



The South Etobicoke News

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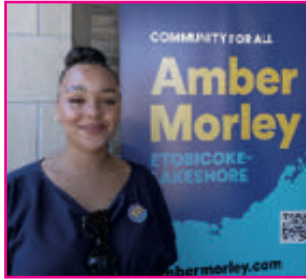
New Councillor Morley on Executive Committee

Newly sworn-in Councillor Amber Morley will be busy and hands on in representing residents of Ward 3 on Toronto City Council.

Morley, the first Black woman elected as councillor for Etobicoke Lakeshore, has been appointed to the City's powerful Executive Committee and four other bodies that will affect our lives for the next four years.

She joins 10 other councillors appointed on November 23 to the Executive Committee by the Mayor's Office.

Morley will also take a seat on the Infrastructure and Environment Committee, Civic Appointments Committee, Greater Toronto Airports Authority (GTAA) Con-



ETOBICOKE LAKESHORE WARD 3 COUNCILLOR AMBER MORLEY (left and right taking part in Remembrance Day) won the October 24 civic elections defeating 19-year councillor Mark Grimes, who lost the seat by more than 2,000 votes. Courtesy photos.

sultative Committee and the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority. She is also a designate for Mayor Tory on the Toronto Public Library.

Morley was elected by more than 2,000 votes on October 24 in a huge upset that saw 19-year former Councillor Mark Grimes sent packing by voters.

"It is a huge learning curve now but I have had some experience," she says of her first Council meeting.

Her priorities include more affordable housing, transit and working with community leaders.

"I hope to learn as much as I can," Morley vows. "I plan to work long and hard to represent Ward 3." She is disappointed that the outgoing councillor never called her to wish her well or give insights on some of the top issues in the riding, which he represented for almost 20 years.

Merry Christmas Rod: community buys scooter



MIMICO SENIOR ROD FLYNN in his new scooter. Photos by Tom Godfrey.

Mimico senior Rod Flynn was in tears after being presented with a fairly new motorized scooter purchased from

funds raised by concerned members of the community.

More than \$600 was raised for a scooter in a Go Fund Me campaign to help the ailing senior, who has lived in the community for 58 years.

"I never expected something like this from anyone," Flynn sobbed. "I needed help and I want to thank all the people in the community who helped me."

There was a kind resident who sent a cheque to *The South Etobicoke News* to help Rod get his ride.

The scooter, which was inspected and is in good shape, was put up for sale by a widow in the area. It belonged to her late husband.

A presentation was made last month at the Lucky Dice Restaurant in New Toronto and Flynn was given tips on how to operate the device.

The campaign was organized by Laura Doberstein and Charles Smith, who helped select the scooter.

"Rod has been diagnosed with an ailment which makes it very hard to breathe," Doberstein said. "He cannot afford a scooter and it is life changing for him to have one as he could get around."

Smith said Flynn, 77, "is a lovely, decent man who is known by many in the community."

Flynn, who has lived in Mimico and New Toronto for decades, suffers from a chronic lung disease, which makes it hard to breathe and he requires a walker. He has to make frequent stops to breathe and frequently misses his bus and trips can take a long time.

The transplanted Newfoundlander said he visited a social worker at a local hospital to seek help.

"She called back to say she couldn't help me get a scooter. The hospital didn't have that program anymore."

"I am a senior citizen and I cannot get help in my own country," he vowed. "I cannot go shopping or get around and all



ROD WITH Go Fund Me organizers Laura Doberstein and Charles Smith.

want is a better life." Residents describe Flynn as a "polite, responsible and honourable" senior who helps others in the community.

Any funds left over will go to St. Margaret New Toronto church.

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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Beware of bogus \$100 bills

Police are warning merchants to be on the lookout for counterfeit \$100 bills as shopping activity picks up for the Christmas holidays.



POLICE WARNING TO BEWARE of fake \$100s like these.

distinguished from a genuine due to various print defects," police said.

Manuel Parreira, a Bank of Canada Regional Director, said the financial loss from a counterfeit note can be significant for individuals and businesses alike.

"The number of counterfeits in circulation in Canada remains low with bank note security features continuing to demonstrate

An investigation, dubbed Project O' Cedarwood, by the RCMP have led to warrants being issued for the arrests of three people for a list of counterfeit money charges and seizure of a number of the fake bills

The probe began in June 2022 when police obtained information from Home Depot that its Loss Prevention Department had identified a group



who were purchasing goods at various retailers with suspected counterfeit money and then returned the products at other locations to obtain full refunds.

"The accused purchased store merchandise with counterfeit bills," the force said in a release. "The accused would return the merchandise at a separate retail location to obtain a full refund on the initial purchase."

The RCMP allege the counterfeit bills were circulated at a number of large box store retailers in the Toronto area, along the Highway 401 corridor between Belleville and London, and North to Barrie and South to Hamilton.

"Although the counterfeit \$100 bills were quite sophisticated in an attempt to replicate current bank note security features, these counterfeit bills can be

they are reliable, quick and easy to use," Parreira said. "Knowing the security features on a bank note allows you to detect a counterfeit at a glance and protect yourself from fraud."

Warrants have been issued for Raj Kirubananthan, 31, of Markham, Jessica Mitchell, 38, of Belleville, and Bleu Lawrence, 28, of Burlington. They are sought by police for five counts each relating to uttering and possession of counterfeit money.

If you have any information in relation to counterfeit money, suspect that you are in possession of counterfeit money, or believe someone has attempted to pass along counterfeit money to you, please contact your local police, the Ontario RCMP at 1-800-387-0020 or anonymously through Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS), at any time.



RCMP Toy Drive for kids up North to have a great Christmas



TOYS COLLECTED by RCMP on the way to Northern kids. Courtesy photo.

Division RCMP and the Toronto RCMP Veterans Association.

That year we delivered toys to northern communities in the Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut. The force has since made the holidays a little brighter by distributing over \$1,000,000 worth of toys to children in Northern communities.

The RCMP is celebrating its 12th Anniversary of the Toys for the North campaign.

The national police force's O Division will again coordinate transportation and delivery of toys to children living in remote northern communities.

The RCMP, along with partners from the Canadian Toy Association, Thomson Terminals Limited and the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) are working to receive toys and arrange transportation and delivery.

"We want to continue to bring joy to children across Canada's North and reach as many children as possible," said Cpl. Angelique Dignard. "We are overjoyed that this year we are able to expand the program into communities in the Northwest Territories."

The Christmas campaign began in 2010, originating from a partnership between the Santa Claus Parade, the Canadian Toy Association, The Toronto Zoo, O

Northern communities.

Should you wish to donate a new unwrapped toy, you can do so at one of our three GTA detachments in Toronto North and Airport Detachments or at our Hamilton-Niagara Regional Detachment in Stoney Creek.

Donation boxes will be available until November 24th. Be sure to follow the journey of the toys from the GTA to Nunavut, Northwest Territories, Northern Newfoundland/Labrador and Ontario on our Twitter, Facebook and Instagram feeds or by following hashtags #CTAT4N and #ToysForTheNorth.

"We are very grateful for everyone who has supported the Toys for the North campaign for the past 12 years," Dignard said. "Together, you helped create happy memories for children across Canada's remote north."

You can contact Dignard at angelique.dignard@rcmp-grc.gc.ca

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32 Annual Lakeshore Santa Claus Parade one of the best



"It was a great parade and we want to thank the kids and parents who braved the weather," he said. Parade organizers said they have been "bringing the magic of the holidays to Etobicoke Lakeshore and beyond," as one of the largest non-profit community parades in the country since 1991

Mayor John Tory was there to bring greetings from the City just before the December 3 parade began. "We are 100% volunteer-run and are working hard to make this a success, but we really need your help to raise \$30,000 to run the parade," organizers said on a social media post.

