



WORLD NEWS

Fourth Ebola patient arrives in U.S.

An American doctor infected with Ebola in Sierra Leone arrived at Emory University Hospital in Atlanta on Tuesday, the fourth patient with the virus to be transported to the U.S. from West Africa for treatment, the hospital said.

The doctor, who has not been identified, wore a full-body biohazard suit as he walked gingerly into the hospital, where two other Americans were successfully treated for the disease, live TV images showed.

The patient is an American citizen who had been working in Sierra Leone when he tested positive for the lethal virus, according to the U.S. State Department, which helped evacuate the doctor on a private chartered flight. He will be treated in the same isolation unit for serious infectious diseases where U.S. missionaries Nancy Writebol and Dr. Kent Brantly also received care for the virus before being discharged last month.

—Reuters

■ **CRASH:** Dutch prime minister says it is too early to assign blame

MH17 shot down from ground: Report

ANTHONY DEUTSCH
and GABRIELA DACZYNSKA
Reuters

THE HAGUE/GRABOVO — Malaysia Airlines flight MH17 broke apart over Ukraine due to impact from a large number of fragments, the Dutch Safety Board said on Tuesday, in a report that Malaysia's prime minister and several experts said suggested it was shot down from the ground.

The crash over pro-Russian rebel-held territory in eastern Ukraine on July 17 killed 298 people, two thirds of them from the Netherlands.

Ukraine and Western countries accuse the rebels of shooting it down with an advanced, Russian-made missile. The main rebel leader repeated earlier assertions that his forces did not possess such weapons.

The report said MH17 crashed due to a "large number of high-energy objects" penetrating the fuselage. "There are no indications that the MH17 crash was caused by a technical fault or by actions of the crew," it said.

Although the report did not mention a missile, impact with a large number of fragments would be consistent with a "proximity" warhead, designed to explode in the air and hurl shrapnel at its target, said Tim Ripley, a defence analyst with *Jane's Defence Weekly* magazine.

Such warheads can be fitted to a number of missiles, including the Russian-made BUK surface-to-air missile that Ukraine and Western allies, including the U.S., say was fired by separatists who probably hit the airliner by accident.

"The preliminary report sug-



A teddy bear is placed next to wreckage at the site of the downed Malaysia Airlines flight MH17 in the Donetsk region in eastern Ukraine on Tuesday. Flight MH17 crashed over pro-Russian rebel-held territory on July 17, killing 298 people.

gests that high energy objects penetrated the aircraft and led it to break up midair," Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak said in a statement. "This leads to the strong suspicion that a surface-to-air missile brought MH17 down,

but further investigative work is needed before we can be certain," he added.

Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte said it was still too early to assign blame: "We need to be careful not to draw conclusions

too quickly," he told journalists. "Step-by-step, the experts are working to reach irrefutable conclusions." A final report by the board is not expected until mid 2015. The Netherlands is also running a separate investigation into

the possibility of criminal charges against suspected culprits.

Russian authorities have suggested in the past that other theories were possible, including that the plane may have been shot down from the air. However, the

report found no military aircraft in the vicinity.

"It's consistent with a hit by a ground missile," said Joris Melkert, a lecturer in aerospace engineering at the Technical University of Delft. "What could cause a pattern of high velocity particles 10 kms up in the sky? As far as I can see, the only thing that could do that is a rocket," he said. "The report finds there were only three other aircraft in the vicinity: Two Boeing 777s and one Airbus A330, so both civilian, which makes the surface-to-air missile more likely."

The investigation has been hard because the crash took place near the front line. Although a small number of Malaysian inspectors and Dutch body recovery experts reached the site, fighting kept Dutch air crash investigators away. A ceasefire this week means the area is quieter at last.

In the beginning they were all coming here, the Dutch, the Malaysians, but then they stopped because of the fighting," said Vasily, a retired miner, near the site on Tuesday. "Now it's the ceasefire and things have calmed down here a lot." Most of the wreckage is still lying in Ukrainian wheat and sunflower fields. Passenger seats, suitcases, clothing, toys and bags of mail were still scattered across the rolling fields around Grabovo village on Tuesday.

Large parts of the aircraft, including a big piece of wing still lay in the open, along with flowers laid by residents to honour the dead. Bits of fuselage — some torn apart, some burned, some melted from the intense heat of the crash — lay several hundred metres away, with landing gear and engine parts.



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Formation flying



The leaves are turning, the days getting shorter. Autumn is certainly just around the corner, as flocks of geese like this one pass through the city on Tuesday.

SCOTT WISHART/THE BEACON HERALD

■ **COOPER SITE:** Panel speaks against 'culture of demolition'

'Open to the possibilities'

MIKE BEITZ
Staff Reporter

Where there's a will, there's a way.

And when it comes to the development of the former Cooper property in Stratford, a solid vision doesn't hurt either.

That was the consensus of the panel organized Monday night by the local branch of Architectural Conservancy Ontario (ACO).

While the will and the vision are

being cultivated, the way to begin is by changing the public perception that the former locomotive repair shops are "a relic of a bygone age and should be torn down," Stratford/Perth County ACO president Rick Huband told a crowd of more than 60 at the Queen's Inn.

The theme of that campaign, he noted, is "Be Open to the Possibilities," and each member of the panel touched on that during their presentations.

Stratford author Dean Robinson gave a historical overview of the site, starting in 1856, when the first Grand Trunk Railway train rolled into Stratford.

Over the next 100 years, the building, the company and its employees played a significant role in Stratford's economic, social and cultural vitality, he noted.

"Stratford would not be the city it is today had it not been for its connection to the GTR and

the CNR," said Robinson. "It's a relationship that should be recognized. It's a relationship that should be celebrated."

Local designer and heritage consultant Thor Dingman agreed, pointing to Waterloo's Tannery District and the Seagram Distillery as just a few examples of successful revitalization projects involving heritage properties.

Stratford, by contrast, seems to be caught up in a "culture of

demolition" with regard to the Cooper site, he said, tracing years of neglect, lost buildings and legal battles before the appropriation of the property for the University of Waterloo Stratford campus.

"We've spent more than \$20 million, and we've ignored all our heritage," he said in summary, suggesting the city needs to start thinking more creatively about the property.

"Let's not be myopic," said Din-

gman. "Let's keep our eyes open to possibilities."

Stratford architect Michael Wilson discussed the possibility of selective demolition, leaving a "steel cathedral" as a starting point for potential development.

"It's an architect's dream," said Wilson. "There are just so many uses that could be placed inside the building."

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■ **FRANKLIN SHIP:** Local entrepreneur founding member of ARF

MacDonald elated with historic find

DONAL O'CONNOR
Staff Reporter

It could hardly have turned out better.

The discovery Sunday by a Canadian search team of one of the two ships from the Franklin Expedition of 1845 is being hailed as a great historical discovery.

