

The South Etobicoke News

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Number 61

Residents get City aid with park pest problem

City staff are working with a pest control company to tackle reports of rats running around a local park and in the backyards of nearby homes. Residents of Judson Street said the rodents are thriving on left-over or discarded foods from a homeless encampment at Coronation Park, at Judson and Royal York Road. Taneisha Thompson, of Councillor Amber Morley's office, in an e-mail said a pest contractor is inspecting the park.



SOME JUDSON STREET RESIDENTS have complained to City officials to do something about the homeless encampment, garbage and rat infestation they say exist at Coronation Park.

"We are aware of reports of some residents about rat sightings in their yards," Thompson wrote. "While no evidence of rats (rat holes or droppings) was found, they have placed bait traps ... and will continue to monitor the situation closely." Toronto Police officers witnessed rats

in the park on a visit following complaints by members of the Judson Street Community. Const. James Karpik, of 22 Division, in an e-mail to a City of Toronto official, said he inspected the park on June 12 following complaints and saw rats in the encampment area. "I have also observed several rats in

the immediate area due to food laying in the open," Karpik wrote. He said the area was cleaned up several weeks ago and is now littered again with suitcases, clothing and other garbage.

Karpik asked City officials for a cleanup crew 'to return for a quick clean-up as it would be greatly appreciated.' "With encampments and tents set up across the city, resources are prioritized by the encampment team based on need," Thompson said. Area resident Dan Irwin said he had not seen a rat in the area until now and he has been living there for 39 years. Irwin took photos of some of the critters scurrying in his backyard. Other residents have complained with no luck.

Men on 420 km canoe trip to fund brain study

Two South Etobicoke men are taking part in a challenging 420 kilometre canoe trip in Algonquin Park to raise funds for brain cancer research. Mark Hughson, 30, and his friend Will Guest, 26, of the Markland Woods area, set sail June 21 on the 400 plus kilometre trip, following a route called the Meanest Link, that touches all four of the Algonquin Outfitters in Canada's largest park. "We will be going upriver, downriver over lakes and taking on 68 kilometres of portages throughout our time on the Link," Hughson said. "We are hoping to finish the trip in nine days which means we will have to keep up a 46



RAISING FUNDS FOR BRIAN RESEARCH are Mark Hughson (left) and Will Guest, (right) are canoeing 420 kms in Algonquin Park in memory of Will's mom, Cathy.

kilometres a day pace to reach our end goal." He said they will be undergoing 100 portages during the nine day trip. Hughson a plumber and Guest, a chef, have been training and are experienced in the sport. "We hope as we go to battle in the Algonquin Highlands against the hordes of mosquitoes and endless portages so

we can raise funds towards a great cause and important clinical research," Hughson said. The trip is to raise funds on a Go Fund Me page in memory of Guest's mom, Cathy, who died from brain cancer two years ago. Hughson said raising money for Dr. Arjun Saghal's

research into the brain was very important to Cathy, who would be their number one supporter for the trip. The pair hopes to raise \$10,000 for Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre in support of Dr. Saghal, a staff radiation oncologist, who is conducting research in spinal metastases, brain metastases and central nervous system tumours. Dr. Saghal has expertise in the technical evaluation of radiation apparatus, and in developing and conducting clinical trials specific to brain radiosurgery and stereotactic body radiotherapy for spinal metastases.

The trip consists of five challenging canoe routes connecting the four Outfitters stores in Oxtongue Lake, Brent, Opeongo and Huntsville. They said it was a tough excursion that features numerous feats of endurance on a trail that is historic and legendary.

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Beloved Swansea author honoured with new \$1 coin by the Royal Canadian Mint



AUTHOR LUCY MAUD Montgomery (above) lived in her comfortable home (below) in the Riverside Drive area, on the Humber River. **Courtesy photos.**

One of Canada's most beloved authors, whose last home was beside the Humber River, has been honoured with a new \$1 coin.

Born in New London, Prince Edward Island on Nov. 30, 1874 and raised by her grandparents in Cavendish, PEI, Lucy Maud Montgomery was the author of Anne of Green Gables.

Still popular, her first book was translated into dozens of languages and has sold millions of copies. In addition to 20 novels, Montgomery

published 530 short stories, 500 poems and 30 essays. Released on June 27, the coin depicts her likeness and most famous character, red-headed orphan Anne Shirley. Three million were produced by the Royal Canadian Mint to commemorate the 150th year of the former school teacher's birth, two million with colours added.

Montgomery moved to Ontario in 1911 and lived first in present-day Uxbridge with her husband, Ewen Macdonald, a Presbyterian minister. They relocated 15 years later to present-day Halton Hills, Ont. Following his retirement in 1935, the couple moved into a comfortable home on the banks of the Humber River, in Swansea. On June 3 of that year, King George V named Montgomery an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE). She died on April 24, 1942 at her Riverside Drive home. Called 'Journey's End,' it still stands near South Kingsway. Her husband died in late 1943.



ONE DOLLAR COINS made to honour Montgomery who would have been 150 this year. **Canadian Mint photo.**



The federal government designated Montgomery a Person of National Historical Significance that year. A park named after her is near Jane Street and The Queensway, close to the South Kingsway TTC Jane Station.

The coin's artwork, created by Prince Edward Island artist Brenda Jones, features a profile of Montgomery as she would have looked around the time Anne of Green Gables was published. "The Anne of Green Gables novels are iconic works of Canadian literature, and have captivated millions of readers in Canada and around the world," said federal Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland. Since then, millions of fans have travelled to Prince Edward Island to visit the site and discover the place that inspired her stories and characters.

Anger due to Nyima's killer deemed not sane

Members of the Tibetan community are reeling over a court decision that a man who set on fire a young woman on a Kipling bus was found not responsible. The accused admitted to setting on fire caregiver Nyima Dolma by dousing her with lighter fluid at the Kipling Subway Station two years ago has been found not criminally responsible on June 10.

Dolma, 28, suffered burns to 60 per cent of her body after being doused with lighter fluid and set on fire in June 2022 at the station. She died in hospital 18 days later. Nyima was born in Tibet



MORE THAN \$24,000 was raised by the community to help with the funeral services of Nyima Dolma.

and was accepted in Canada with her family from India several years ago. Her dad, Tsering Pasang, had arrived in Toronto earlier and held three jobs as he awaited his wife and two daughters to join him for a new life in Canada. "My sister was on her way to work as a caregiver when she was attacked by a stranger who threw lighter fluid on her and set her on fire," according to her sister back then. Tenzin Norbu, 33, of Toronto, was charged with first-degree murder in the shocking death of the "friendly and loving" Dolma.

Ontario Superior Court Justice Maureen Forestell ruled that Norbu was not criminally responsible for Dolma's death due to a "long-standing" psychotic state which rendered him incapable of understanding what he'd done. Court heard that the two were strangers when Norbu approached her on the Kipling bus on June 17 and asked her if she was Tibetan. When she replied "yes" Norbu pulled out a jar of lighter fluid and poured it on Dolma before igniting it. A medical expert testified that Norbu had schizophrenia and thought people hated him.

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Annual Grill Cheese Challenge one of the best



IT WAS CROWDED AND there were lots to do and taste at the annual Grilled Cheese Challenge. **Susie Basheir** photo.

Thousands of people dined, shopped and had fun at a shut section of Lake Shore Blvd. W. to celebrate the Annual Grill Cheese Challenge. TTC shuttle buses transported commuters around the New Toronto area, which was closed on June 8 to streetcars as fun-lovers took to Lake Shore. The street was filled with smiling faces and smells from a range of different foods flowing from a number of booths as residents lined up to try the

Stores on both sides of the street were open, some with sales, to attract the many shoppers in the crowd.

