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Richmond success story

08-09



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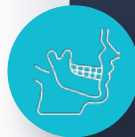
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Spooktacular Halloween activities in Richmond

Throughout this spookiest of months, spend time with ghouls, goblins, friends and family at events at any of the 20+ Halloween-inspired events and activities on now through Thursday, Oct. 31 including the fang-tastic Halloween Fireworks Festival in Minoru Park on Halloween night. All the details about this year's 20+ events can be found at richmond.ca/halloween.

Other family-friendly and spooky activities include:

- Halloween-themed skates in costume at Minoru Arenas
- Boogie-ing at a Monster Mash Dance Party at Cambie and South Arm Community Centres
- Pumpkin carving and painting at Steveston Community Centre
- Making magical potions and slime at South Arm, Thompson and West Richmond Community Centres
- Dropping in to the Halloween Hoot at Richmond Nature Park, open until October 27

On Halloween night, bring friends and family to the Halloween Fireworks Festival at Minoru Park (7191 Granville Avenue) from 6:30 to 8:45 p.m. to:

- Watch stage performers including a magician, jugglers and the "ShowStoppers" ensemble, and take in the roaming performers including actors in costume, face painters and stilt walkers
- See a live pumpkin carver, check out Kwantlen Polytechnic University's giant pumpkin display and visit the inflatable corn maze
- Participate in carnival style games and activities to win candy and chocolate bars
- Enjoy a variety of on-site food trucks offering Greek food, grilled cheese sandwiches, tornado



Photo courtesy City of Richmond

Halloween Fireworks Festival at Minoru Park on Thursday, October 31.

potatoes, mini donuts and bubble tea for sale

- View the fireworks finale that starts at 8:30 p.m. Visit richmond.ca/halloween for all details, including registering for programs.

Fireworks and firecrackers are illegal to pos-

sess, buy, sell or detonate in Richmond. City By-laws staff as well as RCMP units will be out and about this month, and a zero tolerance approach will be taken to ensure the safety of the community.

A family Spooktacular at the Richmond Nature Park

Lurking spiders, oversized bats and ghostly owls return to the Richmond Nature Park this year for the annual Halloween Hoot. Drop-by to this free, outdoor, family-friendly event and wander the Halloween-decorated Pond Trail with over 30 inflatables, 10 unique nature-themed art installations and a spooky tickle tunnel.

Halloween Hoot runs daily, rain or shine, until Sunday, Oct. 27 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Boo-tiful pumpkins just waiting to be carved will be available for purchase (all proceeds to the Richmond Nature Park Society.)

With recent Nature House renovations now complete, come by and check out the Urban Wildlife display and the *Once Upon a Pumpkin* displays. A gourd of gloom pumpkin will



Photo courtesy City of Richmond

The annual Halloween Hoot returns to the Richmond Nature Park until October 27.

also be on display, and the lucky visitor with the closest guess to its exact weight will win it.

The Nature House is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and admission is by donation, with all proceeds supporting the Richmond Nature Park Society's year-round educational programs.

The Richmond Nature Park is located at 11851 Westminster Highway, at No. 5 Road. On-site parking is limited for this popular event. Visitors are encouraged to take public transit or car pool. Overflow parking is available on weekends, south of Westminster Highway along No. 5 Road.

For more information about this event, visit richmond.ca/halloween or call the Richmond Nature Park at 604-238-6188.

Businesses celebrates transformative technologies

Transformative technologies can be a partner in creating change in multiple areas, whether on climate action goals, mobility, energy generation or inclusivity in fashion design and apparel. It also takes human talent and human collaboration to move these changes forward across industries and within our community. These were key messages from business leaders at the City of Richmond's 2024 Business and Partner Appreciation Event held Thursday, Oct. 3 at the Wilson School of Design at Kwantlen Polytechnic University in Richmond.

"Many Richmond business leaders are developing or adopting transformative technologies," said Mayor Malcolm Brodie, as he welcomed over 100 local companies and partners attending the event. "Today, we celebrate your success—and demonstrate how your innovative solutions position us well for the future."

Looking at the overall state of the economy, keynote speaker Jean-François Perrault, Scotiabank's senior vice president and chief economist, noted that there is more clarity in the economic outlook than over the past few years. Inflation is relatively under control, and the economy is slowing into a soft landing zone. "Growth isn't too strong and it isn't too weak," Perrault explained. However, that clarity may be temporary, as household savings rates continue to be high, and pent up consumer demand may be unleashed as interest rates continue to fall – potentially driving inflation. A key unknown in the outlook is the outcome of the upcoming U.S. election and the potential future impact on global trade policy.

Panel moderator, Paul Tilbury, chief operating officer of Dayhu Group and chair of the City of Richmond Economic Advisory Committee, opened the discussion on "Transforming Today for Tomorrow" by asking the guest panel of three Richmond business leaders about the transformative technologies that they are creating and/or adopting. Transformative technologies can be defined as innovative and advanced technological solutions or tools, such as artificial intelligence, that have the potential to significantly alter existing processes, systems and practices.

Cheryl Bond, co-founder and chief operating officer of MADE Tech, described how her company is addressing the gap between made-to-measure



Photo courtesy City of Richmond

Left to right: Jean-François Perrault (SVP & Chief Economist, Scotiabank), Paul Tilbury (Chair, City of Richmond Economic Advisory Committee), Robert Crystal (Senior Vice President of Finance, General Fusion), Matthew Anderson (Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer, A&K Robotics), Cheryl Bond (Co-Founder and Chief Operating Officer, MADE Tech), and Mayor Malcolm Brodie.

and made-on-demand through automation for custom fashion and apparel. "Technology touches every part of fashion," Bond noted, explaining how her company is working collaboratively with competitors and partners to move the industry forward. Their approach also opens the door to greater opportunities for local production, which could support resiliency in the face of potential future global trade uncertainties.

Fellow panelist Matthew Anderson, co-founder and chief executive officer of A&K Robotics, spoke about how his company makes self-driving, autonomous pods that help people get around in indoor environments such as shopping malls and airports, including a current pilot project at YVR. He noted the excitement that comes with beginning to cross the chasm to physical artificial intelligence with two-way communication that includes sight, touch and hearing. At the same time, Anderson acknowledged the challenges of navigating indoor environments without lane lines or road rules for pods to follow. Building on the personalized approach that fellow panelist Bond's technology delivers in apparel, Anderson noted the goal of making travel not

just functional but more enjoyable for users.