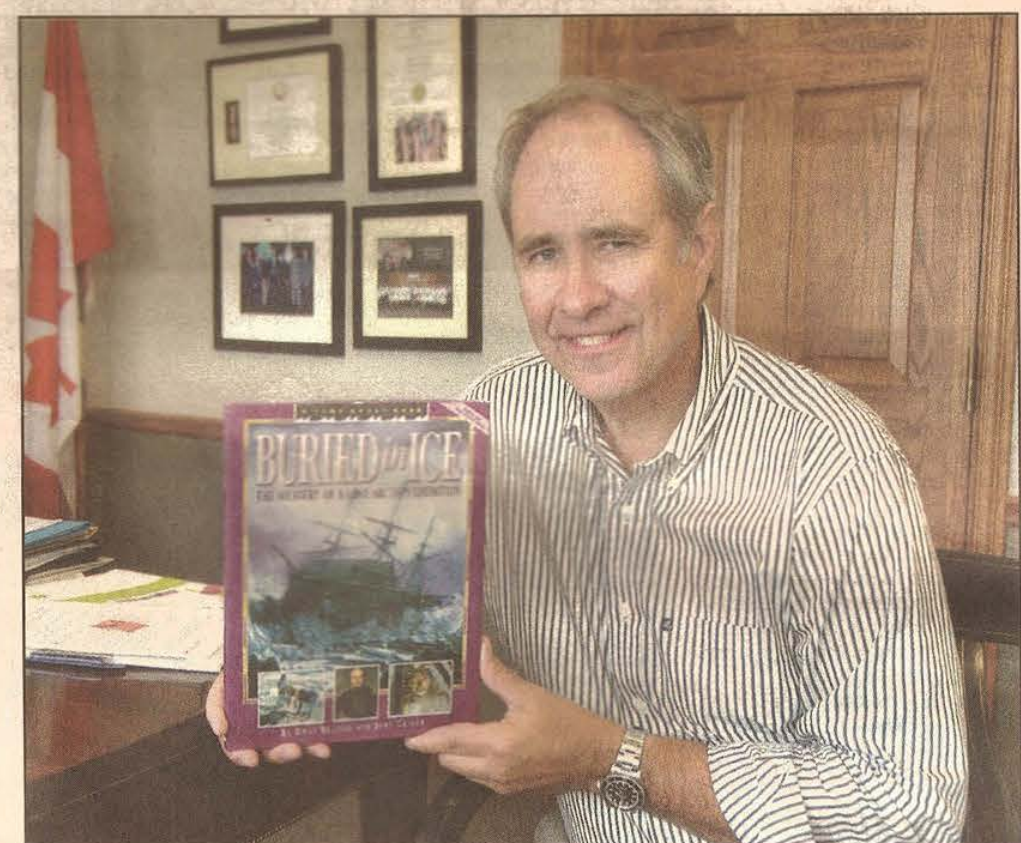
"Very, very exciting," said Stratford's Tim MacDonald, who, as a founding member of the Arctic Research Foundation (ARF), was invited to a breakfast Tuesday morning in Ottawa by Parks Canada.

"We were elated on a number of levels," said MacDonald. "Of course, we were excited on the weekend when it was announced a number of artifacts had been found."

MacDonald and ARF co-founder Jim Balsillie of the Kitchener area travelled to Ottawa together where they later were present for Prime Minister Stephen Harper's announcement — with lots of media present — that a Franklin ship had been found.

"The tempo certainly picked up this morning," said MacDonald in a Tuesday interview with The Beacon Herald.

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Tim MacDonald shows a copy of *Frozen in Time - The Fate of the Franklin Expedition* written by John Geiger and Owen Beattie. The Stratford businessman, who is president and CEO of Ideal Supply, is co-founder of the Arctic Research Foundation that has played a key role in the current search for Franklin's lost ships.

DONAL O'CONNOR/THE BEACON HERALD

■ **HISTORIC MOMENT**

Research expedition finds lost Franklin ship

QMI Agency

One of two ships from the Franklin Expedition, lost in 1846, has been found in the Arctic, the prime minister says.

"Although we do not know yet whether the discovery is Her Majesty's Ship (HMS) Erebus or HMS Terror, we do have enough information to confirm its authenticity," Harper said Tuesday morning.

The find was confirmed Sunday using a Parks Canada remotely operated underwater vehicle during the Victoria Strait Expedition. Harper congratulated those involved in searching for the ships over the past several years.

"This is truly a historic moment for Canada. Franklin's ships are an important part of Canadian history given that his expeditions, which took place nearly 200 years ago, laid the foundations of Canada's Arctic sovereignty," Harper said in a statement.

"Finding the first vessel will no doubt provide the momentum — or wind in our sails — necessary to locate its sister ship and find out even more about what happened to the Franklin Expedition's crew."

The news comes a day after Nunavut's government said an archaeology team found an iron fitting "certainly from one of the Franklin shipwrecks" on Sept. 1. A wooden object, possibly a plug for a deck hawse — the iron pipe through which the ship's chain cable would descend into the chain locker below — was also discovered, the press release says.

"This discovery is consistent with, and supports, 19th century Inuit oral testimony describing a shipwreck to the south of King William Island," the Nunavut release says.

In 1845, Sir John Franklin set sail from Britain on the HMS Erebus and HMS Terror with a crew of 128 men. They were hunting for the Northwest Passage, an Arctic shipping route that would open up new trading options for Europe.

The ships and the crew never returned. Over the years, traces have been found of the explorers — a few graves and bodies, empty meat tins, personal papers and instruments from the vessels. But no ships and no sign of Franklin, except for an official record saying he died in June 1847.

■ **WEATHER:** More than 47,000 have been evacuated from their homes



ADNAN ABDI/REUTERS

A tractor evacuating Kashmiri flood victims to higher grounds travels through a flooded street in Srinagar on Tuesday. More than 2,000 villages, including the city of Srinagar, are submerged in water.

Hundreds die in Kashmir rain

ABU ARQAM NAQASH
and ADNAN ABDI
Reuters

MUZAFFARABAD/SRINAGAR — The death toll from the heaviest rain to fall on Kashmir in 50 years rose to more than 400 on Tuesday, with thousands still trapped on rooftops and residents criticizing Indian and Pakistani authorities for not doing enough to help them.

On the Indian side of the heavily militarized Line of Control that divides the Himalayan region, the city of Srinagar lay submerged along with more than 2,000 villages.

"The damage is shocking," a senior official from India's National Disaster Response Force said in New Delhi. "People have been stranded on the rooftops of their homes for the last three days in some parts of Kashmir."

The official, who requested anonymity, said he would have deployed disaster-response teams earlier, but "we were all caught off guard because there was not a single warning issued by the weather office. The flash floods took us by surprise."

India's meteorological department had forecast heavy rain in Kashmir last week, but the Central Water Commission, which issues flood advisories, has been criticized by Indian media for not warning the state.

Some 47,000 people have been evacuated from their homes in India, where 217

were reported dead by Tuesday. The Indian Air Force has air-dropped more than 550 tons of relief material, and 80 medical teams have established emergency health services in government schools and state-run health care centres.

The flooding is the first major humanitarian emergency under India's new prime minister, Narendra Modi, but also comes at a difficult time for Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, who has faced weeks of street protests aimed at forcing him out.

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Local company doubles workforce.
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FAST 5 WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW TODAY

1 CAR JUMPER
A 34-year-old woman is in hospital with serious injuries after jumping out of a moving truck that was hitting speeds of 60 or 70 km/h in a parking lot of a strip mall.

2 WHITES ONLY
An Ottawa-area company has been fined \$8,000 after a job applicant was told the company doesn't hire foreigners. Malek Bouraoui received a series of abusive texts from a man named Jesse telling him Ottawa Valley Cleaning and Restoration "only hires white men."