Area residents love the parade and organizers estimate up to 70,000 people attend the event on some years in good weather.



...tique, with Woodgreen Community Services judged second and third went to Maple Leaf Grill House and Banquet Hall. Their tree was stolen but viewed before.

SANTA WAVING to fans at the 32 Annual Lake Shore Santa Claus Parade. Below are costumed dancers. Courtesy photos.



It was rainy and cold but organizers say it was the one of the best Etobicoke Lakeshore Santa Claus Parade in the event's 32-year history. Hundreds of residents gathered to watch the exciting parade, which was suspended for two years due to COVID. This year organizers launched a Go Fund Me campaign to help raise funds. Chris Korwin-Kuczynski, Chair of the Lake Shore Business Improvement Association (BIA), said the parade was fantastic and thanked the many people who braved the rain and cold to see Santa.

"Santa's elves are looking forward to bringing back the sounds of the bands, schools and community groups walking, colourful characters and of course the floats," a poster said. "We are even planning for a new float this year if funds can be raised to complete it. Please help



LAKESHORE VILLAGE BIA officials Danuta Gumienik and Chris Korwin-Kuczynski present best-dressed Christmas Trees to New Toronto businesses Valentina's Boutique for first place. Second placed went to Woodgreen Community Services and third to Maple Leaf House Grill and Lounge. Organizers said despite the rain and cold it was one of the best events ever. Photo by Tom Godfrey.

bring the smiles back to everyone's faces." Kuczynski and the organizers would like to thank Toronto Police Services Supt. Ron Taverner for making this parade possible. This year the first prize for best decorated Christmas tree by the Lakeshore Village BIA went to Valentina's Bou-

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Lakeshore Charitable Foundation



Jay Llave, left, is president of the the Lakeshore Charitable Foundation (LCF), and Lakeshore Accounting Services, in Long Branch, which is involved in helping school children in the Philippines. Hundreds of loot bags, which includes food items as rice and school materials, are given to children at a Christmas party attended by kids of two schools in the Philippines that are twinned with schools in Etobicoke. Hundreds of letters written by students of Etobicoke Collegiate Institute were sent to students in the Philippines, with messages of hope. To donate e-mail admin@lakeshoreaccounting.ca or call 416-251-3474. See story on Page 4.

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Letters to Santa from Etobicoke students sent to Filipinos



LETTER WRITING students and teachers at Etobicoke Collegiate Institute sending notes to students in the Philippines. Photos by Tom Godfrey.

Hundreds of letters of encouragement and hope were sent by students from South Etobicoke to help their ailing colleagues in the Philippines. More than 50 students from Etobicoke Collegiate Students were busy writing letters of love and hope to at risk students in two schools twinned by Etobicoke schools in the Philippines.

This is the 12th year of a Letter to Santa project in which more than 700 letters were received by the Lakeshore Charitable Foundation from students in the Philippines. Each letter is individually answered by a student here and returned. Liam Hancock, who founded an Interact Program to which the students are members, was helping to write letters destined to the Filipino students. "We want to let them know that there are people thinking about them," Hancock said. "The students get a sense of giving back to others." Tasnim, 16, a student letter writer, encouraged students to be kind to others and do good at school. She enjoyed the experience of helping students abroad.

"I tried to give them encouragement and hope in my letter," Tasnim said. "It is good to do some good to help others."

The Interact Club is part of the Rotary Club. They gave their time last month to help the foundation, which helps more than 1,000 destitute Filipino students in two schools. Foundation president Jay Llave said the finished letters were taken from Etobicoke to the Philippine students by board member Courtney Doul-dron. Each student receives their own handwritten card and note from Etobicoke students.



LIAM HANCOCK is a founder of the Interact program who is back to help. Below, students working together on their letters.

"We are quite proud of the response from the children here," said Llave, president of Lakeshore Accounting and the Charitable Foundation. "Some kids are writing real nice notes and decorating their letters to the Filipino students."

Llave said many of the Filipino students come from poor families and have little food. "We started noticing there were a few children that asked for food for Christmas," he said. "We decided to surprise these specific children and give them a 25 kg bag of high quality rice."

He said last year the foundation received more than 114 requests for food for Christmas out of 550 letters.

"We are talking about a "gift from God or a miracle from the heavens," Llave said. "Their prayers have been answered because most of these families did not know where their next meal was coming from."



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

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

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St. Margaret's New Toronto fundraising to help others and remain open



SOME OF THE CONGREGATION of the St. Margaret New Toronto church, bottom right, which is 116 years old.

membrance Gathering to pay tribute to community members who have passed away from COVID or other illness. More than 70 people were honoured in a gathering that involved Lakeshore Arts, the Dorothy Ley Hospice, Haven on the Queensway and LAMP Community Health Centre.

"It was a very good turnout," Daley said. "It gave us a chance to remember those who are no longer with us." She said "St. Margaret's continues to play an important role in the lives of its members and many additional memorials and renovations have been conducted over the years." There was a Christmas Bazaar fundraiser on November 26 to support the church.

"Your support will help address our debt and strengthen the SMNT foundation to serve, pray and grow for another 116 years," according to the church website. "Since June 2021 we have raised \$36,515 in gifts and \$47,215 in pledged gifts over three years."

December 23 is a Family Christmas from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. with children carolling, telling stories and a meal and gift.

They are busy preparing for their 25th Christmas Day

meal to take place on December 24. It will be a Family Christmas Friday noontime meal from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. in which residents get a free takeout community meal with all the fixings at

no charge. They also receive a gift bag each.

"New and old friends fellowship over a delicious meal and gifts are given to all those present through the generosity of local churches and businesses," Daley said. There will be plenty of food for all.

They have a regular church service on Christmas Day. Residents are urged to make a donation to help the church on their website

stmargaretnewtoronto@toronto.anglican.ca

They can also be reached by phone at 416-259-2659.



REV. JACQUELINE Daley preaching the good word. There is a service on Christmas Day.

Congregation members of St. Margaret New Toronto church have launched a fundraising drive to help keep their doors open and pews filled.

The church is 116 years and one of the oldest in Toronto. It was built in 1906 at the same 156 Sixth Street location. The SMNT, as it is called, has fallen behind with about \$30,000 in bills and debts brought about by COVID and due to passage of elderly members who are dying.

"It is desperate and we have been working hard to raise funds," said Rev. Jacqueline Daley. "The last thing we want to do is shut the doors."

The church, which is described as a 'warm, friendly and inviting place,' on November 13 held a Community Re-



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Remembering those who served our community

Hundreds of Canadian military veterans and their families and friends paid their respects on Remembrance Day to loved ones who lost their lives in battle. A large amount of the young soldiers who left for wars over-



COUNCILLOR AMBER MORLEY with MPP Christine Hogarth and MP James Maloney taking part in service. Photos by Ian Robertson and Tom Godfrey.

area residents were in attendance to mark the day. There were a number of well-attended memorial services on November 11 starting with a 7 a.m. Sunrise Ceremony held at the New Toronto Cenotaph, at Colonel Samuel Smith Park.



PAYING RESPECTS TO OUR FALLEN. Canadian Air Force was recognized at the ceremony.

Residents braved the cold to pay their respects to the many Canadian soldiers who sacrificed their lives for this country.



REMEMBERING our dear friends.



MPP CHRISTINE HOGARTH LAYS a wreath in honour of our fallen soldiers as part of the Remembrance Day service at Royal Canadian Legion Branch 101.