Robert Crystal, senior vice president of Finance at General Fusion, spoke of his company's goal to "transform how we energize the world," and the challenges involved in "creating the conditions of the sun on earth." He explained that fusion technology fuses atoms together, a safe, zero-emissions process that creates even more energy than nuclear fission, with which it is often confused. While fusion technology has been around for decades, new enabling technologies are now helping the company move closer to integrating their renewable energy onto the power grid.

Mayor Brodie thanked businesses for their innovation and hard work, acknowledging that their success makes Richmond's economy strong and contributes to making Richmond a desirable place to live and work.

The city's economic development office works to grow Richmond's business and employment base and maintain a healthy business environment in the city. For more information, visit businessinrichmond.ca, Facebook: @Richmond.EDO, X (Twitter): @RichmondEDO.

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Get Involved with the Richmond Official Community Plan Update



Richmond is updating its current Official Community Plan (OCP) and is encouraging residents and community members to learn more and provide input.

Opportunities to get involved:

- **Online:** Visit LetsTalkRichmond.ca/ocp2050
- **Get snapping:** Submit your photos and be entered into a draw to win one of multiple prizes
- **In-person pop-up booths:** Pop-up booths will be located around the City for you to learn more about the project (in September and October)
- **In-person open houses:** Drop by one of the three in-person open houses and take an online survey (in November)

For more information on how you can contribute to this important engagement opportunity visit LetsTalkRichmond.ca/ocp2050 or email communityplanning@richmond.ca



LetsTalkRichmond.ca/ocp2050



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Richmond Stories: Shirley Gnome

By MATTHEW CHEUNG
Contributing writer

In this edition of Richmond Stories, *Richmond Sentinel* host Jim Gordon (JG) sat down with local Canadian singer comedian Shirley Gnome at the office to discuss her career, tour experience, and past awards.

JG: She is a Canadian singer living in Richmond and has toured the world with her one-woman show; wowing audiences and critics alike, the person I'm talking about Shirley Gnome. Tell our viewers what is it you see, hear, read, that inspires you to do what you do?

SG: The first thought I had was not that I want to do to this, but that I like this. I didn't think I was going to do this for a living influences in my childhood developed my love for silly songs. The first is *Weird Al*, known for his parody songs, who also had a lot of originals. Canadian groups: The Arrogant Worms, Three Dead Trolls in a Baggie, and Corky and the Juice Pigs were bands in the 90s that had cultural influence. It wasn't much later, that I thought maybe I can do this because it didn't occur to me it was something girls could do.

JG: As someone who grew up in the 70s and 80s, even on shows like Sunday Night Live (SNL), women were kind of the accessories; it was a guy's room. That is not the case anymore, I'm happy to say, but what's great about what you do as well is that, you're a very good singer. You're doing it very seriously, but they're laughing hysterically, does that sort of disarm the audience?

SG: When I work on all my albums, this is something that my producer Kevin pointed out to me, it's like we're taking this very seriously. We're producing this album, putting all the effort and skill that's required to make it sound like an album, so that when you're listening to it, if you don't pay attention to the lyrics, you'd think this is just a nice song and then you'll go "wait, what did you just say?". That's the approach, I think disarming is a good way to describing it, I think also maybe confusing too. It gets into people and kind of opens a soft spot, then you can really get them.

JG: For a lot of people who may not know, your show, is very musical. I watched one of the songs you do called Selfish, which as you said, you're going for angst '90s, but then as I listened on, I paused and asked myself "what did she just say?". Tell our viewers about what they can see when you do your show because you do a lot of things.

SG: Essentially, what you walk into is a concert, I'm a singer / songwriter and I'm going to sing you some songs that are sort of an a spectrum between satirical to absurd. I like to use the musicality of different genres and juxtapose them with the messages that I put into the songs. A very serious angsty song, can be about something very innocuous or something you wouldn't make that dramatic. Just constantly combining those things and trying to keep the audience guessing where I'm going to go.



Photo courtesy Richmond Sentinel

Local Canadian singer and comedian Shirley Gnome sat down with the *Richmond Sentinel* to discuss her career, tour experience, and career inspirations.

JG: Talk about the difference between being on stage, getting that feedback, and being in the studio just recording with your team? How do you generate that feedback?

SG: What I do is I will go out and play those songs for audiences first before I record them. I will try them out a little bit, making sure that I've got all of the jokes lined up in the right place and that I know it will land. Then I go into the studio with the confidence knowing I have a good one. We also have people come in and listen to demos and I watch them listen to it so I can see when they are really focused and when they're not.

JG: How do you find audiences and are there notable differences amongst cities?

SG: From city to city, I would say so. Social, economic, and political flavours from different cities will affect how they perceive different jokes and different genres too. When I go to Alberta, they really love country music, if I go somewhere else, you could tell people are like "I don't know if I like country music", and then I started only doing country music. I do a lot of things, like folk rock, electro pop, R&B, but I play a lot of acoustic guitar, allowing me to do a lot of folk and country, kind of in the middle section of the show and keep it like that. Some people are more inclined to like that in certain places, and some might be a little more resistant. Certain jokes as well, land differently in different places, it's kind of like travelling through humour.

JG: You have a big live recording session on December 7, where will that be taking place.

SG: We will be having that live record session at the 604 Records Sound Stage, I will be going on tour with them this fall with their company Comedy Here Often?, their comedy label, and they have this beautiful space there. Because we want to make it sound as good as possible, doing it in the sound stage with all the recording gear there, we're going to build an audience setting into it.

For the full interview, visit richmondsentinel.ca/videos

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richmond.ca/rethink



The history behind Seair Seaplanes

By FLORENCE GORDON
Contributing writer

The *Richmond Sentinel* host Jim Gordon had the pleasure of filming an interview on location with Peter Clarke, president and founder of Seair Seaplanes. He was a pilot who grew up in BC dreaming from a young age about flying seaplanes on the west coast. Peter financed flying lessons and the purchase of his first seaplane by working as a fishing guide in the early eighties when he acquired his first plane, a Cessna 185.

Shortly after that, he started his business flying charters to lodges into the backcountry fishing spots, along with other charters for such businesses as lumber companies, commercial fisheries, and the Canadian Navy. Seair's offices, terminal reception and hangar are conveniently located at the Vancouver International airport, south terminal conveniently situated for passengers with commercial flights and connections.

