effect. It reminds people of the event and consequences, while the facts are still fresh in their minds, not years later. Remorse requires you to accept full responsibility, unlike those politicians who use weasel words and say, "I am sorry if you misunderstood me," or I am sorry but you made me angry, in efforts to pass some of the responsibility back to the victim. A voluntary admission before the trial, obviously adds considerable sincerity to the apology. The earlier you concede, the less damage occurs.

When I wrote this, Pope Frances had accepted the church's liability to a limited degree, separating the Church from the offenders. He accepted the abuse as extremely serious. He had identified the need to open files and assist in investigating criminal acts and to stop the Church's obstructions with a promise to assist but not the Churches liability for the destruction of the culture.

The other component is reparation, an attempt to restore the victim back to their original state as best as possible. It can be an offer to pay for damages, return the stolen device or offer psychological counselling. It can also do something for the community. I recall an impaired driver who wanted to lecture at schools and volunteer at a physical rehabilitation-center for accident victims. The reparation should include the entire crime. It lacks integrity if it merely shows self-interest such as, "I am sorry for stealing your treasure, but I cannot tell you to whom I sold it or any of my accomplices; otherwise, I become a rat." You cannot have it both ways to protect your partner while saying I am sorry. Resolving the crime, testifying against the other crooks may be difficult but it's in the public interest to break up the criminal conspirators. Here the church must do more than reveal files of the offenders. It must also help bring those who abused and those who hid the abuses come to justice. The institution and all its members have full responsibilities to co-operate.

I appreciate the Pope's challenges. It seems the Church is protecting criminals, but it believes in universal forgiveness. It wants to reject the Edict of Discovery but that conflicts with the idea of infallibility. It could expose the church and nations to significant litigation. The separation of secular and religious interests isn't easy. I believe, Pope Francis finally concluded it was impossible. Flying home, he conceded 'that what happened at residential schools, that the Roman Catholic and other Christian Churches ran, to forcefully assimilate Canada's indigenous children was genocide. We know these were the policies of governments we elected, and churches to which we may have belonged. Doesn't it require all of us to look at ourselves. Were we wilfully blind or just didn't care. Are we not also obliged to help?

**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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## Historian Mike Filey passes



Mike Filey wrote millions of words over the years on our City's ever-changing history.

Filey was a favourite with *Toronto Sun* readers who enjoyed his weekly *The Way We Were* column on Sundays detailing our history and people loved it. He was generous to his dedicated readers across the GTA, revealing bits of history about where they lived and what was there before. He wrote many articles on the history of Etobicoke, which area residents loved.

His wife, Yarmila, said Mike passed before dawn on July 30, 2022 at the age of 80.

Mike through the years became known as the unofficial historian for Toronto and was the author of two dozen books, one detailing the history of TTC streetcars.

"I have a couple of his books," said former *Toronto Sun* colleague Ian Robertson. "He helped with information for a couple of my stamp columns a few years back, plus a travel piece about old TTC streetcars in San Francisco that I wrote around 2018."

Mike was a fixture at the old *Toronto Telegraph's* microfilm reader in the library for many years, recalled then *Sun* main librarian, Julie Kirsh.

"He always said that nothing changed over the years...the weather, taxes and diets were consistent news," Kirsh said. "He was a nice man."

"Mike Filey always had a pleasant joke or item to share with others, said Tom Godfrey, Publisher of *The South Etobicoke News*. "We worked side by side at the *Sun* for many years and he knew more of the history of Toronto than most people."

"He was one of the most likeable people ever," said Postmedia Chair Paul Godfrey, who knew Filey since he was chair then Metro Council in the 1970s. "He loved the city just about more than anybody else."

"Mike Filey was a guardian of Toronto's history who always helped put the present into perspective," said Mayor John Tory. "His love for Toronto and its history made him a regular and very welcome caller to me as Mayor.

He, like me, was awarded the Jean Hibbert Memorial Award for his columns by the Etobicoke Historical Society.

Filey was a graduate of North Toronto Collegiate Institute and later attended Ryerson Polytechnical Institute. He grew up near the Honest Ed's discount store at Bathurst and Bloor Sts., and later worked at Ontario's Ministry of Environment.



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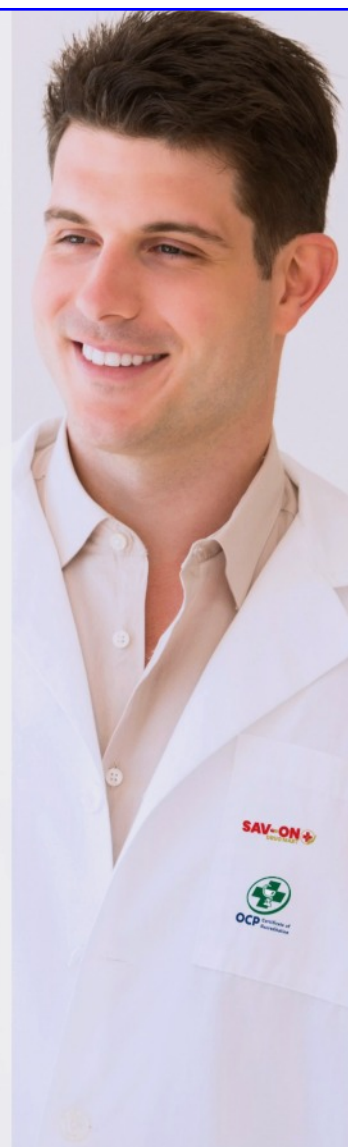
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# Keeping busy with things to do in the community

