## THE FACES BEHIND THE BYLINES

Newspaper National Week is upon us. What better time to provide readers with information on your local journalists, who are committed - and connected - to the Halton community.

This special feature ofof fers you - our readers with a look at the faces beind the bylines for stories published in your community newspaper and online at www.insidehalton.com.

Veronica Appia is a reporter/ photographer with the Georgetown Independent and

Free Press.



Veronica Appia

She has been working in the journalism realm for five years, first as a theatre critic, online editor and digital content producer, prior to tackling the news in Halton Hills. She is also the regional education reporter, covering the Halton District School Board for the Burlington Post, Milton Canadian Champion and Oakville Beaver. Veronica is a sucker for cheesy romance novels and a good live mu-

sical. John Bkila is the city hall reporter for Burlington Post. He alwrites about politiissues



John Bkila

Halton.

He has

NEWSPAPERS NOW MORE THAN EVER

NATIONAL NEWSPAPER WEEK

OCTOBER 1-7, 2018

been working as a journalist for nine years. About 85 per cent of his knowledge of the world, history and social phenomena came from The

Herb Garbutt is Haltonbased reporter with previ-

Simpsons.

ous spots in Herb Garbutt Lindsay and

Pembrook - with 26 years experience covering mostly sports and athletes in the community. He loves live music and has been to 15 concerts in the past eight months. Favourites include The Glorious Sons, Shinedown, The Offspring and Alice in Chains. He owns four guitars and zero musical talent. His pets include two 25-year-old

turtles. Alexandra Heck is a reporter with the IFP George-

in town covering

town hall and re-

gional politics, health, crime and general assignments. She has five years experience reporting as a freelancer for the Orangeville Banner, as well as for Niagara This Week and

Alexandra

Heck

the Fernie Free Press. Alex loves running, watercolor painting and brewing kombu-

David Lea is a Metroland Halton division reporter with 12 years' experience.

David Lea

He's a hig fan of horror movies and The Walking Dead.

Steve LeBlanc is a news editor who has been working in the industry

for the past Steve LeBlanc 25 years. His

all-consuming love of coffee has inspired him to write four poems about the soulnourishing

brew. Kevin Nagel is a news ediwith more than 39 years ex-

perience in Kevin Nagel the industry.

He has spent all those years with Metroland (and Inland) in Burlington. When his wife delivered their healthy baby girl, Veronica, after 24 hours of labour, Kevin suffered from a migraine due to a lack of food and sleep. The doctor told his wife Kathy, "You and the baby are fine, but I don't know if you're husband is going to make it."

Graham Paine is a vet-

eran photojournalist will who soon mark 40 years in business. started in



newsrooms were outfitted with darkrooms. He was invited - and attended - a special reception onboard The Royal Yacht Britannia, where he got to mix and mingle with Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth and

Prince Philip. Saira Peesker is

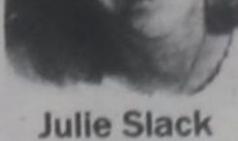
a reporter who writes for the Burlington

Post, Oak- Saira Peesker ville Beaver

Canadian Milton Champion. She has been working in the industry for 14 years. She has played roller derby for a decade with the Toronto and Hamilton A-teams. As a result, she is currently

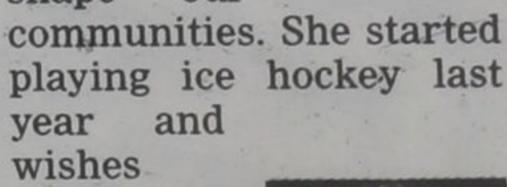
on crutches recovering from knee surgery but dreams of a triumphant return to

the track. Julie Slack is a reporter who has worked in the industry for 29



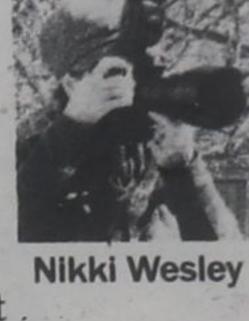
years. Over the past 11 years, she has fostered more than 200 cats and kittens through a cat rescue. The number of feline fosters is almost equivalent to her collection of novelty socks.

Nikki 3 Wesley has the spent better part of the last 11 years focusing her lens on the people and that events shape our



she'd started 30 years Tim

has worked as



ago. Whitnell

reporter



with more than years' experience. the Over course

my arms."

Kathy

Yanchus is

a reporter

of Kathy career, Yanchus has worked for four of Halton West division's five papers, including the Oakville

Beaver, Burlington Post,

Milton Canadian Champi-

for the last 32 years. While

on assignment for the

Burlington Post, he once

took a chilly winter night-

time flight in a police heli-

copter over Burlington

and Hamilton. He also

rode in the passenger seat

of a race car around a

track in Cayuga - without

a working seatbelt. He

didn't know that until he

was about to get into the

car. "I made the decision

to take the ride anyway as

I made the effort to get

down there, and got a flat

tire along the way. An

omen? I just held on to a

loose harness for dear life

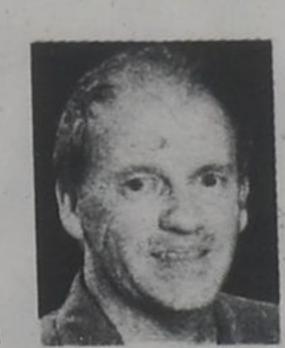
for about 10 minutes, es-

pecially going around the

race track's sharp corners.

with the G force straining

on and Flamborough Review.



Tim Whitnell

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