JG: We're sitting here in the hangar with three new seaplanes as a backdrop and with Peter Clarke. Let's talk about the beginning of your journey. You were one man that started with one plane and I want to get this right because there is quite a story to tell. In 1982, you buy your first plane, a Cessna 185, and your parents said what?

PS: Well, they said, I'm completely out of my mind. And they said when I go broke the next year, they were not going to bail me out and they also said that it was a terrible idea, I was never going to make money in the aviation business. I grew up flying with my father's plane and loved it. I knew what I wanted to do from when I was young. And so, I bought my first plane and never looked back. And to this day, I still love my job.

JG: Can you describe the flying options back in 1982, if somebody wanted to go to one of the Gulf Islands or go up island, what options were there and did you see a need that wasn't being fulfilled?

PC: This coast is just so beautiful, with all the neat bays, inlets, channels, islands that you can go to. I leased myself and my plane out for the first few years. I wanted to fly more so I applied for a transport Canada license and that's when I started adding more planes.

I got my student pilot license on my birthday when I turned 16, I got my private pilot license on my birthday when I turned 17, and then I got a commercial license on my birthday at 18 years old. Would I do it all over again, you bet.

JG: Talking again about your youth and sticking to what you love, your father was a pilot and yet he was not in favour of you starting a business as a pilot.

PC: That's correct. But he only flew privately and in the air force, he never flew commercially and my sister was the second female pilot hired at Air Canada.

JG: You obviously were a prudent businessman because you had one plane that helped keep you going for the next dozen years until you started buying planes.

PC: That's right. I bought my first plane because I knew nobody would give me a job because back then, you had to have thousands of flying hours. So, with my own plane I was able to get work and then the work just kept coming.

There were a lot of seaplane airlines on the coast flying from the mainland to Vancouver island and many of those airlines have all been bought up or gone out of business. Back then we serviced the logging industry and commercial fishing. Today, we've added new business like, sport fishing and the movie industry which we do four or five movies a year. We also added scheduled flights so there's lots of work.

JG: You also described something that is very important when you own your own business and that is evolve or die. So, what you were doing back 40 years ago with logging and fishing has now evolved into so many other opportunities.

Jump ahead 40 years and the company is very successful because obviously you understood the importance of having an open mind. You offer a mixture of direct routes and daily flights, but you also capitalized on that desire for people wanting to rent a private plane.

PC: The scheduled flights we have about 34 flights a day, to the different islands that take anywhere from nine to 18 minutes. We save the customer a lot of time compared to a ferry, it's convenient and it's similar in price.

Our main business is chartering. We service a lot of fishing lodges, private islands, construction sites and waterfront homes as we fly into marinas and remote properties. I've been to every bay and inlet and island on the coast and most of our pilots have to.

JG: We were down on the dock earlier filming all your planes lined up for today's flights and one of the planes was the de Havilland Beaver, which is your pride and joy. Can you tell our viewers about the 'Coin' that is embedded on the dash board and why it will be in the Aviation Hall of Fame?

PC: It'll be in one of the museums for sure. The Beaver was so successful opening up the back-bush country and the North—the Arctic, northern Ontario, British Columbia, Quebec because you could put it on skis, on floats or even on wheels. Canada made ten coins of all their top ten engineering feats of all time. The de Havilland Beaver was one of them and we mounted the coin in an instrument hole in the dash of this Beaver. We're not ready to give the Beaver plane up yet because there's still lots of hours left on the plane.

JG: Not to mention you said that the price tag on some of these classic float planes is extremely high.

PC: That plane, brand new back in 1957, was about \$16,000 to buy. I wouldn't sell it for \$816,000 today. If kept in good shape and maintained, seaplanes increase in value. It's a good investment.

JG: You have three planes behind us here in the hangar, how many planes do you have in the fleet at this time?



Peter Clarke with mounted trophy.



Peter Clarke with Seair Seaplanes.

Photos courtesy Richmond Sentinel

PC: Right now, we have twelve and seven of them are the new Cessna Caravan. We bought all our planes directly from the factory so we can special order them the way we want them. We also have three piston Beavers and two turbine Beaver planes. The turbine Beaver is used on our charter flights and for a navy contract.

JG: Can you explain the difference between the Caravan and a Cessna?

PC: The Caravan is the new age of seaplanes. They go twice as fast as a piston Beaver. They're twice as quiet and less vibration. You can fly one all day and not be tired where a piston Beaver after flying for a couple of hours, the pilot can feel the effects from the noise and the vibration. The Caravan has come a long way from 50 years designing airplanes. A lot of our customers just love the newness and the many features the Caravan offers.

JG: One of the features you were mentioning is the reduction in noise, allowing passengers to have a quiet conversation.

PC: That's right and there's a lot of safety features including the seats are equipped with shoulder harnesses.

JG: Peter, how many passengers fly with Seair from this airport throughout the year?

PC: We're probably flying 45 to 50,000 passengers per year.

JG: One of the great accomplishments that you told me about before we went on camera is the ability to comfortably manage passengers with disabilities.

PC: We have a friend, Butch Williams who designed the equipment and in conjunction with Chloe Angus and Rick Hansen, we've developed a mobility lift, which will transport a passenger from the dock to a seat on the airplane. A good example is someone who came over from the Gulf Islands to have hip or knee surgery, they can't return by BC Ferry because it is a requirement that passengers get out of the car and walk to the upper deck so our seaplane with the mobile lift is a good option.

We hope to generate more passengers by offering this hands-free service for

people that have mobility issues, because float planes in the past were not an option—the mobile lift is a great invention.

JG: Let's look ahead ten years. Where do you see yourself and Seair—more routes, more planes?

PC: Continued growth, slow growth, and keep buying planes every two or three years and adding another route and more charters. I'm passionate about the business, I love my job. I want to continue for many years to come.

JG: I think you have found the secret of life, sir, as I've always believed, find what you love and see if you can make a living at it.

Just after we sat and chatted, Peter gave me the opportunity to get into one of their newer planes, to sit in the co-pilot seat and see all the technology that is involved in one of these modern float planes.

PC: This is a Cessna Caravan. It has the Garmin G 1000—three computer screens that do 13,000 different functions. The pilots have been flying these planes for a few years, and are still learning about all the different functions they can do like, warning us that there's other airplanes in the vicinity. It's a very similar system that they have in corporate jets. It's a big improvement in all aspects in navigation, operation and safety.

JG: Back when you started flying, were you flying by feel and knowledge of the area?