Other services were held at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 101, in Long Branch, Branch 643, at 101 Jutland Road, with many more showing



THE QUEEN'S OWN RIFLES of Canada joined Runnymede Health Centre 36 years ago for their annual Remembrance Day ceremony. Photo by Runnymede Health Centre Communications.

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gi

an Legion, Branch 101, said membership has increased by several hundreds over the last few months at the legion in Long Branch. "The legion is now open to everyone," Flockhart said. "You don't have to be in the military any more to join." He said many more activities are planned to keep the members busy. A Branch 101 official read the names of about 12 members who passed away since the last Remembrance Day celebration. All were invited back inside Legion Hall to share memories and enjoy a warm soup and snacks.



YOUNG PEOPLE were respectful as they listened quietly to what surviving veterans had to say.

seas were from the South Etobicoke area or had families here. There are three Canadian Legions in the area. Many

Other services were held at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 101, in Long Branch, Branch 643, at 101 Jutland Road, with many more showing their support for our soldiers at a service at the Etobicoke Civic Centre, on the West Mall. Newly-elected Ward 3 Councillor Amber Morley, MPP Christine Hogarth and MP Peter Maloney helped mark the event, which is a must for our veterans.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Lakeshore Village BIA



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Much in demand Park Lawn Go Station gets rolling again



WHEELS FINALLY ROLLIN' a site plan approval has been filed and is under review for the proposed Park Lawn GO station. Photos courtesy of Park Lawn GO Station. .

Officials said the Mimico GO Station, southeast of Royal York Road and Judson St., will not be affected and is "100 per cent being retained."

A Metrolinx report assumes the Park Lawn station will be operational by 2024. It is a proposed new GO station on the Lakeshore West Rail Line, between Exhibition and Mimico GO Stations. Park Lawn GO depot will include new station buildings and platforms, a pedestrian tunnel and walkways, plus other associated infrastructure.



IT ALL LOOKS NICE AND MODERN and the station is expected to be operational by 2024.

Humber Bay Shores area residents are pleased to finally see some movement on the long-awaited and upcoming Park Lawn GO station. A site plan approval has been filed and is under review for the proposed station, which has been long sought by area residents to help with transportation and clear terrible traffic congestion in the area. The plan was put together by Lakeshore Development Inc., Metrolinx and the City of Toronto, which own some of the property.

The proposed GO Station platform would span Park Lawn Road, with access points on both sides of the street and on both sides of the rail corridor. The new facility would be almost 15,000 square metres, with almost 3,000 square metres of new floor area.



GROUNDS OF UPCOMING Park Lawn GO Station.

A stand-alone "north station" building is proposed on the southeast corner of Park Lawn Road, with a new street to be constructed.

"Station facilities including retail and below-grade pick-up and drop-off facilities

would be located at the southeast corner of the rail corridor and Park Lawn Road," according to the plan. TTC bus connections will be provided from Park Lawn Road and at 2150 Lake Shore Blvd. W. as development progresses.

The planned new edifice took a significant step forward in October when a planning application was filed to seek approvals for ironing out a final plan for the station.

Park Lawn GO Station will be constructed alongside a large-scale master-planned community at 2150 Lake Shore Boulevard, led by developers First Capital and Pemberton Group, that would provide 36 new buildings to South Etobicoke on the former Mr. Christie cookie factory site.

According to the latest planning documents, "the proposal has been carefully coordinated" with the mixed-use community "to ensure appropriate integration with the first phase of development at 2150 Lake Shore."

Both station buildings would be connected via a below-grade tunnel beneath the rail corridor, to provide easy access to both sides of the platforms.

A third access point will be available via a vestibule on the west side of Park Lawn, addressing safety requirements while also creating a quick path to the platforms' west end. Connections to TTC surface routes are planned via Park Lawn Road in the interim, but as the phased development progresses,

new streetcar infrastructure will be added for better connectivity with TTC service. A Metrolinx survey found the Park Lawn stop on the Lakeshore West GO rail line would attract between 4,800 and 5,900 daily riders by 2041.



AREA RESIDENTS HAVE BEEN calling for GO Transit in the area as it expands and can move people downtown. The new facility would be almost 15,000 square metres, with almost 3,000 square metres of new floor area. It would attract up to 6,000 riders daily in 2041.



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Fresh French pastry shop in Mimico



MANNY (right) AND HANNA sell French pastry at new Mimico store Choux Lab. Photos by Tom Godfrey.

of fillings. The vanilla is probably the most popular. Sehgal works as a computer IT person and Hanna is the head baker, having studied in Toronto.

"We have a lot of return customers," he said. "People in the area keep coming back for more."

The bakery, at 386 Royal York Road, is nice and

cle an

That strip of Royal York Road has established itself for its good food and dining service.

Choux Lab, which is a French pastry, also sells coffee, custom cakes and all kinds of affordable treats for \$4 and up.

Customers seem to like the treats, which has been getting some good reviews.

"Lovely selection of tarts and choux pastry accompanied by friendly service," one customer wrote. "The staff is friendly and helpful and the place was clean with good atmosphere," another wrote. "Great vibes-style café with delicious choux pastries in a variety of flavors," said another.



A new French pastry shop called Choux Lab has opened on a busy stretch of Royal York Road lined with popular eateries.

Business partners Manny Sehgal and Hanna Chung Le liked the busy foot traffic and bustle of the Mimico area as they were searching for a spot to set up Choux Lab last July. "So far we have been getting a lot of support from the community," Sehgal said. "All our pastry is fresh and tasty and people love them."

Choux Lab serves up choux pastries, which are light and fluffy, with a crispy exterior and feature a variety

and is located between the busy San Remo Bakery, Revolver Pizza, Royal Bistro, Jimmy's Coffee and Revolver Pizza.



CHOUX LAB for French pastry is located beside San Remo Bakery on Royal York Road.

Where to watch World Cup Soccer in the hood



Canada's FIFA World Cup soccer team played their hearts out but did not win a game this time. It was the first time Canada has competed in the World Cup in 36 years. It seemed like the real winners were the sports bars and pubs back at home. The last game goes on December 18. Many of the local bars were filled with soccer fans having a pint early in the morning. You can still check out the World Cup at *Dakota Sports Bar & Grill*, 2814 Lake Shore Blvd. W., *Sloppy Joe's Bar & Grill*, at 3527 Lake Shore Blvd. W., *T.J. O'Shea's Irish Snug*, at 3481 Lake Shore Blvd. W., *Southside Johnny's Pub and Grill*, at 3463 Lakeshore Blvd., *Timothy's Pub*, 344 Brown's Line, *The Galway Arms Irish Pub and Restaurant*, at 838 The Queensway, *Firkin on the Bay*, at 68 Marine Parade.

Don't be alone Christmas dinner among friends



- St. Margaret New Toronto church for over 25 years, at noon on Christmas Day, has served a free community meal with all the fixings. New and old friends fellowship over a delicious meal and gifts are given to all those present through the generosity of local churches and businesses. The church served 250 people each Christmas Day with help from our community. In 2020, we provided takeout meals and gifts.
-The Salvation Army Lakeshore Church, on Thirtieth Street, will be doing food bank

appointments as normal until December 8th. Along with your food you will be given a gift card towards your Christmas dinner. Toys will be distributed from December 12 to December 24, at 12 p.m. Please note that registration is required and appointment necessary in order to obtain toys.
-The Good Shepherd will still offer meals on Christmas and Boxing Day but it will be take-out rather than the traditional sit-down meal with volunteers serving.. Call 905.972.9485 ext 566

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Southside Johnny's rocking and ribbin' all for fun



JOHNNY OF SOUTHSIDE JOHNNY'S is well known for his live bands (see posters right) and good-tasting rack of ribs (below), according to customers. Photo by Tom Godfrey.