“We have had lineups for our grill cheese ice cream,” said Ed Johnson, owner of Mimico’s Ed’s Real Scoop ice cream store. “It seems people have eaten their grill cheese and are looking for desserts.”

He created a special grill cheese ice cream which turned out to be a favourite by those in line.

“I love ice cream and this is great,” said area resident Sarah as she licked a cone. “It is all homemade and very tasty,”

Lidia, from Benjamin Moore Paints, said the turnout of people for the Challenge was



MAYOR OLIVIA CHOW with Lakeshore Village BIA Chair Dave Dwyer including Councillor Amber Morley and Treasurer Rattan Gandhi (right)

fantastic. “This is one of our biggest crowds in years.” she said. “It is a good crowd and the weather is good.” Faouzi, from Faulkner’s Home Appliances, said it is a good crowd and people were enjoying themselves. There was an assortment of food being offered.

offerings, ranging from shwarma to assorted grill cheese. Event organizer the Lakeshore Village Business Improvement Area (BIA) estimate the popular, annual festival attracted a record crowd, many who were entertained by live bands at a beer tent, set up at the intersection of Lake Shore Blvd. W., and Islington Avenue.



MEMBERS OF Great Lakes Brewery won first prize this year with the best Grilled Cheese sandwich.

Residents said the crowds were well-behaved, patient and people were in a good mood.

“The kids are smiling and having a good time,” said Irma, who was visiting with her family from Alderwood. “We are glad we checked out the fair this year.” Jane, who was on the job, was in search of a drink poured in an empty pineapple, which seemed to be trending this year. The first prize for best Grill Cheese sandwich was chosen by judges and went to Great Lakes Brewery; second place to Ridley Funeral

Home and third spot to Women’s Habitat. Lets face it, they are all winners.

SEEDS FOR LAKESHORE W. GARDEN TOUR



MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL LEPAGE Porritt Real Estate with Shelley Porritt, (third from left) with Liz (centre) and Carl (second right) handed out 180 tree seedlings to the hundreds attending the free annual June 22 Lakeshore West Garden Tour that featured some of the top private gardens in the community. The garden lovers were hosted by the home owners in this popular event. Courtesy photo.

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LAKESHORE VILLAGE BIA

HAPPY CANADA DAY!



The Lakeshore Village BIA would like to thank the thousands who attended one of our largest Grill Cheese Challenges so far. We ask that you shop local.



THOUSANDS SHOWED up at the annual Grill Cheese Challenge that had something for everyone as people tried some of the many tasty foods available.



MEMBERS OF THE Lakeshore Village BIA (top) presenting Sub Shop owner George Kazaros with cake and gifts to mark his 50th year in business. Below Village Vinyl store owner Keith Pope (centre) with award for top Grill Cheese Challenge entertainment.

Fight on by City Hall to remove Etobicoke Coat of Arms



The removal of a controversial Coat of Arms from Etobicoke Civic Centre seems to be going down with a fight.

Councillor Stephen Holyday is seeking an administrative inquiry from City Council as to why the long-standing symbol was removed.

The matter was slated to be heard by City council on June 26.

A motion by the Ward 2 councillor said two articles that appeared in the Toronto Sun prompted a number of questions which he wants answered.

“What City symbols, including Coats of Arms, flags, monuments and art have been removed?” Holyday asked. “Who made the decision to remove them?”

In an earlier interview he said the Coat of Arms, which features an Aboriginal person, was made decades ago with good intentions.

Five new public parks coming to community

Five new public parks packed with amenities are coming soon to South Etobicoke. Four of the parks are planned for the reconfigured Six Points neighbourhood, where Dundas and Bloor Streets West meet Kipling Avenue. The fifth is being constructed at 1001 The Queensway.

The parks will include the Etobicoke Centre Park, which is larger than 12 basketball courts, and will be located near the upcoming Etobicoke Civic Centre.

Also in the works is Dunkip Park, also close to the Civic Centre, and will be the size of a mini soccer field, according to the City of Toronto.

Dunkip Park will feature a skating spot, seating, gathering spot, Indigenous cultural garden, horticultural planting, specimen tree and a historical Dundas Street interpretation.

The existing Six Points Park will be expanded and is to be the size of three basketball courts. It will include a community table, off-leash area for dogs, lawn and shade areas, Indigenous cultural garden and horticultural planting.

A fourth new Linear Park will be the size of a baseball diamond and include chess tables, seating or gathering area, multi-use trail, linear outdoor fitness circuit, horticultural planting and Indigenous cultural garden.

The fifth park, which is under construction, is 1,849 square metre large and is situated between two 20-storey condo towers with 545 residential units at 1001 and 1037 The Queensway, near Islington Avenue. It is slated for completion in 2026.

“Why were they removed?” Holyday asked. “Were they the subject of a complaint, and if so, what was the complaint, when was the complaint, and where did it come from?”

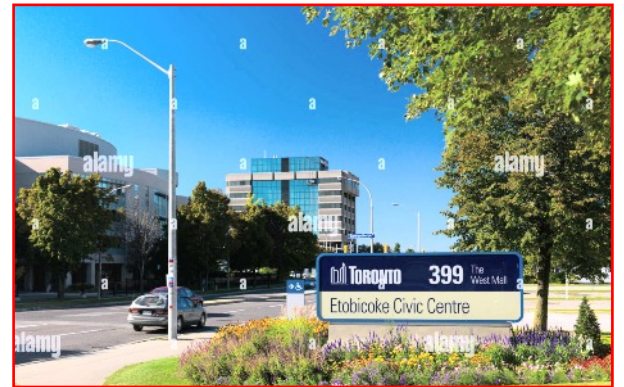
He would like to know if any more historic symbols have been removed from City buildings.

“Are there any more symbols, including Coats of Arms, flags, monuments and art expected to be removed?” the councillor asked. “If so, what is under consideration and why?”

The newspaper articles suggest the removals were conducted by some City staff in secrecy. It speculates that staff wanted to keep the removal of the Coat of Arms away from journalists, politicians and the public.

The Coat of Arms has stood about a Civic Centre hearing room for decades without any complaints.

“We want to be proactive and transparent about sharing this good news story about how the city is righting wrongs and furthering reconciliation,” according to the Toronto Sun. “If we don’t, there is risk that it will look like we are trying to hide this.” Holyday didn’t see anything wrong with the symbol and would like to see it replaced.



THE ETOBICOKE COAT OF ARMS (left) has been at the Etobicoke Civic Centre (above) for decades with no complaints. Now it is being removed by City staff. Courtesy photos.



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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. Established in 1999.

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

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

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LAMP Awards of Merit for top volunteers



LAMP CHC AWARDS OF MERIT winners and volunteers (top). The winners received recognition for their outstanding work in the community. **Courtesy photos.**

About 25 community heroes and some local organizations who are making a difference in the lives of others were honoured with awards of merit by LAMP

Community Health Centre. Dozens of people gathered on the front lawn of the 185 Fifth Street facility on June 19 to recognize those who 'have gone the extra mile to make a difference' in the community. LAMP



PASTOR Jacqueline Daley

Supporters were treated to a BBQ, music by the Etobicoke Jazz Band, a silent auction and police horses. Some of those who received awards included: Pastor Veta Saunders, of Etobicoke Praise Centre; Food For Now a charity that helps the needy and its head Daniel Lauzon, Long Branch Neighbourhood official Christine Mercado, masseuse Colette Stone and Pastor Jaqueline Daley of the St.



TORONTO'S FINEST meeting the community at the annual event..