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**AUGUST 12 SUMMER DAY OF WELLNESS,** rejuvenation and balance at LAMP CHC 185 5th Street Join us for a day of professional mindfulness and wellness sessions, activation stations including art, plant knowledge, nutrition and more. Lunch and Certificate of Completion provided. Program runs from 10:00 AM-3:30 PM and registration is required. Please email: [vanessakv@lampchc.org](mailto:vanessakv@lampchc.org) or phone: 416-252-6471 ext. 308

**TAKE AWAY LUNCHES** at LAMP on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the community room 10am to noon. Saturdays at Street Level 10 am until noon.

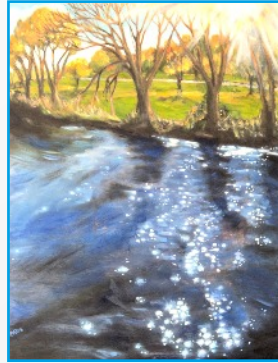
**UNTIL AUGUST 13 DANCE TOGETHER FESTIVAL** every Saturday Nights at Amos Waites Park 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at 2441 Lake Shore Blvd. W. Open to all ages, abilities and levels for jazz, hip hop, Cuban salsa and West African beats. Visit for full schedule at [dancetogetherfestival.com](http://dancetogetherfestival.com)

**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, outdoor market and bring your own bags. COVID-19 protocols are in place. For more information call 416-231-7070 ext 307.

**UNTIL SEPTEMBER 17 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.



**AUGUST 17 COMMUNITY BENEFITS** Agreements South Etobicoke Report in partnership with TCBN (Toronto Community Benefits Network) have been mobilizing to secure equitable developments in affordable housing, secure jobs, environmental protections, food security, inclusive communities, transportation improvements etc. We have been hosting workshops, citizen surveys and are now moving into the next phase of ensuring equity for those that live, work, go to school and recreate in Ward 3. We are a citizen, academic and community co-led organization that is hosting a meeting to report back on our findings and recommendations. For more e-mail [vanessakeallvejar@gmail.com](mailto:vanessakeallvejar@gmail.com), [info@cbsouthhetobicoke.ca](mailto:info@cbsouthhetobicoke.ca) or visit [www.cbsouthhetobicoke.ca](http://www.cbsouthhetobicoke.ca)

**YOGA OUTREACH PROJECT** runs all August from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at Bell Manor Park, 1 Bayside Lane. Join Stephanie from Yoga Outreach Project and all ages welcome. Please bring your own mat, towel or water. To register call 416-231-7070 ext. 307 or e-mail [health.promotion@stonegatechc.org](mailto:health.promotion@stonegatechc.org)

**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 Wayne at 416-990-6737 or email [youth@lampchc.org](mailto:youth@lampchc.org)

**STREET LEVEL YOUTH SPACE** Summer Program For Youth Living in South Etobicoke runs through August from Monday to Friday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Youth aged 10 - 14 are welcome to join the program. To register, please contact Linda at

[lindaf@lampchc.org](mailto:lindaf@lampchc.org) or by phone at 416- 779 – 5248. There are volunteer opportunities for those aged 15 to 19.

**AUGUST 18 ETOBICOKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY Summer History Series @ 7:30 p.m.** on Etobicoke's Historic Lakeshore. A free online Zoom Webinar presented by EHS Richard Jordan. For more visit

[www.etobicokehistorical.com/summer-history.html](http://www.etobicokehistorical.com/summer-history.html)

**SEPTEMBER 11 MUSICAL MOMENTS** at Saint Matthew's Anglican Church, 3962 Bloor St. W., at 2 p.m. 'Fireworks Music' concert performed by Damien Macedo, organ and Tyler Versluis, piano. Contact church at 416-231-4014 or email [office@stmatts.ca](mailto:office@stmatts.ca) Tickets \$20 or pay what you can.

**AUGUST 20 IS WARRIORS' DAY** and all is welcome to celebrate the occasion at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 101, at 3850 Lake Shore Blvd. W., at Brown's

Line. The 2022 Warriors' Day Parade will take place at 10:30 a.m. at the Canadian National Exhibition grounds in Commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of The Warriors' Day Parade. For more call 416-255-4535 or [www.legion101.com](http://www.legion101.com)

## Raid of Dieppe

19 August, 1942 is the 80th anniversary of the ill-fated Raid of Dieppe, France. It was a pivotal moment in the Second World War with all of continental Europe under German occupation, the Allied forces faced a well-entrenched enemy.

The fight offered invaluable lessons for the successful D-Day invasion in 1944. Canadians made up the great majority of the deadly raid. Of the 4,963 Canadians who embarked for the operation, only 2,210 returned to England, and many of them were wounded. There were 3,367 casualties, including 1,946 prisoners of war; 916 Canadians lost their lives. The city of Toronto is holding a ceremony on the morning of August 19.

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