3 LEADER ILL
In the midst of a campaign to keep his job, New Brunswick Premier David Alward spent the night in hospital with flu-like symptoms Monday. The hospital stay came the night before the first televised leaders debate.

4 SEWER DEATHS
Two men died when they fell into the sewer line they were working on in Fox Valley, Sask., and the sewer partially collapsed. The two men had fallen 12 feet into the lines, police said. A third worker called 911.

5 TYSON'S FORD
Ex-boxer and ear-biter Mike Tyson stepped into Toronto Mayor Rob Ford's political ring Tuesday, throwing his support behind the controversial mayor. "We all make mistakes," Tyson told reporters, with Ford at his side, calling him the "best mayor in Toronto's history."

■ CANADA'S OUTDOOR FARM SHOW: Sebringville's Nuhn Industries part of opening ceremonies

Farm show opens with a splash

HEATHER RIVERS
QMI Agency Southwest

There was a little scene stealing at play at the opening ceremonies of Canada's Outdoor Farm Show. Agriculture Minister Jeff Leal watched as University of Guelph president Franco Vaccarino cut the ribbon on the back of a pickup truck while, on the pond behind them, a lagoon crawler – a type of amphibious vehicle – was making a big splash.

Invented by Ian Nuhn, a 24-year-old former Wilfred Laurier business student from Sebringville, the crawler gave a dramatic aquatic performance of just what an agitation boat can do.

Nuhn, the son of Nuhn Industries president Dennis Nuhn, said farmers were formerly purchasing pumps and putting them on barges to take solids and sand from the bottom of big lagoons to mix with liquids on top. Powered with four-wheel drive, the Nuhn machine can drive itself into and manoeuvre itself around a manure lagoon.

"People were demanding something different," Nuhn said. "The lagoon crawler" does a better job of agitating.

The star, unveiled as a prototype last year at the farm show, wowed the industry by winning an innovation award in Illinois at the Farm Progress Show.

Despite a solid price tag of \$150,000, Nuhn said they have already sold 38, with plans to build 10 more for delivery in the fall.

■ PANEL

Site's heritage is meaningful

From A1

Dividing the structure into smaller buildings would make it more manageable, he said, envisioning a mix of uses across the entire property that could include a private-sector development, a new YMCA, police station, bus depot and 600-car parking structure.

Toronto architect Catherine Nasmith presented a few examples of adaptive reuse of heritage buildings, including the award-winning rehabilitation of Alton Mill, and developer Alex Speigel of Windmill Development Group outlined that company's ambitious plan for a major urban redevelopment of a former industrial site spanning the Ottawa River.

The key to projects like that, and to the redevelopment of the Cooper site here, said Speigel, is having a clear vision that will galvanize people.

"You need a strong vision of what you want to build here," he said, adding that it still needs to be rooted in "hard market realities."

John Lewis offered to help with that vision.

The University of Waterloo professor in the school planning said he will be putting his urban planning students to work to help "articulate some of those possibilities" for the Cooper site. Open houses will be planned



Unveiled last summer, the Nuhn Lagoon Crawler gave a demonstration at the opening of Canada's Outdoor Farm Show Tuesday morning at the Ducks Unlimited Farm Pond.

Nuhn is one of 750 exhibitors spread over 40 hectares at the show that Ontario's agriculture minister described as "the world's greatest outdoor farming show."

Leal said he was delighted to be at the farm show for the very first time and "be in touch with folks

who drive our agricultural sector every day."

"What a great experience," he said. "It's a great opportunity for me to head down the road and take in the show."

He said the agricultural sector is responsible for \$34 billion in

gross domestic product and sustains 740,000 jobs every day.

The show was also a first for the new University of Guelph president.

"I'm absolutely delighted and incredibly energized to be here," Vaccarino said. "One of the things

that attracted me to joining the University of Guelph was its connection with rural areas... this show, in part, is a great context for that."

Meanwhile show president Doug Wagner said his staff enjoyed spending two weeks setting up the show, where they "encountered all sorts of challenges."

"We're looking forward to some pretty exceptional activity," Wagner said. "The buzz word is experienced technology — we're all about technology transfer which is showing new innovations to farmers so they can adapt them for their operations."

Wagner said there is "an incredible amount of business" done at the show.

"I like to say, 'See it, feel it, touch it and buy it,'" he said. "If the deals aren't made now, they are made between now and the new year."

Woodstock Mayor Pat Sobeski said he has been to the farm show many times over his history.

"It gives you a sense of the tremendous size of the agricultural sector," he said. "There is well over a billion dollars in equipment on site here."

While Woodstock thinks of itself as urban, Sobeski said the city has "a real rural basis" that is vital to our economy.

"The strength of the agriculture industry is important for Woodstock," he said.

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■ CRIME: Police release images of suspects

Toronto war memorial vandalized again

CHRIS DOUCETTE
QMI Agency

TORONTO — The hunt is on for six vandals responsible for the latest attack on a recently restored war monument at a Toronto high school.

Toronto Police have released surveillance video images of the group — four men and two women — who were captured by security cameras as they approached the First World War statue at the high school on Toronto's east side around 4 a.m. on Aug. 23.

"A man climbed onto the sculpture and removed the sword," Const. Jennifer Sidhu said in a statement released Tuesday. "The

man took photographs with the sword and then left the area."

The 1920s monument — a memorial to the 25 Malvern Collegiate alumni killed while fighting in France and Belgium — has been repeatedly vandalized over the years.

The granite soldier underwent a \$44,000 restoration a few years ago and his broken arm and missing sword were replaced at that time.

But just days after the refurbished statue was unveiled in November 2011, vandals struck again causing several thousand dollars in damage.

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NATIONAL NEWS

■ POLITICS: Former prime minister puts blame on Obama for cool U.S.-Canada relationship

Mulroney praises Harper's economy

DAVID AKIN
National Bureau Chief

OTTAWA — Former prime minister Brian Mulroney says Stephen Harper is "a very consequential prime minister" who deserves re-election "on his economic record alone."

Mulroney, Canada's 18th prime minister, made his comments in an interview with CBC Radio Montreal Tuesday morning on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of leading the Progressive Conservatives to the largest majority win in Canadian history.

Last week, Mulroney spoke to CTV on the same occasion, but some of his remarks in that interview were widely seen by many pundits as an attack on Harper's record, particularly when it comes to foreign policy.

"You know, it's interesting — when I make complimentary references, no attention is paid by the media but anytime there's a disagreement we get headlines," Mulroney told CBC Radio Tuesday.

And while Mulroney moderated his comments somewhat on Harper's foreign policy, he was gushing in praise for the core component of Harper's domestic policy.

"I've said dozens of times that I think that on the economic record alone established by Prime Minister Harper and (finance ministers) Jim Flaherty and now, Mr. (Joe) Oliver, the government should be re-elected with a majority just on the basis of the quite impressive way they've handled the economy now for eight years," Mulroney told CBC Radio.

"One of the parts of that — and dear to my heart — is their trade policy which is the most expansive and innovative in 30 years," Mulroney's signature deal during his time in office was the U.S.-



Former prime minister Brian Mulroney says Prime Minister Stephen Harper deserves re-election "on his economic record alone."

Canada Free Trade Agreement, a deal which cost Mulroney significant political capital at the time — it was opposed by both the Liberals and New Democrats of the day — but is now widely seen as one of the most important factors in Canada's subsequent economic growth.

The Harper government has struck several free trade deals,

most notably with the European Union and South Korea.