PC: When I started, there was no GPS. It was mainly all memorization of the coast and especially in low visibility and bad weather. But with this technology, we know where we are at all times. On all of Sierra airplanes, we have a satellite tracking system that sends a signal to the satellite every two minutes. We know where that plane is at all times. The altitude, the airspeed, the directional flight, and it follows a track that we monitor at all our bases. We can tell where that plane lands, takes off and how high it's flying, and we can tell the customers when they will arrive. Aviation has really advanced, and this plane has really helped us out a lot.

To watch the entire interview go to richmondsentinel.ca/videos

In their own words...

Take Me Outside week



Michael Wolfe
Councillor

Wrapped around *Take Me Outside Day*, (taking place on Wednesday, October 23), is an entire week devoted to outdoor learning playing and exploring.

Take Me Outside Week, is courtesy of Take Me Outside, a Canadian non-profit, charitable organization.

For most of us, choosing to be outdoors comes naturally and is highly desired. To ensure this perspective and opportunity flourish early with our youth, on the official Take Me Outside Day, (October 23), educators, parents and guardians, like myself, will take their young learners outside to strengthen bonds with the natural world.

In Richmond, we have four mild seasons (aside from climate change's extreme weather events) and breathtaking views within the city and beyond our borders.

To kick off October, City Council received the mid-term highlights of our Council Strategic Plan 2022-2026. One of our focus areas is leadership in environmental sustainability. I'd like to acknowledge

and thank you, the reader, for your contributions to this goal.

The Annual Tree Sale event, earlier this month was another smashing success this year! I picked up two pear trees, already planted and ready to grow fruit for future generations of pear lovers. I couldn't believe how quickly some of the varieties sold out, thanks to all those eager tree lovers. Our friendly staff greeted residents at the Works Yard, and I saw nothing but smiling faces in the lot. Keep up the effort to help us grow our urban tree canopy year-round.

The popular annual Richmond Street Banner Contest has just closed, and the votes have been counted. Congratulations to the 10 winning designs. The city will be printing over 1,000 banners and lining our streets for next year. These vibrant images, brighten our routes as we traverse the city sidewalks, bike lanes, and roads. Below the banners we are also quite fortunate to have many manicured boulevards that burst with beautiful bulbs and other flowering plants. Voting took place through Let's Talk Richmond and ended on October 15.

The Richmond Environmental Enhancement Grant Program application deadline is just around the corner—October 23, and I'm always excited to see the kind of stewardship initiatives we can support with up to \$2,500 for non-profits and \$500



for individuals. The projects come in a wide range, and support our local wildlife, which makes our Fraser River Estuary (despite the pressures from development) a Wetland of International Importance and an Important Bird and Biodiversity Area. If this is news to you, then gather your neighbours and friends together for an eco-event and submit your request for the City to cover some of the costs through this grant.

In closing, my gratitude to all of you who provided natural spaces for wildlife habitat and who grew food this year. Eat it, share it, or sell it, but as the Chinese proverb suggests, life begins the day you start a garden. For being part of nature, let's celebrate this week outdoors.

City of Richmond Council Meetings Calendar

The City of Richmond Council and Committee Meetings are available online. Watch live or view previous meetings by visiting richmond.ca/WatchOnline.

For further information, meeting schedules and assistance in participating either virtually or in person, please visit richmond.ca/CityHall or contact the City Clerk's Office at 604-276-4007 or CityClerk@richmond.ca.

Oct 23 | 3:30pm
Development Permit Panel

Nov 4 | 4:00pm
General Purposes Committee followed by Finance Committee

Nov 5 | 4:00pm
Planning Committee

Nov 12 | 7:00pm
Council Meeting

Nov 13 | 4:00pm
Community Safety Committee

Nov 14 | 3:30pm
Development Permit Panel

Nov 18 | 4:00pm
General Purposes Committee

Nov 18 | 7:00pm
Public Hearing

Nov 19 | 4:00pm
Planning Committee

Nov 20 | 4:00pm
Public Works & Transportation



For meeting agendas and reports, visit richmond.ca/CityHall. Meeting schedule subject to change

Visit richmond.ca/WatchOnline to link to live streaming or watch archived video.





Joe Biz — *by Joe Leary*

Meeting Terry Fox

In February I devoted a column to my friend Bill Vigars on his recently-published memoir, *Terry and Me: The Inside Story of Terry Fox's Marathon of Hope*.

It's a captivating recollection that chronicles the incredible achievements of the heroic Canadian; the 22-year-old cancer survivor and amputee who attempted to run across Canada and raise funds for cancer research.

Vigars was the representative deployed by the Canadian Cancer Society to accompany Fox and his team and assist them in garnering publicity along the way. He joined them in Edmunston, New Brunswick on June 9, 1980—58 days into the historic 'Marathon of Hope'.

Given the primitive prosthetic he wore, much is known about Fox's grueling campaign and the untold pain and discomfort he would endure.

