

## NOTL's Old Winos release **first album** Friday

Dariya Baiguzhiyeva  
The Lake Report

After eight years of providing regular live entertainment to locals and visitors at the Old Winery Restaurant, the Old Winos band is releasing its first studio album.

Formed in 2012, the band is comprised of a Niagara-on-the-Lake resident and songwriter Steve Goldberger, a longtime drummer Dave Norris and veteran guitarist Mike Glatt.

The trio performs at the Old Winery every Friday night, with different guests joining them on stage every week.

Now, the band decided to come together to record and compile some of its regularly played tunes into an album called "The Old Winos and Friends."

Goldberger described the album as a blend of folk, rock and country genres.

"It's a reminder of what we do. If you're into country music or folk music, I think (people) will like it," he said.



Niagara-on-the-Lake resident and songwriter Steve Goldberger in his studio in Old Town. DARIYA BAIGUZHIEVA

Featuring Andrew Aldridge and Chris Altman, the band will perform some of the album's tracks at Old Winery Restaurant on Niagara Stone Road starting at 9 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 7.

Of the 11 songs, two are originals. The first track, "Weekends With The Local Fringe," was composed by Goldberger, while the second track "Hallelujah" was written by Goldberger's friend Katherine Wheatley. The rest are

covers of songwriters such as Steve Earle, Bob Dylan, John Hiatt, Rodney Crowell, Johnny Cash, and others.

Creating the album took about a year. The trio did three recording sessions at Goldberger's studio in Old Town before laying down bed tracks (a song's foundation consisting of drums, bass and rhythmic instruments) and inviting some of the regular guests from all across the country to provide vocals or play an

instrument.

"It was more of a collaborative effort, which I really enjoyed. Everybody's more involved with an arrangement and how we do it," Goldberger said.

This will be his 10th independently released album.

"That's rewarding, having it done after a year and a half of working on it," he told The Lake Report.

The album can be purchased through [stevegoldberger.com](http://stevegoldberger.com).

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### Did you know?

The Lake Report's printer sources 100 per cent of its paper fibre from industry leading paper mills, which use quick-growth, sustainable, renewable plots of land, rather than clear-cutting forests. The ink is also vegetable-based.



## Even more letters

### Marine unit thanks NOTL for its help

Dear editor:

Too often, this space is devoted to letters complaining about one arm or another of government, lamenting some perceived injustice. This isn't one of those letters.

I am writing to express the sincere gratitude of the members of South Shore Search And Rescue for the efforts of a number of local governments that have come to our aid after last year's flooding of our facilities on the shores of Lake Ontario.

We extend our thanks to the Niagara Region for offering us winter storage for our fast-response rescue boat.

We are similarly grateful to the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake for a warm and dry space to preserve, sort and store the equipment and supplies needed to keep two rescue boats in service. And to the Town of Lincoln for the offer of a longer-term home for our small boat and all of our supplies.

We would also like to acknowledge councilors Randy Vaine and John Dunstall of the Town of Grimsby and Sarah Sweeney, director of parks, recreation and culture for the town, for their efforts on our behalf.

As volunteers saving lives on the water, we depend on the support of the communities we serve. We continue to be grateful for that support.

**Doug Mephram**  
Deputy unit leader

**Grimsby Auxiliary Marine Rescue Unit (GAMRU)**  
South Shore Search And Rescue

### At 94, Mabel is still a force in duplicate bridge

Dear editor:

NOTL's Mabel Hunter celebrated her 94th birthday in January with the Thursday night duplicate bridge club.

All of our bridge players have a great deal of respect for Mabel as she plays bridge competitively and continues to be a daunting opponent.

Mabel is one of the founding members, and the only surviving member, of the Thursday night duplicate bridge club which started ca. 1975 with four couples.

They were: Harry and Helen Dawson, Gordon and Mildred MacMillan, Al and Vera Derbyshire, and Eddie and Mabel Hunter.

The group of eight first started by meeting in each other's homes but then, as others wanted to join them, they moved to the Legion where it cost \$10 to rent space for the night to play.

When Harry Dawson was on council, he wangled it so they could play for free at the NOTL Community Centre, so they moved there. When the new community centre opened in 2011, the club moved to the Simpson Room.

Mabel's husband died in 1994 and since then, Mabel has played regularly with Barb MacGowan. The club continues to flourish and grow with Pat Braun running it as director.

Usually, about 40 or more people come out to play on Thursday nights. The cost of membership is only \$10 a year, with a fee of \$2 a night to play, one of the best bargains in town for a fun-filled evening with friendly people.

If you place in the top two or three that night, you get to



Mabel Hunter (right) turned 95 in January. SUPPLIED

play for free the next time. Just because Mabel is 94, doesn't mean she has lost any skill at the game.

At the Jan. 23 game, she placed second. She's still sharp as a tack and don't think you can get away with anything when you compete against her.

Watch out ... don't be surprised when you find out that she cleverly led away from her King! Tricked again!

She can outwit the best of them!

**Marlene Walther**  
NOTL

**NOTL: SPECIAL WINTER EDITION**

The Lake Report's winter magazine highlights some of the best places and things to do in NOTL.

You can pick up a physical copy at all restaurants, hotels and businesses or you can visit our office at 496 Mississauga St. in Old Town.

**NOTL'S CHOICE AWARDS**

You took the time to nominate your favourites, now it's time to vote on the best businesses, organizations and individual professionals in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

To vote, go to [LakeReport.ca](http://LakeReport.ca)

**PRESS PASS PROGRAM**

The Lake Report Press Pass Program gets local residents discounts at a long list of businesses in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Valid for local residents only.

To sign up, visit our office for a card at 496 Mississauga St. in Old Town.