"This Canada-European Union deal and the Canada-South Korea deal is going to add billions to our GDP and tens of thousands of new jobs and so, I've said many times, publicly, that Mr. Harper is a very consequential prime minister."

And while Mulroney in his

Fall to see normal temperatures

As snow continued to fall in parts of Alberta Tuesday, The Weather Network predicted near normal temperatures and precipitation this fall for much of Canada.

British Columbia will continue to experience above-normal temperatures, but it's expected to be a typical autumn for everyone else.

"Fall is the season where we usually see the most dramatic temperature and precipitation changes from month to month as we transition towards

winter," Chris Scott, chief meteorologist at The Weather Network, said in a news release.

As for the winter, El Niño conditions in the Pacific Ocean might not necessarily mean a warmer winter for Canadians.

"History tells us that a weak El Niño centred more across the central Pacific can produce colder than normal winters across central and eastern Canada ..."

— QMI Agency

“

You know, it's interesting — when I make complimentary references, no attention is paid by the media but anytime there's a disagreement we get headlines."

Former prime minister Brian Mulroney

and they were all terrific one-on-one. I know that for years, Prime Minister Harper has tried pretty hard to form that kind of relationship and to get the kinds of reaction that we were privileged to get in our dealings with former presidents. But there has to be reciprocity on that."

When the discussion turned to reviving Montreal as a centre of economic influence within Canada, Mulroney also had words of praise and encouragement for former Liberal MP and now mayor, Denis Coderre, as well as the Liberal government in Quebec City of Philippe Couillard.

"We've got a new government in Quebec City that seems to be very much heading the right way. We've got a new mayor in Montreal who's doing an exceptionally good job. We've got a government in Ottawa that wants to co-operate in the most important area which is job creation and economic development and we had a pretty good run at coming back from that big recession, under Mr. Harper and Mr. Flaherty," Mulroney said.

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PHILIPPE-OLIVIER CONTANT/QMI AGENCY FILES

■ LEGISLATION: MacKay says objective is to 'lower the demand' for prostitution

Justice minister calls bill a 'paradigm shift'

JESSICA HUME
National Bureau

OTTAWA — Justice Minister Peter MacKay says he believes his prostitution bill represents a "paradigm shift" in Canada because it deals with sex workers as victims who need help, rather than criminals who deserve punishment.

MacKay was back fielding questions on Bill C-36 Tuesday, this time before a committee of senators who were focused on whether it makes sense to criminalize the purchase of sex while granting immunity to those who sell it.

"The objective is to (lower) the demand and make prostitution illegal," MacKay said. By allowing prostitutes to sell sexual services without fear of

criminalization, the bill wouldn't prevent them from implementing safety measures such as bodyguards, MacKay said.

Under the previous law, prostitutes were effectively prohibited from hiring bodyguards because nobody was allowed to live "off the avails of prostitution."

The Supreme Court struck down that prostitution bill last December, citing specific sections as unconstitutional, and gave the government a year to come with something new.

MacKay told reporters Tues-

day the justice department has advised him Bill C-36 is "likely" to pass constitutional challenges.

George Baker, a member of the Senate Liberal caucus, said his story shows criminalizing johns tends to push prostitutes further into dark alleys where their personal safety is at greater risk. He asked how this bill — which prohibits the solicitation of sexual services in public or anywhere where children might be found — would be different.

MacKay said he believes it's impossible to eliminate "all the inherent dangers" of prostitution, but this bill comes closer than any other legislation Canada has seen before.

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PETER MACKAY



PETER MACKAY

Gen. Tom Lawson, the chief of defence staff, said Canadian troops heading to Iraq are the same who served in Afghanistan fighting the Taliban. With a similar terrain — and enemy — Afghan vets are the best for the job, he said.



CHRIS WATKINS/REUTERS

Foreign Minister John Baird, left, Defence Minister Rob Nicholson and Chief of Defence Staff Gen. Tom Lawson wait to testify before the Commons foreign affairs committee on Parliament Hill in Ottawa.

HAL ROBERTS
Parliamentary Reporter

OTTAWA — Canada has an obligation to help end the barbarism of ISIS in Iraq, says Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird.

"Inaction is not an option. In 10 years will we ask ourselves, did we do enough?" he told the House Foreign Affairs committee Tuesday.

A few dozen special forces personnel are already headed to Iraq to advise security forces there. They will not see combat, Baird assured the committee.

The troops are expected to be stationed in Iraq for at least 30 days, at which time the mission will be re-evaluated. He offered no absolute return date. Baird confirmed Canada's military contribution will be focused in Kurdistan in northern Iraq, supporting the local Pesh-merga fighters.

Baird, who just returned from Iraq, spoke passionately about the dire humanitarian situation he saw unfolding, as the radical Islamic State — known as ISIS or ISIL — continues to push its way through the country.

Its gruesome attacks — mass killings, beatings, rapes and videotaped beheadings of Western journalists — have led to widespread displacement of residents inside

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SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION 2014

Municipal Elections Act, 1996

For the
HURON-PERTH CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Nomination for the office of school board trustee
One (1) person to be elected to represent the electoral district of the
Township of Perth East, Municipality of North Perth
and Municipality of Huron East

Nominations/Registrations may be filed during regular business hours at the office of the Clerk for the Municipality of Huron East, 72 Main Street South, Seaford, Ontario N0K 1W0, until Friday, September 12th, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. Nomination/Registration papers and full particulars may be obtained at the Municipal Office.

A signed consent to the nominations, a declaration of qualification by the candidate, the \$100.00 filing fee (cash, money order, certified cheque or debit machine) and identification of the candidate are required.

Electors are hereby given notice that if a greater number of candidates are certified than are required to fill the said offices, an election will be held. Voting Day will be Monday, October 27th, 2014.

Please be advised that no person who proposes to be a candidate may solicit or accept contributions for election purposes, or incur expenses until that person's nomination has been filed.

Dated this 3rd day of September, 2014.

Theresa Campbell Clerk Township of Perth East	Pat Berfelz Clerk Municipality of North Perth	Brad Knight CAO/Clerk Municipality of Huron East
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NUHN15000023052



MONEY NEWS

STUDS...

Biggest % gains in stocks over \$5

1. **IMPERIAL METAL CORP.**
\$9.85 +6.83
2. **SEARS CANADA**
\$15.79 +5.83
3. **INTERKIN GROUP**
\$9.00 +5.51

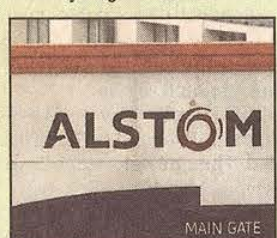
& DUDS

Biggest % losses in stocks over \$5

1. **HYDROGENICS CORP.**
\$21.80 -5.63
2. **TERAGO**
\$5.05 -5.25
3. **WALL FINANCIAL**
\$10.57 -4.77

GO FIGURE

Today's big financial number



\$8.5M

LONDON — The British subsidiary of French train and turbine maker Alstom paid around \$8.5 million in bribes over a six-year period to win transport contracts in India, Poland and Tunisia, Britain's leading fraud prosecutor alleged on Tuesday.