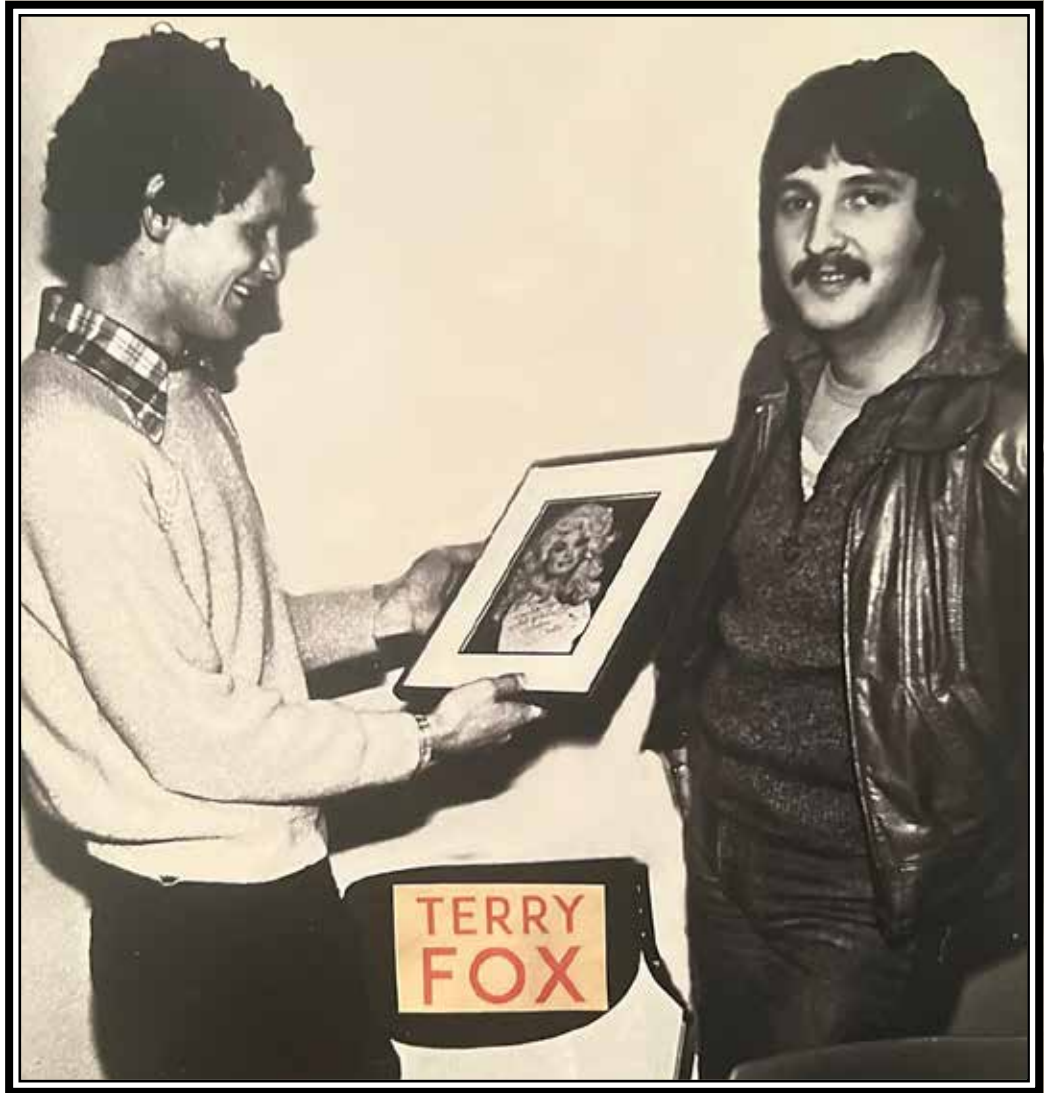
In Vigars book, he revealed numerous insights of Terry's life on the road; including some of the lighter moments of his playful nature as the two ended up spending inordinate amounts of time together. Vigars told me that he was encouraged numerous times over the years to put pen to paper and tell these stories while he still could.

The book was published in August 2023 and became a national best-seller.

One of my last in-person interactions with Bill came last summer; where he signed a copy for me and told me how grateful he was for all of us in his life in media and journalism that helped keep Terry's image fresh in the hearts and minds of Canadians from Coast to Coast.

On October 10, Bill Vigars passed away of congestive heart failure at the age of 78. I am so saddened by his loss and will miss his wit and wisdom.

Fortunately, he put pen to paper and Terry's life and times can be shared by even more genera-



1980 Joe Leary presents Dolly Parton gift to Terry Fox.

Photo courtesy Joe Leary

tions of Canadians.

I first met Bill Vigars in the 1990's. In my capacity as a radio broadcaster, I would have him appear on my show in a number of interviews over the years.

He would always make himself available to talk about Terry Fox and his incredible legacy, each and every year on anniversary occasions of the 'Marathon of Hope'.

Bill and I really bonded after I shared my personal story of meeting Terry Fox in 1981. It's an encounter that remains near and dear when I reflect back on those notables who I have had the good fortune to cross paths with in my media career.

During the 'Marathon of Hope', a business colleague and I were working with the Cancer Society on staging a Black-Tie Dinner in Vancouver to celebrate the return home of Terry Fox upon completion of his cross Canada journey.

That eventuality came to a heartbreaking conclusion on Sept. 1, 1980 when Terry Fox was forced to cancel his run in Thunder Bay, Ontario and return home for more treatment after cancer re-emerged.

In the lead-up to planning our 'Welcome Home' event; set for Nov. 14, 1980 at Vancouver's Hyatt Regency Hotel, I learned that Terry was enamored with country singing legend Dolly Parton.

Armed with this knowledge, we contacted Dol-

ly's management to see if we could possibly enlist her to perform at our gala. Unfortunately, Dolly's touring schedule didn't align with our chosen date but upon learning of Terry Fox and his heroic undertaking, she immediately sent an autographed photo with inspiring words of support. The plan was to present it to Terry at the aforementioned gala.

When it became apparent that Terry's prognosis was not encouraging, the Cancer Society invited us to a hastily-called press conference so that we could present the picture of Dolly Parton to him personally and hopefully he could draw some comfort from it.

While my encounter with Terry Fox was brief, he struck me as kind, gracious and humble. He appeared slighter in build than I had anticipated but genuine and the smile that radiated when he read the autographed caption remains one of my fondest moments in life.

Terry's incredible legacy endures and Bill Vigars had recently told me that the Terry Fox Foundation is nearing one billion dollars raised since the 'Marathon of Hope' began in 1980.

I will miss Bill Vigars but I take solace in the fact that he's reunited with Terry Fox once again.

X-@reallyjoeleary • Instagram@joeleary

Asphalt Paving Advisory

April 20 to November 30, 2024

The City of Richmond has contracted Save On Black Top Ltd. to grind and pave the following locations in Richmond **from April 20 to November 30, 2024.**