"People love our tasty ribs," said Southside owner Johnny Theodore. "Our customers come from all over to try our ribs. Once you have it you will be back." The bar was busy as fans gathered to see Canada get defeated 1-0 by Belgium in the soccer World Cup countdown. Canada plays Croatia on November 27 and Morocco on December 1.



JOHNNY'S WORLD CUP soccer and ribs.

Southside Johnny's Bar and Grill has been a rockin' fixture for good food and top bands in Long Branch for about 18 years.

The iconic bar is well-known for its large patio that wraps the corner of 3653 Lake Shore Blvd. W. and Thirty Six Street.

A hot venue for live bands, the club is well known for its pub grub including Johnny's in-house mouth-watering BBQ pork back ribs "grilled to perfection," and served with steamed veggies or fries. A half rack sells for about \$20 and a full solid meaty rack for \$26.

The restaurant features a large menu including all the big-sellers like all day breakfast, starters, soups and salads, nachos, Southside Johnny's Dinners and Johnny's Choice; and you can also dig into his popular chicken wings, steak sampler, nachos, sandwiches and burgers. The large ribs are tasty and cooked just right for patrons watching the Toronto Maple Leafs hockey games, football or now, FIFA World Cup 2022 playoffs.



Theodore is proud of the many talented bands that now grace the stage on Thursday, Friday and Saturday and there is only a \$5 cover charge. Sunday features a jam night with an open mike segment. Some of the bands who performed at the club last month included: Skip Tracer, A Special Event with the Ayden Jacob's Trio, Beat Street, North of 49 and The Doubts.

"People enjoy our live music," he explained. "We have featured live music for years and people are very supportive and they love it." The Lakeshore Blvd. W., area has always been a scene of much live music over the years. COVID or lack of business killed many of the live music venues; with only



about three such surviving bars left in the community, including Dakota's Bar and Grill, Southside Johnny's and Timothy's Pub. The Maple Leaf House and Grill also plans to return its live music soon. Southside Johnny's Bar and Grill is located at 3653 Lake Shore Blvd. W. and can be reached at 416-521-6302. You can visit them at www.southsidejohnnys.ca.



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High Rise condo 'runway' spreads to Mimico

A so-called high-rise condo 'runaway' continues to spread in Humber Bay Shores extending west into Mimico's bungalow community.

An application has been filed with the City of Toronto to build a 35 and 18-storey buildings, which share a six-storey podium, on the northwest corner of Lake Shore Blvd. W. and Legion Road, a site occupied by a large storage facility.

The 2256 Lake Shore Blvd. W., project is by Core Architects Core Architects for 2589727 Ontario Ltd. and would feature 594 dwelling units in the two towers. Also proposed is 394 parking spots and 474 bicycle parking spaces across three levels of underground parking.

The proposal suggests the site is under-utilized and hopes to create a development that can facilitate

'the evolution of the area by increasing the residential capacity and improving the public realm.'

Area residents say there are already too many condos in the Lake Shore Blvd. W. and Park Lawn Road area and are keeping a close watch on the development.

They point out that work is underway on the construction of 15 condos ranging 22 to 71 storeys on the Mr. Cookie site at 2150 Lake Shore Blvd. W.

And a new application is proposed at 2405 Lake Shore Blvd W., near Superior Ave; which will include a luxury 33-story high-rise skyscraper with 449 condo units.

"City staff and builders control the future of a commu-

"Builders increase their profit with increased density populated within high rise condominiums."

The new condo towers will also increase the wind-tunnel affect in the area.

Henderson said the proposal at 2256 Lake Shore

Boulevard W; is at 'the transition of the low-rise Mimico-by-the-Lake and the high-rise Humber Bay Shores Community.'

"It is almost as though the developers and City Planner wish to override the main street with high-density towers," he said.

"The visual experience of the lakefront and parks community is largely limited to Marine Parade Drive."

According to a 2017 survey there was an estimated 15,000 units in Humber Bay Shores in some 50 condo corporations. More than 25,000 residents live in the towers and it is estimated they

pay \$50 million in tax revenue. That does not include commercial properties.

In a recent poll conducted by the Humber Bay Shores Condominium Association in which 2319 residents responded to the Christies Plan of nearly 7500 new residential units, nearly 90% of residents felt the plan was excessive.



AN APPLICATION HAS BEEN FILED to build a 35 and 18-storey buildings at Legion Road and Lake Shore Blvd. W.

nity despite never residing in the neighbourhood," said long-time resident, businessman and activist, Don Henderson. "Odds are stacked against residents concerned with development affecting infrastructure tolerance, community well-being and loss of employment opportunities."

"The City earns more tax revenue and less service expense with high-rise development," Henderson said.

Man charged with murder after wife found on road

Some members of the Alderwood community are in mourning after a woman whom many knew was found dead with serious injuries laying on the road.

The woman's husband was charged with first degree murder after Katherine Zollerano, 43, was found on the side of the road near Gamma Street and Valermo Drive, near Brown's Line and Evans Avenue.

Officers arrived on the scene on September 25 around 3 a.m. to find a woman lying near the road with very serious injuries. She was rushed to hospital via an emergency run.

The woman suffered serious head injuries and died in hospital on November 2.

Giuseppe Antonio Zollerano, 48, has been charge with one count of first-degree murder.



KATHERINE Zollerano

Health care worker charged by cops

Trillium health care worker charged for sexually assaulting elderly woman.

A patient care assistant who worked at Trillium Health Partners (THP) has been arrested in connection with the sexual assault of a vulnerable elderly female patient.

Peel Regional Police officers of a Special Victims Unit have arrested a part-time employee of the huge hospital that is made up of the Credit Valley Hospital, the Mississauga Hospital and the Queensway Health Centre.

Police allege the sexual assault against the vulnerable elderly woman occurred in early November 2022.

"The victim did not suffer any physical injuries as a result of the incident," Peel police said in a release.

Officers did not disclose how old the woman was but said the incident occurred at the THP's Mississauga location.

William Soto, 32, of Toronto, has been charged with sexual assault. He was slated to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Brampton on November 13.

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In the Community

By TOM GODFREY

Municipal politics can be a tricky business. Some members of the community are outraged that newly sworn-in Councillor Amber Morley was sidestepped by outgoing Mark Grimes when it came to updating her on issues and projects. It has been revealed that the former incumbent did not call the first Ward 3 Black female councillor to wish her well in governing or to discuss troublesome, or more involved files, which will be coming up for vote under her tenure in council at Etobicoke Lakeshore.



Morley and her team, according to insiders, inherited a clean office at City Hall and “have to start from scratch.”

“Everything in the office is gone and it is empty,” she said. “Me and my team have to start from scratch to learn everything.”

Ward 3 is a complex riding with almost 130,000 constituents. It is one of the larger Wards, which is bordered on the west by the Etobicoke Creek, and on the east by the Humber River. On the north, by Bloor Street, Kipling Avenue, the Mimico Creek and Dundas Street, and on the south by Lake Ontario.

There are many issues that have been going on for years like the moving of the concrete batching plant on Judson Street, ongoing condos, park development and roadway issues.

A new team has to start from the beginning as they tackle and move issues forward to benefit the community.

Morley is disappointed, off course, that she never had a briefing on Ward 3 issues and does not want to be blindsided by developers or others seeking services from the City.

The Ward is undergoing tremendous growth and right now there are about 15 or 20 massive condo towers being constructed along The Queensway from Royal

York Road west to Sherway Mall, which is building more high-rise development in its parking lot, similar to Cloverdale Mall.

There has to be a way to pass on information from old to new, especially in our large and diversified council, in which there were nine new Councillors voted in last October.