DOLLAR	BRITISH£	EURO	S&P/TSX	NASDAQ	DOW	NIKKEI	GOLD	OIL	PRIME
DOWN 0.03¢ 91.08¢ US	UP 0.15¢ \$1.7691 CDN	UP 0.52¢ \$1.4207 CDN	UP 27.42 15,36.81	DOWN 40.00 4,552.29	DOWN 97.55 17,013.87	UP 0.28 15,749.15	UNCHANGED \$1,252.70 US	UP \$0.09 \$92.75 US	UNCHANGED 3%

■ **BUSINESS:** It never feels good to be underpaid

Get paid for what you do



Special to QMI Agency

I know, I know — any job is better than no job. But sometimes just a little research can go a long way to making you a lot richer.

I learned this lesson when I was 16 and looking for my first job. One of my friends was being paid \$3.50/hour (minimum wage at the time) working as a cashier at the local IGA grocery store, while another friend was being paid \$10/hour working as a cashier at Loblaws. It was the same exact job, just with different grocery bags. I knew where to focus my interview efforts.

Sometimes you have to go deeper in assessing the competitive landscape. A Toronto oil and gas consulting CEO told me how she optimized her earning potential: "When I was deciding what to study, I wanted to go into business



but decided that this route wouldn't lead to good money right away. I noticed the types of jobs available and chose to attend engineering school instead. I was one of the first students to get a job in my final year. My advice is to do what is

closest to money first. This is how I run my business and how I structure my pursuits."

It isn't just CEOs who have had to make strategic decisions affecting how much they earn. An award-winning artist in Berlin told me she learned the

importance of getting her "fair share" by observing her mother when she was growing up. Her mom was a wonderful baker who would use only the finest ingredients for baking, but she didn't do so well when she tried to turn her hobby into a busi-

ness. She didn't charge enough to cover her costs and make a profit, she seemed to think that people wouldn't pay that much for her cakes.

"It annoyed me that she didn't have a sense of the value of her work and her efforts. I know from my own experience as an artist that there are people out there who are willing to pay a lot for certain things, so it would be naive of me to undervalue my work even though the perception of artists is that we aren't supposed to be materialistic. Money symbolizes your value as an artist or whatever else you do."

Sometimes we are so grateful to be pursuing our passion, or even just to have a good job, we aren't inclined to concern ourselves with how much we actually earn. But the onus is on the individual to do the research and find out the value of their contribution to the marketplace. From there, ask for this amount and don't settle for less.

It never feels good to be underpaid — we know in our hearts this isn't fair. Get paid for what you do!

FARM MARKETS

LIVESTOCK

Ontario Cattlemen's Association's report as of yesterday morning: **FED CATTLE:** Cows \$80.26-116.68. Veal calves — over 600 lb. \$122.81-146.00; 125 lb. and less \$141.70-305.91. **REPLACEMENT CATTLE:** LAMBS: 95-109 lb. \$189.13-204.65; 80-94 lb. \$183.05-203.06; 65-79 lb. \$176.15-210.20; 50-64 lb. \$172.86-219.83; 49 lb. and less \$127.98-181.23; 110 lb. and up \$148.02-170.38. **SHEEP:** all weights — \$94.81-120.44. **GOATS:** all weights \$86.76-221.66.

GRAIN

MITCHELL — Thompsons Limited reports market opens as of 10:45 a.m. yesterday: Soft white wheat (Dec. 2014) \$221.15 a tonne (\$6.02 a bu.); soft red wheat (Dec. 2014) \$188.10 a

tonne (\$5.12 a bu.). Old crop corn (Dec. 2014) at \$174.40 a tonne (\$4.43 a bu.); new crop corn (Dec. 2014) at \$146.85 a tonne (\$3.73 a bu.). Soybeans, old crop (Nov. 2014) at \$461.80 a tonne (\$12.57 a bu.); new crop soy (Nov. 2014) \$377.30 a tonne (\$10.27 a bu.).

HOGS

Ontario Pork reports Monday's CME Constructed (201) price at \$97.30 US per cwt. DW, up \$1.23 from the previous day. Monday's 100% formula price was \$192.66 per ckg DW, up \$3.21 from the previous business day. Quebec's average price on Monday was \$190.96 per ckg DW 100 Index. Yesterday's opening live hog futures price on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange for October 2014 was \$103.400 US per cwt. DW, up \$0.325 from the previous day's close.

LOCAL NEWS

Wednesday, September 10, 2014

■ **LOCAL ECONOMY:** Workforce doubles in only four months

Celebrating with Masterfeeds

SCOTT WISHART
Staff Photographer

It's not every day you hear of a Stratford plant nearly doubling its workforce in just four months. And when you do, it calls for a celebration.

Masterfeeds did one up in style on Tuesday, holding a barbecue in co-operation with Maple Lodge Farms at its facility on Park Street, just off Romeo.

"We've doubled the output of this plant," Masterfeeds Ontario general manager Peter Peacock said.

“

They do a tremendous job. They've done everything we've asked for, and they provide good service and a great product.”

Maple Lodge's Janice Thompson

"It's running six days a week, 24 hours a day. This is a great news story and nobody knows it."

Masterfeeds' new relationship with Maple Lodge Farms is key to the increased production and the new jobs, Peacock noted.

The plant now has an agreement to supply broiler feed pellets to Maple Lodge, which is a major player in the Canadian chicken market. It is known as the largest independent family-owned chicken processor in the country.

Maple Lodge's Janice Thompson, vice-president of agricultural operations, said she's pleased with what she's seen already from the Masterfeeds' operation.

"They have a professional team



Shown at a celebratory barbecue at Masterfeeds in Stratford on Tuesday are, from left, Masterfeeds CEO and president Robert Flack, Masterfeeds Ontario general manager Peter Peacock, Maple Lodge Farms vice-president of agricultural operations Janice Thompson, and Masterfeeds Stratford operations manager Doug Corriveau.

here," she said. "They do a tremendous job. They've done everything we've asked for, and they provide good service and a great product."

The agreement to supply Maple

Lodge has also meant significant capital investment at the plant, which was built in 1968 and has seen many upgrades since. And a few more hirings are also on the horizon, Peacock noted.

Currently, the mill employs about 40 workers, 17 of whom were hired this year. The afternoon-long barbecue was a way show local customers just how the plant works, Peacock

said. But, mostly, it was a way to thank the Masterfeeds' workforce for all their efforts in the transition period. "We've got a number of employ-

ees who have stood on their heads to change the plant in order to double the output," he said. "They've put in a lot of hard work and we wanted to say, 'Thank you.'"

■ **TAKE BACK THE NIGHT:** Annual Stratford walk scheduled for Friday

Demanding safer streets

Beacon Herald Staff

Led by the Wicked Riders women's motorcycle club, the annual Take Back the Night march to promote safe communities for women and children will take place this Friday, Sept. 12, at The Local Community Food Centre on Erie Street starting at 7 p.m.

"Take Back the Night is the one night of the year when women and children walk through the streets of Stratford with one another demanding safe streets," said Fern Sharp, awareness and resource co-ordinator for the

Optimism Place Women's Shelter and Support Services.

"With this march, we demand safety in our homes and on our streets. Unfortunately, women and children are still not safe in their own community."

Following the march, guests can meet authors Judy Miller Rose and Heather Wharram, who co-wrote *Rose and Wharram: Just When You Think It's All Over...*

The work tells how Rose and her children survived abuse by her partner, including an attempted murder in 1983. It documents how community

support by agencies, including the London Police Service and the Women's Community House, helped save her life and protect her children. It also recounts how she and her children healed and flourished in their lives.