Margaret's New Toronto Anglican Church. Others honoured were Tom Rubaj, Barb Symons, Lisa deWit, Vanessa Keall-Vejar, Gary McMayo, Denise Orth, Sarah Eby, Patricia Penner, Ed Menezes, Karolina Majka, Kaz Doniak, Crystal Nguyen, Eleni Makikostas, Martin Gerwin, Judith Rutledge and Simone Byrne.

Some of the organizations included: Funny Bones, Etobicoke Minor Ball Hockey Association, Bowls & Blessings, Palace Place, St. Margaret's New Toronto Anglican Church and Food For Now. LAMP Community Health Centre is one of the main social services agency in New Toronto that serves the community with programs for all age range.

The agency was funded as a pilot project to provide health services and coordinate human services in the area. In October 1976, LAMP's doors were officially opened to the public by Premier of Ontario the honourable William Davis. The agency has helped hundreds of families in the community.



PASTOR VETA SAUNDERS of Etobicoke Praise Centre.



AWARD WINNER Daniel Lauzon

officials said this year marked the 24th anniversary of the awards, which has recognized hundreds of volunteers and those who do good deeds in the community.

We are "recognizing community champions who are having a profound impact on improving the health and well-being of our

community," the organization said. "The recognition goes a long way to encouraging these community leaders to continue their efforts as community role models for others."

The awards inspires neighbours to help build a healthy, strong caring community. The event is looked forward to every year.



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Plan to turn Cineplex cinema site to tall condos

A plan is in place to redevelop one of the last movie theatres in South Etobicoke into a ring of high-rise condos with a park in the middle.

An application has been made to redevelop the sprawling Cineplex Cinemas Queensway site, at 1025 The Queensway, into 10 condo towers ranging up to 46 storeys in height. The Queensway and Islington Avenue gathering spot for many for decades has been a mainstay in the community since 2001.

The 20-screen theatre, like many, has been struggling to re-



PLANS ARE UNDERWAY to redevelop the Cineplex Cinemas site on The Queensway (above) with condos and some green space.

It will join others like The Westwood Theatre, which was demolished to build thousands of units of affordable housing, near the new Etobicoke Civic Centre, in the Six Points area.

The redeveloped Cineplex is slated to become a master plan community with a mix of residential, commercial, institutional, and public spaces across a series of buildings ranging from 7 to 46 storeys.

It is now in the hearing stages as necessary permits have to be obtained, if approved by Etobicoke York Community Council, before construction can begin.

Plans were filed with the City of Toronto in late May to begin the project, which will feature a north-south and east-west roads connecting the buildings.

The cinema's vast surface parking lot containing 1,277 parking spaces, is set to be redeveloped into the new complex that will include green space.

A plan feature towers with heights of 46, 43, 43, 39, 37, 33, 31, 25, 25 and 18 storeys, plus a pair of mid-rise commercial buildings rising seven floors.

The developer proposes to construct a whopping 4,328 residential units to occupy a majority of the site's combined total of over 346,000 square metres of floor space.

Almost 22,000 square metres of space would be dedicated to employment uses within the mid-rise buildings, along with over 2,500 square metres of retail and daycare space.



A WHOLE NEW COMMUNITY is planned for the Cineplex Cinema site.

The towers will be anchored by a central 4,347 square metre public park and two blocks of privately-owned-publicly accessible spaces.

The north end of the complex fronting The Queensway is already in the process of being constructed as Verge Condominiums by RioCan Living and will be about 17 storeys tall.

The site is situated near significant transportation arteries including the Gardiner Expressway directly south and Highway 427 to the west.

That area of The Queensway is deemed a development zone and tall condos are planned to the east and west of the cinema.

Residents of the area are not impressed with the project and have taken to social media to voice their concerns. Area dwellers say the area is already congested and lacks the infrastructure for the thousands of new residents who will be moving in.

"Talk about jamming as much as you can within a space that is surrounded by two roads and a highway."



TEN CONDO TOWERS some up to 46 storeys tall with a central park is proposed for the cinema site.

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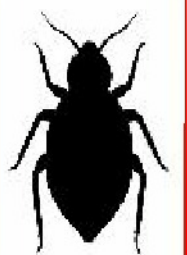
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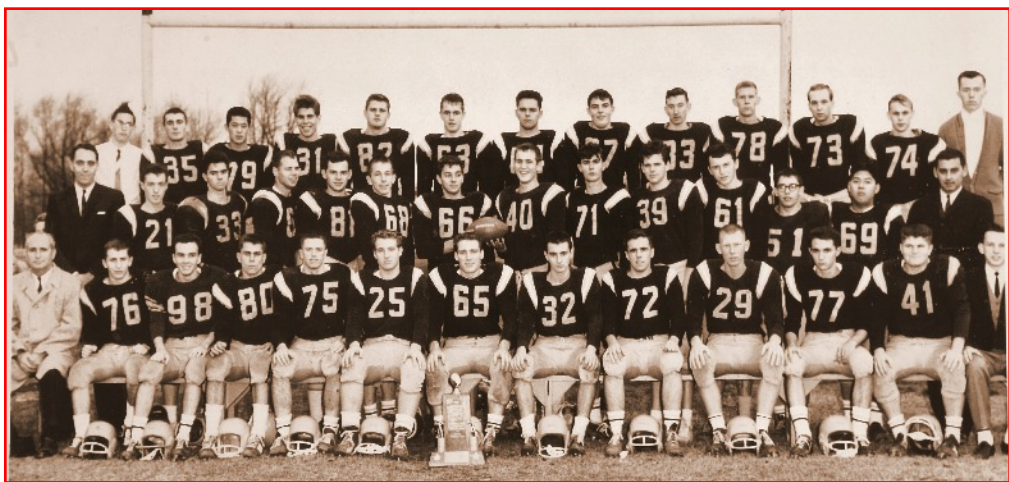
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Alderwood Collegiate football team reunites after 61 years



MEMBERS OF THE ALDERWOOD Collegiate Institute Auggies after winning the 1963 championship. They are now in their late 70s and 80s (below) and still celebrate the win.. Photo supplied.

A reunion was held as members of the Alderwood Collegiate Institute Auggies senior football team celebrated their 1963 city-wide championship victory. About 17 players, all in their late 70s and 80s, of the now-gone Alderwood Collegiate Institute, on Valermo Drive, marked the 61st anniversary of their Toronto District Intercollegiate Athletic Association (TDIAA) football championship led by Coaches Carl Yamikoff, 92, and the late Richard Howe. The June 10 reunion was held at the Village of Humber Heights Retirement Home, on Lawrence Avenue West, where Yamikoff and his wife, Beatrice, are residents. He became a high school teacher, Department Head, Vice-principal, Principal and Superintendent of the Etobicoke Board of Education, now the Toronto District School Board (TDSB).