But Morley, who has worked at LAMP Community Health Centre, and in political circles, is a hard worker and has hit the ground running.

She is one of 10 Councillors appointed to the City’s powerful Executive Committee and four other bodies that will affect our lives for the next four years.

Morley will take a seat on the Infrastructure and Environment Committee, Civic Appointments Committee, Greater Toronto Airports Authority (GTAA) Consultative Committee and the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority.

She is also a designate for Mayor Tory on the Toronto Public Library.

“I plan to stick the course and work with people in the community,” she says. “I plan to work very hard for the community.”

Morley was elected by more than 2,000 votes in a huge upset that saw Grimes sent packing by voters. He was the only incumbent councillor defeated seeking re-election in 2022.

She plans to work closely with Mayor John Tory and her top priorities are affordable housing, transit and working with the community.

Morley grew up in the area and is well known to community leaders and officials of the various agencies. Many people have said she’s brought hope to politicking in this community and we hope that she does well.

Tom Godfrey is Publisher of The South Etobicoke News, who lives in the community. He was a reporter at the Toronto Sun for many years before deciding to use his skills to work in community journalism.

Local man top editor of U.S. Amazing Stories sci-fi mag



U.S. AMAZING STORIES editor in chief Lloyd Penney. Some of the magazine covers on right. Courtesy photo.

An Etobicoke fanzine writer has been appointed editor-in-chief of one of the longest-running science fiction magazine called *Amazing Stories*.

Lloyd Penney has been a member of science fiction fandom for 45 years and worked for 30-years in both fanzine and convention management.

“The editor-in-chief of *Amazing Stories*...this is a position I never would have dreamed of having, but now that I have it, I suspect the learning curve will be steep,” Penney said. “Still, the best way to handle this curve is to start climbing it and see what is needed to tackle it.”

The editor and proofreader is familiar with the magazine and its writers.

“I have been a proofreader and editor for most of my working life, with magazines, catalogs and much more,” Penney said. “I have not only been the copy editor for *Amazing Stories* and *Amazing Selects*, but I have also worked with Scot Noel at *Dreamforge Magazine*.”

He also works with a communications company in the east end of Toronto to edit their one paper magazine and their two e-magazines.

“I will be reading as much as I can, relying on readers to look at the flood of submissions.”



He also works with a communications company in the east end of Toronto to edit their one paper magazine and their two e-magazines.

“I will be reading as much as I can, relying on readers to look at the flood of submissions and choose what’s the best of that submitted,” he said. “I will make mistakes, and forget some vital things, but I am willing to learn.”

He hopes to help produce a magazine that all science fiction and fanzine readers will enjoy and appreciate.

Amazing Stories is a U.S. science fiction magazine launched in April 1926 by Hugo Gernsback’s Experimenter Publishing. It was the first magazine devoted solely to science fiction. Science fiction stories usually appeared in other magazines.

Amazing Stories has been published with some interruptions for 92 years, going through a half-dozen owners and many editors as it struggled to be profitable.



In the late 1940s *Amazing* presented as fact stories about the Shaver Mystery, a lurid mythos that explained accidents and disaster as the work of robots named deros, which led to dramatically increased circulation but widespread ridicule.

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From the Bench

By Retired JUDGE LLOYD BUDZINSKI

The Gift of Touch this Season

This December work miracles: give the gift of touch. I write that tongue in cheek, but the gift of touch is a marvel to the senses. A gentle embrace of the shoulders of a loved one anxiously awaiting test results is a miracle of sorts. A dad scooping up his child, after a fall from his bicycle, is a

wondrous miracle indeed. The young child shifts from crying to laughing almost instantly. For you, your friend offering a reassuring squeeze of your hand may be exactly the little miracle of understanding you need. How do they know you are worrying about life? For me, a hug from my daughter, when she's just returned from university is a joyous miracle of comfort. It is quickly followed by frenzied sharing of news and laughter. For many, a first kiss surely felt like a miracle, no? These little gifts offer us so much.

Touch is healing, soothing, and comforting and transcends all languages. I can't think of a better gift to offer this holiday season than a welcome hug or warm embrace. As grocery prices rise with all our other expenses, it may be the right time to add that personal touch to our gift-giving. This season, I will take time to write up a coupon for a foot rub or hand massage for my loved ones. Don't have that much confidence in your therapeutic skills? Not to worry. There are many other supportive forms of touch to share.

Touch can be a most precious gift without a doubt. Consider how valuable a touch is to a baby learning about the world for the first time. Did you know that our sense of touch is the first sense to develop in the womb? It is guiding the fetus in the first month after conception. Clearly, it is the most important of our five physical senses, for survival. However, if you ask anyone on the street what sense they value the most, I bet the overwhelming response would be their sense of sight. Can you imagine a world where you could feel nothing? Oh wait, we had a peek inside that world during Covid lockdowns. When touch was restricted, so many of us learned firsthand how much value, beauty and love it added to our lives.

Touch is so common. Yet, it is invaluable. Thankfully, we have learned just how



precious it is. Celebrate it along with the holidays. Here's how you can celebrate the miracle of touch this season. Make a gift that keeps on giving. You can create a different type of advent calendar, or a 'festivities countdown calendar' that counts down to your favourite celebration this season. Instead of chocolates in gift boxes, you place a name with 'give a hug to' or 'hand to hold' into each box. You can do this by lighting

candles and doing daily prayers also. On small pieces of paper, write out the names of all the loved ones you can see this month. Under each name, write down what each person loves the most. I know my daughter is delighted each time I offer to brush her hair. Roll up the papers into scrolls and bind them with your favourite ribbon or reused twine (if you are a gardener like me). Randomly, place these into your advent calendar, your prayer bowl or beside each candle you light to celebrate.

Consider the many forms of touch as you write out your ideas. There's reassuring touch, where we may rub a friend's back instead of thinking of what words to say. There's the gentle touch of the hand, that signals 'I'm listening. There's the therapeutic touch for a child's headache or a finger cut. And, even a teaching touch is a great gift. We seldom learn skills without a coach's guiding us through a golf swing or grandma's wrist helping us whisk eggs into a mixing bowl. If you're not feeling the creative vibe, not a problem. The universal 'go-to gift' is the hug. It is chemically magical. Did you know that a 20-second hug releases oxytocin in your brain? Such a reaction helps us build trust and deepens our relationships. Not to mention, that a hug is like a candle: when shared, it makes both people stronger. That is a miracle indeed and one worth sharing!

Because when I said I wanted to **touch** the moon you took my hand, held me close, and taught me how to fly. —
Tahereh Mafi

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It's the Christmas Time. Dickens wrote: "pleasant time: the only time I know of in the long calendar of the year when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely and to think of other people below them as if they were fellow passengers to the grave, and not another race of creatures bound on other journeys".

In today's political world, it remains as true as ever. Lawyers know this. They effectively use it to plead their clients, who are in custody, guilty around this time of year. The lawyer hopes the spirit will get their client out of jail earlier; rather than wait for their trial after Christmas. Judges also feel the spirit and are apt to be more considerate of family and the accused who beg forgiveness.

A while back, a 28-year-old man appeared before me. He was living apart from his girlfriend, who had just born a little girl. His charges were selling a small number of drugs, but he was found with over \$5,000 dollars in drugs in the trunk of his Cadillac. He said they were for his habit and he wanted to kick it to become a more responsible father. The little girl had changed his life forever. The usual sentence here would have been about six months in jail. He pleaded with me not to send him to jail as he wanted to be with his child and the baby's mother, especially for Charmaine's first Christmas. He said he regretted that his father never spent time with him. He said he would lose his regular job as a roofer and couldn't support the family. He had given up the drug business when the baby came. It sounded like he had the necessary motivation. I began to think of Bing Crosby singing 'I'll be home for Christmas' and Elvis with "It will be a Blue Blue Christmas Without You." So, I considered a sentence that would fulfill his wishes....if he was being honest?