The event also features a used book sale. Anyone interested in selling books for women or children can rent a table for \$10. Call 519-271-8778 for details.

All are welcome to the event, which is free admission, but only women can take part in the march. More information is available at www.optimismplace.com.

■ **CITY COUNCIL:** Stratford avoids costly OMB hearing

Green light for Pol project

DONAL O'CONNOR
Staff Reporter

A revised Pol Quality Homes housing project on St. Vincent Street was approved by city council Monday ending a standoff that was headed to an Ontario Municipal Board hearing.

Key to council's decision, which reversed an earlier position against the original project, was an agreement reached between the developer and Stackpole International, the nearby manufacturing company that had objected to Pol's earlier plans.

A revised development proposal limits the proposed project to a maximum of two storeys and would permit one apartment dwelling with a maximum of 16 units and one with a maximum

of eight units — a five-unit reduction from original plans for the former school property at 431 St. Vincent.

The earlier proposal included conversion of an existing structure to a three-storey apartment building with 24 dwelling units. Council was informed as well that the developer is no longer seeking a 27% to 30% reduction in the minimum landscaped open space requirement for the project.

Council's reversal, based on the revised application, followed a required two-thirds vote in favour of reconsidering the earlier decision.

Whether the reversal will be popular is another question. Close to 120 citizens had signed a petition opposing the rezoning of

the property to permit the original proposal.

In taking its earlier position, council had acted contrary to planning advice received from the city's planning department.

Council's decision avoids an OMB hearing that would have cost city taxpayers at least \$40,000. Councilors Keith Culliton, Bonnie Henderson, Brad Beatty, Tom Clifford, George Brown and Howard Farnham favoured reconsideration of council's earlier position.

Mayor Dan Mathieson was among those on council sticking with opposition to the project while Coun. Martin Ritsma declared a conflict of interest.

donal.oconnor@sunmedia.ca

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Honorary colonel



Gov.-Gen. David Johnston presents Loreena McKennitt with a scroll marking her appointment as the new Honorary Colonel of the Royal Canadian Air Force alongside Lt.-Gen. Ivan Blondin during the Honorary Colonels Conference in Quebec City this month.

■ **CITY COUNCIL**

Council votes to raze hydro station

DONAL O'CONNOR
Staff Reporter

The Festival Hydro transformation station at 10 York St. is to be demolished following city council's approval Monday of a heritage permit to allow for its removal.

Because the building is located in the city's heritage district, the special permit is required. The utility building, a low-lying structure on the north side of York

Street to the west of the municipal parking lot, has not been in use for the past two years.

At least in the short term, a fence is to be erected separating the property from the parking lot after the building is taken down.

Coun. George Brown suggested the building site be added to the adjacent municipal parking lot or left as parkland without any fencing. He noted the city owns Festival Hydro.

"I think a fence looks silly," he said. "To me, it doesn't make sense."

A background report to council indicates Festival Hydro has concerns about possible contaminants in the building, including water and mould issues.

"It is only possible to eliminate the fence if the site is remediated of all contaminants," the report says.

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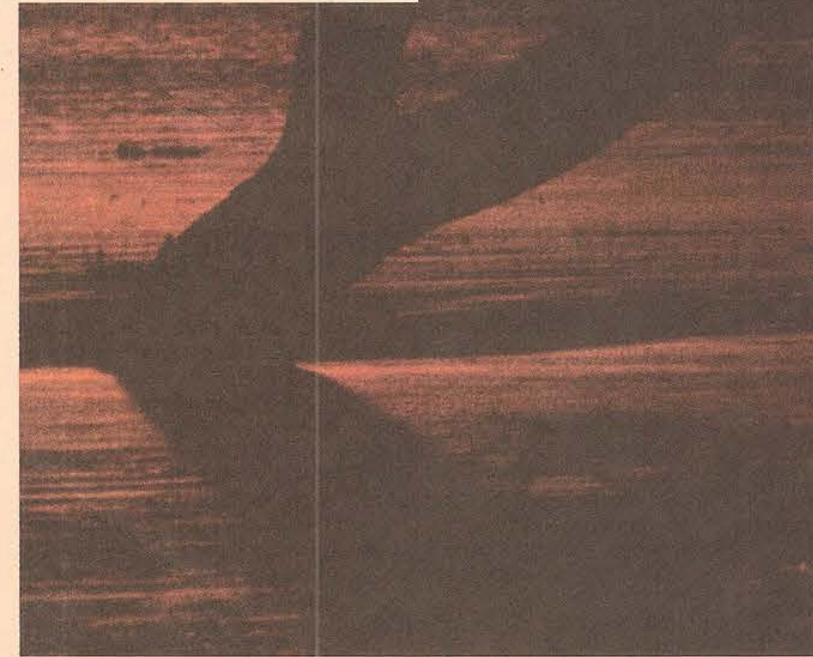
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Obituaries | In Memoriam | Thanks | Births | Celebrations | More

CLARKE, Irene Lorraine (nee Richardson) - at Wildwood Care Centre, St. Marys, on Sunday September 7, 2014 in her 90th year. Beloved wife of the late William R. Clarke who predeceased her in 2007, whom she married in 1968. Dear step-mom of Robert and Joan Clarke, R.R. #2 Gorrie, Linda and Lloyd "Chip" Brinnell, R.R. #6 St. Marys, Judy and Karl Baron, Oshawa and Chris and John Bickell, Woodham. Loving Grandma to 9 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. Dear sister of Robert P. Richardson, Simcoe. Predeceased by her parents Jack and Minnie (Bodenham) Richardson, brother Private Wm. Richardson (1944 WWII), sister Evelyn Stevens and sister-in-law Ruth (Mrs. Robert Richardson). Lovingly remembered by nieces and nephews. Cremation has taken place. Memorial donations to the St. Marys Memorial Hospital or the Alzheimer's Society would be appreciated. A Celebration of Life and interment in Carlingford Union Cemetery to be held at a later date. Online condolences at www.hodgesfuneralhome.ca.

CONLAN, Regina - Regina Elizabeth Conlan, age 60, passed away on Wednesday, September 3, 2014 at Victoria Hospital, London. She is survived by her two daughters Carey and Mandy and their father Glenn Conlan. Proud Grandmother to Jamie, Jordyn and Jeremy. She is also survived by her siblings: Richard, Ralph, Renata, Robert and Tony. A memorial service will be held at the W.G. Young Funeral Home, 430 Huron St., Stratford, on Friday, September 12 at 7 p.m. with visitation one hour before the service. As expressions of sympathy memorial donations may be made to the Alzheimer Society of Ontario or the Canadian Cancer Society through the funeral home. www.wgyoungfuneralhome.com

GIGUN, Mary - Passed away peacefully, surrounded by family on Monday, September 8, 2014 at The Village of Winston Park, Kitchener at the age of 98. Beloved wife of the late Peter (2000). Loving mother of Dale Smith (Dave) of Kitchener. Grandma to Tammy Schmelzle (Steven), David Smith (Nikki Foster), Peter Smith, Ashley Litt (Kory). Great-grandma to Emma, Grace, Jack Schmelzle and Lily Smith. Dear sister of Ruby Beale (the late John), Vera Jackson (the late Keith) Lucille Rodin (the late Roland), Evelyn Reeve (Jack). Predeceased by her sister Kitty Bowsman and brothers John and Fred. Fondly remembered by many nieces and nephews. Mary's family will receive relatives and friends on Friday from 2-4 and 7-9 pm and 9:30-10:15 am on Saturday at the Henry Walser Funeral Home, 507 Frederick St., Kitchener 519-749-8467. Funeral service 10:30 am Saturday in the chapel of the funeral home followed by a reception. Interment Williamsburg Cemetery. As expressions of sympathy donations to Ontario St. Baptist Church or Ontario Heart and Stroke Foundation would be appreciated by the family (cards available at the funeral home). Visit www.henrywalser.com for Mary's memorial.