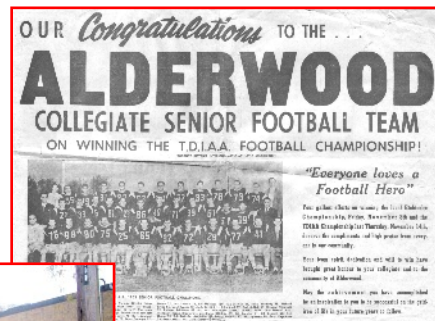
"It was a great event to see the coach and other players," said David Grainger, 79, who was then 17 and played as a flanker and defensive half-back for the Auggies. "We have been having a reunion for years and have lost a few players over time."



for All," despite opposition from many directions. "The players were striving to improve the "good," then the "better," in each of them to become the "best" team on the field," he recalled. Late coach Howe said at the time "football is a team game and this group of young men played as a real team" Grainger said the Auggies played in the 1963 finals against Mississauga's Gordon Graydon Memorial Secondary School and won the championship 13 to 7 in a tough game that went to double overtime at Varsity Stadium in Toronto. "The Auggies ended a very hard fought tight game by winning in the final seconds of the second overtime sudden death period with a touch down," he recalled. A former 40-year teacher, Grainger said it was one of the biggest victory for Alderwood Collegiate in its 28-year history. The 1,000-student school was built in 1955 and shut in 1983 due to declining enrolment. The property was sold to a developer by the Etobicoke Board of Education, and demolished in 2014 and is now a townhouse complex. Grainger said the school produced exceptional athletes, many who

It was the "most outstanding" team in all of his years of coaching many sports at several high schools as a teacher and administrator in the Etobicoke Board of Education," Yakimoff told his players. Grainger said the team played with determination and in the spirit of their motto "All for One and One

Canadian Football League (CFL) with the Montreal Alouettes and

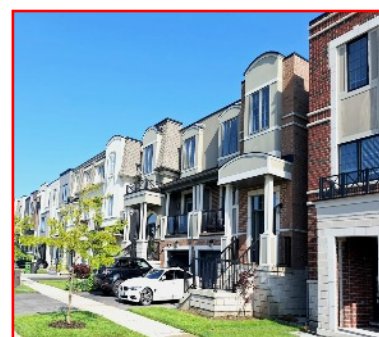


ALDERWOOD COLLEGIATE WIN in front page coverage, with Collegiate inset.

Toronto Argonauts and National Hockey League (NHL) teams as St. Louis

Blues, Los Angeles Kings, Minnesota North Stars and Edmonton Oilers.

"The players were striving to improve the "good," then the "better," in each of them to become the "best" team on the field," he recalled. Late coach Howe said at the time "football is a team game and this group of young men played as a real team" Grainger said the Auggies played in the 1963 finals against Mississauga's Gordon Graydon Memorial Secondary School and won the championship 13 to 7 in a tough game that went to double overtime at Varsity Stadium in Toronto. "The Auggies ended a very hard fought tight game by winning in the final seconds of the second overtime sudden death period with a touch down," he recalled. A former 40-year teacher, Grainger said it was one of the biggest victory for Alderwood Collegiate in its 28-year history. The surviving team has been calling for a marker, plaque or even benches to be installed on a park at the complex to remember their school and the athletes and professionals it produced. A bid was made to induct the team into the Etobicoke Sports Hall of Fame in hopes of a memorial before history is forgotten.



TOWN HOMES now stand on the site of the former school, where there are calls for a marker to remind the community that a once great school stood on this site. Susie Basheir photo.



RIDLEY FUNERAL HOME



LIFE'S UNDERTAKING a podcast

Brad Jones, the funeral director believes this spring we're all travelling toward new beginnings and positive potentials. You can listen to Life's Undertaking Podcast wherever you listen. You may even hear a story or two about his Purple and Yellow VW Camper.

RIDLEY FUNERAL HOME'S Lindsey Karpowicz (left) and Laura Latham, Executive Director of the Franklin Horner Community Centre, working the Ridley booth at the Lakeshore Village Grill Cheese Challenge, where all proceeds went to Franklin Horner Centre.

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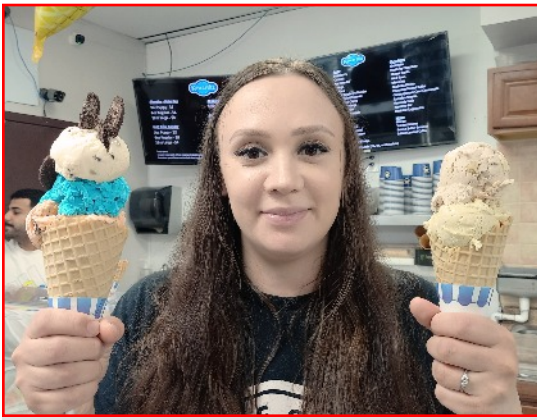
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The Six ice cream store is a hit with many in the community



SASHA IS THE OWNER of the 195 Sixth Street ice cream store that started out as a variety store before switching to ice cream and exotic snacks. Photo by Susie Basheir.

Many people love ice cream at this time of the year when it is hot. Residents have been talking and posting online about the flavourful ice cream being served at New Toronto's The Six Convenience shop that is getting a lot of attention these days.

There was recently a photo on social media of a Toronto Fire Services crew taking a break with cones in hand as they enjoyed the tasty treat. Alexandra 'Sasha' Korenevsky is the owner of the 195 Sixth Street store, at Birmingham Street, which started out in 2019 as a variety store before switching to ice cream and exotic snacks from the U.S., Britain

The store features a half-price Sunday special in which the prices of the cones are reduced 50 per cent.

On this Sunday it was busy with young teens and moms with children stopping to get the kids a treat.

"People love our ice cream," she said. "We are busy which is not bad since we have not done much advertising."

Many area residents have spread the word on social media, which is where we found out about the store.

The proud Long Branch resident will begin studying law this fall and plans to combine ice cream with law. She has already taken a course to become a paralegal. She has two employees to help dispense the ice cream and plans to open a second store at some point.

"I live nearby and love this community," Korenevsky said. "People have been very supportive and have posted about the ice cream on social media."

Kawartha ice cream is a family owned company that started from humble beginnings. The company was started in Bobcaygeon by Jack and Ila Crowe in 1937, with its first products being milk and cream.

Their first refrigeration system was simply blocks of ice cut from the lake, and delivery was by boat, horse and wagon. Jack learned to be a dairyman at Oshawa Dairy.

You can reach The Six Convenience at 416-259-9922 or visit thesixconvenience@gmail.com



SOME OF OUR FIREFIGHTERS enjoying a break. Courtesy photo.

and Europe.

An easy-going Korenevsky, an aspiring lawyer, said customers loved the ice cream which outsold other goods. She installed coolers and other gear and decided to expand their selection of creams.

"We now carry about 50 flavours of Kawartha ice creams," she said recently. "We asked people what brand they wanted and they chose this one."

The store is busy on most days as the flavours are creamy and quite good and so is the price. They also sell 16 flavour of slushies and are involved in many fundraising efforts with area schools.

You can purchase three large scoops or a large 1-litre tub of your favourite cream for just over \$10.

Korenevsky noted that all front-line personnel as fire fighters, police officers, ambulance and military personnel also receive 50 per cent off their purchases. It makes sense since The Six is located across the street from the Toronto Police College building, which also houses the Toronto Scottish Regiment.



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More affordable housing for community planned



THOUSANDS OF HOUSING UNITS are planned for the community in the next few years. Below is a call for more affordable housing.

More than 4,200 homes, including hundreds of affordable housing units, are being built or will soon be built in South Etobicoke in the next couple of years, according to City officials. The homes are being built on City-owned lands, or property being expropriated by the City, as part of a CreateTO housing program. A CreateTO report was issued to City officials that looked into the delivery of

City staff are expected to reach an agreement with Hydro for the purchase of the land this month. The lands will be used to build a new public road for the community that is planned for the Bloor and Islington TTC bus terminal area, which is being



NEW COMMUNITIES (like above) are planned for the area as more developments take place. All across this City is becoming congested as more people move to Toronto.

65,000 new affordable housing to address Toronto's deepening housing and homelessness crisis.

Construction has begun at 5207 Dundas Street West, in the Bloor Street West and Kipling Area, near a planned Etobicoke Civic Centre.

Some 2,781 residential homes, of which 904 will be affordable housing, are being built in five blocks of the Bloor and Kipling area, where the former Westwood Theatre stood, according to the report.

The homes, which are expected to be completed by 2027, will be 'situated within a complete community that will also include the new Etobicoke Civic Centre and new City parks,' according to Housing Now.