I said, "If you are sincere, I will help you achieve your goals." I asked how much support you have provided your family (that's usually a good test question of sincerity regarding children).

He replied, "I don't give money directly, but I buy things like clothes, food, and toys and contribute to rent." That's the first sign of an unstable family attachment – variable household contributions. I asked how much that comes for an average month, and he said, "oh, more than \$800.00. That was years ago, before inflation.

I replied, "Here's the deal, your choice: six months in jail or probation for 18 months with the conditions that will assist you with your goals of being a parent. You will enter a "30-day residential treatment program for drugs and take a parenting program approved by Children's Aid. You will give the baby's mother \$1,000 a month by certified cheque for child and spousal support. Most importantly, you will be home every night by 7:00 unless you have the baby with you. That will help you with bonding and your marital relationship." It also keeps him away from the other women in his life. I suspected he may have had several babies with different mothers.

I asked what he wanted, jail or rehabilitation and being home to share Christmas with his new daughter. He hung his head, smiled, and quietly said he would take the six months. I had caught him in his real character.

All stories don't end that way. In a similar situation, the accused accepted the rehabilitation sentence instead of jail. He cried that his daughter needed him for Christmas. He had let her down so many times and couldn't disappoint her anymore.

Two years later, he returned to my Court. He stepped up, holding a baby and a shy three-year-old girl clinging to his leg.

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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Ontario Govt. funds Dorothy Ley, Trillium

Residents of South Etobicoke are applauding an Ontario government plan to fund the local Dorothy Ley Hospice and Trillium Health Partners.

The Dorothy Ley Hospice will receive funding to create two new beds as part of the province's recently-announced Plan to Stay Open: Health System Stability and Recovery strategy, said Etobicoke-Lakeshore MPP Christine Hogarth.

"Think of these not simply as two new beds for this wonderful facility, but rather in terms of uncountable individuals and families supported through the challenges of a life-limiting illness – for years to come," Hogarth said. The facility commemorates Dr. Dorothy Ley, who pioneered hospice care in Ontario and helped establish the Canadian Palliative Care Foundation. During her career she became an internationally respected oncologist, before herself succumbing to cancer in 1994. "These two new residential hospice care beds will allow us to serve more people with compassionate end-of-life care, while at the same time help-



MPP CHRISTINE Hogarth

ing us free up hospital beds for those in need," said Dorothy Ley Hospice Executive Director Dipti Purbhoo. "

The Ontario Government Health System Sustainability and Recovery plan aims to support patient flow from hospitals to more appropriate care settings, enabling health system stability and recovery – especially following disruptions due to COVID-19.

Hogarth's office in a release said Trillium Health Partners will receive more than \$4.2 million from a Health Infrastructure Renewal Fund, while Unity Health Toronto will benefit from \$10 million.

"These investments will ensure patients can continue to access the care they need, while providing our area health system with the tools to improve health care for all Ontarians," Hogarth said.



HOGARTH AND other politicians and construction officials get a look at Trillium Health Partners recently. Courtesy photo.



This year's Fall Economic Statement highlighted the government's progress in adding more than 11,700 health care workers, including nurses and personal support workers, since 2020, as well as over 800 internationally trained nurses who have become licensed in Ontario.

"Residents of Etobicoke-Lakeshore deserve and expect access to the most modern and best equipped hospitals and health centres anywhere," she said.

"We are working to ensure that staffing levels at these facilities can deliver top-quality care, where and when they need it."

Work is underway as Trillium Health Partners has begun work on its massive Trillium HealthWorks expansion program, which includes replacing the Mississauga Hospital on Hurontario Street, and expanding the Queensway Health Centre across from Sherway Gardens. A new eight-storey parking garage and medical wing are being constructed.



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Looking after yourself and others in the community

TAKE AWAY LUNCHES at LAMP CHC on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the community room at 150 Sixth Street from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Saturdays at Street Level 10 am until noon.

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

ADULT DROP IN PROGRAM MOVED - If you are hungry and in need of food LAMP's Adult Drop-In program has moved to St. Margaret's Anglican Church 156 Sixth Street. Meals are take away and dine-in from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Services Available: Meals (take away and dine-in), access to laundry and showers, referral and case management, harm reduction supplies, hygiene kits, period bags and pet food. EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT at St. Margaret New Toronto, at 156 Sixth Street, is Maggie's Family Friday, where families with school-aged children can enjoy a free meal, programming, free laundry services, groceries and care packages or donations from the community. Contact Rev. Jacqueline Daley at 416-259-2659.

THE STONEGATE CHC GOOD FOOD BOX in which a \$22 donation buys a local family in need a large Good Food Box brimming with fresh fruits and veggies as a gift. Call Stonegate Community Health Centre at 416-231-7070 ext. 229 or visit their website at www.stonegatechc.org.

IMPROVE YOUR READING, WRITING AND Computer skills by using an iPad? Adult Learning at LAMP Community Health Centre is offering free small group, in-person learning Tuesday afternoons at 185 Fifth Street. Participants must be Ontario residents, 19-years of age and up, speak English and have a valid SIN number. Please email anitad@lampchc.org or call: 416-252-9701 EXT. 242 or 243 for details.

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

AFFORDABLE FOOD EVERY THURSDAY from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. The Good Food Market at Stonegate Community Health Centre, Second Floor, 10 Neighbourhood Lane. Affordable produce. Bring your own bag. For more information call 416-231-7070 ext. 307.

THREE THURSDAYS IN DECEMBER FREE chair yoga session in person or online for three weeks.. Learn how to stretch and strengthen your muscles, back and core area Dec. 1, 8 and 15 at 11 am. Meet our Yoga Coach *Briar Boake* who has been specializing in Chair Yoga for over 10 years. She has a background in music theatre, dance and performing and brings a creative approach to her classes. To register contact jasmind@lampchc.org or call 416 252 6471 ext. 308.

DECEMBER 2 – 9 VIRTUAL HEALING ART WORKSHOPS with *Natalie Very B.* 'Let's create light within the Darkness of Winter' Friday December 2 and 9 from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. online. To register call 416-252-6471 ext. 308 or e-mail jasmind@lampchc.org Bring your art supplies and a beverage.

DECEMBER 4 and 18 St. MARGARET NEW TORONTO will be having their Hope with Wheels Lunch from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in partnership with Haven on the Queensway. To register contact jasmind@lampchc.org or call 416 252 6471 ext. 308.

DECEMBER 7 TURKEY DINNER \$15 a ticket from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Franklin Horner Community Centre, 432 Horner Ave. In the gym with all the fixings. Tickets selling fast so call 416-252-6822 for your spot.

DECEMBER 10 ETOBICOKE CENTENNIAL CHOIR performs a holiday concert at 7:30 p.m. at Humber Valley United Church, 76 Anglesey Blvd. The Cantabile Children's Choir of Young Voices Toronto will join ECC for the whimsical *Brother*

Heinrich's Christmas by John Rutter. Vocal soloists are *Érika Wood*, soprano; *Mélissa Danis*, mezzo-soprano; *Lauren Halasz*, alto; *Ryan Downey*, tenor and *David Finneran*, baritone. Tickets \$30 available at website

www.etobicokecentennialchoir.ca; by e-transfer to treasurer@etobicokecentennialchoir.ca or call 416-779-2258. Admission is free for children 12 and under.