FRANKLIN

Largely intact ship 'incredible'

From Al
Echoing the prime minister's remarks, MacDonald said the find is "a great historic discovery" and it supports Canada's ideas around sovereignty in the Arctic.
"It's especially wonderful for the Inuit people because it supports their tradition of oral story-telling and that's really where all their stories pointed to where the ship had been."
MacDonald termed the largely intact condition of the sunken ship "incredible."
It's the discovery the search team had been hoping for, reasoning that, if the ship went down in one piece, the Arctic water would have kept it in relatively good shape, even after more than 165 years.
MacDonald was among those to first see video images from the camera that was sent down to record the long-searched-for wreck.
"You can see canons on the deck ... a lot of fittings on the deck. The ship basically sank straight down and remained intact."
It's of huge historical significance, he said.
The ARF research vessel Martin Bergmann, a former fishing trawler purchased by the ARF and refitted for ocean research in the North, has been integral in the search effort led by Parks Canada.
"I believe, as we speak, the Martin Bergmann is at the search site," said MacDonald.
The president and CEO of Ideal Supply said he expects to travel to the discovery site next summer.
In a recent interview just days after the Canadian flotilla began this year's search for the Franklin ships MacDonald said: "The perfect scenario would be to find the ships intact."
Sunday's discovery has undoubtedly heightened interest in finding the second ship as well.

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ACROSS THE REGION

SOUTHWESTERN ONTARIO HIGHLIGHTS



CRAG GLOVER/THE LONDON FREE PRESS

First-year Western University medical sciences students Thomas Cole, left, and Alexandra Dolganov watch from the lawn on University College hill as fellow students walk across campus Tuesday. Classes at the university in London kicked off last week.

Vacant motel fire called suspicious

ST. THOMAS — Fire officials were combing through the rubble at a long-vacant motel here Tuesday morning to determine the cause of what is being called a "suspicious" fire that broke out just before midnight.
Flames shot about six metres in the air at the height of the blaze at the former Ramada Inn on Wellington St. Quick action by city firefighters limited damage to the west end of the L-shaped structure.
Chief fire prevention officer Bill Todd said water and gas had been shut off previously but electrical service was on.

St. Thomas Times-Journal

20 contenders for Chatham ward

CHATHAM — A Chatham resident has become the 20th person to file for council in Ward 6.
Bruce Caldwell hopes to see some change come next month, believing Chatham-Kent needs councillors to actively represent the public.
"I think showing people that we're fiscally responsible, having several years of no property tax increases and then capping it at the rate of inflation (would) actually be progressive instead of reactive," he said. Caldwell, 38, a retail manager, also ran for council in 2010 and 2006.

Chatham Daily News

Announcement promised

OWEN SOUND — The long-vacant Russel Brothers waterfront property — heretofore at times by various proponents as the future site of a national aquarium, a convention centre or a couple of marina and condo developments — is soon to be the subject of an announcement, a proponent of the latest unfilled development on the site said.
Moe Zadeh, of the Devco Group, announced in 2007 a waterfront condo project would begin that year. He promised a new announcement this month.

Owen Sound Sun-Times

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Ex-police chief seeks re-election

WOODSTOCK — Retired Woodstock police chief Ron Fraser is running again. The longtime Woodstock resident announced he's running for re-election as a city councillor.
A police officer for 34 years, Fraser said he developed an interest in municipal politics when he was chief. After "retirement and a bit of a rest," he ran successfully for council in October 2010.

Fraser said he's heartened by the number of other candidates. "I don't care who you vote for, but vote," he urged citizens.

Woodstock Sentinel-Review

Armed American fined \$10,000

SARNIA — An American with a loaded gun while looking for a liquor bargain was fined \$10,000 in Sarnia court.
John Anthony Mlynarek, 53, of Chesterfield, Mich., pleaded guilty to the Aug. 19, 2013, offences of evading the Customs Act, possession of a gun without a licence, possession of a loaded prohibited gun and being in a vehicle knowing a firearm was present.

On Aug. 19, Mlynarek went to the duty-free store in Port Huron to make a purchase but was told he had to go to Canada first. He told a Canadian border official he had no gun.

Sarnia Observer

September 18-21

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SUN MEDIA
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Janay, Joanie, abused women deserve better

The video of Baltimore Ravens running back Ray Rice slamming his then-fiance, now wife, into the side of an elevator then hauling her apparently unconscious body into a hotel lobby like a sack of potatoes is sickening. There are those who believe the Ravens cutting him and the lifetime ban from the league is an over-the-top punishment.
He may have been convicted in the court of Twitter, but he hasn't been found guilty of anything in a court of law. And we can see the video, but we don't know the context.



CHRISTINA BLIZZARD

If fiance, Janay, went on to marry him — and she did — who are we to judge?
All good points, but nagging in my mind is a horrific murder that hit close to home for me. It left me shocked by the complex and deeply troubling nature of marital violence against women.
It's been almost 27 years since my friend Joanie was slain by her husband in England.
She and her mother were stabbed to death on Christmas Eve in front of her two children by her husband.
After years of abuse, Joanie had fled to what she thought was the safety of her mother's home, only to be pursued and murdered by her husband.
A post mortem examination showed numerous old injuries, evidence of the abuse she'd silently suffered.

Those who knew Joanie are still haunted. What could we have seen?
How could I not have seen the ongoing abuse? Joanie always insisted I stay with her when I was in England, largely, I now suspect, because her husband didn't beat her when I was there.
Or perhaps he did. Perhaps I just didn't see it. Perhaps I didn't want to see it.
I believe the NFL had no choice but to make a bold statement about violence against women. In banning Rice for life, this high-powered organization that represents a high-testosterone, male-dominated sport has sent a message to the wider community that it's never appropriate to punch your future wife in the face.

On the video, Rice showed no remorse when Janay dropped to the ground.
Janay expressed anger at the media Tuesday. "To make us relive a moment in our lives that we regret every day is a horrible thing. To take something away from the man I love that he has worked his ass off for all his life just to gain ratings is horrible."
"This is our life."
If that's her life, there's a bigger problem. She may not want to press charges, but when there's overwhelming evidence a serious assault has taken place, the broader community has a responsibility to step up and say, "Enough is enough."

In my friend Joanie's case, few of her friends suspected anything was wrong. Those who did and tried to help were rebuffed.
The final, sad chapter of the story unfolded 16 years later. Convicted of the two murders in 1987 and sentenced to life imprisonment, her husband was released from prison on probation in 2003.

In 2006, he murdered another woman with whom he was in a relationship and hanged himself. The woman was warned of his past by his probation officer, but claimed he was never violent with her and asked the officer not to contact her again.