PROPOSED 2024 PAVING LOCATION DETAILS
No. 6 Road (Bridgeport Road to Cambie Road)—Bridgeport Road intersection not included. Cambie Road Intersection included
Cambie Road (Shell Road to No. 5 Road)—Intersections included
Bridgeport Road (Viking Way to Sweden Way)—Intersections included
No.4 Road and Alderbridge Way Intersection
Westminster Highway (Gilbert Road to No. 3 Road)—Intersections included
Beckwith Road (Sexsmith Road to Smith Street)—Intersections included
Blundell Road—(No. 4 Road to No.5 Road)—No. 4 Road Intersection included
No. 1 Road (Francis Road to Blundell Road)—Intersections included
No. 1 Road (Westminster Highway to Granville Avenue)—Intersections included
No. 6 Road (Bridgeport Road to Vulcan Way)—Intersections included
Shell Road (Steveston Highway to Williams Road)—Intersections included
Vulcan Way (No. 5 Road to No. 6 Road)—Intersections included
Garden City Road (Cambie Road to Bridgeport Road) —Intersections included
No. 5 Road (Seadliff Road to Kingsbridge Drive)—Intersections included
No. 3 Road (Alderbridge Way to Capstan Way)—Intersections included
Burkeville Subdivision includes Catalina Crescent, Douglas Crescent, Hudson Avenue, Boeing Avenue
Kwantlen Street (Alderbridge Way to Alexandra Road)—Alexandra Road Intersection included
Machrina Way (Horseshoe Way to No. 5 Road)
22000 Block Westminster Highway (MOTI—McLean Avenue) including McLean Avenue Intersection
Knight Street (Southbound Lanes from Bridge Deck to 50m South)
Knight Street South Bound On and Off Ramps at Bridgeport Road
Steveston Highway (Westbound Lanes from Shell Road to No.5 Road)—Intersections included
Shell Road (Bridgeport Road to River Drive)—Intersections included
Shell Road (Hammersmith Gate to Steveston Highway)
Jacombs Rd (Cambie Road—Bathgate Way)—Intersections included
Bathgate Way (Sweden Way—Jacombs Road) Intersections included
Hammersmith Gate (Shell Road to Hammersmith Way) Intersections included
Leonard Road (Ryan Road to Williams Road)—Intersections included
Maddocks Road (Aintree Crescent to Shell Road)—Intersections included
Boundary Road (Thompson Gate to Westminster Highway) including Thompson Gate intersection
Blundell Road (Sidaway Road to No. 6 Road)—Intersections included

Work hours will be 7:00am to 10:00pm on weekdays, and 7:00am to 8:00pm on weekends. Night time work hours will be from 7:00pm to 5:00am. (typically).

Traffic will be reduced to single-lane and there may be temporary lane closures. Delays may occur. The use of an alternate route is strongly encouraged.

This work is weather dependent and dates are subject to change without notice.

The scope of the advertised work may be adjusted or cancelled in line with available funding.

Questions may be directed to Wasim Memon, Supervisor, Engineering Inspections, at **604-276-4189**, or visit the City's paving program web page at **richmond.ca/paving**.



Photo courtesy Sophia Khatami
L.to.R: Doug Paterson, President Richmond Sockeyes, Danton Heinen, Vancouver Canucks, Will Kump, GM Richmond Sockeyes.

Sockeyes welcome Canucks' Danton Heinen

By **STEVE ERICKSON**
Contributing writer

As quickly as summer turns to fall, rosters change on a day-to-day basis, which for the most part, is due to various reasons. These can be players away at WHL camps, injuries, or other undefined reasons. Regardless, it's what the coaching staff are often faced with on a daily basis which often requires roster changes to the regular lineup.

As the Sockeyes entered the second month of the season, you could sense what the coaching staff, and the other fourteen teams, were forced to deal with.

One might question what coaches were often faced with, but regardless, they work as a team putting the best product on the ice, both home and away. Despite the changes, fans are entertained on a weekly basis continuing to support the Sockeyes win or lose and at times, travelling with the team.

Some games haven't gone the way they wanted, but it clearly wasn't for a lack of trying, playing a full sixty minutes, as they are focused on the end result—winning the PJHL Championship.

At press time, the Sockeyes sit at 18 points with 9 wins, 3 losses, 60 goals for and 29 against through 12 games.

In a pre-game Thanksgiving match-up, the Sockeyes welcomed home Alumni, Danton Heinen who began his career in the 2012-13 season finishing with 63 points helping the Sockeyes win the league championship.

Prior to the game, he spoke with

the coaching staff, players, numerous volunteers, and even opened the doors for young Richmond players to meet him and answer various questions asked.

In conversation with Danton he mentioned "When you get a chance to return to where it all started, having the chance to talk with the young minor players, the team, ownership, and volunteers, for me it's very rewarding giving back to where I got my start in junior hockey."

Heinen was selected to the 2017 AHL All-Star roster while helping Providence qualify for the 2017 Calder Cup Playoffs recording 18 points in 17 games.

He made his NHL playoff debut in Game 1 of the 2018 Stanley Cup playoffs against the Toronto Maple Leafs but was scratched for Game 6.

In his fourth season with the Boston Bruins, he was traded to Anaheim on February 24, 2020 for Nick Ritchie before signing with Pittsburgh the following season to a one-year deal on July 29, 2021.

His next career move saw him sign a professional tryout (PTO) with Boston but would remain unsigned due to salary cap issues. Signing a one-year deal with the Bruins, Heinen would record his first career hat trick against the Montreal Canadiens on Jan. 20, 2024. Heading into the free agency, and to the delight of local fans, Heinen would sign a two-year deal with the Canucks on July 1.

It was clear to say that he was indeed a "fan favorite" at the Richmond Sockeyes game.