DECEMBER 10 TOY DRIVE ALDERWOOD Cares Christmas Toy Drive from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 44 Delma Drive. Please donate a new unwrapped toy to help bring a smile to an Etobicoke child.

DECEMBER 10 CHRISTMAS CAROL sing-along from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. on the steps of All Saints Kingsway Anglican Church, 2850 Bloor St. W., at Prince Edward Dr. Singing will be accompanied by the Band of the Salvation Army Etobicoke Temple. Hot chocolate will be served and donations accepted to help the church's Out of the Cold program. For more info contact Rev. Brian Suggs at 416-233-1125.

DECEMBER 16 ENJOY A LITTLE BIT OF CHRISTMAS with the Queensmen Male Chorus at 7 p.m. at Richview United Church, at 149 Wellesworth Drive. Pay what you can at the door to help support the band. For more information phone 647-894-3619 or 416-697-9679 or visit www.queensman.net

DECEMBER 17 BREAKFAST WITH SANTA pancake breakfast \$7 a ticket from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Franklin Horner Community Centre, 432 Horner Ave. Enjoy a delicious breakfast and a visit from Good Old St. Nick as the holiday season continues. Book your ticket by calling 416-252-6822.

DECEMBER 17 ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION Branch 643, 110 Jutland Road, is celebrating its 5th anniversary with a dinner and dance. Tickets are \$10 for Branch 643 members and \$20 for non-branch members. Dinner at 6 p.m. with Tim Kennedy and the Roadhouse Boys live from 8 p.m. Tickets at the Clubroom Bar. Phone 416-259-0285.

DECEMBER 24 IS THE 30TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS WITH FRIENDS St. Margaret New Toronto takeout meal from 12 a.m. to 1 p.m. Reserve at 416-259-2659.

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Community applaud move to shut concrete plant



MIMICO RESIDENT Dan Irwin has been monitoring the concrete batching truck movements in his area for several years. File photo.

Residents in the Judson Street area can breathe easier with news that a controversial concrete batching plant has been shut down for now.

Ontario Superior Court Mr. Justice Grant Dow in a decision last September 28 ruled the plaintiffs, which includes The ML Group Corp., ML Ready Mix Concrete and Remicorp Industries Inc., were given until November 30 to shut its operations at 29 Judson Street.

The defendants included the City of Toronto, CRE-

ATETO, Toronto Port Lands Company, Councillor Paula Fletcher, former councillor Mark Grimes, resident Dan Irwin and two neighbours.

The concrete company was given 60 days 'for decommissioning' and 'would be relocated to a property on Commissioners Street owned by the City with a 20 year lease plus two five year renewal options to be negotiated.'

"The decommissioning of the Judson Street site is the plaintiffs' responsibility and could be completed within the 60 days following transfer of production to Commissioners Street," Dow wrote.

The plaintiff will sell its Judson Street property to the City of Toronto.

The company was ordered "to provide construction timetables with milestones for completion of the Commissioners Street facility every 21 days commencing from the date of release of these Reasons," he ordered.

The court instructed the plaintiffs to erect additional signs directing trucks in the vicinity of the Judson Street site to comply with City of Toronto by-laws as the City may require.

He said the use of 29 Judson Street site as a cement "batching" facility includes the regular entry and exit of heavy trucks delivering ingredients and product.

"It has been a concern of the residential neighbours and the



City for many years," according to the decision. "In 2017, the plaintiffs and City of Toronto reached an agreement, the details of which are contained in a letter dated November 29, 2017."

He said the change in location and lease is to begin as soon as all requisite approvals were obtained and a new facility constructed.

The City of Toronto and its related bodies would support the plaintiffs in obtaining the necessary approvals for the intended use; and the Letter of Intent was binding until replaced by more formal agreements.

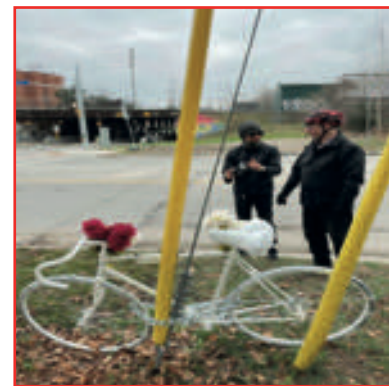
"The City of Toronto had in place a plan and commitment to move the concrete batching operation to a more suitable site," Dow wrote. "This resulted in a lack of urgency if not complacency in completing the process. It was complicated by the COVID pandemic."

"After years of negotiation, planning, obtaining approvals and construction, the parties are within a few months of achieving their mutually beneficial goal," the decision stated.

The community has complained for years of dust, noise and diesel pollution on Judson Street caused from the many gravel trucks going back and forth. Area resident Dan Irwin said he welcomed the decision after fighting the concrete plant for 17 years. Irwin has been recording the movements of the trucks in front of his property.

"I am celebrating," he said. "We have been fighting hard for years to get this plant removed from the community."

He is concerned the company may file a last ditch appeal to remain on Judson Street.



GHOST BIKES LEFT at Judson Street and Royal York Road in tribute of cyclist killed by gravel truck.



GRAVEL TRUCK pulling out on Judson. Courtesy photo

Ontario government helps fund Toronto and Sudbury police to fight auto thefts

The Ontario government is pitching in to help police forces fight an increasing number of car thefts.

The province is dishing out almost \$10.3 million to Toronto Police Service and \$612,433 to Greater Sudbury Police help fight crime, including car thefts, which occurs on a daily basis in the GTA. It is a huge concern these days.

More than 100 high-end autos and SUVs are stolen from parking lots and drive-ways nightly by thieves.

The funding will be used for Automated Licence Plate Recognition (ALPR) technology – a system that consists of cameras that automatically scan licence plates. The ALPR Grant is a one-time fund to help police services strengthen roadside law enforcement efforts and improve public safety across the province.

More than 6,500 vehicles were stolen in Toronto in 2021 and nearly 7,000 taken in 2022 as of October, according to police, who have launched an Organized Crime Investigative Support Team, to target the thefts and carjackings.

"Peel Regional Police said at least 2,651 cars were stolen from May 1 to October 31 this year. Most of the stolen vehicles are shipped offshore in containers for sale, police said. See more on auto thefts on Page 17.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS
Wishing you and your family a wonderful holiday season and all the best in the New Year.



Christine HOGARTH
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Steve's National Skate Day to end Alzheimer

National Skate Day for Alzheimer's

January 14th 2023

Steve McNeil will be skating in Kingston at Springer Market Square for 19:26. Skaters and Canadians from coast to coast can host their own skating party for a few hours on that Saturday.

- On your backyard rink
- On your community rink
- On a frozen lake
- On the pond on your farm

Contact your local Alzheimer's to get the closest rink for your region. We are skating the world from coast to coast.

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It's that time of the year again for former postie Steve McNeil's marathon ice skate to fight Alzheimer's on behalf of his mom. December 15 is a special day for McNeil. It's his Mother's birthday and for the past 10 years on this day he has skated 19 hours and 26 minutes at Nathan Phillips Square to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer's as a tribute to her. His mom, who died from Alzheimer's, was born in 1926. December 15 McNeil will be at Nathan Phillips Square to announce that *National Skate Day for Alzheimer's* will be January 14. It's a change of date, venue and he is inviting Canadians to host a Skating Party in their community. McNeil, 61, who has skated 34 marathons will just skate one this year at Kingston's Springer Market Square. He will FaceTime with skaters across Canada during his skate providing the rink has a webcam.



STEVE McNeil Alzheimer fighter. Courtesy photos.

Skating parties are already planned on January 14 for Nathan Phillips Square and rinks in Montreal, Hamilton, Ottawa, Mississauga, Timmins, Fredricton, Truro, Halifax and more.