It's Rice unfairly being made the scapegoat for the NFL's past omissions when it comes to domestic violence? Possibly. But I'm glad they've taken a stand that says society can no longer pretend there's nothing to see.
I've spent three decades wondering why and how I failed my friend Joanie. I'll never know the answer. I do know that pretending it didn't happen is not a solution.

christina.blizzard@sunmedia.ca

Cherish the mystery of yourself

This week, I read about someone who finally gave in and got his first smart phone. Once he'd figured it out, he circulated a picture he took of himself. He called it his "first facie".
Such self-portraits, taken by pointing the camera toward you at the end of your extended arm or by turning it toward a mirror, are called selfies, but the man's misnomer "facie" is probably more accurate. Selfies are hardly portraits of the self, something far too elusive for a digital image.
The concept of self may sound like a religious category. Not so. A host of writers have pondered the self. In his mock self-help book *Lost in the Cosmos*, the late Walker Percy writes that you can "learn more in ten minutes about the Crab Nebula in Taurus"



BOB RIPLEY

than you "presently know about yourself, even though you've been stuck with yourself all your life."

Each of us is a mystery. Not the who-dun-it mystery to be solved by the last page or the end of the episode. In those cases, the mysteriousness must be dispelled for the truth to be known.
The self is a different mystery altogether; the mystery which does not shroud a truth you think through, but whose truth is itself the mystery. It's a mystery you don't solve; you live.

All the me's I've been are buried inside keeping company with the me I am now. I'm also the sum of my ancestry. I move and talk like my parents. To borrow from

COMMENT



PUBLIC VS. PRIVATE

BRIAN LILLEY TAKES A FIELD TRIP TO SEE IF PRIVATE SCHOOLS ARE BETTER

TONIGHT BYLINE

WITH BRIAN LILLEY

9

SUN NEWS

POINT OF VIEW

Harper speaks loudly, opts for small stick

Theodore Roosevelt once said about international diplomacy: "Speak softly and carry a big stick; you will go far."

In regard to the ongoing conflict between Russia, Ukraine and possibly the rest of Eastern Europe, Prime Minister Stephen Harper has adopted a different approach. He's been rather loud about Russia's aggression against Ukraine, but isn't about to take up the big stick.

Harper and his government have been under pressure by NATO to increase Canada's contribution to NATO's defence budget, from 1% of Canada's GDP, to 2%.

That's a tall order for a government committed to balancing the federal budget for 2015, and a taller one for a government slowly reducing its spending commitment to its own military and defence budget.

Harper will only say Canada is committed to working with NATO and its objectives and would continue in that support, but in a frugal fashion.

"We go out and figure out what it is we need to do, and then we attempt to get a budget as frugally as possible to achieve those objectives," he said.

Many Canadians see the logic in that

approach.

There seems to be a determination within the Harper camp to put a lid on defence spending. Although the Conservatives are spending more money on defence than did the Jean Chretien or Paul Martin governments of a decade ago, spending has dropped since 2011, and more defence department cuts are scheduled.

What makes the NATO request interesting is Harper has been leading the Western democracies and NATO membership in assailing Russian President Vladimir Putin for his military aggression. Our prime minister has been very vocal, and has taken a leadership role in condemning Putin and Russia.

It would be wrong to measure Canada's history with NATO based on its spending. Canada has mostly stood with its allies and has risen to the challenge of trying to achieve peace in those parts of the world that are anything but peaceful.

Still, Harper likely will be compelled to commit more financial support, but with an eye on the budget.

Whether he will go far, as suggested by Roosevelt more than 100 years ago, remains to be seen.

— Peter Epp

lorne.gunter@sunmedia.ca

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Audit finds little to show for 27.5M

In the late 1980s and early 1990s, Lubicon Lake Cree Chief Bernard Ominayak was a darling of the Alberta left.

With his flowing black hair and ever-present black "Lubicon Lake Nation" ball cap, Ominayak mesmerized Canada's chattering classes with his tales of how his people had been overlooked by 19th-century treaty negotiators and so remained a sovereign nation.



LORNE GUNTER

Never mind that many longstanding residents of the Lubicon Lake area insisted Ominayak was an interloper who moved into their area from a neighbouring First Nation when he smelled a good opportunity. Ominayak got himself elected chief of the band nestled in the boreal forest about 75 km northeast of Peace River and began claiming his people were the only rightful government of the oil and gas-rich region.

He wouldn't rule out violence if energy development continued on Lubicon land before a land claim could be settled. Then he held out for two, three or more times what neighbouring bands had accepted. Because he was facing off against a Tory premier (Don Getty) and a Tory prime minister (Brian Mulroney), Ominayak's stock wry journalists, activists and full-time cause-pleaders soared still higher.

Lefty priests and ministers flocked to Ominayak's side. Journalists fell all over themselves to tell his story and recount the struggles of his people against Big Oil and against uncaring Conservative politicians. The United Nations intervened on his behalf. He was feted in the capitals of Europe. Labour leaders claimed solidarity with him. Songwriters and actors held benefits for his band and thousands turned out to hear him speak and to donate money to the cause.

Even Mulroney and Getty paid homage and largely caved in to Ominayak's demands. But time largely forgot Bernard Ominayak. Not even lefty reporters can maintain interest in a professional goalpost-mover — a man who gets what he wants, only then to shift his demands still higher and farther away.

For two more decades the power struggle between Ominayak and those Lubicon Lake residents who refused to recognize his authority continued. In 2009, Ominayak had himself elected chief-for-life claiming that since the federal government had no authority over his people, his people were not bound by federal election rules for reserves. In 2013, when reserves fed up with Ominayak organized a regular election and replaced him as chief, Ominayak broke away from the band and insisted he was the leader of a separate First Nation that was bound by "indigenous sovereign law," not Canadian law.

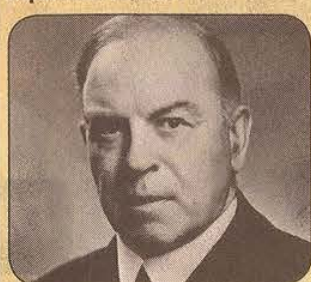
Too bad when he broke away, Ominayak forgot to take the records of the Cree Development Corporation with him. Now the new Lubicon Lake Chief Billy Joe Laboucane has asked the respected accounting firm Meyers Norris Penny (MNP) to conduct a forensic audit of the CDC's books. What MNP found is hardly shocking given the state of governance on hundreds of First Nations. But it should at least take the bloom off the Bernard Ominayak rose for those activists who still see him as a hero. While a spokesman for Ominayak has denied any wrongdoing (indeed, he denies any knowledge of the audit), MNP found that between 2006 and 2012, the Cree Development Corporation — controlled by Ominayak, his family and friends — spent \$27.5 million of mostly taxpayers' money with little to show for it.

Ominayak is said to have pocketed \$1.5 million, with a total of \$2.7 million going to him and his inner circle, all while people on his reserve lived without running water. This has happened on reserve after reserve after reserve across the country: chiefs pleading sagacity and desperation for lack of funding all while they are living large at Canadians' expense. It's chiefs as One-Percenters.

REWIND

today in history

September 10, 2014



1939 — During a special session, Parliament approved a request by Prime Minister William Lyon Mackenzie King for Canada to join the war in Europe. It was the first time Canada made its own declaration of war as a sovereign nation.

1973 — A bomb blast rocked central London, injuring 13 people. The IRA later took responsibility for the attack that brought chaos to the British city.

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