Some 725 new residential homes, including 218 affordable housing will be built on the 5207 Dundas Street W. site, according to the City.



City officials are also working on expropriating part of the Hydro Corridor just north of Bloor Street West and Islington Avenue area to build another 1,453 homes, which will include almost 500 affordable rental units.

redeveloped into condos and townhomes.

"Safe, secure, affordable housing is an important social determinant of health," according to the City report. "It improves the social and economic status of individuals, families and communities."

City officials said good quality, affordable housing is the cornerstone of vibrant, healthy neighbourhoods and supports the environmental and economic health of the city, region and country.

Housing officials said they have designated three sites in the City for priority housing, four other sites are being secured for housing and seven have been zoned for housing and are being tracked by staff, according to the report.

It said four sites are in the final stages of being obtained for housing and one site has hit the market.

The report said new affordable housing will increase the opportunity for marginalized individuals, including Indigenous Peoples, Black people, people of colour, seniors, women, and members of the LGBTQ2S+ community to access safe, healthy and adequate homes.



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Jean Augustine still going strong at the age of 87



FORMER MP Jean Augustine with MP James Maloney (centre) posing with Centre students before cup cakes to celebrate Jean's 87th birthday in September.

Former politician and community activist Jean Augustine is turning 87 in a few months and has no plans of slowing down.

More than 100 area residents showed up on June 15 to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the Jean Augustine Centre for Young Women's Empowerment which has helped hundreds of young girls aged from seven to 17 succeed in life.

Augustine founded the Portland Street Centre in 2014 to provide a space where girls and young women 'could receive support and create a brighter future for themselves.' The Bell Telephone Historical Garden Courtyard, on Birmingham Street, was filled with some of the girls and their parents who celebrated the anniversary with games, food, music and fun.

"Our work is only possible thanks to the individuals, organizations and companies that believe in empowering girls and young women," Augustine said to loud cheers.

She told the crowd she was turning 87 in September and a large party is being organized.

"As we reflect on our 10th Anniversary we reflect on the incredible girls and young women who have passed through the Centre," Augustine said.



JEAN AUGUSTINE receives an anniversary plaque from MP James Maloney. **Photos by Suzie Basheir.**

She promised 'to continue fostering the confidence and potential of girls and young women for years to come.'

The hundreds of girls and young women are taught financial literacy, STEM programs, self-improvement and about non-traditional jobs.

Augustine was presented with an anniversary plaque by MP James Maloney for her hard work and decades of service.

Maloney said he has known Augustine for decades and she is his mentor.

"Nobody here is more of a VIP than Jean," he said after a cake-cutting ceremony. "The federal government will always be a partner with the Jean Augustine Centre."

Jenae, 15, attended the Centre for two years and said it helped her in school and in life. "They have extremely helpful programs and it gave me more confidence as I grow older," Jenae said.

Augustine was a Catholic School Board principal of three schools in Etobicoke before running for politics.

The former teacher was an MP for the federal riding of Etobicoke Lakeshore from 1993 to 2006 having won the seat twice. She was the Parliamentary Secretary to Prime Minister Jean Chretien from 1994 to 1996.

She also served as the Minister of State for Multiculturalism and the Status of Woman in Cabinet and was the first Black woman to hold a Cabinet position.

Augustine was elected Assistant Deputy Speaker by her fellow parliamentarians in 2004 and will be remembered for spearheading the introduction of Black History Month in Canada. She also served with the National Black Coalition of Canada, the Urban Alliance on Race Relations and was the National President of the Congress of Black Women in Canada.

She was appointed as Chair of the Metro Toronto Housing Authority and was Ontario's first Fairness Commissioner.



JEAN STILL going strong

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Christine Hogarth
MPP Etobicoke Lakeshore

Effective and inclusive transportation is critical to people's quality of life. Over the past few months, bike lanes on Bloor Street have emerged as one of the most significant concerns among the residents in Etobicoke-Lakeshore. Many in the community have brought their frustrations to my attention. I understand that most of you are not opposed to bike lanes outright but are opposed to the traffic congestion they create. Road access is a precious resource that impacts public safety, local businesses, work and family time. Its allocation must be responsive to local needs. Whether you choose to drive, cycle, or walk, you have a right to move around in manner that is quick, convenient, affordable, and safe. The City has noted that motor vehicle travel times are up since the implantation of bike lanes on Bloor Street. Statistics aside, for me, what's concerning is the sense of unease in the community. "Someone is going to die because of these bike lanes" – that's what a resident wrote to me. As a community leader, it is my duty to listen to this resident, and many like him who are speaking up against bike lanes on Bloor. Let there be no doubt that I share your view about the unsuitability of bike lanes on Bloor Street, and your concerns about the possibility of new ones being added to other arterial roads. There is a place for bike lanes, but arterial roads are not those places. Just like urban planners, policy makers, environmentalists, and traffic engineers, the community needs to have a say in what works for them. I have been listening to your concerns, and here's what I have heard:

1. Increased Traffic Congestion: Many residents have voiced their frustrations. One among them noted: "Bloor Street has become a parking lot. It's a gridlock all

day long from Bloor Village West to Kipling. No one ever asked us, the taxpayers!"

A mother said: "I cannot get 3 kids to High Park for soccer practice during rush hour on a bike. My alternative is to choose a program that does not require me to drive along Bloor Street."

2. Impact on Business: Shoppers and businesses alike have voiced significant inconvenience. "The bike lanes have discouraged me from shopping at the local stores on Bloor," said a resident from Islington; and he's not the only one. Another said: "Businesses are being affected... customers cannot get to them. Delivery trucks can't get to them."

3. Safety Concerns: Reports from residents also indicate near-misses and close calls. "Impatient drivers (are) making U-turns, taking short cuts through neighbourhood streets, blocking flow of traffic," shared one resident. Another pointed out: "The drive has become far dangerous for drivers and pedestrians alike. It is very hard at certain intersections to make right turns further delaying traffic."

4. Underutilization: Many have observed that bike lanes are often underused. A resident on Saybrook Ave, mentioned, "My doctors office is on Bloor Street and it used to take me 10 minutes to get there. Now (it) takes half an hour with no bikes in sight."

5. Delaying Emergency Vehicles: There are concerning stories I have heard about bike lanes delaying firetrucks, ambulances, police vehicles. A resident wrote: "I saw a fire truck on an emergency run on Bloor and it had to wait for the cars to clear once the traffic lights changed. There was no manoeuvre room to get out of the fire truck's way. ... You can reach my office at 416-259-2249 or christine.hogarth@pc.ola.org or at www.christinehogarthmpp.ca