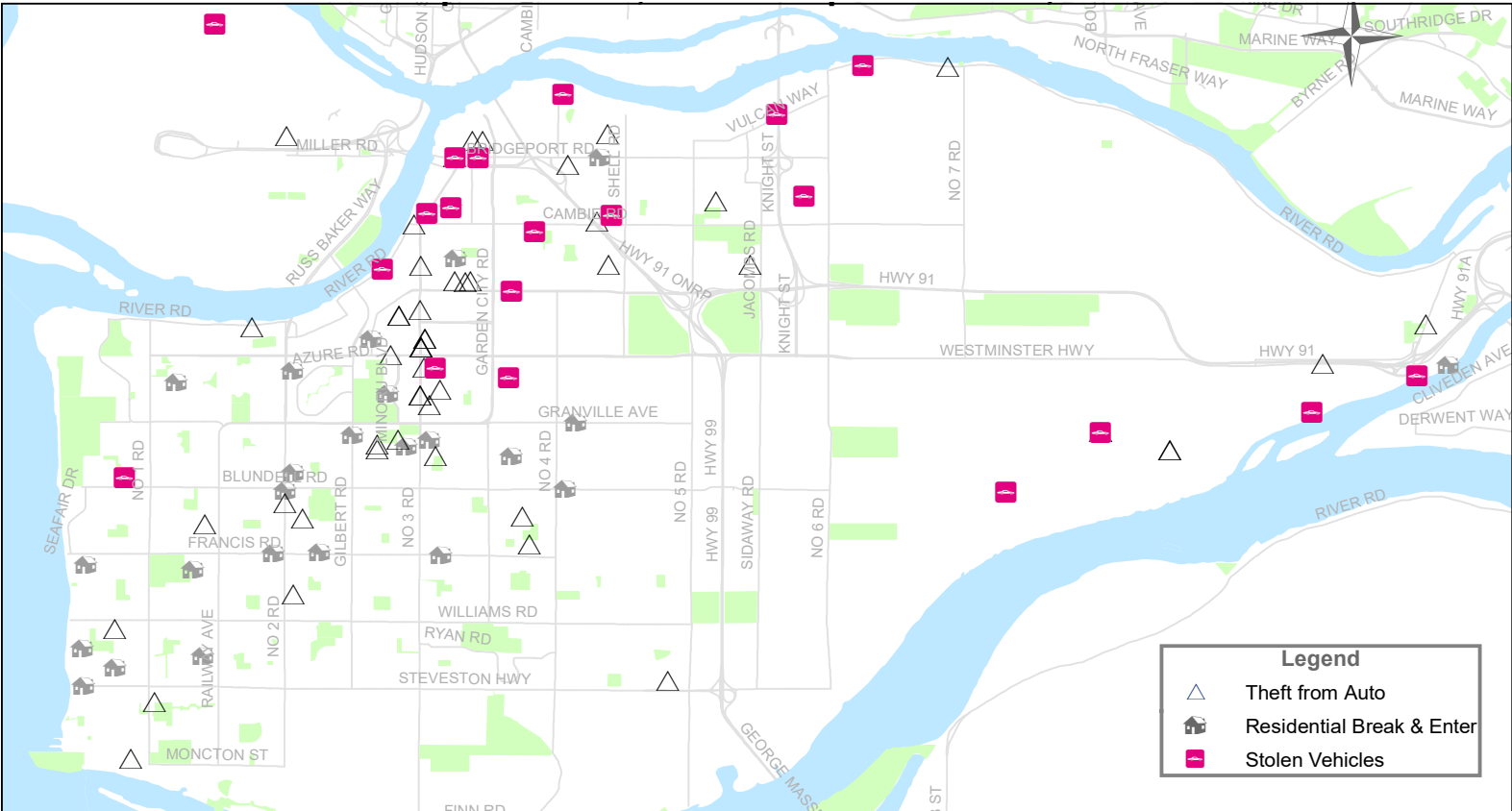
Welcome home Danton.



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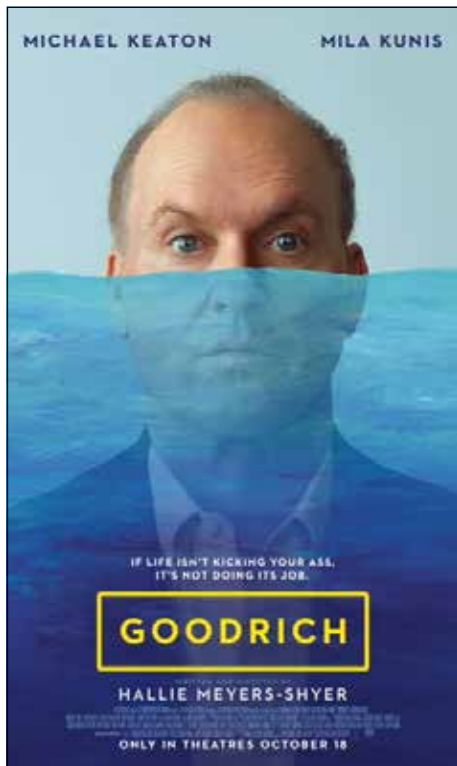


Photo courtesy Elevation Pictures

THE VIEW #1 – GOODRICH

From writer/director, Hallie Meyers-Shyer, comes this wonderful film about Andy Goodrich (Michael Keaton), a man in his "autumn years", whose life is turned into chaos when his second wife of nine years suddenly checks into rehab, leaving him unprepared to look after their two young children. He loves his kids and his wife, but his now struggling LA art gallery is, and has been his main focus for many years, something Grace (Mila Kunis), his thirty-six year old daughter from the first marriage, knows all too well. Though they have a friendly relationship, you can see and sense there's a lot Grace has kept bottled up inside where dad is concerned – and with her on the verge of parenthood, their issues need to be resolved. *Goodrich* is the kind of film that grows on you, leaving you smiling and content. As for Michael Keaton, this is the kind of role made for his talents (not surprising it was written specifically for him). He excels as Andy Goodrich, a man who does truly care, but often is too caught up in his own world to remember he needs to be there and do the right thing for his loved ones. *Goodrich* is in theatres now.

THE VIEW #2 – ABSOLUTION

Since 2008's blockbuster, action thriller *Taken*, Liam Neeson has played versions of that tough guy character many times in many different settings. One thing has always been constant: his characters may not always take the ethical route, but when it comes to the bad guys, he'll get the job done and eliminate all of them! Which brings us to his latest film, *Absolution*. Neeson plays an aging gangster still on the job carrying out low-level tasks like collecting money, transporting illegal cargo and assisting the boss's inexperienced son. You can see the weariness on the face of Neeson's character, a look that seems to say he hates what he does and the people he deals with, but other than some minor boxing success in his younger days, this is all he knows. He also must contend with a medical diagnosis, which has him reflecting on his own mortality and all the times he wasn't there for his estranged kids. Like with Michael Keaton in *Goodrich*, Liam Neeson was the right choice for this character and it's almost as if his performance in *Absolution* brings an end to all those similar characters he's played convincingly since *Taken*. *Absolution* is in theatres starting Nov 1.

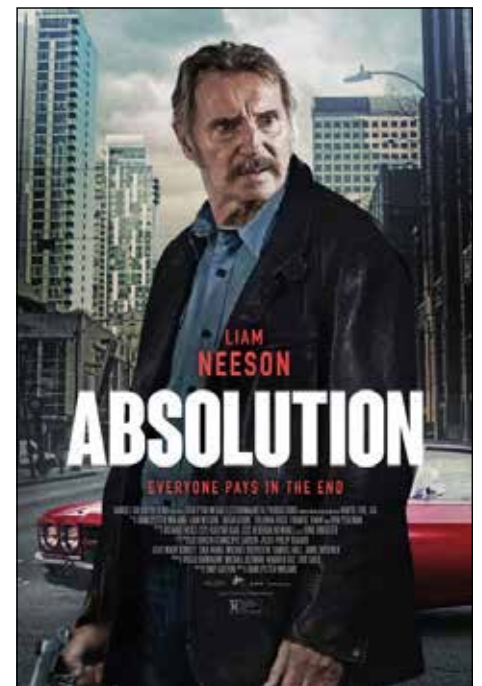


Photo courtesy Samuel Goldwyn



Photo courtesy Route 504PR

THE VIEW #3 – MEANWHILE ON EARTH

One of the most interesting and unique films we've seen in 2024 is a French film called *Meanwhile on Earth*. In this sci-fi, drama, we meet 23 year old Elsa, a woman who is still mourning the loss of her brother, Franck, an astronaut and "absent hero" who disappeared during a space mission three years earlier. She is struggling with life and the emptiness she feels until one day she hears his voice and is contacted by an alien life who offers to bring her brother safely back to earth. But what this unknown life form wants in return only adds to the uniqueness of this film. Megan Northam (in her first lead role) gives a strong performance as Elsa, and writer/director, Jeremy Clapin has created a film worth seeing. *Meanwhile on Earth* is in theatres starting November 8.