To support Alzheimer's and encourage skating McNeil will skate for 19 minutes and 26 seconds at a different outdoor rink in Toronto for the 29 days from December 15 to January 14. Rinks at Buttonwood, Col. Sam Smith Park and Prince of Wales will be included.

The location of his rink will be posted on his social media and radio and TV.

During the activities, Steve is hoping to have someone set up a skating party at Col. Samuel Smith Park, in the Kipling Ave. and Lake Shore Blvd. W. Area.

Last winter because of COVID travel complications McNeil skated in eight Ontario communities including Garrison Petawawa, Kingston, Windsor, Peterborough, Niagara, Toronto, Orillia and Bracebridge.

For more information, McNeil's website is www.1926Skate.com or contact the local Alzheimer Society. All donations stay in each local community.

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More than 100 auto thefts nightly in the area



ZEYNEL Ari is not happy after his new Range Rover (like one bottom) was stolen.

A well-known South Etobicoke pizzeria owner is angry that his new Range Rover luxury vehicle was stolen blocks away from his restaurant on The Queensway. Businessman Zeynel Ari posted several notes and photos of his SUV

on social media last month claiming his shiny white vehicle was stolen from a parking lot as he visited a bank in The Queensway and Kipling Avenue area.

Police have been unable to find the vehicle and believe it has been shipped abroad for sale. The model sells for more than \$125,000.

Ari says it took less than 20 minutes on November 14 for someone to steal his prized vehicle.

He said he parked the vehicle, walked to the bank and completed his errands only to return to find his 2021 Range Rover gone.

It is believed the thieves were following his vehicle for some time and may have cloned his fob at his restaurant and then followed him to the bank, where the theft occurred.

There has been a number of luxury car thefts in that area.

Toronto Maple Leafs star Mitch Marner had his new SUV stolen from a movie theatre one block away in the Islington Avenue and The Queensway area last May.

Police said they were called to the area around 7:45 p.m. for a carjacking. A man had his Range Rover stolen by three suspects – two of them armed with handguns and another with a knife – before the suspects fled the scene, police said.

Statistics show that more than 100 high-end vehicles are stolen from driveways and parking lots nightly in Toronto every night. More now are reported stolen due to the daylight savings time changeover.

More than 6,500 vehicles were stolen in Toronto in 2021 and nearly 7,000 taken in 2022 as of October, according to police,



POLICE VIDEO (top and bottom) show that all it takes is a few minutes and the thieves steal what they are after and then gone. Most of the vehicles are shipped abroad for sale.

who have launched an Organized Crime Investigative Support Team, to target the thefts and carjackings

There were 102 carjackings reported in Toronto for all of 2021, police said. Many of the 'jacked vehicles are used to commit robberies. Peel Regional Police said at least 2,651 cars were stolen from May 1 to



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Our City, Maple Leafs mourn Salming's death

By REJEAN CANTLON

This past month, we mourn the passing of Toronto Maple Leaf legendary defencemen, Börje Salming who wore #21 for the Leafs back in the 70's.

Salming was a trail blazing Swedish defenseman who became the first European player to gain star status in the NHL when he joined the Leafs in 1973 and played for 16 seasons for the team. Early on, Salming called Mimico's Robert Street (currently known as Wheatfield Road) home before moving to a palatial 5-bedroom home in High Park. Robert Street must have been a popular spot for the Leafs back in the day, as their equipment manager (1977-92), Danny "Smokey" Lemelin also made Robert Street his place of residence.

Local South Etobicoke sports fan and folklore of athletics, Mark Simons, describes a chance encounter

with Salming in the Leafs dressing room back in the day, "he was like a bronze statue in real life, a pure specimen". Even Leafs teammates were in awe of his physique. "He was a great natural athlete," said former Leaf defenceman Jim McKenny in the book, *Tales from the Leafs*. "He could have been a pro tennis player, an auto racer, just about anything he wanted." Just last month, Salming was honoured at a pre-game ceremony to recognize this year's Hockey Hall of Fame inductees (fellow Swedes Hendrik and Daniel Sedin and Daniel Alfredsson) before the Leafs vs Penguins game, however we all, unadmittedly, knew that this might be our last good bye to a fantastic hockey player. During the event, it became sadly evident that Salming's form of ALS had advanced too quickly. He was unable to speak and needed the assistance of his wife Pia, former Leaf captain, Darryl Sittler and team-mate, Lanny McDonald to get him to centre ice. Regardless, he was able to acknowledge a huge ovation with one last wave that did not leave a dry eye in the entire arena and also affected many of us watching online.



SALMING OPENED THE DOOR for many others to play in the NHL. He loved the game of hockey and played hard. He will be missed.



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Holy Grail of lacrosse pays visit to Dakota's

By REJEAN CANTLON

The National Lacrosse League (NLL) Cup was in South Etobicoke earlier this month courtesy of former Mimico Mountaineer Jr A lacrosse player and captain, Warren Jeffrey. Jeffrey, fondly referred to as "Moose", is described a stellar and menacing 6'3", 235-pound beast of defenceman on the Colorado Mammoth lacrosse squad who helped commandeer the 2022 championship bragging rights from the Buffalo Bandits.

Jeffrey was born and bred in Mimico. He played his amateur career with the Mimico Mountaineers, winning minor championships seemingly at will. He went on to play high school ball with St. Michael's College School and graduated to varsity stick with the NCAA Division 1 University of Vermont Catamounts. Jeffrey's athletic allocates do not stop with lacrosse, he was also a stand-out athlete in minor hockey with the Queensway Canadiens, West Mall Lightning, Missis-



MIMICO's WARREN JEFFREY with proud parents Cameron and Georgia. Photos by Rejean Cantlon.

sauga North Stars, AAA Senators and St. Michael's College School. Proud parents Cameron and Georgia embraced the victory celebration at Dakota's Sports Bar with family, friends and fans. In the midst of the excitement at Dakota's, Colorado Mammoth Head Coach, Pat Coyle, sent this message stating, "Warren has become one of our most dominant and dependable defencemen. Sometimes he does his job so well and efficiently that you don't even notice him. But his teammates and coaches know that he is one of the most imposing defencemen in the NLL and that we are lucky to have him."



WARREN taking a swig from the Cup.

Jeffrey brought the Cup back to his roots, giving young Mimico athletes like Slade, Jameson and Rowan a chance to see and touch the 50-pound iconic trophy in person. Interesting fact: brothers Jameson and Rowan are originally from Denver, where Warren plays. They recently moved to the South Etobicoke area and



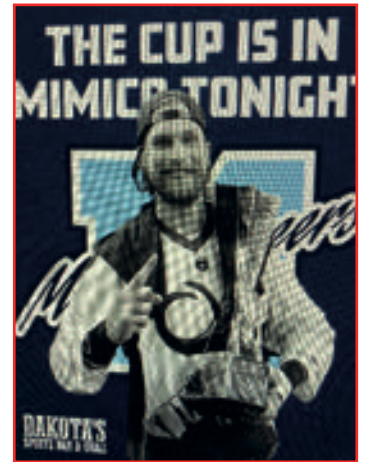
WARREN JEFFREY at Dakota's Pub with some young fans of the Cup.

carry a fond respect and admiration for the game.

They are now clearly part of the Mimico Mountaineer family. Without a doubt, many lacrosse fans in the South Etobicoke area will be cheering on Warren to bring the NLL Cup back next season.

Item of note: newly acclaimed OLA President, Sean

O'Callaghan was also in the house at Dakota's. Congrats O'Cal or should we say... Mr. President (a.H)



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Breakfast with Santa

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