In the Community

By TOM GODFREY

July 1 was Canada Day and it doesn't seem to be getting any safer in the City. Seems like every night one to three people are shot or stabbed in Toronto and we have become immunized to the violence. Last June 7 was declared the National Day Against Gun Violence and it seems that gunplay has gotten worse. We live in a great city and country and not only are we bogged down by high prices and inflation rates but also with escalating violence. Just last month alone there were at least six incidents involving people being hospitalized or sent to the mortuary due to the senseless violence. On June 15 two men showed up in hospital after being wounded in gunplay at The Queensway and North Queen Street, which is a pretty safe area. And once again police are searching for suspects. That same month, on June 5, two men were killed in the parking lot at North Albion Collegiate, in the Mount Olive Drive and Kipling Avenue area, after a soccer game. Some 50 shots were sprayed at a group of men who were minding their own business. Four others were shot and suffered minor injuries. Some suspects are still at large. Days earlier, on June 2, a 14-year-old boy and 20-year-old man suffered multiple gunshots and were hospitalized in gunplay in the Albion and Martingrove Roads area. Police have their hands filled but this violence has to be stopped. It is taking place all across the City and many innocent people are getting wounded or killed. These incidents used to be random with occasional gunplay. But now the shootings take place daily, in broad daylight and it is non-stop and in many cases the shooters are at large. As the Mayor or Police Chief are doing their best to stop or curb the bloody crimes. There hasn't been any talk lately from our leaders of any plan or things being done to target the gunmen, who are becoming more brazen. These days residents who work hard to afford expensive vehicles can't drive to the local shopping mall for fears that some young gangster would rob you with a weapon to steal your vehicle. What kind of life is that. The violence is so horrific in the City now that many residents refuse to leave their homes at night, much less venture out to clubs or restaurants due to the gun play. Many of us remain at home and hope for the bloodshed to end. But it is not happening. Guns are illegal in this country and yet it seems there is no shortage of weapons. We have lost the battle on that front. Every two-bit punk or criminal these days appears to be packing a weapon, with knives being the weapon of choice because of access and lesser penalties if caught. It is no secret that the deadly weapons are being smuggled here from the U.S. Still police and law enforcement are handcuffed to do much due to our lax laws and loose probation and parole laws. It is time we re-visited this gun blight plaguing our city; like we did in the 1980s and 1990s when the gangs ruled. We, and our leaders, have become too complacent of the gun violence around us and in thinking 'it will not happen to us,' as the situation worsens. We often hear about three people being shot dead, or maybe even four, and it seems like another day in the Big City and the deaths come with living here. It is time our leaders step up to fight this gun scourge that is taking the lives of many young and innocent people in our communities. Just consider that we have had more than 20 homicides in Toronto so far this year, and it is only July, and dozens more shootings so far in which people have been injured. We live in a great country and we deserve better when it comes to safety and security. It is time our leaders step up to the plate to protect us.

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

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Your Health

By MONIKA MEULMAN



FLOWERS OF HOPE...
Photo by Tanya Vividly.

Are you a pessimist, an optimist or a poet?

Like the poet John Milton, do you see the silver lining on the dark clouds in your life?

According to Psychology Today, you are better off and mentally stronger, when you choose to see the light in darkness. The coined idiom 'silver lining' of Milton's poem, now means just that: seeing something positive, something good in something difficult or dark in your life.

Even though the original expression referred to the actual light outline of dark clouds, illuminated from behind by the moonlight, now it is commonly heard in conversations inviting hope to a challenge or a set back.

There's much to be learned from John Milton's Poem "Comus: A Mask Presented at Ludlow Castle, 1634." The main voyage of discovery, in Comus, is the journey from ignorance to wisdom (through experience).

Thus, the popular saying 'there's a silver lining in...' is a key take away from this literary work and also a very handy mental wellness tip to keep in our back pocket.

You don't have to be an optimist to see the silver lining in everything. On the contrary, you must exercise awareness and taking in all that is true around you. Mental health and resilience grows when you exercise choice.

Choosing to see the clouds, that there is a dark storm approaching allows you to take precautions and overall make smarter choices for the day ahead.

This can be applied everywhere and is a universal truth. After all, the sun or moon is always shining behind the clouds. The

darkness always leads to light, like the day night leads to dawn.

Reading through Milton's poem, you may also notice a developing play between female persuasion and male dominance. Is his interplay composed just for the characters or also for himself?

Many interpret Milton's work as a reflection of his own journeys. Upon deeper exploration, you discover Milton cleverly crafted a tale symbolizing a mind longing for freedom.

He invites us to believe that good news will come in time, through wise choices. The modern adaptation of this phrase, 'silver lining on every cloud' is the sliver of hope you need when anticipating a call about test results from the doctor, searching for news of a town in the line of a forest fire, or anxiously awaiting for the sun to beam through the storm clouds, as you drive home on the rain-filled highway.

As soon as the sun starts shining, you may forget the practice of optimism. It is easy to embrace summer and forget about rainy days of spring.

It seems that mother nature is looking out for you just the same.

To grow resilience and a healthy, strong mind, you require lots of opportunities (to choose) to see the silver lining on the dark clouds of your life.

Being wiser, better and smarter is a learned skill. Remember that.

July is the perfect month to practice this life skill, if the storms of June are any indication on the summer weather ahead. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration predicts an above than normal hurricane season this year (hurricane season runs between June 1 and November 30, by the way).

With La Nina in full form and our rising ocean temperatures, the predictions are high for extreme storms.

I venture to predict, we will all be wiser by the end of summer, with these ample occasions to practice choosing optimism.

"Optimism doesn't mean that you are blind to the reality of the situation.

It means that you remain motivated to seek a solution to whatever problems arise."

— The Dalai Lama

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Retired Judge Speaks

By Retired JUDGE LLOYD BUDZINSKI

Today, as we come together to celebrate Canada Day, it is a time not just for festivity but for profound reflection on the essence of our nationhood. Too often, in the hustle and bustle of daily life, we find ourselves mired in divisiveness—old grievances, strife from our former lands and new fears threaten to overshadow the unity that defines us as Canadians. Yet, today, we are reminded that regardless of our diverse origins, we are bound by a shared identity as Canadians.

"It is easy to fall into the trap of division, to see only what separates us from our neighbours, whether east or west, Russian Ukrainian, Jew or Palestinian, Seikh or Hindu. But let us pause to recognize the strength in our diversity, the richness in our shared values, and the resilience that defines us as a nation." And why we came here. These words resonate profoundly today, echoing the sentiments of countless Canadians who understand that our collective strength lies in our ability to embrace our differences and unite in our common goals.

Reflecting on my experiences, I recall a poignant moment in a courtroom when a Croatian defendant refused to testify using a Serbian interpreter. In that tense room, where echoes of old conflicts lingered, I had to remind everyone present that the wars of the past belong to history or other places. Here and now, we are Canadians, first and foremost, bound together not by the scars of old conflicts but by our commitment to justice and inclusivity.

Our nation's history is one of sharing, accommodation, and compromise—a legacy that sets us apart from the divisive rhetoric plaguing other parts of the world. While we acknowledge our past mistakes, particularly in our relationship with Indigenous peoples, we have taken strides to confront our history with honesty and humility. Unlike others who seek to bury their past, we have acknowledged the injustices of the past as nothing less than genocide and are steadfast in our commitment to reconciliation. We credit change rather than hide mistakes.

"Compromise has been at the heart of our journey since the English and French clashed on the Plains of Abraham. Instead of erasing each other, we erected statues honouring both generals, embracing the complexities of our dual heritage." This historical lesson underscores the Canadian spirit of inclusivity, where differences are not obliterated but celebrated. This spirit guided us as Upper and Lower Canada merged into a united Province in 1841, bridging Catholic French and Protestant English in a parliament that aimed to unify. We combined Catholic French with protestant English a mixture that has separated many since Henry got his final divorce and quit the Catholic Church. Each MP represented the constituency where elected and was assigned to a constituency in the other province aimed at creating a more unified legislative body and addressing the tensions between English-speaking and French-speaking populations. It encouraged dialogue rather than division.

Canada even invented "Peacekeeping." Our role in peacekeeping began in 1956 during the Suez Crisis when Canadian diplomat Lester B. Pearson proposed a UN peacekeeping force to resolve the conflict. This proposal earned Pearson a Nobel Peace Prize and solidified Canada's reputation as a leader in international peace efforts.

Since then, Canada has participated in numerous UN peacekeeping missions worldwide, including Cyprus, Haiti, Rwanda, and the former Yugoslavia. Canadian peacekeepers have been instrumental in monitoring ceasefires, protecting civilians, providing humanitarian aid, and helping rebuild war-torn societies. Canadian Communication's Guru Marshall McLuhan saw the world shrinking to a "Global Village," Canada developed a multiculturalism policy. We became the first country to adopt such a policy.