Sal Aunese was truly born to lead

Our City Tonight had the opportunity to sit down with an international, award-winning director, producer and writer, Lara Slife. Along with her business partner, George Antonopoulos, together they founded Livin' Large Productions, LLC, a boutique theatrical and film production company based in New York and Los Angeles. They attribute their success to their unrelenting pursuit of the story. Lara's latest film is a movie that we really enjoyed and is now streaming worldwide on PBS. The movie is called *Born to Lead: the Sal Aunese Story*. It chronicles Sal Aunese's rise to the top as one of his football team's most valuable players and his valiant battles with the disease that took his life in 1989.

OCT: Thank you for joining us, Lara, and for talking about this great film. We did know about this young man and right off the bat at the beginning of your film you have a quote which we think more than anything else sums up who this man was. It's from John Quincy Adams and the quote is: "If your actions inspire others to dream more, to learn more, to do more, and to become more, you are a leader." We think that sums up this young man. Lara, tell our readers more about who Sal Aunese was.

LS: Sal Aunese was one of the first Samoans to take a down-and-out team at the University of Colorado to a national championship. Not necessarily in the way you might think, because he gets stomach cancer and the team rallies around him and it's his spirit that enables him to lead in every way. He does this in person before he got cancer and then after he got cancer and then, even when he passed away. It is a really inspirational story. In fact, it's one of the greatest stories I've ever heard about and that's why I ended up making this film because it was so amazing.

OCT: It's literally like you're creating this young man out of central casting because he comes from a blue collar, loving family and he is

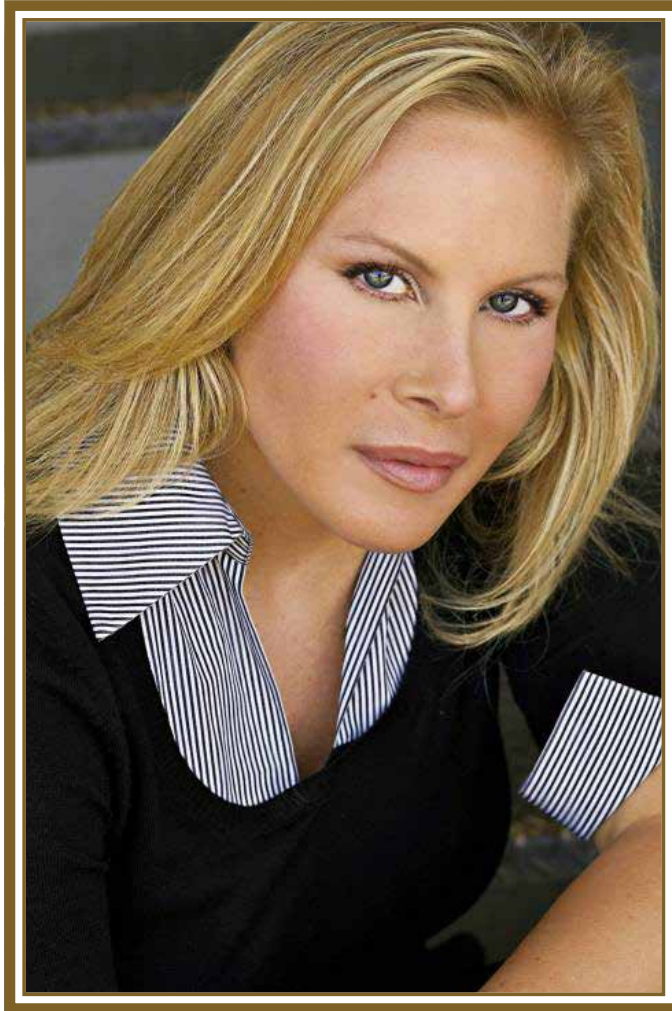


Photo courtesy Livin' Large Productions
Director Lara Slife captures an athlete's inspiring life and legacy.

a star quarterback, and back then, he's also acting as a running back which is great to see. But then he gets scholarships offered to him and he chooses to go to Colorado because it's a struggling school and he wants to build something. He just seemed to have leadership pouring out of his skin at a very young age.

LS: Yes, from the age of 9 or 10 years old he knew exactly where he wanted to go. He had leadership abilities and when the kids were eating Pop-Tarts and playing games outside, he was working out, doing push-ups and sit-ups. So, he

absolutely knew that he was going to go somewhere and that he wanted to lead a team. He also really wanted to build a team.

OCT: It's interesting that many of us aspire to be like that but he lived it, ate it, and breathed it. And when he's at university, one thing I didn't know about him, and you can tell us more about this, there's a turning point when he's arrested. At this time, he's an all-star and he's an all-American kid, but he's arrested. That seems to be a moment of contemplation where Sal Aunese realizes he has to be a bigger person, even though he is near perfect.

LS: Yes, and the coach also expressed that same thing. He basically said to Sal, you know, you've got a team to lead. You have to be better. You have to be bigger than this even though it might be racially motivated, you need to stand apart and do the right thing. So, he definitely learned from this terrible experience of being arrested, even though he really didn't do anything. He pulled down a poster in a student's room, but he really shouldn't have gone to jail for it—I guess it made the team very cohesive.

OCT: The guests and the interviews you have in this film, many were young men at the time who are older men now, but they still show the reverence that they have for Sal. It is so remarkable that he led in so many different ways. We have to say, we love sports movies and inspirational films like this that get made because a lot of other people love them too. This film is no exception and we want to congratulate you on making this film. We would like to mention George Antonopoulos, your partner on this film. You two have put together a superb film.

Thank you Lara for joining us and we remind our readers that this film is streaming worldwide on PBS now. You can get more information on the website BornToLeadFilm.com and we want to congratulate your company LivingLargeProductions.com



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