We acknowledge that Canadians come from diverse cultural backgrounds and emphasize that all cultures have intrinsic value. Diversity and Inclusion: It celebrates the richness of cultural backgrounds, languages, and traditions. It has fostered a sense of belonging for immigrants and indigenous peoples, promoting social cohesion and unity. It encourages cultural exchange, artistic expression, and cross-cultural learning. Festivals, food, music, and art from various cultures thrive, enriching the Canadian experience.

Our world's standing in music and literature has evolved from this mixing. It encourages economic growth by bringing immigrants, diverse skills, knowledge, and entrepreneurial spirit together. It has helped manage tensions between different cultural groups.

It promotes understanding, tolerance, and dialogue, reducing prejudice and discrimination. *It provides legal protection for minorities* enshrined in Canadian law, ensuring equal rights and protections for all citizens regardless of their cultural background. As such, we are among the best-united countries to deal with the evolution of mass migration in terms of political, economic and climate stress.

Times are tough around the world. Don't fall for the populist's negativism; Canada is still considered one of the best. U.S. News & World Report: In their 2023 Best Countries Ranking, Canada is seen as the second spot globally, just behind Switzerland. This ranking evaluates countries based on quality of life, social purpose, agility, economic openness, and adventure. CEOWORLD Magazine: In their 2024 report, Canada was ranked fourth among the best countries for citizens, highlighting its focus on citizen well-being. And ImmiLaw Global and TimeOut: Ranks Canada as the second-best country globally in 2023.

Perhaps the student protestors regarding Gaza, rather than demonstrating against each other, should, in the Canadian spirit, join hands, admit sin on both sides and unite to encourage Canada to pursue a ceasefire to promote the common cause, 'saving the children on both sides and returning the hostages, EH?

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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George the Mimico barber has been serving the community for 30 years

By DEVIN MEIRELES

George the Barber has been serving the Mimico community for over thirty years.

Many residents know George from Pat's, formerly on Simpson Avenue, across the street from SanRemo Bakery, where he worked for 17 years, but he moved down the street on 182 Royal York Road to open his own shop 13 years ago.

Since then, customers have followed him for his excellent work specializing in men's haircuts and old-fashioned shaves.



GEORGE THE BARBER

George's Barber Shop has a great atmosphere with cool pictures plastered on the wall, usually some classic television on the screen, and always a good conversation to be had. It has that traditional barbershop feel where it stands out from anywhere else. That's how it's easy to understand why the community loves George the Barber.

For the first year anniversary of his shop, a customer gifted him the patio set where locals can have a seat and enjoy the view outside.

Another customer lost George when he moved, so to make sure that everybody knows

where to find him, they made a mural on the exterior wall of the building that captures the barber in his signature plaid shirt cutting fictional character, Tony Montana, from the Scarface movie.

The artwork is unmistakable when driving down Royal York and has become an iconic scene in South Etobicoke.

George is a great guy, and seemingly never has a bad day, so it's always a treat to stop by for a haircut.

He has consistently served the community and has seen three generations of customers come into the shop.

Even the children of the neighbourhood stop by to say hello and polish off the candy in his old school gumball machine.

Go and check it out for yourself and you won't regret it. He does the best work and has great rates. George's Barber Shop is a real staple of Mimico. George's shop can be reached at 416-259-8586.

Esso Station reopens after reno with pizza, coffee and goodies

One of South Etobicoke's oldest service station has undergone a major renovation and is back selling more food offering pizza, coffee and a range of goods in a new store.

Evans Express Esso Service Station, at 540 Evans Avenue, which reopened after a 10-month renovation on June 10, has been a service station at the same busy site, near Beta Street, for about 100 years, according to the station's manager.

The price of gas is affordable and customers can also pick up, or order, a variety of Popular Pizzas pies, slices, muffins or fresh coffee.

The pizzas are made with fresh ingredients in-house and deliveries are available in the local area. The service station is open 24 hours for gasoline or diesel through a side window.

The car wash is also new and is slated to be opened soon.

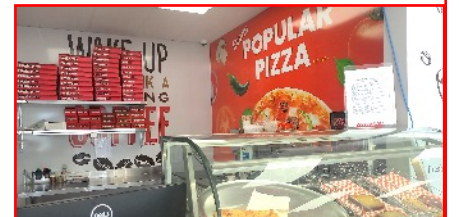
"There has always been a gas station at this site for 100 years," the manager said. "There has been different owners of the station over the years."

The renovated store is twice the size as before for those of us who have gassed up there in the past. It is, brand new, with well-stocked shelves lined with snacks and a range of drinks.

To order a pizza you can call 437-878-3636 or reach the station at 416-252-1112.



EVANS EXPRESS at 540 Evans Avenue. There has been a service station at this site for about 100 years.



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JULY 10 INTRO TO EMBROIDERY from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. learn the basics of setting up your work, learning about various stitches and understanding how to apply texture through beads and sequin at the Small Arms Inspection Building, 1352 Lakeshore Road East, Mississauga. For more call 905 -274-9222.

JULY 13 CARIBBEAN MARKET from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free event at Mimico Square, 2445 Lake Shore Blvd. W. More than 40 vendors, pet friendly, kids activities, DJ. Follow on Instagram @localmrkt

JULY 16 PAPER FLOWERS WORKSHOP from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. as paper flowers are a great way to decorate spaces when it's party time. Using paper to construct decorations is a great environmentally conscious material. At the Small Arms Inspection Building, 1352 Lakeshore Road East, Mississauga. For more call 905 -274-9222.

LOVE, LAUGH AND LEARN language and literacy programs for parents and their babies every Thursday until August 1 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. at Sunnylea Park, by south fence near the tennis courts, 195 Prince Edward Drive. To register e-mail early.years@stonegatechc.org

WOMEN'S WALKING GROUP EVERY Thursday from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. until July 4 to connect with others, reduce stress, increase energy and lower blood pressure. Wear comfortable shoes and bring a hat, water and sunscreen. To register call 416-231-7070 ext. 307 or email health.promotion@stonegatechc.org.

SENIORS SOCIAL GAME GROUP for adults 55 and older last Friday of each month from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Stonegate CHC, 10 Neighbourhood Lane, Unit 201, to play euchre, dominos, Uno, bridge and more. Light lunch served. To register call 416-231-7070 ext. 307 or e-mail health.promotion@stonegatechc.org.

TUESDAYS YOGA INDOORS 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. at Stonegate CHC, Trillium Room, with Stephanie from Yoga Outreach Project. Bring your own mat and water bottle. To register call 416-231-7070 ext. 307 or e-mail health.promotion@stonegatechc.org.

SENIORS GENTLE EXERCISE on Tuesdays 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Stonegate CHC, Trillium Room, 10 Neighbourhood Lane, Unit 201, with a registered kinesiologist who will lead the group with exercises to increase strength, balance and flexibility. To register call 416-243-0127

WEDNESDAYS YOGA INDOORS 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Stonegate CHC, Trillium Room, with Kat from Yoga Outreach Project. Bring your own mat and water bottle. To register call 416-231-7070 ext. 307 or e-mail health.promotion@stonegatechc.org.

WEDNESDAYS FOR CHAIR YOGA at 1 p.m. at LAMP CHC for a gentle seated workout to strengthen muscles and mobility and improve balance using bands or light weights. For more contact anthonya@lampchc.org or call 416-252-6471 ext. 246.

WEDNESDAYS FOR MINDFULNESS with Corin at 3 p.m. online via Zoom as **Corin De Sousa** provides evidence-based mindfulness programs and workshops. She is a certified teacher with the Canadian College of Educators. To register e-mail anthonya@lampchc.org or call 416-252-6471 ext. 246.

SHUTTLE BUS TO NO FRILLS for grocery shopping at The Queensway and Royal York Road for seniors or those with mobility issues. Buses run bi-weekly and will pick you up and drop you off at home. Call **416-231-7070 ext. 239** to fill out the necessary forms.

THE GOOD FOOD MARKET every Thursday from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Stonegate CHC, 10 Neighbourhood Lane, second floor, for affordable produce. Bring your own bags and cash or debit accepted. For more call 416-231-7070 ext. 307. register, contact Niki at NikiM@lampchc.org or

WALKING GROUP WITH NIKI AND BINNY at 10:30 a.m. meet at LAMP CHC and step into a healthier, happier lifestyle with a local walking group. Lace up your shoes and let's stride towards better health. To register, contact Niki at NikiM@lampchc.org or phone 416-252-6471 ext. 257.

UNTIL JULY 22 NOMINATIONS are being accepted for the Daniel G. Hill Human Rights Awards presented by the Ontario Human Rights Commission. These awards recognize people who have made significant contributions toward changing the human rights landscape and honour their achievements of advancing, promoting, and fostering a human rights culture across Ontario. The awards will be given for Young Leaders, Distinguished Service, and Lifetime Achievement. The recipients of the awards will be announced at an event in Fall 2024. For more email: awards@ohrc.on.ca or call 1-800-387-9080.



JULY 1 AND HAPPY CANADA DAY to all our readers and South Etobicoke residents. Wishing everyone a safe and happy Canada Day as we celebrate our 157 birthday. Our country was formed with Confederation in 1867, when it officially became a country. Happy Canada Day!

JULY 3 THE ETOBICOKE COMMUNITY CONCERT BAND performs from 7 p.m. on July 3 and July 17 at free outdoor concerts at Applewood The Shaver House, 450 The West Mall. The band will be performing old and new favourites. Feel free to bring a lawn chair and snacks.

JULY 9 MAKING BEADED BRACELETS from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the bracelet workshop for the beginner to intermediate level. The instruction of two different types of bracelets are taught: one adjustable and one with a clasp. At the Small Arms Inspection Building, 1352 Lakeshore Road East, Mississauga. For more call 905 -274-9222

JULY 9 COMMUNITY MEETING Coronation Park virtual session with Judson Street Community and City officials to discuss rodent, garbage and homeless issues at the park. Zoom meeting from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Phone 416-397-9273.

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Lakeshore Charitable Foundation



The Lakeshore Charitable Foundation sponsors about 500 students with books, some food and other classroom gear at three schools in the Philippines.

The Lakeshore Charitable Foundation is trying to raise \$10,000 to give our 500 students eight kilos of rice each. Donations can be made at Lakeshore Accounting.



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Some South Etobicoke music scene from Bloor to Dundas



By **RON JAMIESON**

We continue our musical journey around South Etobicoke to the northern part, with focus on two of the major streets – Bloor and Dundas Streets W.

The Old Sod is located on Bloor Street, just west of Prince Edward, and claims to be Etobicoke’s oldest pub. It is a great place to listen to music or to make great music yourself.

They feature karaoke every Sunday and Tuesday night from 10 p.m. until 2 a.m. Bands perform Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights at the same hours. Monday night is stand-up comedy and Wednesday is open mic.

Further west on Bloor, there’s Henry VIII Ale House, near the corner of Montgomery Street.

Because this is an intimate place, they lean towards acoustic music, with artists performing Tuesday and Wednesday nights from 7 p.m. until 11 p.m.

On Dundas, just east of Six Points, is the St. James’s Gate Pub. For those of you who live in the area but aren’t familiar with St. James’s Gate, they’re located where Miller’s Tavern use to be.

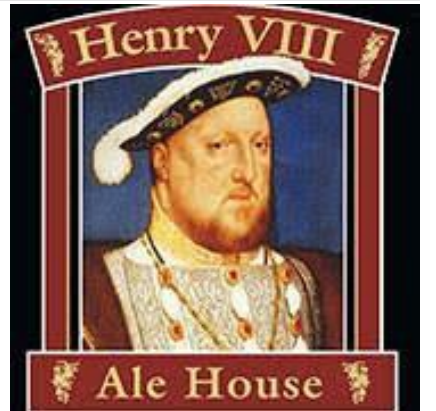
They host live music on Friday and Saturday nights with a focus on classic and soft rock.



THE OLD SOD at 2936 Bloor Street W.

The last Sunday of each quarter they host a jam from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., in essence an audition for new acts. The Rockpile, on Dundas Street W., near The East Mall is one of the most diverse music venues in Etobicoke.

Friday and Saturday nights they feature live bands, representing all kinds of genres. Many of these are tribute bands. If you’re looking for something to participate in, there are lots of options pretty well every evening of the week. On Monday evenings, they put on a jam focused on classic rock and rock and roll.



HENRY VIII Ale House at 3078 Bloor Street W.



ST. JAMES'S GATE Toronto at 5140 Dundas Street W.

Every Thursday they have a heavy metal jam. From speaking with participants, it’s excellent.

Every Sunday afternoon, from noon until 4 p.m., there is a blues jam – really the only jam dedicated to blues in all of Etobicoke.

The calibre of the musicians is very high so, if you’re a blues fan, this is the place to get your fix.

Wednesday and Sunday evenings feature karaoke, hosted by Monique Richardson. You get to sing on The Rockpile’s stage with a great sound system to back you up. If you’d like to include your establishment in this column, please drop me a line at rgjamieson@rogers.com

Tips from the Lakeshore W, gardening fun tour

By **TANYA VIVIDLY**



TANYA'S TOUR

Welcome to my excursion to the Lakeshore West Garden Tour. Seedlings, soil and water connecting community and neighbours with pollinators and our natural environment.

The tour, which was held on June 22 to 24 in Lakeshore West area, featured more than 50 private and well-groomed gardens.

The event is known as Canada’s largest free, self-guided tour that is completely volunteer run.

The premise of the day was to ask questions and explore each garden on the map. We took lots of photos and posted them on social media platforms.

I started off religiously at tour site 30 which is Long Branch Library, that’s focused on youth engagement.

I mingled a-bit with neighbours then I departed to the next location.

I reached tour site number 54 at the Historic Bell telephone building, on Birmingham Street.

There I bumped into a familiar face, an out of town DJ visiting friend, DJ Donna Lovejoy, who was

intrigued by the Manitoba Maple that is at least 100-years-old.

I loved the Red Lily and the Linden tree that was at least 40-years-old.

What was also a great highlight at this site was the patio area that was a great resting area and lunch break spot on the tour. A bike lock area and washroom availability was an asset.

What is also a nice fixture was the historical Bell telephone building from the 1920s which is rare in the area.

Get to know our community burroughs of Alderwood, Long Branch, New Toronto and Mimico.

This was a great event and I can’t wait to see more next year. Thank you Long Branch BIA and everyone involved. Keep growing.



NICE local garden flowers



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**12-785 Browns Line
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**254 Armadale Ave #4 & #5
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2BR renovated apartments in Bloor West Village. Steps to Jane subway and shopping.
\$2,750/\$2,950/mo + hydro



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Opportunity to own a Mediterranean & Indian restaurant. Close to Humber.
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**24 Ash Cres,
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Beautiful character 3 bedroom home. 2 full bath. Detached garage & private drive.
\$1,299,000

Lake Shore West Garden Tour



June 22 11am-2pm

Join us in our rear parking lot at 3385 Lake Shore Blvd W (SW corner of 28th St) for a free tree seedling giveaway until supplies last.



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